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ILLINOIS HISTORICAL SURVEY



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PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL



CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILL.,

CONTAINING

Full Page Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Prominent
and Representative Citizens of the County,

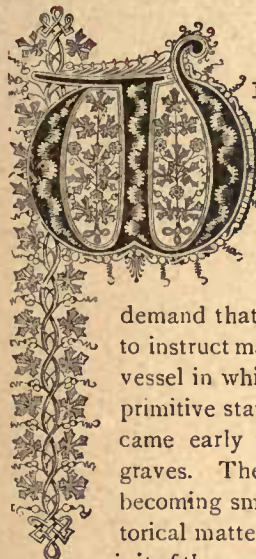
TOGETHER WITH

PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF ALL THE GOVERNORS OF ILLINOIS, AND
OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

CHICAGO:
CHAPMAN BROTHERS,
1887.

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WE HAVE completed our labors in writing and compiling the PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM of this county, and wish, in presenting it to our patrons, to speak briefly of the importance of local works of this nature. It is certainly the duty of the present to commemorate the past, to perpetuate the names of the pioneers, to furnish a record of their early settlement, and to relate the story of their progress.

The civilization of our day, the enlightenment of the age, and this solemn duty which men of the present time owe to their ancestors, to themselves and to their posterity, demand that a record of their lives and deeds should be made. In local history is found a power to instruct man by precedent, to enliven the mental faculties, and to waft down the river of time a safe vessel in which the names and actions of the people who contributed to raise this region from its primitive state may be preserved. Surely and rapidly the noble men, who in their vigor and prime came early to the county and claimed the virgin soil as their heritage, are passing to their graves. The number remaining who can relate the history of the first days of settlement is becoming small indeed, so that an actual necessity exists for the collection and preservation of historical matter without delay, before the settlers of the wilderness are cut down by time. Not only is it of the greatest importance to render history of pioneer times full and accurate, but it is also essential that the history of the county, from its settlement to the present day, should be treated through its various phases, so that a record, complete and impartial, may be handed down to the future. The present the age of progress, is reviewed, standing out in bold relief over the quiet, unostentatious olden times; it is a brilliant record, which is destined to live in the future; the good works of men, their magnificent enterprises, their lives, whether commercial or military, do not sink into oblivion, but, on the contrary, grow brighter with age, and contribute to build up a record which carries with it precedents and principles that will be advanced and observed when the acts of soulless men will be forgotten and their very names hidden in obscurity.

In the preparation of the personal sketches contained in this volume, unusual care and pains were taken to have them accurate, even in the smallest detail. Indeed, nothing was passed lightly over or treated indifferently; and we flatter ourselves that it is one of the most accurate works of its nature ever published.

As one of the most interesting features of this work, we present the portraits of numerous representative citizens. It has been our aim to have the prominent men of to-day, as well as the pioneers, represented in this department; and we congratulate ourselves on the uniformly high character of the gentlemen whose portraits we present. They are in the strictest sense representative men, and are selected from all the callings and professions worthy to be given. There are others, it is true, who claim equal prominence with those given; but of course it was impossible for us to give portraits of all the leading men and pioneers of the county. We are under great obligation to many of the noble and generous people of this county for kindly and material assistance in the preparation of this ALBUM.

CHICAGO, October, 1887.

CHAPMAN BROTHERS.



PORTRAITS
AND
BIOGRAPHIES

OF THE

GOVERNORS OF ILLINOIS,

AND OF THE

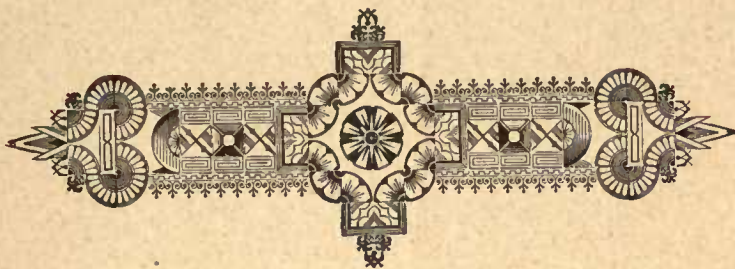
PRESIDENTS

OF THE

UNITED STATES.

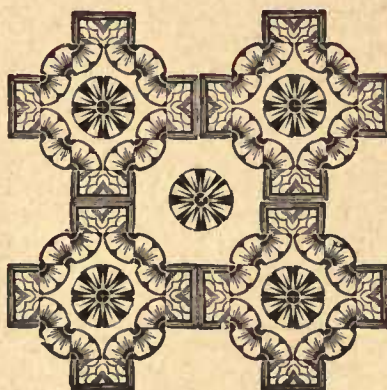




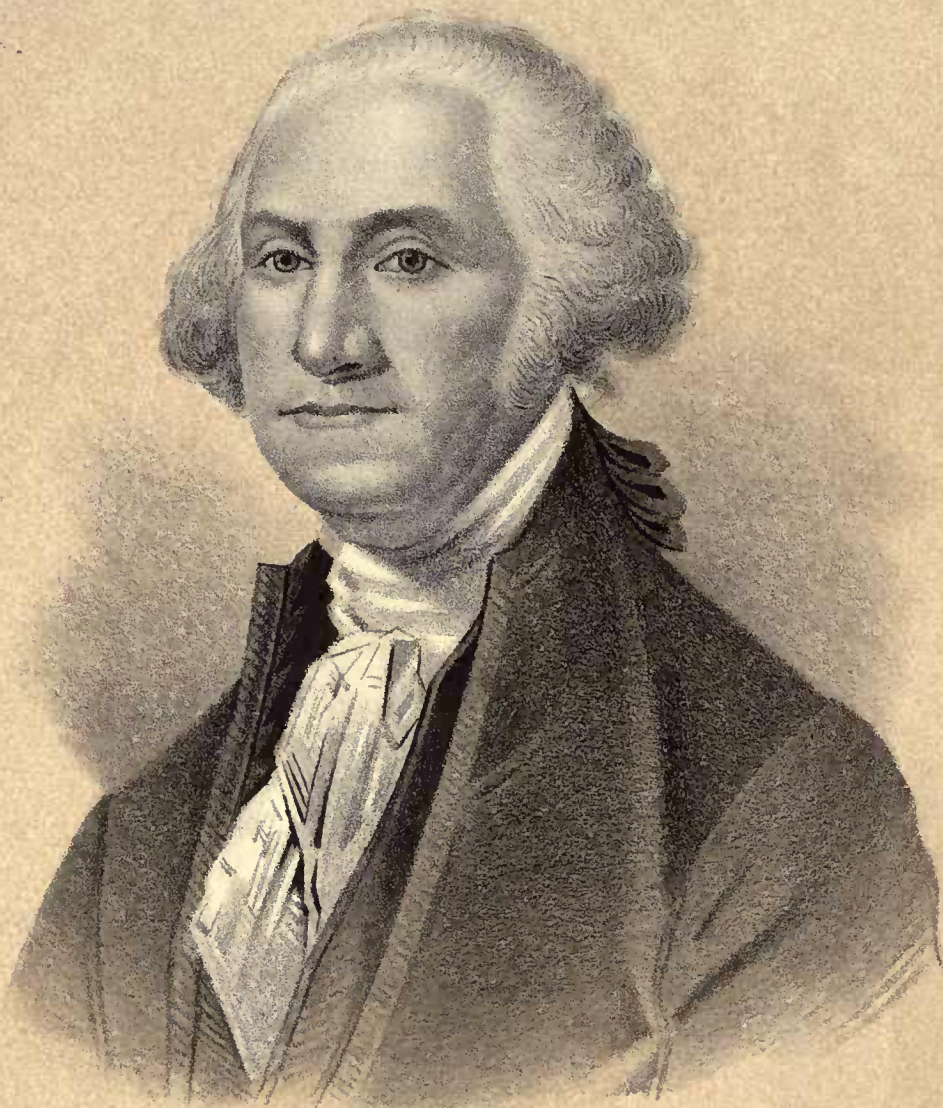


PRESIDENTS.









George Washington



GEORGE WASHINGTON.



HE Father of our Country was born in Westmorland Co., Va., Feb. 22, 1732. His parents were Augustine and Mary (Ball) Washington. The family to which he belonged has not been satisfactorily traced in England. His great-grandfather, John Washington, emigrated to Virginia about 1657, and became a prosperous planter. He had two sons, Lawrence and John. The former married Mildred Warner and had three children, John, Augustine and Mildred. Augustine, the father of George, first married Jane Butler, who bore him four children, two of whom, Lawrence and Augustine, reached maturity. Of six children by his second marriage, George was the eldest, the others being Betty, Samuel, John Augustine, Charles and Mildred.

Augustine Washington, the father of George, died in 1743, leaving a large landed property. To his eldest son, Lawrence, he bequeathed an estate on the Patomac, afterwards known as Mount Vernon, and to George he left the parental residence. George received only such education as the neighborhood schools afforded, save for a short time after he left school, when he received private instruction in mathematics. His spelling was rather defective.

Remarkable stories are told of his great physical strength and development at an early age. He was an acknowledged leader among his companions, and was early noted for that nobleness of character, fairness and veracity which characterized his whole life.

When George was 14 years old he had a desire to go to sea, and a midshipman's warrant was secured for him, but through the opposition of his mother the idea was abandoned. Two years later he was appointed surveyor to the immense estate of Lord Fairfax. In this business he spent three years in a rough frontier life, gaining experience which afterwards proved very essential to him. In 1751, though only 19 years of age, he was appointed adjutant with the rank of major in the Virginia militia, then being trained for active service against the French and Indians. Soon after this he sailed to the West Indies with his brother Lawrence, who went there to restore his health. They soon returned, and in the summer of 1752 Lawrence died, leaving a large fortune to an infant daughter who did not long survive him. On her demise the estate of Mount Vernon was given to George.

Upon the arrival of Robert Dinwiddie, as Lieutenant-Governor of Virginia, in 1752, the militia was reorganized, and the province divided into four military districts, of which the northern was assigned to Washington as adjutant general. Shortly after this a very perilous mission was assigned him and accepted, which others had refused. This was to proceed to the French post near Lake Erie in Northwestern Pennsylvania. The distance to be traversed was between 500 and 600 miles. Winter was at hand, and the journey was to be made without military escort, through a territory occupied by Indians. The

trip was a perilous one, and several times he came near losing his life, yet he returned in safety and furnished a full and useful report of his expedition. A regiment of 300 men was raised in Virginia and put in command of Col. Joshua Fry, and Major Washington was commissioned lieutenant-colonel. Active war was then begun against the French and Indians, in which Washington took a most important part. In the memorable event of July 9, 1755, known as Braddock's defeat, Washington was almost the only officer of distinction who escaped from the calamities of the day with life and honor. The other aids of Braddock were disabled early in the action, and Washington alone was left in that capacity on the field. In a letter to his brother he says: "I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me, yet I escaped unhurt, though death was leveling my companions on every side." An Indian sharpshooter said he was not born to be killed by a bullet, for he had taken direct aim at him seventeen times, and failed to hit him.

After having been five years in the military service, and vainly sought promotion in the royal army, he took advantage of the fall of Fort Duquesne and the expulsion of the French from the valley of the Ohio, to resign his commission. Soon after he entered the Legislature, where, although not a leader, he took an active and important part. January 17, 1759, he married Mrs. Martha (Dandridge) Custis, the wealthy widow of John Parke Custis.

When the British Parliament had closed the port of Boston, the cry went up throughout the provinces that "The cause of Boston is the cause of us all." It was then, at the suggestion of Virginia, that a Congress of all the colonies was called to meet at Philadelphia, Sept. 5, 1774, to secure their common liberties, peaceably if possible. To this Congress Col. Washington was sent as a delegate. On May 10, 1775, the Congress re-assembled, when the hostile intentions of England were plainly apparent. The battles of Concord and Lexington had been fought. Among the first acts of this Congress was the election of a commander-in-chief of the colonial forces. This high and responsible office was conferred upon Washington, who was still a member of the Congress. He accepted it on June 19, but upon the express condition that he receive no salary. He would keep an exact account of expenses and expect Congress to pay them and nothing more. It is not the object of this sketch to trace the military acts of Washington, to whom the fortunes and liberties of the people of this country were so long confided. The war was conducted by him under every possible disadvantage, and while his forces often met with reverses, yet he overcame every obstacle, and after seven years of heroic devotion and matchless skill he gained liberty for the greatest nation of earth. On Dec. 23, 1783, Washington, in a parting address of surpassing beauty, resigned his

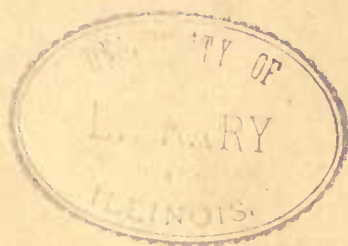
commission as commander-in-chief of the army to to the Continental Congress sitting at Annapolis. He retired immediately to Mount Vernon and resumed his occupation as a farmer and planter, shunning all connection with public life.

In February, 1789, Washington was unanimously elected President. In his presidential career he was subject to the peculiar trials incidental to a new government; trials from lack of confidence on the part of other governments; trials from want of harmony between the different sections of our own country; trials from the impoverished condition of the country, owing to the war and want of credit; trials from the beginnings of party strife. He was no partisan. His clear judgment could discern the golden mean; and while perhaps this alone kept our government from sinking at the very outset, it left him exposed to attacks from both sides, which were often bitter and very annoying.

At the expiration of his first term he was unanimously re-elected. At the end of this term many were anxious that he be re-elected, but he absolutely refused a third nomination. On the fourth of March, 1797, at the expiration of his second term as President, he returned to his home, hoping to pass there his few remaining years free from the annoyances of public life. Later in the year, however, his repose seemed likely to be interrupted by war with France. At the prospect of such a war he was again urged to take command of the armies. He chose his subordinate officers and left to them the charge of matters in the field, which he superintended from his home. In accepting the command he made the reservation that he was not to be in the field until it was necessary. In the midst of these preparations his life was suddenly cut off. December 12, he took a severe cold from a ride in the rain, which, settling in his throat, produced inflammation, and terminated fatally on the night of the fourteenth. On the eighteenth his body was borne with military honors to its final resting place, and interred in the family vault at Mount Vernon.

Of the character of Washington it is impossible to speak but in terms of the highest respect and admiration. The more we see of the operations of our government, and the more deeply we feel the difficulty of uniting all opinions in a common interest, the more highly we must estimate the force of his talent and character, which have been able to challenge the reverence of all parties, and principles, and nations, and to win a fame as extended as the limits of the globe, and which we cannot but believe will be as lasting as the existence of man.

The person of Washington was unusually tall, erect and well proportioned. His muscular strength was great. His features were of a beautiful symmetry. He commanded respect without any appearance of haughtiness, and ever serious without being dull.

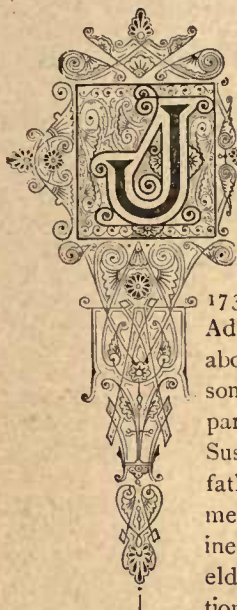




John Adams



JOHN ADAMS.



JOHN ADAMS, the second President and the first Vice-President of the United States, was born in Braintree (now Quincy), Mass., and about ten miles from Boston, Oct. 19, 1735. His great-grandfather, Henry Adams, emigrated from England about 1640, with a family of eight sons, and settled at Braintree. The parents of John were John and Susannah (Boylston) Adams. His father was a farmer of limited means, to which he added the business of shoemaking. He gave his eldest son, John, a classical education at Harvard College. John graduated in 1755, and at once took charge of the school in Worcester, Mass. This he found but a "school of affliction," from which he endeavored to gain relief by devoting himself, in addition, to the study of law. For this purpose he placed himself under the tuition of the only lawyer in the town. He had thought seriously of the clerical profession but seems to have been turned from this by what he termed "the frightful engines of ecclesiastical councils, of diabolical malice, and Calvinistic good nature," of the operations of which he had been a witness in his native town. He was well fitted for the legal profession, possessing a clear, sonorous voice, being ready and fluent of speech, and having quick perceptive powers. He gradually gained practice, and in 1764 married Abigail Smith, a daughter of a minister, and a lady of superior intelligence. Shortly after his marriage, (1765), the attempt of Parliamentary taxation turned him from law to politics. He took initial steps toward holding a town meeting, and the resolu-

tions he offered on the subject became very popular throughout the Province, and were adopted word for word by over forty different towns. He moved to Boston in 1768, and became one of the most courageous and prominent advocates of the popular cause, and was chosen a member of the General Court (the Legislature) in 1770.

Mr. Adams was chosen one of the first delegates from Massachusetts to the first Continental Congress, which met in 1774. Here he distinguished himself by his capacity for business and for debate, and advocated the movement for independence against the majority of the members. In May, 1776, he moved and carried a resolution in Congress that the Colonies should assume the duties of self-government. He was a prominent member of the committee of five appointed June 11, to prepare a declaration of independence. This article was drawn by Jefferson, but on Adams devolved the task of battling it through Congress in a three days debate.

On the day after the Declaration of Independence was passed, while his soul was yet warm with the glow of excited feeling, he wrote a letter to his wife, which, as we read it now, seems to have been dictated by the spirit of prophecy. "Yesterday," he says, "the greatest question was decided that ever was debated in America; and greater, perhaps, never was or will be decided among men. A resolution was passed without one dissenting colony, 'that these United States are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states.' The day is passed. The fourth of July, 1776, will be a memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe it will be celebrated by succeeding generations, as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to Almighty God. It ought to be solemnized with pomp, shows,

games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations from one end of the continent to the other, from this time forward for ever. You will think me transported with enthusiasm, but I am not. I am well aware of the toil, and blood and treasure, that it will cost to maintain this declaration, and support and defend these States; yet, through all the gloom, I can see the rays of light and glory. I can see that the end is worth more than all the means; and that posterity will triumph, although you and I may rue, which I hope we shall not."

In November, 1777, Mr. Adams was appointed a delegate to France, and to co-operate with Benjamin Franklin and Arthur Lee, who were then in Paris, in the endeavor to obtain assistance in arms and money from the French Government. This was a severe trial to his patriotism, as it separated him from his home, compelled him to cross the ocean in winter, and exposed him to great peril of capture by the British cruisers, who were seeking him. He left France June 17, 1779. In September of the same year he was again chosen to go to Paris, and there hold himself in readiness to negotiate a treaty of peace and of commerce with Great Britain, as soon as the British Cabinet might be found willing to listen to such proposals. He sailed for France in November, from there he went to Holland, where he negotiated important loans and formed important commercial treaties.

Finally a treaty of peace with England was signed Jan. 21, 1783. The re-action from the excitement, toil and anxiety through which Mr. Adams had passed threw him into a fever. After suffering from a continued fever and becoming feeble and emaciated he was advised to go to England to drink the waters of Bath. While in England, still drooping and desponding, he received dispatches from his own government urging the necessity of his going to Amsterdam to negotiate another loan. It was winter, his health was delicate, yet he immediately set out, and through storm, on sea, on horseback and foot, he made the trip.

February 24, 1785, Congress appointed Mr. Adams envoy to the Court of St. James. Here he met face to face the King of England, who had so long regarded him as a traitor. As England did not condescend to appoint a minister to the United States, and as Mr. Adams felt that he was accomplishing but little, he sought permission to return to his own country, where he arrived in June, 1788.

When Washington was first chosen President, John Adams, rendered illustrious by his signal services at home and abroad, was chosen Vice President. Again at the second election of Washington as President, Adams was chosen Vice President. In 1796, Washington retired from public life, and Mr. Adams was elected President, though not without much opposition. Serving in this office four years, he was succeeded by Mr. Jefferson, his opponent in politics.

While Mr. Adams was Vice President the great

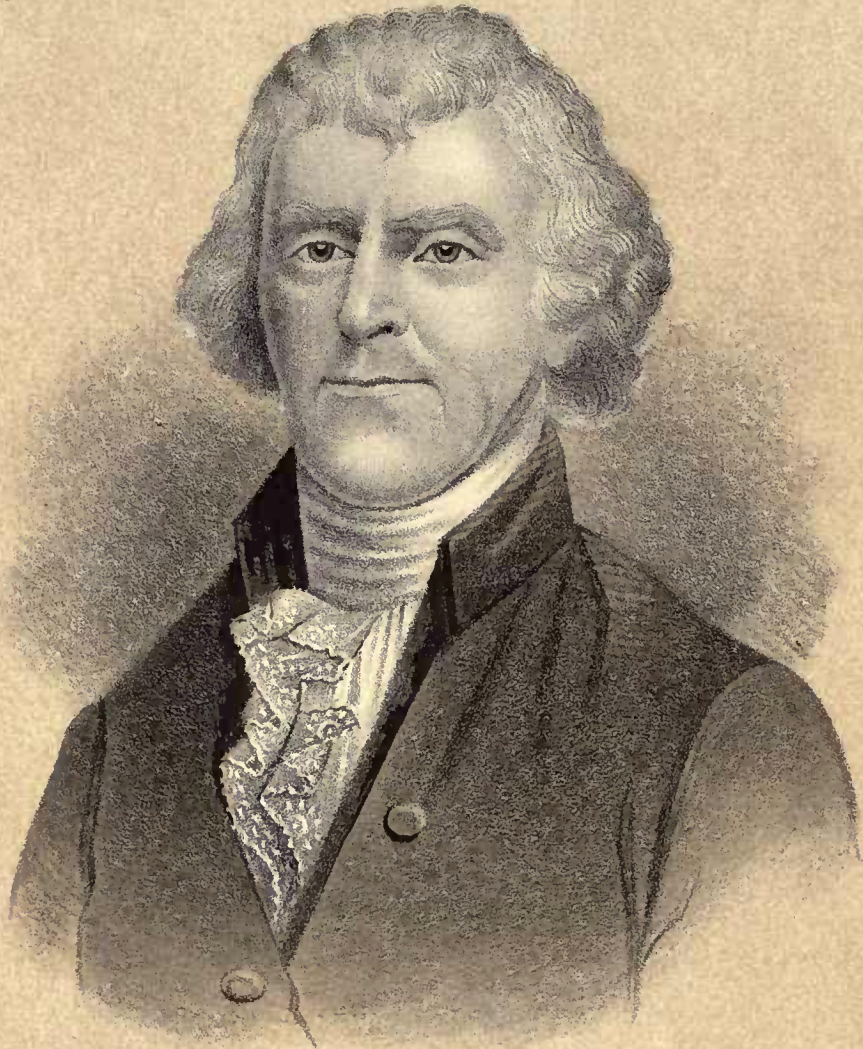
French Revolution shook the continent of Europe, and it was upon this point which he was at issue with the majority of his countrymen led by Mr. Jefferson. Mr. Adams felt no sympathy with the French people in their struggle, for he had no confidence in their power of self-government, and he utterly abhorred the class of atheist philosophers who he claimed caused it. On the other hand Jefferson's sympathies were strongly enlisted in behalf of the French people. Hence originated the alienation between these distinguished men, and two powerful parties were thus soon organized, Adams at the head of the one whose sympathies were with England and Jefferson led the other in sympathy with France.

The world has seldom seen a spectacle of more moral beauty and grandeur, than was presented by the old age of Mr. Adams. The violence of party feeling had died away, and he had begun to receive that just appreciation which, to most men, is not accorded till after death. No one could look upon his venerable form, and think of what he had done and suffered, and how he had given up all the prime and strength of his life to the public good, without the deepest emotion of gratitude and respect. It was his peculiar good fortune to witness the complete success of the institution which he had been so active in creating and supporting. In 1824, his cup of happiness was filled to the brim, by seeing his son elevated to the highest station in the gift of the people.

The fourth of July, 1826, which completed the half century since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, arrived, and there were but three of the signers of that immortal instrument left upon the earth to hail its morning light. And, as it is well known, on that day two of these finished their earthly pilgrimage, a coincidence so remarkable as to seem miraculous. For a few days before Mr. Adams had been rapidly failing, and on the morning of the fourth he found himself too weak to rise from his bed. On being requested to name a toast for the customary celebration of the day, he exclaimed "INDEPENDENCE FOREVER." When the day was ushered in, by the ringing of bells and the firing of cannons, he was asked by one of his attendants if he knew what day it was? He replied, "O yes; it is the glorious fourth of July—God bless it—God bless you all." In the course of the day he said, "It is a great and glorious day." The last words he uttered were, "Jefferson survives." But he had, at one o'clock, resigned his spirit into the hands of his God.

The personal appearance and manners of Mr. Adams were not particularly prepossessing. His face, as his portrait manifests, was intellectual and expressive, but his figure was low and ungraceful, and his manners were frequently abrupt and uncourteous. He had neither the lofty dignity of Washington, nor the engaging elegance and gracefulness which marked the manners and address of Jefferson.

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Th. Jefferson



THOMAS JEFFERSON.



THOMAS JEFFERSON was born April 2, 1743, at Shadwell, Albermarle county, Va. His parents were Peter and Jane (Randolph) Jefferson, the former a native of Wales, and the latter born in London. To them were born six daughters and two sons, of whom Thomas was the elder. When 14 years of age his father died. He received a most liberal education, having been kept diligently at school from the time he was five years of age. In 1760 he entered William

and Mary College. Williamsburg was then the seat of the Colonial Court, and it was the obode of fashion and splendor. Young Jefferson, who was then 17 years old, lived somewhat expensively, keeping fine horses, and much caressed by gay society, yet he was earnestly devoted to his studies, and irreproachable in his morals. It is strange, however, under such influences, that he was not ruined. In the second year of his college course, moved by some unexplained inward impulse, he discarded his horses, society, and even his favorite violin, to which he had previously given much time. He often devoted fifteen hours a day to hard study, allowing himself for exercise only a run in the evening twilight of a mile out of the city and back again. He thus attained very high intellectual culture, alike excellence in philosophy and the languages. The most difficult Latin and Greek authors he read with facility. A more finished scholar has seldom gone forth from college halls; and

there was not to be found, perhaps, in all Virginia, a more pureminded, upright, gentlemanly young man.

Immediately upon leaving college he began the study of law. For the short time he continued in the practice of his profession he rose rapidly and distinguished himself by his energy and accuteness as a lawyer. But the times called for greater action. The policy of England had awakened the spirit of resistance of the American Colonies, and the enlarged views which Jefferson had ever entertained, soon led him into active political life. In 1769 he was chosen a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses. In 1772 he married Mrs. Martha Skelton, a very beautiful, wealthy and highly accomplished young widow.

Upon Mr. Jefferson's large estate at Shadwell, there was a majestic swell of land, called Monticello, which commanded a prospect of wonderful extent and beauty. This spot Mr. Jefferson selected for his new home; and here he reared a mansion of modest yet elegant architecture, which, next to Mount Vernon, became the most distinguished resort in our land.

In 1775 he was sent to the Colonial Congress, where, though a silent member, his abilities as a writer and a reasoner soon become known, and he was placed upon a number of important committees, and was chairman of the one appointed for the drawing up of a declaration of independence. This committee consisted of Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston. Jefferson, as chairman, was appointed to draw up the paper. Franklin and Adams suggested a few verbal changes before it was submitted to Congress. On June 28, a few slight changes were made in it by Congress, and it was passed and signed July 4, 1776. What must have been the feelings of that

man—what the emotions that swelled his breast—who was charged with the preparation of that Declaration, which, while it made known the wrongs of America, was also to publish her to the world, free, sovereign and independent. It is one of the most remarkable papers ever written; and did no other effort of the mind of its author exist, that alone would be sufficient to stamp his name with immortality.

In 1779 Mr. Jefferson was elected successor to Patrick Henry, as Governor of Virginia. At one time the British officer, Tarleton, sent a secret expedition to Monticello, to capture the Governor. Scarcely five minutes elapsed after the hurried escape of Mr. Jefferson and his family, ere his mansion was in possession of the British troops. His wife's health, never very good, was much injured by this excitement, and in the summer of 1782 she died.

Mr. Jefferson was elected to Congress in 1783. Two years later he was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to France. Returning to the United States in September, 1789, he became Secretary of State in Washington's cabinet. This position he resigned Jan. 1, 1794. In 1797, he was chosen Vice President, and four years later was elected President over Mr. Adams, with Aaron Burr as Vice President. In 1804 he was re-elected with wonderful unanimity, and George Clinton, Vice President.

The early part of Mr. Jefferson's second administration was disturbed by an event which threatened the tranquility and peace of the Union; this was the conspiracy of Aaron Burr. Defeated in the late election to the Vice Presidency, and led on by an unprincipled ambition, this extraordinary man formed the plan of a military expedition into the Spanish territories on our southwestern frontier, for the purpose of forming there a new republic. This has been generally supposed was a mere pretext; and although it has not been generally known what his real plans were, there is no doubt that they were of a far more dangerous character.

In 1809, at the expiration of the second term for which Mr. Jefferson had been elected, he determined to retire from political life. For a period of nearly forty years, he had been continually before the public, and all that time had been employed in offices of the greatest trust and responsibility. Having thus devoted the best part of his life to the service of his country, he now felt desirous of that rest which his declining years required, and upon the organization of the new administration, in March, 1809, he bid farewell forever to public life, and retired to Monticello.

Mr. Jefferson was profuse in his hospitality. Whole families came in their coaches with their horses,—fathers and mothers, boys and girls, babies and nurses,—and remained three and even six months. Life at Monticello, for years, resembled that at a fashionable watering-place.

The fourth of July, 1826, being the fiftieth anniver-

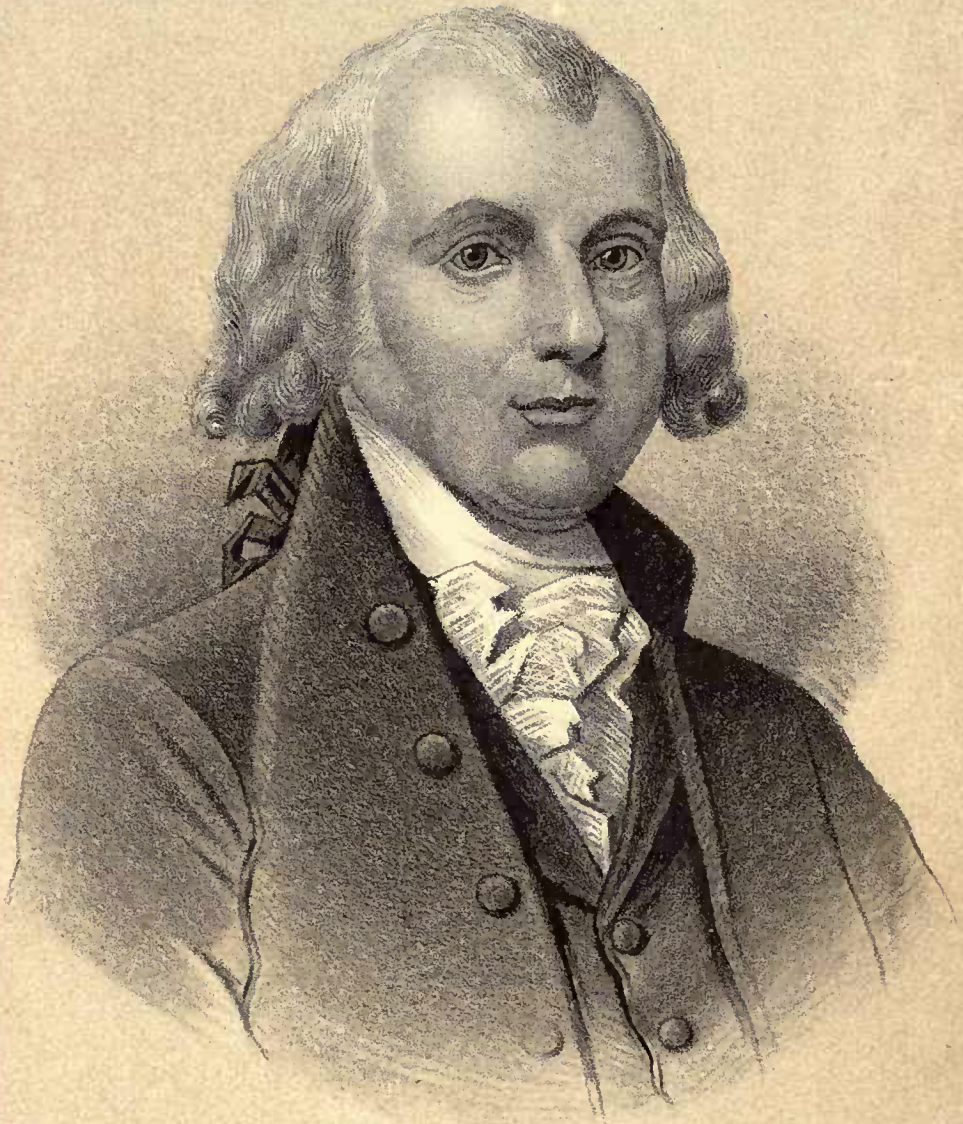
sary of the Declaration of American Independence, great preparations were made in every part of the Union for its celebration, as the nation's jubilee, and the citizens of Washington, to add to the solemnity of the occasion, invited Mr. Jefferson, as the framer, and one of the few surviving signers of the Declaration, to participate in their festivities. But an illness, which had been of several weeks duration, and had been continually increasing, compelled him to decline the invitation.

On the second of July, the disease under which he was laboring left him, but in such a reduced state that his medical attendants entertained no hope of his recovery. From this time he was perfectly sensible that his last hour was at hand. On the next day, which was Monday, he asked of those around him, the day of the month, and on being told it was the third of July, he expressed the earnest wish that he might be permitted to breathe the air of the fiftieth anniversary. His prayer was heard—that day, whose dawn was hailed with such rapture through our land, burst upon his eyes, and then they were closed forever. And what a noble consummation of a noble life! To die on that day,—the birthday of a nation,—the day which his own name and his own act had rendered glorious; to die amidst the rejoicings and festivities of a whole nation, who looked up to him, as the author, under God, of their greatest blessings, was all that was wanting to fill up the record his life.

Almost at the same hour of his death, the kindred spirit of the venerable Adams, as if to bear him company, left the scene of his earthly honors. Hand in hand they had stood forth, the champions of freedom; hand in hand, during the dark and desperate struggle of the Revolution, they had cheered and animated their desponding countrymen; for half a century they had labored together for the good of the country; and now hand in hand they depart. In their lives they had been united in the same great cause of liberty, and in their deaths they were not divided.

In person Mr. Jefferson was tall and thin, rather above six feet in height, but well formed; his eyes were light, his hair originally red, in after life became white and silvery; his complexion was fair, his forehead broad, and his whole countenance intelligent and thoughtful. He possessed great fortitude of mind as well as personal courage; and his command of temper was such that his oldest and most intimate friends never recollected to have seen him in a passion. His manners, though dignified, were simple and unaffected, and his hospitality was so unbounded that all found at his house a ready welcome. In conversation he was fluent, eloquent and enthusiastic; and his language was remarkably pure and correct. He was a finished classical scholar, and in his writings is discernable the care with which he formed his style upon the best models of antiquity.





James Madison

JAMES MADISON.

JAMES MADISON, "Father of the Constitution," and fourth President of the United States, was born March 16, 1757, and died at his home in Virginia, June 28, 1836. The name of James Madison is inseparably connected with most of the important events in that heroic period of our country during which the foundations of this great republic were laid. He was the last of the founders of the Constitution of the United States to be called to his eternal reward.

The Madison family were among the early emigrants to the New World, landing upon the shores of the Chesapeake but 15 years after the settlement of Jamestown. The father of James Madison was an opulent planter, residing upon a very fine estate called "Montpelier," Orange Co., Va. The mansion was situated in the midst of scenery highly picturesque and romantic, on the west side of South-west Mountain, at the foot of Blue Ridge. It was but 25 miles from the home of Jefferson at Monticello. The closest personal and political attachment existed between these illustrious men, from their early youth until death.

The early education of Mr. Madison was conducted mostly at home under a private tutor. At the age of 18 he was sent to Princeton College, in New Jersey. Here he applied himself to study with the most im-

prudent zeal; allowing himself, for months, but three hours' sleep out of the 24. His health thus became so seriously impaired that he never recovered any vigor of constitution. He graduated in 1771, with a feeble body, with a character of utmost purity, and with a mind highly disciplined and richly stored with learning which embellished and gave proficiency to his subsequent career.

Returning to Virginia, he commenced the study of law and a course of extensive and systematic reading. This educational course, the spirit of the times in which he lived, and the society with which he associated, all combined to inspire him with a strong love of liberty, and to train him for his life-work of a statesman. Being naturally of a religious turn of mind, and his frail health leading him to think that his life was not to be long, he directed especial attention to theological studies. Endowed with a mind singularly free from passion and prejudice, and with almost unequalled powers of reasoning, he weighed all the arguments for and against revealed religion, until his faith became so established as never to be shaken.

In the spring of 1776, when 26 years of age, he was elected a member of the Virginia Convention, to frame the constitution of the State. The next year (1777), he was a candidate for the General Assembly. He refused to treat the whisky-loving voters, and consequently lost his election; but those who had witnessed the talent, energy and public spirit of the modest young man, enlisted themselves in his behalf, and he was appointed to the Executive Council.

Both Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson were Governors of Virginia while Mr. Madison remained member of the Council; and their appreciation of his

intellectual, social and moral worth, contributed not a little to his subsequent eminence. In the year 1780, he was elected a member of the Continental Congress. Here he met the most illustrious men in our land, and he was immediately assigned to one of the most conspicuous positions among them.

For three years Mr. Madison continued in Congress, one of its most active and influential members. In the year 1784, his term having expired, he was elected a member of the Virginia Legislature.

No man felt more deeply than Mr. Madison the utter inefficiency of the old confederacy, with no national government, with no power to form treaties which would be binding, or to enforce law. There was not any State more prominent than Virginia in the declaration, that an efficient national government must be formed. In January, 1786, Mr. Madison carried a resolution through the General Assembly of Virginia, inviting the other States to appoint commissioners to meet in convention at Annapolis to discuss this subject. Five States only were represented. The convention, however, issued another call, drawn up by Mr. Madison, urging all the States to send their delegates to Philadelphia, in May, 1787, to draft a Constitution for the United States, to take the place of that Confederate League. The delegates met at the time appointed. Every State but Rhode Island was represented. George Washington was chosen president of the convention; and the present Constitution of the United States was then and there formed. There was, perhaps, no mind and no pen more active in framing this immortal document than the mind and the pen of James Madison.

The Constitution, adopted by a vote 81 to 79, was to be presented to the several States for acceptance. But grave solicitude was felt. Should it be rejected we should be left but a conglomeration of independent States, with but little power at home and little respect abroad. Mr. Madison was selected by the convention to draw up an address to the people of the United States, expounding the principles of the Constitution, and urging its adoption. There was great opposition to it at first, but it at length triumphed over all, and went into effect in 1789.

Mr. Madison was elected to the House of Representatives in the first Congress, and soon became the avowed leader of the Republican party. While in New York attending Congress, he met Mrs. Todd, a young widow of remarkable power of fascination, whom he married. She was in person and character queenly, and probably no lady has thus far occupied so prominent a position in the very peculiar society which has constituted our republican court as Mrs. Madison.

Mr. Madison served as Secretary of State under Jefferson, and at the close of his administration was chosen President. At this time the encroachments of England had brought us to the verge of war.

British orders in council destroyed our commerce, and our flag was exposed to constant insult. Mr. Madison was a man of peace. Scholarly in his taste, retiring in his disposition, war had no charms for him. But the meekest spirit can be roused. It makes one's blood boil, even now, to think of an American ship brought to, upon the ocean, by the guns of an English cruiser. A young lieutenant steps on board and orders the crew to be paraded before him. With great nonchalance he selects any number whom he may please to designate as British subjects; orders them down the ship's side into his boat; and places them on the gun-deck of his man-of-war, to fight, by compulsion, the battles of England. This right of search and impressment, no efforts of our Government could induce the British cabinet to relinquish.

On the 18th of June, 1812, President Madison gave his approval to an act of Congress declaring war against Great Britain. Notwithstanding the bitter hostility of the Federal party to the war, the country in general approved; and Mr. Madison, on the 4th of March, 1813, was re-elected by a large majority, and entered upon his second term of office. This is not the place to describe the various adventures of this war on the land and on the water. Our infant navy then laid the foundations of its renown in grappling with the most formidable power which ever swept the seas. The contest commenced in earnest by the appearance of a British fleet, early in February, 1813, in Chesapeake Bay, declaring nearly the whole coast of the United States under blockade.

The Emperor of Russia offered his services as mediator. America accepted; England refused. A British force of five thousand men landed on the banks of the Patuxet River, near its entrance into Chesapeake Bay, and marched rapidly, by way of Bladensburg, upon Washington.

The straggling little city of Washington was thrown into consternation. The cannon of the brief conflict at Bladensburg echoed through the streets of the metropolis. The whole population fled from the city. The President, leaving Mrs. Madison in the White House, with her carriage drawn up at the door to await his speedy return, hurried to meet the officers in a council of war. He met our troops utterly routed, and he could not go back without danger of being captured. But few hours elapsed ere the Presidential Mansion, the Capitol, and all the public buildings in Washington were in flames.


The war closed after two years of fighting, and on Feb. 13, 1815, the treaty of peace was signed at Ghent.

On the 4th of March, 1817, his second term of office expired, and he resigned the Presidential chair to his friend, James Monroe. He retired to his beautiful home at Montpelier, and there passed the remainder of his days. On June 28, 1836, then at the age of 85 years, he fell asleep in death. Mrs. Madison died July 12, 1849.

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James Mourou



JAMES MONROE.



JAMES MONROE, the fifth President of The United States, was born in Westmoreland Co., Va., April 28, 1758. His early life was passed at the place of nativity. His ancestors had for many years resided in the province in which he was born. When, at 17 years of age, in the process of completing his education at William and Mary College, the Colonial Congress assembled at Philadelphia to deliberate upon the unjust and manifold oppressions of Great Britain, declared the separation of the Colonies, and promulgated the Declaration of Independence. Had he been born ten years before it is highly probable that he would have been one of the signers of that celebrated instrument. At this time he left school and enlisted among the patriots.

He joined the army when everything looked hopeless and gloomy. The number of deserters increased from day to day. The invading armies came pouring in; and the tories not only favored the cause of the mother country, but disheartened the new recruits, who were sufficiently terrified at the prospect of contending with an enemy whom they had been taught to deem invincible. To such brave spirits as James Monroe, who went right onward, undismayed through difficulty and danger, the United States owe their political emancipation. The young cadet joined the ranks, and espoused the cause of his injured country, with a firm determination to live or die with her strife

for liberty. Firmly yet sadly he shared in the melancholy retreat from Harleam Heights and White Plains, and accompanied the dispirited army as it fled before its foes through New Jersey. In four months after the Declaration of Independence, the patriots had been beaten in seven battles. At the battle of Trenton he led the vanguard, and, in the act of charging upon the enemy he received a wound in the left shoulder.

As a reward for his bravery, Mr. Monroe was promoted a captain of infantry; and, having recovered from his wound, he rejoined the army. He, however, receded from the line of promotion, by becoming an officer in the staff of Lord Sterling. During the campaigns of 1777 and 1778, in the actions of Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth, he continued aid-de-camp; but becoming desirous to regain his position in the army, he exerted himself to collect a regiment for the Virginia line. This scheme failed owing to the exhausted condition of the State. Upon this failure he entered the office of Mr. Jefferson, at that period Governor, and pursued, with considerable ardor, the study of common law. He did not, however, entirely lay aside the knapsack for the green bag; but on the invasions of the enemy, served as a volunteer, during the two years of his legal pursuits.

In 1782, he was elected from King George county, a member of the Legislature of Virginia, and by that body he was elevated to a seat in the Executive Council. He was thus honored with the confidence of his fellow citizens at 23 years of age; and having at this early period displayed some of that ability and aptitude for legislation, which were afterwards employed with unremitting energy for the public good,

he was in the succeeding year chosen a member of the Congress of the United States.

Deeply as Mr. Monroe felt the imperfections of the old Confederacy, he was opposed to the new Constitution, thinking, with many others of the Republican party, that it gave too much power to the Central Government, and not enough to the individual States. Still he retained the esteem of his friends who were its warm supporters, and who, notwithstanding his opposition secured its adoption. In 1789, he became a member of the United States Senate; which office he held for four years. Every month the line of distinction between the two great parties which divided the nation, the Federal and the Republican, was growing more distinct. The two prominent ideas which now separated them were, that the Republican party was in sympathy with France, and also in favor of such a strict construction of the Constitution as to give the Central Government as little power, and the State Governments as much power, as the Constitution would warrant. The Federalists sympathized with England, and were in favor of a liberal construction of the Constitution, which would give as much power to the Central Government as that document could possibly authorize.

The leading Federalists and Republicans were alike noble men, consecrating all their energies to the good of the nation. Two more honest men or more pure patriots than John Adams the Federalist, and James Monroe the Republican, never breathed. In building up this majestic nation, which is destined to eclipse all Grecian and Assyrian greatness, the combination of their antagonism was needed to create the right equilibrium. And yet each in his day was denounced as almost a demon.

Washington was then President. England had espoused the cause of the Bourbons against the principles of the French Revolution. All Europe was drawn into the conflict. We were feeble and far away. Washington issued a proclamation of neutrality between these contending powers. France had helped us in the struggle for our liberties. All the despotisms of Europe were now combined to prevent the French from escaping from a tyranny a thousand-fold worse than that which we had endured. Col. Monroe, more magnanimous than prudent, was anxious that, at whatever hazard, we should help our old allies in their extremity. It was the impulse of a generous and noble nature. He violently opposed the President's proclamation as ungrateful and wanting in magnanimity.

Washington, who could appreciate such a character, developed his calm, serene, almost divine greatness, by appointing that very James Monroe, who was denouncing the policy of the Government, as the minister of that Government to the Republic of France. Mr. Monroe was welcomed by the National Convention in France with the most enthusiastic demonstrations.

Shortly after his return to this country, Mr. Monroe was elected Governor of Virginia, and held the office for three years. He was again sent to France to co-operate with Chancellor Livingston in obtaining the vast territory then known as the Province of Louisiana, which France had but shortly before obtained from Spain. Their united efforts were successful. For the comparatively small sum of fifteen millions of dollars, the entire territory of Orleans and district of Louisiana were added to the United States. This was probably the largest transfer of real estate which was ever made in all the history of the world.

From France Mr. Monroe went to England to obtain from that country some recognition of our rights as neutrals, and to remonstrate against those odious impressments of our seamen. But England was unrelenting. He again returned to England on the same mission, but could receive no redress. He returned to his home and was again chosen Governor of Virginia. This he soon resigned to accept the position of Secretary of State under Madison. While in this office war with England was declared, the Secretary of War resigned, and during these trying times, the duties of the War Department were also put upon him. He was truly the armor-bearer of President Madison, and the most efficient business man in his cabinet. Upon the return of peace he resigned the Department of War, but continued in the office of Secretary of State until the expiration of Mr. Madison's administration. At the election held the previous autumn Mr. Monroe himself had been chosen President with but little opposition, and upon March 4, 1817, was inaugurated. Four years later he was elected for a second term.

Among the important measures of his Presidency were the cession of Florida to the United States; the Missouri Compromise, and the "Monroe doctrine."


This famous doctrine, since known as the "Monroe doctrine," was enunciated by him in 1823. At that time the United States had recognized the independence of the South American states, and did not wish to have European powers longer attempting to subdue portions of the American Continent. The doctrine is as follows: "That we should consider any attempt on the part of European powers to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety," and "that we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing or controlling American governments or provinces in any other light than as a manifestation by European powers of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States." This doctrine immediately affected the course of foreign governments, and has become the approved sentiment of the United States.

At the end of his second term Mr. Monroe retired to his home in Virginia, where he lived until 1830, when he went to New York to live with his son-in-law. In that city he died, on the 4th of July, 1831.


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J. 2. Adams



JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.



JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, the sixth President of the United States, was born in the rural home of his honored father, John Adams, in Quincy, Mass., on the 11th of July, 1767. His mother, a woman of exalted worth, watched over his childhood during the almost constant absence of his father. When but eight years of age, he stood with his mother on an eminence, listening to the booming of the great battle on Bunker's Hill, and gazing on upon the smoke and flames billowing up from the conflagration of Charlestown.

When but eleven years old he took a tearful adieu of his mother, to sail with his father for Europe, through a fleet of hostile British cruisers. The bright, animated boy spent a year and a half in Paris, where his father was associated with Franklin and Lee as minister plenipotentiary. His intelligence attracted the notice of these distinguished men, and he received from them flattering marks of attention.

Mr. John Adams had scarcely returned to this country, in 1779, ere he was again sent abroad. Again John Quincy accompanied his father. At Paris he applied himself with great diligence, for six months, to study; then accompanied his father to Holland, where he entered, first a school in Amsterdam, then the University at Leyden. About a year from this time, in 1781, when the manly boy was but fourteen years of age, he was selected by Mr. Dana, our minister to the Russian court, as his private secretary.

In this school of incessant labor and of enobling culture he spent fourteen months, and then returned to Holland through Sweden, Denmark, Hamburg and Bremen. This long journey he took alone, in the winter, when in his sixteenth year. Again he resumed his studies, under a private tutor, at Hague. Thence,

in the spring of 1782, he accompanied his father to Paris, traveling leisurely, and forming acquaintance with the most distinguished men on the Continent; examining architectural remains, galleries of paintings, and all renowned works of art. At Paris he again became associated with the most illustrious men of all lands in the contemplations of the loftiest temporal themes which can engross the human mind. After a short visit to England he returned to Paris, and consecrated all his energies to study until May, 1785, when he returned to America. To a brilliant young man of eighteen, who had seen much of the world, and who was familiar with the etiquette of courts, a residence with his father in London, under such circumstances, must have been extremely attractive; but with judgment very rare in one of his age, he preferred to return to America to complete his education in an American college. He wished then to study law, that with an honorable profession, he might be able to obtain an independent support.

Upon leaving Harvard College, at the age of twenty, he studied law for three years. In June, 1794, being then but twenty-seven years of age, he was appointed by Washington, resident minister at the Netherlands. Sailing from Boston in July, he reached London in October, where he was immediately admitted to the deliberations of Messrs. Jay and Pinckney, assisting them in negotiating a commercial treaty with Great Britain. After thus spending a fortnight in London, he proceeded to the Hague.

In July, 1797, he left the Hague to go to Portugal as minister plenipotentiary. On his way to Portugal, upon arriving in London, he met with despatches directing him to the court of Berlin, but requesting him to remain in London until he should receive his instructions. While waiting he was married to an American lady to whom he had been previously engaged,—Miss Louisa Catherine Johnson, daughter of Mr. Joshua Johnson, American consul in London; a lady endow'd with that beauty and those accomplishments which eminently fitted her to move in the elevated sphere for which she was destined.

He reached Berlin with his wife in November, 1797; where he remained until July, 1799, when, having fulfilled all the purposes of his mission, he solicited his recall.

Soon after his return, in 1802, he was chosen to the Senate of Massachusetts, from Boston, and then was elected Senator of the United States for six years, from the 4th of March, 1804. His reputation, his ability and his experience, placed him immediately among the most prominent and influential members of that body. Especially did he sustain the Government in its measures of resistance to the encroachments of England, destroying our commerce and insulting our flag. There was no man in America more familiar with the arrogance of the British court upon these points, and no one more resolved to present a firm resistance.

In 1809, Madison succeeded Jefferson in the Presidential chair, and he immediately nominated John Quincy Adams minister to St. Petersburg. Resigning his professorship in Harvard College, he embarked at Boston, in August, 1809.

While in Russia, Mr. Adams was an intense student. He devoted his attention to the language and history of Russia; to the Chinese trade; to the European system of weights, measures, and coins; to the climate and astronomical observations; while he kept up a familiar acquaintance with the Greek and Latin classics. In all the universities of Europe, a more accomplished scholar could scarcely be found. All through life the Bible constituted an important part of his studies. It was his rule to read five chapters every day.

On the 4th of March, 1817, Mr. Monroe took the Presidential chair, and immediately appointed Mr. Adams Secretary of State. Taking leave of his numerous friends in public and private life in Europe, he sailed in June, 1819, for the United States. On the 18th of August, he again crossed the threshold of his home in Quincy. During the eight years of Mr. Monroe's administration, Mr. Adams continued Secretary of State.

Some time before the close of Mr. Monroe's second term of office, new candidates began to be presented for the Presidency. The friends of Mr. Adams brought forward his name. It was an exciting campaign. Party spirit was never more bitter. Two hundred and sixty electoral votes were cast. Andrew Jackson received ninety-nine; John Quincy Adams, eighty-four; William H. Crawford, forty-one; Henry Clay, thirty-seven. As there was no choice by the people, the question went to the House of Representatives. Mr. Clay gave the vote of Kentucky to Mr. Adams, and he was elected.

The friends of all the disappointed candidates now combined in a venomous and persistent assault upon Mr. Adams. There is nothing more disgraceful in the past history of our country than the abuse which

was poured in one uninterrupted stream, upon this high-minded, upright, patriotic man. There never was an administration more pure in principles, more conscientiously devoted to the best interests of the country, than that of John Quincy Adams; and never, perhaps, was there an administration more unscrupulously and outrageously assailed.

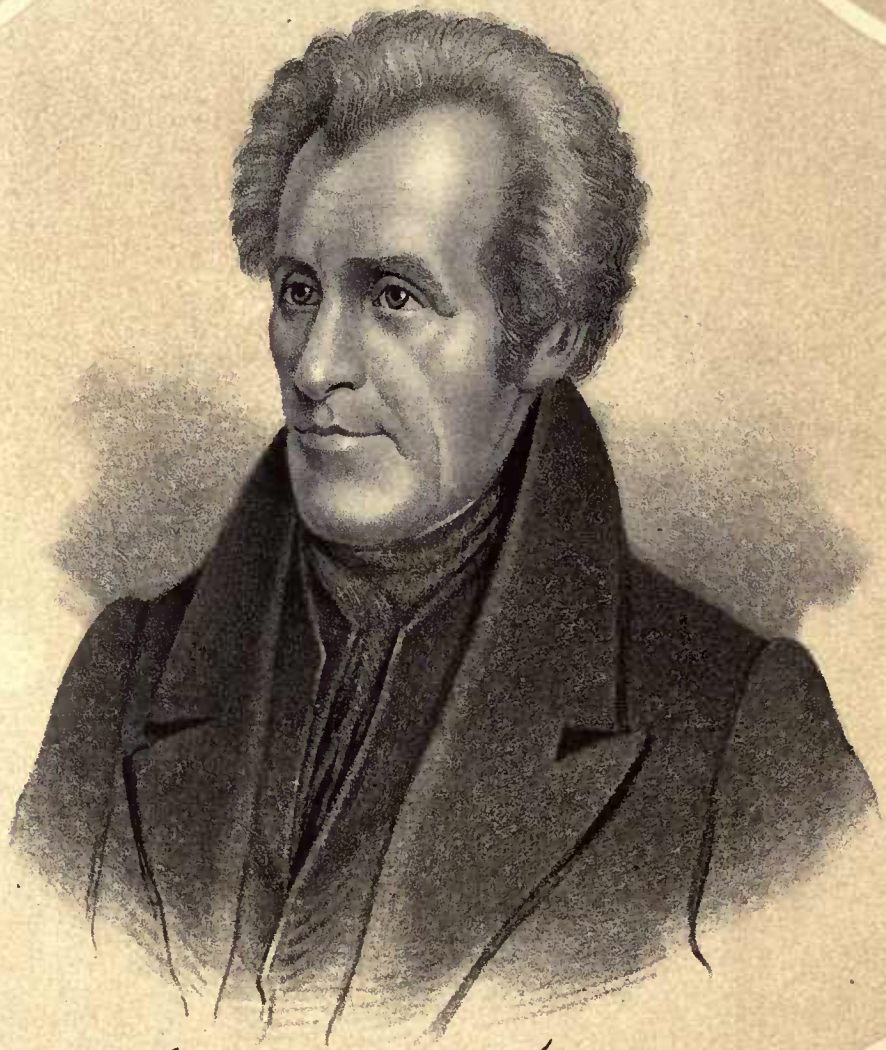
Mr. Adams was, to a very remarkable degree, abstemious and temperate in his habits; always rising early, and taking much exercise. When at his home in Quincy, he has been known to walk, before breakfast, seven miles to Boston. In Washington, it was said that he was the first man up in the city, lighting his own fire and applying himself to work in his library often long before dawn.

On the 4th of March, 1829, Mr. Adams retired from the Presidency, and was succeeded by Andrew Jackson. John C. Calhoun was elected Vice President. The slavery question now began to assume portentous magnitude. Mr. Adams returned to Quincy and to his studies, which he pursued with unabated zeal. But he was not long permitted to remain in retirement. In November, 1830, he was elected representative to Congress. For seventeen years, until his death, he occupied the post as representative, towering above all his peers, ever ready to do brave battle for freedom, and winning the title of "the old man eloquent." Upon taking his seat in the House, he announced that he should hold himself bound to no party. Probably there never was a member more devoted to his duties. He was usually the first in his place in the morning, and the last to leave his seat in the evening. Not a measure could be brought forward and escape his scrutiny. The battle which Mr. Adams fought, almost singly, against the proslavery party in the Government, was sublime in its moral daring and heroism. For persisting in presenting petitions for the abolition of slavery, he was threatened with indictment by the grand jury, with expulsion from the House, with assassination; but no threats could intimidate him, and his final triumph was complete.

It has been said of President Adams, that when his body was bent and his hair silvered by the lapse of fourscore years, yielding to the simple faith of a little child, he was accustomed to repeat every night, before he slept, the prayer which his mother taught him in his infant years.

On the 21st of February, 1848, he rose on the floor of Congress, with a paper in his hand, to address the speaker. Suddenly he fell, again stricken by paralysis, and was caught in the arms of those around him. For a time he was senseless, as he was conveyed to the sofa in the rotunda. With reviving consciousness, he opened his eyes, looked calmly around and said "*This is the end of earth*;" then after a moment's pause he added, "*I am content*." These were the last words of the grand "Old Man Eloquent."

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Andrew Jackson

ANDREW JACKSON.



ANDREW JACKSON, the seventh President of the United States, was born in Waxhaw settlement, N. C., March 15, 1767, a few days after his father's death. His parents were poor emigrants from Ireland, and took up their abode in Waxhaw settlement, where they lived in deepest poverty.

Andrew, or Andy, as he was universally called, grew up a very rough, rude, turbulent boy. His features were coarse, his form ungainly; and there was but very

little in his character, made visible, which was attractive.

When only thirteen years old he joined the volunteers of Carolina against the British invasion. In 1781, he and his brother Robert were captured and imprisoned for a time at Camden. A British officer ordered him to brush his mud-spattered boots. "I am a prisoner of war, not your servant," was the reply of the dauntless boy.

The brute drew his sword, and aimed a desperate blow at the head of the helpless young prisoner. Andrew raised his hand, and thus received two fearful gashes,—one on the hand and the other upon the head. The officer then turned to his brother Robert with the same demand. He also refused, and received a blow from the keen-edged sabre, which quite disabled him, and which probably soon after caused his death. They suffered much other ill-treatment, and were finally stricken with the small-pox. Their mother was successful in obtaining their exchange,

and took her sick boys home. After a long illness Andrew recovered, and the death of his mother soon left him entirely friendless.

Andrew supported himself in various ways, such as working at the saddler's trade, teaching school and clerking in a general store, until 1784, when he entered a law office at Salisbury, N. C. He, however, gave more attention to the wild amusements of the times than to his studies. In 1788, he was appointed solicitor for the western district of North Carolina, of which Tennessee was then a part. This involved many long and tedious journeys amid dangers of every kind, but Andrew Jackson never knew fear, and the Indians had no desire to repeat a skirmish with the Sharp Knife.

In 1791, Mr. Jackson was married to a woman who supposed herself divorced from her former husband. Great was the surprise of both parties, two years later, to find that the conditions of the divorce had just been definitely settled by the first husband. The marriage ceremony was performed a second time, but the occurrence was often used by his enemies to bring Mr. Jackson into disfavor.

During these years he worked hard at his profession, and frequently had one or more duels on hand, one of which, when he killed Dickenson, was especially disgraceful.

In January, 1796, the Territory of Tennessee then containing nearly eighty thousand inhabitants, the people met in convention at Knoxville to frame a constitution. Five were sent from each of the eleven counties. Andrew Jackson was one of the delegates. The new State was entitled to but one member in the National House of Representatives. Andrew Jackson was chosen that member. Mounting his horse he rode to Philadelphia, where Congress then held its

sessions,—a distance of about eight hundred miles.

Jackson was an earnest advocate of the Democratic party. Jefferson was his idol. He admired Bonaparte, loved France and hated England. As Mr. Jackson took his seat, Gen. Washington, whose second term of office was then expiring, delivered his last speech to Congress. A committee drew up a complimentary address in reply. Andrew Jackson did not approve of the address, and was one of the twelve who voted against it. He was not willing to say that Gen. Washington's administration had been "wise, firm and patriotic."

Mr. Jackson was elected to the United States Senate in 1797, but soon resigned and returned home. Soon after he was chosen Judge of the Supreme Court of his State, which position he held for six years.

When the war of 1812 with Great Britain commenced, Madison occupied the Presidential chair. Aaron Burr sent word to the President that there was an unknown man in the West, Andrew Jackson, who would do credit to a commission if one were conferred upon him. Just at that time Gen. Jackson offered his services and those of twenty-five hundred volunteers. His offer was accepted, and the troops were assembled at Nashville.

As the British were hourly expected to make an attack upon New Orleans, where Gen. Wilkinson was in command, he was ordered to descend the river with fifteen hundred troops to aid Wilkinson. The expedition reached Natchez; and after a delay of several weeks there, without accomplishing anything, the men were ordered back to their homes. But the energy Gen. Jackson had displayed, and his entire devotion to the comfort of his soldiers, won him golden opinions; and he became the most popular man in the State. It was in this expedition that his toughness gave him the nickname of "Old Hickory."

Soon after this, while attempting to horsewhip Col. Thomas H. Benton, for a remark that gentleman made about his taking a part as second in a duel, in which a younger brother of Benton's was engaged, he received two severe pistol wounds. While he was lingering upon a bed of suffering news came that the Indians, who had combined under Tecumseh from Florida to the Lakes, to exterminate the white settlers, were committing the most awful ravages. Decisive action became necessary. Gen. Jackson, with his fractured bone just beginning to heal, his arm in a sling, and unable to mount his horse without assistance, gave his amazing energies to the raising of an army to rendezvous at Fayetteville, Alabama.

The Creek Indians had established a strong fort on one of the bends of the Tallapoosa River, near the center of Alabama, about fifty miles below Fort Strother. With an army of two thousand men, Gen. Jackson traversed the pathless wilderness in a march of eleven days. He reached their fort, called Tohopeka or Horse-shoe, on the 27th of March, 1814. The bend

of the river enclosed nearly one hundred acres of tangled forest and wild ravine. Across the narrow neck the Indians had constructed a formidable breast-work of logs and brush. Here nine hundred warriors, with an ample supply of arms were assembled.

The fort was stormed. The fight was utterly desperate. Not an Indian would accept of quarter. When bleeding and dying, they would fight those who endeavored to spare their lives. From ten in the morning until dark, the battle raged. The carnage was awful and revolting. Some threw themselves into the river; but the unerring bullet struck their heads as they swam. Nearly everyone of the nine hundred warriors were killed. A few probably, in the night, swam the river and escaped. This ended the war. The power of the Creeks was broken forever. This bold plunge into the wilderness, with its terrific slaughter, so appalled the savages, that the haggard remnants of the bands came to the camp, begging for peace.

This closing of the Creek war enabled us to concentrate all our militia upon the British, who were the allies of the Indians. No man of less resolute will than Gen. Jackson could have conducted this Indian campaign to so successful an issue. Immediately he was appointed major-general.

Late in August, with an army of two thousand men, on a rushing march, Gen. Jackson came to Mobile. A British fleet came from Pensacola, landed a force upon the beach, anchored near the little fort, and from both ship and shore commenced a furious assault. The battle was long and doubtful. At length one of the ships was blown up and the rest retired.

Garrisoning Mobile, where he had taken his little army, he moved his troops to New Orleans, and the battle of New Orleans which soon ensued, was in reality a very arduous campaign. This won for Gen. Jackson an imperishable name. Here his troops, which numbered about four thousand men, won a signal victory over the British army of about nine thousand. His loss was but thirteen, while the loss of the British was two thousand six hundred.

The name of Gen. Jackson soon began to be mentioned in connection with the Presidency, but, in 1824, he was defeated by Mr. Adams. He was, however, successful in the election of 1828, and was re-elected for a second term in 1832. In 1829, just before he assumed the reins of the government, he met with the most terrible affliction of his life in the death of his wife, whom he had loved with a devotion which has perhaps never been surpassed. From the shock of her death he never recovered.

His administration was one of the most memorable in the annals of our country; applauded by one party, condemned by the other. No man had more bitter enemies or warmer friends. At the expiration of his two terms of office he retired to the Hermitage, where he died June 8, 1845. The last years of Mr. Jackson's life were that of a devoted Christian man.

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Mr. Van Buren



MARTIN VAN BUREN.



MARTIN VAN BUREN, the eighth President of the United States, was born at Kinderhook, N. Y., Dec. 5, 1782. He died at the same place, July 24, 1862. His body rests in the cemetery at Kinderhook. Above it is a plain granite shaft fifteen feet high, bearing a simple inscription about half way up on one face. The lot is unfenced, unbordered

or unbounded by shrub or flower.

There is but little in the life of Martin Van Buren of romantic interest. He fought no battles, engaged in no wild adventures. Though his life was stormy in political and intellectual conflicts, and he gained many signal victories, his days passed uneventful in those incidents which give zest to biography. His ancestors, as his name indicates, were of Dutch origin, and were among the earliest emigrants from Holland to the banks of the Hudson. His father was a farmer, residing in the old town of Kinderhook. His mother, also of Dutch lineage, was a woman of superior intelligence and exemplary piety.

He was decidedly a precocious boy, developing unusual activity, vigor and strength of mind. At the age of fourteen, he had finished his academic studies in his native village, and commenced the study of law. As he had not a collegiate education, seven years of study in a law-office were required of him before he could be admitted to the bar. Inspired with a lofty ambition, and conscious of his powers, he pursued his studies with indefatigable industry. After spending six years in an office in his native village,

he went to the city of New York, and prosecuted his studies for the seventh year.

In 1803, Mr. Van Buren, then twenty-one years of age, commenced the practice of law in his native village. The great conflict between the Federal and Republican party was then at its height. Mr. Van Buren was from the beginning a politician. He had, perhaps, imbibed that spirit while listening to the many discussions which had been carried on in his father's hotel. He was in cordial sympathy with Jefferson, and earnestly and eloquently espoused the cause of State Rights; though at that time the Federal party held the supremacy both in his town and State.

His success and increasing reputation led him after six years of practice, to remove to Hudson, the county seat of his county. Here he spent seven years, constantly gaining strength by contending in the courts with some of the ablest men who have adorned the bar of his State.

Just before leaving Kinderhook for Hudson, Mr. Van Buren married a lady alike distinguished for beauty and accomplishments. After twelve short years she sank into the grave, the victim of consumption, leaving her husband and four sons to weep over her loss. For twenty-five years, Mr. Van Buren was an earnest, successful, assiduous lawyer. The record of those years is barren in items of public interest. In 1812, when thirty years of age, he was chosen to the State Senate, and gave his strenuous support to Mr. Madison's administration. In 1815, he was appointed Attorney-General, and the next year moved to Albany, the capital of the State.

While he was acknowledged as one of the most prominent leaders of the Democratic party, he had

the moral courage to avow that true democracy did not require that "universal suffrage" which admits the vile, the degraded, the ignorant, to the right of governing the State. In true consistency with his democratic principles, he contended that, while the path leading to the privilege of voting should be open to every man without distinction, no one should be invested with that sacred prerogative, unless he were in some degree qualified for it by intelligence, virtue and some property interests in the welfare of the State.

In 1821 he was elected a member of the United States Senate; and in the same year, he took a seat in the convention to revise the constitution of his native State. His course in this convention secured the approval of men of all parties. No one could doubt the singleness of his endeavors to promote the interests of all classes in the community. In the Senate of the United States, he rose at once to a conspicuous position as an active and useful legislator.

In 1827, John Quincy Adams being then in the Presidential chair, Mr. Van Buren was re-elected to the Senate. He had been from the beginning a determined opposer of the Administration, adopting the "State Rights" view in opposition to what was deemed the Federal proclivities of Mr. Adams.

Soon after this, in 1828, he was chosen Governor of the State of New York, and accordingly resigned his seat in the Senate. Probably no one in the United States contributed so much towards ejecting John Q. Adams from the Presidential chair, and placing in it Andrew Jackson, as did Martin Van Buren. Whether entitled to the reputation or not, he certainly was regarded throughout the United States as one of the most skillful, sagacious and cunning of politicians. It was supposed that no one knew so well as he how to touch the secret springs of action; how to pull all the wires to put his machinery in motion; and how to organize a political army which would, secretly and stealthily accomplish the most gigantic results. By these powers it is said that he outwitted Mr. Adams, Mr. Clay, Mr. Webster, and secured results which few thought then could be accomplished.

When Andrew Jackson was elected President he appointed Mr. Van Buren Secretary of State. This position he resigned in 1831, and was immediately appointed Minister to England, where he went the same autumn. The Senate, however, when it met, refused to ratify the nomination, and he returned

home, apparently untroubled; was nominated Vice President in the place of Calhoun, at the re-election of President Jackson; and with smiles for all and frowns for none, he took his place at the head of that Senate which had refused to confirm his nomination as ambassador.

His rejection by the Senate roused all the zeal of President Jackson in behalf of his repudiated favorite; and this, probably more than any other cause, secured his elevation to the chair of the Chief Executive. On the 20th of May, 1836, Mr. Van Buren received the Democratic nomination to succeed Gen. Jackson as President of the United States. He was elected by a handsome majority, to the delight of the retiring President. "Leaving New York out of the canvass," says Mr. Parton, "the election of Mr. Van Buren to the Presidency was as much the act of Gen. Jackson as though the Constitution had conferred upon him the power to appoint a successor."

His administration was filled with exciting events. The insurrection in Canada, which threatened to involve this country in war with England, the agitation of the slavery question, and finally the great commercial panic which spread over the country, all were trials to his wisdom. The financial distress was attributed to the management of the Democratic party, and brought the President into such disfavor that he failed of re-election.

With the exception of being nominated for the Presidency by the "Free Soil" Democrats, in 1848, Mr. Van Buren lived quietly upon his estate until his death.

He had ever been a prudent man, of frugal habits, and living within his income, had now fortunately a competence for his declining years. His unblemished character, his commanding abilities, his unquestioned patriotism, and the distinguished positions which he had occupied in the government of our country, secured to him not only the homage of his party, but the respect of the whole community. It was on the 4th of March, 1841, that Mr. Van Buren retired from the presidency. From his fine estate at Lindenwald, he still exerted a powerful influence upon the politics of the country. From this time until his death, on the 24th of July, 1862, at the age of eighty years, he resided at Lindenwald, a gentleman of leisure, of culture and of wealth; enjoying in a healthy old age, probably far more happiness than he had before experienced amid the stormy scenes of his active life,

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W. H. Harrison

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.



WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON, the ninth President of the United States, was born at Berkeley, Va., Feb. 9, 1773. His father, Benjamin Harrison, was in comparatively opulent circumstances, and was one of the most distinguished men of his day. He was an intimate friend of George Washington, was early elected a member of the Continental Congress, and was conspicuous among the patriots of Virginia in resisting the encroachments of the British crown. In the celebrated Congress of 1775, Benjamin Harrison and John Hancock were both candidates for the office of speaker.

Mr Harrison was subsequently chosen Governor of Virginia, and was twice re-elected. His son, William Henry, of course enjoyed

in childhood all the advantages which wealth and intellectual and cultivated society could give. Having received a thorough common-school education, he entered Hampden Sidney College, where he graduated with honor soon after the death of his father. He then repaired to Philadelphia to study medicine under the instructions of Dr. Rush and the guardianship of Robert Morris, both of whom were, with his father, signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Upon the outbreak of the Indian troubles, and notwithstanding the remonstrances of his friends, he abandoned his medical studies and entered the army, having obtained a commission of Ensign from Presi-

dent Washington. He was then but 19 years old. From that time he passed gradually upward in rank until he became aid to General Wayne, after whose death he resigned his commission. He was then appointed Secretary of the North-western Territory. This Territory was then entitled to but one member in Congress and Capt. Harrison was chosen to fill that position.

In the spring of 1800 the North-western Territory was divided by Congress into two portions. The eastern portion, comprising the region now embraced in the State of Ohio, was called "The Territory north-west of the Ohio." The western portion, which included what is now called Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, was called the "Indiana Territory." William Henry Harrison, then 27 years of age, was appointed by John Adams, Governor of the Indiana Territory, and immediately after, also Governor of Upper Louisiana. He was thus ruler over almost as extensive a realm as any sovereign upon the globe. He was Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and was invested with powers nearly dictatorial over the now rapidly increasing white population. The ability and fidelity with which he discharged these responsible duties may be inferred from the fact that he was four times appointed to this office—first by John Adams, twice by Thomas Jefferson and afterwards by President Madison.

When he began his administration there were but three white settlements in that almost boundless region, now crowded with cities and resounding with all the tumult of wealth and traffic. One of these settlements was on the Ohio, nearly opposite Louisville; one at Vincennes, on the Wabash, and the third a French settlement.

The vast wilderness over which Gov. Harrison reigned was filled with many tribes of Indians. About

the year 1806, two extraordinary men, twin brothers, of the Shawnese tribe, rose among them. One of these was called Tecumseh, or "The Crouching Panther;" the other, Olliwacheca, or "The Prophet." Tecumseh was not only an Indian warrior, but a man of great sagacity, far-reaching foresight and indomitable perseverance in any enterprise in which he might engage. He was inspired with the highest enthusiasm, and had long regarded with dread and with hatred the encroachment of the whites upon the hunting-grounds of his fathers. His brother, the Prophet, was an orator, who could sway the feelings of the untutored Indian as the gale tossed the tree-tops beneath which they dwelt.

But the Prophet was not merely an orator: he was, in the superstitious minds of the Indians, invested with the superhuman dignity of a medicine-man or a magician. With an enthusiasm unsurpassed by Peter the Hermit rousing Europe to the crusades, he went from tribe to tribe, assuming that he was specially sent by the Great Spirit.

Gov. Harrison made many attempts to conciliate the Indians, but at last the war came, and at Tippecanoe the Indians were routed with great slaughter. October 28, 1812, his army began its march. When near the Prophet's town three Indians of rank made their appearance and inquired why Gov. Harrison was approaching them in so hostile an attitude. After a short conference, arrangements were made for a meeting the next day, to agree upon terms of peace.

But Gov. Harrison was too well acquainted with the Indian character to be deceived by such protestations. Selecting a favorable spot for his night's encampment, he took every precaution against surprise. His troops were posted in a hollow square, and slept upon their arms.

The troops threw themselves upon the ground for rest; but every man had his accoutrements on, his loaded musket by his side, and his bayonet fixed. The wakeful Governor, between three and four o'clock in the morning, had risen, and was sitting in conversation with his aids by the embers of a waning fire. It was a chill, cloudy morning with a drizzling rain. In the darkness, the Indians had crept as near as possible, and just then, with a savage yell, rushed, with all the desperation which superstition and passion most highly inflamed could give, upon the left flank of the little army. The savages had been amply provided with guns and ammunition by the English. Their war-whoop was accompanied by a shower of bullets.

The camp-fires were instantly extinguished, as the light aided the Indians in their aim. With hideous yells, the Indian bands rushed on, not doubting a speedy and an entire victory. But Gen. Harrison's troops stood as immovable as the rocks around them until day dawned: they then made a simultaneous charge with the bayonet, and swept every thing before them, and completely routing the foe.

Gov. Harrison now had all his energies tasked to the utmost. The British descending from the Canadas, were of themselves a very formidable force; but with their savage allies, rushing like wolves from the forest, searching out every remote farm-house, burning, plundering, scalping, torturing, the wide frontier was plunged into a state of consternation which even the most vivid imagination can but faintly conceive. The war-whoop was resounding everywhere in the forest. The horizon was illuminated with the conflagration of the cabins of the settlers. Gen. Hull had made the ignominious surrender of his forces at Detroit. Under these despairing circumstances, Gov. Harrison was appointed by President Madison commander-in-chief of the North-western army, with orders to retake Detroit, and to protect the frontiers.

It would be difficult to place a man in a situation demanding more energy, sagacity and courage; but General Harrison was found equal to the position, and nobly and triumphantly did he meet all the responsibilities.

He won the love of his soldiers by always sharing with them their fatigue. His whole baggage, while pursuing the foe up the Thames, was carried in a valise; and his bedding consisted of a single blanket lashed over his saddle. Thirty-five British officers, his prisoners of war, supped with him after the battle. The only fare he could give them was beef roasted before the fire, without bread or salt.

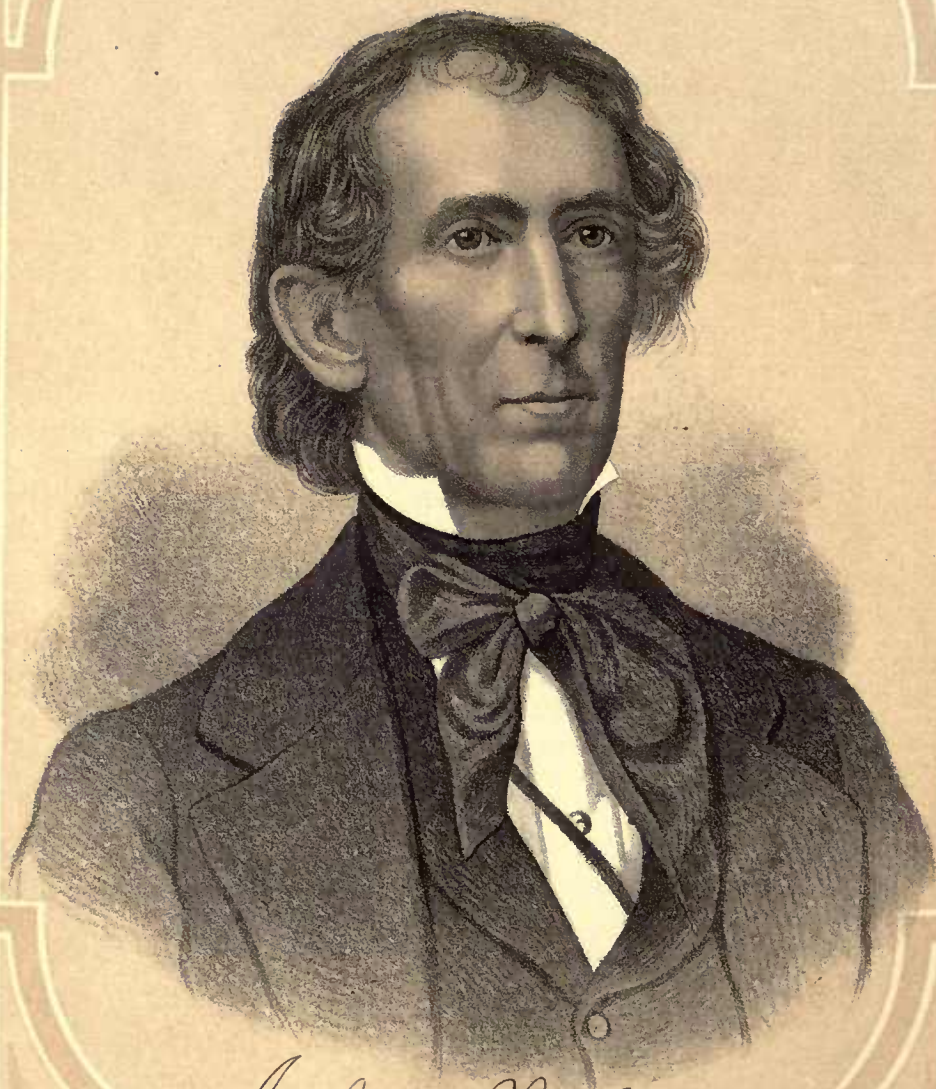
In 1816, Gen. Harrison was chosen a member of the National House of Representatives, to represent the District of Ohio. In Congress he proved an active member; and whenever he spoke, it was with force of reason and power of eloquence, which arrested the attention of all the members.

In 1819, Harrison was elected to the Senate of Ohio; and in 1824, as one of the presidential electors of that State, he gave his vote for Henry Clay. The same year he was chosen to the United States Senate.

In 1836, the friends of Gen. Harrison brought him forward as a candidate for the Presidency against Van Buren, but he was defeated. At the close of Mr. Van Buren's term, he was re-nominated by his party, and Mr. Harrison was unanimously nominated by the Whigs, with John Tyler for the Vice Presidency. The contest was very animated. Gen. Jackson gave all his influence to prevent Harrison's election; but his triumph was signal.

The cabinet which he formed, with Daniel Webster at its head as Secretary of State, was one of the most brilliant with which any President had ever been surrounded. Never were the prospects of an administration more flattering, or the hopes of the country more sanguine. In the midst of these bright and joyous prospects, Gen. Harrison was seized by a pleurisy-fever and after a few days of violent sickness, died on the 4th of April; just one month after his inauguration as President of the United States.


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John Tyler



JOHN TYLER.



JOHN TYLER, the tenth President of the United States. He was born in Charles-city Co., Va., March 29, 1790. He was the favored child of affluence and high social position. At the early age of twelve, John entered William and Mary College and graduated with much honor when but seventeen years old. After graduating, he devoted himself with great assiduity to the study of law, partly with his father and partly with Edmund Randolph, one of the most distinguished lawyers of Virginia.

At nineteen years of age, he commenced the practice of law. His success was rapid and astonishing. It is said that three months had not elapsed ere there was scarcely a case on the docket of the court in which he was not retained. When but twenty-one years of age, he was almost unanimously elected to a seat in the State Legislature. He connected himself with the Democratic party, and warmly advocated the measures of Jefferson and Madison. For five successive years he was elected to the Legislature, receiving nearly the unanimous vote of his county.

When but twenty-six years of age, he was elected a member of Congress. Here he acted earnestly and ably with the Democratic party, opposing a national bank, internal improvements by the General Govern-

ment, a protective tariff, and advocating a strict construction of the Constitution, and the most careful vigilance over State rights. His labors in Congress were so arduous that before the close of his second term he found it necessary to resign and retire to his estate in Charles-city Co., to recruit his health. He, however, soon after consented to take his seat in the State Legislature, where his influence was powerful in promoting public works of great utility. With a reputation thus constantly increasing, he was chosen by a very large majority of votes, Governor of his native State. His administration was signally a successful one. His popularity secured his re-election.

John Randolph, a brilliant, erratic, half-crazed man, then represented Virginia in the Senate of the United States. A portion of the Democratic party was displeased with Mr. Randolph's wayward course, and brought forward John Tyler as his opponent, considering him the only man in Virginia of sufficient popularity to succeed against the renowned orator of Roanoke. Mr. Tyler was the victor.

In accordance with his professions, upon taking his seat in the Senate, he joined the ranks of the opposition. He opposed the tariff; he spoke against and voted against the bank as unconstitutional; he strenuously opposed all restrictions upon slavery, resisting all projects of internal improvements by the General Government, and avowed his sympathy with Mr. Calhoun's view of nullification; he declared that Gen. Jackson, by his opposition to the nullifiers, had abandoned the principles of the Democratic party. Such was Mr. Tyler's record in Congress,—a record in perfect accordance with the principles which he had always avowed.

Returning to Virginia, he resumed the practice of his profession. There was a split in the Democratic

party. His friends still regarded him as a true Jeffersonian, gave him a dinner, and showered compliments upon him. He had now attained the age of forty-six. His career had been very brilliant. In consequence of his devotion to public business, his private affairs had fallen into some disorder; and it was not without satisfaction that he resumed the practice of law, and devoted himself to the culture of his plantation. Soon after this he removed to Williamsburg, for the better education of his children; and he again took his seat in the Legislature of Virginia.

By the Southern Whigs, he was sent to the national convention at Harrisburg to nominate a President in 1839. The majority of votes were given to Gen. Harrison, a genuine Whig, much to the disappointment of the South, who wished for Henry Clay. To conciliate the Southern Whigs and to secure their vote, the convention then nominated John Tyler for Vice President. It was well known that he was not in sympathy with the Whig party in the North: but the Vice President has but very little power in the Government, his main and almost only duty being to preside over the meetings of the Senate. Thus it happened that a Whig President, and, in reality, a Democratic Vice President were chosen.

In 1841, Mr. Tyler was inaugurated Vice President of the United States. In one short month from that time, President Harrison died, and Mr. Tyler thus found himself, to his own surprise and that of the whole Nation, an occupant of the Presidential chair. This was a new test of the stability of our institutions, as it was the first time in the history of our country that such an event had occurred. Mr. Tyler was at home in Williamsburg when he received the unexpected tidings of the death of President Harrison. He hastened to Washington, and on the 6th of April was inaugurated to the high and responsible office. He was placed in a position of exceeding delicacy and difficulty. All his long life he had been opposed to the main principles of the party which had brought him into power. He had ever been a consistent, honest man, with an unblemished record. Gen. Harrison had selected a Whig cabinet. Should he retain them, and thus surround himself with counsellors whose views were antagonistic to his own? or, on the other hand, should he turn against the party which had elected him and select a cabinet in harmony with himself, and which would oppose all those views which the Whigs deemed essential to the public welfare? This was his fearful dilemma. He invited the cabinet which President Harrison had selected to retain their seats. He recommended a day of fasting and prayer, that God would guide and bless us.

The Whigs carried through Congress a bill for the incorporation of a fiscal bank of the United States. The President, after ten days' delay, returned it with his veto. He suggested, however, that he would

approve of a bill drawn up upon such a plan as he proposed. Such a bill was accordingly prepared, and privately submitted to him. He gave it his approval. It was passed without alteration, and he sent it back with his veto. Here commenced the open rupture. It is said that Mr. Tyler was provoked to this measure by a published letter from the Hon. John M. Botts, a distinguished Virginia Whig, who severely touched the pride of the President.

The opposition now exultingly received the President into their arms. The party which elected him denounced him bitterly. All the members of his cabinet, excepting Mr. Webster, resigned. The Whigs of Congress, both the Senate and the House, held a meeting and issued an address to the people of the United States, proclaiming that all political alliance between the Whigs and President Tyler were at an end.

Still the President attempted to conciliate. He appointed a new cabinet of distinguished Whigs and Conservatives, carefully leaving out all strong party men. Mr. Webster soon found it necessary to resign, forced out by the pressure of his Whig friends. Thus the four years of Mr. Tyler's unfortunate administration passed sadly away. No one was satisfied. The land was filled with murmurs and vituperation. Whigs and Democrats alike assailed him. More and more, however, he brought himself into sympathy with his old friends, the Democrats, until at the close of his term, he gave his whole influence to the support of Mr. Polk, the Democratic candidate for his successor.

On the 4th of March, 1845, he retired from the harassments of office, to the regret of neither party, and probably to his own unspeakable relief. His first wife, Miss Letitia Christian, died in Washington, in 1842; and in June, 1844, President Tyler was again married, at New York, to Miss Julia Gardiner, a young lady of many personal and intellectual accomplishments.

The remainder of his days Mr. Tyler passed mainly in retirement at his beautiful home,—Sherwood Forest, Charles-city Co., Va. A polished gentleman in his manners, richly furnished with information from books and experience in the world, and possessing brilliant powers of conversation, his family circle was the scene of unusual attractions. With sufficient means for the exercise of a generous hospitality, he might have enjoyed a serene old age with the few friends who gathered around him, were it not for the storms of civil war which his own principles and policy had helped to introduce.

When the great Rebellion rose, which the State-rights and nullifying doctrines of Mr. John C. Calhoun had inaugurated, President Tyler renounced his allegiance to the United States, and joined the Confederates. He was chosen a member of their Congress; and while engaged in active measures to destroy, by force of arms, the Government over which he had once presided, he was taken sick and soon died.

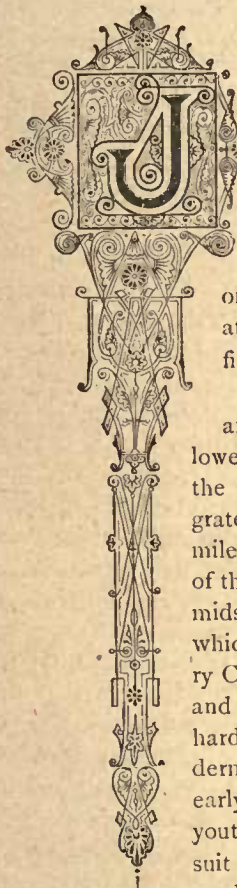
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Juanes de Solís



JAMES K. POLK.



JAMES K. POLK, the eleventh President of the United States, was born in Mecklenburg Co., N. C., Nov. 2, 1795. His parents were Samuel and Jane (Knox) Polk, the former a son of Col. Thomas Polk, who located at the above place, as one of the first pioneers, in 1735.

In the year 1806, with his wife and children, and soon after followed by most of the members of the Polk family, Samuel Polk emigrated some two or three hundred miles farther west, to the rich valley of the Duck River. Here in the midst of the wilderness, in a region which was subsequently called Maury Co., they reared their log huts, and established their homes. In the hard toil of a new farm in the wilderness, James K. Polk spent the early years of his childhood and youth. His father, adding the pursuit of a surveyor to that of a farmer, gradually increased in wealth until

he became one of the leading men of the region. His mother was a superior woman, of strong common sense and earnest piety.

Very early in life, James developed a taste for reading and expressed the strongest desire to obtain a liberal education. His mother's training had made him methodical in his habits, had taught him punctuality and industry, and had inspired him with lofty principles of morality. His health was frail; and his father, fearing that he might not be able to endure a

sedentary life, got a situation for him behind the counter, hoping to fit him for commercial pursuits.

This was to James a bitter disappointment. He had no taste for these duties, and his daily tasks were irksome in the extreme. He remained in this uncongenial occupation but a few weeks, when at his earnest solicitation his father removed him, and made arrangements for him to prosecute his studies. Soon after he sent him to Murfreesboro Academy. With ardor which could scarcely be surpassed, he pressed forward in his studies, and in less than two and a half years, in the autumn of 1815, entered the sophomore class in the University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill. Here he was one of the most exemplary of scholars, punctual in every exercise, never allowing himself to be absent from a recitation or a religious service.

He graduated in 1818, with the highest honors, being deemed the best scholar of his class, both in mathematics and the classics. He was then twenty-three years of age. Mr. Polk's health was at this time much impaired by the assiduity with which he had prosecuted his studies. After a short season of relaxation he went to Nashville, and entered the office of Felix Grundy, to study law. Here Mr. Polk renewed his acquaintance with Andrew Jackson, who resided on his plantation, the Hermitage, but a few miles from Nashville. They had probably been slightly acquainted before.

Mr. Polk's father was a Jeffersonian Republican, and James K. Polk ever adhered to the same political faith. He was a popular public speaker, and was constantly called upon to address the meetings of his party friends. His skill as a speaker was such that he was popularly called the Napoleon of the stump. He was a man of unblemished morals, genial and

courteous in his bearing, and with that sympathetic nature in the joys and griefs of others which ever gave him troops of friends. In 1823, Mr. Polk was elected to the Legislature of Tennessee. Here he gave his strong influence towards the election of his friend, Mr. Jackson, to the Presidency of the United States.

In January, 1824, Mr. Polk married Miss Sarah Childress, of Rutherford Co., Tenn. His bride was altogether worthy of him,—a lady of beauty and culture. In the fall of 1825, Mr. Polk was chosen a member of Congress. The satisfaction which he gave to his constituents may be inferred from the fact, that for fourteen successive years, until 1839, he was continued in that office. He then voluntarily withdrew, only that he might accept the Gubernatorial chair of Tennessee. In Congress he was a laborious member, a frequent and a popular speaker. He was always in his seat, always courteous; and whenever he spoke it was always to the point, and without any ambitious rhetorical display.

During five sessions of Congress, Mr. Polk was Speaker of the House. Strong passions were roused, and stormy scenes were witnessed; but Mr. Polk performed his arduous duties to a very general satisfaction, and a unanimous vote of thanks to him was passed by the House as he withdrew on the 4th of March, 1839.

In accordance with Southern usage, Mr. Polk, as a candidate for Governor, canvassed the State. He was elected by a large majority, and on the 14th of October, 1839, took the oath of office at Nashville. In 1841, his term of office expired, and he was again the candidate of the Democratic party, but was defeated.

On the 4th of March, 1845, Mr. Polk was inaugurated President of the United States. The verdict of the country in favor of the annexation of Texas, exerted its influence upon Congress; and the last act of the administration of President Tyler was to affix his signature to a joint resolution of Congress, passed on the 3d of March, approving of the annexation of Texas to the American Union. As Mexico still claimed Texas as one of her provinces, the Mexican minister, Almonte, immediately demanded his passports and left the country, declaring the act of the annexation to be an act hostile to Mexico.

In his first message, President Polk urged that Texas should immediately, by act of Congress, be received into the Union on the same footing with the other States. In the meantime, Gen. Taylor was sent

with an army into Texas to hold the country. He was sent first to Nueces, which the Mexicans said was the western boundary of Texas. Then he was sent nearly two hundred miles further west, to the Rio Grande, where he erected batteries which commanded the Mexican city of Matamoras, which was situated on the western banks.

The anticipated collision soon took place, and war was declared against Mexico by President Polk. The war was pushed forward by Mr. Polk's administration with great vigor. Gen. Taylor, whose army was first called one of "observation," then of "occupation," then of "invasion," was sent forward to Monterey. The feeble Mexicans, in every encounter, were hopelessly and awfully slaughtered. The day of judgement alone can reveal the misery which this war caused. It was by the ingenuity of Mr. Polk's administration that the war was brought on.

"To the victors belong the spoils." Mexico was prostrate before us. Her capital was in our hands. We now consented to peace upon the condition that Mexico should surrender to us, in addition to Texas, all of New Mexico, and all of Upper and Lower California. This new demand embraced, exclusive of Texas, eight hundred thousand square miles. This was an extent of territory equal to nine States of the size of New York. Thus slavery was securing eighteen majestic States to be added to the Union. There were some Americans who thought it all right: there were others who thought it all wrong. In the prosecution of this war, we expended twenty thousand lives and more than a hundred million of dollars. * Of this money fifteen millions were paid to Mexico.

On the 3d of March, 1849, Mr. Polk retired from office, having served one term. The next day was Sunday. On the 5th, Gen. Taylor was inaugurated as his successor. Mr. Polk rode to the Capitol in the same carriage with Gen. Taylor; and the same evening, with Mrs. Polk, he commenced his return to Tennessee. He was then but fifty-four years of age. He had ever been strictly temperate in all his habits, and his health was good. With an ample fortune, a choice library, a cultivated mind, and domestic ties of the dearest nature, it seemed as though long years of tranquility and happiness were before him. But the cholera—that fearful scourge—was then sweeping up the Valley of the Mississippi. This he contracted, and died on the 15th of June, 1849, in the fifty-fourth year of his age, greatly mourned by his countrymen,

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Zachary Taylor.



ZACHARY TAYLOR.



ZACHARY TAYLOR, twelfth President of the United States, was born on the 24th of Nov., 1784, in Orange Co., Va. His father, Colonel Taylor, was a Virginian of note, and a distinguished patriot and soldier of the Revolution. When Zachary was an infant, his father with his wife and two children, emigrated to Kentucky, where he settled in the pathless wilderness, a few miles from Louisville. In this frontier home, away from civilization and all its refinements, young Zachary could enjoy but few social and educational advantages. When six years of age he attended a common school, and was then regarded as a bright, active boy, rather remarkable for bluntness and decision of character. He was strong, fearless and self-reliant, and manifested a strong desire to enter the army to fight the Indians who were ravaging the frontiers. There is little to be recorded of the uneventful years of his childhood on his father's large but lonely plantation.

In 1808, his father succeeded in obtaining for him the commission of lieutenant in the United States army; and he joined the troops which were stationed at New Orleans under Gen. Wilkinson. Soon after this he married Miss Margaret Smith, a young lady from one of the first families of Maryland.

Immediately after the declaration of war with England, in 1812, Capt. Taylor (for he had then been promoted to that rank) was put in command of Fort Harrison, on the Wabash, about fifty miles above Vincennes. This fort had been built in the wilderness by Gen. Harrison, on his march to Tippecanoe. It was one of the first points of attack by the Indians, led by Tecumseh. Its garrison consisted of a broken

company of infantry numbering fifty men, many of whom were sick.

Early in the autumn of 1812, the Indians, stealthily, and in large numbers, moved upon the fort. Their approach was first indicated by the murder of two soldiers just outside of the stockade. Capt. Taylor made every possible preparation to meet the anticipated assault. On the 4th of September, a band of forty painted and plumed savages came to the fort, waving a white flag, and informed Capt. Taylor that in the morning their chief would come to have a talk with him. It was evident that their object was merely to ascertain the state of things at the fort, and Capt. Taylor, well versed in the wiles of the savages, kept them at a distance.

The sun went down; the savages disappeared, the garrison slept upon their arms. One hour before midnight the war-whoop burst from a thousand lips in the forest around, followed by the discharge of musketry, and the rush of the foe. Every man, sick and well, sprang to his post. Every man knew that defeat was not merely death, but in the case of capture, death by the most agonizing and prolonged torture. No pen can describe, no imagination can conceive the scenes which ensued. The savages succeeded in setting fire to one of the block-houses. Until six o'clock in the morning, this awful conflict continued. The savages then, baffled at every point, and gnashing their teeth with rage, retired. Capt. Taylor, for this gallant defence, was promoted to the rank of major by brevet.

Until the close of the war, Major Taylor was placed in such situations that he saw but little more of active service. He was sent far away into the depths of the wilderness, to Fort Crawford, on Fox River, which empties into Green Bay. Here there was but little to be done but to wear away the tedious hours as one best could. There were no books, no society, no in-

tellectual stimulus. Thus with him the uneventful years rolled on. Gradually he rose to the rank of colonel. In the Black-Hawk war, which resulted in the capture of that renowned chieftain, Col. Taylor took a subordinate but a brave and efficient part.

For twenty-four years Col. Taylor was engaged in the defence of the frontiers, in scenes so remote, and in employments so obscure, that his name was unknown beyond the limits of his own immediate acquaintance. In the year 1836, he was sent to Florida to compel the Seminole Indians to vacate that region and retire beyond the Mississippi, as their chiefs by treaty, had promised they should do. The services rendered here secured for Col. Taylor the high appreciation of the Government; and as a reward, he was elevated to the rank of brigadier-general by brevet; and soon after, in May, 1838, was appointed to the chief command of the United States troops in Florida.

After two years of such wearisome employment amidst the everglades of the peninsula, Gen. Taylor obtained, at his own request, a change of command, and was stationed over the Department of the Southwest. This field embraced Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Establishing his headquarters at Fort Jessup, in Louisiana, he removed his family to a plantation which he purchased, near Baton Rouge. Here he remained for five years, buried, as it were, from the world, but faithfully discharging every duty imposed upon him.

In 1846, Gen. Taylor was sent to guard the land between the Nueces and Rio Grande, the latter river being the boundary of Texas, which was then claimed by the United States. Soon the war with Mexico was brought on, and at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, Gen. Taylor won brilliant victories over the Mexicans. The rank of major-general by brevet was then conferred upon Gen. Taylor, and his name was received with enthusiasm almost everywhere in the Nation. Then came the battles of Monterey and Buena Vista in which he won signal victories over forces much larger than he commanded.

His careless habits of dress and his unaffected simplicity, secured for Gen. Taylor among his troops, the *sobriquet* of "Old Rough and Ready."

The tidings of the brilliant victory of Buena Vista spread the wildest enthusiasm over the country. The name of Gen. Taylor was on every one's lips. The Whig party decided to take advantage of this wonderful popularity in bringing forward the unpolished, unlettered, honest soldier as their candidate for the Presidency. Gen. Taylor was astonished at the announcement, and for a time would not listen to it; declaring that he was not at all qualified for such an office. So little interest had he taken in politics that, for forty years, he had not cast a vote. It was not without chagrin that several distinguished statesmen who had been long years in the public service found their claims set aside in behalf of one whose name

had never been heard of, save in connection with Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey and Buena Vista. It is said that Daniel Webster, in his haste remarked, "It is a nomination not fit to be made."

Gen. Taylor was not an eloquent speaker nor a fine writer. His friends took possession of him, and prepared such few communications as it was needful should be presented to the public. The popularity of the successful warrior swept the land. He was triumphantly elected over two opposing candidates,—Gen. Cass and Ex-President Martin Van Buren. Though he selected an excellent cabinet; the good old man found himself in a very uncongenial position, and was, at times, sorely perplexed and harassed. His mental sufferings were very severe, and probably tended to hasten his death. The pro-slavery party was pushing its claims with tireless energy; expeditions were fitting out to capture Cuba; California was pleading for admission to the Union, while slavery stood at the door to bar her out. Gen. Taylor found the political conflicts in Washington to be far more trying to the nerves than battles with Mexicans or Indians.

In the midst of all these troubles, Gen. Taylor, after he had occupied the Presidential chair but little over a year, took cold, and after a brief sickness of but little over five days, died on the 9th of July, 1850. His last words were, "I am not afraid to die. I am ready. I have endeavored to do my duty." He died universally respected and beloved. An honest, unpretending man, he had been steadily growing in the affections of the people; and the Nation bitterly lamented his death.


Gen. Scott, who was thoroughly acquainted with Gen. Taylor, gave the following graphic and truthful description of his character:—"With a good store of common sense, Gen. Taylor's mind had not been enlarged and refreshed by reading, or much converse with the world. Rigidity of ideas was the consequence. The frontiers and small military posts had been his home. Hence he was quite ignorant for his rank, and quite bigoted in his ignorance. His simplicity was child-like, and with innumerable prejudices, amusing and incorrigible, well suited to the tender age. Thus, if a man, however respectable, chanced to wear a coat of an unusual color, or his hat a little on one side of his head; or an officer to leave a corner of his handkerchief dangling from an outside pocket,—in any such case, this critic held the offender to be a coxcomb (perhaps something worse), whom he would not, to use his oft repeated phrase, 'touch with a pair of tongs.'

"Any allusion to literature beyond good old Dilworth's spelling-book, on the part of one wearing a sword, was evidence, with the same judge, of utter unfitness for heavy marchings and combats. In short, few men have ever had a more comfortable, labor-saving contempt for learning of every kind."


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Millard Fillmore



MILLARD FILLMORE.



MILLARD FILLMORE, thirteenth President of the United States, was born at Summer Hill, Cayuga Co., N. Y., on the 7th of January, 1800. His father was a farmer, and owing to misfortune, in humble circumstances. Of his mother, the daughter of Dr. Abiathar Millard, of Pittsfield, Mass., it has been said that she possessed an intellect of very high order, united with much personal loveliness, sweetness of disposition, graceful manners and exquisite sensibilities. She died in 1831; having lived to see her son a young man of distinguished promise, though she was not permitted to witness the high dignity which he finally attained.

In consequence of the secluded home and limited means of his father, Millard enjoyed but slender advantages for education in his early years. The common schools, which he occasionally attended were very imperfect institutions; and books were scarce and expensive. There was nothing then in his character to indicate the brilliant career upon which he was about to enter. He was a plain farmer's boy; intelligent, good-looking, kind-hearted. The sacred influences of home had taught him to revere the Bible, and had laid the foundations of an upright character. When fourteen years of age, his father sent him some hundred miles from home, to the then wilds of Livingston County, to learn the trade of a clothier. Near the mill there was a small village, where some

enterprising man had commenced the collection of a village library. This proved an inestimable blessing to young Fillmore. His evenings were spent in reading. Soon every leisure moment was occupied with books. His thirst for knowledge became insatiate; and the selections which he made were continually more elevating and instructive. He read history, biography, oratory; and thus gradually there was kindled in his heart a desire to be something more than a mere worker with his hands; and he was becoming, almost unknown to himself, a well-informed, educated man.

The young clothier had now attained the age of nineteen years, and was of fine personal appearance and of gentlemanly demeanor. It so happened that there was a gentleman in the neighborhood of ample pecuniary means and of benevolence,—Judge Walter Wood,—who was struck with the prepossessing appearance of young Fillmore. He made his acquaintance, and was so much impressed with his ability and attainments that he advised him to abandon his trade and devote himself to the study of the law. The young man replied, that he had no means of his own, no friends to help him and that his previous education had been very imperfect. But Judge Wood had so much confidence in him that he kindly offered to take him into his own office, and to loan him such money as he needed. Most gratefully the generous offer was accepted.

There is in many minds a strange delusion about a collegiate education. A young man is supposed to be liberally educated if he has graduated at some college. But many a boy loiters through university halls and then enters a law office, who is by no means as

well prepared to prosecute his legal studies as was Millard Fillmore when he graduated at the clothing-mill at the end of four years of manual labor, during which every leisure moment had been devoted to intense mental culture.

In 1823, when twenty-three years of age, he was admitted to the Court of Common Pleas. He then went to the village of Aurora, and commenced the practice of law. In this secluded, peaceful region, his practice of course was limited, and there was no opportunity for a sudden rise in fortune or in fame. Here, in the year 1826, he married a lady of great moral worth, and one capable of adorning any station she might be called to fill,—Miss Abigail Powers.

His elevation of character, his untiring industry, his legal acquirements, and his skill as an advocate, gradually attracted attention; and he was invited to enter into partnership under highly advantageous circumstances, with an elder member of the bar in Buffalo. Just before removing to Buffalo, in 1829, he took his seat in the House of Assembly, of the State of New York, as a representative from Erie County. Though he had never taken a very active part in politics, his vote and his sympathies were with the Whig party. The State was then Democratic, and he found himself in a helpless minority in the Legislature, still the testimony comes from all parties, that his courtesy, ability and integrity, won, to a very unusual degree the respect of his associates.

In the autumn of 1832, he was elected to a seat in the United States Congress. He entered that troubled arena in some of the most tumultuous hours of our national history. The great conflict respecting the national bank and the removal of the deposits, was then raging.

His term of two years closed; and he returned to his profession, which he pursued with increasing reputation and success. After a lapse of two years he again became a candidate for Congress; was re-elected, and took his seat in 1837. His past experience as a representative gave him strength and confidence. The first term of service in Congress to any man can be but little more than an introduction. He was now prepared for active duty. All his energies were brought to bear upon the public good. Every measure received his impress.

Mr. Fillmore was now a man of wide repute, and his popularity filled the State, and in the year 1847, he was elected Comptroller of the State.

Mr. Fillmore had attained the age of forty-seven years. His labors at the bar, in the Legislature, in Congress and as Comptroller, had given him very considerable fame. The Whigs were casting about to find suitable candidates for President and Vice-President at the approaching election. Far away, on the waters of the Rio Grande, there was a rough old soldier, who had fought one or two successful battles with the Mexicans, which had caused his name to be proclaimed in trumpet-tones all over the land. But it was necessary to associate with him on the same ticket some man of reputation as a statesman.

Under the influence of these considerations, the names of Zachary Taylor and Millard Fillmore became the rallying-cry of the Whigs, as their candidates for President and Vice-President. The Whig ticket was signally triumphant. On the 4th of March, 1849, Gen. Taylor was inaugurated President, and Millard Fillmore Vice-President, of the United States.

On the 9th of July, 1850, President Taylor, but about one year and four months after his inauguration, was suddenly taken sick and died. By the Constitution, Vice-President Fillmore thus became President. He appointed a very able cabinet, of which the illustrious Daniel Webster was Secretary of State.

Mr. Fillmore had very serious difficulties to contend with, since the opposition had a majority in both Houses. He did everything in his power to conciliate the South; but the pro-slavery party in the South felt the inadequacy of all measures of transient conciliation. The population of the free States was so rapidly increasing over that of the slave States that it was inevitable that the power of the Government should soon pass into the hands of the free States. The famous compromise measures were adopted under Mr. Fillmore's administration, and the Japan Expedition was sent out. On the 4th of March, 1853, Mr. Fillmore, having served one term, retired.

In 1856, Mr. Fillmore was nominated for the Presidency by the "Know Nothing" party, but was beaten by Mr. Buchanan. After that Mr. Fillmore lived in retirement. During the terrible conflict of civil war, he was mostly silent. It was generally supposed that his sympathies were rather with those who were endeavoring to overthrow our institutions. President Fillmore kept aloof from the conflict, without any cordial words of cheer to the one party or the other. He was thus forgotten by both. He lived to a ripe old age, and died in Buffalo, N. Y., March 8, 1874.

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Franklin Pierce



FRANKLIN PIERCE.




an. Franklin was the sixth of eight children.

Franklin was a very bright and handsome boy, generous, warm-hearted and brave. He won alike the love of old and young. The boys on the play ground loved him. His teachers loved him. The neighbors looked upon him with pride and affection. He was by instinct a gentleman; always speaking kind words, doing kind deeds, with a peculiar unstudied tact which taught him what was agreeable. Without developing any precocity of genius, or any unnatural devotion to books, he was a good scholar; in body, in mind, in affections, a finely-developed boy.

When sixteen years of age, in the year 1820, he entered Bowdoin College, at Brunswick, Me. He was one of the most popular young men in the college. The purity of his moral character, the unvarying courtesy of his demeanor, his rank as a scholar, and

genial nature, rendered him a universal favorite. There was something very peculiarly winning in his address, and it was evidently not in the slightest degree studied: it was the simple outgushing of his own magnanimous and loving nature.

Upon graduating, in the year 1824, Franklin Pierce commenced the study of law in the office of Judge Woodbury, one of the most distinguished lawyers of the State, and a man of great private worth. The eminent social qualities of the young lawyer, his father's prominence as a public man, and the brilliant political career into which Judge Woodbury was entering, all tended to entice Mr. Pierce into the fascinating yet perilous path of political life. With all the ardor of his nature he espoused the cause of Gen. Jackson for the Presidency. He commenced the practice of law in Hillsborough, and was soon elected to represent the town in the State Legislature. Here he served for four years. The last two years he was chosen speaker of the house by a very large vote.

In 1833, at the age of twenty-nine, he was elected a member of Congress. Without taking an active part in debates, he was faithful and laborious in duty, and ever rising in the estimation of those with whom he was associated.

In 1837, being then but thirty-three years of age, he was elected to the Senate of the United States; taking his seat just as Mr. Van Buren commenced his administration. He was the youngest member in the Senate. In the year 1834, he married Miss Jane Means Appleton, a lady of rare beauty and accomplishments, and one admirably fitted to adorn every station with which her husband was honored. Of the

three sons who were born to them, all now sleep with their parents in the grave.

In the year 1838, Mr. Pierce, with growing fame and increasing business as a lawyer, took up his residence in Concord, the capital of New Hampshire. President Polk, upon his accession to office, appointed Mr. Pierce attorney-general of the United States; but the offer was declined, in consequence of numerous professional engagements at home, and the precarious state of Mrs. Pierce's health. He also, about the same time declined the nomination for governor by the Democratic party. The war with Mexico called Mr. Pierce in the army. Receiving the appointment of brigadier-general, he embarked, with a portion of his troops, at Newport, R. I., on the 27th of May, 1847. He took an important part in this war, proving himself a brave and true soldier.

When Gen. Pierce reached his home in his native State, he was received enthusiastically by the advocates of the Mexican war, and coldly by his opponents. He resumed the practice of his profession, very frequently taking an active part in political questions, giving his cordial support to the pro-slavery wing of the Democratic party. The compromise measures met cordially with his approval; and he strenuously advocated the enforcement of the infamous fugitive-slave law, which so shocked the religious sensibilities of the North. He thus became distinguished as a "Northern man with Southern principles." The strong partisans of slavery in the South consequently regarded him as a man whom they could safely trust in office to carry out their plans.

On the 12th of June, 1852, the Democratic convention met in Baltimore to nominate a candidate for the Presidency. For four days they continued in session, and in thirty-five ballotings no one had obtained a two-thirds vote. Not a vote thus far had been thrown for Gen. Pierce. Then the Virginia delegation brought forward his name. There were fourteen more ballotings, during which Gen. Pierce constantly gained strength, until, at the forty-ninth ballot, he received two hundred and eighty-two votes, and all other candidates eleven. Gen. Winfield Scott was the Whig candidate. Gen. Pierce was chosen with great unanimity. Only four States—Vermont, Massachusetts, Kentucky and Tennessee—cast their electoral votes against him. Gen. Franklin Pierce was therefore inaugurated President of the United States on the 4th of March, 1853.

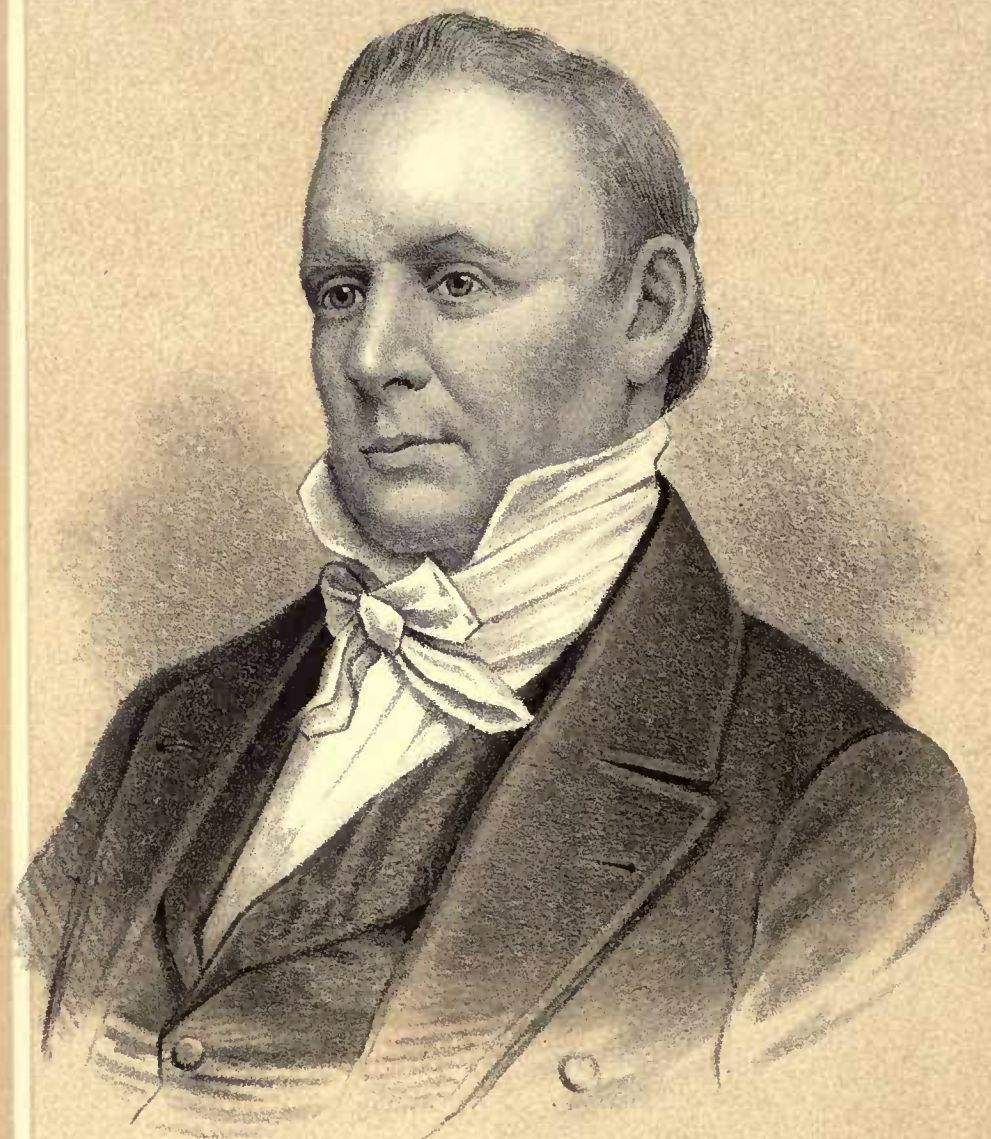
His administration proved one of the most stormy our country had ever experienced. The controversy between slavery and freedom was then approaching its culminating point. It became evident that there was an "irrepressible conflict" between them, and that this Nation could not long exist "half slave and half free." President Pierce, during the whole of his administration, did every thing he could to conciliate the South; but it was all in vain. The conflict every year grew more violent, and threats of the dissolution of the Union were borne to the North on every Southern breeze.

Such was the condition of affairs when President Pierce approached the close of his four-years' term of office. The North had become thoroughly alienated from him. The anti-slavery sentiment, goaded by great outrages, had been rapidly increasing; all the intellectual ability and social worth of President Pierce were forgotten in deep reprehension of his administrative acts. The slaveholders of the South, also, unmindful of the fidelity with which he had advocated those measures of Government which they approved, and perhaps, also, feeling that he had rendered himself so unpopular as no longer to be able acceptably to serve them, ungratefully dropped him, and nominated James Buchanan to succeed him.

On the 4th of March, 1857, President Pierce retired to his home in Concord. Of three children, two had died, and his only surviving child had been killed before his eyes by a railroad accident; and his wife, one of the most estimable and accomplished of ladies, was rapidly sinking in consumption. The hour of dreadful gloom soon came, and he was left alone in the world, without wife or child.

When the terrible Rebellion burst forth, which divided our country into two parties, and two only, Mr. Pierce remained steadfast in the principles which he had always cherished, and gave his sympathies to that pro-slavery party with which he had ever been allied. He declined to do anything, either by voice or pen, to strengthen the hand of the National Government. He continued to reside in Concord until the time of his death, which occurred in October, 1869. He was one of the most genial and social of men, an honored communicant of the Episcopal Church, and one of the kindest of neighbors. Generous to a fault, he contributed liberally for the alleviation of suffering and want, and many of his townspeople were often gladdened by his material bounty.

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James Buchanan



JAMES BUCHANAN.

JAMES BUCHANAN, the fifteenth President of the United States, was born in a small frontier town, at the foot of the eastern ridge of the Alleghanies, in Franklin Co., Penn., on the 23d of April, 1791. The place where the humble cabin of his father stood was called Stony Batter. It was a wild and romantic spot in a gorge of the mountains, with towering summits rising grandly all around. His father was a native of the north of Ireland; a poor man, who had emigrated in 1783, with little property save his own strong arms. Five years afterwards he married Elizabeth Spear, the daughter of a respectable farmer, and, with his young bride, plunged into the wilderness, staked his claim, reared his log-hut, opened a clearing with his axe, and settled down there to perform his obscure part in the drama of life. In this secluded home, where James was born, he remained for eight years, enjoying but few social or intellectual advantages. When James was eight years of age, his father removed to the village of Mercersburg, where his son was placed at school, and commenced a course of study in English, Latin and Greek. His progress was rapid, and at the age of fourteen, he entered Dickinson College, at Carlisle. Here he developed remarkable talent, and took his stand among the first scholars in the institution. His application to study was intense, and yet his native powers en-

abled him to master the most abstruse subjects with facility.

In the year 1809, he graduated with the highest honors of his class. He was then eighteen years of age; tall and graceful, vigorous in health, fond of athletic sport, an unerring shot, and enlivened with an exuberant flow of animal spirits. He immediately commenced the study of law in the city of Lancaster, and was admitted to the bar in 1812, when he was but twenty-one years of age. Very rapidly he rose in his profession, and at once took undisputed stand with the ablest lawyers of the State. When but twenty-six years of age, unaided by counsel, he successfully defended before the State Senate one of the judges of the State, who was tried upon articles of impeachment. At the age of thirty it was generally admitted that he stood at the head of the bar; and there was no lawyer in the State who had a more lucrative practice.

In 1820, he reluctantly consented to run as a candidate for Congress. He was elected, and for ten years he remained a member of the Lower House. During the vacations of Congress, he occasionally tried some important case. In 1831, he retired altogether from the toils of his profession, having acquired an ample fortune.

Gen. Jackson, upon his elevation to the Presidency, appointed Mr. Buchanan minister to Russia. The duties of his mission he performed with ability, which gave satisfaction to all parties. Upon his return, in 1833, he was elected to a seat in the United States Senate. He there met, as his associates, Webster, Clay, Wright and Calhoun. He advocated the measures proposed by President Jackson, of making repri-

sals against France, to enforce the payment of our claims against that country; and defended the course of the President in his unprecedented and wholesale removal from office of those who were not the supporters of his administration. Upon this question he was brought into direct collision with Henry Clay. He also, with voice and vote, advocated expunging from the journal of the Senate the vote of censure against Gen. Jackson for removing the deposits. Earnestly he opposed the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and urged the prohibition of the circulation of anti-slavery documents by the United States mails.

As to petitions on the subject of slavery, he advocated that they should be respectfully received; and that the reply should be returned, that Congress had no power to legislate upon the subject. "Congress," said he, "might as well undertake to interfere with slavery under a foreign government as in any of the States where it now exists."

Upon Mr. Polk's accession to the Presidency, Mr. Buchanan became Secretary of State, and as such, took his share of the responsibility in the conduct of the Mexican War. Mr. Polk assumed that crossing the Nueces by the American troops into the disputed territory was not wrong, but for the Mexicans to cross the Rio Grande into that territory was a declaration of war. No candid man can read with pleasure the account of the course our Government pursued in that movement.

Mr. Buchanan identified himself thoroughly with the party devoted to the perpetuation and extension of slavery, and brought all the energies of his mind to bear against the Wilmot Proviso. He gave his cordial approval to the compromise measures of 1850, which included the fugitive-slave law. Mr. Pierce, upon his election to the Presidency, honored Mr. Buchanan with the mission to England.

In the year 1856, a national Democratic convention nominated Mr. Buchanan for the Presidency. The political conflict was one of the most severe in which our country has ever engaged. All the friends of slavery were on one side; all the advocates of its restriction and final abolition, on the other. Mr. Fremont, the candidate of the enemies of slavery, received 114 electoral votes. Mr. Buchanan received 174, and was elected. The popular vote stood 1,340,618, for Fremont, 1,224,750 for Buchanan. On March 4th, 1857, Mr. Buchanan was inaugurated.

Mr. Buchanan was far advanced in life. Only four years were wanting to fill up his threescore years and ten. His own friends, those with whom he had been allied in political principles and action for years, were seeking the destruction of the Government, that they might rear upon the ruins of our free institutions a nation whose corner-stone should be human slavery. In this emergency, Mr. Buchanan was hopelessly bewildered. He could not, with his long-avowed prin-

ciples, consistently oppose the State-rights party in their assumptions. As President of the United States, bound by his oath faithfully to administer the laws, he could not, without perjury of the grossest kind, unite with those endeavoring to overthrow the republic. He therefore did nothing.

The opponents of Mr. Buchanan's administration nominated Abraham Lincoln as their standard bearer in the next Presidential canvass. The pro-slavery party declared, that if he were elected, and the control of the Government were thus taken from their hands, they would secede from the Union, taking with them, as they retired, the National Capitol at Washington, and the lion's share of the territory of the United States.

Mr. Buchanan's sympathy with the pro-slavery party was such, that he had been willing to offer them far more than they had ventured to claim. All the South had professed to ask of the North was non-intervention upon the subject of slavery. Mr. Buchanan had been ready to offer them the active co-operation of the Government to defend and extend the institution.

As the storm increased in violence, the slaveholders claiming the right to secede, and Mr. Buchanan avowing that Congress had no power to prevent it, one of the most pitiable exhibitions of governmental imbecility was exhibited the world has ever seen. He declared that Congress had no power to enforce its laws in any State which had withdrawn, or which was attempting to withdraw from the Union. This was not the doctrine of Andrew Jackson, when, with his hand upon his sword hilt, he exclaimed, "The Union must and shall be preserved!"

South Carolina seceded in December, 1860; nearly three months before the inauguration of President Lincoln. Mr. Buchanan looked on in listless despair. The rebel flag was raised in Charleston; Fort Sumpter was besieged; our forts, navy-yards and arsenals were seized; our depots of military stores were plundered; and our custom-houses and post-offices were appropriated by the rebels.

The energy of the rebels, and the imbecility of our Executive, were alike marvelous. The Nation looked on in agony, waiting for the slow weeks to glide away, and close the administration, so terrible in its weakness. At length the long-looked-for hour of deliverance came, when Abraham Lincoln was to receive the scepter.

The administration of President Buchanan was certainly the most calamitous our country has experienced. His best friends cannot recall it with pleasure. And still more deplorable it is for his fame, that in that dreadful conflict which rolled its billows of flame and blood over our whole land, no word came from his lips to indicate his wish that our country's banner should triumph over the flag of the rebellion. He died at his Wheatland retreat, June 1, 1868.

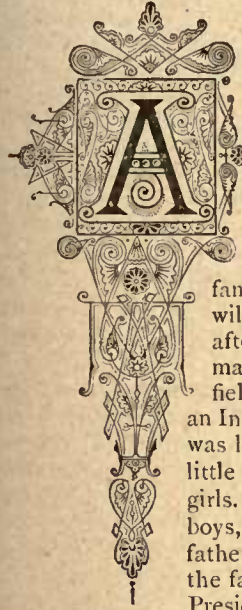
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A. Lincoln

ABRAHAM

LINCOLN.



ABRAM LINCOLN, the sixteenth President of the United States, was born in Hardin Co., Ky., Feb. 12, 1809. About the year 1780, a man by the name of Abraham Lincoln left Virginia with his family and moved into the then wilds of Kentucky. Only two years after this emigration, still a young man, while working one day in a field, was stealthily approached by an Indian and shot dead. His widow was left in extreme poverty with five little children, three boys and two girls. Thomas, the youngest of the boys, was four years of age at his father's death. This Thomas was the father of Abraham Lincoln, the President of the United States

whose name must henceforth forever be enrolled with the most prominent in the annals of our world.

Of course no record has been kept of the life of one so lowly as Thomas Lincoln. He was among the poorest of the poor. His home was a wretched log-cabin; his food the coarsest and the meanest. Education he had none; he could never either read or write. As soon as he was able to do anything for himself, he was compelled to leave the cabin of his starving mother, and push out into the world, a friendless, wandering boy, seeking work. He hired himself out, and thus spent the whole of his youth as a laborer in the fields of others.

When twenty-eight years of age he built a log-cabin of his own, and married Nancy Hanks, the daughter of another family of poor Kentucky emigrants, who had also come from Virginia. Their second child was Abraham Lincoln, the subject of this sketch. The mother of Abraham was a noble woman, gentle, loving, pensive, created to adorn a palace, doomed to toil and pine, and die in a hovel. "All that I am, or hope to be," exclaims the grateful son "I owe to my angel-mother."

When he was eight years of age, his father sold his

cabin and small farm, and moved to Indiana. Where two years later his mother died.

Abraham soon became the scribe of the uneducated community around him. He could not have had a better school than this to teach him to put thoughts into words. He also became an eager reader. The books he could obtain were few; but these he read and re-read until they were almost committed to memory.

As the years rolled on, the lot of this lowly family was the usual lot of humanity. There were joys and griefs, weddings and funerals. Abraham's sister Sarah, to whom he was tenderly attached, was married when a child of but fourteen years of age, and soon died. The family was gradually scattered. Mr. Thomas Lincoln sold out his squatter's claim in 1830, and emigrated to Macon Co., Ill.

Abraham Lincoln was then twenty-one years of age. With vigorous hands he aided his father in rearing another log-cabin. Abraham worked diligently at this until he saw the family comfortably settled, and their small lot of enclosed prairie planted with corn, when he announced to his father his intention to leave home, and to go out into the world and seek his fortune. Little did he or his friends imagine how brilliant that fortune was to be. He saw the value of education, and was intensely earnest to improve his mind to the utmost of his power. He saw the ruin which ardent spirits were causing, and became strictly temperate; refusing to allow a drop of intoxicating liquor to pass his lips. And he had read in God's word, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain;" and a profane expression he was never heard to utter. Religion he revered. His morals were pure, and he was uncontaminated by a single vice.

Young Abraham worked for a time as a hired laborer among the farmers. Then he went to Springfield, where he was employed in building a large flat-boat. In this he took a herd of swine, floated them down the Sangamon to the Illinois, and thence by the Mississippi to New Orleans. Whatever Abraham Lincoln undertook, he performed so faithfully as to give great satisfaction to his employers. In this adven-

ture his employers were so well pleased, that upon his return they placed a store and mill under his care.

In 1832, at the outbreak of the Black Hawk war, he enlisted and was chosen captain of a company. He returned to Sangamon County, and although only 23 years of age, was a candidate for the Legislature, but was defeated. He soon after received from Andrew Jackson the appointment of Postmaster of New Salem. His only post-office was his hat. All the letters he received he carried there ready to deliver to those he chanced to meet. He studied surveying, and soon made this his business. In 1834 he again became a candidate for the Legislature, and was elected. Mr. Stuart, of Springfield, advised him to study law. He walked from New Salem to Springfield, borrowed of Mr. Stuart a load of books, carried them back and began his legal studies. When the Legislature assembled he trudged on foot with his pack on his back one hundred miles to Vandalia, then the capital. In 1836 he was re-elected to the Legislature. Here it was he first met Stephen A. Douglas. In 1839 he removed to Springfield and began the practice of law. His success with the jury was so great that he was soon engaged in almost every noted case in the circuit.

In 1854 the great discussion began between Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Douglas, on the slavery question. In the organization of the Republican party in Illinois, in 1856, he took an active part, and at once became one of the leaders in that party. Mr. Lincoln's speeches in opposition to Senator Douglas in the contest in 1858 for a seat in the Senate, form a most notable part of his history. The issue was on the slavery question, and he took the broad ground of the Declaration of Independence, that all men are created equal. Mr. Lincoln was defeated in this contest, but won a far higher prize.

The great Republican Convention met at Chicago on the 16th of June, 1860. The delegates and strangers who crowded the city amounted to twenty-five thousand. An immense building called "The Wigwam," was reared to accommodate the Convention. There were eleven candidates for whom votes were thrown. William H. Seward, a man whose fame as a statesman had long filled the land, was the most prominent. It was generally supposed he would be the nominee. Abraham Lincoln, however, received the nomination on the third ballot. Little did he then dream of the weary years of toil and care, and the bloody death, to which that nomination doomed him: and as little did he dream that he was to render services to his country, which would fix upon him the eyes of the whole civilized world, and which would give him a place in the affections of his countrymen, second only, if second, to that of Washington.

Election day came and Mr. Lincoln received 180 electoral votes out of 203 cast, and was, therefore, constitutionally elected President of the United States. The tirade of abuse that was poured upon this good

and merciful man, especially by the slaveholders, was greater than upon any other man ever elected to this high position. In February, 1861, Mr. Lincoln started for Washington, stopping in all the large cities on his way making speeches. The whole journey was fraught with much danger. Many of the Southern States had already seceded, and several attempts at assassination were afterwards brought to light. A gang in Baltimore had arranged, upon his arrival to "get up a row," and in the confusion to make sure of his death with revolvers and hand-grenades. A detective unravelled the plot. A secret and special train was provided to take him from Harrisburg, through Baltimore, at an unexpected hour of the night. The train started at half-past ten; and to prevent any possible communication on the part of the Secessionists with their Confederate gang in Baltimore, as soon as the train had started the telegraph-wires were cut. Mr. Lincoln reached Washington in safety and was inaugurated, although great anxiety was felt by all loyal people.

In the selection of his cabinet Mr. Lincoln gave to Mr. Seward the Department of State, and to other prominent opponents before the convention he gave important positions.

During no other administration have the duties devolving upon the President been so manifold, and the responsibilities so great, as those which fell to the lot of President Lincoln. Knowing this, and feeling his own weakness and inability to meet, and in his own strength to cope with, the difficulties, he learned early to seek Divine wisdom and guidance in determining his plans, and Divine comfort in all his trials, both personal and national. Contrary to his own estimate of himself, Mr. Lincoln was one of the most courageous of men. He went directly into the rebel capital just as the retreating foe was leaving, with no guard but a few sailors. From the time he had left Springfield, in 1861, however, plans had been made for his assassination, and he at last fell a victim to one of them. April 14, 1865, he, with Gen. Grant, was urgently invited to attend Ford's Theater. It was announced that they would be present. Gen. Grant, however, left the city. President Lincoln, feeling, with his characteristic kindness of heart, that it would be a disappointment if he should fail them, very reluctantly consented to go. While listening to the play an actor by the name of John Wilkes Booth entered the box where the President and family were seated, and fired a bullet into his brains. He died the next morning at seven o'clock.

Never before, in the history of the world was a nation plunged into such deep grief by the death of its ruler. Strong men met in the streets and wept in speechless anguish. It is not too much to say that a nation was in tears. His was a life which will fitly become a model. His name as the savior of his country will live with that of Washington's, its father; his countrymen being unable to decide which is the greater.

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Andrew Johnson



ANDREW JOHNSON, seventeenth President of the United States. The early life of Andrew Johnson contains but the record of poverty, destitution and friendlessness. He was born December 29, 1808, in Raleigh, N. C. His parents, belonging to the class of the "poor whites" of the South, were in such circumstances, that they could not confer even the slightest advantages of education upon their child. When Andrew was five years of age, his father accidentally

lost his life while heroically endeavoring to save a friend from drowning. Until ten years of age, Andrew was a ragged boy about the streets, supported by the labor of his mother, who obtained her living with her own hands.

He then, having never attended a school one day, and being unable either to read or write, was apprenticed to a tailor in his native town. A gentleman was in the habit of going to the tailor's shop occasionally, and reading to the boys at work there. He often read from the speeches of distinguished British statesmen. Andrew, who was endowed with a mind of more than ordinary native ability, became much interested in these speeches; his ambition was roused, and he was inspired with a strong desire to learn to read.

He accordingly applied himself to the alphabet, and with the assistance of some of his fellow-workmen, learned his letters. He then called upon the gentleman to borrow the book of speeches. The owner,

pleased with his zeal, not only gave him the book, but assisted him in learning to combine the letters into words. Under such difficulties he pressed onward laboriously, spending usually ten or twelve hours at work in the shop, and then robbing himself of rest and recreation to devote such time as he could to reading.

He went to Tennessee in 1826, and located at Greenville, where he married a young lady who possessed some education. Under her instructions he learned to write and cipher. He became prominent in the village debating society, and a favorite with the students of Greenville College. In 1828, he organized a working man's party, which elected him alderman, and in 1830 elected him mayor, which position he held three years.

He now began to take a lively interest in political affairs; identifying himself with the working-classes, to which he belonged. In 1835, he was elected a member of the House of Representatives of Tennessee. He was then just twenty-seven years of age. He became a very active member of the legislature, gave his adhesion to the Democratic party, and in 1840 "stumped the State," advocating Martin Van Buren's claims to the Presidency, in opposition to those of Gen. Harrison. In this campaign he acquired much readiness as a speaker, and extended and increased his reputation.

In 1841, he was elected State Senator; in 1843, he was elected a member of Congress, and by successive elections, held that important post for ten years. In 1853, he was elected Governor of Tennessee, and was re-elected in 1855. In all these responsible positions, he discharged his duties with distinguished ability.

ity, and proved himself the warm friend of the working classes. In 1857, Mr. Johnson was elected United States Senator.

Years before, in 1845, he had warmly advocated the annexation of Texas, stating however, as his reason, that he thought this annexation would probably prove "to be the gateway out of which the sable sons of Africa are to pass from bondage to freedom, and become merged in a population congenial to themselves." In 1850, he also supported the compromise measures, the two essential features of which were, that the white people of the Territories should be permitted to decide for themselves whether they would enslave the colored people or not, and that the free States of the North should return to the South persons who attempted to escape from slavery.

Mr. Johnson was never ashamed of his lowly origin: on the contrary, he often took pride in avowing that he owed his distinction to his own exertions. "Sir," said he on the floor of the Senate, "I do not forget that I am a mechanic; neither do I forget that Adam was a tailor and sewed fig-leaves, and that our Savior was the son of a carpenter."

In the Charleston-Baltimore convention of 1860, he was the choice of the Tennessee Democrats for the Presidency. In 1861, when the purpose of the Southern Democracy became apparent, he took a decided stand in favor of the Union, and held that "slavery must be held subordinate to the Union at whatever cost." He returned to Tennessee, and repeatedly imperiled his own life to protect the Unionists of Tennessee. Tennessee having seceded from the Union, President Lincoln, on March 4th, 1862, appointed him Military Governor of the State, and he established the most stringent military rule. His numerous proclamations attracted wide attention. In 1864, he was elected Vice-President of the United States, and upon the death of Mr. Lincoln, April 15, 1865, became President. In a speech two days later he said, "The American people must be taught, if they do not already feel, that treason is a crime and must be punished; that the Government will not always bear with its enemies; that it is strong not only to protect, but to punish. * * The people must understand that it (treason) is the blackest of crimes, and will surely be punished." Yet his whole administration, the history of which is so well known, was in utter inconsistency with, and the most violent

opposition to, the principles laid down in that speech.

In his loose policy of reconstruction and general amnesty, he was opposed by Congress; and he characterized Congress as a new rebellion, and lawlessly defied it, in everything possible, to the utmost. In the beginning of 1868, on account of "high crimes and misdemeanors," the principal of which was the removal of Secretary Stanton, in violation of the Tenure of Office Act, articles of impeachment were preferred against him, and the trial began March 23.

It was very tedious, continuing for nearly three months. A test article of the impeachment was at length submitted to the court for its action. It was certain that as the court voted upon that article so would it vote upon all. Thirty-four voices pronounced the President guilty. As a two-thirds vote was necessary to his condemnation, he was pronounced acquitted, notwithstanding the great majority against him. The change of one vote from the *not guilty* side would have sustained the impeachment.

The President, for the remainder of his term, was but little regarded. He continued, though impotently, his conflict with Congress. His own party did not think it expedient to renominate him for the Presidency. The Nation rallied, with enthusiasm unparalleled since the days of Washington, around the name of Gen. Grant. Andrew Johnson was forgotten. The bullet of the assassin introduced him to the President's chair. Notwithstanding this, never was there presented to a man a better opportunity to immortalize his name, and to win the gratitude of a nation. He failed utterly. He retired to his home in Greenville, Tenn., taking no very active part in politics until 1875. On Jan. 26, after an exciting struggle, he was chosen by the Legislature of Tennessee, United States Senator in the forty-fourth Congress, and took his seat in that body, at the special session convened by President Grant, on the 5th of March. On the 27th of July, 1875, the ex-President made a visit to his daughter's home, near Carter Station, Tenn. When he started on his journey, he was apparently in his usual vigorous health, but on reaching the residence of his child the following day, was stricken with paralysis, rendering him unconscious. He rallied occasionally, but finally passed away at 2 A. M., July 31, aged sixty-seven years. His funeral was attended at Greenville, on the 3d of August, with every demonstration of respect.

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G. A. Grant

ULYSSES S. GRANT.

ULYSSES S. GRANT, the eighteenth President of the United States, was born on the 29th of April, 1822, of Christian parents, in a humble home, at Point Pleasant, on the banks of the Ohio. Shortly after his father moved to Georgetown, Brown Co., O. In this remote frontier hamlet, Ulysses received a common-school education. At the age of seventeen, in the year 1839, he entered the Military Academy at West Point. Here he was regarded as a solid, sensible young man of fair abilities, and of sturdy, honest character. He took respectable rank as a scholar. In June, 1843, he graduated, about the middle in his class, and was sent as lieutenant of infantry to one of the distant military posts in the Missouri Territory. Two years he past in these dreary solitudes, watching the vagabond and exasperating Indians.

The war with Mexico came. Lieut. Grant was sent with his regiment to Corpus Christi. His first battle was at Palo Alto. There was no chance here for the exhibition of either skill or heroism, nor at Resaca de la Palma, his second battle. At the battle of Monterey, his third engagement, it is said that he performed a signal service of daring and skillful horsemanship. His brigade had exhausted its ammunition. A messenger must be sent for more, along a route exposed to the bullets of the foe. Lieut. Grant, adopting an expedient learned of the Indians, grasped the mane of his horse, and hanging upon one side of the animal, ran the gauntlet in entire safety.

From Monterey he was sent, with the fourth infantry, to aid Gen. Scott, at the siege of Vera Cruz. In preparation for the march to the city of Mexico, he was appointed quartermaster of his regiment. At the battle of Molino del Rey, he was promoted to a first lieutenancy, and was brevetted captain at Chalultepec.

At the close of the Mexican War, Capt. Grant returned with his regiment to New York, and was again sent to one of the military posts on the frontier. The discovery of gold in California causing an immense tide of emigration to flow to the Pacific shores, Capt. Grant was sent with a battalion to Fort Dallas, in Oregon, for the protection of the interests of the immigrants. Life was wearisome in those wilds. Capt. Grant resigned his commission and returned to the States; and having married, entered upon the cultivation of a small farm near St. Louis, Mo. He had but little skill as a farmer. Finding his toil not remunerative, he turned to mercantile life, entering into the leather business, with a younger brother, at Galena, Ill. This was in the year 1860. As the tidings of the rebels firing on Fort Sumpter reached the ears of Capt. Grant in his counting-room, he said,—“Uncle Sam has educated me for the army; though I have served him through one war, I do not feel that I have yet repaid the debt. I am still ready to discharge my obligations. I shall therefore buckle on my sword and see Uncle Sam through this war too.”

He went into the streets, raised a company of volunteers, and led them as their captain to Springfield, the capital of the State, where their services were offered to Gov. Yates. The Governor, impressed by the zeal and straightforward executive ability of Capt. Grant, gave him a desk in his office, to assist in the volunteer organization that was being formed in the State in behalf of the Government. On the 15th of

June, 1861, Capt. Grant received a commission as Colonel of the Twenty-first Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. His merits as a West Point graduate, who had served for 15 years in the regular army, were such that he was soon promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General and was placed in command at Cairo. The rebels raised their banner at Paducah, near the mouth of the Tennessee River. Scarcely had its folds appeared in the breeze ere Gen. Grant was there. The rebels fled. Their banner fell, and the star and stripes were unfurled in its stead.

He entered the service with great determination and immediately began active duty. This was the beginning, and until the surrender of Lee at Richmond he was ever pushing the enemy with great vigor and effectiveness. At Belmont, a few days later, he surprised and routed the rebels, then at Fort Henry won another victory. Then came the brilliant fight at Fort Donelson. The nation was electrified by the victory, and the brave leader of the boys in blue was immediately made a Major-General, and the military district of Tennessee was assigned to him.

Like all great captains, Gen. Grant knew well how to secure the results of victory. He immediately pushed on to the enemies' lines. Then came the terrible battles of Pittsburg Landing, Corinth, and the siege of Vicksburg, where Gen. Pemberton made an unconditional surrender of the city with over thirty thousand men and one-hundred and seventy-two cannon. The fall of Vicksburg was by far the most severe blow which the rebels had thus far encountered, and opened up the Mississippi from Cairo to the Gulf.

Gen. Grant was next ordered to co-operate with Gen. Banks in a movement upon Texas, and proceeded to New Orleans, where he was thrown from his horse, and received severe injuries, from which he was laid up for months. He then rushed to the aid of Gens. Rosecrans and Thomas at Chattanooga, and by a wonderful series of strategic and technical measures put the Union Army in fighting condition. Then followed the bloody battles at Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, in which the rebels were routed with great loss. This won for him unbounded praise in the North. On the 4th of February, 1864, Congress revived the grade of lieutenant-general, and the rank was conferred on Gen. Grant. He repaired to Washington to receive his credentials and enter upon the duties of his new office.

Gen. Grant decided as soon as he took charge of the army to concentrate the widely-dispersed National troops for an attack upon Richmond, the nominal capital of the Rebellion, and endeavor there to destroy the rebel armies which would be promptly assembled from all quarters for its defence. The whole continent seemed to tremble under the tramp of these majestic armies, rushing to the decisive battle field. Steamers were crowded with troops. Railway trains were burdened with closely packed thousands. His plans were comprehensive and involved a series of campaigns, which were executed with remarkable energy and ability, and were consummated at the surrender of Lee, April 9, 1865.

The war was ended. The Union was saved. The almost unanimous voice of the Nation declared Gen. Grant to be the most prominent instrument in its salvation. The eminent services he had thus rendered the country brought him conspicuously forward as the Republican candidate for the Presidential chair.

At the Republican Convention held at Chicago, May 21, 1868, he was unanimously nominated for the Presidency, and at the autumn election received a majority of the popular vote, and 214 out of 294 electoral votes.

The National Convention of the Republican party which met at Philadelphia on the 5th of June, 1872, placed Gen. Grant in nomination for a second term by a unanimous vote. The selection was emphatically indorsed by the people five months later, 292 electoral votes being cast for him.

Soon after the close of his second term, Gen. Grant started upon his famous trip around the world. He visited almost every country of the civilized world, and was everywhere received with such ovations and demonstrations of respect and honor, private as well as public and official, as were never before bestowed upon any citizen of the United States.

He was the most prominent candidate before the Republican National Convention in 1880 for a re-nomination for President. He went to New York and embarked in the brokerage business under the firm name of Grant & Ward. The latter proved a villain, wrecked Grant's fortune, and for larceny was sent to the penitentiary. The General was attacked with cancer in the throat, but suffered in his stoic-like manner, never complaining. He was re-instated as General of the Army and retired by Congress. The cancer soon finished its deadly work, and July 23, 1885, the nation went in mourning over the death of the illustrious General.

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Sincerely
R. B. Mayo



RUTHERFORD B. HAYES.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, the nineteenth President of the United States, was born in Delaware, O., Oct. 4, 1822, almost three months after the death of his father, Rutherford Hayes. His ancestry on both the paternal and maternal sides, was of the most honorable character. It can be traced, it is said, as far back as 1280, when Hayes and Rutherford were two Scottish chieftains, fighting side by side with Baliol, William Wallace and Robert Bruce. Both families belonged to the nobility, owned extensive estates, and had a large following. Misfortune overtaking the family, George Hayes left Scotland in 1680, and settled in Windsor, Conn. His son George was born in Windsor, and remained there during his life. Daniel Hayes, son of the latter, married Sarah Lee, and lived from the time of his marriage until his death in Simsbury, Conn. Ezekiel, son of Daniel, was born in 1724, and was a manufacturer of scythes at Bradford, Conn. Rutherford Hayes, son of Ezekiel and grandfather of President Hayes, was born in New Haven, in August, 1756. He was a farmer, blacksmith and tavern-keeper. He emigrated to Vermont at an unknown date, settling in Brattleboro, where he established a hotel. Here his son Rutherford Hayes the father of President Hayes, was

born. He was married, in September, 1813, to Sophia Birchard, of Wilmington, Vt., whose ancestors emigrated thither from Connecticut, they having been among the wealthiest and best families of Norwich. Her ancestry on the male side are traced back to 1635, to John Birchard, one of the principal founders of Norwich. Both of her grandfathers were soldiers in the Revolutionary War.

The father of President Hayes was an industrious, frugal and opened-hearted man. He was of a mechanical turn, and could mend a plow, knit a stocking, or do almost anything else that he chose to undertake. He was a member of the Church, active in all the benevolent enterprises of the town, and conducted his business on Christian principles. After the close of the war of 1812, for reasons inexplicable to his neighbors, he resolved to emigrate to Ohio.

The journey from Vermont to Ohio in that day, when there were no canals, steamers, nor railways, was a very serious affair. A tour of inspection was first made, occupying four months. Mr. Hayes determined to move to Delaware, where the family arrived in 1817. He died July 22, 1822, a victim of malarial fever, less than three months before the birth of the son, of whom we now write. Mrs. Hayes, in her sore bereavement, found the support she so much needed in her brother Sardis, who had been a member of the household from the day of its departure from Vermont, and in an orphan girl whom she had adopted some time before as an act of charity.

Mrs. Hayes at this period was very weak, and the

subject of this sketch was so feeble at birth that he was not expected to live beyond a month or two at most. As the months went by he grew weaker and weaker, so that the neighbors were in the habit of inquiring from time to time "if Mrs. Hayes' baby died last night." On one occasion a neighbor, who was on familiar terms with the family, after alluding to the boy's big head, and the mother's assiduous care of him, said in a bantering way, "That's right! Stick to him. You have got him a long so far, and I shouldn't wonder if he would really come to something yet."

"You need not laugh," said Mrs. Hayes. "You wait and see. You can't tell but I shall make him President of the United States yet." The boy lived, in spite of the universal predictions of his speedy death; and when, in 1825, his older brother was drowned, he became, if possible, still dearer to his mother.

The boy was seven years old before he went to school. His education, however, was not neglected. He probably learned as much from his mother and sister as he would have done at school. His sports were almost wholly within doors, his playmates being his sister and her associates. These circumstances tended, no doubt, to foster that gentleness of disposition, and that delicate consideration for the feelings of others, which are marked traits of his character.

His uncle Sardis Birchard took the deepest interest in his education; and as the boy's health had improved, and he was making good progress in his studies, he proposed to send him to college. His preparation commenced with a tutor at home; but he was afterwards sent for one year to a professor in the Wesleyan University, in Middletown, Conn. He entered Kenyon College in 1838, at the age of sixteen, and was graduated at the head of his class in 1842.

Immediately after his graduation he began the study of law in the office of Thomas Sparrow, Esq., in Columbus. Finding his opportunities for study in Columbus somewhat limited, he determined to enter the Law School at Cambridge, Mass., where he remained two years.

In 1845, after graduating at the Law School, he was admitted to the bar at Marietta, Ohio, and shortly afterward went into practice as an attorney-at-law with Ralph P. Buckland, of Fremont. Here he remained three years, acquiring but a limited practice, and apparently unambitious of distinction in his profession.

In 1849 he moved to Cincinnati, where his ambition found a new stimulus. For several years, however, his progress was slow. Two events, occurring at this period, had a powerful influence upon his subsequent life. One of these was his marriage with Miss Lucy Ware Webb, daughter of Dr. James Webb, of Chillicothe; the other was his introduction to the Cincinnati Literary Club, a body embracing among its members such men as Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase,

Gen. John Pope, Gov. Edward F. Noyes, and many others hardly less distinguished in after life. The marriage was a fortunate one in every respect, as everybody knows. Not one of all the wives of our Presidents was more universally admired, revered and beloved than was Mrs. Hayes, and no one did more than she to reflect honor upon American womanhood. The Literary Club brought Mr. Hayes into constant association with young men of high character and noble aims, and lured him to display the qualities so long hidden by his bashfulness and modesty.

In 1856 he was nominated to the office of Judge of the Court of Common Pleas; but he declined to accept the nomination. Two years later, the office of city solicitor becoming vacant, the City Council elected him for the unexpired term.

In 1861, when the Rebellion broke out, he was at the zenith of his professional life. His rank at the bar was among the first. But the news of the attack on Fort Sumpter found him eager to take up arms for the defense of his country.

His military record was bright and illustrious. In October, 1861, he was made Lieutenant-Colonel, and in August, 1862, promoted Colonel of the 79th Ohio regiment, but he refused to leave his old comrades and go among strangers. Subsequently, however, he was made Colonel of his old regiment. At the battle of South Mountain he received a wound, and while faint and bleeding displayed courage and fortitude that won admiration from all.

Col. Hayes was detached from his regiment, after his recovery, to act as Brigadier-General, and placed in command of the celebrated Kanawha division, and for gallant and meritorious services in the battles of Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek, he was promoted Brigadier-General. He was also brevetted Major-General, "for gallant and distinguished services during the campaigns of 1864, in West Virginia." In the course of his arduous services, four horses were shot from under him, and he was wounded four times.

In 1864, Gen. Hayes was elected to Congress, from the Second Ohio District, which had long been Democratic. He was not present during the campaign, and after his election was importuned to resign his commission in the army; but he finally declared, "I shall never come to Washington until I can come by the way of Richmond." He was re-elected in 1866.

In 1867, Gen. Hayes was elected Governor of Ohio, over Hon. Allen G. Thurman, a popular Democrat. In 1869 was re-elected over George H. Pendleton. He was elected Governor for the third term in 1875.

In 1876 he was the standard bearer of the Republican Party in the Presidential contest, and after a hard long contest was chosen President, and was inaugurated Monday, March 5, 1875. He served his full term, not, however, with satisfaction to his party, but his administration was an average one.


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J. A. Garfield



JAMES A. GARFIELD.



JAMES A. GARFIELD, twentieth President of the United States, was born Nov. 19, 1831, in the woods of Orange, Cuyahoga Co., O. His parents were Abram and Eliza (Ballou) Garfield, both of New England ancestry and from families well known in the early history of that section of our country, but had moved to the Western Reserve, in Ohio, early in its settlement.

The house in which James A. was born was not unlike the houses of poor Ohio farmers of that day. It was about 20 x 30 feet, built of logs, with the spaces between the logs filled with clay. His father was a hard working farmer, and he soon had his fields cleared, an orchard planted, and a log barn built. The household comprised the father and mother and their four children—Mehetabel, Thomas, Mary and James. In May, 1823, the father, from a cold contracted in helping to put out a forest fire, died. At this time James was about eighteen months old, and Thomas about ten years old. No one, perhaps, can tell how much James was indebted to his brother's toil and self-sacrifice during the twenty years succeeding his father's death, but undoubtedly very much. He now lives in Michigan, and the two sisters live in Solon, O., near their birthplace.

The early educational advantages young Garfield enjoyed were very limited, yet he made the most of them. He labored at farm work for others, did carpenter work, chopped wood, or did anything that would bring in a few dollars to aid his widowed mother in her struggles to keep the little family to-

gether. Nor was Gen. Garfield ever ashamed of his origin, and he never forgot the friends of his struggling childhood, youth and manhood, neither did they ever forget him. When in the highest seats of honor, the humblest friend of his boyhood was as kindly greeted as ever. The poorest laborer was sure of the sympathy of one who had known all the bitterness of want and the sweetness of bread earned by the sweat of the brow. He was ever the simple, plain, modest gentleman.

The highest ambition of young Garfield until he was about sixteen years old was to be a captain of a vessel on Lake Erie. He was anxious to go aboard a vessel, which his mother strongly opposed. She finally consented to his going to Cleveland, with the understanding, however, that he should try to obtain some other kind of employment. He walked all the way to Cleveland. This was his first visit to the city. After making many applications for work, and trying to get aboard a lake vessel, and not meeting with success, he engaged as a driver for his cousin, Amos Letcher, on the Ohio & Pennsylvania Canal. He remained at this work but a short time when he went home, and attended the seminary at Chester for about three years, when he entered Hiram and the Eclectic Institute, teaching a few terms of school in the meantime, and doing other work. This school was started by the Disciples of Christ in 1850, of which church he was then a member. He became janitor and bell-ringer in order to help pay his way. He then became both teacher and pupil. He soon "exhausted Hiram" and needed more; hence, in the fall of 1854, he entered Williams College, from which he graduated in 1856, taking one of the highest honors of his class. He afterwards returned to Hiram College as its President. As above stated, he early united with the Christian or Disciples Church at Hiram, and was ever after a devoted, zealous member, often preaching in its pulpit and places where he happened to be. Dr. Noah Porter, President of Yale College, says of him in reference to his religion:

"President Garfield was more than a man of strong moral and religious convictions. His whole history, from boyhood to the last, shows that duty to man and to God, and devotion to Christ and life and faith and spiritual commission were controlling springs of his being, and to a more than usual degree. In my judgment there is no more interesting feature of his character than his loyal allegiance to the body of Christians in which he was trained, and the fervent sympathy which he ever showed in their Christian communion. Not many of the few 'wise and mighty and noble who are called' show a similar loyalty to the less stately and cultured Christian communions in which they have been reared. Too often it is true that as they step upward in social and political significance they step upward from one degree to another in some of the many types of fashionable Christianity. President Garfield adhered to the church of his mother, the church in which he was trained, and in which he served as a pillar and an evangelist, and yet with the largest and most unsectarian charity for all 'who love our Lord in sincerity.'"

Mr. Garfield was united in marriage with Miss Lucretia Rudolph, Nov. 11, 1858, who proved herself worthy as the wife of one whom all the world loved and mourned. To them were born seven children, five of whom are still living, four boys and one girl.

Mr. Garfield made his first political speeches in 1856, in Hiram and the neighboring villages, and three years later he began to speak at county mass-meetings, and became the favorite speaker wherever he was. During this year he was elected to the Ohio Senate. He also began to study law at Cleveland, and in 1861 was admitted to the bar. The great Rebellion broke out in the early part of this year, and Mr. Garfield at once resolved to fight as he had talked, and enlisted to defend the old flag. He received his commission as Lieut.-Colonel of the Forty-second Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Aug. 14, 1861. He was immediately put into active service, and before he had ever seen a gun fired in action, was placed in command of four regiments of infantry and eight companies of cavalry, charged with the work of driving out of his native State the officer (Humphrey Marshall) reputed to be the ablest of those, not educated to war whom Kentucky had given to the Rebellion. This work was bravely and speedily accomplished, although against great odds. President Lincoln, on his success commissioned him Brigadier-General, Jan. 10, 1862; and as "he had been the youngest man in the Ohio Senate two years before, so now he was the youngest General in the army." He was with Gen. Buell's army at Shiloh, in its operations around Corinth and its march through Alabama. He was then detailed as a member of the General Court-Martial for the trial of Gen. Fitz-John Porter. He was then ordered to report to Gen. Rosecrans, and was assigned to the "Chief of Staff."

The military history of Gen. Garfield closed with

his brilliant services at Chickamauga, where he won the stars of the Major-General.

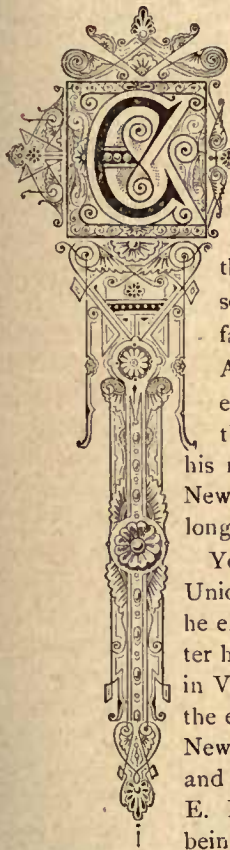
Without an effort on his part Gen. Garfield was elected to Congress in the fall of 1862 from the Nineteenth District of Ohio. This section of Ohio had been represented in Congress for sixty years mainly by two men—Elisha Whittlesey and Joshua R. Giddings. It was not without a struggle that he resigned his place in the army. At the time he entered Congress he was the youngest member in that body. There he remained by successive re-elections until he was elected President in 1880. Of his labors in Congress Senator Hoar says: "Since the year 1864 you cannot think of a question which has been debated in Congress, or discussed before a tribunal of the American people, in regard to which you will not find, if you wish instruction, the argument on one side stated, in almost every instance better than by anybody else, in some speech made in the House of Representatives or on the hustings by Mr. Garfield."

Upon Jan. 14, 1880, Gen. Garfield was elected to the U. S. Senate, and on the eighth of June, of the same year, was nominated as the candidate of his party for President at the great Chicago Convention. He was elected in the following November, and on March 4, 1881, was inaugurated. Probably no administration ever opened its existence under brighter auspices than that of President Garfield, and every day it grew in favor with the people, and by the first of July he had completed all the initiatory and preliminary work of his administration and was preparing to leave the city to meet his friends at Williams College. While on his way and at the depot, in company with Secretary Blaine, a man stepped behind him, drew a revolver, and fired directly at his back. The President tottered and fell, and as he did so the assassin fired a second shot, the bullet cutting the left coat sleeve of his victim, but inflicting no further injury. It has been very truthfully said that this was "the shot that was heard round the world." Never before in the history of the Nation had anything occurred which so nearly froze the blood of the people for the moment, as this awful deed. He was smitten on the brightest, gladdest day of all his life, and was at the summit of his power and hope. Forty days, all during the hot months of July and August, he lingered and suffered. He, however, remained master of himself till the last, and by his magnificent bearing was teaching the country and the world the noblest of human lessons—how to live grandly in the very clutch of death. Great in life, he was surpassingly great in death. He passed serenely away Sept. 19, 1883, at Elberon, N. J., on the very bank of the ocean, where he had been taken shortly previous. The world wept at his death, as it never had done on the death of any other man who had ever lived upon it. The murderer was duly tried, found guilty and executed, in one year after he committed the foul deed.

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C. A. Arthur.



CHESTER A. ARTHUR, twenty-first President of the United States, was born in Franklin County, Vermont, on the fifth of October, 1830, and is the oldest of a family of two sons and five daughters. His father was the Rev. Dr. William Arthur, a Baptist clergyman, who emigrated to this country from the county Antrim, Ireland, in his 18th year, and died in 1875, in Newtonville, near Albany, after a long and successful ministry.

Young Arthur was educated at Union College, Schenectady, where he excelled in all his studies. After his graduation he taught school in Vermont for two years, and at the expiration of that time came to New York, with \$500 in his pocket, and entered the office of ex-Judge E. D. Culver as student. After being admitted to the bar he formed

a partnership with his intimate friend and room-mate, Henry D. Gardiner, with the intention of practicing in the West, and for three months they roamed about in the Western States in search of an eligible site, but in the end returned to New York, where they hung out their shingle, and entered upon a successful career almost from the start. General Arthur soon afterward married the daughter of Lieutenant

Herndon, of the United States Navy, who was lost at sea. Congress voted a gold medal to his widow in recognition of the bravery he displayed on that occasion. Mrs. Arthur died shortly before Mr. Arthur's nomination to the Vice Presidency, leaving two children.

Gen. Arthur obtained considerable legal celebrity in his first great case, the famous Lemmon suit, brought to recover possession of eight slaves who had been declared free by Judge Paine, of the Superior Court of New York City. It was in 1852 that Jonathan Lemmon, of Virginia, went to New York with his slaves, intending to ship them to Texas, when they were discovered and freed. The Judge decided that they could not be held by the owner under the Fugitive Slave Law. A howl of rage went up from the South, and the Virginia Legislature authorized the Attorney General of that State to assist in an appeal. Wm. M. Evarts and Chester A. Arthur were employed to represent the People, and they won their case, which then went to the Supreme Court of the United States. Charles O'Connor here espoused the cause of the slave-holders, but he too was beaten by Messrs. Evarts and Arthur, and a long step was taken toward the emancipation of the black race.

Another great service was rendered by General Arthur in the same cause in 1856. Lizzie Jennings, a respectable colored woman, was put off a Fourth Avenue car with violence after she had paid her fare. General Arthur sued on her behalf, and secured a verdict of \$500 damages. The next day the company issued an order to admit colored persons to ride on their cars, and the other car companies quickly

followed their example. Before that the Sixth Avenue Company ran a few special cars for colored persons and the other lines refused to let them ride at all.

General Arthur was a delegate to the Convention at Saratoga that founded the Republican party. Previous to the war he was Judge-Advocate of the Second Brigade of the State of New York, and Governor Morgan, of that State, appointed him Engineer-in-Chief of his staff. In 1861, he was made Inspector General, and soon afterward became Quartermaster-General. In each of these offices he rendered great service to the Government during the war. At the end of Governor Morgan's term he resumed the practice of the law, forming a partnership with Mr. Ransom, and then Mr. Phelps, the District Attorney of New York, was added to the firm. The legal practice of this well-known firm was very large and lucrative, each of the gentlemen composing it were able lawyers, and possessed a splendid local reputation, if not indeed one of national extent.

He always took a leading part in State and city politics. He was appointed Collector of the Port of New York by President Grant, Nov. 21 1872, to succeed Thomas Murphy, and held the office until July, 20, 1878, when he was succeeded by Collector Merritt.

Mr. Arthur was nominated on the Presidential ticket, with Gen. James A. Garfield, at the famous National Republican Convention held at Chicago in June, 1880. This was perhaps the greatest political convention that ever assembled on the continent. It was composed of the leading politicians of the Republican party, all able men, and each stood firm and fought vigorously and with signal tenacity for their respective candidates that were before the convention for the nomination. Finally Gen. Garfield received the nomination for President and Gen. Arthur for Vice-President. The campaign which followed was one of the most animated known in the history of our country. Gen. Hancock, the standard-bearer of the Democratic party, was a popular man, and his party made a valiant fight for his election.

Finally the election came and the country's choice was Garfield and Arthur. They were inaugurated March 4, 1881, as President and Vice-President. A few months only had passed ere the newly chosen President was the victim of the assassin's bullet. Then came terrible weeks of suffering,—those moments of anxious suspense, when the hearts of all civilized na-

tions were throbbing in unison, longing for the recovery of the noble, the good President. The remarkable patience that he manifested during those hours and weeks, and even months, of the most terrible suffering man has often been called upon to endure, was seemingly more than human. It was certainly God-like. During all this period of deepest anxiety Mr. Arthur's every move was watched, and he it said to his credit that his every action displayed only an earnest desire that the suffering Garfield might recover, to serve the remainder of the term he had so auspiciously begun. Not a selfish feeling was manifested in deed or look of this man, even though the most honored position in the world was at any moment likely to fall to him.

At last God in his mercy relieved President Garfield from further suffering, and the world, as never before in its history over the death of any other man, wept at his bier. Then it became the duty of the Vice President to assume the responsibilities of the high office, and he took the oath in New York, Sept. 20, 1881. The position was an embarrassing one to him, made doubly so from the facts that all eyes were on him, anxious to know what he would do, what policy he would pursue, and who he would select as advisers. The duties of the office had been greatly neglected during the President's long illness, and many important measures were to be immediately decided by him; and still farther to embarrass him he did not fail to realize under what circumstances he became President, and knew the feelings of many on this point. Under these trying circumstances President Arthur took the reins of the Government in his own hands; and, as embarrassing as were the condition of affairs, he happily surprised the nation, acting so wisely that but few criticised his administration. He served the nation well and faithfully, until the close of his administration, March 4, 1885, and was a popular candidate before his party for a second term. His name was ably presented before the convention at Chicago, and was received with great favor, and doubtless but for the personal popularity of one of the opposing candidates, he would have been selected as the standard-bearer of his party for another campaign. He retired to private life carrying with him the best wishes of the American people, whom he had served in a manner satisfactory to them and with credit to himself.

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Grover Cleveland

S. Grover Cleveland.

STEPHEN GROVER CLEVELAND, the twenty-second President of the United States, was born in 1837, in the obscure town of Caldwell, Essex Co., N. J., and in a little two-and-a-half-story white house which is still standing, characteristically to mark the humble birth-place of one of America's great men in striking contrast with the Old World, where all men high in office must be high in origin and born in the cradle of wealth. When the subject of this sketch was three years of age, his father, who was a Presbyterian minister,

with a large family and a small salary, moved, by way of the Hudson River and Erie Canal, to Fayetteville, in search of an increased income and a larger field of work. Fayetteville was then the most straggling of country villages, about five miles from Pompey Hill, where Governor Seymour was born.

At the last mentioned place young Grover commenced going to school in the "good, old-fashioned way," and presumably distinguished himself after the manner of all village boys, in doing the things he ought not to do. Such is the distinguishing trait of all geniuses and independent thinkers. When he arrived at the age of 14 years, he had outgrown the capacity of the village school and expressed a most

emphatic desire to be sent to an academy. To this his father decidedly objected. Academies in those days cost money; besides, his father wanted him to become self-supporting by the quickest possible means, and this at that time in Fayetteville seemed to be a position in a country store, where his father and the large family on his hands had considerable influence. Grover was to be paid \$50 for his services the first year, and if he proved trustworthy he was to receive \$100 the second year. Here the lad commenced his career as salesman, and in two years he had earned so good a reputation for trustworthiness that his employers desired to retain him for an indefinite length of time. Otherwise he did not exhibit as yet any particular "flashes of genius" or eccentricities of talent. He was simply a good boy.

But instead of remaining with this firm in Fayetteville, he went with the family in their removal to Clinton, where he had an opportunity of attending a high school. Here he industriously pursued his studies until the family removed with him to a point on Black River known as the "Holland Patent," a village of 500 or 600 people, 15 miles north of Utica, N. Y. At this place his father died, after preaching but three Sundays. This event broke up the family, and Grover set out for New York City to accept, at a small salary, the position of "under-teacher" in an asylum for the blind. He taught faithfully for two years, and although he obtained a good reputation in this capacity, he concluded that teaching was not his

calling for life, and, reversing the traditional order, he left the city to seek his fortune, instead of going to a city. He first thought of Cleveland, Ohio, as there was some charm in that name for him; but before proceeding to that place he went to Buffalo to ask the advice of his uncle, Lewis F. Allan, a noted stock-breeder of that place. The latter did not speak enthusiastically. "What is it you want to do, my boy?" he asked. "Well, sir, I want to study law," was the reply. "Good gracious!" remarked the old gentleman; "do you, indeed? What ever put that into your head? How much money have you got?" "Well, sir, to tell the truth, I haven't got any."

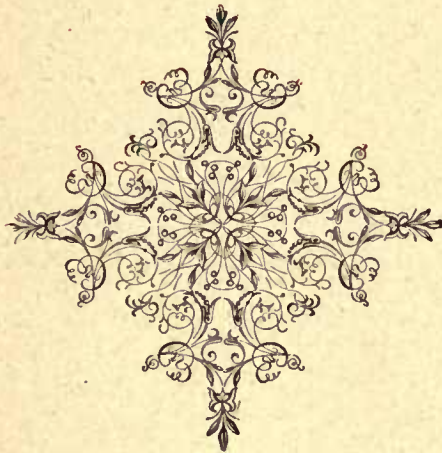
After a long consultation, his uncle offered him a place temporarily as assistant herd-keeper, at \$50 a year, while he could "look around." One day soon afterward he boldly walked into the office of Rogers, Bowen & Rogers, of Buffalo, and told them what he wanted. A number of young men were already engaged in the office, but Grover's persistency won, and he was finally permitted to come as an office boy and have the use of the law library, for the nominal sum of \$3 or \$4 a week. Out of this he had to pay for his board and washing. The walk to and from his uncle's was a long and rugged one; and, although the first winter was a memorably severe one, his shoes were out of repair and his overcoat—he had none—yet he was nevertheless prompt and regular. On the first day of his service here, his senior employer threw down a copy of Blackstone before him with a bang that made the dust fly, saying "That's where they all begin." A titter ran around the little circle of clerks and students, as they thought that was enough to scare young Grover out of his plans; but in due time he mastered that cumbersome volume. Then, as ever afterward, however, Mr. Cleveland exhibited a talent for executiveness rather than for chasing principles through all their metaphysical possibilities. "Let us quit talking and go and do it," was practically his motto.

The first public office to which Mr. Cleveland was elected was that of Sheriff of Erie Co., N. Y., in which Buffalo is situated; and in such capacity it fell to his duty to inflict capital punishment upon two criminals. In 1881 he was elected Mayor of the City of Buffalo, on the Democratic ticket, with especial reference to the bringing about certain reforms

in the administration of the municipal affairs of that city. In this office, as well as that of Sheriff, his performance of duty has generally been considered fair, with possibly a few exceptions which were ferreted out and magnified during the last Presidential campaign. As a specimen of his plain language in a veto message, we quote from one vetoing an iniquitous street-cleaning contract: "This is a time for plain speech, and my objection to your action shall be plainly stated. I regard it as the culmination of a most bare-faced, impudent and shameless scheme to betray the interests of the people and to worse than squander the people's money." The *New York Sun* afterward very highly commended Mr. Cleveland's administration as Mayor of Buffalo, and thereupon recommended him for Governor of the Empire State. To the latter office he was elected in 1882, and his administration of the affairs of State was generally satisfactory. The mistakes he made, if any, were made very public throughout the nation after he was nominated for President of the United States. For this high office he was nominated July 11, 1884, by the National Democratic Convention at Chicago, when other competitors were Thomas F. Bayard, Roswell P. Flower, Thomas A. Hendricks, Benjamin F. Butler, Allen G. Thurman, etc.; and he was elected by the people, by a majority of about a thousand, over the brilliant and long-tried Republican statesman, James G. Blaine. President Cleveland resigned his office as Governor of New York in January, 1885, in order to prepare for his duties as the Chief Executive of the United States, in which capacity his term commenced at noon on the 4th of March, 1885. For his Cabinet officers he selected the following gentlemen: For Secretary of State, Thomas F. Bayard, of Delaware; Secretary of the Treasury, Daniel Manning, of New York; Secretary of War, William C. Endicott, of Massachusetts; Secretary of the Navy, William C. Whitney, of New York; Secretary of the Interior, L. Q. C. Lamar, of Mississippi; Postmaster-General, William F. Vilas, of Wisconsin; Attorney-General, A. H. Garland, of Arkansas.

The silver question precipitated a controversy between those who were in favor of the continuance of silver coinage and those who were opposed, Mr. Cleveland answering for the latter, even before his inauguration.

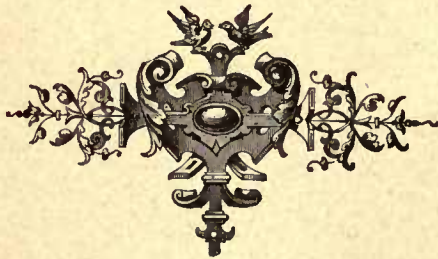
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GOVERNORS.





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Shadrach Bond.

SHADRACH BOND.

SHADRACH BOND, the first Governor of Illinois after its organization as a State, serving from 1818 to 1822, was born in Frederick County, Maryland, in the year 1773, and was raised a farmer on his father's plantation, receiving only a plain English education. He emigrated to this State in 1794, when it was a part of the "Northwest Territory," continuing in the vocation in which he had been brought up in his native State, in the "New Design," near Eagle Creek, in what is now Monroe County. He served several terms as a member of the General Assembly of Indiana Territory, after it was organized as such, and in 1812-14 he was a Delegate to the Twelfth and Thirteenth Congresses, taking his seat Dec. 3, 1812, and serving until Oct. 3, 1814. These were the times, the reader will recollect, when this Government had its last struggle with Great Britain. The year 1812 is also noted in the history of this State as that in which the first Territorial Legislature was held. It convened at Kaskaskia, Nov. 25, and adjourned Dec. 26, following.

While serving as Delegate to Congress, Mr. Bond was instrumental in procuring the right of pre-emption on the public domain. On the expiration of his term at Washington he was appointed Receiver of Public Moneys at Kaskaskia, then the capital of the Territory. In company with John G. Comyges,

Thomas H. Harris, Charles Slade, Michael Jones, Warren Brown, Edward Humphries and Charles W. Hunter, he became a proprietor of the site of the initial city of Cairo, which they hoped, from its favorable location at the junction of the two great rivers near the center of the Great West, would rapidly develop into a metropolis. To aid the enterprise, they obtained a special charter from the Legislature, incorporating both the City and the Bank of Cairo.

In 1818 Mr. Bond was elected the first Governor of the State of Illinois, being inaugurated Oct. 6, that year, which was several weeks before Illinois was actually admitted. The facts are these: In January, 1818, the Territorial Legislature sent a petition to Congress for the admission of Illinois as a State, Nathaniel Pope being then Delegate. The petition was granted, fixing the northern line of the State on the latitude of the southern extremity of Lake Michigan; but the bill was afterward so amended as to extend this line to its present latitude. In July a convention was called at Kaskaskia to draft a constitution, which, however, was not submitted to the people. By its provisions, supreme judges, prosecuting attorneys, county and circuit judges, recorders and justices of the peace were all to be appointed by the Governor or elected by the Legislature. This constitution was accepted by Congress Dec. 30. At that time Illinois comprised but eleven counties, namely, Randolph, Madison, Gallatin, Johnson, Pope, Jackson, Crawford, Bond, Union, Washington and Franklin, the northern portion of the State being mainly in Madison County. Thus it appears that Mr. Bond was honored by the naming of a

county before he was elected Governor. The present county of Bond is of small limitations, about 60 to 80 miles south of Springfield. For Lieutenant Governor the people chose Pierre Menard, a prominent and worthy Frenchman, after whom a county in this State is named. In this election there were no opposition candidates, as the popularity of these men had made their promotion to the chief offices of the State, even before the constitution was drafted, a foregone conclusion.

The principal points that excited the people in reference to political issues at this period were local or "internal improvements," as they were called, State banks, location of the capital, slavery and the personal characteristics of the proposed candidates. Mr. Bond represented the "Convention party," for introducing slavery into the State, supported by Elias Kent Kane, his Secretary of State, and John McLean, while Nathaniel Pope and John P. Cook led the anti-slavery element. The people, however, did not become very much excited over this issue until 1820, when the famous Missouri Compromise was adopted by Congress, limiting slavery to the south of the parallel of 36° 30' except in Missouri. While this measure settled the great slavery controversy, so far as the average public sentiment was temporarily concerned, until 1854, when it was repealed under the leadership of Stephen A. Douglas, the issue as considered locally in this State was not decided until 1824, after a most furious campaign. (See sketch of Gov. Coles.) The ticket of 1818 was a compromise one, Bond representing (moderately) the pro-slavery sentiment and Menard the anti-slavery.

An awkward element in the State government under Gov. Bond's administration, was the imperfection of the State constitution. The Convention wished to have Elijah C. Berry for the first Auditor of Public Accounts, but, as it was believed that the new Governor would not appoint him to the office, the Convention declared in a schedule that "an auditor of public accounts, an attorney general and such other officers of the State as may be necessary, may be appointed by the General Assembly." The Constitution, as it stood, vested a very large appointing power in the Governor; but for the purpose of getting one man into office, a total change was made, and the power vested in the Legislature. Of this provision the Legislature took advantage, and de-

clared that State's attorneys, canal commissioners, bank directors, etc., were all "officers of the State" and must therefore be appointed by itself independently of the Governor.

During Gov. Bond's administration a general law was passed for the incorporation of academies and towns, and one authorizing lotteries. The session of 1822 authorized the Governor to appoint commissioners, to act in conjunction with like commissioners appointed by the State of Indiana, to report on the practicability and expediency of improving the navigation of the Wabash River; also inland navigation generally. Many improvements were recommended, some of which have been feebly worked at even till the present day, those along the Wabash being of no value. Also, during Gov. Bond's term of office, the capital of the State was removed from Kaskaskia to Vandalia. In 1820 a law was passed by Congress authorizing this State to open a canal through the public lands. The State appointed commissioners to explore the route and prepare the necessary surveys and estimates, preparatory to its execution; but, being unable out of its own resources to defray the expenses of the undertaking, it was abandoned until some time after Congress made the grant of land for the purpose of its construction.

On the whole, Gov. Bond's administration was fairly good, not being open to severe criticism from any party. In 1824, two years after the expiration of his term of office, he was brought out as a candidate for Congress against the formidable John P. Cook, but received only 4,374 votes to 7,460 for the latter. Gov. Bond was no orator, but had made many fast friends by a judicious bestowment of his gubernatorial patronage, and these worked zealously for him in the campaign.


In 1827 ex-Gov. Bond was appointed by the Legislature, with Wm. P. McKee and Dr. Gershom Jayne, as Commissioners to locate a site for a penitentiary on the Mississippi at or near Alton.

Mr. Bond was of a benevolent and convivial disposition, a man of shrewd observation and clear appreciation of events. His person was erect, standing six feet in height, and after middle life became portly, weighing 200 pounds. His features were strongly masculine, complexion dark, hair jet and eyes hazel; was a favorite with the ladies. He died April 11, 1830, in peace and contentment.

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Edward Coles



Edward Coles.

EDWARD COLES, second Governor of Illinois, 1823-6, was born Dec. 15, 1786, in Albemarle Co., Va., on the old family estate called "Enniscorthy," on the Green Mountain. His father, John Coles, was a Colonel in the Revolutionary War. Having been fitted for college by private tutors, he was sent to Hampden Sidney, where he remained until the autumn of 1805, when he was removed to William and Mary College, at Williamsburg, Va. This college he left in the summer of 1807, a short time before the final and graduating examination. Among his classmates were Lieut. Gen. Scott, President John Tyler, Wm. S. Archer, United States Senator from Virginia, and Justice Baldwin, of the United States Supreme Court. The President of the latter college, Bishop Madison, was a cousin of President James Madison, and that circumstance was the occasion of Mr. Coles becoming personally acquainted with the President and receiving a position as his private secretary, 1809-15.

The family of Coles was a prominent one in Virginia, and their mansion was the seat of the old-fashioned Virginian hospitality. It was visited by such notables as Patrick Henry, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, the Randolphs, Tazewell, Wirt, etc. At the age of 23, young Coles found himself heir to a plantation and a considerable number of slaves. Ever since his earlier college days his attention had been drawn to the question of slavery. He read every-

thing on the subject that came in his way, and listened to lectures on the rights of man. The more he reflected upon the subject, the more impossible was it for him to reconcile the immortal declaration "that all men are born free and equal" with the practice of slave-holding. He resolved, therefore, to free his slaves the first opportunity, and even remove his residence to a free State. One reason which determined him to accept the appointment as private secretary to Mr. Madison was because he believed that through the acquaintances he could make at Washington he could better determine in what part of the non-slaveholding portion of the Union he would prefer to settle.

The relations between Mr. Coles and President Madison, as well as Jefferson and other distinguished men, were of a very friendly character, arising from the similarity of their views on the question of slavery and their sympathy for each other in holding doctrines so much at variance with the prevailing sentiment in their own State.

In 1857, he resigned his secretaryship and spent a portion of the following autumn in exploring the Northwest Territory, for the purpose of finding a location and purchasing lands on which to settle his negroes. He traveled with a horse and buggy, with an extra man and horse for emergencies, through many parts of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, determining finally to settle in Illinois. At this time, however, a misunderstanding arose between our Government and Russia, and Mr. Coles was selected to repair to St. Petersburg on a special mission, bearing important papers concerning the matter at issue. The result was a conviction of the Emperor (Alex-

ander) of the error committed by his minister at Washington, and the consequent withdrawal of the latter from the post. On his return, Mr. Coles visited other parts of Europe, especially Paris, where he was introduced to Gen. Lafayette.

In the spring of 1819, he removed with all his negroes from Virginia to Edwardsville, Ill., with the intention of giving them their liberty. He did not make known to them his intention until one beautiful morning in April, as they were descending the Ohio River. He lashed all the boats together and called all the negroes on deck and made them a short address, concluding his remarks by so expressing himself that by a turn of a sentence he proclaimed in the shortest and fullest manner that they were no longer slaves, but free as he was and were at liberty to proceed with him or go ashore at their pleasure. A description of the effect upon the negroes is best described in his own language:

"The effect upon them was electrical. They stared at me and then at each other, as if doubting the accuracy or reality of what they heard. In breathless silence they stood before me, unable to utter a word, but with countenances beaming with expression which no words could convey, and which no language can describe. As they began to see the truth of what they had heard, and realize their situation, there came on a kind of hysterical, giggling laugh. After a pause of intense and unutterable emotion, bathed in tears, and with tremulous voices, they gave vent to their gratitude and implored the blessing of God on me."

Before landing he gave them a general certificate of freedom, and afterward conformed more particularly with the law of this State requiring that each individual should have a certificate. This act of Mr. Coles, all the more noble and heroic considering the overwhelming pro-slavery influences surrounding him, has challenged the admiration of every philanthropist of modern times.

March 5, 1819, President Monroe appointed Mr. Coles Registrar of the Land Office at Edwardsville, at that time one of the principal land offices in the State. While acting in this capacity and gaining many friends by his politeness and general intelligence, the greatest struggle that ever occurred in Illinois on the slavery question culminated in the furious contest characterizing the campaigns and elections of 1822-4. In the summer of 1823, when a new Governor was to be elected to succeed Mr. Bond, the pro-slavery element divided into factions, putting forward for the executive office Joseph Phillips, Chief Justice of the State, Thomas C. Browne and Gen. James B. Moore, of the State Militia. The anti-slavery element united upon Mr. Coles, and, after one of the most bitter campaigns, succeeded in electing him as Governor. His plurality over Judge Phillips was only 59 in a total vote of

over 8,000. The Lieutenant Governor was elected by the slavery men. Mr. Coles' inauguration speech was marked by calmness, deliberation and such a wise expression of appropriate suggestions as to elicit the sanction of all judicious politicians. But he compromised not with evil. In his message to the Legislature, the seat of Government being then at Vandalia, he strongly urged the abrogation of the modified form of slavery which then existed in this State, contrary to the Ordinance of 1787. His position on this subject seems the more remarkable, when it is considered that he was a minority Governor, the population of Illinois being at that time almost exclusively from slave-holding States and by a large majority in favor of the perpetuation of that old relic of barbarism. The Legislature itself was, of course, a reflex of the popular sentiment, and a majority of them were led on by fiery men in denunciations of the conscientious Governor, and in curses loud and deep upon him and all his friends. Some of the public men, indeed, went so far as to head a sort of mob, or "shiveree" party, who visited the residence of the Governor and others at Vandalia and yelled and groaned and spat fire.

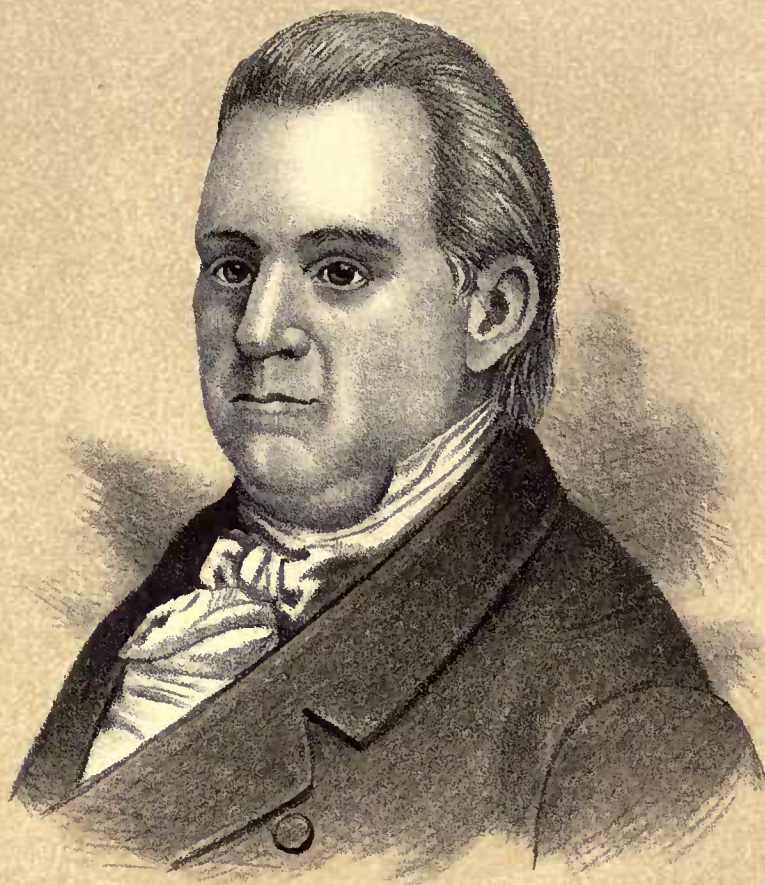
The Constitution, not establishing or permitting slavery in this State, was thought therefore to be defective by the slavery politicians, and they desired a State Convention to be elected, to devise and submit a new Constitution; and the dominant politics of the day was "Convention" and "anti-Convention." Both parties issued addresses to the people, Gov. Coles himself being the author of the address published by the latter party. This address revealed the schemes of the conspirators in a masterly manner. It is difficult for us at this distant day to estimate the critical and extremely delicate situation in which the Governor was placed at that time.

Our hero maintained himself honorably and with supreme dignity throughout his administration, and in his honor a county in this State is named. He was truly a great man, and those who lived in this State during his sojourn here, like those who live at the base of the mountain, were too near to see and recognize the greatness that overshadowed them.

Mr. Coles was married Nov. 28, 1833, by Bishop De Lancey, to Miss Sally Logan Roberts, a daughter of Hugh Roberts, a descendant of Welsh ancestry, who came to this country with Wm. Penn in 1682.

After the expiration of his term of service, Gov. Coles continued his residence in Edwardsville, superintending his farm in the vicinity. He was fond of agriculture, and was the founder of the first agricultural society in the State. On account of ill health, however, and having no family to tie him down, he spent much of his time in Eastern cities. About 1832 he changed his residence to Philadelphia, where he died July 7, 1868, and is buried at Woodland, near that city.

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Herman Edwards



NINIAN EDWARDS, Governor from 1827 to 1830, was a son of Benjamin Edwards, and was born in Montgomery County, Maryland, in March, 1775. His domestic training was well fitted to give his mind strength, firmness and honorable principles, and a good foundation was laid for the elevated character to which he afterwards attained. His parents were Baptists, and very strict in their moral principles. His education in early youth was in company with and partly under the tuition of Hon. Wm. Wirt, whom his father patronized, and who was more than two years older. An intimacy was thus formed between them which was lasting for life. He was further educated at Dickinson College, at Carlisle, Pa. He next commenced the study of law, but before completing his course he moved to Nelson County, Ky., to open a farm for his father and to purchase homes and locate lands for his brothers and sisters. Here he fell in the company of dissolute companions, and for several years led the life of a spendthrift. He was, however, elected to the Legislature of Kentucky as the Representative of Nelson County before he was 21 years of age, and was re-elected by an almost unanimous vote.

In 1798 he was licensed to practice law, and the following year was admitted to the Courts of Tennessee. About this time he left Nelson County for Russellville, in Logan County, broke away from his dissolute companions, commenced a reformation and devoted himself to severe and laborious study. He then began to rise rapidly in his profession, and soon became an eminent lawyer, and inside of four years he filled in succession the offices of Presiding Judge of the General Court, Circuit Judge, fourth Judge of the Court of Appeals and Chief Justice of the State,—all before he was 32 years of age! In addition, in 1802, he received a commission as Major of a battalion of Kentucky militia, and in 1804 was chosen a Presidential Elector, on the Jefferson and Clinton ticket. In 1806 he was a candidate for Congress, but withdrew on being promoted to the Court of Appeals.

Illinois was organized as a separate Territory in the spring of 1809, when Mr. Edwards, then Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals in Kentucky, received from President Madison the appointment as Governor of the new Territory, his commission bearing date April 24, 1809. Edwards arrived at Kaskaskia in June, and on the 11th of that month took the oath of office. At the same time he was appointed Superintendent of the United States Saline, this Government interest then developing into considerable proportions in Southern Illinois. Although during the first three years of his administration he had the power to make new counties and appoint all the officers, yet he always allowed the people of each county, by an informal

vote, to select their own officers, both civil and military. The noted John J. Crittenden, afterward United States Senator from Kentucky, was appointed by Gov. Edwards to the office of Attorney General of the Territory, which office was accepted for a short time only.

The Indians in 1810 committing sundry depredations in the Territory, crossing the Mississippi from the Territory of Louisiana, a long correspondence followed between the respective Governors concerning the remedies, which ended in a council with the savages at Peoria in 1812, and a fresh interpretation of the treaties. Peoria was depopulated by these depredations, and was not re-settled for many years afterward.

As Gov. Edwards' term of office expired by law in 1812, he was re-appointed for another term of three years, and again in 1815 for a third term, serving until the organization of the State in the fall of 1818 and the inauguration of Gov. Bond. At this time ex-Gov. Edwards was sent to the United States Senate, his colleague being Jesse B. Thomas. As Senator, Mr. Edwards took a conspicuous part, and acquitted himself honorably in all the measures that came up in that body, being well posted, an able debater and a conscientious statesman. He thought seriously of resigning this situation in 1821, but was persuaded by his old friend, Wm. Wirt, and others to continue in office, which he did to the end of the term.

He was then appointed Minister to Mexico by President Monroe. About this time, it appears that Mr. Edwards saw suspicious signs in the conduct of Wm. H. Crawford, Secretary of the United States Treasury, and an ambitious candidate for the Presidency, and being implicated by the latter in some of his statements, he resigned his Mexican mission in order fully to investigate the charges. The result was the exculpation of Mr. Edwards.

Pro-slavery regulations, often termed "Black Laws," disgraced the statute books of both the Territory and the State of Illinois during the whole of his career in this commonwealth, and Mr. Edwards always maintained the doctrines of freedom, and was an important actor in the great struggle which ended in a victory for his party in 1824.

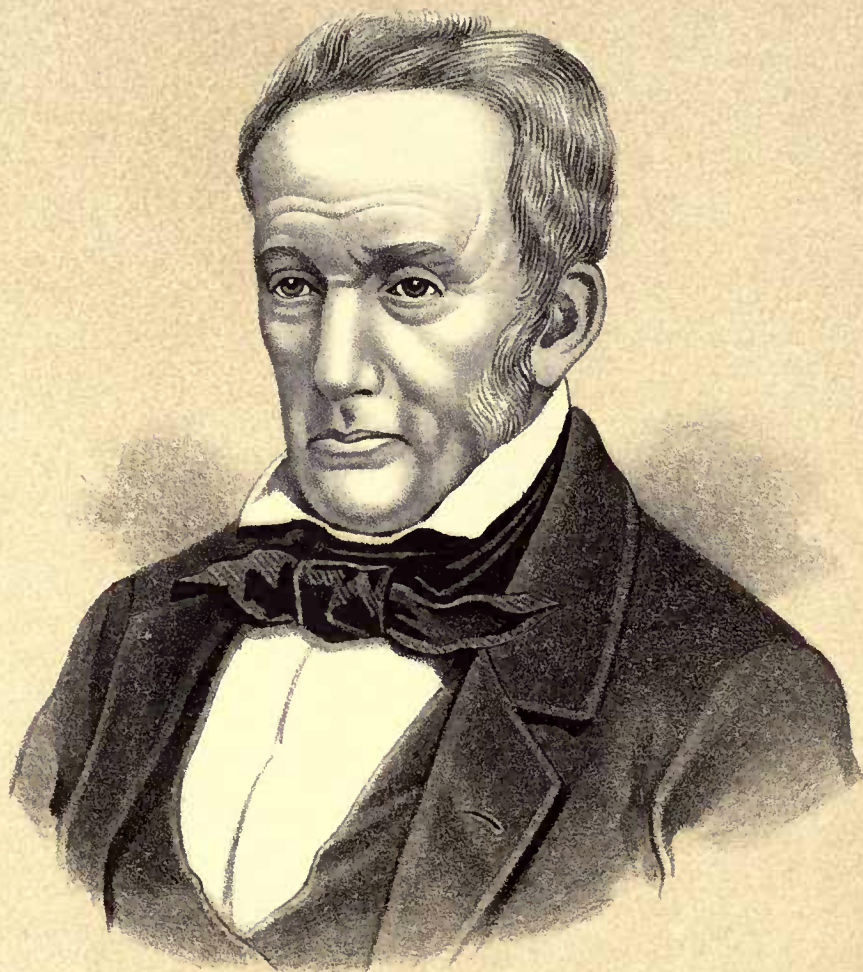
In 1826-7 the Winnebago and other Indians committed some depredations in the northern part of the

State, and the white settlers, who desired the lands and wished to exasperate the savages into an evacuation of the country, magnified the misdemeanors of the aborigines and thereby produced a hostility between the races so great as to precipitate a little war, known in history as the "Winnebago War." A few chases and skirmishes were had, when Gen. Atkinson succeeded in capturing Red Bird, the Indian chief, and putting him to death, thus ending the contest, at least until the troubles commenced which ended in the "Black Hawk War" of 1832. In the interpretation of treaties and execution of their provisions Gov. Edwards had much vexatious work to do. The Indians kept themselves generally within the jurisdiction of Michigan Territory, and its Governor, Lewis Cass, was at a point so remote that ready correspondence with him was difficult or impossible. Gov. Edwards' administration, however, in regard to the protection of the Illinois frontier, seems to have been very efficient and satisfactory.

For a considerable portion of his time after his removal to Illinois, Gov. Edwards resided upon his farm near Kaskaskia, which he had well stocked with horses, cattle and sheep from Kentucky, also with fruit-trees, grape-vines and shrubbery. He established saw and grist-mills, and engaged extensively in mercantile business, having no less than eight or ten stores in this State and Missouri. Notwithstanding the arduous duties of his office, he nearly always purchased the goods himself with which to supply the stores. Although not a regular practitioner of medicine, he studied the healing art to a considerable extent, and took great pleasure in prescribing for, and taking care of, the sick, generally without charge. He was also liberal to the poor, several widows and ministers of the gospel becoming indebted to him even for their homes.

He married Miss Elvira Lane, of Maryland, in 1803, and they became the affectionate parents of several children, one of whom, especially, is well known to the people of the "Prairie State," namely, Ninian Wirt Edwards, once the Superintendent of Public Instruction and still a resident of Springfield. Gov. Edwards resided at and in the vicinity of Kaskaskia from 1809 to 1818; in Edwardsville (named after him) from that time to 1824; and from the latter date at Belleville, St. Clair County, until his death, July 20, 1833, of Asiatic cholera. Edwards County is also named in his honor.


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John Reynolds



John Reynolds.



JOHN REYNOLDS, Governor 1831-4, was born in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, Feb. 26, 1788. His father, Robert Reynolds and his mother, *nee* Margaret Moore, were both natives of Ireland, from which country they emigrated to the United States in 1785, landing at Philadelphia. The senior Reynolds entertained an undying hostility to the British Government. When the subject of this sketch was about six months old, his parents emigrated with him to Tennessee, where many of their relatives had already located, at the base of the Copper Ridge Mountain, about 14 miles northeast of the present city of Knoxville. There they were exposed to Indian depredations, and were much molested by them. In 1794 they moved into the interior of the State. They were poor, and brought up their children to habits of manual industry.

In 1800 the family removed to Kaskaskia, Ill., with eight horses and two wagons, encountering many hardships on the way. Here young Reynolds passed the most of his childhood, while his character began to develop, the most prominent traits of which were ambition and energy. He also adopted the principle and practice of total abstinence from intoxicating liquors. In 1807 the family made another removal,

this time to the "Goshen Settlement," at the foot of the Mississippi bluffs three or four miles southwest of Edwardsville.

On arriving at his 20th year, Mr. Reynolds, seeing that he must look about for his own livelihood and not yet having determined what calling to pursue, concluded first to attend college, and he accordingly went to such an institution of learning, near Knoxville, Tenn., where he had relatives. Imagine his diffidence, when, after passing the first 20 years of his life without ever having seen a carpet, a papered wall or a Windsor chair, and never having lived in a shingle-roofed house, he suddenly ushered himself into the society of the wealthy in the vicinity of Knoxville! He attended college nearly two years, going through the principal Latin authors; but it seems that he, like the rest of the world in modern times, had but very little use for his Latin in after life. He always failed, indeed, to exhibit any good degree of literary discipline. He commenced the study of law in Knoxville, but a pulmonary trouble came on and compelled him to change his mode of life. Accordingly he returned home and recuperated, and in 1812 resumed his college and law studies at Knoxville. In the fall of 1812 he was admitted to the Bar at Kaskaskia. About this time he also learned the French language, which he practiced with pleasure in conversation with his family for many years. He regarded this language as being superior to all others for social intercourse.

From his services in the West, in the war of 1812, he obtained the sobriquet of the "Old Ranger." He was Orderly Sergeant, then Judge Advocate.

Mr. Reynolds opened his first law office in the winter and spring of 1814, in the French village of Cahokia, then the capital of St. Clair County.

In the fall of 1818 he was elected an Associate Justice upon the Supreme Bench by the General Assembly. In 1825 he entered more earnestly than ever into the practice of law, and the very next year was elected a member of the Legislature, where he acted independently of all cliques and private interests. In 1828 the Whigs and Democrats were for the first time distinctively organized as such in Illinois, and the usual party bitterness grew up and raged on all sides, while Mr. Reynolds preserved a judicial calmness and moderation. The real animus of the campaign was "Jackson" and "anti-Jackson," the former party carrying the State.

In August, 1830, Mr. Reynolds was elected Governor, amid great excitement. Installed in office, he did all within his power to advance the cause of education, internal improvements, the Illinois & Michigan Canal, the harbor at Chicago, settling the country, etc.; also recommended the winding up of the State Bank, as its affairs had become dangerously complicated. In his national politics, he was a moderate supporter of General Jackson. But the most celebrated event of his gubernatorial administration was the Black Hawk War, which occurred in 1832. He called out the militia and prosecuted the contest with commendable diligence, appearing in person on the battle-grounds during the most critical periods. He was recognized by the President as Major-General, and authorized by him to make treaties with the Indians. By the assistance of the general Government the war was terminated without much bloodshed, but after many serious fights. This war, as well as everything else, was materially retarded by the occurrence of Asiatic cholera in the West. This was its first appearance here, and was the next event in prominence during Gov. Reynolds' term.

South Carolina nullification coming up at this time, it was heartily condemned by both President Jackson and Gov. Reynolds, who took precisely the same grounds as the Unionists in the last war.

On the termination of his gubernatorial term in 1834, Gov. Reynolds was elected a Member of Congress, still considering himself a backwoodsman, as he had scarcely been outside of the State since he became of age, and had spent nearly all his youthful days in the wildest region of the frontier. His first move in Congress was to adopt a resolution that in all elections made by the House for officers the votes should be given *viva voce*, each member in his place naming aloud the person for whom he votes. This created considerable heated discussion, but was es-

entially adopted, and remained the controlling principle for many years. The ex-Governor was scarcely absent from his seat a single day, during eight sessions of Congress, covering a period of seven years, and he never vacillated in a party vote; but he failed to get the Democratic party to foster his "National Road" scheme. He says, in "My Own Times" (a large autobiography he published), that it was only by rigid economy that he avoided insolvency while in Washington. During his sojourn in that city he was married, to a lady of the place.

In 1837, while out of Congress, and in company with a few others, he built the first railroad in the Mississippi Valley, namely, one about six miles long, leading from his coal mine in the Mississippi bluff to the bank of the river opposite St. Louis. Having not the means to purchase a locomotive, they operated it by horse-power. The next spring, however, the company sold out, at great sacrifice.

In 1839 the ex-Governor was appointed one of the Canal Commissioners, and authorized to borrow money to prosecute the enterprise. Accordingly, he repaired to Philadelphia and succeeding in obtaining a million dollars, which, however, was only a fourth of what was wanted. The same year he and his wife made a tour of Europe. This year, also, Mr. Reynolds had the rather awkward little responsibility of introducing to President Van Buren the noted Mormon Prophet, Joseph Smith, as a "Latter-Day Saint!"

In 1846 Gov. Reynolds was elected a member of the Legislature from St. Clair County, more particularly for the purpose of obtaining a feasible charter for a macadamized road from Belleville to St. Louis, a distance of nearly 14 miles. This was immediately built, and was the first road of the kind in the State. He was again elected to the Legislature in 1852, when he was chosen Speaker of the House. In 1860, aged and infirm, he attended the National Democratic Convention at Charleston, S. C., as an anti-Douglas Delegate, where he received more attention from the Southern Delegates than any other member. He supported Breckenridge for the Presidency. After the October elections foreshadowed the success of Lincoln, he published an address urging the Democrats to rally to the support of Douglas. Immediately preceding and during the late war, his correspondence evinced a clear sympathy for the Southern secession, and about the first of March, 1861, he urged upon the Buchanan officials the seizure of the treasure and arms in the custom-house and arsenal at St. Louis. Mr. Reynolds was a rather talkative man, and apt in all the Western phrases and catchwords that ever gained currency, besides many cunning and odd ones of his own manufacture.

He was married twice, but had no children. He died in Belleville, in May, 1865, just after the close of the war.


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Wm. Lee D. Ewing



WM. L. D. EWING.



WILLIAM LEE D. EWING, Governor of Illinois Nov. 3 to 17, 1834, was a native of Kentucky, and probably of Scotch ancestry. He had a fine education, was a gentleman of polished manners and refined sentiment. In 1830 John Reynolds was elected Governor of the State, and Zadok Casey Lieutenant Governor, and for the principal events that followed, and the characteristics of the times, see sketch of Gov. Reynolds. The first we see in history concerning Mr. Ewing, informs us that he was a Receiver of Public Moneys at Vandalia soon after the organization of this State, and that the public moneys in his hands were deposited in various banks, as they are usually at the present day. In 1823 the State Bank was robbed, by which disaster Mr. Ewing lost a thousand-dollar deposit.

The subject of this sketch had a commission as Colonel in the Black Hawk War, and in emergencies he acted also as Major. In the summer of 1832, when it was rumored among the whites that Black Hawk and his men had encamped somewhere on Rock River, Gen. Henry was sent on a tour of reconnoissance, and with orders to drive the Indians from the State. After some opposition from his subordinate officers, Henry resolved to proceed up Rock River in search of the enemy. On the 19th of July, early in the morning, five baggage wagons,

camp equipage and all heavy and cumbersome articles were piled up and left, so that the army might make speedy and forced marches. For some miles the travel was exceedingly bad, crossing swamps and the worst thickets; but the large, fresh trail gave life and animation to the Americans. Gen. Dodge and Col. Ewing were both acting as Majors, and composed the "spy corps" or vanguard of the army. It is supposed the army marched nearly 50 miles this day, and the Indian trail they followed became fresher, and was strewed with much property and trinkets of the red-skins that they had lost or thrown away to hasten their march. During the following night there was a terrific thunder-storm, and the soldiery, with all their appurtenances, were thoroughly drenched.

On approaching nearer the Indians the next day, Gen. Dodge and Major Ewing, each commanding a battalion of men, were placed in front to bring on the battle, but the savages were not overtaken this day. Forced marches were continued until they reached Wisconsin River, where a veritable battle ensued, resulting in the death of about 68 of Black Hawk's men. The next day they continued the chase, and as soon as he discovered the trail of the Indians leading toward the Mississippi, Maj. Ewing formed his battalion in order of battle and awaited the order of Gen. Henry. The latter soon appeared on the ground and ordered a charge, which directly resulted in chasing the red warriors across the great river. Maj. Ewing and his command proved particularly efficient in war, as it seems they were the chief actors in driving the main body of the Sacs and Foxes, in-

cluding Black Hawk himself, across the Mississippi, while Gen. Atkinson, commander-in-chief of the expedition, with a body of the army, was hunting for them in another direction.

In the above affair Maj. Ewing is often referred to as a "General," which title he had derived from his connection with the militia.

It was in the latter part of the same year (1832) that Lieutenant Governor Casey was elected to Congress and Gen. Ewing, who had been elected to the Senate, was chosen to preside over that body. At the August election of 1834, Gov. Reynolds was also elected to Congress, more than a year ahead of the time at which he could actually take his seat, as was then the law. His predecessor, Charles Slade, had just died of Asiatic cholera, soon after the election, and Gov. Reynolds was chosen to serve out his unexpired term. Accordingly he set out for Washington in November of that year to take his seat in Congress, and Gen. Ewing, by virtue of his office as President of the Senate, became Governor of the State of Illinois, his term covering only a period of 15 days, namely, from the 3d to the 17th days, inclusive, of November. On the 17th the Legislature met, and Gov. Ewing transmitted to that body his message, giving a statement of the condition of the affairs of the State at that time, and urging a continuance of the policy adopted by his predecessor; and on the same day Governor elect Joseph Duncan was sworn into office, thus relieving Mr. Ewing from

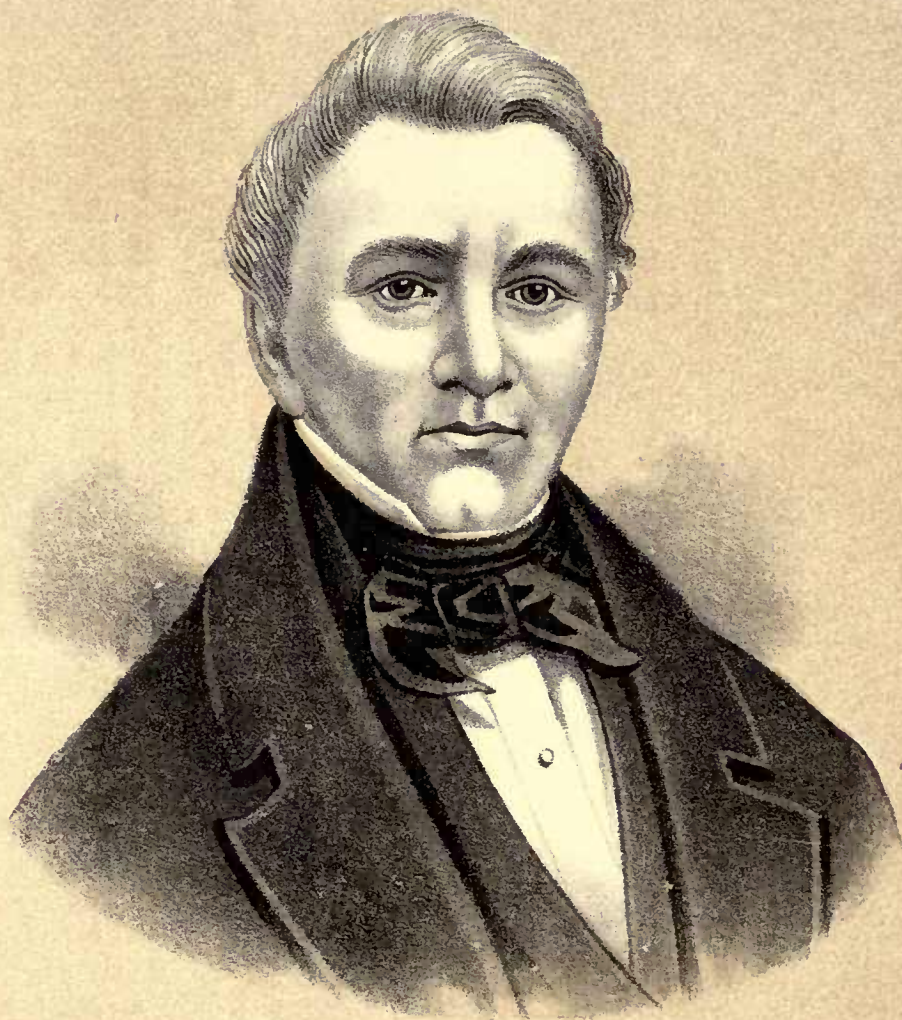
the responsible situation. This is the only time that such a juncture has happened in the history of Illinois.

On the 29th of December, 1835, Gen. Ewing was elected a United States Senator to serve out the unexpired term of Elias Kent Kane, deceased. The latter gentleman was a very prominent figure in the early politics of Illinois, and a county in this State is named in his honor. The election of Gen. Ewing to the Senate was a protracted struggle. His competitors were James Semple, who afterwards held several important offices in this State, and Richard M. Young, afterward a United States Senator and a Supreme Judge and a man of vast influence. On the first ballot Mr. Semple had 25 votes, Young 19 and Ewing 18. On the eighth ballot Young was dropped; the ninth and tenth stood a tie; but on the 12th Ewing received 40, to Semple 37, and was accordingly declared elected. In 1837 Mr. Ewing received some votes for a continuance of his term in Congress, when Mr. Young, just referred to, was elected. In 1842 Mr. Ewing was elected State Auditor on the ticket with Gov. Ford.

Gen. Ewing was a gentleman of culture, a lawyer by profession, and was much in public life. In person he was above medium height and of heavy build, with auburn hair, blue eyes, large-sized head and short face. He was genial, social, friendly and affable, with fair talent, though of no high degree of originality. He died March 25, 1846.



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Joseph Duncan

Joseph Duncan.



JOSEPH DUNCAN, Governor 1834-8, was born at Paris, Ky., Feb. 23, 1794. At the tender age of 19 years he enlisted in the war against Great Britain, and as a soldier he acquitted himself with credit. He was an Ensign under the dauntless Croghan at Lower Sandusky, or Fort Stephenson. In Illinois he first appeared in a public capacity as Major-General of the Militia, a position which his military fame had procured him. Subsequently he became a State Senator from Jackson County, and is honorably mentioned for introducing the first bill providing for a free-school system. In 1826, when the redoubtable John P. Cook, who had previously beaten such men as John McLean, Elias Kent Kane and ex-Gov. Bond, came up for the fourth time for Congress, Mr. Duncan was brought forward against him by his friends, greatly to the surprise of all the politicians. As yet he was but little known in the State. He was an original Jackson man at that time, being attached to his political fortune in admiration of the glory of his military achievements. His chances of success against Cook were generally regarded as hopeless, but he entered upon the campaign undaunted. His speeches, though short and devoid of ornament, were full of good sense. He made a diligent canvass of the State, Mr. Cook being hindered by the condition of his health. The most that was expected of Mr. Duncan, under the circumstances, was that he would

obtain a respectable vote, but without defeating Mr. Cook. The result of the campaign, however, was a source of surprise and amazement to both friends and foes, as Mr. Duncan came out 641 votes ahead! He received 6,321 votes, and Mr. Cook 5,680. Until this *denouement*, the violence of party feeling smoldering in the breasts of the people on account of the defeat of Jackson, was not duly appreciated. Aside from the great convention struggle of 1824, no other than mere local and personal considerations had ever before controlled an election in Illinois.

From the above date Mr. Duncan retained his seat in Congress until his election as Governor in August, 1834. The first and bloodless year of the Black Hawk War he was appointed by Gov. Reynolds to the position of Brigadier-General of the volunteers, and he conducted his brigade to Rock Island. But he was absent from the State, in Washington, during the gubernatorial campaign, and did not personally participate in it, but addressed circulars to his constituents. His election was, indeed, attributed to the circumstance of his absence, because his estrangement from Jackson, formerly his political idol, and also from the Democracy, largely in ascendancy in the State, was complete; but while his defection was well known to his Whig friends, and even to the leading Jackson men of this State, the latter were unable to carry conviction of that fact to the masses, as mail and newspaper facilities at that day were far inferior to those of the present time. Of course the Governor was much abused afterward by the fossilized Jackson men who regarded party ties and affiliations as above all other issues that could arise; but he was doubtless

sincere in his opposition to the old hero, as the latter had vetoed several important western measures which were dear to Mr. Duncan. In his inaugural message he threw off the mask and took a bold stand against the course of the President. The measures he recommended in his message, however, were so desirable that the Legislature, although by a large majority consisting of Jackson men, could not refrain from endorsing them. These measures related mainly to banks and internal improvements.

It was while Mr. Duncan was Governor that the people of Illinois went whirling on with bank and internal improvement schemes that well nigh bankrupted the State. The hard times of 1837 came on, and the disasters that attended the inauguration of these plans and the operation of the banks were mutually charged upon the two political parties. Had any one man autocratic power to introduce and carry on any one of these measures, he would probably have succeeded to the satisfaction of the public; but as many jealous men had hold of the same plow handle, no success followed and each blamed the other for the failure. In this great vortex Gov. Duncan was carried along, suffering the like derogation of character with his fellow citizens.

At the height of the excitement the Legislature "provided for" railroads from Galena to Cairo, Alton to Shawneetown, Alton to Mount Carmel, Alton to the eastern boundary of the State in the direction of Terre Haute, Quincy *via* Springfield to the Wabash, Bloomington to Pekin, and Peoria to Warsaw,—in all about 1,300 miles of road. It also provided for the improvement of the navigation of the Kaskaskia, Illinois, Great and Little Wabash and Rock Rivers; also as a *placebo*, \$200,000 in money were to be distributed to the various counties wherein no improvements were ordered to be made as above. The estimate for the expenses for all these projects was placed at a little over \$10,000,000, which was not more than half enough! That would now be equal to saddling upon the State a debt of \$225,000,000! It was sufficient to bankrupt the State several times over, even counting all the possible benefits.

One of the most exciting events that ever occurred in this fair State was the murder of Elijah P. Lovejoy in the fall of 1837, at Alton, during Mr. Duncan's term as Governor. Lovejoy was an "Abolitionist," editing the *Observer* at that place, and the proslavery slums there formed themselves into a mob,

and after destroying successively three presses belonging to Mr. Lovejoy, surrounded the warehouse where the fourth press was stored away, endeavoring to destroy it, and where Lovejoy and his friends were entrenching themselves, and shot and killed the brave reformer!

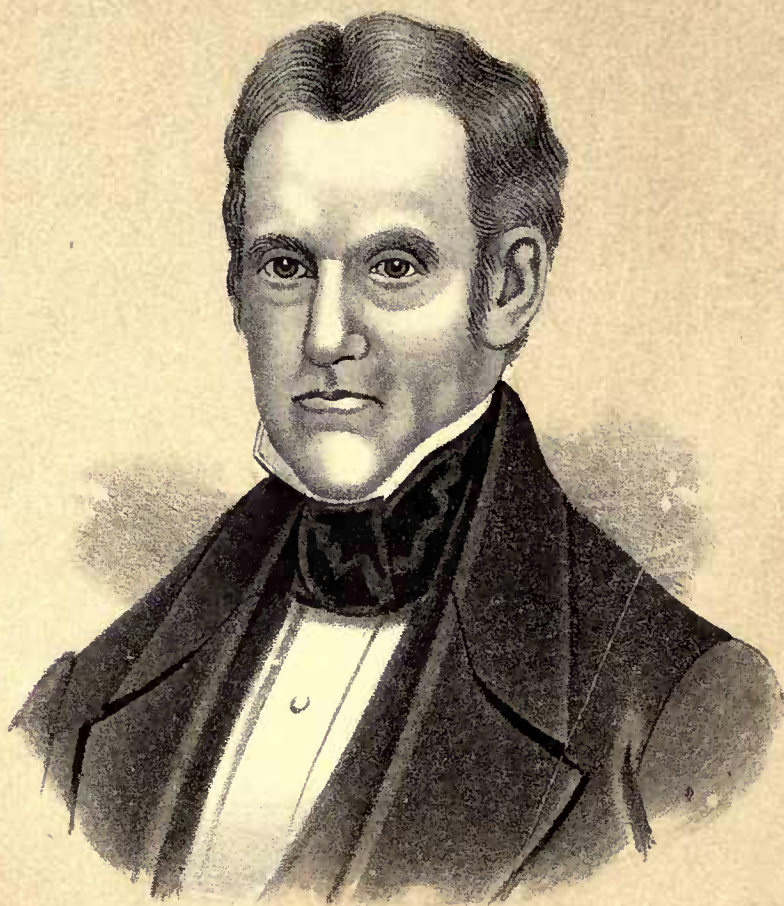
About this time, also, the question of removing the State capital again came up, as the 20 years' limit for its existence at Vandalia was drawing to a close. There was, of course, considerable excitement over the matter, the two main points competing for it being Springfield and Peoria. The jealousy of the latter place is not even yet, 45 years afterward, fully allayed.

Gov. Duncan's term expired in 1838. In 1842 he was again proposed as a candidate for the Executive chair, this time by the Whig party, against Adam W. Snyder, of St. Clair County, the nominee of the Democrats. Charles W. Hunter was a third candidate for the same position. Mr. Snyder, however, died before the campaign had advanced very far, and his party substituted Thomas Ford, who was elected, receiving 46,901 votes, to 38,584 for Duncan, and 909 for Hunter. The cause of Democratic success at this time is mainly attributed to the temporary support of the Mormons which they enjoyed, and the want of any knowledge, on the part of the masses, that Mr. Ford was opposed to any given policy entertained in the respective localities.

Gov. Duncan was a man of rather limited education, but with naturally fine abilities he profited greatly by his various public services, and gathered a store of knowledge regarding public affairs which served him a ready purpose. He possessed a clear judgment, decision, confidence in himself and moral courage to carry out his convictions of right. In his deportment he was well adapted to gain the admiration of the people. His intercourse with them was both affable and dignified. His portrait at the Governor's mansion, from which the accompanying was made, represents him as having a swarthy complexion, high cheek bones, broad forehead, piercing black eyes and straight black hair.

He was a liberal patron of the Illinois College at Jacksonville, a member of its Board of Trustees, and died, after a short illness, Jan. 15, 1844, a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church, leaving a wife but no children. Two children, born to them, had died in infancy.

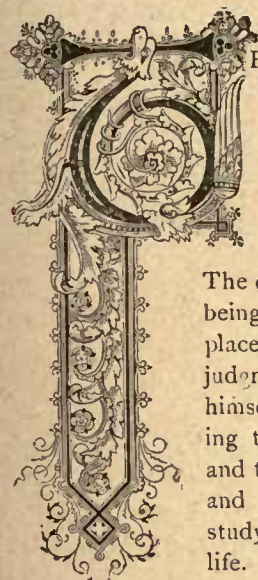
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Thos. Carlin

Thomas

Carlin.



CHOMAS CARLIN, the sixth Governor of the State of Illinois, serving from 1838 to 1842, was also a Kentuckian, being born near Frankfort, that State, July 18, 1789, of Irish paternity.

The opportunities for an education being very meager in his native place, he, on approaching years of judgment and maturity, applied himself to those branches of learning that seemed most important, and thus became a self-made man; and his taste for reading and study remained with him through life. In 1803 his father removed

to Missouri, then a part of "New Spain," where he died in 1810.

In 1812 young Carlin came to Illinois and participated in all the "ranging" service incident to the war of that period, proving himself a soldier of undaunted bravery. In 1814 he married Rebecca Huitt, and lived for four years on the bank of the Mississippi River, opposite the mouth of the Mississippi, where he followed farming, and then removed to Greene County. He located the town site of Carlin-ton, in that county, and in 1825 made a liberal donation of land for county building purposes. He was the first Sheriff of that county after its separate organization, and afterward was twice elected, as a Jackson Democrat, to the Illinois Senate. In the Black Hawk War he commanded a spy battalion, a post of considerable danger. In 1834 he was appointed by President Jackson to the position of Receiver of Public Moneys, and to fulfill the office

more conveniently he removed to the city of Quincy.

While, in 1838, the unwieldy internal improvement system of the State was in full operation, with all its expensive machinery, amidst bank suspensions throughout the United States, a great stringency in the money market everywhere, and Illinois bonds forced to sale at a heavy discount, and the "hardest times" existing that the people of the Prairie State ever saw, the general election of State officers was approaching. Discreet men who had cherished the hope of a speedy subsidence of the public infatuation, met with disappointment. A Governor and Legislature were to be elected, and these were now looked forward to for a repeal of the ruinous State policy. But the grand scheme had not yet lost its dazzling influence upon the minds of the people. Time and experience had not yet fully demonstrated its utter absurdity. Hence the question of arresting its career of profligate expenditures did not become a leading one with the dominant party during the campaign, and most of the old members of the Legislature were returned at this election.

Under these circumstances the Democrats, in State Convention assembled, nominated Mr. Carlin for the office of Governor, and S. H. Anderson for Lieutenant Governor, while the Whigs nominated Cyrus Edwards, brother of Ninian Edwards, formerly Governor, and W. H. Davidson. Edwards came out strongly for a continuance of the State policy, while Carlin remained non-committal. This was the first time that the two main political parties in this State were unembarrassed by any third party in the field. The result of the election was: Carlin, 35,573; Anderson, 30,335; Edwards, 29,629; and Davidson, 28,715.

Upon the meeting of the subsequent Legislature (1839), the retiring Governor (Duncan) in his mes-

sage spoke in emphatic terms of the impolicy of the internal improvement system, presaging the evils threatened, and urged that body to do their utmost to correct the great error; yet, on the contrary, the Legislature not only decided to continue the policy but also added to its burden by voting more appropriations and ordering more improvements. Although the money market was still stringent, a further loan of \$4,000,000 was ordered for the Illinois & Michigan Canal alone. Chicago at that time began to loom up and promise to be an important city, even the great emporium of the West, as it has since indeed come to be. Ex-Gov. Reynolds, an incompetent financier, was commissioned to effect the loan, and accordingly hastened to the East on this responsible errand, and negotiated the loans, at considerable sacrifice to the State. Besides this embarrassment to Carlin's administration, the Legislature also declared that he had no authority to appoint a Secretary of State until a vacancy existed, and A. P. Field, a Whig, who had already held the post by appointment through three administrations, was determined to keep the place a while longer, in spite of Gov. Carlin's preferences. The course of the Legislature in this regard, however, was finally sustained by the Supreme Court, in a *quo warranto* case brought up before it by John A. McClelland, whom the Governor had nominated for the office. Thereupon that dignified body was denounced as a "Whig Court!" endeavoring to establish the principle of life-tenure of office.

A new law was adopted re-organizing the Judiciary, and under it five additional Supreme Judges were elected by the Legislature, namely, Thomas Ford (afterward Governor), Sidney Breese, Walter B. Scates, Samuel H. Treat and Stephen A. Douglas—all Democrats.

It was during Gov. Carlin's administration that the noisy campaign of "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" occurred, resulting in a Whig victory. This, however, did not affect Illinois politics very seriously.

Another prominent event in the West during Gov. Carlin's term of office was the excitement caused by the Mormons and their removal from Independence, Mo., to Nauvoo, Ill., in 1840. At the same time they began to figure somewhat in State politics. On account of their believing—as they thought, according to the New Testament—that they should have

"all things common," and that consequently "all the earth" and all that is upon it were the "Lord's" and therefore the property of his "saints," they were suspected, and correctly, too, of committing many of the deeds of larceny, robbery, etc., that were so rife throughout this country in those days. Hence a feeling of violence grew up between the Mormons and "anti-Mormons." In the State of Missouri the Mormons always supported the Democracy until they were driven out by the Democratic government, when they turned their support to the Whigs. They were becoming numerous, and in the Legislature of 1840-1, therefore, it became a matter of great interest with both parties to conciliate these people. Through the agency of one John C. Bennett, a scamp, the Mormons succeeded in rushing through the Legislature (both parties not daring to oppose) a charter for the city of Nauvoo which virtually erected a hierarchy co-ordinate with the Federal Government itself. In the fall of 1841 the Governor of Missouri made a demand upon Gov. Carlin for the body of Joe Smith, the Mormon leader, as a fugitive from justice. Gov. Carlin issued the writ, but for some reason it was returned unserved. It was again issued in 1842, and Smith was arrested, but was either rescued by his followers or discharged by the municipal court on a writ of habeas corpus.

In December, 1841, the Democratic Convention nominated Adam W. Snyder, of Belleville, for Governor. As he had been, as a member of the Legislature, rather friendly to the Mormons, the latter naturally turned their support to the Democratic party. The next spring the Whigs nominated Ex-Gov. Duncan for the same office. In the meantime the Mormons began to grow more odious to the masses of the people, and the comparative prospects of the respective parties for success became very problematical. Mr. Snyder died in May, and Thomas Ford, a Supreme Judge, was substituted as a candidate, and was elected.

At the close of his gubernatorial term, Mr. Carlin removed back to his old home at Carrollton, where he spent the remainder of his life, as before his elevation to office, in agricultural pursuits. In 1849 he served out the unexpired term of J. D. Fry in the Illinois House of Representatives, and died Feb. 4, 1852, at his residence at Carrollton, leaving a wife and seven children.

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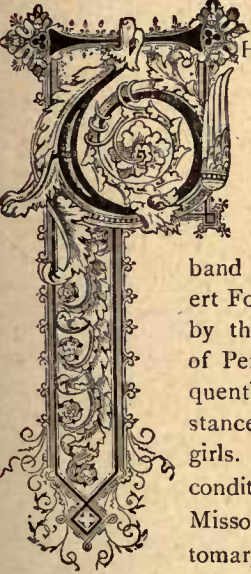




Thomas Ford



Thomas Ford.



THOMAS FORD, Governor from 1842 to 1846, and author of a very interesting history of Illinois, was born at Uniontown, Pa., in the year 1800. His mother, after the death of her first husband (Mr. Forquer), married Robert Ford, who was killed in 1802, by the Indians in the mountains of Pennsylvania. She was consequently left in indigent circumstances, with a large family, mostly girls. With a view to better her condition, she, in 1804, removed to Missouri, where it had been customary by the Spanish Government to give land to actual settlers; but upon her arrival at St. Louis she found the country ceded to the United States, and the liberal policy toward settlers changed by the new ownership. After some sickness to herself and family, she finally removed to Illinois, and settled some three miles south of Waterloo, but the following year moved nearer the Mississippi bluffs. Here young Ford received his first

schooling, under the instructions of a Mr. Humphrey, for which he had to walk three miles. His mother, though lacking a thorough education, was a woman of superior mental endowments, joined to energy and determination of character. She inculcated in her children those high-toned principles which distinguished her sons in public life. She exercised a rigid economy to provide her children an education; but George Forquer, her oldest son (six years older than Thomas Ford), at an early age had to quit school to aid by his labor in the support of the family. He afterward became an eminent man in Illinois affairs, and but for his early death would probably have been elected to the United States Senate.

Young Ford, with somewhat better opportunities, received a better education, though limited to the curriculum of the common school of those pioneer times. His mind gave early promise of superior endowments, with an inclination for mathematics. His proficiency attracted the attention of Hon. Daniel P. Cook, who became his efficient patron and friend. The latter gentleman was an eminent Illinois statesman who, as a Member of Congress, obtained a grant of 300,000 acres of land to aid in completing the Illinois & Michigan Canal, and after whom the county of Cook was named. Through the advice of

this gentleman, Mr. Ford turned his attention to the study of law; but Forquer, then merchandising, regarding his education defective, sent him to Transylvania University, where, however, he remained but one term, owing to Forquer's failure in business. On his return he alternated his law reading with teaching school for support.

In 1829 Gov. Edwards appointed him Prosecuting Attorney, and in 1831 he was re-appointed by Gov. Reynolds, and after that he was four times elected a Judge by the Legislature, without opposition, twice a Circuit Judge, once a Judge of Chicago, and as Associate Judge of the Supreme Court, when, in 1841, the latter tribunal was re-organized by the addition of five Judges, all Democrats. Ford was assigned to the Ninth Judicial Circuit, and while in this capacity he was holding Court in Ogle County he received a notice of his nomination by the Democratic Convention for the office of Governor. He immediately resigned his place and entered upon the canvass. In August, 1842, he was elected, and on the 8th of December following he was inaugurated.

All the offices which he had held were unsolicited by him. He received them upon the true Jeffersonian principle,—Never to ask and never to refuse office. Both as a lawyer and as a Judge he stood deservedly high, but his cast of intellect fitted him rather for a writer upon law than a practicing advocate in the courts. In the latter capacity he was void of the moving power of eloquence, so necessary to success with juries. As a Judge his opinions were round, lucid and able expositions of the law. In practice, he was a stranger to the tact, skill and insinuating address of the politician, but he saw through the arts of demagogues as well as any man. He was plain in his demeanor, so much so, indeed, that at one time after the expiration of his term of office, during a session of the Legislature, he was taken by a stranger to be a seeker for the position of door-keeper, and was waited upon at his hotel near midnight by a knot of small office-seekers with the view of effecting a "combination!"

Mr. Ford had not the "brass" of the ordinary politician, nor that impetuosity which characterizes a political leader. He cared little for money, and hardly enough for a decent support. In person he was of small stature, slender, of dark complexion, with black hair, sharp features, deep-set eyes, a pointed, aquiline nose having a decided twist to one side, and a small mouth.

The three most important events in Gov. Ford's administration were the establishment of the high financial credit of the State, the "Mormon War" and the Mexican War.

In the first of these the Governor proved himself to be eminently wise. On coming into office he found the State badly paralyzed by the ruinous effects of the notorious "internal improvement" schemes of

the preceding decade, with scarcely anything to show by way of "improvement." The enterprise that seemed to be getting ahead more than all the rest was the Illinois & Michigan Canal. As this promised to be the most important thoroughfare, feasible to the people, it was well under headway in its construction. Therefore the State policy was almost concentrated upon it, in order to rush it on to completion. The bonded indebtedness of the State was growing so large as to frighten the people, and they were about ready to entertain a proposition for repudiation. But the Governor had the foresight to recommend such measures as would maintain the public credit, for which every citizen to-day feels thankful.

But perhaps the Governor is remembered more for his connection with the Mormon troubles than for anything else; for it was during his term of office that the "Latter-Day Saints" became so strong at Nauvoo, built their temple there, increased their numbers throughout the country, committed misdemeanors, taught dangerous doctrines, suffered the loss of their leader, Jo Smith, by a violent death, were driven out of Nauvoo to the far West, etc. Having been a Judge for so many years previously, Mr. Ford of course was not committal concerning Mormon affairs, and was therefore claimed by both parties and also accused by each of sympathizing too greatly with the other side. Mormonism claiming to be a system of religion, the Governor no doubt was "between two fires," and felt compelled to touch the matter rather "gingerly," and doubtless felt greatly relieved when that pestilential people left the State. Such complicated matters, especially when religion is mixed up with them, expose every person participating in them to criticism from all parties.

The Mexican War was begun in the spring of 1845, and was continued into the gubernatorial term of Mr. Ford's successor. The Governor's connection with this war, however, was not conspicuous, as it was only administrative, commissioning officers, etc.


Ford's "History of Illinois" is a very readable and entertaining work, of 450 small octavo pages, and is destined to increase in value with the lapse of time. It exhibits a natural flow of compact and forcible thought, never failing to convey the nicest sense. In tracing with his trenchant pen the devious operations of the professional politician, in which he is inimitable, his account is open, perhaps, to the objection that *all* his contemporaries are treated as mere place-seekers, while many of them have since been judged by the people to be worthy statesmen. His writings seem slightly open to the criticism that they exhibit a little splenetic partiality against those of his contemporaries who were prominent during his term of office as Governor.

The death of Gov. Ford took place at Peoria, Ill., Nov. 2, 1850.

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Aug. C. French



Augustus C. French.

AUGUSTUS C. FRENCH, Governor of Illinois from 1846 to 1852, was born in the town of Hill, in the State of New Hampshire, Aug. 2, 1808. He was a descendant in the fourth generation of Nathaniel

French, who emigrated from England in 1687 and settled in Saybury, Mass.

In early life young French lost his father, but continued to receive instruction from an exemplary and Christian mother until he was 19 years old, when she also died, confiding to his care and trust four younger brothers and one sister. He discharged his trust with parental devotion. His education in early life was such mainly as a common school afforded. For a brief period he attended Dartmouth College, but from pecuniary causes and the care of his brothers and sister, he did not graduate. He subsequently read law, and was admitted to the Bar in 1831, and shortly afterward removed to Illinois, settling first at Albion, Edwards County, where he established himself in the practice of law. The following year he removed to Paris, Edgar County. Here he attained eminence in his profession, and entered public life by representing that county in the Legislature. A strong attachment sprang up between him and Stephen A. Douglas.

In 1839, Mr. French was appointed Receiver of the United States Land Office at Palestine, Crawford County, at which place he was a resident when

elevated to the gubernatorial chair. In 1844 he was a Presidential Elector, and as such he voted for James K. Polk.

The Democratic State Convention of 1846, meeting at Springfield Feb. 10, nominated Mr. French for Governor. Other Democratic candidates were Lyman Trumbull, John Calhoun (subsequently of Lecompton Constitution notoriety), Walter B. Scates, Richard M. Young and A. W. Cavarly,—an array of very able and prominent names. Trumbull was perhaps defeated in the Convention by the rumor that he was opposed to the Illinois and Michigan Canal, as he had been a year previously. For Lieutenant Governor J. B. Wells was chosen, while other candidates were Lewis Ross, Wm. McMurtry, Newton Cloud, J. B. Hamilton and W. W. Thompson. The resolutions declared strongly against the resuscitation of the old State Banks.

The Whigs, who were in a hopeless minority, held their convention June 8, at Peoria, and selected Thomas M. Kilpatrick, of Scott County, for Governor, and Gen. Nathaniel G. Wilcox, of Schuyler, for Lieutenant Governor.

In the campaign the latter exposed Mr. French's record and connection with the passage of the internal improvement system, urging it against his election; but in the meantime the war with Mexico broke out, regarding which the Whig record was unpopular in this State. The war was the absorbing and dominating question of the period, sweeping every other political issue in its course. The election in August gave Mr. French 58,700 votes, and Kilpatrick only 36,775. Richard Eells, Abolitionist candidate for the same office, received 5,152 votes.

By the new Constitution of 1848, a new election for State officers was ordered in November of that year, before Gov. French's term was half out, and he was re-elected for the term of four years. He was therefore the incumbent for six consecutive years, the only Governor of this State who has ever served in that capacity so long at one time. As there was no organized opposition to his election, he received 67,453 votes, to 5,639 for Pierre Menard (son of the first Lieutenant Governor), 4,748 for Charles V. Dyer, 3,834 for W. L. D. Morrison, and 1,361 for James L. D. Morrison. But Wm. McMurtry, of Knox County, was elected Lieutenant Governor, in place of Joseph B. Wells, who was before elected and did not run again.

Governor French was inaugurated into office during the progress of the Mexican War, which closed during the summer of 1847, although the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was not made until Feb. 2, 1848. The policy of Gov. French's party was committed to that war, but in connection with that affair he was, of course, only an administrative officer. During his term of office, Feb. 19, 1847, the Legislature, by special permission of Congress, declared that all Government lands sold to settlers should be immediately subject to State taxation; before this they were exempt for five years after sale. By this arrangement the revenue was materially increased. About the same time, the distribution of Government land warrants among the Mexican soldiers as bounty threw upon the market a great quantity of good lands, and this enhanced the settlement of the State. The same Legislature authorized, with the recommendation of the Governor, the sale of the Northern Cross Railroad (from Springfield to Meredosia, the first in the State and now a section of the Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific). It sold for \$100,000 in bonds, although it had cost the State not less than a million. The salt wells and canal lands in the Saline reserve in Gallatin County, granted by the general Government to the State, were also authorized by the Governor to be sold, to apply on the State debt. In 1850, for the first time since 1839, the accruing State revenue, exclusive of specific appropriations, was sufficient to meet the current demands upon the treasury. The aggregate taxable property of the State at this time was over \$100,000,000, and the population 851,470.

In 1849 the Legislature adopted the township organization law, which, however, proved defective, and was properly amended in 1851. At its session in the latter year, the General Assembly also passed a law to exempt homesteads from sale on executions. This beneficent measure had been repeatedly urged upon that body by Gov. French.

In 1850 some business men in St. Louis commenced to build a dike opposite the lower part of their city on the Illinois side, to keep the Mississippi in its channel near St. Louis, instead of breaking away from them as it sometimes threatened to do. This they undertook without permission from the Legislature or Executive authority of this State; and as many of the inhabitants there complained that the scheme would inundate and ruin much valuable land, there was a slight conflict of jurisdictions, resulting in favor of the St. Louis project; and since then a good site has existed there for a city (East St. Louis), and now a score of railroads center there.

It was in September, 1850, that Congress granted to this State nearly 3,000,000 acres of land in aid of the completion of the Illinois Central Railroad, which constituted the most important epoch in the railroad—we might say internal improvement—history of the State. The road was rushed on to completion, which accelerated the settlement of the interior of the State by a good class of industrious citizens, and by the charter a good income to the State Treasury is paid in from the earnings of the road.

In 1851 the Legislature passed a law authorizing free stock banks, which was the source of much legislative discussion for a number of years.

But we have not space further to particularize concerning legislation. Gov. French's administration was not marked by any feature to be criticised, while the country was settling up as never before.

In stature, Gov. French was of medium height, squarely built, light complexioned, with ruddy face and pleasant countenance. In manners he was plain and agreeable. By nature he was somewhat diffident, but he was often very outspoken in his convictions of duty. In public speech he was not an orator, but was chaste, earnest and persuasive. In business he was accurate and methodical, and in his administration he kept up the credit of the State.

He died in 1865, at his home in Lebanon, St. Clair Co., Ill.

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J. A. Matteson



Joel A. Matteson.

JOEL A. MATTESON, Governor 1853-6, was born Aug. 8, 1808, in Jefferson County, New York, to which place his father had removed from Vermont three years before. His father was a farmer in fair circumstances, but a common English education was all that his only son received. Young Joel first tempted fortune as a small tradesman in Prescott, Canada, before he was of age. He returned from that place to his home, entered an academy, taught school, visited the prin-

cipal Eastern cities, improved a farm his father had given him, made a tour in the South, worked there in building railroads, experienced a storm on the Gulf of Mexico, visited the gold diggings of Northern Georgia, and returned *via* Nashville to St. Louis and through Illinois to his father's home, when he married. In 1833, having sold his farm, he removed, with his wife and one child, to Illinois, and entered a claim on Government land near the head of Au Sable River, in what is now Kendall County. At that time there were not more than two neighbors within a range of ten miles of his place, and only three or four houses between him and Chicago. He opened a large farm. His family was boarded 70

miles away while he erected a house on his claim, sleeping, during this time, under a rude pole shed. Here his life was once placed in imminent peril by a huge prairie rattlesnake sharing his bed.

In 1835 he bought largely at the Government land sales. During the speculative real-estate mania which broke out in Chicago in 1836 and spread over the State, he sold his lands under the inflation of that period and removed to Joliet. In 1838 he became a heavy contractor on the Illinois & Michigan Canal. Upon the completion of his job in 1841, when hard times prevailed, business at a stand, contracts paid in State scrip; when all the public works except the canal were abandoned, the State offered for sale 700 tons of railroad iron, which was purchased by Mr. Matteson at a bargain. This he accepted, shipped and sold at Detroit, realizing a very handsome profit, enough to pay off all his canal debts and leave him a surplus of several thousand dollars. His enterprise next prompted him to start a woolen mill at Joliet, in which he prospered, and which, after successive enlargements, became an enormous establishment.

In 1842 he was first elected a State Senator, but, by a bungling apportionment, John Pearson, a Senator holding over, was found to be in the same district, and decided to be entitled to represent it. Matteson's seat was declared vacant. Pearson, however, with a nobleness difficult to appreciate in this day of

greed for office, unwilling to represent his district under the circumstances, immediately resigned his unexpired term of two years. A bill was passed in a few hours ordering a new election, and in ten days' time Mr. Matteson was returned re-elected and took his seat as Senator. From his well-known capacity as a business man, he was made Chairman of the Committee on Finance, a position he held during this half and two full succeeding Senatorial terms, discharging its important duties with ability and faithfulness. Besides his extensive woolen-mill interest, when work was resumed on the canal under the new loan of \$1,600,000 he again became a heavy contractor, and also subsequently operated largely in building railroads. Thus he showed himself a most energetic and thorough business man.

He was nominated for Governor by the Democratic State Convention which met at Springfield April 20, 1852. Other candidates before the Convention were D. L. Gregg and F. C. Sherman, of Cook; John Dement, of Lee; Thomas L. Harris, of Menard; Lewis W. Ross, of Fulton; and D. P. Bush, of Pike. Gustavus Koerner, of St. Clair, was nominated for Lieutenant Governor. For the same offices the Whigs nominated Edwin B. Webb and Dexter A. Knowlton. Mr. Matteson received 80,645 votes at the election, while Mr. Webb received 64,408. Matteson's forte was not on the stump; he had not cultivated the art of oily flattery, or the faculty of being all things to all men. His intellectual qualities took rather the direction of efficient executive ability. His turn consisted not so much in the adroit management of party, or the powerful advocacy of great governmental principles, as in those more solid and enduring operations which cause the physical development and advancement of a State,—of commerce and business enterprise, into which he labored with success to lead the people. As a politician he was just and liberal in his views, and both in official and private life he then stood untainted and free from blemish. As a man, in active benevolence, social virtues and all the amiable qualities of neighbor or citizen, he had few superiors. His messages present a perspicuous array of facts as to the condition of the State, and are often couched in forcible and elegant diction.

The greatest excitement during his term of office was the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, by Con-

gress, under the leadership of Stephen A. Douglas in 1854, when the bill was passed organizing the Territory of Kansas and Nebraska. A large portion of the Whig party of the North, through their bitter opposition to the Democratic party, naturally drifted into the doctrine of anti-slavery, and thus led to what was temporarily called the "Anti-Nebraska" party, while the followers of Douglas were known as "Nebraska or Douglas Democrats." It was during this embryo stage of the Republican party that Abraham Lincoln was brought forward as the "Anti-Nebraska" candidate for the United States Senatorship, while Gen. James Shields, the incumbent, was re-nominated by the Democrats. But after a few ballottings in the Legislature (1855), these men were dropped, and Lyman Trumbull, an Anti-Nebraska Democrat, was brought up by the former, and Mr. Matteson, then Governor, by the latter. On the 11th ballot Mr. Trumbull obtained one majority, and was accordingly declared elected. Before Gov. Matteson's term expired, the Republicans were fully organized as a national party, and in 1856 put into the field a full national and State ticket, carrying the State, but not the nation.

The Legislature of 1855 passed two very important measures,—the present free-school system and a submission of the Maine liquor law to a vote of the people. The latter was defeated by a small majority of the popular vote.

During the four years of Gov. Matteson's administration the taxable wealth of the State was about trebled, from \$137,818,079 to \$349,951,272; the public debt was reduced from \$17,398,985 to \$12,843,144; taxation was at the same time reduced, and the State resumed paying interest on its debt in New York as fast as it fell due; railroads were increased in their mileage from something less than 400 to about 3,000; and the population of Chicago was nearly doubled, and its commerce more than quadrupled.

Before closing this account, we regret that we have to say that Mr. Matteson, in all other respects an upright man and a good Governor, was implicated in a false re-issue of redeemed canal scrip, amounting to \$224,182.66. By a suit in the Sangamon Circuit Court the State recovered the principal and all the interest excepting \$27,500.

He died in the winter of 1872-3, at Chicago.

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James W. Russell



William H. Bissell.

WILLIAM H. BISSELL, Governor 1857-60, was born April 25, 1811, in the State of New York, near Painted Post, Yates County. His parents were obscure, honest, God-fearing people, who reared their children under the daily example of industry and frugality, according to the custom of that class of Eastern society. Mr. Bissell received a respectable but not thorough academical education. By assiduous application he acquired a knowledge of medicine, and in his early manhood came West and located in Monroe County, this State, where he engaged in the practice of that profession. But he was not enamored of his calling: he was swayed by a broader ambition, to such an extent that the mysteries of the healing art and its arduous duties failed to yield him further any charms. In a few years he discovered his choice of a profession to be a mistake, and when he approached the age of 30 he sought to begin anew. Dr. Bissell, no doubt unexpectedly to himself, discovered a singular facility and charm of speech, the exercise of which acquired for him a ready local notoriety. It soon came to be under-

stood that he desired to abandon his profession and take up that of the law. During terms of Court he would spend his time at the county seat among the members of the Bar, who extended to him a ready welcome.

It was not strange, therefore, that he should drift into public life. In 1840 he was elected as a Democrat to the Legislature from Monroe County, and was an efficient member of that body. On his return home he qualified himself for admission to the Bar and speedily rose to the front rank as an advocate. His powers of oratory were captivating. With a pure diction, charming and inimitable gestures, clearness of statement, and a remarkable vein of sly humor, his efforts before a jury told with irresistible effect. He was chosen by the Legislature Prosecuting Attorney for the Circuit in which he lived, and in that position he fully discharged his duty to the State, gained the esteem of the Bar, and seldom failed to convict the offender of the law.

In stature he was somewhat tall and slender, and with a straight, military bearing, he presented a distinguished appearance. His complexion was dark, his head well poised, though not large, his address pleasant and manner winning. He was exemplary in his habits, a devoted husband and kind parent. He was twice married, the first time to Miss James,

of Monroe County, by whom he had two children, both daughters. She died soon after the year 1840, and Mr. B. married for his second wife a daughter of Elias K. Kane, previously a United States Senator from this State. She survived him but a short time, and died without issue.

When the war with Mexico was declared in 1846, Mr. Bissell enlisted and was elected Colonel of his regiment, over Hon. Don Morrison, by an almost unanimous vote,—807 to 6. Considering the limited opportunities he had had, he evinced a high order of military talent. On the bloody field of Buena Vista he acquitted himself with intrepid and distinguished ability, contributing with his regiment, the Second Illinois, in no small degree toward saving the wavering fortunes of our arms during that long and fiercely contested battle.

After his return home, at the close of the war, he was elected to Congress, his opponents being the Hons. P. B. Fouke and Joseph Gillespie. He served two terms in Congress. He was an ardent politician. During the great contest of 1850 he voted in favor of the adjustment measures; but in 1854 he opposed the repeal of the Missouri Compromise act and therefore the Kansas-Nebraska bill of Douglas, and thus became identified with the nascent Republican party.

During his first Congressional term, while the Southern members were following their old practice of intimidating the North by bullying language, and claiming most of the credit for victories in the Mexican War, and Jefferson Davis claiming for the Mississippi troops all the credit for success at Buena Vista, Mr. Bissell bravely defended the Northern troops; whereupon Davis challenged Bissell to a duel, which was accepted. This matter was brought up against Bissell when he was candidate for Governor and during his term of office, as the Constitution of this State forbade any duelist from holding a State office.

In 1856, when the Republican party first put forth a candidate, John C. Fremont, for President of the United States, the same party nominated Mr. Bissell for Governor of Illinois, and John Wood, of Quincy, for Lieutenant Governor, while the Democrats nominated Hon. W. A. Richardson, of Adams County, for Governor, and Col. R. J. Hamilton, of Cook County, for Lieutenant Governor. The result of the

election was a plurality of 4,729 votes over Richardson. The American, or Know-Nothing, party had a ticket in the field. The Legislature was nearly balanced, but was politically opposed to the Governor. His message to the Legislature was short and rather ordinary, and was criticised for expressing the supposed obligations of the people to the incorporators of the Illinois Central Railroad Company and for reopening the slavery question by allusions to the Kansas troubles. Late in the session an apportionment bill, based upon the State census of 1855, was passed, amid much partisan strife. The Governor at first signed the bill and then vetoed it. A furious debate followed, and the question whether the Governor had the authority to recall a signature was referred to the Courts, that of last resort deciding in favor of the Governor. Two years afterward another outrageous attempt was made for a re-apportionment and to gerrymander the State, but the Legislature failed to pass the bill over the veto of the Governor.

It was during Gov. Bissell's administration that the notorious canal scrip fraud was brought to light, implicating ex-Gov. Matteson and other prominent State officials. The principal and interest, aggregating \$255,500, was all recovered by the State excepting \$27,500. (See sketch of Gov. Matteson.)

In 1859 an attempt was discovered to fraudulently refund the Macalister and Stebbins bonds and thus rob the State Treasury of nearly a quarter of a million dollars. The State Government was implicated in this affair, and to this day remains unexplained or unatoned for. For the above, and other matters previously mentioned, Gov. Bissell has been severely criticised, and he has also been most shamefully libelled and slandered.

On account of exposure in the army, the remote cause of a nervous form of disease gained entrance into his system and eventually developed paraplegia, affecting his lower extremities, which, while it left his body in comparative health, deprived him of locomotion except by the aid of crutches. While he was generally hopeful of ultimate recovery, this mysterious disease pursued him, without once relaxing its stealthy hold, to the close of his life, March 18, 1860, over nine months before the expiration of his gubernatorial term, at the early age of 48 years. He died in the faith of the Roman Catholic Church, of which he had been a member since 1854.

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John Wood

John Wood.



JOHN WOOD, Governor 1860-1, and the first settler of Quincy, Ill., was born in the town of Sempronius (now Moravia), Cayuga Co., N. Y., Dec. 20, 1798. He was the second child and only son of Dr. Daniel Wood. His mother, *nee* Catherine Crause, was of German parentage, and died while he was an infant. Dr. Wood was a learned and skillful physician, of classical attainments and proficient in several modern languages, who, after serving throughout the Revolutionary War as a Surgeon, settled on the land granted him by the Government, and resided there a respected and leading influence in his section until his death, at the ripe age of 92 years.

The subject of this sketch, impelled by the spirit of Western adventure then pervading everywhere, left his home, Nov. 2, 1818, and passed the succeeding winter in Cincinnati, Ohio. The following summer he pushed on to Illinois, landing at Shawneetown, and spent the fall and following winter in Calhoun County. In 1820, in company with Willard Keyes, he settled in Pike County, about 30 miles southeast of Quincy, where for the next two years he pursued farming. In 1821 he visited "the Bluffs" (as the present site of Quincy was called, then uninhabited) and, pleased with its prospects, soon after purchased a quarter-section of land near by, and in the following fall (1822) erected near the river a small cabin,

18 x 20 feet, the first building in Quincy, of which he then became the first and for some months the only occupant.

About this time he visited his old friends in Pike County, chief of whom was William Ross, the leading man in building up the village of Atlas, of that county, which was thought then to be the possible commencement of a city. One day they and others were traveling together over the country between the two points named, making observations on the comparative merits of the respective localities. On approaching the Mississippi near Mr. Wood's place, the latter told his companions to follow him and he would show them where he was going to build a city. They went about a mile off the main trail, to a high point, from which the view in every direction was most magnificent, as it had been for ages and as yet untouched by the hand of man. Before them swept by the majestic Father of Waters, yet unburdened by navigation. After Mr. Wood had expatiated at length on the advantages of the situation, Mr. Ross replied, "But it's too near Atlas ever to amount to anything!"

Atlas is still a cultivated farm, and Quincy is a city of over 30,000 population.

In 1824 Mr. Wood gave a newspaper notice, as the law then prescribed, of his intention to apply to the General Assembly for the formation of a new county. This was done the following winter, resulting in the establishment of the present Adams County. During the next summer Quincy was selected as the county seat, it and the vicinity then containing but four adult male residents and half

that number of females. Since that period Mr. Wood resided at the place of his early adoption until his death, and far more than any other man was he identified with every measure of its progress and history, and almost continuously kept in public positions.

He was one of the early town Trustees, and after the place became a city he was often a member of the City Council, many times elected Mayor, in the face of a constant large opposition political majority. In 1850 he was elected to the State Senate. In 1856, on the organization of the Republican party, he was chosen Lieutenant Governor of the State, on the ticket with Wm. H. Bissell for Governor, and on the death of the latter, March 18, 1860, he succeeded to the Chief Executive chair, which he occupied until Gov. Yates was inaugurated nearly ten months afterward.

Nothing very marked characterized the administration of Gov. Wood. The great anti-slavery campaign of 1860, resulting in the election of the honest Illinoisan, Abraham Lincoln, to the Presidency of the United States, occurred during the short period while Mr. Wood was Governor, and the excitement and issues of that struggle dominated over every other consideration,—indeed, supplanted them in a great measure. The people of Illinois, during all that time, were passing the comparatively petty strifes under Bissell's administration to the overwhelming issue of preserving the whole nation from destruction.

In 1861 ex-Gov. Wood was one of the five Delegates from Illinois to the "Peace Convention" at Washington, and in April of the same year, on the breaking out of the Rebellion, he was appointed

Quartermaster-General of the State, which position he held throughout the war. In 1864 he took command as Colonel of the 137th Ill. Vol. Inf., with whom he served until the period of enlistment expired.

Politically, Gov. Wood was always actively identified with the Whig and Republican parties. Few men have in personal experience comprehended so many surprising and advancing local changes as vested in the more than half century recollections of Gov. Wood. Sixty-four years ago a solitary settler on the "Bluffs," with no family, and no neighbor within a score of miles, the world of civilization away behind him, and the strolling red-man almost his only visitant, he lived to see growing around him, and under his auspices and aid, overspreading the wild hills and scraggy forest a teeming city, second only in size in the State, and surpassed nowhere in beauty, prosperity and promise; whose people recognize as with a single voice the proverbial honor and liberality that attach to the name and lengthened life of their pioneer settler, "the old Governor."

Gov. Wood was twice married,—first in January, 1826, to Ann M. Streeter, daughter of Joshua Streeter, formerly of Salem, Washington Co., N. Y. They had eight children. Mrs. W. died Oct. 8, 1863, and in June, 1865, Gov. Wood married Mrs. Mary A., widow of Rev. Joseph T. Holmes. Gov. Wood died June 4, 1880, at his residence in Quincy. Four of his eight children are now living, namely: Ann E., wife of Gen. John Tillson; Daniel C., who married Mary J. Abernethy; John, Jr., who married Josephine Skinner, and Joshua S., who married Annie Bradley. The last mentioned now resides at Atchison, Kansas, and all the rest are still at Quincy.



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Rich. Yates



Richard Yates.

RICHARD YATES, the "War Governor," 1861-4, was born Jan. 18, 1818, on the banks of the Ohio River, at Warsaw, Gallatin Co., Ky. His father moved in 1831 to Illinois, and, after stopping for a time in Springfield, settled at Island Grove, Sangamon County. Here, after attending school, Richard joined the family. Subsequently he entered Illinois College at Jacksonville, where, in 1837, he graduated with first honors. He chose for his profession the law, the Hon. J. J. Hardin being his instructor. After admission to the Bar he soon rose to distinction as an advocate.

Gifted with a fluent and ready oratory, he soon appeared in the political hustings, and, being a passionate admirer of the great Whig leader of the West, Henry Clay, he joined his political fortunes to the party of his idol. In 1840 he engaged with great ardor in the exciting "hard cider" campaign for Harrison. Two years later he was elected to the Legislature from Morgan County, a Democratic stronghold. He served three or four terms in the Legislature, and such was the fascination of his oratory that by 1850 his large Congressional District, extending from Morgan and Sangamon Counties north to include LaSalle, unanimously tendered him the Whig nomination for Congress. His Democratic opponent was Maj. Thomas L. Harris, a very popular man who had won distinction at the battle of Cerro Gordo, in the Mexican War, and who had beaten Hon. Stephen T. Logan for the same position,

two years before, by a large majority. Yates was elected. Two years later he was re-elected, over John Calhoun.

It was during Yates' second term in Congress that the great question of the repeal of the Missouri Compromise was agitated, and the bars laid down for reopening the dreaded anti-slavery question. He took strong grounds against the repeal, and thus became identified with the rising Republican party. Consequently he fell into the minority in his district, which was pro-slavery. Even then, in a third contest, he fell behind Major Harris only 200 votes, after the district had two years before given Pierce 2,000 majority for President.

The Republican State Convention of 1860 met at Decatur May 9, and nominated for the office of Governor Mr. Yates, in preference to Hon. Norman B. Judd, of Chicago, and Leonard Swett, of Bloomington, two of the ablest men of the State, who were also candidates before the Convention. Francis A. Hoffman, of DuPage County, was nominated for Lieutenant Governor. This was the year when Mr. Lincoln was a candidate for President, a period remembered as characterized by the great whirlpool which precipitated the bloody War of the Rebellion. The Douglas Democrats nominated J. C. Allen of Crawford County, for Governor, and Lewis W. Ross, of Fulton County, for Lieutenant Governor. The Breckenridge Democrats and the Bell-Everett party had also full tickets in the field. After a most fearful campaign, the result of the election gave Mr. Yates 172,196 votes, and Mr. Allen 159,253. Mr. Yates received over a thousand more votes than did Mr. Lincoln himself.

Gov. Yates occupied the chair of State during the

most critical period of our country's history. In the fate of the nation was involved that of each State. The life struggle of the former derived its sustenance from the loyalty of the latter; and Gov. Yates seemed to realize the situation, and proved himself both loyal and wise in upholding the Government. He had a deep hold upon the affections of the people, won by his moving eloquence and genial manners. Erect and symmetrical in person, of prepossessing appearance, with a winning address and a magnetic power, few men possessed more of the elements of popularity. His oratory was scholarly and captivating, his hearers hardly knowing why they were transported. He was social and convivial. In the latter respect he was ultimately carried too far.

The very creditable military efforts of this State during the War of the Rebellion, in putting into the field the enormous number of about 200,000 soldiers, were ever promptly and ably seconded by his excellency; and he was ambitious to deserve the title of "the soldier's friend." Immediately after the battle of Shiloh he repaired to the field of carnage to look after the wounded, and his appeals for aid were promptly responded to by the people. His proclamations calling for volunteers were impassionate appeals, urging upon the people the duties and requirements of patriotism; and his special message in 1863 to the Democratic Legislature of this State pleading for material aid for the sick and wounded soldiers of Illinois regiments, breathes a deep fervor of noble sentiment and feeling rarely equaled in beauty or felicity of expression. Generally his messages on political and civil affairs were able and comprehensive. During his administration, however, there were no civil events of an engrossing character, although two years of his time were replete with partisan quarrels of great bitterness. Military arrests, Knights of the Golden Circle, riot in Fulton County, attempted suppression of the *Chicago Times* and the usurping State Constitutional Convention of 1862, were the chief local topics that were exciting during the Governor's term. This Convention assembled Jan. 7, and at once took the high position that the law calling it was no longer binding, and that it had supreme power; that it represented a virtual assemblage of the whole people of the State, and was sovereign in the exercise of all power necessary to effect a peaceable revolution of the State Government

and to the re-establishment of one for the "happiness, prosperity and freedom of the citizens," limited only by the Federal Constitution. Notwithstanding the law calling the Convention required its members to take an oath to support the Constitution of the State as well as that of the general Government; they utterly refused to take such oath. They also assumed legislative powers and passed several important "laws!" Interfering with the (then) present executive duties, Gov. Yates was provoked to tell them plainly that "he did not acknowledge the right of the Convention to instruct him in the performance of his duty."

In 1863 the Governor astonished the Democrats by "proroguing" their Legislature. This body, after a recess, met June 2, that year, and soon began to waste time upon various partisan resolutions; and, while the two houses were disagreeing upon the question of adjourning *sine die*, the Governor, having the authority in such cases, surprised them all by adjourning them "to the Saturday next preceding the first Monday in January, 1865!" This led to great excitement and confusion, and to a reference of the Governor's act to the Supreme Court, who decided in his favor. Then it was the Court's turn to receive abuse for weeks and months afterward.

During the autumn of 1864 a conspiracy was detected at Chicago which had for its object the liberation of the prisoners of war at Camp Douglas, the burning of the city and the inauguration of rebellion in the North. Gen. Sweet, who had charge of the camp at the time, first had his suspicions of danger aroused by a number of enigmatically worded letters which passed through the Camp postoffice. A detective afterward discovered that the rebel Gen. Marmaduke was in the city, under an assumed name, and he, with other rebel officers—Grenfell, Morgan, Cantrell, Buckner Morris, and Charles Walsh—was arrested, most of whom were convicted by a court-martial at Cincinnati and sentenced to imprisonment,—Grenfell to be hung. The sentence of the latter was afterward commuted to imprisonment for life, and all the others, after nine months' imprisonment, were pardoned.

In March, 1873, Gov. Yates was appointed a Government Director of the Union Pacific Railroad, in which office he continued until his decease, at St. Louis, Mo., on the 27th of November following.

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R. J. Aglesby



Richard J. Oglesby.

RICHARD J. OGLESBY, Governor 1865-8, and re-elected in 1872 and 1884, was born July 25, 1824, in Oldham Co., Ky.,—the State which might be considered the "mother of Illinois Governors." Bereft of his parents at the tender age of eight years, his early education was neglected. When 12 years of age, and after he had worked a year and a half at the carpenter's trade, he removed with an uncle, Willis Oglesby, into whose care he had been committed, to Decatur, this State, where he continued his apprenticeship as a mechanic, working six months for Hon. E. O. Smith.

In 1844 he commenced studying law at Springfield, with Judge Silas Robbins, and read with him one year. He was admitted to the Bar in 1845, and commenced the practice of his chosen profession at Sullivan, the county seat of Moultrie County.

The next year the war with Mexico was commenced, and in June, 1846, Mr. Oglesby volunteered, was elected First Lieutenant of Co. C, Fourth Illinois Regiment of Volunteers, and participated in the battles of Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo.

On his return he sought to perfect his law studies by attending a course of lectures at Louisville, but on the breaking out of the California "gold fever" in 1849, he crossed the plains and mountains to the new Eldorado, driving a six-mule team, with a com-

pany of eight men, Henry Prather being the leader.

In 1852 he returned home to Macon County, and was placed that year by the Whig party on the ticket of Presidential Electors. In 1856 he visited Europe, Asia and Africa, being absent 20 months. On his return home he resumed the practice of law, as a member of the firm of Gallagher, Wait & Oglesby. In 1858 he was the Republican nominee for the Lower House of Congress, but was defeated by the Hon. James C. Robinson, Democrat. In 1860 he was elected to the Illinois State Senate; and on the evening the returns of this election were coming in, Mr. Oglesby had a fisticuff encounter with "Cerro Gordo Williams," in which he came out victorious, and which was regarded as "the first fight of the Rebellion." The following spring, when the war had commenced in earnest, his ardent nature quickly responded to the demands of patriotism and he enlisted. The extra session of the Legislature elected him Colonel of the Eighth Illinois Infantry, the second one in the State raised to suppress the great Rebellion.

He was shortly entrusted with important commands. For a time he was stationed at Bird's Point and Cairo; in April he was promoted Brigadier General; at Fort Donelson his brigade was in the van, being stationed on the right of General Grant's army and the first brigade to be attacked. He lost 500 men before re-inforcements arrived. Many of these men were from Macon County. He was engaged in the battle of Corinth, and, in a brave charge at this place, was shot in the left lung with an ounce ball, and was carried from the field in expectation of im-

mediate death. That rebel ball he carries to this day. On his partial recovery he was promoted as Major General, for gallantry, his commission to rank from November, 1862. In the spring of 1863 he was assigned to the command of the 16th Army Corps, but, owing to inability from the effects of his wound, he relinquished this command in July, that year. Gen. Grant, however, refused to accept his resignation, and he was detailed, in December following, to court-martial and try the Surgeon General of the Army at Washington, where he remained until May, 1864, when he returned home.

The Republican, or Union, State Convention of 1864 was held at Springfield, May 25, when Mr. Oglesby was nominated for the office of Governor, while other candidates before the Convention were Allen C. Fuller, of Boone, Jesse K. Dubois, of Sangamon, and John M. Palmer, of Macoupin. Wm. Bross, of Chicago, was nominated for Lieutenant Governor. On the Democratic State ticket were James C. Robinson, of Clark, for Governor, and S. Corning Judd, of Fulton, for Lieutenant Governor. The general election gave Gen. Oglesby a majority of about 31,000 votes. The Republicans had also a majority in both the Legislature and in the representation in Congress.

Gov. Oglesby was duly inaugurated Jan. 17, 1865. The day before the first time set for his installation death visited his home at Decatur, and took from it his only son, an intelligent and sprightly lad of six years, a great favorite of the bereaved parents. This caused the inauguration to be postponed a week.

The political events of the Legislative session of 1865 were the election of ex-Gov. Yates to the United States Senate, and the ratification of the 13th amendment to the Constitution of the United States, abolishing slavery. This session also signalized itself by repealing the notorious "black laws," part of which, although a dead letter, had held their place upon the statute books since 1819. Also, laws requiring the registration of voters, and establishing a State Board of Equalization, were passed by this Legislature. But the same body evinced that it was corruptly influenced by a mercenary lobby, as it adopted some bad legislation, over the Governor's veto, notably an amendment to a charter for a Chicago horse railway, granted in 1859 for 25 years, and now sought to be extended 99 years. As this measure was promptly passed over his veto by both branches of the Legislature, he deemed it useless further to attempt to check their headlong career. At this session no law of a general useful character or public interest was perfected, unless we count such the turning over of the canal to Chicago to be deepened. The session of 1867 was still more productive of private and special acts. Many omnibus bills were proposed, and some passed. The contests over the location of the Industrial College, the Capital, the

Southern Penitentiary, and the canal enlargement and Illinois River improvement, dominated every thing else.

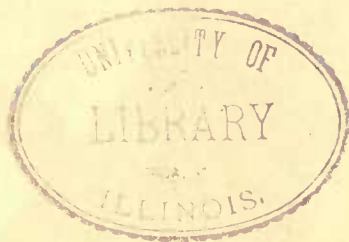
During the year 1872, it became evident that if the Republicans could re-elect Mr. Oglesby to the office of Governor, they could also elect him to the United States Senate, which they desired to do. Accordingly they re-nominated him for the Executive chair, and placed upon the ticket with him for Lieutenant Governor, John L. Beveridge, of Cook County. On the other side the Democrats put into the field Gustavus Koerner for Governor and John C. Black for Lieutenant Governor. The election gave the Republican ticket majorities ranging from 35,334 to 56,174,—the Democratic defection being caused mainly by their having an old-time Whig and Abolitionist, Horace Greeley, on the national ticket for President. According to the general understanding had beforehand, as soon as the Legislature met it elected Gov. Oglesby to the United States Senate, whereupon Mr. Beveridge became Governor. Senator Oglesby's term expired March 4, 1879, having served his party faithfully and exhibited an order of statesmanship beyond criticism.

During the campaign of 1884 Mr. Oglesby was nominated for a "third term" as Executive of the State of Illinois, against Carter H. Harrison, Mayor of Chicago, nominated by the Democrats. Both gentlemen "stumped" the State, and while the people elected a Legislature which was a tie on a joint ballot, as between the two parties, they gave the jovial "Dick" Oglesby a majority of 15,018 for Governor, and he was inaugurated Jan. 30, 1885. The Legislature did not fully organize until this date, on account of its equal division between the two main parties and the consequent desperate tactics of each party to checkmate the latter in the organization of the House.

Gov. Oglesby is a fine-appearing, affable man, with regular, well defined features and rotund face. In stature he is a little above medium height, of a large frame and somewhat fleshy. His physical appearance is striking and prepossessing, while his straight-out, not to say bluff, manner and speech are well calculated favorably to impress the average masses. Ardent in feeling and strongly committed to the policies of his party, he intensifies Republicanism among Republicans, while at the same time his jovial and liberal manner prevents those of the opposite party from hating him.

He is quite an effective stump orator. With vehemence, passionate and scornful tone and gestures, tremendous physical power, which in speaking he exercises to the utmost; with frequent descents to the grotesque; and with abundant homely comparisons or frontier figures, expressed in the broadest vernacular and enforced with stentorian emphasis, he delights a promiscuous audience beyond measure.


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Frank Peen



JOHN M. PALMER

JOHN Mc AULEY PALMER, Governor 1869-72, was born on Eagle Creek, Scott Co., Ky., Sept. 13, 1817. During his infancy, his father, who had been a soldier in the war of 1812, removed to Christian Co., Ky., where lands were cheap. Here the future Governor of the great Prairie State spent his childhood and received such meager schooling as the new and sparsely settled country afforded. To this he added materially by diligent reading, for which he evinced an early aptitude. His father, an ardent Jackson man, was also noted for his anti-slavery sentiments, which he thoroughly impressed upon his children. In 1831 he emigrated to Illinois, settling in Madison County. Here the labor of improving a farm was pursued for about two years, when the death of Mr. Palmer's mother broke up the family. About this time Alton College was opened, on the "manual labor" system, and in the spring of 1834 young Palmer, with his elder brother, Elihu, entered this school and remained 18 months. Next, for over three years, he tried variously coopering, peddling and school-teaching.

During the summer of 1838 he formed the acquaintance of Stephen A. Douglas, then making his

first canvass for Congress. Young, eloquent and in political accord with Mr. Palmer, he won his confidence, fired his ambition and fixed his purpose. The following winter, while teaching near Canton, he began to devote his spare time to a desultory reading of law, and in the spring entered a law office at Carlinville, making his home with his elder brother, Elihu. (The latter was a learned clergyman, of considerable originality of thought and doctrine.) On the next meeting of the Supreme Court he was admitted to the Bar, Douglas being one of his examiners. He was not immediately successful in his profession, and would have located elsewhere than Carlinville had he the requisite means. Thus his early poverty was a blessing in disguise, for to it he now attributes the success of his life.

From 1839 on, while he diligently pursued his profession, he participated more or less in local politics. In 1843 he became Probate Judge. In 1847 he was elected to the State Constitutional Convention, where he took a leading part. In 1852 he was elected to the State Senate, and at the special session of February, 1854, true to the anti-slavery sentiments bred in him, he took a firm stand in opposition to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise; and when the Nebraska question became a party issue he refused to receive a re-nomination for the Senatorship at the hands of the Democracy, issuing a circular to that effect. A few weeks afterward,

however, hesitating to break with his party, he participated in a Congressional Convention which nominated T. L. Harris against Richard Yates, and which unqualifiedly approved the principles of the Kansas-Nebraska act. But later in the campaign he made the plunge, ran for the Senate as an Anti-Nebraska Democrat, and was elected. The following winter he put in nomination for the United States Senate Mr. Trumbull, and was one of the five steadfast men who voted for him until all the Whigs came to their support and elected their man.

In 1856 he was Chairman of the Republican State Convention at Bloomington. He ran for Congress in 1859, but was defeated. In 1860 he was Republican Presidential Elector for the State at large. In 1861 he was appointed one of the five Delegates (all Republicans) sent by Illinois to the peace congress at Washington.

When the civil conflict broke out, he offered his services to his country, and was elected Colonel of the 14th Ill. Vol. Inf., and participated in the engagements at Island No. 10; at Farmington, where he skillfully extricated his command from a dangerous position; at Stone River, where his division for several hours, Dec. 31, 1862, held the advance and stood like a rock, and for his gallantry there he was made Major General; at Chickamauga, where his and Van Cleve's divisions for two hours maintained their position when they were cut off by overpowering numbers. Under Gen. Sherman, he was assigned to the 14th Army Corps and participated in the Atlanta campaign. At Peach-Tree Creek his prudence did much to avert disaster. In February, 1865, Gen. Palmer was assigned to the military administration of Kentucky, which was a delicate post. That State was about half rebel and half Union, and those of the latter element were daily fretted by the loss of their slaves. He, who had been bred to the rules of common law, trembled at the contemplation of his extraordinary power over the persons and property of his fellow men, with which he was vested in his capacity as military Governor; and he exhibited great caution in the execution of the duties of his post.

Gen. Palmer was nominated for Governor of Illinois by the Republican State Convention which met at Peoria May 6, 1868, and his nomination would probably have been made by acclamation had he not persistently declared that he could not accept a can-

didature for the office. The result of the ensuing election gave Mr. Palmer a majority of 44,707 over John R. Eden, the Democratic nominee.


On the meeting of the Legislature in January, 1869, the first thing to arrest public attention was that portion of the Governor's message which took broad State's rights ground. This and some minor points, which were more in keeping with the Democratic sentiment, constituted the entering wedge for the criticisms and reproofs he afterward received from the Republican party, and ultimately resulted in his entire alienation from the latter element. The Legislature just referred to was noted for the introduction of numerous bills in the interest of private parties, which were embarrassing to the Governor. Among the public acts passed was that which limited railroad charges for passenger travel to a maximum of three cents per mile; and it was passed over the Governor's veto. Also, they passed, over his veto, the "tax-grabbing law" to pay railroad subscriptions, the Chicago Lake Front bill, etc. The new State Constitution of 1870, far superior to the old, was a peaceful "revolution" which took place during Gov. Palmer's term of office. The suffering caused by the great Chicago Fire of October, 1871, was greatly alleviated by the prompt responses of his excellency.

Since the expiration of Gov. Palmer's term, he has been somewhat prominent in Illinois politics, and has been talked of by many, especially in the Democratic party, as the best man in the State for a United States Senator. His business during life has been that of the law. Few excel him in an accurate appreciation of the depth and scope of its principles. The great number of his able veto messages abundantly testify not only this but also a rare capacity to point them out. He is a logical and cogent reasoner and an interesting, forcible and convincing speaker, though not fluent or ornate. Without brilliancy, his dealings are rather with facts and ideas than with appeals to passions and prejudices. He is a patriot and a statesman of very high order. Physically he is above the medium height, of robust frame, ruddy complexion and sanguine-nervous temperament. He has a large cranial development, is vivacious, social in disposition, easy of approach, unostentatious in his habits of life, democratic in his habits and manners and is a true American in his fundamental principles of statesmanship.


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John L. Beveridge



John L. Beveridge.



JOHN LOWRIE BEVERIDGE, Governor 1873-6, was born in the town of Greenwich, Washington Co., N. Y., July 6, 1824. His parents were George and Ann Beveridge. His father's parents, Andrew and Isabel Beveridge, before their marriage emigrated from Scotland just before the Revolutionary War, settling in Washington County. His father was the eldest of eight brothers, the youngest of whom was 60 years of age when the first one of the number died. His mother's parents, James and Agnes Hoy, emigrated from Scotland at the close of the Revolutionary War, settling also in Washington Co., N. Y., with their first-born, whose "native land" was the wild ocean. His parents and grandparents lived beyond the time allotted to man, their average age

being over 80 years. They belonged to the "Associate Church," a seceding Presbyterian body of

America from the old Scotch school; and so rigid was the training of young Beveridge that he never heard a sermon from any other minister except that of his own denomination until he was in his 19th year. Later in life he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which relation he still holds.

Mr. Beveridge received a good common-school education, but his parents, who could obtain a livelihood only by rigid economy and industry, could not send him away to college. He was raised upon a farm, and was in his 18th year when the family removed to De Kalb County, this State, when that section was very sparsely settled. Chicago had less than 7,000 inhabitants. In this wild West he continued as a farm laborer, teaching school during the winter months to supply the means of an education. In the fall of 1842 he attended one term at the academy at Granville, Putnam Co., Ill., and subsequently several terms at the Rock River Seminary at Mount Morris, Ogle Co., Ill., completing the academic course. At this time, the fall of 1845, his parents and brothers were anxious to have him go to college, even though he had not money sufficient; but, not willing to burden the family, he packed his trunk and with only \$40 in money started South to seek his fortune.

Poor, alone, without friends and influence, he thus entered upon the battle of life.

First, he taught school in Wilson, Overton and Jackson Cos., Tenn., in which experience he underwent considerable mental drill, both in book studies and in the ways of the world. He read law and was admitted to the Bar, in the South, but did not learn to love the institution of slavery, although he admired many features of Southern character. In December, 1847, he returned North, and Jan. 20, 1848, he married Miss Helen M. Judson, in the old Clark-Street M. E. church in Chicago, her father at that time being Pastor of the society there. In the spring of 1848 he returned with his wife to Tennessee, where his two children, Alla May and Philo Judson, were born.

In the fall of 1849, through the mismanagement of an associate, he lost what little he had accumulated and was left in debt. He soon managed to earn means to pay his debts, returned to De Kalb Co., Ill., and entered upon the practice of his profession at Sycamore, the county seat. On arrival from the South he had but one-quarter of a dollar in money, and scanty clothing and bedding for himself and family. He borrowed a little money, practiced law, worked in public offices, kept books for some of the business men of the town, and some railroad engineering, till the spring of 1854, when he removed to Evanston, 12 miles north of Chicago, a place then but recently laid out, under the supervision of the Northwestern University, a Methodist institution. Of the latter his father-in-law was then financial agent and business manager. Here Mr. Beveridge prospered, and the next year (1855) opened a law office in Chicago, where he found the battle somewhat hard; but he persevered with encouragement and increasing success.

Aug. 12, 1861, his law partner, Gen. John F. Farnsworth, secured authority to raise a regiment of cavalry, and authorized Mr. Beveridge to raise a company for it. He succeeded in a few days in raising the company, of course enlisting himself along with it. The regiment rendezvoused at St. Charles, Ill., was mustered in Sept. 18, and on its organization Mr. B. was elected Second Major. It was attached, Oct. 11, to the Eighth Cavalry and to the Army of the Potomac. He served with the regiment until November, 1863, participating in some 40 bat-

ties and skirmishes: was at Fair Oaks, the seven days' fight around Richmond, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. He commanded the regiment the greater part of the summer of 1863, and it was while lying in camp this year that he originated the policy of encouraging recruits as well as the fighting capacity of the soldiery, by the wholesale furlough system. It worked so well that many other officers adopted it. In the fall of this year he recruited another company, against heavy odds, in January, 1864, was commissioned Colonel of the 17th Ill. Cav., and skirmished around in Missouri, concluding with the reception of the surrender of Gen. Kirby Smith's army in Arkansas. In 1865 he commanded various sub-districts in the Southwest. He was mustered out Feb. 6, 1866, safe from the casualties of war and a stouter man than when he first enlisted. His men idolized him.

He then returned to Chicago, to practice law, with no library and no clientage, and no political experience except to help others into office. In the fall of 1866 he was elected Sheriff of Cook County, serving one term; next, until November, 1870, he practiced law and closed up the unfinished business of his office. He was then elected State Senator; in November, 1871, he was elected Congressman at large; in November, 1872, he was elected Lieutenant Governor on the ticket with Gov. Oglesby; the latter being elected to the U. S. Senate, Mr. Beveridge became Governor, Jan. 21, 1873. Thus, inside of a few weeks, he was Congressman at large, Lieutenant Governor and Governor. The principal events occurring during Gov. Beveridge's administration were: The completion of the revision of the statutes, begun in 1869; the partial success of the "farmers' movement;" "Haines' Legislature" and Illinois' exhibit at the Centennial.


Since the close of his gubernatorial term ex-Gov. Beveridge has been a member of the firm of Beveridge & Dewey, bankers and dealers in commercial paper at 71 Dearborn Street (McCormick Block), Chicago, and since November, 1881, he has also been Assistant United States Treasurer: office in the Government Building. His residence is still at Evanston.

He has a brother and two sisters yet residing in De Kalb County—James H. Beveridge, Mrs. Jennet Henry and Mrs. Isabel French.


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McCallum



SHELBY M. CULLOM.



HELBY M. CULLOM, Governor 1877-83, is the sixth child of the late Richard N. Cullom, and was born Nov. 22, 1829, in Wayne Co., Ky., where his father then resided, and whence both the Illinois and Tennessee branches of the family originated. In the following year the family emigrated to the vicinity of Washington, Tazewell Co., Ill., when that section was very sparsely settled. They located on Deer Creek, in a grove at the time occupied by a party of Indians, attracted there by the superior hunting and fishing afforded in that vicinity. The following winter was

known as the "hard winter," the snow being very deep and lasting and the weather severely cold; and the family had to subsist mainly on boiled corn or hominy, and some wild game, for several weeks. In the course of time Mr. R. N. Cullom became a prominent citizen and was several times elected to the Legislature, both before and after the removal of the capital from Vandalia to Springfield. He died about 1873.

Until about 19 years of age young Cullom grew up to agricultural pursuits, attending school as he had opportunity during the winter. Within this time, however, he spent several months teaching school,

and in the following summer he "broke prairie" with an ox team for the neighbors. With the money obtained by these various ventures, he undertook a course of study at the Rock River Seminary, a Methodist institution at Mt. Morris, Ogle County; but the sudden change to the in-door life of a student told severely upon his health, and he was taken home, being considered in a hopeless condition. While at Mt. Morris he heard Hon. E. B. Washburne make his first speech.

On recovering health, Mr. Cullom concluded to study law, under the instruction of Abraham Lincoln, at Springfield, who had by this time attained some notoriety as an able lawyer; but the latter, being absent from his office most of the time, advised Mr. Cullom to enter the office of Stuart & Edwards. After about a year of study there, however, his health failed again, and he was obliged to return once more to out-door life. Accordingly he bought hogs for packing, for A. G. Tyng, in Peoria, and while he regained his health he gained in purse, netting \$400 in a few weeks. Having been admitted to the Bar, he went to Springfield, where he was soon elected City Attorney, on the Anti-Nebraska ticket.

In 1856 he ran on the Fillmore ticket as a Presidential Elector, and, although failing to be elected as such, he was at the same time elected a Representative in the Legislature from Sangamon County, by a local coalition of the American and Republican parties. On the organization of the House, he received the vote of the Fillmore men for Speaker. Practicing

law until 1860, he was again elected to the Legislature, as a Republican, while the county went Democratic on the Presidential ticket. In January following he was elected Speaker, probably the youngest man who had ever presided over an Illinois Legislature. After the session of 1861, he was a candidate for the State Constitutional Convention called for that year, but was defeated, and thus escaped the disgrace of being connected with that abortive party scheme to revolutionize the State Government. In 1862 he was a candidate for the State Senate, but was defeated. The same year, however, he was appointed by President Lincoln on a Government Commission, in company with Gov. Boutwell of Massachusetts and Charles A. Dana, since of the *New York Sun*, to investigate the affairs of the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments at Cairo. He devoted several months to this duty.

In 1864 he entered upon a larger political field, being nominated as the Republican candidate for Congress from the Eighth (Springfield) District, in opposition to the incumbent, John T. Stuart, who had been elected in 1862 by about 1,500 majority over Leonard Swett, then of Bloomington, now of Chicago. The result was the election of Mr. Cullom in November following by a majority of 1,785. In 1866 he was re-elected to Congress, over Dr. E. S. Fowler, by the magnificent majority of 4,103! In 1868 he was again a candidate, defeating the Hon. B. S. Edwards, another of his old preceptors, by 2,884 votes.

During his first term in Congress he served on the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Expenditures in the Treasury Department; in his second term, on the Committees on Foreign Affairs and on Territories; and in his third term he succeeded Mr. Ashley, of Ohio, to the Chairmanship of the latter. He introduced a bill in the House, to aid in the execution of law in Utah, which caused more consternation among the Mormons than any measure had previously, but which, though it passed the House, failed to pass the Senate.

The Republican Convention which met May 25, 1876, nominated Mr. Cullom for Governor, while the other contestant was Gov. Beveridge. For Lieutenant-Governor they nominated Andrew Shuman, editor of the *Chicago Journal*. For the same offices the Democrats, combining with the Anti-Monopolists, placed in nomination Lewis Steward, a wealthy

farmer and manufacturer, and A. A. Glenn. The result of the election was rather close, Mr. Cullom obtaining only 6,800 majority. He was inaugurated Jan. 8, 1877.

Great depression prevailed in financial circles at this time, as a consequence of the heavy failures of 1873 and afterward, the effect of which had seemed to gather force from that time to the end of Gov. Cullom's first administration. This unspeculative period was not calculated to call forth any new issues, but the Governor's energies were at one time put to task to quell a spirit of insubordination that had been begun in Pittsburg, Pa., among the laboring classes, and transferred to Illinois at Chicago, East St. Louis and Braidwood, at which places laboring men for a short time refused to work or allow others to work. These disturbances were soon quelled and the wheels of industry again set in motion.

In May, 1880, Gov. Cullom was re-nominated by the Republicans, against Lyman Trumbull, by the Democrats; and although the former party was somewhat handicapped in the campaign by a zealous faction opposed to Grant for President and to Grant men for office generally, Mr. Cullom was re-elected by about 314,565, to 277,532 for the Democratic State ticket. The Greenback vote at the same time was about 27,000. Both Houses of the Legislature again became Republican, and no representative of the Greenback or Socialist parties were elected. Gov. Cullom was inaugurated Jan. 10, 1881. In his message he announced that the last dollar of the State debt had been provided for.

March 4, 1883, the term of David Davis as United States Senator from Illinois expired, and Gov. Cullom was chosen to succeed him. This promoted Lieutenant-Governor John M. Hamilton to the Governorship. Senator Cullom's term in the United States Senate will expire March 4, 1889.

As a practitioner of law Mr. C. has been a member of the firm of Cullom, Scholes & Mather, at Springfield; and he has also been President of the State National Bank.

He has been married twice,—the first time Dec. 12, 1855, to Miss Hannah Fisher, by whom he had two daughters; and the second time May 5, 1863, to Julia Fisher. Mrs. C. is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which religious body Mr. C. is also in sympathy.

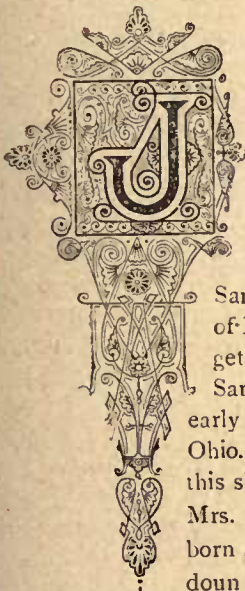
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John M. Hamilton



John M. Hamilton.



JOHN MARSHALL HAMILTON, Governor 1883-5, was born May 28, 1847, in a log house upon a farm about two miles from Richwood, Union County, Ohio. His father was Samuel Hamilton, the eldest son of Rev. Wm. Hamilton, who, together with his brother, the Rev. Samuel Hamilton, was among the early pioneer Methodist preachers in Ohio. The mother of the subject of this sketch was, before her marriage, Mrs. Nancy McMorris, who was born and raised in Fauquier or Loudoun County, Va., and related to the

two large families of Youngs and Marshalls, well known in that commonwealth; and from the latter family name was derived the middle name of Gov. Hamilton.

In March, 1854, Mr. Hamilton's father sold out his little pioneer forest home in Union County, O., and, loading his few household effects and family (of six children) into two emigrant covered wagons, moved to Roberts Township, Marshall Co., Ill., being 21 days on the route. Swamps, unbridged streams and innumerable hardships and privations met them on their way. Their new home had been previously selected by the father. Here, after many long years of toil, they succeeded in paying for the land and making a comfortable home. John was, of course,

brought up to hard manual labor, with no schooling except three or four months in the year at a common country school. However, he evinced a capacity and taste for a high order of self-education, by studying or reading what books he could borrow, as the family had but very few in the house. Much of his study he prosecuted by the light of a log fire in the old-fashioned chimney place. The financial panic of 1857 caused the family to come near losing their home, to pay debts; but the father and two sons, William and John, "buckled to" and persevered in hard labor and economy until they redeemed their place from the mortgage.

When the tremendous excitement of the political campaign of 1860 reached the neighborhood of Roberts Township, young Hamilton, who had been brought up in the doctrine of anti-slavery, took a zealous part in favor of Lincoln's election. Making special efforts to procure a little money to buy a uniform, he joined a company of Lincoln Wide-Awakes at Magnolia, a village not far away. Directly after the ensuing election it became evident that trouble would ensue with the South, and this Wide-Awake company, like many others throughout the country, kept up its organization and transformed itself into a military company. During the ensuing summer they met often for drill and became proficient; but when they offered themselves for the war, young Hamilton was rejected on account of his youth, he being then but 14 years of age. During the winter of 1863-4 he attended an academy at Henry, Marshall County,

and in the following May he again enlisted, for the fourth time, when he was placed in the 141st Ill. Vol. Inf., a regiment then being raised at Elgin, Ill., for the 100-day service. He took with him 13 other lads from his neighborhood, for enlistment in the service. This regiment operated in Southwestern Kentucky, for about five months, under Gen. Paine.

The following winter, 1864-5, Mr. Hamilton taught school, and during the two college years 1865-7, he went through three years of the curriculum of the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio. The third year he graduated, the fourth in a class of 46, in the classical department. In due time he received the degree of M. A. For a few months he was the Principal of Marshall "College" at Henry, an academy under the auspices of the M. E. Church. By this time he had commenced the study of law, and after earning some money as a temporary Professor of Latin at the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, he entered the law office of Weldon, Tipton & Benjamin, of that city. Each member of this firm has since been distinguished as a Judge. Admitted to the Bar in May, 1870, Mr. Hamilton was given an interest in the same firm, Tipton having been elected Judge. In October following he formed a partnership with J. H. Rowell, at that time Prosecuting Attorney. Their business was then small, but they increased it to very large proportions, practicing in all grades of courts, including even the U. S. Supreme Court, and this partnership continued unbroken until Feb. 6, 1883, when Mr. Hamilton was sworn in as Executive of Illinois. On the 4th of March following Mr. Rowell took his seat in Congress.

In July, 1871, Mr. Hamilton married Miss Helen M. Williams, the daughter of Prof. Wm. G. Williams, Professor of Greek in the Ohio Wesleyan University. Mr. and Mrs. H. have two daughters and one son.

In 1876 Mr. Hamilton was nominated by the Republicans for the State Senate, over other and older competitors. He took an active part "on the stump" in the campaign, for the success of his party, and was elected by a majority of 1,640 over his Democratic-Greenback opponent. In the Senate he served on the Committees on Judiciary, Revenue, State Institutions, Appropriations, Education, and on Miscellany; and during the contest for the election of a U. S. Senator, the Republicans endeavoring to re-

elect John A. Logan, he voted for the war chief on every ballot, even alone when all the other Republicans had gone over to the Hon. E. B. Lawrence and the Democrats and Independents elected Judge David Davis. At this session, also, was passed the first Board of Health and Medical Practice act, of which Mr. Hamilton was a champion, against so much opposition that the bill was several times "laid on the table." Also, this session authorized the location and establishment of a southern penitentiary, which was fixed at Chester. In the session of 1879 Mr. Hamilton was elected President *pro tem.* of the Senate, and was a zealous supporter of John A. Logan for the U. S. Senate, who was this time elected without any trouble.

In May, 1880, Mr. Hamilton was nominated on the Republican ticket for Lieutenant Governor, his principal competitors before the Convention being Hon. Wm. A. James, ex-Speaker of the House of Representatives, Judge Robert Bell, of Wabash County, Hon. T. T. Fountain, of Perry County, and Hon. M. M. Saddler, of Marion County. He engaged actively in the campaign, and his ticket was elected by a majority of 41,200. As Lieutenant Governor, he presided almost continuously over the Senate in the 32d General Assembly and during the early days of the 33d, until he succeeded to the Governorship. When the Legislature of 1883 elected Gov. Cullom to the United States Senate, Lieut. Gov. Hamilton succeeded him, under the Constitution, taking the oath of office Feb. 6, 1883. He bravely met all the annoyances and embarrassments incidental upon taking up another's administration. The principal events with which Gov. Hamilton was connected as the Chief Executive of the State were, the mine disaster at Braidwood, the riots in St. Clair and Madison Counties in May, 1883, the appropriations for the State militia, the adoption of the Harper high-license liquor law, the veto of a dangerous railroad bill, etc.

The Governor was a Delegate at large to the National Republican Convention at Chicago in June, 1884, where his first choice for President was John A. Logan, and second choice Chester A. Arthur; but he afterward zealously worked for the election of Mr. Blaine, true to his party.

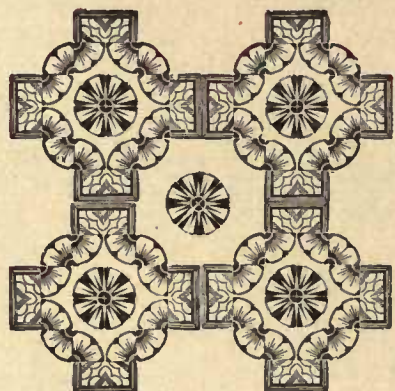
Mr. Hamilton's term as Governor expired Jan. 30, 1885, when the great favorite "Dick" Oglesby was inaugurated.



Champaign County,

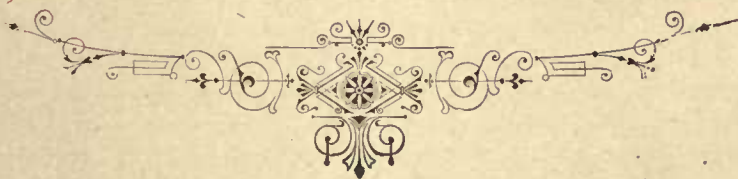
Illinois.








BIOGRAPHICAL.







INTRODUCTORY.



CHAMPAIGN COUNTY has an exceptionally interesting history. We have not, however, proposed to place this on record, yet a few lines regarding its location, advantages, and the wonderful transformation made from the wilderness of forty years ago, will not, we deem, be inappropriate. While there is no county in the State that possesses all the advantages of an Acadia, yet Champaign County may be credited with coming as near to this as any one of them. Its geographical location is very favorable, being only 128 miles south of Chicago, 160 northwest of St. Louis, 106 west of Indianapolis, and ninety miles east of Peoria. This happy location gives it ready access by rail to the cities named, and enables it to secure the benefits of favorable markets. In area, Champaign County is among the largest in the State, and for the value of its products, it is excelled by few. It is exceedingly well laid out, being an oblong square, thirty-six miles north and south and twenty-eight miles east and west, and having an acreage of 645,120, with a population in round numbers of about 42,000. This entire area is under good cultivation, having good roads, elegant farms, fine houses and excellent schools.

The county is traversed by four different lines of

railroads, giving it ample transportation facilities. Its topography is very favorable. The land forms a watershed which carries the water off in every direction. One of the highest points between Chicago and Cairo is at Ludlow. The drainage is good, and there are very few sloughs now in the county. The soil is a rich, black vegetable loam, varying from one to two feet in depth, and very productive. The county is covered mostly with undulating prairies with occasional groves, and some slightly broken lands. It is well watered by numerous streams. Underlying the surface are extensive coal beds which afford a ready and cheap article of fuel. The climate is of the medium temperature, which makes it very desirable as a place of residence, and very favorable to agricultural interests as well as stock-raising.

Though settlers came into the county at a very early date, the commencement of its rapid growth may be dated from the construction of the Illinois Central Railroad in 1854-55. This was the turning point in the history of the county. The settlements at first were confined to groves and timber belts, and the cabins were built of logs. The first white men to come into the county, as far as is known, were the United States surveyors, who divided the county into townships. This was in the summer of 1821. Prior to this, it is supposed, there were hunters and trappers here, but they left no name or sign behind them of their coming or going. The first settler or squatter, was Runnel Fielder, who came in

1822, and located in the northeast corner of section 11, Urbana Township. Fielder, however, made no entry of land until 1828, which was on section 12, Urbana Township. This pioneer has also the credit of planting the first orchard in the county. Permanent settlement was not begun until the year 1828.

Champaign, like all new counties in this State, until brought under cultivation, was the home and nursery of malarial diseases. They were a great hindrance to the settlement of the county. Sometimes there were not well persons enough in a neighborhood to take care of the sick. Physicians were few, or entirely wanting.

The first school-house was built in 1832, near Urbana. Not long before this was the first school taught. The county was organized from lands attached to Vermilion County by an act of the Legislature, approved Feb. 28, 1833. The first meeting of the County Commissioners was held in May following. Commissioners from Clark, Coles and Edgar Counties were appointed to locate the county seat. Urbana received this honor, though there were other places contesting. The only post-office in the county at that time was on the farm of Mathias Rhinehart, and was named Van Buren, after Martin Van Buren, who was then occupying the position of Vice President of the United States. As soon as the county seat was determined upon, settlers began to gather in. They located at first on the south side of the grove. Stores and shops were soon started, and roads opened to the different parts of the county. The Van Buren post-office was moved to Urbana and its name perished. The population of the county at that time was about 800. In 1835 it had increased to 1,250, and in 1850 to 2,649, not quite 100 a year.

From the advent of the railroads, Champaign County has had a steady and healthy growth,

until now she is one of the foremost counties in the State. The principal city is Champaign, which is a very active business place, and an attractive place of residence. Urbana is the county seat and the next in population. Homer, Rantoul, Tolono and Mahomet are also thriving little cities. There are several prosperous villages, among which are St. Joseph and Philo.

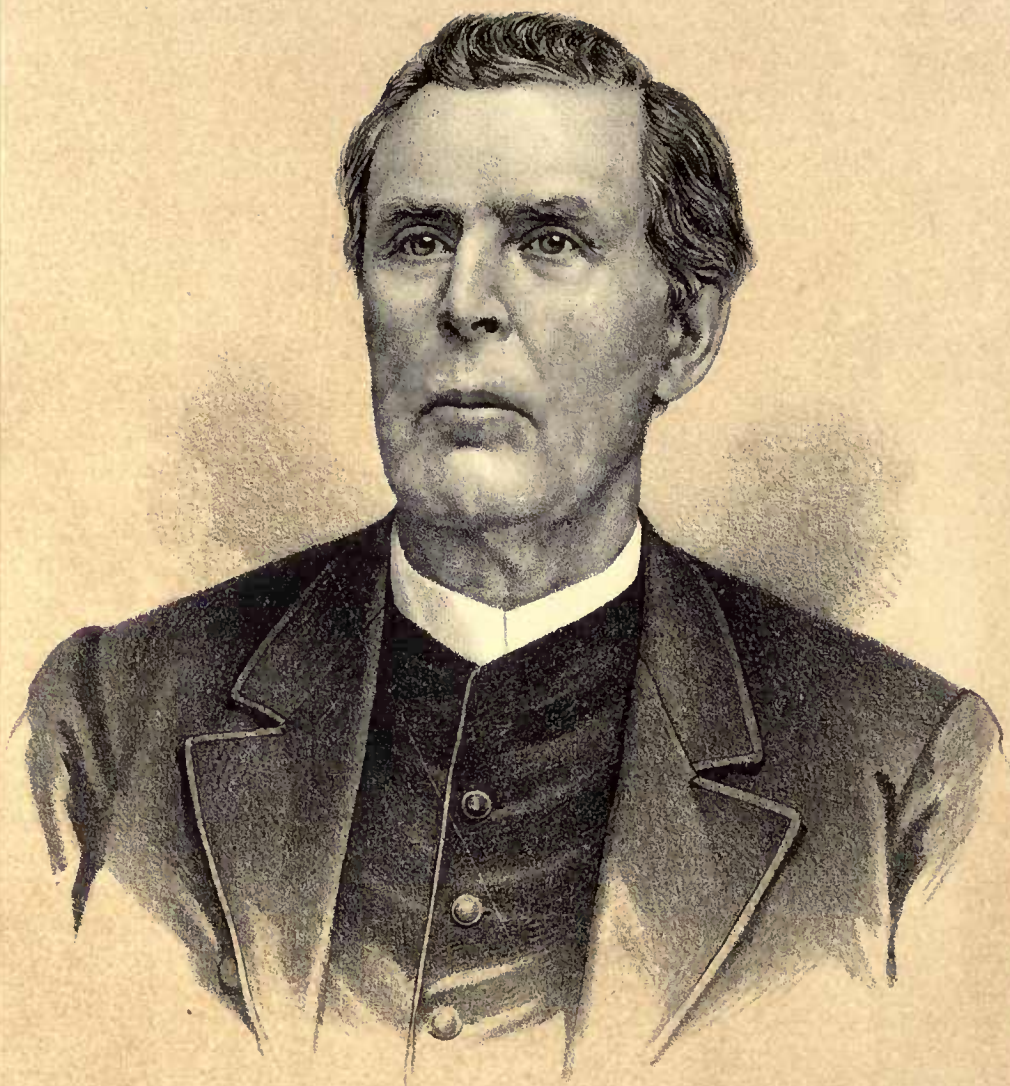
Champaign County is the seat of one of the great educational institutions of Illinois, the State University. It has an attractive and healthy location on high grounds, between Champaign and Urbana. The domain occupied by this University embraces about 625 acres. There are several buildings connected with this institution, all of which are well built, commodious and attractive. In addition to agriculture, horticulture, practical mechanics and engineering, the curriculum embraces a full English and a classic course. Great pains have been taken by the State in selecting the best professors and educators for this University, in all its departments, and thoroughness in all branches of study is its distinguishing feature.

The public schools the county has endeavored to make first-class. Some of the city school buildings are elegant, and all are substantial, numbering within the borders of the county about 245.

In the growth and development of her vast resources, in her agriculture and stock-raising, in all the departments of labor in which busy man is engaged; in her churches and schools, in civilization and culture, Champaign County has taken a front rank. Well may her people be proud of their product; well may her pioneers turn with pride to their achievements. Within a half century a wilderness has been subdued and converted into beautiful farms and thriving, populous cities, and a community established commanding the admiration of the country.



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Mark Conley



BIOGRAPHICAL.

THE portrait upon the opposite page is that of one of the best known and most highly esteemed men in Champaign County, Mark Carley. He was one of the early benefactors of its capital city, and has probably done more than any other one man in bringing it to its present prosperous condition. He has spent very much time and money upon improvements for the general good, and on every hand may be seen the silent evidences of the work which he inaugurated in this locality nearly thirty-five years ago. Our subject was born in Hancock, Hillsboro Co., N. H., Aug. 24, 1799. With the history of his ancestors prior to his grandfather he is not familiar, further than that he knows they were of English extraction. His paternal grandfather, Joseph Carley, was born in Massachusetts, Feb. 17, 1718, and in early manhood married Miss Sallie Washburn, who was born Sept. 1, 1729. This lady was connected with the numerous family of Washburns, who have since filled so large a space in State and National affairs of this country. The father of Mark Carley was Elijah, the youngest of his parents' family, and who was born in Massachusetts, May 21, 1771. The mother of our subject, formerly Miss Agnes Graham, was born in New Hampshire, July 18, 1772. The elder brothers of

Elijah Carley served in the Revolutionary War, and one of them left a soldier's discharge signed by the hand of Washington himself. As may be supposed, this document is carefully preserved as an invaluable relic. Elijah Carley, Sr., and one of his eldest sons, served in the War of 1812. Two years prior to this, however, the former removed from New Hampshire to Vermont with his family.

In the year 1815 young Mark commenced to learn the trade of a house carpenter and millwright, at which he served an apprenticeship of four years, and subsequently followed milling and the gin business in Louisiana for seventeen years, and until he was thirty-five years old. In 1835 he removed to Clermont County, Ohio, where he purchased 300 acres of land and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He subsequently added to his first possessions and remained a resident of the Buckeye State until 1853, in the meantime having visited California. After his return from the Pacific Slope he decided to make his home further westward, and coming to this county located first at Urbana, whence he removed to Champaign. Soon afterward he put up a dwelling on State street, and erected the first grain warehouse in the city, placing within it the first steam engine which operated a corn-sheller.

In 1857 Mr. Carley purchased lots in Tolono, and there also built the first warehouse, and put in the first steam engine and side track for cars. He encouraged the settling up of Champaign by every means within his power, such as erecting, building and buying city property, and disposing of it at a reasonable figure to those who desired to become citi-

zens. His fine business abilities, in connection with his genial disposition and courteous manners to all, have secured for him scores of life-long friends, who esteem him as much as they are grateful to him for what he has done for them personally, and for what he has done for the community in general. He has now arrived at fourscore years and eight, with all his faculties in fine preservation, and retains the same love of sociability which characterized his younger years. He has contributed liberally to all worthy enterprises, giving of his time, means and influence to the support of every project calculated to increase the welfare and prosperity of Champaign County.

Mark Carley was united in marriage with Miss Abigail W. Stevens, of Springfield, Vt., April 27, 1830. Of this union there were born eleven children, only three of whom are now living, and are residents of Champaign. Mrs. Carley departed this life in the latter city, Nov. 12, 1871. She was a lady of much force of character, highly esteemed, and well worthy to be the companion of such a man as Mark Carley.

Mr. Carley, during his earlier years, was a Clay Whig, and a Fremont and Lincoln Republican, but later has voted independently, giving his support to the men whom he believed best qualified for office. In this, as in all other duties of life, he has brought his conscience to bear, and has little to regret during the course of a remarkably long and worthy life.



ALLISON LOWMAN. This prosperous and enterprising farmer of Scott Township came to this vicinity in the winter of 1883, and has lived here since that time. His homestead, which is pleasantly located on section 14, consists of eighty acres of good land with first-class improvements, where he has operated successfully, and by his upright course as a business man and industry as a farmer, has gained for himself a good position socially and financially, and is esteemed a valued factor of society.

The parents of our subject, John and Mary (Allison) Lowman, were born, reared and married in

Indiana County, Pa., where the father died about 1881. The mother still survives, and continues to live in the Keystone State. The parental family included seven children, of whom Allison of our sketch was the oldest. He was born in the same county as his parents, on the 28th of October, 1837. He remained under the home roof until twenty-one years of age, and was soon afterward married, locating on his father's farm, where he remained until 1862. In July of that year, the Civil War being then in progress, he became a member of the 11th Pennsylvania Infantry, and served faithfully as a soldier until the preservation of the Union was fully assured. He was mustered out of the service at Harrisburg, Pa., and returning to his native county, resumed the peaceful vocation of a farmer's life on the old homestead, where he continued until starting for the West.

The marriage of Allison Lowman with Miss Sarah Lytle was celebrated in Indiana County, Pa., Dec. 18, 1858. Mrs. L. is the daughter of John and Mary (Robinson) Lytle, both natives of Pennsylvania. They located in Indiana County after their marriage, became the parents of thirteen children, and there passed the remainder of their days. Mrs. L. was born in that county on the 1st of May, 1838. The children of our subject and his wife, eight in number, are as follows: Inez J., Alice M., Belle A., Elizabeth E., John L., Mary A., Samuel L. and Cora. Inez J. became the wife of Chalmers Stitt, a farmer of Scott Township; Alice died in Indiana County, Pa., when but nine years old, while on a visit to her grandfather; Belle is the wife of Joseph Mullikin, and resides in Scott Township. Mr. Lowman has held the offices of Road Commissioner, School Director and Constable. Socially he is a member of Champaign Post No. 140, G. A. R. Politically, he is a true blue Republican, and with his excellent wife a member in good standing of the Methodist Church.

In March, 1869, after Mr. L. became a resident of Scott Township, and was living three-fourths of a mile south of Bondville, on a small tract of land where he had erected a new house, and which he had occupied but five days, about eleven o'clock at night a terrific storm of wind and rain burst upon them and the entire house with its contents was

blown to the four winds. Mr. and Mrs. Lowman with their three children were landed in the garden without serious injury, but as may be supposed, badly frightened. Mr. L., clad in only a shirt and overcoat, set out on horseback to find a shelter for his family, but the night was so dark that he became bewildered on the prairie and lost his way. He finally gave the reins to his faithful horse, which carried him all right to the residence of a Mr. Foster, who returned with him and assisted in the search for the wife and children. They twice passed the place where the house had stood before they could locate it, on account of the darkness. They finally found the stable where he had placed his family for shelter, and it was four o'clock in the morning before he had them comfortably housed in the dwelling of Mr. Foster.



GR. SHAWHAN, County Superintendent of Schools, is located at Urbana, of which city he became a resident in 1882. He is a graduate of the Illinois University, and has been a teacher of long experience and more than ordinary ability. He was called to the duties of his present position in 1881, and has acquitted himself with credit and satisfaction to all concerned. He was born in Rush County, Ind., March 20, 1844, and is the son of William M. and Nancy (Redmond) Shawhan, who were both natives of Harrison County, Ky. The grandfather of our subject, John Shawhan, married Miss McCune, of Kentucky, of which State he was also a native, and afterward engaged in milling on the Licking River. Their son, William M., was born in 1803, received a practical education, and was associated with his father in the mill until 1836. He then removed to Indiana, purchasing 300 acres of land in Rush County, which he occupied for twenty years, and then sold, to become a resident of this county. Here he purchased 320 acres of land in Raymond Township, together with 160 acres for his sons. He remained on this farm until his death, which took place while he was attending divine service at the Christian Church at Sidney, on the 2d of May, 1875. At the close of the serv-

ice he dropped dead, of heart disease as it is supposed. He had been a member of this religious organization since a young man, and later was elected an Elder, in which capacity he served for many years. He was a man of large benevolence, and besides contributing money to the erection of the church building near his Indiana home, donated the land upon which it stood and also the sites for the academy and district school-houses. He always took an active interest in the establishment of schools and churches throughout the county, and was School Treasurer of Raymond Township for a period of twelve years. Prior to the election of 1846, he was Democratic in politics, and cast his last vote that year, for which purpose he rode on horseback twelve miles to deposit his ballot in favor of the Free School law of Indiana. He assisted in the establishment of Butler University at Irvington, near Indianapolis, and kept up a scholarship for many years. During his residence in Kentucky he was a Captain in the State Militia. His family included ten children, of whom seven are now living, and the record is as follows: Charles is farming in Nebraska, and Daniel in Indiana; Joseph, a resident of Kentucky, is employed as a traveling salesman; Margaret, Mrs. Higginbotham, is a resident of Champaign; G. R., of our sketch, is the next eldest; James is farming in Champaign County, and William is Postmaster in Nebraska.

The subject of this biography spent his childhood and youth on the farm, receiving a good common-school education, and when seventeen years of age, commenced teaching. He was thus occupied mostly during the winter seasons for ten years following. He entered upon a course of study in the Illinois State University in 1871, and after graduating, resumed his labors as a teacher in Mansfield, Piatt County, having charge of a graded school which he conducted for two years. He then came to this county, and was made Principal of the Homer graded school, which included five departments, and of which he had charge for a period of four and one-half years. In December, 1881, he was appointed County Superintendent to fill a vacancy, elected in 1882 and re-elected in 1886.

Prof. Shawhan was united in marriage with Miss Vista Brown in the spring of 1867. Mrs. Shawhan

is a native of Roscoe, Ohio, and the daughter of Samuel W. and Catherine (Potter) Brown, natives respectively of Marblehead, Mass., and Pennsylvania. The early representatives of the Potter family in this country were descendants of a brother of Gen. Joseph Warren, of Bunker Hill fame, and by intermarriage, from Gov. Gage, of Boston. Of this marriage there have been born four children; two are living—Gertrude and William W. Prof. Shawhan is Republican in politics, and with his excellent wife, a member in good standing of the Christian Church. Socially he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and is a Good Templar. The family residence is pleasantly located, and is the resort of the cultured and intelligent people of Urbana.

ORRISON SHREVE, one of the oldest and most honored pioneers of St. Joseph Township, is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Brown County, Dec. 2, 1811, and is now fast advancing to fourscore years. He came to this county with his family in the spring of 1853, and has consequently been a witness of the remarkable changes which have occurred during a period of over thirty years. The scenes which he has witnessed and the experiences through which he has passed have probably brought to his mind many times the maxim that "truth is stranger than fiction." He came to Illinois when it was comparatively young in years, and when he himself was strong and in the pride of his manhood, and he has witnessed with a feeling of gratification, the development of the State, which has now become one of the principal commonwealths in the West.

The first representatives of the Shreve family in this country emigrated from Amsterdam, making their first settlement in Pennsylvania, a branch of the family settling in Mason County, Ky., in the early settlement of that region. In that locality, too, was born Caleb Shreve, the father of our subject, whose marriage is recorded as having taken place in about 1799, in Mason County. Five years later, in 1804, he removed with his family to Ohio, and locating in Brown County, continued a resident there until the spring of 1834, whence he removed

to Fountain County, Ind., and from there in the spring of 1835 to this county. He purchased land in Sidney Township, upon which he settled, but only lived until the September following. The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Anna Slack, who was born near the city of Baltimore, Md., and was the daughter of John Slack, Esq., who was also a native of that locality. By her marriage with Caleb Shreve she became the mother of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, who all lived to mature years, married and reared families of their own. Caleb Shreve had served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and our subject still has in his possession the land warrant which was issued in payment of his services.

Orrison Shreve passed his boyhood and youth in Brown County, Ohio, and after repairing to Ripley learned the tanner's trade, which he followed in his native State for eleven years. When twenty-three years old he was married, Aug. 14, 1834, to Miss Eleanor Hamilton, a native of his own county, and the daughter of Robert and Nancy Hamilton. Our subject, resolving then to change his occupation, located on a farm in Brown County, where he remained until fall, in 1853, and then began making preparations for a removal to the Prairie State. After reaching this county he located in St. Joseph Township near the Sidney line, where for several years he farmed on rented land, and met with good success. In 1871 he became a resident of the town of St. Joseph, and for thirteen years had charge of a water tank of the I., B. & W. R. R. Later he retired from active labor, and is passing the sunset of life in peace and quiet in St. Joseph.

Mr. S. has been twice married. She who was the first companion, and whom he married in his native State, became the mother of eight children, namely: Joseph H., Robert N.; Nancy A., now deceased; William O., a merchant of St. Joseph; Mary E., Amanda J., Joshua E. and Ely F. The latter served as a soldier in the late war and was killed at the battle of Murfreesboro. Of these children, five died of cholera. The second wife of Mr. S. was formerly Miss Rebecca Hayden, our subject being her third husband. Of her former marriages there were born five children, and by her union with Mr. Shreve five children were born.

Mr. S. became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1834, with which he has since been connected, and strives to perform his duties faithfully. His wife is a member of the same church and attends quite regularly at St. Joseph.

DAVID B. STAYTON, JR., senior member of the firm of Stayton & Son, dealers in general merchandise, is numbered among the representative business men of St. Joseph, among whose people he has grown up and among whom he was born on his father's old homestead in St. Joseph Township, Dec. 2, 1862. Our subject is the son of David B. and Sarah (Bartley) Stayton, who are numbered among the oldest and most highly respected residents of St. Joseph Township. The father, a native of Mason County, Ky., was reared to farming pursuits, and at an early period in life became skilled in its various duties, also receiving fair advantages educationally. By the assistance of his worthy and intelligent wife he became an important factor in the business and agricultural community, establishing a good homestead and rearing a fine family of sons and daughters.

The subject of this sketch took kindly to the excellent parental training which he received at home, and has continually improved his mind by the perusal of books and the various periodicals of the day, which have kept him well posted upon the affairs of the world in general. He remained a member of his father's household until the spring of 1881, and was then united in marriage with Miss Lydia Birdzell, of this county. Mrs. S. is the youngest daughter of John and Catherine Birdzell, who are mentioned elsewhere in this volume. The former was born in 1828, and died in March, 1884. His wife was born in 1832. Mrs. S. was born Nov. 6, 1864, and reared on the farm by her parents, receiving a fair education. Of her marriage with our subject there have been born three bright daughters, named respectively Maude, Lettie and Oral Anna.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. S. located in St. Joseph Township, where they continued until

July, 1884. Mr. S. then formed a partnership with William H. Swearingen, and they embarked in the grocery business. At the end of six months Mr. Swearingen disposed of his interests to D. B. Stayton, Sr., the father of our subject. The firm is a strong one, and carries a full stock of dry-goods, groceries and notions, and has an extensive and constantly increasing trade. Their straightforward methods of doing business and promptness in meeting their obligations have commended them to the respect of the people in that section, by whom they are generously patronized and whose confidence they enjoy in a more than ordinary degree.

WILLIAM WHITE, of St. Joseph Township, has distinguished himself as one of the most energetic and successful farmers and stock-raisers of that region, where he is the owner of 300 acres of valuable land, a commodious and substantial residence, good barns and out-buildings, and everything required by the progressive and intelligent agriculturist. The dwelling stands upon a gentle elevation, and commands a fine view of the surrounding country. The eye of the passer-by is invariably attracted to the neatness and good order of the entire premises, and the spirit of thrift which is one of its prevailing elements.

The master spirit which has presided over the homestead which we have described, was first introduced to the responsibilities of life in Greenbrier County, W. Va., on the 3d of June, 1832. His parents, David and Elizabeth (Reynolds) White, were also natives of the Old Dominion, where they were married and remained until removing to Ross County, Ohio, where the death of both parents took place, the father dying in 1847, and the mother in 1860. They reared a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters, who, with one exception, were all married, and all but two remained residents of the Buckeye State. One brother is a resident of this county, another was accidentally killed by a mowing-machine in Ohio.

The subject of this sketch, who was the third child and son of his parents, spent his earliest years in his native State, but completed his education in the district schools of Ross County, Ohio. He was

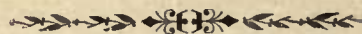
but sixteen years old when his father died, and remained with his mother three years afterward, then began life on his own account, by laboring on a farm at \$15 per month for three months. He was afterward proffered larger wages from another party, which he accepted, and remained in that vicinity until the fall of 1856. His attention was then attracted by the reports coming from the rapidly growing State of Illinois, and he resolved to investigate. He spent his first winter in Moultrie County, and in the spring of 1863 came to this county and commenced operating on a rented farm, of which he remained in possession as a tenant for five years. He then purchased eighty acres from the railroad company on section 30, in St. Joseph Township, upon which there were no improvements. He first put up a small log house which is still standing, and proceeded with the cultivation of his land, meeting with success in his labors. He invested his surplus capital in additional real estate, and is now the owner of 300 acres, most of which is in a good state of cultivation, well fenced and thoroughly drained with about 23,000 rods of tile. He has also added to his annual income by fattening each year numbers of cattle, usually shipping two carloads to the Eastern markets. He has attained quite a reputation also as a breeder of Belgian horses, and exhibits some fine draft animals and roadsters.

While energetically engaged in the labors and cares of farming, Mr. White, with a due appreciation of the value of the home circle and domestic ties, was married, after reaching his majority, to Miss Mary Peniwill, and they commenced housekeeping in the humble dwelling which our subject had erected when taking possession of his first purchase. His early hopes, however, were destined to disappointment, as his young wife died eleven months after her marriage. The thread of his life thus broken was again taken up in 1865, when he was united to Miss Mahala E., daughter of Lewis and Sarah Jones, who had become residents of St. Joseph Township in 1835. Of this union there were born seven children, four sons and three daughters, viz., Marion E., Leona, Isaac, Sarah E., Bertha, Homer R. and Frederick.

Mrs White is a member in good standing of the

United Brethren Church, in which Mr. White has been Trustee, and is one of its most valued supporters. He has never been backward in any enterprise calculated for the welfare of the community when called upon for assistance, and is one of the Trustees of Huss Cemetery, which was laid out and devoted to burial purposes in about 1880. Politically he is staunch Republican, and one of the strongest advocates of law and good order in these times when so many subjects tend to agitate and unsettle the people.

In the career of Mr. White, who commenced the battle of life dependent entirely upon his own resources, we find a striking example of the results of an upright course and persevering industry. His possessions have been but the just reward of a man who has labored faithfully, been prompt to meet his obligations, and who has built up a record of which his children may well be proud.



WG. PARR, of Champaign, is filling an important place in its business interests, and is at present employed as wholesale presser and shipper of hay, his business being located on Lynn street, north of the C., H. & W. R. R. Mr. Parr was born near Greenville, Bond Co., Ill., Oct. 2, 1832, and is the son of Samuel and Nancy (Corrick) Parr, natives respectively of Ireland and Virginia. The mother of our subject descended from substantial Scotch ancestry. Her father, Samuel Corrick, emigrated to America with his parents when four years old. They located in Harrison County, Ohio, and engaged in farming pursuits, and Samuel resided in that county until twenty-five years of age. He then removed to Illinois and settled near Greenville on the east fork of Shoal Creek, where he built a grist and saw mill, and was occupied in running these until 1847. In the meantime he had entered 400 acres of timber land, of which he cleared 100 acres. In the year named he sold out and removed to La Salle County, purchasing 320 acres of land near Peru, where he engaged in farming and remained until his death, in 1860. He was married in 1816, to Miss Nancy

Corrick. They became the parents of eight children, and the mother departed this life upon the homestead of her husband in 1859. Of the eight children comprising the parental household, three only are now living, namely, Mrs. Sarah J. Delatour, of Chicago; James, a resident of Wilmette, Cook Co., Ill., now retired from active business, and W. G., our subject.

Young Parr was reared on his father's farm and remained under the home roof until twenty-six years of age, taking care of his parents until they passed to their final rest. He was married, in 1859, to Miss Maria L. Mitchell, of Wisconsin, who was born in 1839, and was the daughter of Samuel Mitchell, of Virginia. Two years previously our subject had engaged in the dry-goods trade at Granville, Putnam County, but after eighteen months sold out and took charge of the old homestead until 1864. He then sold this also, and removing to McLean County, opened up a stock of goods at Normal, selling the first commodity of the kind in that town. He remained there until the fall of 1870, and the following spring removed to Bloomington, where, in company with Mr. Aldrich, he engaged in the buying and shipping of hay. They left Bloomington in 1874, and established a similar business at Henderson Station, where our subject remained one year, and in 1875 came to Champaign, where he established his present business and has operated since that time. Here he has thirteen acres of land, which he purchased in 1884, supplied with a shapely and convenient residence, and the requisite machinery and buildings for carrying on his business. He employs upon an average six men the year round, and has a profitable and constantly increasing trade.

Mr. and Mrs. Parr became the parents of three children: Nora is a graduate of the High School; Harry G. is in the insurance business in Chicago; Katie is studying art in college. Mr. Parr is Republican in politics, and with his wife and two daughters is prominently connected with the Congregational Church. While living at Normal the first society of this denomination there, was organized, in the parlor of our subject, in 1864, and he was Secretary and Treasurer for seven years afterward. He has taken a genuine interest in the prog-

ress of morality and education, and has contributed his full share toward the building up of society since coming here.



IRA A. MANLEY, Agent of the Illinois Central Railroad and the American Express Company at Tolono, became a resident of this county in 1872. He is a native of Herkimer County, N. Y., born Sept. 30, 1829, and is the son of Addison and Henrietta (Parsons) Manley, the former a native of Vermont, born in 1794, and the latter of Connecticut, born in 1796. The parents were married in Norway, Herkimer Co., N. Y., in 1820, and resided on a farm until 1842, when they took possession of a hotel in the town of Norway, which they carried on two years. Then, resolving to come to the West, in May, 1844, they started for Illinois, and located first on a farm at Byron, Rock River, in Ogle County. The father died in November following, leaving a wife and three children: Mary, the eldest, became the wife of Samuel Willard, of Newport, Herkimer Co., N. Y.; Henrietta A. married John W. Andrews, and resides at Kirkwood, Mo.; her husband is engaged in the jewelry business in St. Louis. Our subject is the second child and only son. The mother was married the second time, in 1847, to a Mr. Jones, and died at Burlington, Iowa, in March, 1860.

Ira A. Manley was fifteen years of age when the family came to Illinois. He completed his education at Mt. Morris Seminary in 1848, and then going to Philadelphia, Pa., entered the employ of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company, under whom he served as telegraph operator and clerk until the latter part of 1855. Then returning to Illinois he located in Iroquois County on a farm, where he remained until 1872, during the last ten years of which time he was also employed as agent of the Illinois Central at Bulkley, being the first railroad agent at that point. In 1872 he removed to Tolono, having been appointed to his present office.

Our subject was married, on the 13th of October, 1852, to Miss Amanda F. Fraley, who is a native of Philadelphia, Pa., and was born Jan. 23, 1831. She

is the daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Baker) Fraley, also natives of the Quaker City. Of this marriage there were born five children: Ira A., Jr., was accidentally killed at the station at Tolono, Dec. 4, 1875, being then seventeen years of age. Those living are Aliee V., now the wife of Charles H. Bell; Mary L., Mrs. Ralph L. Brown; George W. and Horace A.

Mr. Manley, politically, votes with the Republican party, which he has cordially endorsed since its organization in 1856. He is also a strong advocate of temperance and interested in the success of the prohibition movement. Mr. and Mrs. M. are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, our subject having been Superintendent in the Sabbath-school for the last ten years. Socially he is a Royal Arch Mason. He owns his present home in Tolono, and Mrs. Manley has 110 acres of land adjoining the town limits.



THOMAS W. CHAMBERLIN, of the Exchange Bank of Rantoul, is a gentleman highly respected for his excellent business qualities as well as for his genial and companionable character. He has been identified with the business interests of Rantoul since 1875, and established the Exchange Bank in November of that year. Here a general banking business is conducted, and the institution, which is considered thoroughly reliable, has become one of the indispensable features of this locality—one of which Rantoul has reason to be proud.

The childhood and youth of our subject were passed in Hamilton and Warren Cos., Ohio, where his birth took place near Cincinnati, Aug. 20, 1840. His parents, Reuben and Susan (McClane) Chamberlin, were natives respectively of Vermont and New Hampshire, of English and Scottish ancestry. After his marriage Reuben Chamberlin with his young wife located near Cincinnati, Ohio, and for many years was engaged as teacher in the public schools. Later he embarked in mercantile business, but did not live to carry out the plans which he had inaugurated, passing from earth when our subject was a small boy. The family included five children,

of whom Thomas W. is the the only surviving child. The mother is still living, making her home in Rantoul, and for one of her years is quite active in mind and body.

The subject of this sketch, after finishing his primary studies, took a course in the Cincinnati Commercial College, and in May, 1864, came into Ford County, this State, where for a period of seven years he was in the employ of the American Express Company. In 1872 he engaged in banking in Vermilion County, where he remained until the establishment of the Exchange Bank in Rantoul. He has been prominent in local matters since coming here, having been at once recognized as a gentleman of more than ordinary abilities, and one whose judgment could be relied upon. He has served as Village Treasurer, and is Director of the Rantoul Building and Loan Association, besides giving his support to other worthy enterprises. The Congregational Church recognizes in him one of its most useful and valued members, and in fact he has become quite indispensable to the best interests of the town in general. In only one particular has he failed to signalize himself as having performed all the duties of life—he has never married. He is of that courteous and pleasing manner which at once indicates him as the true gentleman, whom the stranger recognizes at once, and for whom his friends have a faithful and lasting regard.



DONALD MCINTOSH, V. S., and Professor of Veterinary Science, has charge of one of the most important departments in the Illinois Industrial University, at Urbana. For this his natural talents have eminently fitted him, and he takes a genuine interest in the profession to which he has given years of time and thought. He is a native of Scotland, born in the city of Perth, June 28, 1841, and is the son of William and Kate (Pennycook) McIntosh, natives of the same country. They emigrated to America in 1848, and located in New York City, where the father of our subject engaged as a contractor and builder. After two years' residence there he was recommended to a fine position at Kingston, Can-

ada, which he accepted, and was there employed at his chosen calling for a period of nine years. Afterward he went to Guelph, in the western part of the Dominion, where he followed his vocation until his death, in 1887; the mother is still living. The parental family included nine children, of whom our subject was the second in order of birth.

Young McIntosh began his education in the schools of his native Scotland, and completed it at the grammar school in Elora, Canada. In 1864 he took up the study of medicine, which he pursued two years, and then entered the Veterinary College in the Province of Ontario, from which he graduated in 1869. Soon afterward he was appointed Veterinary Surgeon of the Dominion artillery, which position he occupied for a period of thirteen years. He then resigned, and started for the Northwest Territory on a pleasure and exploring expedition combined. In 1881 he returned East to New York City, and engaging with his brother as Veterinary Surgeon, operated in that line until 1886, when he came to this county and took the position in the University which had been proffered him, and which he still holds. He has carried on the duties of his department with credit and success, and as an instructor is scarcely to be excelled.

Prof. McIntosh was married, in November, 1871, to Miss Charlotte Urquhart, a native of Niagara County, Canada. Their three children are named Winnifred, Mabel and Kate. The Professor is Republican in politics, and a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church.



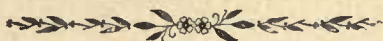
ISAAC THOMPSON LEAS, who has distinguished himself principally as a successful breeder of fine stock, is one of the valued landmarks of St. Joseph Township, where he has been an important factor of the rural community since 1860. His birth took place near Covington, the county seat of Fountain County, Ind., Oct. 27, 1833, and he traces his descendants across the water to where they originated, in England, whence they emigrated to this country in the Colonial days, settling in Pennsylvania. Daniel Leas, the grandfather of our subject, removed in early life from

his native State of Ohio, and there reared a family of sons and daughters, among whom was George, the father of our subject. This lad, although born in Pennsylvania, was reared in Ohio, and there grew to manhood, learning the potter's trade, which he followed for several years thereafter. He was married, in 1830, to Miss Lydia, the eldest child of Abner and Huldah (Robinson) Crane. Her parents were natives of New Jersey, and Abner Crane was a private in the War of 1812.

George Leas after his marriage removed to Fountain County, Ind., where he first followed his trade, and then took up farming, remaining there until his decease, in 1877. Isaac T., of our sketch, passed his boyhood and youth in his native county and upon reaching his majority and setting out to do for himself traced his steps to Central Illinois. He first engaged in stock-raising, meeting with unusual success, and ere long was considered an expert at his calling. In 1858 he purchased a tract of land on section 9, St. Joseph Township, to which he has since added by degrees until he is the owner of 520 broad acres, beautifully laid off in grain fields and pasture lands, and which invariably attracts the attention of the passer-by on account of its location, its handsome and substantial buildings, and the evident care and forethought exercised, both as regards the estate as a homestead and a stock farm. Of late years he has turned his attention principally to the breeding of Norman horses, and exhibits some of the finest animals in this section of country, models of beauty and strength. In connection with his cattle operations he ships several carloads annually to Chicago and other Eastern markets, from the proceeds of which he realizes a handsome sum annually.

The marriage of Isaac T. Leas and Miss Ervilla Sumner, was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents near Covington, Ind., in October, 1860. The wife of our subject is the youngest daughter of the first settler of Champaign County, namely, Selby Sumner, who married Miss Rebecca Hathaway. Our subject and wife became the parents of eight children, two sons and six daughters, of whom two, Nettie and Frank, are deceased. Those surviving are Emma, Jennie, Clara, Gertrude, Sadie and Earnest, all at home with their parents.

The family residence is a commodious and substantial structure, finely finished and furnished, and was erected in 1879. The barn in the rear had been put up two years previously. The grounds surrounding it are ample and neatly kept, and the whole has an air of plenty and comfort, refreshing to the eye. Mr. and Mrs. Leas are active members of Prairie Hope Church, in which our subject has served as Clerk for many years, and officiated as teacher in the Sabbath-school, in which he has always maintained a lively interest. Their children have been carefully trained and well educated and present a group of which the parents may well be proud.



LÉONARD McELWEE, a highly respected member of the farming community of St. Joseph Township, became a resident of the Prairie State when a youth of nineteen years, and located with his father's family upon the land which constitutes his present homestead. This is a good body of land, finely located, furnished with all necessary farm buildings, and constitutes one of the desirable homes so often seen in the district settled up by an intelligent and progressive class of people. Each year adds something to its value and attractiveness, and our subject, if we may judge from appearances, has availed himself uniformly of the modern improvements of the age.

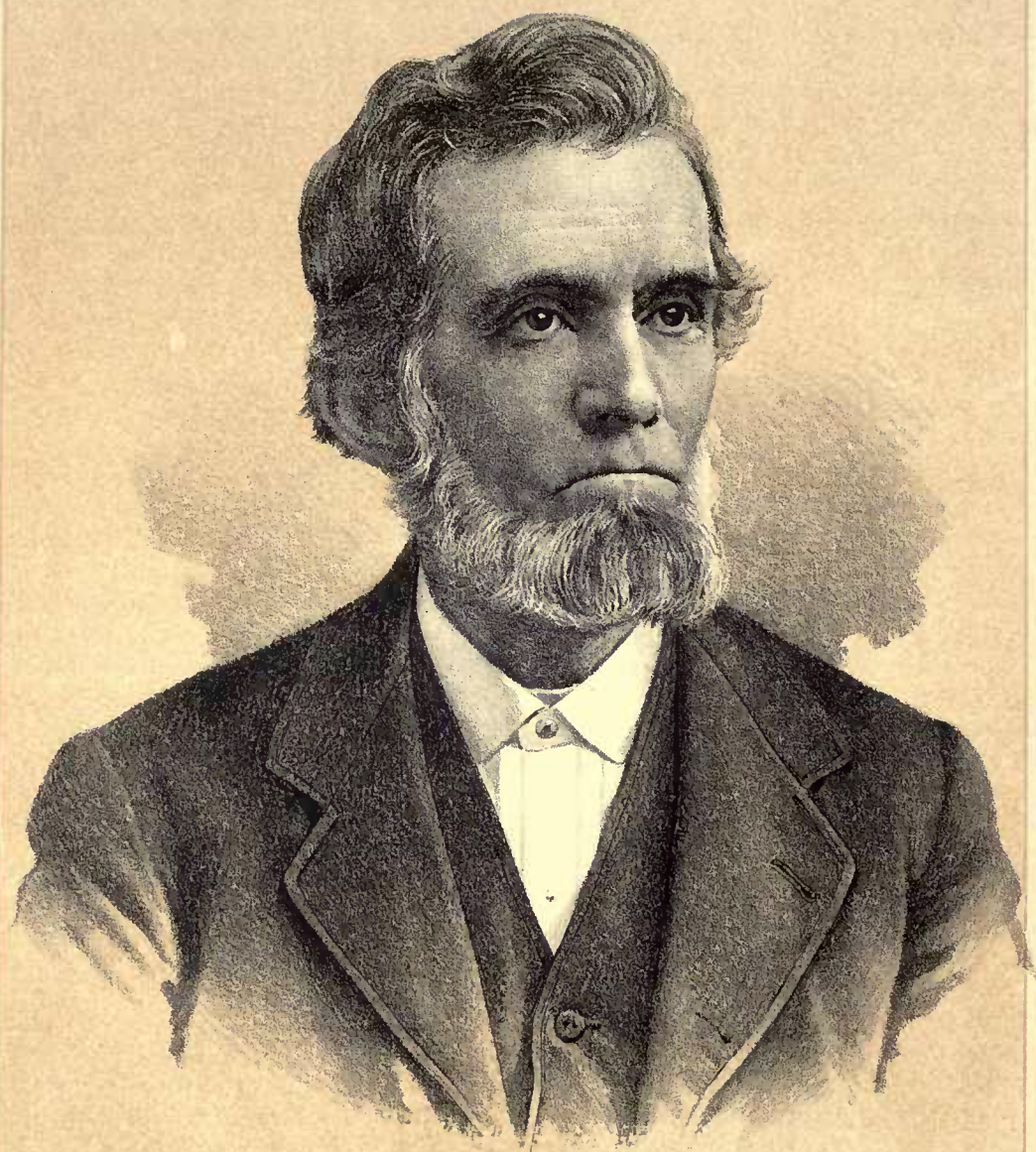
Mr. McElwee is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Lancaster County, Nov. 29, 1837. His grandfather, John McElwee, was a prominent iron manufacturer of that county, and a descendant of substantial Scotch ancestry, possessing in a marked degree the qualities for which that race is noted. He married and reared a family of sons and daughters, among whom was Carson J., the father of our subject, who was born in Maryland in about 1811. The latter learned the carpenter's trade in his youth, but later engaged in farming. Upon assuming domestic ties he chose for his wife Miss Eliza, the daughter of John and Ann J. Buchanan, and going into Pennsylvania they located on a farm in Lancaster County. This, however, they only occupied about three years, and thence removed to

Fountain County, Ind., where Mr. McElwee entered forty acres of land, in the improvement and cultivation of which he was engaged for ten years following. He then sold out and purchased another farm, but only remained upon it until the spring of 1856. Then, resolving to push further westward he came with his family to this county, and took possession of a tract of land on section 1, St. Joseph Township, where he remained until 1876. He then crossed the Mississippi into Cherokee County, Kan., where his death took place in 1883. The mother died on the homestead in St. Joseph Township, in August, 1864.

The parental family included nine children, of whom seven lived to mature years, but three only now survive. Leonard C. of our sketch was the second born, and received his education mainly in the schools of Fountain County, Ind. He continued with his parents until his marriage, coming with them to this county, but had previously formed an attachment to a young lady in Indiana, where he afterward returned, and was married in Fountain County, in the twenty-second year of his age. The maiden of his choice was Miss Anna M., daughter of David and Margaret Simons, of the latter-named county. The Simons' family first settled in Pennsylvania, whence they removed to Ohio and afterward to Indiana.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. McElwee returned to this county and located upon the homestead which had built up from the uncultivated prairie by the father of our subject. Afterward, however, they were induced to return to Indiana, where Mr. McE. rented a farm in the neighborhood where he had been reared, and which he occupied with his family thereafter ten years. Subsequently he purchased a timber tract of eighty acres in that vicinity, of which he cleared forty. He then sold out, and returning to this county purchased his father's farm in St. Joseph Township, where he now resides. This included 120 acres of thoroughly cultivated land, to which he has since added forty-eight acres. He also put up a good residence in 1883, and this, together with the commodious barn and other necessary out-buildings, forms a homestead which will bear comparison with those around it in its appearance and manage-

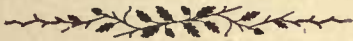




William McHarry

ment. Mr. McE. has given particular attention to stock-raising, and has a number of graded animals which are in the habit of carrying off the blue ribbon at county fairs.

The six children which completed the household circle of our subject and wife, consisted of three sons and three daughters, as follows: Samira J., now the wife of Thomas F. Mapes; Charles F.; Eliza D., the wife of William Osborne, of Edgar County; James C., who married Miss Mary Alsop; Anderson C. and Orpha D. The latter two are at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. McE. are members and regular attendants of the United Brethren Church, and politically, our subject is an independent voter, aiming to support the candidates best qualified for office.



SOLOMON NOX, a prosperous farmer of Urbana Township, is one of the old settlers of this county, having come here with his parents in 1827, since which time he has been continuously identified with its agricultural development. He was born in Gallia County, Ohio, near Gallipolis, May 20, 1813. His maternal grandfather was of Irish descent and was a resident of Gallia County.

Our subject's father, William Nox, was a farmer by calling and born in the State of Delaware. He was twice married, his first wife, whose name was Miss Reed, leaving at her death a family of ten children. The second marriage was with Miss Mary Gillespie, a native of Virginia. Soon after his first marriage William Nox moved to Gallia County, Ohio, and located on a farm, which he cleared and improved. Before he removed to Champaign County, Ill., he had cleared and cultivated three farms in Ohio. In 1827 he first established himself near Sidney, this county, which was at that time in Vermilion County, and on that farm he passed the remainder of his days. His death occurred April 4, 1840, and his wife died April 20, 1847. He was the father of twenty children, having had ten by each marriage.

Solomon Nox was born of the second marriage and passed his early boyhood in Ohio. He was about fifteen years of age when he removed to

Champaign County with his parents. He received a limited education and remained with his parents until his marriage with Miss Mary A. Busey, in 1837. She was the daughter of Matthew and Sarah Busey. Her father died in 1863, and her mother May 13, 1887, aged ninety-six years. After his marriage Mr. Nox settled on a farm near Sidney, where he remained for a number of years. He then removed to his present home on section 15, in Urbana Township, the date of his locating being in the spring of 1851. His farm contains 160 acres of valuable, well-improved land.

In 1862 Mr. Nox enlisted in Co. G, 36th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served his country faithfully for three years. He was engaged in several battles but fortunately escaped being either wounded or taken prisoner. In August, 1865, he was mustered out, returning to his home, and resumed his former occupation of general farming. He is very successful in stock-raising and supervises his farm without doing much active work himself. Although in the seventy-fourth year of his age he is strong and vigorous. He voted for Gen. Grant although he is a Democrat of the old Jacksonian school. Mr. Nox began his career in life with but little capital except his own energy, and has acquired a fine property, enabling him to pass the declining years of his life in comfort and ease.



WILLIAM MEHARRY, for more than twenty years one of the most active and prosperous farmers of Champaign County, and one of the large land-owners of the Prairie State, left his rural residence and moved into the pleasant village of Tolono, where, surrounded by the comforts and luxuries of a modern home, secured through early industry and enterprise, he is passing the sunset of life and enjoying the esteem and confidence of hosts of friends.

The early years of Mr. Meharry were spent in Montgomery County, Ind., where he was born Oct. 27, 1830. He is the son of Thomas and Unity (Patton) Meharry, natives of the Buckeye State, where the father followed farming until he re-

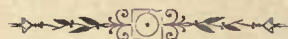
moved to Indiana, where he died when seventy-four years of age. The mother, who was born Aug. 16, 1802, died Aug. 7, 1887. The seven children of the parental household are all living and recorded as follows: Jane, the wife of Eli H. Dick, is a resident of Philo, Ill.; William, of our sketch, was the second child; Elen, Mrs. John Martin, is a resident of Montgomery County, Ind.; Jesse resides in Philo Township (see sketch); Polly Ann, who married Calvin McCorkle, was born July 3, 1838, and died Aug. 19, 1887; Abraham and Isaac were twins; the former is a resident of this county, and the latter occupies a part of the homestead in Indiana.

Mr. Meharry remained under the home roof until twenty-seven years old, passing his time in assisting in the cultivation of the farm and in attendance upon the common schools. He early in life very wisely began to accumulate property. His first purchase of land was near Attica, Ind. This he tilled until 1864. In the meantime his father had purchased section 9 of Crittenden Township, this county which he gave to William, a few years later, when he sold out his property in Fountain County, Ind., and removed to the Prairie State, and in 1864 added to his landed interests by the purchase of section 32 of Philo Township, upon which he lived until the year 1883, and then, leaving his farm property in good shape, removed to the village of Tolono and purchased his present home, which is one of the most complete in the town. The dwelling is finished and furnished in modern style, and everything about the premises indicates cultivated tastes and ample means. Mr. Meharry still owns the two sections of land above mentioned and a farm of 160 acres near the town limits of Tolono, besides valuable village property. His career has been marked by industry, energy and excellent judgment, and he has performed an important part in the building up of Tolono Township, and the development of its resources. He has been honest and upright in his dealings, prompt to meet his obligations, and while enjoying the good things of this life and regard of his fellow-citizens, is simply in possession of that which he has justly earned.

One of the most important events in the life of our subject, and which undoubtedly had much to

do in shaping his future course, was his marriage with Miss Margaret McCorkle, which took place in 1869. Mrs. M. is a native of Putnam County, Ind., and their union has been blest by the birth of two daughters—May and Lelia. Mr. Meharry is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and his estimable wife a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church.

The portrait department of the BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM of Champaign County is greatly enhanced by including in it a likeness of this prominent and wealthy citizen.



ROBERT M. PORTERFIELD, a prominent hardware merchant of Sidney, was born in Armstrong County, Pa., Sept. 23, 1847. His parents were R. G. and Hannah (Campbell) Porterfield. His father was born May 31, 1814, and his mother Jan. 22, 1815. They were reared in Armstrong County, and were there married May 16, 1837. In 1867 R. G. and Hannah Porterfield moved from Pennsylvania to Sidney, this county, where they passed the remainder of their lives. The former died Oct. 22, 1872, and his wife Feb. 25, 1879.

Robert M. Porterfield was the sixth in order of birth in a family of ten children, of whom the record is as follows: Nancy became the wife of George Forsyth, and is now deceased; L. C. married Miss Mary A. Toy, and they live in Sidney Township; Sarah is deceased; S. A. married Miss Lydia Williams, who is deceased; Malinda, formerly the wife of George Wilson, is also dead; Robert M. is the subject of this sketch; Mary E. is single; J. W. is deceased; Hannah M. is the wife of John Kennie, and they reside in Sidney Township, and Martha A. is dead.

Robert M. Porterfield was married to Miss Maggie Hunter, Oct. 31, 1876. She was born Jan. 16, 1853, and is the daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Fleming) Hunter. Her father was a prominent merchant, and was born in Armstrong County, Pa., July 21, 1826. Both parents died in Pennsylvania. Their family consisted of four children, of whom Margaret was the third in order of birth. The

others were John, William and Tillie. The latter, who is the wife of Samuel Beck, lives in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Porterfield has become the mother of four interesting children, namely: Ira B., born Oct. 15, 1877; Charles C., Oct. 22, 1880; Frank M., Dec. 30, 1882, and Zula V., Jan. 13, 1885.

Mr. Porterfield is the owner of an extensive and highly cultivated farm, being the southeast quarter of section 22, Sidney Township. His farm is excellently managed, and successfully carried on with the aid of all the best modern appliances. He also owns three well-improved town lots, upon which is erected one of the most elegant frame residences in the place. It is surrounded by an extensive lawn, planted with evergreen shrubbery and the finest hard maple trees in the township. His house and barn are unsurpassed by any in the county, everything within and without bearing witness to the cultured taste of its owner. Mr. Porterfield and his wife are members in high standing of the Methodist Church. His political sympathies are with the Republican party.



WILLISON HAWORTH. This gentleman has attained quite a reputation in Stanton Township and vicinity, as a stock-raiser and feeder, and dealer in Durham cattle. He is essentially a self-made man, provided with but limited advantages in his youth, but who, with the aid of his natural talents and industry, has secured a competency and a good position socially among his fellow-men. His real estate consists of a good farm located on section 27, which is provided with a complete family residence, a convenient and substantial barn, and a proper assortment of valuable modern machinery.

Our subject is a native of this State, born at Vermilion Grove, Dec. 10, 1835. His parents, David and Mariam (Mills) Haworth, were also natives of Vermilion County, where they were reared and married, and where the mother is still living on the old homestead. David Haworth departed this life July 25, 1876. The eleven children of the household included eight sons and three daughters, all of whom grew to mature years and present one of the

finest families found in the Prairie State. Willison, the subject of this sketch, is the oldest; Clayborn married Miss Esther Williams; Maria died Sept. 1, 1864; James W., married Miss Rose Porter, of Vermilion County; Elvin is living in California; John married Miss Ann Sigler, of Vermilion County, and went to Colorado, dying at Golden, that State, April 11, 1880. His wife died two years later, leaving two children, both now living. Beriah married Miss Anna Lewis, and is farming on the old homestead in Vermilion County; Horace married Miss Dora Kennedy; Mary J. became the wife of James Judd; Cecelia is the wife of Joseph Cook, and Lindley married Miss Mollie Hoskins. These are living in Vermilion County, mostly engaged in farming pursuits.

The subject of our sketch passed his early days in his native county, and chose from its daughters Miss Martha E. Judd, who became his wife Feb. 28, 1861. Mrs. Haworth is the daughter of Sylvester R. and Eliza (Gowen) Judd, being the third of eleven children born to her parents, of whom only five are living. The mother is living and a resident of Champaign County. Her brothers and sisters are recorded as follows: James H. married Miss Haworth; Thomas married Carrie Cline, and is a resident of Fulton County, Ill.; Martha E. is the wife of our subject; Josephine married James Mundy; Lorena is the wife of Eli Stratton, of Somers Township. The father of Mrs. Haworth was born in Kentucky, March 7, 1812. He was a miller by trade and a man generally respected in his community, being a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and holding the various township offices. He died at Georgetown, in this State, on the 5th of May, 1877. The mother was born Sept. 27, 1818, and is still living among her children. She became connected with the Christian Church at an early day, of which she has remained a consistent member to this time. Three sons of the family served as Union soldiers in the late war, all in Illinois regiments, and afterward returned safely to their homes.

Mr. and Mrs. Haworth after their marriage, located first in Vermilion County, where they lived two years, and in the spring of 1863 took up their residence in Stanton Township, upon the eighty

acres of land which Mr. H. had purchased, and which is now included in the homestead. He afterward purchased forty acres additional, which makes a farm of 120 acres, upon which he has effected fine improvements, setting out a good orchard, building neat fences, and in 1882 put up a residence, which, with its adjacent buildings, is not excelled by any in the county. The live-stock is of excellent quality and receives the best of care. None of the land is allowed to run to waste, being utilized either in pasturage or the growing of grain and other crops, either for market or the use of the household. Their two children are daughters. Flora E. is now the wife of Milton Simcox, of Stanton Township; Maria T., a music teacher, remains at home with her parents.

The grandparents of our subject, John and Cecilia Haworth, were natives of North Carolina. They spent their last days in Vermilion County, and their children became residents of this State, where some of them spent the remainder of their lives. The Haworths were of English ancestry, and were Quakers on both sides of the family. Willison, of our sketch, cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont, and his last one for James G. Blaine, indicating that for a period of nearly thirty years he has been connected with the Republican party.



WILLIAM HENDERSON. On section 19, in Homer Township, is located one of the best conducted farms in that locality, owned and occupied by the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch. He is the descendant of an excellent family who were of strong and sturdy character, possessing the spirit of the pioneer days, and who worked hand in hand with the courageous colonists, who, from time to time, left their homes in the East, or the other side of the Atlantic, to found new associations and build up new homes in an untried country. The parents of our subject, Alexander and Isabella (Chapman) Henderson, were natives respectively of North Carolina and Ohio, the former born Sept. 6, 1815, and the latter Dec. 31, 1819. Both are still living, and residents of Montgomery County, Ind., and

the father is in a moderate way carrying on agriculture, with which he has been familiar through life.

Alexander Henderson and his wife were careful and conscientious in their lives, and trained up their children in those moral and religious principles which formed the basis of their own course in life. They were married on the 11th of November, 1838, and in early life identified themselves with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which the father has been Steward and otherwise prominently connected with it for many years. He was a man of much force of character, and great energy and industry, which qualities have become but little lessened by the flight of years, and he is now in the enjoyment of a competency. The ten children of the parental household are recorded as follows: Elizabeth, who became the wife of J. W. Hendrick, died at the home of her husband in Indiana in 1874; William, of our sketch, was the second child; Amanda became the second wife of J. W. Hendrick; James married Miss Amanda Thomas; Milton married Miss Sarah Macomb; Mary became the wife of Simon Lynch; Alice is the wife of George Munns; Martha is Mrs. James Miller, and John married Miss Jennie Quick. One child died in infancy unnamed.

William Henderson, of our sketch, is a native of Parke County, Ind., and was born Feb. 17, 1841. He received thorough training in agricultural pursuits, and, considering his early education and associations, it is not to be wondered at that he is more than ordinarily skillful in his tilling of the soil and the breeding of fine stock, to the latter of which he has given much attention, especially of late years. The youth and boyhood of our subject were passed mostly upon the farm and in attendance at the district schools. The pleasures of the young people of those days were simple and few, but it is probable that they reaped fully as much enjoyment as do the sons and daughters of the present age, with their more expensive tastes. He was employed as a teacher at intervals for a period of ten years, making an excellent tutor and instructor.

After the breaking out of the late war, and while in Indiana, resolving to become a Union soldier, Mr. H. enlisted in the 72d Indiana Infantry, and

served three years in Company B. In the meantime he was promoted Corporal. He participated with his comrades in many important battles, including the fight at Chickamunga, and served with the Army of the Cumberland the greater portion of the time. Although experiencing many hairbreadth escapes, enduring wearisome marches and other hardships connected with a soldier's life, he escaped without serious injury, and received his honorable discharge on the 6th of July, 1865.

Our subject then came to Illinois, and after teaching school a part of one season returned to Indiana, where he was married. He had already become proprietor of 150 acres of land, upon which he now located, and occupied his time in improving his farm during the summer seasons, while in the winter he added to his income by teaching. His present homestead embraces 110 acres of land, which by constant and careful cultivation will now compare with the soil of any farm in its vicinity. All the farm stock is well cared for and in good condition, together with the machinery, fences, buildings, and everything about the place.

In his various enterprises Mr. H. has been attended by his faithful wife and companion, who became the sharer of his home and fortunes on the 28th of March, 1867. This lady, formerly Miss Nancy J. Hoff, is also a native of Indiana, born Oct. 15, 1848, and the daughter of James and Hannah (Barnett) Hoff, of Ohio. The ceremony which united her with William Henderson was performed by Squire J. T. Miller, of Waynetown, Ind., the wedding taking place at the home of the bride's parents near that city. Her father, James Hoff, was born in Ohio, June 27, 1823, and is still living on his farm near Waynetown. His wife, Hannah, a native of the same State, was born Sept. 18, 1826, and died very suddenly of heart disease, on Sunday morning, July 11, 1886, on the old homestead. The four children of this household were, Nancy J., the wife of our subject; Jerusha A., who married Ambrose Fruits; Mahala, who became the wife of Samuel Nixon, and Emma, who died of typhoid fever on the 25th of November, 1882.

The six children of Mr. and Mrs. William Henderson are recorded as follows: Minnie was born Feb. 24, 1868; Edgar, born Oct. 20, 1869, died

Oct. 6, 1870; Alice, born Feb. 23, 1871, died Aug. 19, 1872; Oscar was born Sept. 1, 1872; Emma, Oct. 22, 1877, and Alma, Nov. 20, 1881. Mr. Henderson, with his wife and children, attends the Methodist Episcopal Church at Lost Grove, where our subject is Steward and Trustee, and for several years has been Superintendent of the Sunday-school. He is especially active in all matters pertaining to religious work, and has been one of the first in organizing societies and encouraging the erection of church buildings. He was a member of the first committee appointed to undertake the erection of the Methodist Church in Lost Grove, and has contributed liberally toward the support of the society, keeping up the Sunday-school and assisting in furnishing the house of worship with the conveniences necessary to make it an attractive resort for the young and a place of comfort for the old. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party, and has served as School Trustee in Homer Township for a period of fifteen years.



JAMES H. FLATT, who is located on section 17, Somer Township, is a native of the Province of Ontario, Canada, and was born near the city of Hamilton, June 20, 1831. When fifteen years of age he started out in life to battle for himself, and coming to the States proceeded westward to Lee County, Ill., where he was engaged as a farm laborer for a period of seven years, with the exception of a time when he was lying ill. The balance of the time was principally spent in working hard to pay the doctor's bill, which amounted to at least \$100 per year. Notwithstanding this outlay and the low price paid for labor in those days, he managed to save something from his wages. In 1858 he returned to his old home in Canada, where he leased the farm for seven years, spending that time, however, for naught, as the venture did not prove successful.

In the midst of his difficulties, however, Mr. Flatt found one true friend and sympathizer who was willing to share his fortunes for better or for worse. This was Miss Lovila Matilda Campbell, who became his wife on the 25th of November, 1858. She

was the daughter of Louis Campbell, of Hamilton, Ontario, and was born not far from the birthplace of her husband. Resolving to again make his home in the West, Mr. Flatt, with his wife, came to Sadorus Township, this county, where he rented a tract of land, which he cultivated five years with fair success, and from the proceeds of which he was enabled to purchase 160 acres of raw prairie on section 22, in Sadorus Township. He at once commenced the improvement of this property, and labored thereon for fifteen years following, until 1883. His fortunes had greatly mended, and he now disposed of his farm in order to purchase 357 acres, lying along the Illinois Central Railroad, in Somer Township, five miles northeast of Champaign.

Robert Flatt, the father of our subject, was a Scotchman by birth, and died in the prime of life, when James H., of our sketch, was but a lad. He was possessed of moderate means, his estate including seventy-five acres of land, which is now owned by his son William. The maiden name of the mother was Mary Baker. She was born in Pennsylvania, and is still living, making her home with Jennett Flatt, at Waterville, Canada, and having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-six years. The parental household included twelve children, seven sons and five daughters, of whom five sons and four daughters are still living. Margaret became the wife of Samuel Morden, and resides in the Province of Ontario; Abram married Miss Betsey Long, and is now a resident of Fairbury, Ill.; William married Miss Eleanor Boyle, and they are living on the homestead in Ontario; Fannie is the wife of Ed. Brown; Sarah, Samuel, Jennett and John, are all residents of Ontario, and all, with one exception, have families of their own.

The early education of our subject, with that of his brothers and sisters, was obtained in the old log school-house, with its seats and desks rudely fashioned out of slabs, and the other primitive furnishings of the pioneer days. Notwithstanding his limited advantages, Mr. Flatt is a gentleman of more than ordinary intelligence; one who has kept his eyes open to what was going on around him, and made the most of his opportunities. Since coming to this county he has been quite prominent in local affairs, the excellent character of the man and

his value as a citizen receiving ready recognition. He is a believer in the Christian religion, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity, whose principles he learned to admire many years ago, being made a Mason in about 1875. He now belongs to Lodge No. 537, at Sadorus. Politically he exerts his influence in support of Republican principles.

At the time of coming to this vicinity, much of the land adjacent was considered absolutely worthless. After the advent, however, of a few intelligent men, who understood drainage and the benefits arising from it, the Beaver Lake Drainage Association was formed, and Mr. Flatt became prominently identified with this, the result being that through the efforts of himself and others as persevering, a tract of territory was redeemed from the swamps and brought to a tillable condition.

The record of the seven living children of Mr. and Mrs. Flatt is as follows: Ormand married Miss Harriet Ann Rock, and lives in Sadorus Township; James Alvah married Miss Mary Earl, and located in Somer Township; Lovila Annis became the wife of George M. Fowler; those unmarried are Sarah, Carrie, George and Edward. Ira W. and Charlotte Edgar are now deceased. Mrs. James H. Flatt is the daughter of Lewis and Jemima (Roy) Campbell, both natives of New Jersey. The father was born in 1799, and died July 3, 1877, being buried on the following day. He was a good man in every sense of the word, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Campbell was born Sept. 16, 1805, and is still living, making her home in Ft. Dodge, Iowa.

The children of the parental household are recorded as follows: The eldest son, Daniel R., died when thirty years of age; Samuel S. upon leaving the parental roof located in St. Joseph County, Mich., and was afterward elected to the office of Road Commissioner. One day he sent his men to work informing them he would soon follow. He has never been seen by his friends since that day, although supposed to be still living; he was unmarried. Elizabeth T. died when twelve years of age; Lovila M. is the wife of our subject; Joseph R. married Miss Hannah Featherstone, and is carrying on a farm near Ft. Dodge, Iowa; Jemima A. became the wife of James Barlow, who is engaged in

handling agricultural implements in Wise County, Tex.; Mary L., the wife of Charles F. Flaweling, is living in this county; Carrie S., Mrs. J. Herod, is a resident of Texas; David L. married Miss Eleanor Hall, and is living in Sadorus Township; Margaret A., died in 1870, when about twenty-two years of age.

No man is held in higher respect in Champaign County than James H. Flatt. As a man, citizen and farmer he is filling his niche in life, most worthily, and presents in his daily walk an example worthy of imitation as a Christian gentleman of the noblest impulses, having a good influence upon all with whom he associates. His intelligence has led him to keenly appreciate the westward march of civilization, and he has taken great satisfaction in the prosperity of his adopted State, identifying himself with its interests, and jealous of its reputation as a commonwealth. No man feeling thus can fail being of great value to a county and a community. There is no truer saying than "that the works of men live after them," and Mr. Flatt will leave to his descendants a life history which they will be proud to peruse and to teach their children when he shall have passed from the scenes of his earthly labor.



DAVID B. GEORGE took possession of his present homestead on section 2, in Tolono Township, on the 10th of March, 1885. He was born in McLean County, this State, July 30, 1856, and is the son of James S. and Elizabeth (Bennett) George, who are still residents of the township of Danvers in that county. Our subject was reared to farming pursuits, and received a good common-school education, supplemented by a full term at the Business College at Bloomington, whence he graduated in 1879. After leaving school he returned to the farm, where he continued until the fall of 1880. He was married, November 6 of that year, to Miss Charity M., daughter of Nathaniel and Margaret (McCullough) Perry. Mrs. G. was born in McLean County in 1861, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of two children—Clyde and Sedella May.

After marriage, Mr. George followed farming in

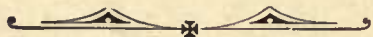
his native county until 1885, then sold out and removed to his present homestead. This embraces 160 acres, fairly improved and provided with a comfortable dwelling and barn. Mr. George has not yet reached middle life, in fact has only just begun as a member of the farming community, and bids fair to become one of its valued factors. He is intelligent and well informed, has held the various local offices of his township, and politically casts his vote with the Democratic party. A lithographic view of his handsome residence is shown on another page of this work.

James S. George, the father of our subject, is pleasantly located on section 36, Danvers Township, McLean County, where he is engaged as a farmer and carpenter. He is a native of Pendleton County, Va., and was born on the 24th of March, 1824. His parents were William and Mary A. (Hawkins) George, both natives of Virginia, and the mother of German ancestry. William George was a carpenter by trade; he was born in 1796, and removed to Champaign County, Ill., where he died in April, 1875. The parents were married in Hampshire County, Va., in 1816, the mother being eighteen years old. She removed with her husband to Illinois, and died of cholera in Danvers Township in 1854, at the age of fifty-four years. The parental household included the following children: Samuel married Miss Rebecca Idleman, in Virginia; John died of cholera in 1854; Thomas married Miss Collins Betts; James S. is our subject; Catharine, Mrs. Simons, lives in Harrison County, W. Va.; Elsie, the wife of Elijah White, resides in Randolph County, W. Va.; Mary became the wife of William Brown, of Virginia; Sarah married Silas Smith, of Tazewell County, Ill.; Rebecca married William Emmett, of Tazewell County, Ill.; William married Miss E. Deimling, of McLean County; Abraham and Isaac were twins; the first married Miss Goram, and Isaac married Miss R. Cook, of McLean County, Ill.

James S. George became a resident of the Prairie State in 1852, and for two years followed the trade of a carpenter. Not being quite satisfied with the results in this direction, he took up farming pursuits, locating on the tract of land which he now owns and occupies. He is making a specialty of

stock-raising, and deals in high-grade Short-horn cattle.

After coming to Illinois, Mr. George was married to Miss Elizabeth Bennett, on the 12th of September, 1853, in Tazewell County. Mrs. George was born in Virginia, on the 12th of September, 1829, and is the daughter of John and Catharine (Grapes) Bennett, natives of the same State, the father born in 1797. He emigrated to Iowa after his marriage, and died there in 1873. The mother died in Tazewell County, this State, in 1836, leaving four children, two boys and two girls. Eliza married John Roarbeck; Elizabeth, Mrs. George, is the second child; David married Miss Salina Green; William was killed by lightning when sixteen years old. The education of Mr. and Mrs. George was necessarily somewhat limited, their parents being pioneers of a new country, and schooling facilities very meager. Realizing the advantages of mental culture they have given their children the best advantages which the schools of the present day afford. Of these children, John died of cholera, in 1854; David B. married Miss Charity Perry; James W., Ida and Elmer are at home. While Mr. and Mrs. George have not identified themselves with any church organization they are firm believers in the Scriptures, and endeavor to follow the precepts of the Golden Rule. Mr. George is Democratic in politics, and in all respects is a worthy citizen and a valued member of society.



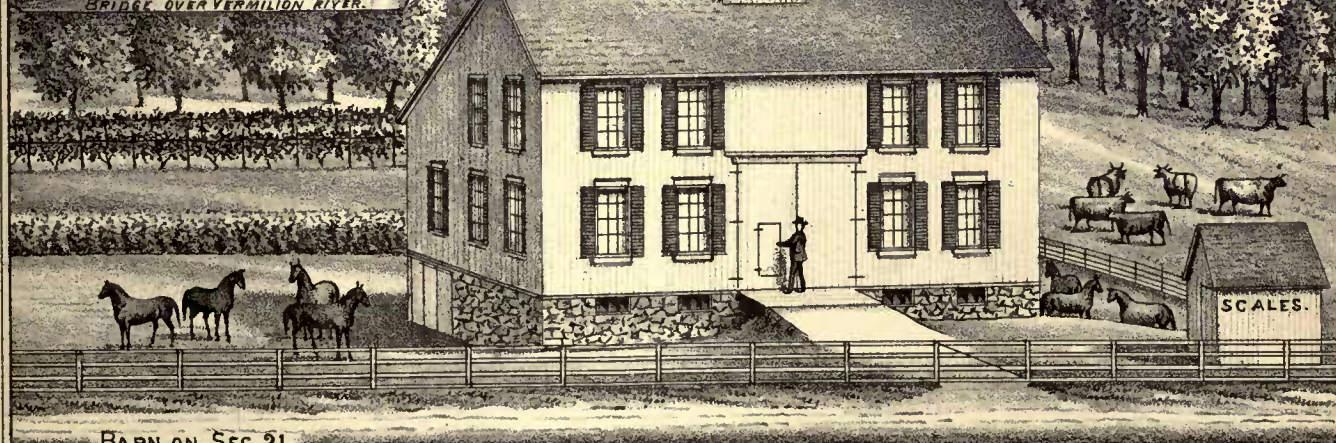
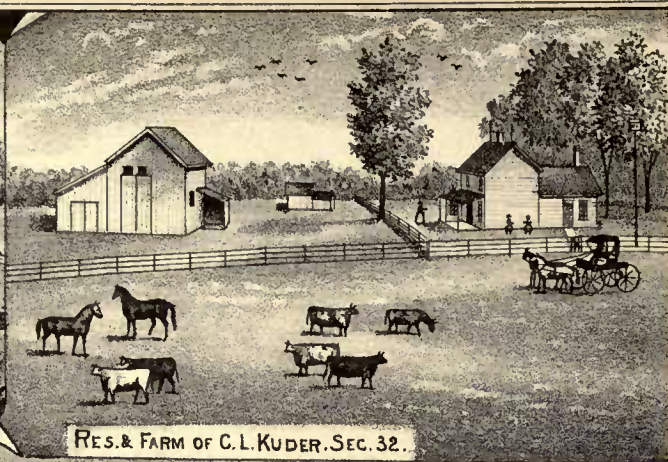
LEWIS KUDER, Kerr Township. The beautiful homestead of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this biography, forms one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of Champaign County. Its ample and substantial buildings, in which beauty and utility are happily combined, are finely located, and invariably command the admiration of the passer-by as evincing in a marked degree the outlay of ample means and the exercise of cultivated tastes. The dwelling is commodious and of a tasteful style of architecture, and the well-built barn, with its adjacent structures for the storage of grain and the shelter

of stock, is in keeping with the requirements of the modern and progressive farmer.

Mr. Kuder is one of the most extensive land-owners in Central Illinois, the home farm alone embracing 900 acres. Besides this he has 230 acres in one tract north, 120 a short distance east, and fifty in Vermilion County. The land is all in a high state of cultivation, and yields in abundance the richest crops of the Prairie State. Mr. Kuder manages the home farm, while his sons have charge of the others. In addition to general agriculture, Mr. Kuder is largely interested in stock-growing, in which department he has gained quite an enviable reputation and has been remarkably successful. He is in all his operations uniformly systematic and exact, prompt to meet his obligations, and is uniformly ranked among the representative men of one of the most prosperous counties in the State.

Our subject, a native of Ohio, was born near Circleville, Pickaway County, Dec. 22, 1819. He was the thirteenth child in a family of fifteen, the offspring of John and Mary (Chamberlin) Kuder. His paternal grandfather, Elias Kuder, was of German extraction, and a native of Bucks County, Pa. He was a carpenter by trade, and served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War during the entire struggle. His wife was a native of New Jersey, but beyond this the records are lost in oblivion. John Kuder was also a native of Bucks County, Pa., where his father had settled after laying aside the implements of war. He inherited the patriotic impulses of his sire and took part in the War of 1812, being detailed to duty in Northern Ohio.

Lewis Kuder commenced early in life to make his own way in the world, and when quite young began learning the carpenter trade under the instruction of his oldest brother, Solomon. He left the parental roof when eighteen years old, and for a time was employed on the Ohio Canal. Subsequently he returned to his native place where he engaged at his trade, and in the manufacture of wagons. He then determined to seek his fortune in the farther West. He came to this State in 1838, locating at first near Danville, Vermilion County, where, for five or six years, he continued to follow carpentering. Having, by the exercise of industry and economy acquired sufficient capital,



SCENES ON THE FARM PROPERTY OF LEWIS KUDER, SEC'S. 20. 21. 28. 29., KERR TOWNSHIP.

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he bought forty acres of partly improved land, and afterward purchased the interest of the other heirs to the estate of which his land formed a part. This constituted a fine property of 240 acres, and from this handsome beginning he steadily progressed to his present position.

The marriage of Lewis Kuder and Miss Susanna Wood was celebrated in 1844. Mrs. Kuder was the fourth in a family of sixteen children born to Henry and Nancy (Hoover) Wood. Her father was a native of Virginia, the son of John and Mary (Harper) Wood, also of the Old Dominion. Her mother, a native of Ohio, was the daughter of Daniel and Nancy Hoover, who were natives of Virginia, of German descent. Mrs. Kuder was born near London, Madison Co., Ohio, Oct. 14, 1826. Mr. Kuder and his wife settled on the Kerr Township farm in 1845. Their first dwelling was a small cabin, located there when our subject purchased the land. Thirty years ago he built a fine residence, which is now in an excellent state of preservation, and is occupied by his family. In 1869 he erected a fine, commodious barn, which accommodates a large number of horses and cattle.

When Mr. Kuder first settled in Kerr Township there were but three cabins within five miles of his farm. Deer and wolves roamed over the prairie and the grass was as high as his little cabin. During the first few years of his residence on the farm he continued to follow his trade, and employed help to run the farm, but a freshet having occurred which swept away many of his valuable horses, cattle and hogs, he gave up his trade and took charge of the farm himself. Among the improvements which he has instituted are five artesian wells which supply his stock with an abundance of the best water, and he annually replenishes his pastures with large numbers of young cattle, purchased chiefly from the best to be found in the Chicago market.

Mr. Kuder and his wife have had a family of nine children—Henry, Candus, Nancy, Sarah, Albert, Lincoln, Lydia, and two who died in infancy unnamed. Only two are now living, Albert and Lincoln, who are married, and sketches of whom appear elsewhere in this work. Mr. Kuder has served as Supervisor of Kerr Township for several terms,

and has held various local offices, but his farm interests require so much of his time that he has of late declined assuming additional cares, although he attends important elections, and is one of the most conscientious voters of the Republican party.

A view of the handsome home farm of Mr. Kuder is shown on an adjoining page; also the residences of his two sons, who have inherited the thrift and energy of the father and are already numbered among the important members of the agricultural community.



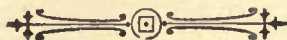
JOHN W. PARK, who became a resident of Champaign County in the fall of 1863, is widely and favorably known in this locality as having at one time been one of its most extensive land-owners, and at one time the proprietor of 700 acres in one body. Although now retired from active labor, he is still possessed of 272 acres in Mahomet Township, which is operated by a tenant, but whose cultivation he superintends with the same good judgment as of old. He also owns 320 acres in Sherburne County, Minn. He now owns and occupies a pleasant home in Mahomet, besides other valuable village property.

Mr. Park is a native of Mt. Pleasant, Jefferson Co., Ohio, and was born Oct. 14, 1813. His parents were John and Elizabeth (Hannah) Park, both natives of Virginia, where they were married and located for a time after. They afterward removed to Ohio, and from there to Kentucky, returning finally to the Buckeye State and settling in Clarke County, of which they remained residents for several years. Afterward they lived in Marion and Ottawa Counties, where John Park was engaged in farming and butchering, and where both parents died. The household included five sons and three daughters.

John W. Park remained with his parents until he was of age, and then commenced farming on his own account. He was married in Ottawa County, Ohio, March 17, 1844, to Miss Caroline, daughter of Solomon and Salie (Arnold) Streeter, both natives of New Hampshire, who, after their marriage, located first in Genesee County, N. Y., whence

they removed to Huron County, Ohio, and from there to Ottawa County, same State, where they passed the remainder of their lives. They reared a family of ten children, three boys and seven girls, of whom Caroline, Mrs. Park, was the eighth. She was born in Genesee County, Dec. 12, 1824, and by her marriage with our subject became the mother of eleven children, seven of whom survive. Elizabeth A., the eldest, met her death by drowning in the Sangamon River, when twenty-two years old; David G., the youngest, and two others, unnamed, died in infancy; Mary J. is the wife of William H. Paisley, who is farming in Mahomet Township; William W. married Miss Alice Clark, and is living in Kansas; James S. married Miss Sarah Angeline Connair, and lives in Nebraska; Clarissa I. is the wife of J. H. Hume, and lives in Mahomet Township; Caroline F., Mrs. William Harland, resides with her husband in Eureka, Ill.; Abraham L. married Miss E. M. Kilgore, and lives in Mahomet Township; Hugh V. is at home with his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Park are members in good standing of the Baptist Church, and our subject, politically, is a warm adherent of Republican principle. He has taken a genuine interest in the progress and welfare of his township, and has served as Trustee of Mahomet Village.



ISAAC BROWN, who makes a specialty of breeding fine stock, owns and occupies 160 acres of good land on section 21, in Homer Township, of which he took possession in 1857. He has a good residence, a substantial barn, and all the other buildings necessary for convenience and comfort, and his fields are tenanted by high-grade Short-horn cattle, his stables with fine horses, and various pens adjacent contain a fine assortment of Poland-China hogs. Among his horses is one especially fine stallion, Bonny B., sixteen hands high, a bright bay in color, and besides this valuable animal he has a number of English carriage horses. He has gained an enviable reputation in this locality as a breeder and stock-dealer, and ex-

hibits some of the finest animals in Central Illinois.

Mr. Brown comes of staunch Pennsylvania stock, his parents having been George W. and Ruth (Rogers) Brown, natives of the Keystone State, and the father a farmer by occupation. He was born in 1807, and died in Homer Township, Sept. 13, 1884. The mother was born in 1808, and died on the old homestead in Homer Township, Jan. 13, 1872. Both parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the father a Democrat in politics. Their five children, all born in Pennsylvania except the youngest, who was born in Ohio, were Ann M., who only lived to be four years of age; Isaac, of our sketch; David, John and William M. The latter followed farming, and died at his home in Homer Township on the 13th of November, 1871.

The youth and boyhood of Isaac Brown were spent mostly in his native State occupied in agricultural pursuits. In September, 1857, deciding to change his location, he came to this State and county, locating near the town of Sidney. He was there employed at farming until purchasing the land in Homer Township where he is now living. He was first married in Indiana to Miss Sarah C. Cunningham, Dec. 25, 1864. Nine years later this lady passed from earth at the age of thirty-one years, her death taking place on the 1st of April, 1873. The seven children born of this union were George L. and Laura B., twins, born Dec. 25, 1865; William O., March 27, 1868; Irvin C., Dec. 23, 1870; Elizabeth O., Sept. 21, 1872. The next child died in infancy unnamed, and the youngest was James A., born March 26, 1873. The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Dec. 23, 1875, was formerly Miss Lucinda Forbis, a native of Madison County, Ohio, whose birth took place at the home of her parents in Paint Township, Nov. 22, 1846. This lady became the mother of six children, viz., Francis R. and Minnie, died in infancy; Milo E. was born March 15, 1879; Jessie W., May 8, 1881; Charles D., Sept. 26, 1883, and Clarence, Sept. 28, 1885.

Mr. Brown has been an Elder in the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, and is independent in politics. He carries on the operations of his

farm and the breeding of stock after the most approved modern methods, and everything about his premises indicates the enterprise and thrift of its proprietor. A lithographic view of the place and surroundings is shown on another page.

George W. Brown, the father of our subject, was born in Fayette County, Pa., Jan 24, 1807, and died Sept. 13, 1884. He removed from his native State in 1836, and four years later purchased 157 acres of land in Fayette County. To this he added fifty-seven acres, and afterward sold the whole with a view of coming to this State. He started from Ohio Sept. 13, 1857, landing in this county thirteen days later, and purchased 369 acres of land in Homer Township, which he occupied for a period of twenty-seven years, effecting many improvements, and becoming one of the most important members of the farming community of that section. He was for many years a member of the Methodist Church, Democratic in politics, and a man straight and strict in his business affairs. He became very successful, and at his death had accumulated a large property. He was noted for his industry and frugality, and was the most highly respected by those who knew him best, being greatly missed by his near friends and neighbors when his earthly labors had ended. While in Ohio he occupied the office of Justice of the Peace for fifteen years.



JACOB TINDALL. This gentleman in 1876, after having been successfully engaged in various enterprises, in all of which he was remarkably successful, turned his attention to farming pursuits, and selected for his future operations a fine tract of land consisting of 191 acres on section 31, in Homer Township. He had abundant faith in his venture, and time has proved that he was correct in regard to the capacities of the soil and his own judgment in presiding over its cultivation. The farm is finely laid off in pasture lands and grain fields, Mr. Tindall devoting his attention principally to the breeding of fine Short-horn cattle. It is said by those who are judges of

stock, that his animals are scarcely to be equaled in any section of the State. He has been particularly fortunate in his selections, and they have been given the care and treatment necessary to the development of their finest points.

Our subject's birth took place in Morgan County, this State, on the 10th of April, 1840. His parents were Jacob T. and Isabella (Ferguson) Tindall; the former born in Delaware, in February, 1800, and the latter in the city of Baltimore, Nov. 30, 1805. The mother of our subject was the daughter of Robert Ferguson, of Scotland. Jacob Tindall in early life learned the trade of a carpenter in Philadelphia, Pa., and for many years was in the employ of the well-known capitalist, Stephen Girard. Later he removed to Morgan County, Ill., and engaged in farming pursuits. He was a man of limited education, quiet in his habits, and was a keen but silent observer of what was going on around him, thus gaining a good fund of general information. He became a member of the Masonic fraternity during the early years of its organization, and was a man of deep religious convictions, being connected with the Christian Church, and was often the host of Alexander Campbell, who put up at his house and shared his hospitality. The mother was a member of the same church, and is still living, making her home in Jacksonville, Ill.

Jacob Tindall, Jr., remained a resident of his native county until reaching manhood, in the meantime receiving a common-school education and learning the trade of a carpenter from his father. He was occupied by the latter until the breaking out of the Rebellion, and enlisted first with the 100-days' men in the 145th Illinois Infantry. At the expiration of that time, determining to see the fight to the end, he re-enlisted in Co. E, 58th Ill. Vol. Inf., as a private, being mustered in at Camp Butler for the three years' service. He was soon promoted First Sergeant. With his comrades he followed the fortunes of the regiment in its tedious marching through the South and its various encounters with the enemy, being present at the siege and capture of Vicksburg, and engaged in many other important battles of the war. At its close he received his honorable discharge and

returned to his home in Morgan County, where he resumed his trade of a carpenter.

In 1865 Mr. Tindall crossed the Mississippi and went over into Missouri, where, for eight months following, he was employed as clerk in a drug-store. Upon returning to Illinois he took up his abode in Ayers Township, this county, and for the first time in his life began to work on a farm, not as a laborer, but as foreman of a tract which was called the Broad Lands, owned by John Alexander. Two years later he was promoted, and given larger liberties and more responsibilities. At the end of three years, during which time he had been economical and saved quite a little sum of money, he was enabled to purchase a quarter section of land in Vermilion County. This he sold a year later, and receiving a tempting offer to engage in the drug business, purchased stock and set up a store, which he conducted for three years. At the end of this time he sold out, and going to Danville engaged in the livery business. This also proved a fortunate venture, and at the end of two years he was enabled to purchase a valuable tract of 191 acres, which he still owns and occupies. In the spring of 1885 his house was destroyed by fire. He then moved a house from another part of the farm, and is now living in it.

The lady who for the last seventeen years has presided with dignity and excellent judgment over his household affairs, and has proved herself full worthy to have been the companion of her husband, was in her girlhood Miss Ella M. Holmes, to whom he was married the 29th of December, 1870, the service being performed by Rev. Heath, of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Tindall is a native of the same county as her husband, and was born Nov. 10, 1844. Her parents, Robert and Mary (Leach) Holmes, were natives of England, the father born in Scarborough and the mother in Gool. The mother had been previously married to a Mr. Martin. Her death took place in Morgan County, April 28, 1858. Robert Holmes died Sept. 13, 1847. Mrs. Tindall was reared by her grandparents in Morgan County, Ill. The children of our subject and wife were born as follows: Robert E., born April 12, 1872, died the 6th of July following; Almah L., born March 3, 1874,

died Aug. 17, 1875; Mary V., born Aug. 19, 1877; Ella J., Dec. 10, 1879.

Mr. and Mrs. Tindall after their marriage, located in Vermilion County, where they lived until taking possession of their present farm. Politically, Mr. T. is a "true-blue" Republican, and has held various township offices, being Commissioner of Highways three years, a member of the Town Board for five years, and School Trustee. He is connected with the I. O. O. F., Lima Lodge No. 4, and Encampment No. 9, at Jacksonville. He also belongs to Homer Lodge No. 199, A. F. & A. M., the various offices of which he has filled with credit to himself, and satisfaction to the brethren. He takes a genuine interest in the educational and moral welfare of his community, and is a man whose opinions are generally respected.

LEONIDAS H. HOWSER. The Howser family has for some years constituted an important portion of the farming community of St. Joseph Township, being uniformly enterprising and prosperous, fortunate in their investments, and possessed of the intelligence and foresight so essential to good citizenship, and of which characteristics the bone and sinew of a community must be composed in order to advance its prosperity.

The subject of this sketch, one of the most enterprising representatives of the name, was born in Clermont County, Ohio, June 29, 1846; and is the eldest son of Jonathan N. and Margaret J. (Dillman) Howser. He was a boy of ten years when his parents left the Buckeye State and became residents of this county, in 1856. His father purchased a tract of 240 acres on section 31, in St. Joseph Township, where he labored industriously, meeting with success, and where he still resides.

Mr. Howser attended school at Old Cowden school-house, not far from his father's farm, where he completed his education, and received those impressions which have largely ministered to his later success in life. He early began to form his plans for the future, and when in his twenty-second year, was united in marriage with one of his schoolmates, Miss Isabel, daughter of John Hudson, of this

county, who was born in Indiana, Nov. 7, 1846. After remaining the companion of her husband but seven short years, the wife and mother passed from earth, leaving two children, a son and daughter—William R. and Ollie May. In 1880 Mr. Howser was married to Miss Emma C. Sampson, a native of Illinois, and the daughter of Nelson Sampson, Esq., of Sidney Township. Of this union there has been born one child, a daughter, Edith B.

The residence of our subject is a handsome frame structure, finely located, and with attractive surroundings, including good out-buildings, shade trees, shrubbery and ample grounds. The farm embraces 200 acres of highly cultivated land, thoroughly drained with tile, provided with neat and substantial fencing, and all the necessary machinery required by the progressive modern farmer. A view of the place is to be seen on another page of this work. Mr. Howser has distinguished himself as a stock-raiser, dealing largely in hogs, and cattle, numbers of which he fattens annually, and sends by the carload to the Eastern markets. Of late he has been giving considerable attention to the celebrated Belgian draft horses, being quite successful as a breeder, and able to exhibit some extraordinarily fine animals. He has in all respects proved one of the most valued members of the farming community, whose interests he has advanced by every means in his power, and being the encourager and supporter of every enterprise calculated to elevate the public mind and morals. Both Mr. and Mrs. Howser are acceptable members of the Olive Christian Church, in Philo Township, in which the former is Treasurer and the latter Clerk.

PROF. EDWARD SNYDER, M. A., holding the Chair of Modern Languages of the Illinois University, is a native of Sokal, Austrian Poland, born in 1835, and the son of Mathias and Paulina Anna Mlynarska. He was educated at the Universities of Lemberg and Vienna; entered the army in 1859 and participated in the campaign of 1859, in Italy, attaining the rank of First Lieutenant in the 74th Infantry. In 1862 he emigrated to the United States, enlisted in

the 178th New York Infantry, serving three years, and receiving the commission of Captain. After the close of the war he taught in St. Louis and Carlinville, Ill. In 1868 he was elected Professor of Military Science and German in the University of Illinois, and commissioned Colonel of the I. S. N. G.; was appointed Professor of Modern Languages in 1874, and has held the position of Recording Secretary to the Board of Trustees since 1870.

Prof. Snyder married, in July, 1869, Miss Mary S. Patchen, of Burton, Ohio, daughter of D. Patchen, of Carlinville, Ill. Mrs. S. is a member of the Congregational Church, which the Professor also attends. Politically his tendencies are Republican.



DANIEL MAPES, a representative of one of the pioneer families of Champaign County, spent his earliest youth in the western part of New York State, where his birth took place July 23, 1827. The family is of English ancestry, the grandfather of our subject, Samuel Mapes, having been born across the Atlantic. He married a lady of German descent, and raised a family of sons and daughters, among whom was Samuel, who, after reaching manhood, was married to Miss Sarah Button, and became the father of our subject. The Button family was of Scotch ancestry.

After their marriage Samuel Mapes and his wife remained in New York State until the fall of 1827, and then removed to the eastern part of Ohio. After a residence there of two years, they pushed further westward into Indiana. Thence they migrated South, locating across the river in Kentucky, and remained in the vicinity of Cincinnati for the two years following. Not being yet satisfied with their location they removed once more, in the fall of 1833, and coming to this county settled on a tract of land in St. Joseph Township, near what was called "the bend," on the edge of a timber tract. Mr. M. possessed but limited means, and had a large family to support, but made the best of circumstances and succeeded in providing comfortably for all. He was finally enabled to purchase forty acres, which is included in the homestead of our subject,

and where the death of Samuel Mapes took place, in August, 1874, when seventy-three years of age. The wife and mother died early in life, and the ten children were provided for by the father to the best of his ability. They consisted of seven sons and three daughters, nine of whom lived to mature years, and with the exception of two sons, all were married. They were named respectively, William, Alonzo A., Daniel, Asa B., James, Jackson, Samuel, Melissa B., Elizabeth and Permelia. Melissa became the wife of Park Orr, and Elizabeth married Z. M. Dunn, of St. Joseph Township; Permelia married E. Pettit. But two of the family now survive—Samuel, and Daniel of our sketch.

Daniel Mapes was a boy of six years when his parents came to this county, and received a limited education in the subscription schools. He remained under the home roof until twenty-one years of age, and then commenced life on his own account, working out by the month until his marriage. He chose from among the maidens of his neighborhood Miss Elizabeth, the daughter of John W. and Zilpha Swearingen. After marriage the young people located on section 24, upon land included in the present homestead of our subject. This, through his perseverance and industry, has become a finely improved farm, containing 167 acres, upon which are good buildings and all the appointments of a first-class country estate. This is now under the management of his sons, while our subject and his wife, in 1883, took up their residence in the town of St. Joseph, where they are spending their later years, surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

Of the eleven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Mapes seven are still living, namely, John M., who resides on the homestead; William H. and Benjamin, in Nebraska; Thomas M., with his brother on the farm; Siegel A., of Nebraska; Effie J. and Charlie at home. Mr. Mapes since becoming a resident of this locality, has taken an active interest in local affairs, serving as School Director and occupying other positions where his excellent judgment was of service to his township. Both he and his estimable wife became members of the Christian Church at St. Joseph years ago, in which Mr. M. has officiated as Elder, and has contributed lib-

erally to its support. Politically, he is a Democrat of the old school, and holds stanchly to the principles in which he has believed since he began to exercise the right of suffrage.

JOHN R. OCHELTREE, dealer in furniture and undertakers' goods, established himself in business at Homer in the spring of 1860. The early years of his life were spent in agricultural pursuits, and he has had quite an experience in the lumber and grain trade. His present business is conducted after the most approved methods, and his stock embraces a fine assortment of everything required in both departments. He began life without means, but by the exercise of close economy and his own natural talents has secured a good property, and will be able to spend his declining years in the ease and comfort which he has so justly earned. Had it not been that he was forced to pay over \$6,000 on account of friends, for whom he became security, he would have that much also added to his possessions. His life in all respects has been straightforward and upright, and his voice and influence have been felt and heard in many of the moral reforms of the present, especially that of temperance, which he has advocated with all the force of his eloquence and his example. He has not tasted liquor for a period of over sixty years, and has never used tobacco in any form. He possesses considerable literary talent, and has used his pen in the writing of several fine articles opposing the use of intoxicating liquors, and the weed with which the mouths of so many men, both young and old, of the present day, are defiled.

The subject of this history was born in Greenbrier County, Va., March 22, 1817. He is the son of John and Eleanor (Wilson) Ocheltree, both also natives of the Old Dominion; the former was born Nov. 30, 1774, and departed this life in Fayette County, Ohio, on the 24th of December, 1833. John Ocheltree was a farmer by occupation, and removed from his native State first to Ross County, Ohio, when our subject was but an infant. Seventeen years later he took up his residence in Fayette County, where he established a good home and

spent the remainder of his days. He was of excellent Scottish ancestry, his father having come from the Highlands, and although reared a Presbyterian eventually cast his lot with the Methodists. He possessed an education better than is usual with the people of those days, and was especially fine in penmanship. The mother of our subject was born June 18, 1785, and survived her husband twenty-three years, remaining a widow until her death, which occurred in Vermilion County, Ill., on the 23d of September, 1856. She also was connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and as a wife and mother fulfilled nobly her obligations to her partner and her children.

The parental household included nine children: Martha, the eldest, was born Jan. 4, 1808, and died in Ohio several years ago, having been married and become the mother of twelve children; Elizabeth, born July 6, 1810, is the wife of Jacob M. Custer, now living in Homer; Mary, born Oct. 2, 1812, became the wife of Jesse Bryant, and both are now deceased; Eleanor, also deceased, was born Feb. 6, 1815, and married John Allen, of Fairmount, Ill.; John R., of our sketch, was the fifth child; Jane, born April 19, 1819, died many years ago in Ohio; Amanda, born Aug. 31, 1821, became the wife of S. Barker, and died in 1884; Malinda, born Oct. 24, 1825, became the wife of T. Hendrickson, and died Jan. 9, 1887; America, born June 14, 1828, married G. Sampson, who is now deceased; she is living in Kansas.

On the 7th of September, 1842, occurred a most important change in the life of Mr. Ocheltree, which had much to do in shaping his future course. On the evening of that day he was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Martin, who since that time has been his companion and counselor in difficulty, and who perhaps more than any other has rejoiced in his prosperity. Mrs. Ocheltree was born in Scioto County, Ohio, July 14, 1823, and is the daughter of Jacob and Lucina (Clark) Martin. The former was a New England farmer, who removed to Ohio in 1816, and afterward to Indiana, dying in the latter State in 1855, when seventy-three years of age. The mother did not long survive the loss of her partner, soon joining him in the other life, and being seventy-two years old. Both were consistent members

of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and became the parents of seven children, namely, Franklin, George, Lucina, Ann, Rhoda, Emily and Rebecca. These also, with the exception of the wife of our subject, have passed to the silent land, Mrs. O. being the only surviving member of her family.


Mr. Ocheltree united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1841, of which Mrs. O. has been a member since 1838. In religious work he has displayed the same energy as in other matters, holding the offices of Trustee, Steward and Chairman of important committees, and takes great satisfaction in the reflection that he has contributed more money for Christian purposes, probably, than any man of his means in this section. Upon first exercising the right of suffrage he voted the Democratic ticket, but upon the organization of the Free-Soil party identified himself with the latter, and from them came over to the Republicans, in 1856, and for a period of over thirty years has cordially endorsed Republican principles. The household circle of our subject and his wife was completed by the birth of nine children, namely, John A., Rhoda J. (now deceased), Jacob M., Hortense A., Martha E., Gilson S., Gilbert B., Benjamin N. and Mary E. The latter passed away in infancy.

JOSEPH H. HEADRICK, a gentleman in the prime of life, is industriously engaged in farming on a line tract of land in Newcomb Township, embracing 320 acres on section 1, which constitutes his present homestead. The improvements on his farm are among the best, not only in Newcomb Township, but also in Champaign County. A living stream of water runs through the farm, except in exceedingly dry times, which makes it excellent for stock purposes. Our subject's birth took place in Randolph County, this State, Sept. 19, 1846, on the farm of his father, and at thirteen years of age he started out in the world for himself, and since then has spent the most of his time in Champaign County.

Our subject is the son of Andrew and Susan (Headrick) Headrick, who were natives of Kentucky, where they remained a few years after their marriage, and thence emigrated to McLean County, Ill. The mother died on the homestead in Ran-

dolph Township, in August, 1856. The father is still living, and a resident of the latter-named county. The family included eight sons and one daughter, of whom our subject is the seventh child. He was naturally of an industrious and enterprising disposition, and looked out for himself without difficulty, being always cheerful and willing to perform his whole duty, and making many friends. During the progress of the late war he, in 1864, enlisted in Co. G, 164th Ill. Vol. Inf., serving until the expiration of his term of enlistment, at which time the preservation of the Union was assured. After leaving the army he returned to his old home in McLean County, remaining in that vicinity until 1877, and then became a resident of Newcomb Township, this county, where he has since remained.

Mr. Headrick was married when thirty years of age, in Newcomb Township, Sept. 10, 1876, to Mrs. Nancy (Richmond) Briney, who was born in Tazewell County, Sept. 26, 1847, and is the daughter of Wilson and Mary (Judy) Richmond. She was reared by her parents on a farm in her native county, and when nineteen years of age became the wife of John B. Briney, who died in Tazewell County, March 24, 1873. Of this first marriage there were born three children—Lilly M., John W. and Valentine W. The two latter are deceased. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Headrick resulted in the birth of five children, whom they named as follows: John W., Calvin A., Grace L., Guy W. and Walter. The latter died in infancy. Mr. Headrick, politically, is identified with the Democratic party, and both he and his excellent wife are members in good standing of the Christian Church. A lithographic view of the residence and home place of Mr. Headrick is shown elsewhere in this work.


JAMES W. STONESTREET, one of the most prominent and respected citizens of Kerr Township, as is evident from the number of years he has held the office of Assessor, was born in Hardy County, W. Va., Oct. 19, 1828. He is the son of Elisha and Hannah (Skidmore) Stonestreet, natives of Virginia. His paternal grandparents were Butler and Mary (Williams) Stonestreet, and his maternal grandparents, Elijah and Eleanor

(Westfall) Skidmore. In 1848 Elisha Stonestreet went to Illinois, and first located at Blue Grass, Vermilion County, where he staid three years. After his death his widow returned to the South in order to settle up some business affairs there which required her personal attention.

James W. Stonestreet was the fifth in order of birth in a family of nine children. During the absence of his mother at the South he bought 120 acres of land, upon which he moved a little house, and assuming the position of head of the family brought all of his brothers and sisters to live with him. All around his primitive home stretched the bare, unimproved prairie covered with rough, tall grass and wild flowers. The only post-office in the vicinity was located at Champaign. Many times during the night the little band of pioneers was startled by the howling of the wolves, which sometimes made friends with the dogs, partaking of their food and robbing the family of all the fowls which they attempted to raise. In this desolate wilderness Mr. Stonestreet first engaged in farming, and struggled with the crude elements of nature until his efforts were finally crowned with success, and he succeeded in bringing his land to a high state of cultivation.

In the meantime one of his sisters, who had kept house for him, died in the year 1867, and he married, Jan. 16, 1868, Miss Ellen Keene, of Westfield, Clark Co., Ill., the orphan daughter of Samuel and Irene (Flesher) Keene, who were among the old settlers of Indiana. After his marriage he settled on his farm on section 29, Kerr Township, which place has since continued to be his residence.

Mr. Stonestreet and his wife have had a family of eleven sons, two of whom died in infancy unnamed; the names of the others are as follows: James Edward, Freddie H., Walter C., Ashford Osborne, Samuel, David T., Otis, and Bertie and Bruce (twins). Of these James Edward and Samuel are dead; the rest live at home with their parents.

Mr. Stonestreet has inherited much of the strong character and executive ability of his father, who was a highly educated man, possessing great mental power. Our subject was present at the organization of the township, of which he was elected the second Assessor, and which position he has ever since retained, with the exception of three years, when he was unable to perform its duties on account of severe illness resulting from a white swelling, which had troubled him when a boy thirteen years of age. He has, on different occasions, held all the local offices, and now votes with the Democrats, though formerly he was a Republican. Himself and his wife belong to the United Brethren Church.

CHRISTIAN F. SUMMIT, a representative German farmer of Ludlow Township, whose native place was the little Kingdom of Wurtemberg, crossed the sea in 1853, when a young man twenty-two years of age, and two years later sought the Prairie State, of which he has since been a resident. He has proved one of the most highly esteemed and reliable men of this section, and has in all respects identified himself with its interests and thoroughly adapted himself to American institutions and customs. In the establishment of his home and the rearing of his family he has set an example worthy of imitation. He chose for his helpmeet a rarely intelligent lady, and their three children have been given an excellent education. He is now surrounded by a large circle of friends who have learned to respect and esteem him for his enterprise and industry, his promptness in meeting his obligations, and his value as a farmer and a useful member of the community.

The family patronymic is spelled Sammet in Germany. The birth of our subject occurred Jan. 11, 1831. He is the son of Frederick and Dorothea Summit, both also natives of Wurtemberg, where they spent their entire lives on a farm. Our subject was placed in school at an early age and pursued his studies uninterruptedly until fourteen years old, when he was apprenticed to the blacksmith's trade, which he worked at in the old country until 1853, and in April of that year started for the New World. After a voyage of thirty days he landed in New York City, and first found employment on a farm near Syracuse, where he remained until coming to the West. He had been with one family during this time and was accompanied by them to this State, remaining with them in Logan County for some time afterward and until his marriage. After this important change in his life he rented a tract of land in Logan County, until 1867, whence he removed to McLean County and cultivated rented land near Bloomington until 1873.

In the meantime Mr. Summit had purchased the land which he now owns and occupies, and which he took possession of in the spring of 1873. A few acres of this had been broken, and upon it stood a rude shanty. He occupied this with his

young wife for a time until enabled to put up a good frame dwelling. He now has all the land in a good state of cultivation, with all necessary buildings, and has beautified his home by the planting of choice fruit and shade trees. His stock and farming utensils are all first class, and his farming operations are being conducted with that skill and judgment which have assured him a comfortable home and competency.

Mrs. Summit before her marriage was a resident of Philadelphia, by name Miss Magdalena Spoehrle. She also was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and was educated there in the same school as her husband. Her birth occurred Nov. 26, 1830, and her parents were Gottlieb and Catherina (Shafer) Spoehrle. She emigrated to America with her parents in 1854, and resided with them in the Quaker City until a short time before her marriage. She joined her future husband in Logan County on the 16th of June, 1858, and they were married ten days later.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Summit, four in number, are Maude, Saddle, Lydia C. and Minnie C. John F., the second child, died when two and one-half years old in Logan County. Saddle and Lydia are teachers in the public school. The parents and children are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



THOMAS O. DARRAH, a successful farmer of Pesotum Township, was born in Delaware County, Ohio, March 12, 1839. His parents were John and Elizabeth (Orr) Darrah. The father, born in Harrison County, Ohio, in 1810, was the son of James and Nancy (Kent) Darrah, natives of Virginia. His maternal ancestors were from Ireland and Scotland, respectively, and emigrated to this country, settling in Pennsylvania at an early day, where his mother was born in 1799 in Huntingdon County. Our subject's parents removed from Ohio to Illinois when he was but an infant, settling in Pike County, where they remained until the spring of 1865, then removed to Champaign County, this State, where the father bought 320 acres of land then known as the How-

let farm, and where our subject remained until his marriage, when his father gave him a deed to eighty acres of the home farm. John Darrah died in 1886; the mother of our subject preceded her husband to the silent land in 1868.

The marriage of Thomas O. Darrah and Miss Arclissa Nelson occurred Dec. 1, 1870. They are now the parents of two children—Mertie M. and Sylvia M., both at home. The parents of Mrs. Darrah were Benham C. and Lydia Nelson, who were natives respectively of Virginia and Pennsylvania, and of German origin. Mr. Darrah's parents had a family of ten children, he being the eighth in order of birth. Of these three are now deceased.

Mr. Darrah has been uniformly prosperous, and added to his first purchase until he now has 185 acres all under a good state of cultivation, and notwithstanding he has traded to a considerable extent, he has always retained his first homestead, the gift of his father. He has contributed his share in building up his community, and has filled the office of Township Supervisor for four years, Commissioner of Highways five years, and School Trustee eight. In politics he is a Democrat, and upholds the principles of that party.

Mr. and Mrs. Darrah have been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the past six years, and are carrying out the principles of that faith in word and deed. They are worthy members of society and are highly respected by their friends and associates.



SAMUEL A. HYDE, a son of one of the earliest pioneers of Hensley Township, is one of the few representatives of the adventurous spirits who sought the Western wilds at an early period in the history of this region, and established the homesteads few and far between, with which the first settlement of the uncultivated prairies commenced. Comparatively few are now left to tell the tale of their early struggles and the courage required to brave the hardships and dangers which confronted them on every hand. Too much credit can not be given to the pioneer fathers and mothers who have left to their

children a heritage more valuable than gold or precious gems—the legacy of sound principles, independence of character, industry and perseverance. One of the most prominent representatives of the pioneer element was Samuel Hyde, Sr., father of our subject, who was a native of Vermont, and emigrated with his family from his native hills about 1823. His father, Walter Hyde, was a native of the same State, whence he removed to Ontario County, N. Y., with his family, where he lived a number of years, and then to Indiana, settling in Switzerland County.

Samuel, Sr., was but a lad when he left his native State, and was twenty-one years old when his parents removed from New York to Indiana. He stood upon the present site of Indianapolis when it was but a wilderness, and assisted in clearing away the virgin trees in order to lay the foundation of the State House. He remained a resident of that section until his marriage, and after this event settled in Vigo County, where he farmed on rented land until 1844. That year, accompanied by his wife and ten children, with an outfit of six horses and three wagons, he started overland for the prairies of Illinois. They carried their household goods and provisions with them, and, it being before the days of palace cars and hotels, camped and cooked by the wayside. It was in the spring soon after the frost had left the ground, and the roads in some places were almost impassable. It took three days to reach Vermilion County, a distance of forty miles.

The father of our subject rented land in the latter-named county until 1849, and the following spring came to this county, and purchased a tract of 200 acres of wild land in what is now Hensley Township. He put up a log house on section 19, and commenced to improve the farm. He was one of the first of the permanent settlers in the township and his neighbors were few and far between.

He lived to see the county well developed, and where once had been the wild prairie watched with keenest satisfaction the establishment of beautiful homesteads and the cultivation of fields of yellow grain. He saw also the approach of the iron horse and noted with gratification the laying of the railroad tracks, one after another, through one of the

richest regions of the Prairie State. After a well-spent life, during which he had made hosts of friends, he was gathered to his fathers on the 13th day of September, 1878. The mother of our subject, who was formerly Miss Olive Franklin, was a native of New York State, and departed this life at the old homestead in July, 1875.

Samuel Hyde was the ninth child of the parental household, and a little lad of eight years when his parents removed to Illinois. Five years later they came to this county, and here he grew to manhood and completed his practical education. He remained under the home roof until 1860, then farmed one year on the place he now owns and occupies. At the expiration of this time the Rebellion began to assume alarming proportions, and he, in common with thousands of others, laid aside his personal plans and interests and proffered his services in behalf of the Union. He enlisted Sept. 22, 1861, and was attached to the 3d Missouri Cavalry, serving in the Western army three years. At the expiration of this time he received his honorable discharge, and returning home resumed agriculture on his present farm.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Catherine Montgomery took place in Mahomet Township, Jan. 19, 1865. Mrs. Hyde was born in Salem, N. J., and was the daughter of Gilpin Montgomery, a native of the same State. Her grandfather was born in Ireland and emigrated to America when a young man, locating in New Jersey, where he spent the remainder of his life. The father of Mrs. H. removed from New Jersey to Iowa in 1853, but only remained three or four months. He then returned East as far as Ohio and lived in Champaign County, that State, three years, after which he returned to this county and located in Mahomet Township. Thence he removed to Kansas in 1883, settling in Neosha County, where he died Dec. 3, 1886. The mother of Mrs. H., who in her girlhood was Miss Elizabeth M. McCombs, was also a native of New Jersey, and died in Mahomet Township, this county, Jan. 16, 1864.

Our subject and wife have seven children—Lizzie, Orin, George, Charles, Harry, Rosie and Wilber. The parents and three of the children are members and regular attendants of the Methodist

Episcopal Church. Mr. Hyde is a Republican in politics, and keeps himself well posted upon matters of general interest. In his business habits and manner of living he is a worthy representative of a family widely known and universally respected.



WILLIAM C. FISHER, a well-known resident of Hensley Township, and one of the honored pioneers of Champaign County, came to this section of country while the greater part of the soil was uncultivated, and was among the first to turn the sod and mark out the path for a later civilization. He is a man possessed of uncommon energy of character, who lays his plans deliberately and seldom fails of execution. Consequently, when he had once decided to build up a permanent home in the Prairie State the result was only a question of time, and he was as confident that it would be carried out as that the sun shone. The fine homestead which he now occupies, and the position which he enjoys among his fellow-townsmen, give ample evidence of what he has accomplished and the manner in which it has been done. During the pioneer days he became intimately acquainted with dangerous difficulties and hardships, but met them all like a man, and held himself in readiness for any emergency. It is hardly necessary to say that he is accorded that peculiar reverence which belongs to all those who ventured into an untried region and were willing to brave its solitude and labors.

Mr. Fisher was born in Ohio County, W. Va., Dec. 15, 1810. His father, John Fisher, also a native of the Old Dominion, grew to manhood in his native State, and was there married and lived until 1811. He then emigrated to Ohio with his family via the Ohio and Scioto Rivers to Chillicothe, where they landed on the 10th of May, 1811. The father of our subject, who was one of the earlier settlers of that region, operated on rented land until 1820, then purchased a farm in Madison County, to which he removed and spent the remainder of his days, departing this life at the ripe old age of ninety-three years. The mother of our subject, formerly Miss Elizabeth Byers, was also a native

of Virginia. She accompanied her husband on his various travels, lived to take up with him their abode in Madison County, Ohio, and there died in about 1850. Of their fifteen children nine grew to become men and women.

William C. Fisher of our sketch was but a babe when his parents removed to Ohio. He grew to manhood in the Buckeye State and was there married. After assuming domestic ties he purchased 100 acres of land in Fayette County, upon which he removed with his bride and lived until 1848, when he sold out. In the meantime his household had been increased by the birth of five children, and with his family he now started for the prairies of Illinois. Their outfit consisted of three horses and a wagon, and they made the entire journey overland, landing in Piatt County after a journey of eighteen days. Mr. Fisher rented land there for the first year, and then coming to this county entered 160 acres on sections 7 and 18 of what is now Hensley Township, in addition to which he purchased fifty acres. His first claim was a Mexican warrant, and the 160 acres cost him \$125. He purchased a small log house which stood about one and one-half miles distant, and which he removed to his land and fitted it up so that his family occupied it for several years. There was no grain market for several years, but corn found a ready sale in the field to cattle-feeders at ten cents per bushel. Deer and wolves were plenty, and the family were kept supplied with all the wild meat they could consume.

When Mr. Fisher came to this township there were but three or four persons who had remained here. Their removal hence has been brought about in various ways, some by seeking different localities, and others by passing to the land of the hereafter. There was then but one house between his dwelling and Champaign, and it may be readily imagined that he watched with pleasure and satisfaction the gradual settling up of his adopted county, and the prosperity to which it slowly but surely attained.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Jemima Coyner, took place at the residence of the bride's parents on the 12th of February, 1835. Mrs. F. was born in Ross County, Ohio, Dec. 16, 1816, and is the

daughter of John Coyner, of Pennsylvania. Her grandfather was a native of Germany, whence he emigrated in early life to the United States, and spent his last days in the Keystone State. His son John removed from Virginia to Ohio in 1814, being among the earliest settlers of Ross County, where he purchased a tract of land and improved a farm, which he occupied until his death. The mother of Mrs. Fisher, who before her marriage was Miss Hannah Lawell, was a native of Virginia and of Scotch parentage and descent.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Fisher there were born eight children, six now living: John, J. Madison and David C. are residents of Hensley Township; Hannah married A. B. Hensley, and is now a resident of Kansas; Russell B. and Martin remained on the old homestead. Our subject and his wife identified themselves with the Methodist Church early in life, Mr. F. when twenty-one years old, and Mrs. F. when sixteen. Mr. F. in the old Whig days affiliated with that party, but since its abandonment has cordially supported the principles of the Republican, and casts his vote in support of them.



HENRY M. DUNLAP, proprietor of Rural Home Farm, is beautifully located on section 36, Champaign Township. He comes from an excellent family, and was trained by careful parents to habits of industry and principles of honor. He was born in Leyden Township, Cook Co., Ill., Nov. 14, 1853, and is the son of Hon. M. L. Dunlap, now deceased. The latter, a native of Cherry Valley, N. Y., was born Sept. 14, 1814, and in early youth indicated the quiet and studious habits which directed his course later in life. His choice was the study of medicine, but he was never, however, permitted to carry out his wishes. He removed West with his father's family in 1836, and after remaining one winter with his parents went to Chicago, which was then a town of about 2,000 inhabitants. He engaged as clerk for a time, and afterward went to Lamont, where he became book-keeper for a firm of contractors on the Illinois and Michigan Canal, with whom he remained two years. In the meantime he saved a few

hundred dollars, and concluding to engage in agriculture, entered a tract of Government land in Cook County, about twelve miles west of the city limits of Chicago. This he at once proceeded to improve and cultivate, and also engaged in surveying.

In about 1845 Mr. Dunlap turned his attention to horticulture, which he followed for several years. In 1855 he visited Champaign County, and purchased the north half of section 36, in what is now Champaign Township. Two years later he removed his family here, and in due time had one of the largest nurseries in the West. As a man of thrift and intelligence, making the interests of his adopted county his own, he contributed of his time and means to the carrying out of every enterprise which would benefit its people and increase its standing. He was a man of unusual energy, and if unsuccessful in one direction or enterprise, lost no time in bemoaning the loss, but at once set about some other project, and was usually successful.

During the struggle for the location of the Industrial University, Mr. Dunlap aided materially in its establishment at Urbana, by his wide acquaintance and influence among the public men of the State. He also possessed the pen of a ready writer, and was for many years a frequent and intelligent contributor to the leading journals of the West. When the *Democratic Press*, a Republican and leading free-soil paper of the West, was established, in 1853, Mr. Dunlap was engaged as its chief agricultural writer, and his weekly letters came to be looked for and read with warm interest. His intelligent arguments on farm and garden attained a wide popularity, and the impetus which his thoughts gave to agriculture will be recognized many years hence. His *nom de plume*, "Rural," was well known throughout the West. After the consolidation of the *Press* with the *Chicago Tribune*, Mr. Dunlap was retained as the agricultural correspondent, which engagement covered a period of twenty-two years. He took a warm interest in State and National affairs. In earlier years he was an adherent of the Democratic party, with which he cast his last vote in 1852. After that time he was one of the most ardent adherents of Republican principles. He was strongly opposed to slavery, and his house

became one of the depots of the Underground Railroad, where the fleeing slave always found the latch-string out. A man of his generous sympathies and rare intelligence could not fail of recognition, and he was appointed to various offices of trust. In 1854 he was one of the four members who represented Cook County in the State Legislature, in which body his influence was uniformly felt, as elsewhere.

Hon. M. L. Dunlap was married, in Chicago, to Miss Emeline Pierce, who was born March 18, 1818, at Sandy Creek, Oswego Co., N. Y., and was the daughter of John and Hannah (Ballou) Pierce, natives of Rhode Island. Mr. Pierce served as a soldier in the War of 1812, was Sheriff of Oswego County, and in other respects a prominent man in the public affairs of that section. The children of the Pierce household were Theodore, now deceased; Hiram J., a resident of Champaign; Oscar, of Grand View, Dak.; Merton, of Paxton, Ill.; Albert, deceased; Ernest L. and Ella, twins; the former a resident of Savoy, and the latter the wife of C. H. Riser, and now living in Kankakee; Eva J., the wife of R. G. Riser, of Kankakee, and Louie J., deceased.

Mr. Dunlap of our sketch was but four years old when he came to this county with his parents. He pursued his primary studies in the district schools, and afterward entered the Illinois State University at Urbana, from which he graduated in 1875. Soon afterward he went into Ford County, and became the assistant of his brother Merton, who was then and is still County Clerk there. After a few months of office work he returned to the old homestead, which he took charge of until 1883, and then became its possessor by purchase. He is extensively engaged in raising grain and stock, the latter of which includes horses, sheep, cattle and hogs. He also has a fine fruit orchard, in the cultivation of which he takes great pride, and produces annually some of the finest specimens to be found at the agricultural fairs. The main orchard includes 150 acres, among the trees of which are 150 varieties of apples. This orchard is one of the largest in the United States, and the largest in Central Illinois. In connection with this he has a steam cider mill, from which he turns out 1,000 barrels of cider an-

nually, and which finds a ready market. The farm and buildings are kept in first-class condition, and form one of the most attractive spots in this locality.

Mr. Dunlap was married in Urbana, July 5, 1877, to Miss Nora C. Burt, who is a native of Coshocton County, Ohio, born Feb. 4, 1856, and the daughter of Thomas and Mary L. Burt. Of this union there have been born two children—Mabel and Clarence. Mrs. Dunlap is connected with the Universalist Church. Politically our subject casts his vote with the Republican party.



CH. VAN VLECK, of Philo Village, is a substantial representative of the family which originated in Holland and the first members of which came to this country prior to the Revolutionary War. The first of the family to locate in this country was the great-grandfather of our subject, who settled in the Mohawk Valley and remained a resident of the Empire State until his death. He there reared a family, among the members of which was James, the grandfather of our subject, who became a successful farmer, was married to Miss Rachel Francisco, of Spanish ancestry, and spent the last years of his life in Herkimer County, dying in 1822. His wife survived him until 1838, and until about seventy years of age. Their eldest son and child, also named James, was reared to manhood in that locality and when twelve years of age began to work in the woolen-mills of Honeoye, N. Y.

James Van Vleck attained to great skill in the manufacture of woollens, and was also possessed of much mechanical skill, becoming perfectly familiar with the intricacies of machinery and operated as a millwright during the later years of his life. At the early age of twenty-three years, in company with his brother-in-law, he erected a large woolen-mill at Brownsville, N. Y., and was even at that time the master mechanic in its construction. Afterward, in 1840, in company with a partner, he established the mills at Macedon Locks, in Wayne County, where he operated four years. He then concluded to try farming, but after one year's experi-

ence returned to his former business and re-established the old factory in Penfield, Monroe County. His partner died about that time but he remained there for several years and thence removed to Dansville, Livingston County, and afterward to Addison, Steuben County. In 1856 he removed from the Empire State, and coming to Joliet, Ill., was variously engaged until his death, Dec. 9, 1885, when seventy-four years old, having been born Dec. 11, 1811. The mother of our subject was Miss Mary A. Haskins, who was born at Hinsdale, Mass., where she was reared and educated and learned to weave. She came of a long-lived family and is yet living in Joliet, being about seventy-three years old. She was the youngest of twelve children, and was orphaned by the death of both parents when a small child. The twelve all lived to a good old age and six yet survive, being well advanced in years.

Our subject was the eldest in the family, consisting of two sons and one daughter. The latter, Mary, died in infancy. The parents afterward adopted a little girl named Elizabeth, who was regarded as one of the family and became the wife of George Thompson, of Steuben County, N. Y. She is now deceased. Mr. Van Vleck received a good education, completing his studies at Albany University, from which he graduated in the class of 1854, being its youngest member. He had attended a course in the law department, and was admitted to practice that same year. Soon afterward he withdrew from the bar of the State and came to Illinois, locating in Winnebago County, where he was alternately engaged in teaching and farming. In 1858 he became a resident of Will County. During that year also he set out with an organized company to cross the plains, and after reaching California engaged in mining and merchandising until 1866. He then returned to Illinois via the Isthmus, arriving in this State in June.

From that time until October our subject occupied himself in looking around for a permanent location, finally settling at Philo Village, where he began dealing in grain, which he continued for some years, in the meantime also becoming connected with the agency of the Wabash Railroad. He also dealt in lumber, coal, live-stock and real estate. At the early age of eighteen years he had

obtained a practical knowledge of surveying, which he followed for many years. The greater part of the township of Philo was surveyed by him, as well as portions of Raymond, Sidney and Urbana, and he laid out the village of St. Joseph as early as 1872. He has operated of late years in company with his brother, and the firm of Van Vleck & Bro. now do a business of about \$100,000 annually.

Our subject was married at Joliet, Sept. 26, 1869, to Miss Jennie S. Palmer, who was born and reared in that city and who died at the home of her husband in Philo Village, Oct. 26, 1872, being a few months over twenty-six years of age. The second marriage of Mr. Van Vleck took place in 1874, with Mrs. Emma (Gordy) Moon. Mrs. Van V. was the daughter of Cyrus Gordy, and was born and reared in Ohio. A sketch of her uncle, Thomas Gordy, appears on another page in this volume. This lady died at the home of her husband in Philo Village, June 18, 1880.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married at Philo in 1881, was Mrs. Frances (Gillett) Godfrey, a native of New York State, and the daughter of William and Sarah Gillett. Of the first marriage of Mr. Van V. there was born a son, C. Frank, who is the only child of our subject.

Mr. Van Vleck has served as Justice of the Peace in Philo Township for two years. Politically he is a solid Republican, and with his excellent lady is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church.

CAPT. JOSEPH DAVIDSON. This gentleman is widely and favorably known throughout Champaign County as possessing more than ordinary ability, and one who has proved himself an important factor in the farming and business community of Philo Township. He is pleasantly located on a fine stock farm, which occupies part of section 18, and also has a tract in Tolono Township, the whole including 455 acres, all of which is finely improved. The residence of our subject is a fine and imposing structure, and the grounds surrounding it are beautifully laid out and ornamented with choice shrubs and trees, the main feature being a fine grove which protects it from

summer's heat and winter's storm. The barns and other outhouses correspond with the dwelling, and the whole estate forms a picture to delight the eye and attract the attention of the passer-by.

Capt. Davidson took possession of his present homestead in 1867, although he had been a resident of Champaign County since the close of the war. His first purchase consisted of 160 acres, to which he afterward added by degrees. He has been uniformly prosperous in his business and agricultural undertakings, and has contributed his full share toward the development of Philo Township. He is a native of Ironton, Lawrence Co., Ohio, and was born June 15, 1820. His father, Col. Joseph Davidson, was for some years Sheriff of Lawrence County, which he also represented in the Ohio Legislature for a period of four years. He owned a fine property in the Buckeye State, and was a man who commanded admiration and respect wherever known. After reaching middle life he moved to Iowa, locating on a farm near Farmington, Van Buren County, where his death occurred. The mother died in Ohio when her only son, Joseph of our sketch, was but nine years of age. His father in due time was married again, and our subject remained with him until seventeen years of age, when he set out to do for himself. He had no money and the occasion of his leaving home was a severe chastisement which his father gave him without cause. He commenced the struggle with the world as a flatboatman on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, and for eight years following journeyed up and down between Cincinnati and New Orleans. During that period he saw many strange sights and met with some hard experiences; sometimes possessed of a full purse and sometimes had nothing. Later in life he began to operate a steamboat up and down the Tennessee River, and during the war was engaged in transporting Government supplies, which proved quite a bonanza. He became Captain of the J. H. Done, and later built a boat, J. H. Done No. 2. He transferred the first Ft. Donelson prisoners from the fort to Vicksburg for exchange, and his craft was afterward utilized entirely for army officials. He became one of the most skillful pilots and Captains throughout that section of country. In June, 1864, he sold out his boats

and business to good advantage, and located in Ironton, Ohio, whence later he removed to Champaign County, Ill., invested in land and began to operate as a general farmer. He was for a few years engaged in merchandising in Ironton, but confesses more of an affection for Champaign County than any other locality where his lot has been cast.

Our subject was first married in Lawrence County, Ohio, in 1850, to Miss Eliza Frampton. This lady was a native of Ohio, born in Lawrence County, and died in that county, at Ironton, in 1856, leaving two children. Ada became the wife of Chester A. Bowman, now a successful young farmer of Philo Township, this county; Joseph M. is engaged as a grain dealer at St. Louis, Mo.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married at Ironton, Ohio, in May, 1865, was formerly Miss Susan Hover. She was born in Pennsylvania, of which State her parents were both natives. She possesses in a marked degree the energy and intelligence of her husband, and their home is the resort of the cultured people of Philo Township. Capt. Davidson is strongly Republican, but has steadily declined to become an office-seeker.



WILLIAM DAWLEY. The subject of the following sketch owns and occupies a fine homestead in Scott Township, on section 3. This comprises 240 acres of choice land, upon which he has erected a fine set of frame buildings, and supplied the premises with all things needful for the carrying on of agriculture in a first-class manner. Mr. Dawley has been a resident of Scott Township since 1866. He was born in Greene County, Ohio, April 26, 1828, and is the son of Devorix and Huldah Dawley, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Kentucky. After their marriage they located in Ohio, and the mother died in Greene County in about 1837. After the death of his wife the father of our subject removed to Muskingum County, Ohio, where he again married, and then removed to Fairfield County. He died in Lancaster, that county, in about 1880.

The parental family consisted of seven children,

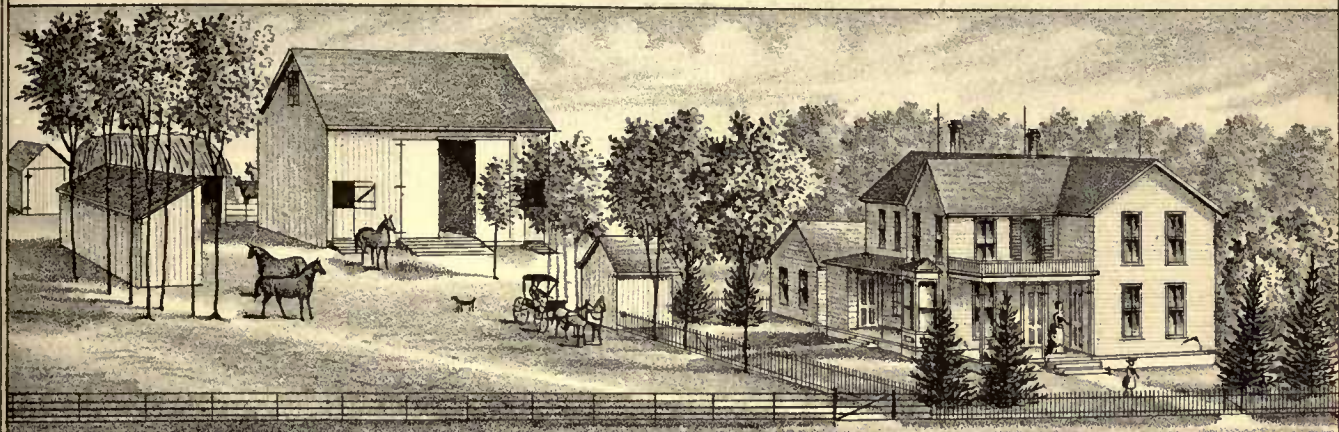
three sons and four daughters, of whom our subject is the third child. He remained a resident of Ohio until 1851, when he came to Piatt County, this State, first working out by the month, then operating on rented land until 1866. He was married in Piatt County, Jan. 6, 1853, to Miss Susan Gay, also a native of the Buckeye State. They became the parents of nine children, three now deceased. Those surviving are Diantha, John, Mary C., William, Ida and Clara. John married Miss Nancy Beek, and is farming in Scott Township. Those deceased are Albert, Rosaltha and Jane.

Mr. Dawley has held the office of Highway Commissioner, and is a man who takes a genuine interest in the welfare of his community. Politically he is a reliable Republican. Mrs. D. is a member in good standing of the Methodist Church.

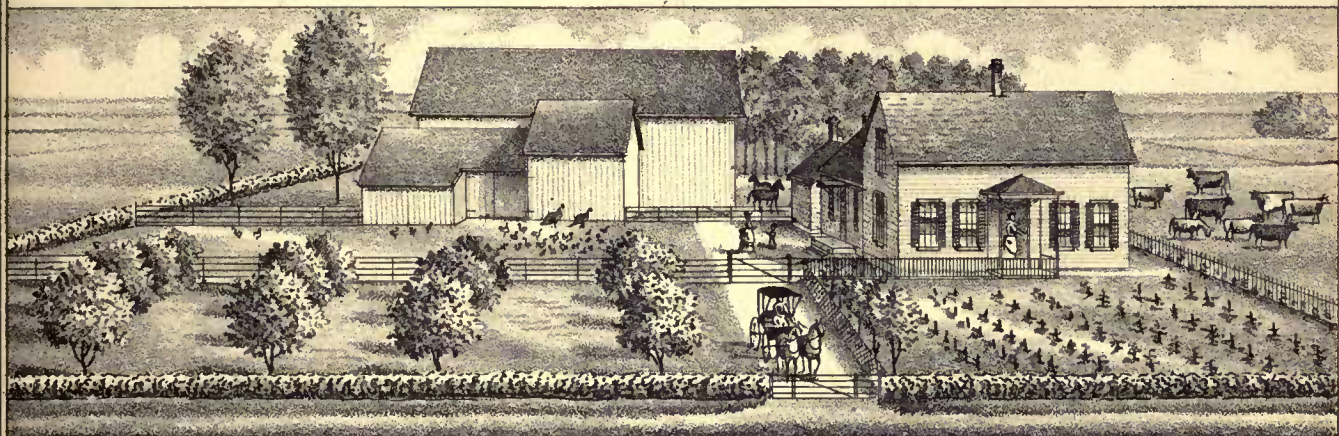


HENRY SADORUS, deceased, father of Henry T., Allen M. and William Sadorus, represented in this work, was a native of Pennsylvania and of German descent, as was also his wife, Mary (Titus) Sadorus. He followed farming in Allegheny County, Pa., from early manhood until 1817, then left the farm and drifted down the Ohio River on a raft, landing at Cincinnati, where he remained two years, engaged in various kinds of business. Thence he migrated into Rush County, Ind., and purchased a farm of eighty acres, where he remained until 1824. In the meantime he had been greatly prospered, but desiring to change his location once more, pushed still further westward into Illinois, and purchased 600 acres of land in Vermilion County. From this Champaign County was afterward detached, and Mr. Sadorus settled at the lower end of what is now known as Sadorus Grove. Here he remained engaged in the peaceful pursuit of agriculture, and rested from his earthly labors July 18, 1878, dying at the advanced age of ninety-five years, having been born July 26, 1783.

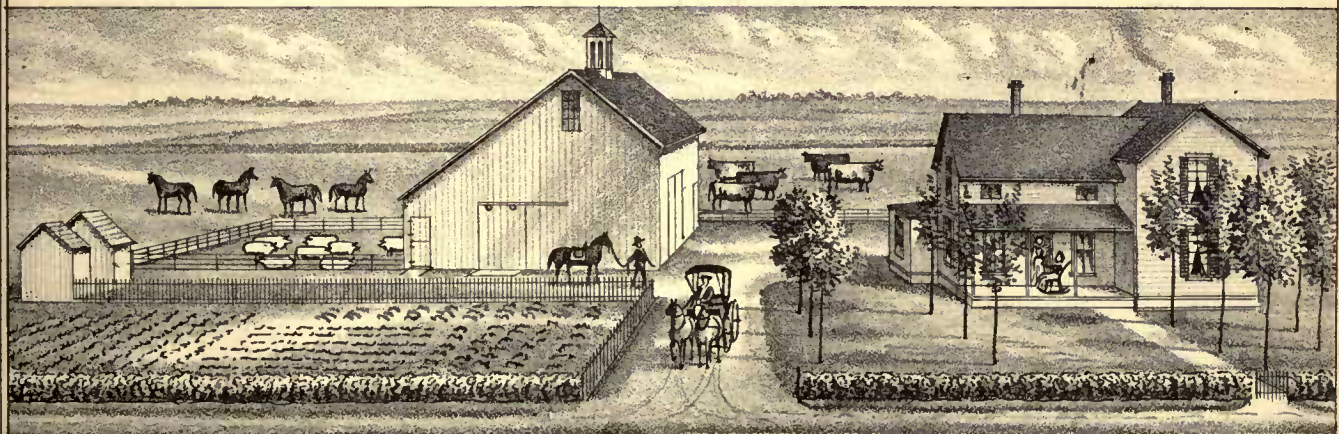
The subject of this history possessed a varied and interesting experience. During the progress of the Revolutionary War he served with the minute men who guarded the navy yard during the construction



RESIDENCE OF L. H. HOWSER, SEC. 31, ST. JOSEPH TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF GUSTAVE STUMPF, SEC. 6, (R. 9.E) RANTOUL TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF G. W. GRISWOLD, SEC. 17, HARWOOD TOWNSHIP.

of Commodore Perry's fleet for the memorable cruise on Lake Erie. He witnessed the Indian war dance and the bloody massacre which followed, and during the early days of the settlement of Pennsylvania, incurred, in common with those around him, the dangers and hardships of life in the wilderness.

Henry Sadorus lived, however, to note the disappearance of the untamed savages, and to behold the native soil, where many years before had roamed wild animals and Indians, cultivated by the civilized whites and teeming with settlements. Upon coming to Illinois his rich experience enabled him at once to grasp the duties of the pioneer, which he performed in a manner worthy his high character and the principles which had ruled his life. He was a citizen who enjoyed in a marked degree the respect of those around him, and of whom still further mention is made in the biography of his sons.



ALEXANDER YEXLEY. This gentleman made his first advent into Champaign County thirty years ago, in 1857. He is thoroughly acquainted with the vicissitudes of pioneer life, having had a rare experience with the difficulties of a new country, his first experience having been when he was a boy in the Buckeye State, to which he had emigrated with his parents from his native city of Quebec, Ontario, Canada. There he first opened his eyes to the light on the 24th of May, 1834. His father, Alexander Yexley, Sr., was born in the city of London, England, where he grew to manhood, was married, and soon afterward emigrated to America. He was a horse-trainer by profession, which he followed until his death, which occurred in 1835. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Mary J. Brown, also a native of London. Their son, our subject, was but a year old when his father died. The mother was subsequently married to W. Wood, and they removed to New York State, where they lived for a short time, thence going to Toledo, Ohio, and afterward into Defiance County, that State, where Mrs. Wood still lives.

Mr. Yexley of our sketch was but a child when

his mother became a resident of Defiance County, Ohio. They located on the present site of Iliicksville, which was then a wilderness, and the boy assisted in clearing a farm and establishing a comfortable home, remaining with his mother until eighteen years old, when he paid his stepfather \$30 for his time, and started out for himself. He commenced working for \$8 a month, but his wages were raised as his usefulness increased, never, however, going over \$14. When twenty-one years old he commenced dealing in stock, in which he was occupied until 1857. In that year he decided to try his fortunes in the farther West, and made the journey overland into Illinois, bringing with him four horses and selling three after his arrival. Coming into this county he commenced to break prairie at \$20 per month and during the summer season worked in the harvest field. In December of that year he returned to Ohio and resumed his stock operations, to which he also added that of a lively trade in furs.

In 1863 Mr. Yexley returned to this county and purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. Its condition, however, is now widely different from that in which he found it. There was then a house of one room, very little of the land was enclosed, and but a few acres had been turned by the plow. The passing traveler now describes an attractive homestead with shapely and substantial farm buildings, and the land under a good state of cultivation. Everything about the premises denotes the supervision of the intelligent modern farmer.

The lady who has been the sharer of the labors and successes of our subject, and to whom he was married Nov. 28, 1857, was formerly Miss Jane Ham. She was born in Fayette County, Pa., May 23, 1841, and is the daughter of Bartholomew and Lucinda Ham, natives of Virginia. Mr. Ham removed from his native State to Ohio at an early period in the settlement of Fayette County, where he was one of the first pioneers. He cleared a farm from the wilderness and built a comfortable home which he occupied for many years. In 1851 he came to Illinois, locating first in Piatt County, and after operating there five years on rented land entered a claim in Condit Township, this county,

which became his home until about 1860. He is now a resident of Fisher.

Mr. and Mrs. Yexley have become the parents of five children, namely: Lillie V., the wife of William Porter, of Merriek County, Neb.; Alta M., Tina B., George A. and Katie M. Mrs. Y. is connected with the Methodist Church; our subject politically is a supporter of Republican principles.

ALLEXANDER P. WHITMORE owns and occupies one of the finest farms in Philo Township, which is located on section 4, and invariably attracts the attention of the passing traveler on account of the beauty of its location, the tasteful and imposing residence, and the substantial barn situated in the midst of fine grounds, everything indicating the cultivated tastes and ample means of the proprietor. Our subject purchased his present homestead in 1873, but did not take possession until four years later. It comprises 164 acres drained by 500 rods of tile, inclosed with substantial fencing and cultivated by means of the most improved machinery.

Mr. Whitmore has been a resident of Champaign County since 1865, arriving here on the 14th of April, the day made memorable by the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. He located in the city of Champaign, of which he remained a resident until 1871, when he removed to a farm in Homer Township, which he occupied until the removal to Philo. In the former township he became proprietor of 150 acres, which he secured solely through his own industry and by the exercise of the closest economy, as he started out in the world poor in pocket, with no possessions but his rare good sense and willing hands. His subsequent career has been a fine illustration of what may be accomplished by energy, industry and prudence. The birth of Alexander P. Whitmore took place in Rutland County, Vt., April 15, 1834. He resided in his native State until reaching years of manhood, and thence removed to Washington County, N. Y., locating at Ft. Ann, where he remained until coming to Illinois. He was married, Dec. 9, 1861, to Miss Susan J. Bourne, a native of his own town in Ver-

mont, where she grew to womanhood, receiving a common-school education. Of this union there were born four children: Susie became the wife of Rev. George W. Morrow, who is now attending the Christian Church College on the Hudson at Stanfordville, N. Y., completing his studies for the ministry; the younger daughter, May, is at home with her parents. Two died in infancy unnamed.

The Whitmore family were originally from New England, the father of our subject, Perley Whitmore, having been born in Rhode Island, where the first representatives of the family, who were of English descent, settled at an early day. He married Miss Marbury Stafford, of Rutland County, Vt., who descended from the German. They located in Granville, N. Y., where the father died in 1850, when sixty years of age. The mother, who afterward remained a widow, came to Illinois and spent the remainder of her days with one of her sons, Thomas S., in Champaign, departing this life in 1884, when eighty-seven years of age.

The parents of Mrs. Whitmore were also of New England birth. Her father, Orson Bourne, departed this life in Hubbardton, Vt., in 1885, when about seventy-five years old. The mother, who was formerly Miss Susan Sherman, died in New York near the Vermont State line, about the year 1859. Mr. and Mrs. Whitmore have come honestly by every penny of their possessions. Their beautiful home with its surroundings is the result of many years of industry and economy, the wife working side by side with her husband in the endeavor to place themselves in a worthy and honored position in the community. Their efforts have been amply rewarded, and their later years witness them enjoying the fruits of their labors, and the esteem of all who know them.

JOHAN K. BARDWELL, of Hensley Township, was born in Shelburne, Franklin Co., Mass., March 9, 1835. His father, Ebenezer Bardwell, and his grandfather, Zenas, were born on the same farm. The Bardwells were among the earliest settlers of that section of the country, the farm having been handed down from father to son for several generations; it is now owned by a

brother of our subject. Ebenezer Bardwell spent his entire life on the farm where he first opened his eyes, and died there in about 1872. He was married in early manhood to Miss Clarinda Rice, who was born in Conway, Franklin Co., Mass., and was the daughter of Daniel Rice, whose ancestors were among the earliest settlers there. The mother of our subject died on the old homestead in 1844. There the latter was reared, and received his early education in the district schools. He afterward pursued his studies in the academy at Bernardstown, and after his school days were over engaged at farming. He remained with his parents until 1860, when he came West and purchased land in Crittenden Township, this county, which he occupied four years, and then purchased his present farm. This he has brought to a fine state of cultivation, has erected a commodious frame barn, and is now building a handsome house.

Mr. Bardwell was married, in August, 1860, to Miss Levilla Kellogg, who was a native of his own town in Massachusetts, and the daughter of Elam and Betsey (Dole) Kellogg, both also natives of Shelburne. Elam Kellogg held the office of Deacon in the Congregational Church of Franklin County, Mass., for a period of over fifty years, and was one of three who voted the Free-Soil ticket at its birth in Shelburne. He was widely known as Deacon Kellogg. Of the union of our subject and his wife there have been born seven children, three living—Ellen, Julia and Faith. Four died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. B. and two of their children are connected with the Congregational Church at Champaign. Our subject is a stanch Republican, and greatly interested in the success of the Prohibition party.

WILLIAM H. JOHNSON is proprietor of 520 acres of improved land, embracing the greater part of section 12 in Sadorus Township. As a man of great force of character, who arose from a humble position in life to become one of the most important factors of a wealthy and prosperous community, he presents an example of courage and resolution which is highly worthy of emulation by the young man of to-day, who is so

situated that if he rises at all it must be through his own efforts.

Mr. Johnson was born in the city of Boston, Mass., Sept. 14, 1825, and was the twelfth child in a family of thirteen, of whom he is the only surviving member. His parents, Enoch and Lydia Johnson, were also natives of the Bay State, and possessed but a moderate amount of this world's goods. When William H. was ten years of age he started out to do for himself. He had in his pocket a cash capital of \$1.50, which he had earned picking currants, and which he spent in paying his fare to New York City. He had formed large ideas of the metropolis from the stories recited by his young associates, and entered its gates with high hopes. His bright, open and intelligent face commended him to those from he sought employment, and he found a berth in Lovejoy's Hotel, where he remained for over three years. In the meantime, with the natural impulse of youth to be gay and foolish, he became surrounded by a group of young men, who began to lead him astray. His good sense saved him, however, and breaking away from them he left his situation and sought work elsewhere. A year later he left the city in company with a journeyman printer, and wandered up the river, first to Albany and thence to Troy, where he bound himself to Thomas Henderson, an iron-nail maker, for a period of four years, but remained with him only three years, when he married, Nov. 20, 1842, at the age of sixteen years and two months.

After this event his employer gave him his time, and he commenced work at journeyman's wages. Having a sensible and economic wife he was enabled to save some money, and one year later invested in real estate, purchasing two lots in the city of Troy, where he built a two-story house, of which he rented a part, and occupied the balance with his family. His wife was formerly Miss Catherine Leagle, and was only fourteen years of age at the time of her marriage. The first year of their union there was born a daughter, Adaline A., and two years later a boy, whom they named William. In 1847 another daughter was added to the household, whom they named Sarah. When little Sarah was ten months old her mother was taken away by the cholera, which swept over the Eastern States, and

the life of Willie was saved only by the most desperate remedies. This occurred in 1848, when our subject was but twenty-three years of age.

After the death of his wife Mr. Johnson employed a housekeeper, and attempted to keep his little family together. This proved anything but satisfactory, and he then placed his children to board while he left them to toil for their support. His burden of sorrow was soon added to by the death of his only son, from the measles, about six months after the death of the mother.

These afflictions had the effect of causing the father to lose his interest in the old scenes and surroundings, and placing his two little girls in the hands of his brother-in-law in the country, near by, he accepted a proposition from a company of nail-makers, to go to Cuba and construct and operate a nail-mill there. He arrived in the West Indies in the fall of 1849, and located the site of the mill at Regulus near Havana, where he put up the first nail and iron mill on the Island, under the protection of the Queen of Spain, who gave his company the exclusive right of manufacture, and forbade the importation of spikes or nails to the Island for a long period of years.

Mr. Johnson remained in Cuba a little over two years, and while there was married to Mrs. Catherine Louisa Hartman, a native of Hanover, Germany. After suffering a spell of the yellow fever he was again forced to face another cholera scourge, but determined to evade its dangers by returning North until the trouble was over. Before he could get away, however, his wife was stricken down, but after a desperate struggle for her life, finally recovered. The first husband of Mrs. Johnson died from cholera very suddenly at Havana, being taken down one Sunday morning while they were preparing for church. Of this union there was born one son, Frederick, who now makes his home with his mother and stepfather.

After his wife was able to travel Mr. Johnson returned to Troy, N. Y., remaining unemployed there until the danger was over. In the meantime nearly all his friends and acquaintances had been carried off by the dreadful epidemic, and as he had lost all his property he left there, determined never to return. He accordingly engaged in the butchering

business in Troy, which he followed four years, and then abandoned this to engage in the grocery trade. Two years later ill-health compelled him to give up business entirely and receive treatment for consumption, which seemed to have taken hold upon his constitution. Not experiencing any relief he concluded to go West.

After reaching Chicago, in 1856, upon his western venture, Mr. Johnson concluded to remain there for a time, and put up at the Massasoit House, near the Central Depot. Shortly afterward, however, he started out with a company of speculators to view the land in Central Illinois. He was greatly pleased, and purchased eighty acres on section 12, in Piatt County. Returning to Chicago he purchased two horses, some farming implements, and seed potatoes, and returning to his purchase, planted his potatoes on a piece of sod that had been broken on his land, unintentionally, by a man who owned land adjoining and supposed that his property included this strip also. Mr. Johnson raised a fine crop of "murphies," and the people came for miles around to buy them. He found himself unable to turn the sod with the team he had, and returning to Chicago, bought another horse and hired a trusty man to come to the farm with him. About this time, his wife who had remained in Troy, wrote that her little boy, who had suffered severely with the measles, was still in feeble health, and he returned home, to find that the Destroyer had again invaded his household. He arrived there just as the funeral was leaving, but with a sorrow born of despair, set himself mechanically about the arrangements for the future comfort of his remaining family.

Mr. Johnson now sold out all his possessions in Troy, and returned to the West with his family. At Toledo he purchased lumber for a house and shipped it, together with his household goods, to Bement on the Wabash Railroad, which had just been put in operation. Upon arriving at his farm and establishing his family in a house near by, he proceeded to the woods and cut the timbers for the frame of his projected dwelling, which in due time was completed and the family moved in. As will be seen, Mr. Johnson was entirely ignorant of the art

of farming, and he conquered it only by the hardest work and long continued efforts.

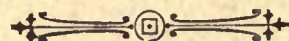
Providence now smiled upon the efforts of our subject, and he remained upon the farm which he had built up until 1862. In the meantime his own child and the child of his wife by her former husband were growing up, and he determined to give them the advantages of a better education than they could secure in Sadorus Township. He accordingly rented his farm and moving to the city of Quincy, placed the children in school, and remained there until they had completed their studies, in 1865. Then all returned to the farm, which had been occupied by the husband of his daughter, James Gilman. While in Quincy Mr. J. employed his time operating in grain, of which business he made a success. Upon returning to the farm he put up a fine residence, into which his family moved in the fall of 1865, and which our subject has since occupied. The beautiful dwelling, situated in the midst of choice fruit trees and surrounded by handsome grounds, with stately and substantial out-houses, and the fields stretching away on either side, presents a picture of one of the finest homesteads in Central Illinois. The career of Mr. Johnson as a man and citizen, has been one of which his children will be proud to read in years to come.

During his residence on the farm Mr. Johnson opened a station, a quarter of a mile away, which is now known as Ivesdale. For a period of fifteen years he conducted general merchandising in connection with the grain trade, while at the same time he officiated as Postmaster, Station Agent and Express Agent, and was in fact, with his employes, almost a village by himself. The post-office was opened in 1866, and remained in his hands until he sold out his stock of merchandise. He had also established on the farm a nursery, which was managed by John Blocker, a native of Sweden, and a man well posted in his business. Mr. B. had charge of this for sixteen years. After retiring from his other business Mr. Johnson was able to give this branch more of his time.

Our subject might live in luxury the balance of his days, without raising a finger to labor, but his natural habits of life have been such that it is impossible for him to remain idle. His mind, at

least, is actively engaged in projects that will enhance the beauty of his homestead, and in this way reflect credit on his county. He spends his winters mainly in the South, returning to the farm in the spring, and while not lavish in his outlays for the convenience and comfort of himself and his family, wisely assists in the circulation of the "legal tender," benefiting the industrial and trade interests about him equally with himself. He takes no active part in politics, and to the repeated solicitations to become an office-holder, has steadily turned a deaf ear.

Of the five children born to William H. and Catherine L. Johnson, two little boys (twins) died in infancy; William married Mary C., daughter of Elijah and Mary Centers, and lives in Chicago; he is employed on the Wabash Railroad as engineer, and is the father of five children—Etta M., William H., Mary Louisa, Charles and Freddie, all living; Miss Mayola Johnson is at home with her parents; Charles is deceased.



LEMUEL CRAWFORD, an esteemed member of the farming community of Pesotum Township, is pursuing the even tenor of his way as a successful agriculturist on 120 acres of good land in the southeast quarter of section 22. Here, with the members of his family who are at home, and those who are married and living not far away, he is enjoying, as he deserves, the good things of life and the friendship of his fellow-citizens.

The childhood and youth of Mr. Crawford were spent in Jefferson County, Ohio, where he was born on Independence Day in 1829. He was the tenth child of Benedict and Catherine (Arnold) Crawford, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Jefferson County, Ohio. They lived quiet and unassuming lives as agriculturists on the moderately sized farm, and Lemuel remained under the home roof with his brothers and sisters until attaining his twentieth year. The young men of those days formed marital and domestic ties earlier in life than at the present, and at the age mentioned our subject was united in marriage with

Miss Sarah Henderson, a native of Maryland. Mrs. C. was the sixth child of John and Lavina (Henderson) Henderson, the father a native of Ireland and the mother of Maryland.

After marriage our subject and wife located upon a farm in Carroll County, Ohio, whence they removed six years later to Tuscarawas County, where Mr. Crawford purchased seventy-five acres of improved land and followed farming there for about seven years. He then sold out for the purpose of coming to Illinois. He located first in McLean County, where he was a resident five years, engaged in farming and operating a corn-sheller. Thence in 1869 he came to this county, and purchasing eighty acres of land in Pesotum Township, occupied his time successfully in its cultivation and improvement. He afterward added forty acres and erected a good set of frame buildings. He has the requisite machinery, and the farm is moderately stocked with good grades of the domestic animals.

The seven children of Mr. and Mrs. Crawford which still constitute a family circle unbroken by the Destroyer are located as follows: John married Miss Anna Nelson, and is engaged as a grain buyer and general merchant in the village of Pesotum, being associated with J. E. Davis under the firm name of Crawford & Davis; Sanford married Miss Callie, daughter of Charles Johnson, of Pesotum Township, and lives on the Mills farm near his parents; Lavina married J. E. Davis, the partner of her brother and the young and prosperous merchant heretofore mentioned; Amanda is the wife of David Mix, a carpenter by trade, which he is now following, but who also understands farming and now resides in Pesotum; Hulda is the wife of William Carringer, a shoemaker by trade, and they reside in Seymore, Ill.; Cynthia and Grant, the two remaining, are at home with their parents.

Mr. Crawford has frequently served his township as School Director and Road Commissioner but has never had political aspirations. He is a Democrat of the old faith and of long standing. With his excellent wife he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church many years ago, and is looked upon affectionately as one of its chief pillars and supporters. Although never having been the hero

of any thrilling event he has performed with fidelity the duties in life assigned him, and exerted a good influence over those around him. Could this be said of the world in general, that happy time designated as the Millenium would be considered as not far away.



ABRAM CRIST. Upon section 33, Champaign Township, lies a fine tract of 240 acres, the property of the subject of this sketch, which is chiefly devoted to grain and stock raising, besides forming one of the most attractive homesteads in Champaign Township. Mr. C. took possession of this land in 1869, but its condition then bears no comparison with what it is at present. The estate as it now stands is under fine cultivation, with handsome and substantial farm buildings, and all the appliances for the carrying on of agriculture in a first-class manner, besides those which constitute the perfect home. It is hardly necessary to say that the proprietor is a man of enterprise and resolution, who takes delight in labor and in the effects produced by industry and forethought.

Mr. Crist was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, April 20, 1844, and is the son of Hiram Crist, who was born in the same county. His grandfather, Abram Crist, Sr., and his great-grandfather, Jacob, were natives of Germany. The latter emigrated to America when a young man and located in the Buckeye State at an early period in its history. He engaged in farming and there spent the remainder of his life. His son Abram was for some years a trader on the river, shipping produce on flatboats for the plantations South and at New Orleans. Later he operated a flourmill on the Miami River in Western Ohio, and spent his entire life in that State. He married and reared a family, among whom was Hiram, the father of our subject.


Hiram Crist commenced business with his father on the flatboat when but a small boy, and before twenty-one years of age was established in trade on his own account. He often exchanged his load of northern produce for sugar and molasses, which he would load on his flatboat, have it towed up the

river, and dispose of his goods at the country stores. After marriage he purchased a farm in Montgomery County, Ohio, which, however, he did not cultivate himself, but continued employed at his trading until 1846. That year he sold out his river interests, and coming to Illinois located in Tremont, Tazewell County, where he kept a hotel for a number of years. Thence he removed to Bloomington, and was engaged in the same business there three years. Afterward he rented a farm at Mosquito Grove, west of Bloomington, which he operated two years, and removed from there to Stout's Grove, where for a few years he farmed on rented land, and then purchased a tract of land three miles south. This included 160 acres, forty only of which were improved. He placed the balance under a good state of cultivation, put up a substantial set of frame buildings, and made his home there until his death, which took place in August, 1869. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Clarinda Brown, who was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, and by her union with Hiram Crist became the mother of nine children. She is now living in Danvers, McLean Co., Ill.

Abram Crist, Jr., was but two years old when he came to Illinois with his parents. He remained under the home roof until twenty-five years of age, and then started out for himself, purchasing first a part of the farm which he now owns and occupies. To this he afterward added, and has been uniformly successful in his business and farming operations. He was married, Oct. 2, 1869, to Miss Mary F. Perry, who was born in Danvers Township, McLean Co., Ill., Dec. 4, 1848. Her father, Nathaniel Perry, was a native of Jessamine County, Ky., and her grandfather, John Perry, was born in Wales. The latter when a young man came to this country, and locating in Kentucky resided there until 1835. He then came north into Danvers Township, McLean County, where he improved a farm and established a comfortable homestead, which he occupied the remainder of his life. His youngest son, Samuel, is now in possession of the homestead. The father of Mrs. Crist was nineteen years old when his parents became residents of this State. He remained under the home roof until his marriage,

when he settled in Allin Township, McLean County, where he improved a farm and now lives. His wife, the mother of Mrs. C., was formerly Miss Polly Margaret McCullough, also a native of Jessamine County, Ky., and the daughter of Peter McCullough, one of the earliest pioneers of McLean County, this State. He became a resident of that county in 1830, and put up the first log cabin at Dry Grove. This he afterward converted into a hotel, and served as "mine host" for many years. Both he and his excellent wife died in Dry Grove Township, and their remains were laid to rest in McCullough Cemetery.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Crist there have been born two children—Hiram and Charles. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Christian Church, and greatly respected by all who know them for their personal worth as members of society, and having a good influence upon the community around them. Politically Mr. Crist affiliates with the Democratic party.

 **J**ESSE NEWTON DICK, one of the most enterprising young farmers of Philo Township, is at present devoting his attention to the cultivation of a fine farm of 320 acres, pleasantly located on section 20, which comprises one of the choicest bodies of land in Champaign County. Of this our subject took possession April 5, 1878, proceeding first to bring it to a good state of cultivation by thorough draining with tile. The soil soon responded to its excellent care and culture, and now yields in abundance the choicest products of the Prairie State. The family residence and out-buildings are shapely and of substantial character; the fences and machinery are kept in good repair, and the stock well fed and sheltered. Everything about the farm indicates the supervision of the intelligent and progressive modern agriculturist.

The subject of our sketch was born in Jackson Township, Tippecanoe Co., Ind., Dec. 7, 1857. He is the son of Ely and Jane (Meharry) Dick, natives of Maryland and Indiana respectively. Ely Dick in former years was one of the most extensive

land-owners of Champaign County, and is also the possessor of 500 acres in Indiana. The parental family included three children, of whom two are deceased; Ellen became the wife of Richard N. Cording, and was formerly a resident of Tippecanoe County, Ind., occupying the old homestead in Jackson Township; she died in Decatur, Ill., while under treatment, April 20, 1887.

Jesse N. of our sketch spent his boyhood days under the home roof and attended the public schools. He was not quite twenty-one years old when he came with his parents to Illinois. The year following, on the 15th of April, 1879, he was married, in Montgomery County, Ind., to Miss Harriet E., daughter of Jacob and Charlotte (Martin) Luse. Mrs. Dick was born Feb. 22, 1857. Her parents were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Indiana, and are both now living near Crawfordsville, Montgomery County, the latter State, where for many years Mr. L. carried on farming in a highly successful manner.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick have one child only, a daughter, Estella Pearl, born Aug. 6, 1881. Our subject politically is a reliable Democrat, fearless in the expression of his views and honest in his convictions. He is frank and outspoken, noted for his kindly impulses, and is highly esteemed among those who know him best as a citizen, a business man and a friend.

SAMUEL H. LYONS, a highly respected citizen of Mahomet Township, came to Illinois with his parents in 1849. They located in the above-named township, of which he has been a resident since that time and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is the owner of a fine estate, comprising 260 acres of land under a good state of cultivation, with substantial and convenient buildings, well stocked, and provided with all the accessories of a comfortable rural home.

Mr. Lyons was born in Lewis County, Ky., April 15, 1831, and is the son of William D. and Sarah (Hampton) Lyons, the former a native of New England, and the latter of Virginia. After coming to Illinois they remained residents of Mahomet Town-

ship until their decease. Our subject was the fourth of eight children, and remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority. He was married in Newcomb Township, Feb. 3, 1856, to Miss Martha M. Newell, of New York, where she was born in 1831. They have become the parents of four children—William B., Laurie B., Wyman H. and Dwight. Wyman H. died when about ten years old.

Mr. Lyons has held the various minor offices of his township, and votes the Democratic ticket. He has always been busily engaged with his own affairs, to which he has given the strictest attention, with little time to investigate those of his neighbors.

ERNEST L. DUNLAP. The gentleman whose biography we briefly note below is prominently identified with the business interests of Savoy as a merchant and grain-buyer, in which he established himself Dec. 1, 1886. Mr. D. is a native of the Prairie State, and was born in Cook County, June 25, 1851. He is the sixth child and fifth son of M. L. and Emeline Dunlap, a sketch of whom will be found in another part of this work. When our subject was a lad of seven years his parents removed to Champaign County, of which he has been a resident since that time. He received his early education at the district schools, which was completed under private tutors in Tuscola and Champaign, and by an attendance of several terms at the State University at Urbana.

Mr. Dunlap was reared to farming pursuits, and after the death of his father took charge of the nursery business which the latter had conducted, and in due time closed out the stock. In 1885 he purchased a part of the old homestead, which was located on section 36, in Champaign Township, and which he still owns. He still superintends the cultivation of his land, the proceeds of which yield him a handsome income. In 1886 he succeeded his brother, Albert, in his present business, which is steadily increasing, and in which he has met with uniform success.

The marriage of Ernest L. Dunlap and Miss Fannie D. Betz took place Aug. 30, 1874. Mrs. D. was

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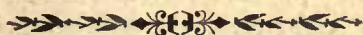


Mr H Harrison



Elizabeth Harrison

born in Circleville, Ohio, July 20, 1853, and is the daughter of Solomon and Catherine (Dunkle) Betz, both natives of Lewisburg, Pa. They removed from there to Ohio, in October, 1839, and purchased a farm in Pickaway County, five miles from Circleville. The mother died there in 1864, and four years later the father came to Illinois and purchased a farm on section 36, Champaign Township, which he cultivated and occupied until his death, in 1882. Mr. and Mrs. D. have four children—Gertie, Fred, Lela and Nora M.



WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON. One fine spring morning in 1836 there started out from Pleasant Township, in Madison County, Ohio, two families, equipped with ox-teams for a journey overland to the prairies of Illinois. One of these was our subject, who, accompanied by his wife and child, had decided to seek his fortunes in the farther west. The thoroughfare in those days could scarcely be dignified by the name of a road, being merely a wagon track, over which at times they were compelled to wade through mud and water to the waist and to urge on the poor beasts, who had no western aspirations, and could not understand why they were leaving the more substantial soil of the Buckeye State.

The travelers finally passed the boundary line between Indiana and Illinois, and coming into Montgomery County our subject contracted to remain with his employer, Samuel Haller, the balance of the year. He was engaged in breaking prairie and hauling various commodities to and from the nearest market, a distance of sixty miles with ox-teams. Two months before his time was up, on account of his honesty and industry, his employer gave him the balance of the year to work for himself. He had in the meantime purchased eighty acres of wild land, and now set about breaking the sod on his own property. He was thus occupied in its improvement for a year following. Then, selling forty acres, he returned to Ohio, being afflicted with an attack of home-sickness, from which it took him twelve years to recover.

In the meantime our subject sold the remaining

forty acres of his land in Montgomery County, Ill., and his father having died in Ohio, himself and his brother attempted to buy out the other heirs of the estate. In this they failed, however, on account of ill-health, and lost much time and money. Our subject now concluded to return to Illinois, and coming into Coles County, pre-empted forty acres, for which he afterward paid \$3.40 per acre. He put up a small house, as a temporary shelter for his family, rented a tract of improved land on the Ellars' farm, in the meantime improving his own, as time permitted, and was finally enabled to purchase eighty acres more. In 1863 he sold out at a profit of more than \$2,000.

The outbreak of the Civil War now induced Mr. Harrison to lay aside his personal interests, and he volunteered as a Union soldier to assist in the subjection of the Confederates. Becoming a member of Co. H, 25th Ill. Vol. Inf., he marched with his comrades to the scene of conflict, but after six months was discharged, very much against his own wishes, on account of ill-health. He was then compelled to return to where he had left his family, and soon afterward purchased 160 acres of land on section 28, in Sadorus Township, which constitutes a part of the present homestead. To this he afterward added forty acres, so that he has now 200 acres, all under a good state of cultivation. Being now seventy-five years of age, the farm is principally managed by his son, while Mr. Harrison has practically retired from the active labors of life.

The early years of our subject were spent in Pleasant Township, near London, the county seat of Madison County, Ohio, where his birth took place Nov. 7, 1812. He was the seventh of the thirteen children of Jonathan and Amelia (Wallace) Harrison, natives of Maryland, and born across the Bay, in Baltimore, where they spent their childhood and youth. Jonathan Harrison was a substantial farmer, and emigrated from his native State to Ohio during its early settlement, when Indians and wild animals were more plentiful than white men. He cleared ten acres from the forest, and for his first crop raised four acres of corn. He never became an extensive land-owner, but was content with a few acres, well tilled.

William Henry remained under the parental roof

until after reaching his majority, in the meantime gaining an intimate acquaintance with the hardships and privations of pioneer life, which bred within him the spirit of perseverance and self-reliance which served him so well in after years. In laying his plans for the future, he selected for his wife Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Andrew and Catherine (Hempleman) Pucket, to whom he was married in the spring of 1834. The parents of Mrs. H. were natives of Adams County, Ohio, and spent their entire lives in that State. Soon after their marriage, Mr. Harrison with his young wife settled upon a tract of land in Pleasant Township, where he pursued farming on his own account for four years, after which he began making preparations for a change of location. The results of this we have already indicated.

The blooming family which grew up around the hearthstone of our subject and his wife, with the exception of two, Benjamin E. and Elizabeth, have passed to the silent land. Nine times there was made a place in the country churchyard, over which the parents bowed with sorrowing tears, while a child was hidden from their sight. Their living son, Benjamin, married Miss Martha J., daughter of Ely and Emily (Shupp) Cook, and with his family occupies the homestead of his father. The parents of Mrs. Benjamin Harrison were natives of this State and are now deceased. Elizabeth, the only remaining daughter of our subject, is the widow of Charles B. Monroe, and lives on a farm in the northern part of Douglas County, Ill. Mr. Monroe departed this life on the 4th of May, 1887, leaving a family of six children, four sons and two daughters, with means for their proper training and education.

Mr. and Mrs. Harrison united with the Methodist Episcopal Church many years ago, since which time they have been consistent and active members, doing good as they have opportunity, and working faithfully for the Master. Although never a zealous politician, Mr. Harrison, formerly a Whig, is now a cordial supporter of Republican principles, believes in universal freedom, and cheerfully supports every measure calculated for the most good to the greatest number. He has built up a record as an honest man and a good citizen, and

receives his abundant reward in the confidence and esteem of all who know him.

It is with pleasure we present the portrait of Mr. Harrison in this connection, and as a fitting companion picture that of his wife. For over fifty-three years they have lived together, and during that time have worthily fulfilled all the duties of life, living up to the noble principles which for so many years they have professed.



THOMAS ENNIS, of Philo Village, is a member of the family whose first representative in this country emigrated from Ireland. His grandfather, Thomas Ennis, who descended from an excellent family, was educated for an Episcopal minister, which, however, was not in accordance with his tastes, and he made a decided change in his life occupation by learning the trade of a saddler. This greatly displeased his parents, who were strongly opposed to his leaving the Church, and caused a rupture between him and them. He was a youth of rare intelligence, however, and a colleague of Robert Emmett, the celebrated Irish patriot, whom it will be remembered was executed during the struggle for freedom more than a century ago in that oppressed country.

About this time Thomas Ennis decided to leave a land which promised little for the future, and emigrating to the United States located in Philadelphia, Pa., and became the founder of the family in this country. He was married in the Quaker City, Oct. 22, 1795, to Miss Lydia Cassell, who had been reared and educated in the Society of Friends and possessed in a marked degree their excellent characteristics. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Ennis established themselves in Baltimore, Md., where the grandfather of our subject pursued his occupation as a saddler, and became the father of a son, William, who was born Sept. 28, 1801. After a few years they returned to Philadelphia, where the grandfather of our subject became prominent in the affairs of that locality, and was land inspector for the city of Philadelphia and a part of the State of Pennsylvania for a number of years. He died in Philadelphia on the same day

that Lafayette made his visit to that city in 1824. He had reared a family of nine children, three sons and six daughters. Of these four are still living in Philadelphia, all being over seventy-five years of age.

William A. Ennis, the father of our subject, was the eldest of his parents' children. He engaged in the manufacture of umbrella frames during his earlier years and followed this until forty-five years old, most of the time being established in business for himself. He married Miss Mary E. Sayre, who was the descendant of an old New England family, and whose father, uncles and grandfathers were all seafaring men of considerable importance. Of this marriage there were born eight children, of whom our subject alone survives. The last member of the family who died was a son, Sayre, who had enlisted during the late war in the 2d Illinois Cavalry, and died on the Gulf of Mexico. The father died in Philo, Ill., Dec. 23, 1881. The mother's death took place at the home of her son in Philo Township, March 29, 1885. Both parents were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and highly respected by all who knew them. William A. Ennis before the war was a supporter of the Democratic party but afterward became a staunch Republican.

Thomas Ennis of our sketch was born in Philadelphia, April 25, 1827, and remained a resident of his native city until twenty-nine years of age. He was educated in the public schools, learned the trade of his father, and early in life set out to earn his own livelihood. His marriage with Miss Elizabeth Charlton took place in the Quaker City, Feb. 24, 1851. Mrs. E. was born in Philadelphia, Feb. 24, 1834, of English parentage and ancestry, and lived at home until her marriage. She became the mother of seven children, the record of whom is as follows: Cornelia became the wife of James Marquette, now deceased; she has two children, and makes her home with her father in Philo; William A., Jr., was first married to Miss Mary A. Buxton, who died in Philo, and he was then married to Miss Lillie Crosier; he is a tinner by trade and a resident of Seward County, Neb. Mercy C., Mrs. Charles S. Morrison, is a resident of Golconda, Ill.; her husband is a professor of music.

Susannah C., an engraver by profession, is at present at Birmingham, Ala.; Mary and Betty are at home with their parents. The first daughter, who was named Mary, is now deceased.

A few years after his marriage Mr. Ennis came with his family to Illinois and purchased a tract of land on section 4, in Philo Township, which had belonged to the Illinois Central Railroad. But on account of sickness and misfortune he returned to Philadelphia, where he remained until 1861. In that year he returned to the West and engaged in farming in Philo Township until 1872. He then purchased the hardware business of Frank L. Van Vleck, which is now one of the largest establishments of the kind in the town. Besides his stock and store he owns good village property, and is considered one of the most valued citizens of Philo. He has held the various offices of the township and is accounted a representative business man and valuable member of the community. Before the war he was Democratic in politics but since that time has been a warm supporter of Republican principles.



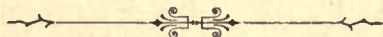
J H. CLARK, a leading farmer and land-owner of Philo Township, is the possessor of eighty acres on section 2, and 100 on section 3. His land is thoroughly drained and under a fine state of cultivation, well stocked with good grades of horses, cattle and swine. Our subject located here in 1866, since which time he has labored for the establishment of a permanent home, and in his business and farming operations has been remarkably successful. He is a native of West Virginia, born in Morgan County in January, 1836. His father, Isaac Clark, was a native of the same State and followed farming pursuits. He was married in Morgan County to Miss Mary Ambrose, a native of the same county as her husband, where she was reared and educated by her parents, who occupied a good position among the people of that section.

The parents of our subject lived to a good old age and were greatly respected and beloved by a host of friends. They connected themselves with the United Brethren Church early in life, and were

its cheerful and liberal supporters from that time. The father, in early life, politically was an old-line Whig, but after the abandonment of that party identified himself with the Republicans. He died in Ohio in 1884. The mother is still living in Champaign County, Ohio, and is about eighty years old.

Young Clark spent his childhood and youth under the parental roof, receiving a fair education in the public schools, and when he removed from his native State became a resident of Ohio. He located near the city of Urbana, where he engaged in farming, and in due time was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Evilsizor, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride's parents. Mrs. Clark was born at Urbana, Ohio, in 1844, and was the daughter of William and Nancy (Jenkins) Evilsizor. The mother died in middle life. The father is still living and a resident of Ohio. Although nearly eighty years of age he is still hale and hearty and remarkably active.

Of the union of our subject and his wife there were born seven children, four sons and three daughters, of whom three are deceased. The mother of these children died at the home of her husband in Philo Township, in 1875. The present wife of Mr. Clark, to whom he was married in the latter-named township, April 13, 1876, was Miss Malinda Stout, who was born in Orange County, Ind., in 1845. Of this marriage there have been born four sons, two living—George and Eldo J. Mr. and Mrs. Clark are members in good standing of the Christian Church, and our subject, politically, is an uncompromising Republican.



JACOB F. HUFFMAN. This gentleman, who is a highly esteemed resident of Hensley Township, may be properly classed among the self-made men, who, starting in life at the foot of the ladder, have by their own resolution made their way slowly but surely to a good position among their fellow-citizens, socially and financially. Our subject commenced the struggle of life with a cash sum of \$5. He is now the owner of a fine homestead, comprising 197 acres of land, a handsome and substantial farm residence, a good

barn and plenty of stock and farm machinery. His land is thoroughly drained with tile and produces in abundance all the crops for which the Prairie State is noted. Our subject has accumulated his possessions by honest toil and is not ashamed to own it.

Mr. Huffman was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., Jan. 1, 1830, and comes of substantial Pennsylvania stock, his grandfather, George Huffman, having been born in New York State, from which he emigrated to the western border of Pennsylvania when the latter was considered quite the frontier, and where he was one of the earliest settlers. He was a man of remarkable industry, and opened up three farms in that section, which was afterward included in Westmoreland County, and where he spent the last years of his life. There also he reared his family.

John George Huffman, the father of our subject, was but a child when his parents became residents of Westmoreland County, where he was reared to manhood, and during the War of 1812 left home to become a soldier of the army. When peace was again declared, he was married and established himself with his bride in a log cabin, in Westmoreland County. This humble dwelling was covered with clapboards, there being no sawmills in that country, and these were held in place with "weight poles." The floor was of puncheon, and the chimney was built outside with mud and sticks. Within this humble abode our subject was born, before the days of either railroads or canals, when the country developed slowly and the settlers were constantly annoyed by Indians and wild animals. John G. Huffman had learned the trade of wagon-maker and carried on business at the cross-roads near Harrison City, where he spent the last years of his life. The mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Martha Fink, was born in Westmoreland County, and still lives there on the old homestead.

When Jacob F. Huffman was fourteen years of age he commenced to learn the shoemaker's trade, to which he served an apprenticeship of three years. He worked as a "jour" fourteen years in different places in his native State, Ohio, Indiana and Virginia, locating finally in North Middleton, Ky., where he opened a shop, and did custom work until

1858. That year he came to Illinois and purchased eighty acres of his present farm, only a few acres of which were broken, and the only building on it was a small frame shanty. He at once commenced the improvement and cultivation of his purchase, with the result as above stated.

The same year in which he came to Illinois Mr. Huffman was united in marriage, April 7, 1858, with Miss Rebecca Stivers. She was born in Bourbon County, Ky., Sept. 5, 1835, and was the daughter of Rozelle P. Stivers, a native of Fayette County, Ky., and the son of Reuben Stivers. The latter was a cooper by trade. He served in the War of 1812, and was wounded in battle at the time St. Clair was defeated. After leaving the army he returned to Kentucky and spent his last days in Bourbon County. The father of Mrs. H., who was a natural mechanic, also learned the trade of a cooper, and could make almost anything that could be fashioned out of wood. He followed his trade the greater part of his life and died near North Middletown, Ky., in 1856. He was married in early manhood to Miss Nancy A. Bargar, who was born in Culpeper, Va. She died in Bourbon County, Ky., before her husband.

Mr. and Mrs. Huffman have four children: Edward L., of Los Angeles, Cal.; William T.; Mattie A., who became the wife of Sherman Stivers, of Bourbon County, Ky., and George F. The two sons are living at home with their parents. Mr. H. is Democratic, and is held in high regard as a citizen, business man and member of society.



JOHN C. PARRY. The subject of this biography became a resident of Philo Township in 1861, at which time he purchased eighty acres of land from the Illinois Central Railroad Company, to which he afterward added forty acres, and which was then in a wild and unbroken state. By years of persevering industry he has converted it into a beautiful farm, and established one of the most complete homesteads in Champaign County. The quality and condition of the land in its original state required the exercise of more than ordinary good judgment and

industry, but Mr. Parry was equal to the emergency, and in a few years had reduced the barren soil to cultivated fields and smiling meadows. The land is well drained with tile, and its proprietor has planted an orchard of the finest fruit, while the grounds around the residence are beautified with handsome shade trees and flowering shrubs. His agricultural operations include the breeding of fine stock, consisting of Norman horses and high-grade cattle. His machinery and farm buildings are of first-class description, and kept in good repair, and everything about the premises indicates the enterprise and intelligence of the proprietor.

Our subject is a native of Onondaga County, N. Y., and was born in Manlius Township, Dec. 26, 1826. He was reared to manhood in his mother's house, and completed his education in the High Schools of his native county. He is the eldest son of John and Abigail (Cutting) Parry, natives respectively of England and Vermont. John Parry, Sr., was born in 1801, and came to this country when a young man, locating in Manlius, N. Y., where he met the lady who subsequently became his wife. After their marriage they located on a farm in Onondaga County, where the mother of our subject died in 1869, after becoming quite aged.

Mr. Parry of our sketch when of age started out for himself. In 1846 he went to North Carolina, where he was engaged as a machinist and engineer for thirteen years following. In June, 1861, he came north to Illinois and located on his present farm. In the meantime he had been married, in Randolph County, N. C., to Miss Jane Craven, the daughter of Lawrence and Mary Craven, who was born in that State and county, Feb. 28, 1840, and became a wife when sixteen years of age. Her parents were also natives of North Carolina, and spent their entire lives in Randolph Township. She received a limited education in the public schools of the South.

Mr. and Mrs. Parry became the parents of six children, of whom the record is as follows: Mary L. is at home with her parents; John F., a plumber by trade, married Miss Helen Reinhard, and resides in Champaign City; Fidelia died when two and one-half years old; George, Joseph L. and Frank

are at home with their parents. Mrs. Parry has proved in all respects the worthy companion of her husband, and their beautiful and tasteful home is the result of their united efforts. Mr. P. has been Supervisor and Collector of his township two years each, and has held various other offices of trust. He is Democratic in politics, and as a business man and a citizen has contributed his full share to the progress and welfare of the community in general. Both our subject and his wife attend quite regularly the Methodist Episcopal Church in Tolono.



H J. NASH, proprietor of Pleasant Hill Farm, is pleasantly located on section 9, which embraces some of the best land in Philo Township. In the scale of assessment it ranks second to none. The farm is finely laid out, with a view to both beauty and convenience in the carrying on of its various departments. The fences and buildings are in prime order, and the residence is a handsome structure, finished and furnished in the most modern style, the whole giving evidence of refinement and wealth.

Mr. Nash was the first man to introduce a system of drainage in Philo Township. He possesses more than ordinary intelligence, and keeps himself well posted upon everything pertaining to general agriculture, so that he may take advantage of modern invention and improvements. As a stock-breeder he ranks among the first in Champaign County, dealing in Hambletonian and draft horses, high-grade cattle and Poland-China swine. His operations in this department of agriculture have secured for him an enviable reputation as a breeder of fine stock. He has had an experience of twelve years thereat and takes pride in the production of his farm and stables. At the county fairs of Central Illinois he has carried off scores of blue ribbons, and his stock has obtained an enviable notoriety at the State fairs of this and other States. His hogs include about 200 head, the chief of the herd being Nash's Star, sired by Reveal Star, registered No. 180. He also owns Bravo Nash and Bravo Perfection, bred by Ridgley, of White

Heath, Ill. The most prominent of his dams are Lady Grant, of Pleasant Hill Farm, and Minnie Palmer, bred by McWilliams of Knightstown, Ind. Several of the fine animals which belong to this herd are familiarly known throughout this section.

Pleasant Hill Farm was purchased by Mr. Nash in the fall of 1867, and he located on it in the following spring. Since that time he has been industriously engaged in superintending its improvement and remodeling and enlarging the buildings. The land is finely located and yields in abundance the richest crops of the Prairie State.

Mr. Nash is a native of Erie County, Pa., born Dec. 5, 1831. His father, Justin J. Nash, was a native of Vermont, of New England parentage, born Nov. 20, 1797. The Nash family were principally connected with the Methodist Church, and widely known throughout New England. The father of our subject removed to Pennsylvania just after the War of 1812, and about the time of the destruction by fire of the city of Buffalo, N. Y. He was married, in Erie County, Pa., to Miss Maria Underwood, who was also of New England birth and parentage. After some years they removed to Sturgis, Mich., where the mother died in January, 1868, aged sixty-eight years. The father afterward returned to Pennsylvania, and died in Erie County in 1873, at the age of seventy-six.

The subject of this history was the youngest of two sons and three daughters included in the household circle. Of these Sylvester married Miss Lina Wilson, and they reside in the northeastern part of Erie County, Pa., retired from active labor; Julia became the wife of Stewart Crawford, of Reading Township, Hillsdale Co., Mich. These and our subject are the only surviving children. Young Nash spent his childhood upon the farm in his native county, and when fourteen years of age removed with his father's family to Lockport, Pa., and thence to Springfield, where he completed his education.

Our subject was married in Kane County, Ill., Sept. 27, 1855, the lady of his choice being Miss Antoinette C. Francisco, a native of Michigan, who was born at Grass Lake, Jackson County, June 12, 1835. Her father, Henry A. Francisco, was a farmer by occupation, of New England birth and

Scottish ancestry, and married Miss Catherine Overacker. After marriage they settled first in New York State, thence removed to Michigan, and later the father with his children came to this State, locating in Kane County in 1853. The mother had died in Grass Lake, Mich. Mr. F. finally came to Champaign County and died in Philo Township, in September, 1875, when nearly eighty-three years old. He served as a soldier in the War of 1812, for which he was awarded a land grant in Grass Lake. He was politically a Free-soiler. He also served as Associate Judge at Jackson, Mich., for twelve years.

Mr. and Mrs. Nash became the parents of three children, one of whom, Frank H., died when six years of age; Lydia L. is the wife of John Savage, Deputy County Clerk, and resides at Urbana; Martha E., an intelligent and accomplished young lady, is living at home with her parents. All were born in Seneca County, Ohio, and both daughters were educated at the Urbana High School. Our subject and his family are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Nash, formerly a Democrat, now affiliates with the Republican party.



DANIEL A. FISHER, deceased, formerly an honored resident of Philo Township, passed from the scene of his earthly labors on the 26th of November, 1886. His death occurred on the homestead which he had labored many years to establish and beautify, and was the cause of regret both far and near, as he had been an honest man, a good citizen, and one unselfishly devoted to the interests of his community.

Our subject was born in Wayne County, Ind., Aug. 14, 1821, and was the son of John and Jane Fisher, natives of North Carolina. John Fisher followed farming until late in life and finally removed to Union City, near which he had lived for several years, and died at the advanced age of eighty-six. His death was the result of an accident, he having fallen and broken his hip, from the effects of which he died about two months later. His wife's maiden name was Miss Jane Starbuck, and they lived to celebrate their golden wedding. Their married

life had been blest with mutual affection and prosperity, John Fisher being worth about \$35,000, upon the interest of which they lived in comfort and luxury during their declining years. The Fisher family were Quakers in religious belief, and of Scotch origin. The mother of our subject departed this life in about 1873, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years. John Fisher was a man of strong views and a hearty supporter of Republican principles.

Daniel A. Fisher was the eldest of his parents' children, and spent his childhood and youth on the farm, receiving a fair education in the district schools. He was first married in Wayne County, Ind., March 18, 1846, to Miss Luzena Baldwin, a native of that county, born Aug. 10, 1824. She survived her marriage only nine years, dying at her home in Randolph County, Ind., May 23, 1855. She was of an amiable Christian character, and the offspring of an old Quaker family of good standing and members of the farming community.

The second marriage of Mr. Fisher was celebrated in Randolph County, Ind., with Miss Eunice E. Sherman, who was born in Franklin Township, that county, Nov. 20, 1837. She is the third daughter and fourth child of Pardon and Mary (Parks) Sherman, natives of New York State, and who were born, reared, and married in Greene County. They likewise engaged in farming pursuits, and after the birth of two children, removed to Miami County, Ohio, where their third child was born. Thence they removed to Franklin County, Ind., settling upon an unbroken tract of timber land, in Franklin Township, and which they improved and brought to a good state of cultivation, building a fine homestead, where they spent the remainder of their lives in well-earned comfort. There the mother died Jan. 22, 1882, when seventy-six years old, and the father on the 8th of February, following, aged eighty-one. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, and devoted Christian people, revered by all who knew them. Mr. Sherman politically was a solid Republican and took a genuine interest in the prosperity of the country at large. Their six children included one son and five daughters, of whom the record is as follows: Larwon W. mar

ried Miss Mary Ollen, and is engaged in merchandising in Randolph County; Julia C. M. is the wife of William Simpson, and resides in Excelsior, Ill.; Mary A. became the wife of Westley Mann, a farmer of Douglas County, Minn.; the wife of our subject was the fourth child; Emily H. married J. Pucket, who died in the army during the late war, and her death occurred in 1864; Eliza died when five years of age.

Mrs. Fisher was reared by her parents, with whom she remained until her marriage, which occurred Oct. 16, 1856. After this event she and her husband lived for eight years in Randolph County, Ind., whence after the war they came to this county, where Mr. Fisher purchased 160 acres on section 6 in Philo Township. To this he added until the homestead included 200 acres, which Mr. F. by his industry and energy brought to a fine state of cultivation. In addition to this are 320 acres on section 36 in Scott Township, and 400 acres in Champaign Township, on sections 28 and 29, all highly improved, and supplied with commodious and substantial farm buildings.

Of the first marriage of Mr. Fisher there were born four children, of whom one son, James, is deceased; Rachel is the wife of James Morrow, and resides on a farm in Douglas County, this State; Dillon B. is at home; Hannah M., the wife of George W. Johnson, resides with her husband in Weldon, Ill. The present Mrs. Fisher by her union with our subject became the mother of one child, Nathan C., who died when nearly five years old, on the 3d of May, 1864. Mrs. F. was reared in the doctrines of the Methodist Church. Mr. F. was at different times entrusted with the various township offices, and in the duties of each acquitted himself creditably and with satisfaction to all concerned.



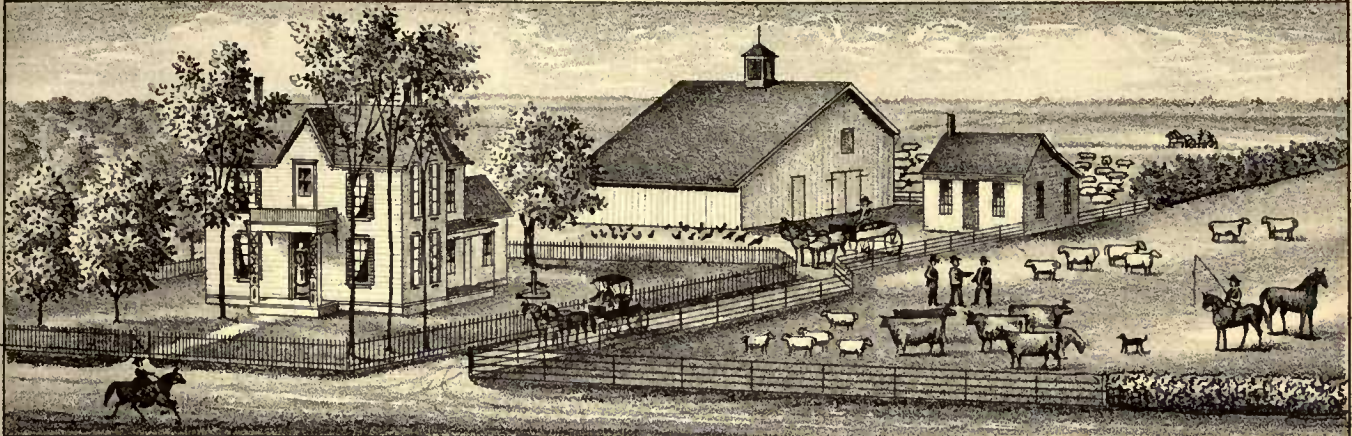
CHARLES W. CRAW. This honored citizen of Colfax Township was one of the pioneer settlers who came to this county in the spring of 1865. He took possession of 350 acres on section 2, and for a period of twenty years thereafter industriously pursued his chosen calling as a farmer. He is a native of Franklin County,

Vt., born March 4, 1828, and the son of Allen and Lucy (Griswold) Craw, also natives of Vermont. When he was a lad of ten years old his parents emigrated to the Prairie State, locating in White Hall, Greene County, where our subject grew to manhood, receiving excellent home training and a common-school education. He assisted his father in tilling the soil and remained an inmate of the parental home until several years after attaining his majority.

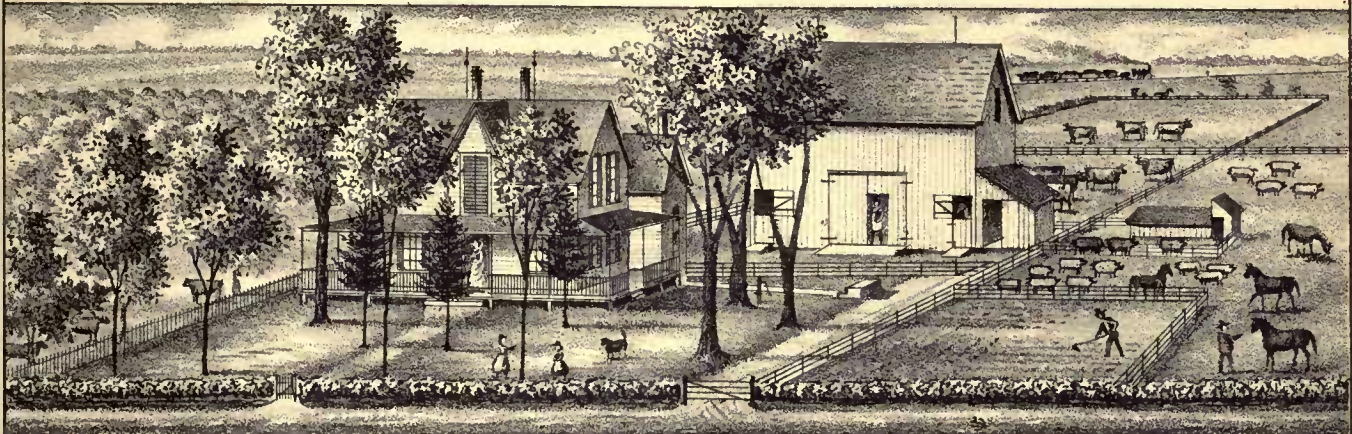
In 1856 Mr. Craw took unto himself a wife and helpmeet in the person of Miss Lucy, daughter of James and Elizabeth Rives, who were natives of Kentucky, whence they removed to Illinois and located in Greene County in the pioneer days. Mrs. Craw was born in Greene County, Ill., Dec. 21, 1838, and remained with her parents until her marriage. Our subject at that time was the owner of 200 acres of land which he had brought to a good state of cultivation, and in addition to this also leased a tract and carried on farming until 1860. He then decided to change his occupation, and purchasing a stock of merchandise, took possession of a store building at Greenfield, in the same county. He was engaged in mercantile pursuits at that point until about 1863, when he disposed of his stock of goods and other property; he came into this county in 1865, locating upon the land which he now occupies. Since that time he has given his principal attention to agriculture, with the exception of five years, during which he carried on a general store at Sadorus.

Mr. Craw has been greatly prospered in his farming and mercantile pursuits, and is now the owner of 550 acres of land in Colfax Township, all of which, with the exception of 100 acres, is included in the home farm. He owns over 1,300 acres in Kansas—991 in Barber County, and 324 in Harper County. His land is largely devoted to stock-raising, and he exhibits some of the finest horses, cattle and hogs to be found in the country. In addition to his farm property Mr. C. is the owner of houses and lots in both Sadorus and Tolono.

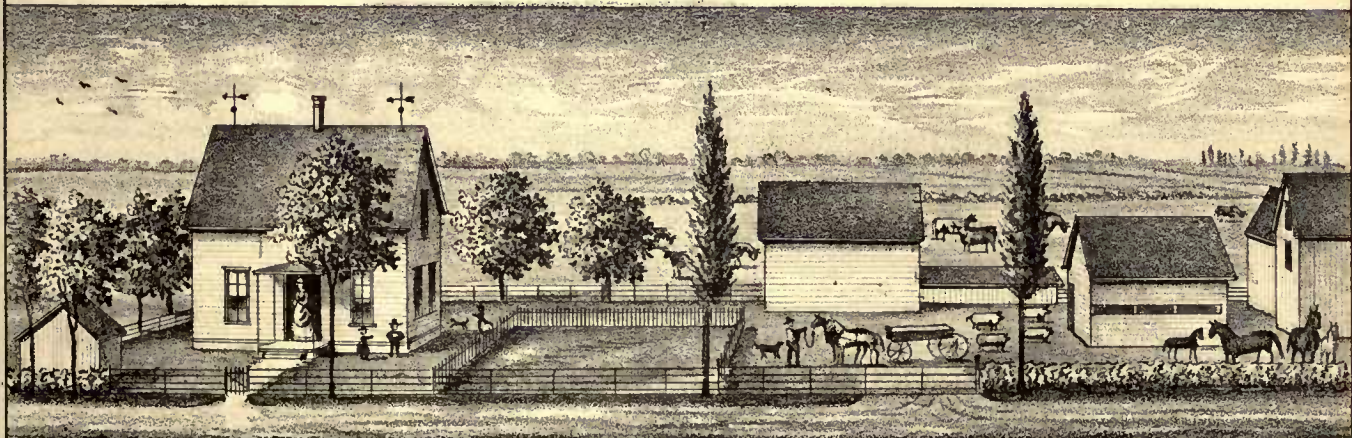
Our subject, politically, has endorsed the principles of the Republican party since its organization. He has steadily declined to become an office-holder, having enough private business to occupy his time



RESIDENCE OF MORRIS E. JONES , SEC. 29., CONDIT TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF JACOB M^c. CLOSKEY , SEC. 35., URBANA TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH DECKER , SEC. 22., EAST BEND TOWNSHIP.

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and attention. He has been an active member of the Methodist Church for many years, and has contributed liberally and cheerfully for its advancement and maintenance. He was trained from a child in the doctrines of this church, and takes great satisfaction in thus doing honor to his excellent parents, who were also firm believers in and followers of the Methodist faith.

Mr. and Mrs. Crow have eight children living, namely: Fannie, the wife of D. W. Smith, of Greene County, Ill.; Nellie, Sylvester, James W., Elmer, Lidia J., William G. and John W. Ada died when ten months old. Our subject commenced life without a dollar in capital, and received very little assistance afterward. He had been trained to habits of industry and economy, and was naturally wide-awake, ambitious, and always willing to work. He has the satisfaction of knowing that he has always given his creditors abundant time and made allowance for misfortune and sickness. He is naturally of a very kind and generous disposition, willing to "live and let live."

The Crow family in Vermont were widely and favorably known and represented by a large following. Allen Crow, the father of our subject, was born Feb. 21, 1798, and departed this life at Sadorus, Ill, on the 23d of March, 1887. When twenty-one years of age, he married in his native State Miss Lucy Griswold, who was also born in Vermont, in 1800. She is still living, and a resident of Sadorus. The fathers of both parents served in the Revolutionary War, and were captured by the British. Allen Crow and his wife, Lucy, lived together harmoniously for a period of sixty-eight years and nineteen days. Their union was blest by the birth of six children, of whom the eldest daughter, Polly, died in 1835, and is buried in Vermont; the second one, George B., is a resident of Sadorus, this county; Lucinda married John H. Waller; she is deceased and is buried in Greene County; Jane resides on the old homestead; the youngest son, Edmond, died at the home of his father in this county, and his remains were laid to rest in Crow Cemetery, near Sadorus, he being the first one buried there. Samuel lives near Sadorus. A brother of Allen Crow lived to be ninety-six years old and another ninety-three.

The father of our subject was a man greatly respected wherever known, and his funeral was attended by a large concourse of people who had gathered from different parts of the township to show respect to his memory. He became a resident of White Hall in 1837, and resided there until 1865, cultivating a farm of 300 acres. He was converted when twenty-two years of age at a camp-meeting in Vermont, which meetings he was very fond of attending and never lost an opportunity of being present when possible. His home was a stopping-place for the itinerant preachers, and for several years after settling in Greene County, Ill., divine services were held in his pioneer cabin. His name is held in affectionate remembrance by his wife and children, as well as his friends outside the family circle. He accumulated a goodly amount of this world's goods, and in his declining years lived at ease and in contentment, as the just reward of his labors.

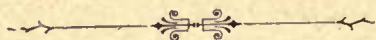


JOHAN FRANKLIN PHILLIPPE, youngest son of John and Susan J. (Busey) Phillippe (see sketch), was born in Condit Township, this county, Oct. 29, 1852. He was reared on a farm and pursued his primary studies in the district schools, his education afterward being advanced by an attendance at Asbury, now DePew University, at Greencastle, Ind. When not in school he assisted in the duties of the farm, and made his home with his parents until 1875. In that year he was married, and settled on the farm which he now owns and occupies, located on section 3, Hensley Township.

The homestead of our subject includes 175 acres of choice land, all enclosed and improved, and supplied with a good set of buildings. He also has twenty acres of timber. He was reared to habits of industry, and early in life evinced those qualities which have since constituted him a good citizen and an excellent business man. He has conducted the management of his farm with ability and success, and is rated among the representative and progressive agriculturists of one of the wealthiest counties in the State. The farm buildings, ma-

chinery and stock are well cared for, and everything about the place indicates the exercise of cultivated tastes and ample means.

Mr. Phillippe was married, in April, 1875, to Miss Ella Herriott, who was born in Fayette County, Ky., and is the daughter of Ephraim and Elizabeth (Washington) Herriott. Of this union there have been born four children—John H., Matthew A., Sarah F. and William. Mr. P., as an enterprising citizen, interested in the welfare of his county and community, was elected Commissioner in 1886, for a term of three years. Politically he is Republican, and uniformly casts his vote and influence in support of the principles of his party.



MRS. EUNICE MINER, daughter of Thomas Franklin, and widow of Charles Miner, occupies a fine homestead of 320 acres on section 19, Hensley Township. She was born in Vigo County, Ind., Aug. 17, 1823. Her father was a native of New York, born it is believed in Ontario County. Her grandfather, Benjamin Franklin, was born in Connecticut, and her great-grandfather, Jehial Franklin, who it is supposed was a native of the same State, descended from excellent English ancestry. He became a resident of Ontario County, N. Y., in the early settlement of that region, and there spent the last years of his life. There also his family was reared, and Benjamin, one of the sons, established a homestead among the pioneers before the day of either canals or railroads, and when the emigrants traveled slowly with wagons over the country to their various destinations.

The grandfather of Mrs. Miner removed from Ontario County, N. Y., to Indiana in 1820, and settled among the pioneers of Vigo County, where he spent the remainder of his days. Among the members of his family was Thomas, the father of Mrs. M., who was reared in the Empire State, where he was married and resided until 1820. Then, with his wife and four children, he joined his parents and emigrated with them to Indiana. He also purchased a tract of timber land in Vigo County, and in the

midst of the wilderness erected a log house in which his daughter, Eunice, was born. He toiled industriously some years, opening up a fine farm and becoming quite extensively engaged in raising grain and stock. His death occurred there in about 1845. He had been married in early manhood to Miss Annie Reeves, a native of Essex County, N. J. This lady survived her husband eight years, and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. M., in Hensley Township, Aug. 21, 1853.

Mrs. Miner received careful home training at the hands of her excellent parents, and a fair education in the common schools. She remained with her parents until her marriage, assisting her mother in the various duties of the household, and became quite an expert in spinning and knitting. She was united in marriage with Charles Miner, at the home of her parents, in Vigo County, Ind., April 30, 1850. Mr. M. was a native of Fayette County, Ky., born March 29, 1808. He was the son of Rufus Miner, of Stonington, Conn., and the grandson of Rufus Miner, Sr., who had received an excellent education, and for many years taught school in Stonington, where he spent the last years of his life. His son, Rufus, removed from Connecticut to Kentucky in 1799, being one of the pioneers of the Blue Grass region. He was there married to Miss Betsey White, who was born in Virginia, and was the daughter of Charles and Sarah (Monroe) White. In 1811 they removed to Highland County, Ohio, during its early settlement, and there remained residents for many years. In 1852 they bade adieu to old friends and associations, and coming to this State located in Shelby County, where their lives terminated.

The Miner family was noted for its education and intelligence, and the son, Charles, inherited the excellent qualities of both parents. His mother, while spinning at the old-fashioned wheel, taught him the rudiments of the common English branches, which lessons his father continued at night by the light of a hickory-bark fire. Even tallow candles in those days were luxuries, and the lamp of the present was entirely unknown. Aside from this, three weeks' schooling in the log house was all the instruction Charles Miner received. He was naturally, however, a bright and observing boy, and


through his own efforts, by reading and study as he had opportunity, became possessed of a practical business education, and was well informed upon all matters of general interest. When nineteen years of age he went to Hamilton County, Ohio, where he spent four years working on a farm and making an occasional trip down the river on a flatboat loaded with produce, which he disposed of at New Orleans and other points along the Mississippi. He spent two or three seasons in Louisiana, chopping cord wood for steamboats. Although his wages were small, he receiving a part of the time but \$8 per month, he saved a good portion of his earnings, and in 1837 went up into Indiana and purchased a small farm in Vigo County. This land lay about eleven miles north of Terre Haute. In 1849 he purchased several Mexican land warrants, and coming to Illinois entered land with these warrants on sections 19 and 20 of what is now Hensley Township. The year following he removed his family hither, the journey being made overland with wagons. After they were comfortably established he commenced the improvement and cultivation of his farm.

This part of the county was very thinly settled at that time, there being but one house between the farm of Mr. Miner and what is now the city of Champaign. The house stood on the State road, and for some time Mr. M. disposed of a large portion of his produce to emigrants passing westward. He was prospered in his business and farming operations, and lived to see the country around him opened up and improved by a good class of people. He watched with keen interest its various stages of development, and as time and opportunity afforded, contributed his quota toward its growth and prosperity. The primitive dwelling of the settler after the lapse of years was replaced by a handsome, modern farm-house, with a fine barn and all other necessary out-buildings. He was an honest man and a good citizen to the fullest extent of the term, and was held in high esteem by the friends and neighbors among whom he had lived for over thirty years. After a useful and unostentatious life he passed to his final rest, on the 21st of July, 1885. The widowed mother with her sons remained on the homestead, the business of which

Mrs. Miner has conducted since the death of her husband with rare good sense and ability.

Mr. and Mrs. Miner became the parents of eight children—Thomas, Ellen, Charles, Daniel, Monroe, Grant, John and Seth. The three children by a former marriage of Mr. Miner are Annie, Elizabeth and Frank. The eldest son of Mr. Miner at the outbreak of the late war enlisted as a Union soldier in the 25th Illinois Infantry, serving first in Missouri and Arkansas, and later with the Army of the Cumberland. He participated in many important battles, and was wounded at Chickamauga. After suffering seven months he attempted the journey home, but did not live to reach his destination, dying at the Doan House in Champaign City, April 11, 1864.

Charles Miner after becoming a resident of this section, and as the country gradually settled up, became an important factor among its business and agricultural interests. His good sense and intelligence commanded ready recognition, and he was appointed to various offices within the gift of his townsmen. He was School Treasurer for a period of sixteen years, and was the first Justice of the Peace elected after the organization of Hensley Township. During the existence of the Whig party he was its staunch adherent, but later cordially endorsed the principles of the Republicans, and upon the abandonment of the old party uniformly supported the principles of the new, of which he was a member for the space of nearly thirty years.

HENRY CLAY WEST. In 1855 the traveler through Hensley Township, then an unsettled stretch of country, might have descried a lonely cabin situated on the open prairie with but few dwellings in sight. This humble abode was the original home of our subject, who came to this county when a young man, deciding to here establish a permanent home. The courage required to thus practically isolate himself from his fellow-men, as it were, in order to carry on the plans which he had in view may be better imagined than described. Mr. West, however, possessed an inherent independence and resolution which pre-

vented him from looking back when he had once placed his hand to the plow, and he settled down in his pioneer cabin, determined to stay, to labor and wait for results. Considering the fine homestead whose doors he now hospitably opens to his old friends, it is hardly necessary to say that his labors and patience have been richly rewarded. The log cabin has been replaced by a handsome and commodious dwelling, and the once unfenced prairie upon which he laid claim has been transformed into smiling fields of green meadows and growing grain. Everything about the homestead indicates thrift and prosperity, and is a forcible illustration of what may be accomplished by steady perseverance and unflagging industry.

Mr. West was born in Bourbon County, Ky., Aug. 9, 1831. His father, Russell W., and his grandfather, William West, were both natives of Virginia. Russell West grew to manhood in his native State and was there first married. His wife lived but a few years, and soon after her death he removed to Kentucky in about 1826, settling in Bourbon County, where he became a foreman on a large plantation. There also he married Mrs. Margaret (Herriott) Carter, the mother of our subject. In 1847 he purchased a farm in Scott County, Ky., which he occupied until 1854, when he removed to Champaign County, settling in Mahomet Township. He also purchased land in Piatt County. He remained a resident of Mahomet until his death, which occurred Jan. 26, 1861, and his remains are buried in a pleasant spot on the old farm. The mother died in Bourbon County, Ky., Nov. 7, 1835, and was buried in the Cane Ridge Churchyard.

The subject of this history was reared in his native State and educated in the subscription schools. After his father purchased land he assisted in its improvement and remained under the home roof until twenty-one years of age. In September, 1851, he started for Illinois on horseback, riding the entire distance in this manner. He stopped here three months, then saddled his horse and started for his old home in Kentucky, which he reached after a twelve days' journey. He remained with his father on the farm one year, and in 1853 returned to this county. He was still a single man and se-

eured employment by the month with one of the pioneer farmers. The following August he was married in Hensley Township, and started South once more, this time accompanied by his bride. They made the journey with an outfit of two horses and a covered wagon. After reaching the old home they visited with his father's family and friends until November, then started for the West once more, and spent the following winter in Condit Township.

In the spring of 1854, Mr. West rented land in Hensley Township. They spent the fall of that year with the father of Mrs. W. on section 28, and on the 17th of April, 1855, located on the farm which they have occupied continuously since, but which as we have seen was very far from being a farm when they took possession of it. There was little then but open prairie on all sides, especially the eastern part of the township. Most of the people who there located and improved farms, have sold out and gone to other parts of the country, or to their long home. Mr. West is now the oldest settler in this part of the township, and is tacitly accorded that reverence and respect due to one who looked upon the prairie in its virgin state and assisted in its transformation.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married Aug. 11, 1853, was formerly Miss Harriett E. Graham, also a native of Bourbon County, Ky. Her father, James M. Graham, was a native of Bath County in the Blue Grass State, and her grandfather, James Graham, Sr., a native of Virginia, was among the early pioneers of Kentucky, where he engaged in farming and spent his last years in Bath County. His son, James M., was also reared to farming pursuits, and then began to teach a subscription school. He then went into the general merchandise and commission business, and remained in his native State until 1852, when he came to this county, and purchased land on section 28, in Hensley Township. He opened up a good farm and remained a resident of the township until 1885, when he removed to Kansas and is now living there in Republic County. He was a man of much force of character, prominent in local affairs, and held the various offices of trust within the gift of his fellow-citizens, among them being that of Super-

visor, which he filled very satisfactorily for several terms. The mother of Mrs. West before her marriage was Miss Margaret Herriott, also a native of Kentucky. She died when Mrs. West was but three years old.

Mr. and Mrs. West have six children living: Margaret became the wife of L. P. Wamaeks, and lives in Hensley Township; Susan E., Mrs. John P. Grindley, lives in Mahomet Township; George C. took to wife Miss Rosetta Bell, of Champaign Township, and resides on the homestead; Sarah A., the wife of John Jordan, resides in Hensley Township; Thomas and William are on the old homestead, and single. These children, who have inherited in a marked degree the excellent traits of character possessed by their parents, are greatly respected as citizens and members of society. Mr. and Mrs. W. became connected with the Presbyterian Church at Champaign in 1854, our subject being one of the three charter members now living who assisted in its organization, the other two being ladies.

REV. DAVID CRAWFORD, who was connected with the ministry of Northwestern Indiana Conference for many years, has since 1872 employed himself in agricultural pursuits. He owns and occupies a fine farm on section 31, in Philo Township, where he has built up a comfortable home, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of his friends and neighbors.

Mr. Crawford was born in Salem, Washington Co., N. Y., Dec. 23, 1811, and is the son of James Crawford, also a native of the Empire State, and of Scotch ancestry. He was bred to farming pursuits, in which he was occupied during his youth and early manhood, and was married in his native county to Miss Mary Graham, a native of New York State. They located on a farm in Washington County, N. Y., and accumulated a competency. They were excellent Christian people, and widely known for their hospitality and kindness to the afflicted and distressed. Both parents had been fairly educated, and were above the average in intelligence. They spent their entire lives in Washington County, the mother dying in middle life, and the father at an advanced age.

Of the nine children in the parental family, consisting of three daughters and six sons, one daughter and two sons only are now living. Of these the record is as follows: John, who followed farming pursuits, after arriving at the age of eighty-eight years, departed this life in 1885; William died when a young man before leaving home; he was a youth of great promise and much beloved by his family and a large circle of friends; Martha became the wife of Daniel Rice, and died near East Camden, Oneida Co., N. Y., when about seventy years old; Isaac, who was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, died in Indiana, leaving a wife and three children; David, of our sketch, was the next in order of birth; a daughter died in infancy; James, who was connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church the greater part of his life, died at Hope, Bartholomew Co., Ind., in 1872, leaving a wife and two sons; Thomas C. is living in Cincinnati, Ohio, and actively engaged as a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church; he has a wife and seven children; Mary E., the widow of Mr. Jameson, is a resident of Rising Sun, Ohio Co., Ind., having two children who maintain her in ease and comfort, her son being a practicing physician in that city.

The subject of our sketch was educated principally at Casenovia, N. Y., and Kent's Hill, Me. He was licensed to preach by the Williamstown Conference in New York, July 4, 1840, and later admitted on trial during the Annual Conference at Terre Haute, Ind., in 1840. He was appointed to Knightstown Circuit by Bishop R. R. Roberts; his labors also included the Morrisville Circuit. He was ordained Deacon by the Indiana Annual Conference, Nov. 21, 1842, by Bishop Thomas A. Morris. Afterward he was transferred, at his own request, to the Arkansas Conference, by which he was ordained Elder in November following, at its session at Little Rock. Three years later, desiring to go to Iowa, Mr. Crawford was transferred to the Iowa Conference, and labored in the vineyard there for a period of six years. In the meantime he had met with a severe affliction in the loss of his excellent wife. This lady was formerly Miss Elizabeth Toner, who was a native of Indiana, and married to our subject at Shelbyville, that State. She pos-

sessed all womanly virtues, and was ever the active sympathizer and helper of her husband in his religious work. The one child born to them died in infancy.

The second marriage of Mr. Crawford took place at Pleasant Hill, Montgomery Co., Ind., Aug. 23, 1854. His wife, Miss Mary A. Meharry, was the daughter of James Meharry, the latter born in Adams County, Ohio, of Scottish parentage. He married Miss Margaret Francis, of Irish and Scotch descent, in 1827. In the spring of 1828 they removed from Ohio to Fountain County, Ind., and thence three years later to Montgomery County, where the father followed farming, and where both parents spent the remainder of their lives. Their four children consisted of two daughters and two sons, of whom the wife of our subject was the eldest: Green C. is farming in Tippecanoe County, Ind.; he married Miss Letitia Meharry, of Canada; Cornelia B. is the wife of James Hickman, a farmer of Iroquois County, Ill.; A. W., a mute, lives with his sister, the wife of our subject. Mrs. Crawford was reared and educated mostly in Montgomery and Allen Counties, Ind., completing her studies at the Ft. Wayne Methodist Episcopal College. Afterward she returned to her parents and remained with them until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there have been born ten children, of whom three—Charles G., M. L. and an infant—are deceased. Those surviving are C. M., Jessie C. E., Ella M. F., Allen J., Anna L., Emma G. and John W. W. All these are at home with the exception of Allen, who is attending college at Onarga.

Mr. and Mrs. Crawford soon after their marriage settled in Crown Point, Ind., where our subject had charge of a congregation one year. He was thence removed to Pine Village, and afterward to Pleasant Hill. He was placed on the superannuated list four years before coming to Illinois. Since 1872 he has given his time principally to farming, and is the possessor of over 1,000 acres of land, half of it being in Indiana. His homestead in Philo Township is finely improved, with good buildings, and the land is under an advanced state of cultivation. His stock and farm implements compare favorably with those of the other prosperous and intelligent farmers of Champaign County.

DAVID F. BROWN. One of the best conducted farms in Champaign County is located in Hensley Township on section 20, and invariably attracts the eye of the passing traveler as indicating on every hand the supervision of a proprietor with cultivated tastes and abundant means. This beautiful and valuable homestead is the property of the subject of our sketch, who became its occupant in 1867. From the time of taking possession he has industriously labored for its improvement and beautification, until there is little lacking that could be reasonably desired. Mr. B. is essentially a self-made man, who was fortunate in securing an admirable wife and helpmeet, and they together have built up one of those enviable homes which so materially assist in defining the status of a neighborhood or community.

Mr. Brown is a native of Highland County, Ohio. He was born Jan. 15, 1823, and is the son of Henry Brown, who, with his father, Nathan Brown, was a native of Virginia. The grandfather of our subject removed with his family from the Old Dominion to Ohio at an early day, being among the pioneers of Highland County, where he spent the remainder of his life, and where his remains are buried. His son Henry, the father of our subject, was reared to manhood and married in Highland County, Ohio, where he purchased a tract of land and cleared a farm, which he occupied until 1826. He then sold out, and with his wife and seven children started overland for what was then called the frontier, but is now the important State of Indiana. Their road lay through the wilderness, and in many places they had to cut a passage with their axes.

After reaching the boundaries of Putnam County Henry Brown purchased a tract of land, mostly timber, a few acres being partially cleared, and supplied with a log cabin. He, however, possessed the genuine pioneer spirit, and was not the man to turn back from an undertaking that had any prospect of success. He unloaded his family and their limited supply of household goods, and with them took up his abode in the cabin and at once set about the improvement of his purchase. In due time the timber gave way to cultivated fields, and the primitive cabin to a pretentious and substantial log house, supplemented by a barn of the same de-

scription. In that pioneer home, whose occupants at that time felt rich, the father of our subject resided until his death, in May, 1838. He had married, in early life, Miss Rachel Clearwater, a native of South Carolina, and the daughter of Jacob Clearwater, who proved a faithful and companionable wife and mother, sharing cheerfully the difficulties and hardships of settlement in a new country. After the death of her husband she made her home with her son, our subject, dying in Hensley Township, Oct. 5, 1872.

Of the children of Henry and Rachel Brown, nine in number, David F. of our sketch was the fifth in order of birth. He was but three years old when his parents journeyed overland from Ohio to Indiana, and was there reared in Putman County, that State, receiving a limited education in the subscription schools. He was fifteen years old when his father died, and remained with his mother until twenty-two, when he returned to his native county and engaged as a stock-dealer the following year. He then joined his mother's family in Indiana, where he worked at farming for three years, after which he operated on rented land until 1846. That year he provided himself with a stock of clocks and Yankee notions, and coming over into the Prairie State, peddled first on commission for another man and afterward for himself.

Two years later our subject returned to Indiana, and purchased 120 acres of partially improved land in Montgomery County. This he improved and cultivated for several years thereafter, then rented his farm, and returning to Illinois, purchased 600 acres of unimproved prairie in Blue Ridge Township, Piatt County. He soon afterward put up a house, commenced the improvement of his purchase, and after a residence there of a few years, removed to De Witt County, and purchased a tract of land near Farmer City. This he also improved and occupied four years, at the expiration of which time he returned to his property in Piatt County, which he occupied until 1867. Then leaving this in charge of a tenant he came to this county and purchased eighty acres in Hensley Township, which is now included in his present farm. He retained his Piatt County farm until 1872, when he sold it. He has added to his first purchase in this county

until he is now the owner of 818 acres, besides valuable tracts of timber elsewhere. He has also enlarged his house and barn, and vastly improved the original condition of his purchase. His land is finely adapted to grain and stock-raising, to which of late years he has principally turned his attention, and has met with remarkable success.

The first wife of our subject, to whom he was married in Crawfordsville, Ind., July 19, 1849, was formerly Miss Rachel Pierce, who was born in Montgomery County, Ind., May 28, 1827. Mrs. B. was the daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Gatral) Pierce, both natives of Pennsylvania. This lady became the mother of two children, both now deceased, and departed this life Dec. 2, 1851. The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1853, was Miss Elizabeth Bailey, a native of Kentucky, born Nov. 2, 1829. She is the daughter of Charles Bailey, who was born in Hanover, Plymouth Co., Mass., and the granddaughter of Charles Bailey, Sr., a native of the same place and of excellent English parentage and descent. He met his death by being crushed under the walls of a burning building in his native town. His father, the great-grandfather of Mrs. Brown, also died in that town. Charles Bailey, Jr., the father of Mrs. Brown, became a resident of Indiana when it was a Territory. He was a machinist by trade, and put in the apparatus of a carding-mill at Brookville, Franklin County, the first of its kind in that locality. From there he went to Kentucky, and in 1837 back to Indiana, where he purchased a farm in Montgomery County, and spent the remainder of his life, dying Aug. 28, 1868. His wife, the mother of Mrs. Brown, was formerly Miss Catherine Vanhook, of Bourbon County, Ky., and the daughter of Archibald Vanhook, who was born in South Carolina, and was of Holland parentage and ancestry. He removed from the South at an early day, and was one of the early settlers of Bourbon County. Mrs. Catherine Bailey departed this life in September, 1861, in Crawfordsville, Ind.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown have nine children living, of whom the record is as follows: Alice, the wife of George Rising, is a resident of Hensley Township; Willard lives in Woodbury County, Iowa; Mary, Mrs. Emerson W. Womacks, lives in Og-

den Township, this county; Frances is the wife of Luther Lindsey, of Hensley Township; Olive, Elery, F. Lincoln, Ida May and Florence Josephine are at home with their parents.

Mr. Brown during the existence of the old Whig party was a warm sympathizer with its principles, but when the old party was abandoned, heartily endorsed the Republican party, and is now a Prohibitionist. He has always taken a lively interest in local and general matters, and keeps himself well posted upon current events. He has been prominent in the counsels of his fellow-townsmen, and in 1875 served as a member of the Board of Supervisors.

Mrs. B. is a lady of more than ordinary intelligence, and for a period of more than thirty years has assisted her husband in every worthy enterprise, and has been his sympathizer and helper in his undertakings, whether they were for the benefit of the family or the public at large.

JEFFERSON TROTTER, a gentleman prominent in the affairs of Champaign County since he became a resident in 1859, has been distinguished for more than ordinary energy and enterprise in the pursuit of his occupation as an agriculturist, and of late years as a breeder of fine stock. He is essentially a self-made man, having commenced humbly in life, but is now one of the most important factors in the agricultural and business interests of this section.

Mr. Trotter was born in Frederick County, Va., Dec. 19, 1825, and is the son of Matthew Trotter, a native of the same State and county, who was the son of Matthew Trotter, Sr. The latter was born in Ireland in 1717, and emigrated to America at an early period in the history of the country, taking up his abode in Frederick County, Va., where he opened up a farm, and upon it spent the remainder of his life. His son Matthew, the father of our subject, was born May 5, 1786. He was reared on the farm in Frederick County, Va., and after reaching manhood was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Kedy, a native of the same county, and of German ancestry. After the birth

of six children, they emigrated to Ohio in 1829, locating in Clarke County. The journey was made overland with wagons, and they camped and cooked by the way. After a four years' residence in the latter-named county they removed further Westward to Indiana, locating in Tippecanoe County, and from there went to Clinton County, where Matthew Trotter purchased an improved farm. He only occupied this, however, a few years, and then returned to Tippecanoe County, Ind., where he spent the last days of his life. The mother, in her declining years, lived with one of her sons in Champaign Township, this county.

Of the seven children comprising the parental household, Jefferson Trotter of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth. He was but four years old when his parents removed to Ohio, and eight years of age when they became residents of Indiana. He attended the district schools in the latter State as opportunity offered, and when not thus occupied assisted his father on the farm. He was fond of his books, however, and after he had grown to manhood earned money with which to advance his education. In due time he entered the Farmers' Institute in Wayne Township, Tippecanoe County, where he studied for one year, and afterward attended Wabash College. For a few years following he engaged in teaching six months in the year, and worked at farming the remainder. In 1859 he purchased 160 acres of wild prairie in Champaign Township, this county, in company with his brother, J. W. Trotter. They farmed together harmoniously for more than twenty years, in the meantime adding to their first purchase until they became the owners of 480 acres, which they brought to a fine state of cultivation. In 1880 they divided the property. Our subject has since added to his share, and his possessions now aggregate 200 acres, all in Champaign Township. Upon it he has erected handsome and substantial modern farm buildings, and this, together with the manner in which it is cared for, makes the homestead one of the most attractive features of the landscape of this section.

The marriage of Jefferson Trotter and Miss Eliza C. Kirkpatrick took place in LaFayette, Ind., May 20, 1879. Mrs. T. is the daughter of George W.

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Sirams Trotter

and Catherine (Porter) Kirkpatrick, the former a native of Kentucky, born in 1796, and the latter of Ohio, born in 1801. The grandfather of Mrs. T., Samuel Kirkpatrick by name, descended from excellent Scottish ancestry, and emigrated to this country, locating in Pickaway County, Ohio, where he spent the remainder of his life. His son, George W., grew to manhood in Ohio, where he was married and resided until about 1827, when he removed to Indiana, and was among the pioneer settlers of Tippecanoe County. He purchased a tract of unimproved prairie land in Wea Township. Here he opened up a farm, and remained a resident of that township until his death. The mother of Mrs. T. was of Irish parentage, and was born in Ohio, of which State her parents were among the earliest settlers, locating there while it was yet a Territory. Mrs. T. has a distinct recollection of the privations and hardships encountered in the settlement of a new country, amid whose wild scenes her native strength of character was developed, and where she became fitted for the suitable wife and helpmeet of such a man as her husband. She is a member in good standing of the Christian Church. Politically Mr. Trotter uniformly casts his vote with the Democratic party, and is a firm supporter of the present administration.



HIRAM TROTTER, a gentleman of Southern birth and parentage, who is well known and highly respected throughout Newcomb Township, where he carried on farming for a period of thirty years, in 1884 abandoned active labor and retired to the village of Fisher, where he is now living upon a competency secured mainly by his own efforts. Besides his fine property in the village, consisting of a handsome residence, set in the midst of ample grounds, ornamented with shade trees and choice shrubbery, he has a farm of 270 acres on sections 14 and 15, in Newcomb Township, which is now operated by his son John.

Mr. Trotter is the third child of William and Barbara (Dick) Trotter, natives of West Virginia. They located after their marriage in Frederick County, whence they emigrated to Clinton County,

Ind., and after a residence there of seven years came in 1854 to Piatt County, Ill., where they spent the remainder of their days, occupied in farming pursuits. Their family consisted of six sons and three daughters, of whom Hiram of our sketch was born Jan. 22, 1813. He remained a resident of the Old Dominion until 1850, removing thence to Clinton County, Ind., with his parents, and six years later became a resident of Champaign County, locating on a tract of land in Newcomb Township, where he engaged successfully in farm pursuits until his retirement in 1884. During the period of over thirty years in which he has gone in and out among the people of this vicinity, he has distinguished himself as an honorable and upright citizen, and a skillful and thorough farmer. He has always been ready to assist in any enterprise calculated to benefit his community, and is possessed of that wise judgment and temperance of counsel which has commended him to his fellow-citizens as an important factor in their deliberations, and a man whose opinions it were wise to follow.

The first marriage of our subject took place in his native county, the maiden of his choice being Miss Susan Stotler, who became his wife in the summer of 1835. The three children born of this marriage were Peter, Mary and Susanna. The first mentioned married Miss Elizabeth Yeager, of Indiana, and is a successful farmer of Newcomb Township; Mary married Andrew McBride, who died shortly after; she is a resident of Clinton County, Indiana; Susanna died in Piatt County, this State, when twenty-five years of age. Mrs. Susan Trotter departed this life in Frederick County, Va., in 1839, and her remains were laid to rest near the place of her birth.

Mr. T. was again married, in Virginia, to Miss Lydia M. Allemang, also a native of the Old Dominion, and who by her marriage with our subject became the mother of ten children, seven now living, namely, Nathan, Elizabeth, Virginia, John, Albert, Barbara and Jane. Nathan, who married Miss Merrill, is farming in Iowa; Elizabeth, the wife of Capt. J. B. Lester, whose biography appears elsewhere in this ALBUM, is a resident of Newcomb Township; Virginia, Mrs. David Ins-

keep, resides in Iowa; John married Miss Elizabeth J. Funston, and is farming in Newcomb Township; Albert married Miss Carrie Dorr, and resides in Piatt County, this State, as does also Barbara, the wife of George Teats; Jane is the wife of Osear Mulvain, and they are living in Newcomb Township; three children died in infancy. Mrs. Lydia M. Trotter died at the home of her husband in Newcomb Township in 1880.

Our subject, on the 11th of May, 1882, was married to Mrs. Mary A. (Starling) Schoppell, daughter of William and Eliza (Wallace) Starling, and widow of Jackson Schoppell, who died in Mahomet Township in 1864. By her first marriage this lady became the mother of eight children, viz., Ann E., Mary J., Martha, Susan E., Rose, Sarah, Charlie and Oliver. Ann married George T. Pearce, and they reside in McLean County, this State; Martha is the wife of D. W. Stewart, of Michigan; Susan E. died in infancy; Rose, the wife of Al Hinton, resides on a farm with her husband in Newcomb Township; Sarah, Charlie and Ollie died in infancy. The mother of these children was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, Nov. 26, 1827. Of her union with our subject there have been no children.

While living in Newcomb Township Mr. Trotter served as Highway Commissioner for nine years in succession, and held the minor offices. He is Democratic in politics, and with his wife a member in good standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church at Fisher.

It is with pleasure that we present the portrait of Mr. Trotter in this connection, as being that of a representative and honored citizen of Newcomb County.

ALFRED N. LOVELESS, of Newcomb Township, is the son of Isaac N. and Louisa M. (Pawley) Loveless, who were natives respectively of Clinton and Boone Counties, Ind., and of Irish descent. After their marriage they first located in Clinton County, Ind., whence they removed to Harrison County, Mo., and engaged in farming. They subsequently returned to Indiana and after a residence there of about

fifteen years moved to Champaign County, Ill., where they lived about three years. They then returned to Harrison County, Mo., where they still live.

Their eight children included six sons and two daughters, of whom Alfred N., of our sketch, was the eldest. He was born in Clinton County, Ind., June 15, 1858, becoming a resident of Champaign County, Ill., when thirteen years of age, and with the exception of three or four years spent with his parents in Missouri, has resided here since that time. He is the proprietor of a good farm on section 3, in Newcomb Township, which consists of eighty acres, and is under a good state of cultivation.

Our subject was married at the residence of the bride's parents, in Newcomb Township, Nov. 24, 1879, to Miss Sarah A., daughter of David and Mahala Naylor, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Loveless was born in Adams County, Ohio, Sept. 20, 1856, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of three children—Olin D., Jesse P. and Ida G. Mr. L. is Republican in politics, and in all respects is fulfilling his obligations as a good citizen.

JEHU DAVIS. Not quite twenty-five years ago the subject of the following history took the first steps in inaugurating the splendid homestead which forms one of the most attractive spots in Pesotum Township. It is finely located, and the central feature, the handsome residence, with its adjacent out-buildings, commands an extended view of the surrounding country. The estate includes 356 acres of some of the most valuable land in the locality, finely improved, and stocked with graded animals. The building up of this homestead has comprised the labor of years and the outlay of thousands of dollars, but the result cannot be otherwise than eminently satisfactory to the proprietor. Nature endowed him with rare persistence, almost exhaustless energy and excellent judgment. These have all been called into action, and the result is no less a matter of pride to the neighboring farmers than to our subject and his family. The reputation of

a township or community depends upon the character of its citizens, and Pesotum Township is proud to claim within her borders a man of the character and capacities of Jehu Davis.

Mr. Davis is a native of the Old Dominion, born in Monongalia County, Dec. 29, 1822. He lived in his native county until eleven years of age and then, accompanied by his uncle, Jehu, migrated to Indiana, in which State he lived until a young man about twenty-two years of age. His occupation was mostly farming, but he had also learned the carpenter's trade in the little city of New Castle, whence he removed to Clinton County, Ohio, and on the 23d of November, 1848, became the husband of Miss Susie Hanley, a native of that county. They remained in that locality about sixteen years, three of which were spent on the farm and the balance of the time occupied principally by Mr. Davis in carrying on a gristmill. Upon coming to the West in 1866, he purchased a quarter section of land in Pesotum Township, on section 26, and at once entered vigorously upon its improvement. He broke the sod, fenced the fields, and was prospered in his efforts from the start. He selected the wisest manner in which to invest his surplus funds, namely, real estate, and which remains to his children the fairest heritage which a father could bequeath in the matter of property.

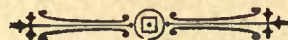
The nine children of Mr. and Mrs. Davis were as follows: Christopher B., born June 10, 1850, died Aug. 8, 1851; James E., born Nov. 9, 1851; Mary E., born Aug. 9, 1853, died the same day; William, born Oct. 27, 1855, died Jan. 20, 1881; Frank, born July 7, 1858; Jehu, born Dec. 5, 1861, died Dec. 25, 1863; Ralph, born April 29, 1860, died Jan. 9, 1861; Fanny B., born April 28, 1864; Walter S., born Feb. 25, 1867, died Nov. 8, 1868; James E. married Miss Lavina Crawford, of this county, and is carrying on general merchandising in Pesotum. Frank married Miss Emma Ervin, of Clinton County, Ohio, and occupies a part of the homestead. Fannie B. is the wife of Eli Starkey, formerly of Clermont County, Ohio. He is carrying on merchandising in Parksville, this county.

The father of our subject, William Davis, was a native of Delaware, whence he moved to West Virginia in his youth. He married Miss Sarah

Pride, and was occupied in farming in the Old Dominion until 1850, when he moved to Ohio, and retiring from active labor made his home with his son, Jehu, until his decease, which occurred in the spring of 1855. The wife and mother departed this life over a score of years before her husband, her death taking place before the removal to Ohio, in 1832. William Davis served in the War of 1812, as a member of the Virginia Regiment.

The parents of Mrs. Davis removed from New York to Ohio at an early period in the history of the latter State, taking up their abode in Clermont County. Her father died when she was but six years of age, in 1833. The mother survived until 1870, making her home with her oldest daughter, Hannah, the wife of James Brunson, of Clermont County, Ohio.

Mr. Davis, politically, as in all other respects, prefers principle to men, and refuses to be controlled by party factions. He has taken a deep interest in the success of the temperance movement, being an ardent Prohibitionist, and improving every opportunity to announce his opposition to the manufacture and sale of ardent spirits. Both he and his excellent wife are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Pesotum, and as opportunity permits endeavor to adorn their profession by evincing a Christian kindness and character and encouraging the cause of morality and religion.



THOMAS RUCKMAN, located on section 28, in Brown Township, since 1877, has been cultivating a quarter section of land to which he has an undisputed title, and which is without encumbrance. He is a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, and born March 16, 1836, whence he emigrated when a young man twenty-two years old to Illinois. His parents, Thomas and Christena (Staw) Ruckman, were natives of Pennsylvania, and subsequently settled in Ohio. They came to the Prairie State two years before their son, and locating in Will County, remained there until the death of the father in 1863. The mother afterward removed with her family to Ford County, where her death

took place in the winter of 1882. The parental family included eight children.

Upon the breaking out of the late Civil War young Ruckman, then a resident of Will County, Ill., enlisted in the 100th Illinois Infantry, serving with Company E for a period of nearly three years. Upon receiving his honorable discharge he returned to Will County, remaining there until the spring of 1877. He then came to this county and took up his abode in Brown Township, where he has since lived. At the time of coming here he was accompanied by a small family, having on the 1st of January, 1868, been married to Miss Amanda McGowan, who was born in Lockport, Ill., March 2, 1842, and is the daughter of Thomas and Mary (Brown) McGowan, both of whom were natives of Scotland. Four children were added to the family circle after Mr. R. and his wife took up their residence in this county, making six in all, who are named as follows: Charles W., Frederick, Harry, Nellie, Christena and Thomas.

Mr. Ruckman has been School Director for nine successive years, and Commissioner of Highways two years. Politically he is Republican, and socially belongs to Van Wert Post No. 300, G. A. R., at Fisher.



EDWARD MARSHALL. On section 15, in Ludlow Township, where he owns 160 acres, lies the well-cultivated and valuable farm of the subject of this sketch, where since 1866 he has been industriously tilling the soil and making a specialty of the breeding of fine stock. He is what may be truly termed a self-made man, having commenced life at the foot of the ladder, without means or influential friends. His present possessions have been accumulated by his own industry which, with other excellent traits of character, has gained him the respect of all who know him. He is ranked among the representative citizens and business men of his township, and has contributed his full share in building up its agricultural interests.

Mr. Marshall first opened his eyes to the light in Erin's green isle, County Limerick, Nov. 20, 1834. His parents were John and Catherine (Garvin)

Marshall. His paternal great-grandfather, a native of France, emigrated from there to Ireland and bought a large estate in County Limerick. The title to this, however, was defective, and after spending a large sum of money in trying to adjust the matter in the courts he lost the greater part of his property. He settled down upon the remainder and spent the last years of his life, and the estate reverted first to his son and then to his grandson, the father of our subject.

Mr. Marshall during his childhood and youth attended school quite steadily, and when seventeen years of age set sail from Liverpool for the New World. After a voyage of four weeks and five days he landed in New York City and made it his first business to secure employment. In this he succeeded, and commenced as a brick and plaster mason in New York. After working in the cities of Brooklyn, Boston and Lebanon Springs, he turned his face toward the West, and coming into this State located in Warren County, where he worked by the month until his marriage. Afterward he took up a tract of land which he cultivated for three years following. He then removed to Cold Brook Township, where he lived until 1868, and during that year came to this county, and with the money which he had saved by close economy purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. Upon it at the time was a small frame house which needed many repairs, and which he fitted up for the reception of his family temporarily. In due time this was replaced by a substantial farm dwelling. Mr. M. planted hedge, and fruit and shade trees, and has combined beauty and utility in the most happy manner. Everything about the place is kept in good repair, and the stock and machinery are well sheltered by the snug barn and other out-buildings, which he has put up for the purpose.

Mr. Marshall was married at Monmouth, Ill., Sept. 28, 1858, to Miss Mary A. Bradley, a native of Mercer County, Pa., and born July 8, 1842. Mrs. M. is the daughter of David and Sarah (Gillespie) Bradley, the former a native of Beaver County, Pa., and the latter of Kittanning, Armstrong County, the same State. Her paternal grandfather, John Bradley, also a native of Ire-

land, was the son of Robert Bradley, who participated in the Rebellion of 1798, in that country. He emigrated to America in 1800, and located in Beaver County, Pa., during the first settlement of that section. He served in the War of 1812, for which he received a land warrant, and spent his last days in Beaver County. The father of Mrs. Marshall was reared and married in Beaver County, whence he afterward removed to Venango County, and from there to Warren County, Ill., where his death took place in 1857. The mother afterward removed to Oregon, where she is still living. The grandfather of Mrs. Marshall was a soldier in the French and Indian War, and at the close of the struggle settled down in Venango County, where he lived many years and passed the remainder of his days, living to be one hundred and two years old.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall, eleven in number, are John W., Emma C., Sarah, Mary, Charles, Frank, George, Ida, Harry and Harvey (twins) and Edna. The parents and four children are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. M. voted the Democratic ticket until 1876, and since that time has identified himself with the Greenbackers and Prohibitionists.

STEPHEN NORTON. The fine farm which lies mainly on the northeast quarter of section 12 and southeast quarter of section 1 in Pesotum Township, and which consists of 240 acres of the choicest land in that locality, was accumulated by degrees by the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch. The homestead with its buildings is the result of years of labor and the just reward of enterprise and industry. Mr. Norton is widely and favorably known as a representative farmer, a business man of rare judgment, and a citizen who has contributed his full quota in building up and sustaining the reputation of Pesotum Township as the abiding-place of an intelligent and prosperous community.

Our subject is a native of the Empire State, and was born in Onondaga County June 17, 1826. He was the eldest son and child of Harvey and Sallie

(Merry) Norton. The father, a native of Sherburne County, N. Y., was born in 1805, but while he was quite young his parents removed to Onondaga County, locating on a farm near Spafford, where the mother departed this life in 1839, leaving a family of four children. Our subject was then but a lad of thirteen years. His father five years later was married to Miss Betsey Haight, of Geauga County, Ohio, to which place he had removed in about 1844. He still followed farming. The second wife died in 1871, and the father of our subject afterward made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Catherine Merritt, in Pesotum Township, where his death occurred on the 13th of February, 1886.

After the death of his mother Stephen Norton, his father having given up housekeeping, was employed by the farmers in that neighborhood during the summer and attended school in the winter. He remained there until twenty years of age and then followed his father to Ohio, where he spent six years on the farm. When he felt that his means and prospects would justify the step, he was united in marriage with Miss Abigail Moffett, the wedding taking place on the 7th of June, 1852, at the residence of the bride's parents. Mrs. Norton was the fourth child of James W. and Margaret (Neal) Moffett, the former a native of New York and the latter of Connecticut. They passed the greater part of their lives in Ohio, but the death of the mother took place in Michigan in 1878. The father died four years later, in 1882. The parents after their marriage located in Kent County, Mich., upon ninety acres of timber land, where the father cleared a home from the wilderness and remained a period of eleven years. In 1863, desiring a change of location and climate, our subject came to this county and purchased forty acres in Pesotum Township, which is included in his present farm.

The household circle of Mr. and Mrs. Norton was completed by the birth of the following children: Cyrena C., James M., Laura B., Harvey J., Eva A., Kate M., Frank M. (a twin) and Albert E. The eldest daughter, Cyrena, is the wife of D. W. Adair, who owns a farm near that of his father-in-law; James M. married Miss Viola C. Merry, and owns a good farm in Pesotum Township near our subject; Harvey J., a successful agriculturist, with a farm of

his own, married Miss Cynthia B. Reddick; Eva A. is the wife of Nelson Gordy, and moved the farthest of any from her parents, her husband owning a farm five miles distant. The remaining children are at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Norton have been connected with the Presbyterian Church at Tolono for over fifteen years. Our subject is one of the most valuable members of the Republican party in this locality whom his brethren can rely upon implicitly. He carries this quality of honesty and integrity into all his transactions in life, both socially and in a business point of view, and his word is considered as good as his bond.



LEWIS A. McLEAN is the well-known and talented associate editor of the *Champaign County Herald*. His family is one of the oldest among the pioneers of Illinois. Mr. McLean was born in Grafton, Ill., May 5, 1843, and removed to Urbana with his mother, Mrs. Mary B. Vanderveer, and stepfather, Cornelius Vanderveer, from Vermilion County, Ill., April 15, 1853. His father was Dr. John H. McLean, a physician, who died in 1844 at Carlyle, Ill. His mother, Mrs. Mary B. Webber, is a resident of this city, and is well known by the old settlers of the county.

Mr. McLean received his education at the public schools until eighteen years of age, two years of which, 1857 and 1858, were spent at the 4th district High School in the city of New Orleans, La. In December, 1862, he entered the office of the Circuit Clerk and Recorder of this county, as deputy of W. H. Somers, who was then serving his second term, and retained that position for seven years; he was then for a time Deputy United States Assessor. From 1872 to 1879 he was engaged in mercantile pursuits. In the fall of 1879 he accepted the position of book-keeper and assistant editor of the *Champaign Gazette*, which he creditably filled until Oct. 9, 1882, when he took his present position as associate editor with M. W. Mathews, the proprietor of the *Champaign County Herald*. That he is a man remarkably well adapted to literary pursuits is apparent from the fact that the success

of the paper has been phenomenal in the newspaper history of the county, and it is only just to say that as its business manager and local editor he is entitled to much credit for its unusual growth and rapidly increasing circulation.

Mr. McLean was married, May 12, 1864, to Miss Jennie E. Russell, daughter of Dr. E. L. Russell, now of Des Moines, Iowa. She is a member and an active worker in the Baptist Church. Their children are: Nellie, who is in her senior year at the University of Illinois, and Albert H. and Clare F., who are both at home, attending school. In 1863 Mr. McLean united with the Baptist Church, and for over twenty years has been connected with the Sabbath-school as Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent. He is actively interested in Church and Sunday-school work, and has served three years as Secretary of the Champaign County Sunday-School Association. He is also Secretary of the Old Settlers' Association of the county, in which he is vigilant and active in rescuing from oblivion every fact relating to the old settlers of the county. In politics Mr. McL. is a Republican. He cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1864, and since that time has been actively identified with the Republican party.



JOHAN HALBERSTADT. Among the prominent and successful farmers of the township of Philo, is the subject of this personal notice, who is located on a good homestead of 160 acres on section 26. He came into possession of this in the fall of 1866, and since that time has been industriously engaged in improving and beautifying what he determined from the first should be his permanent home. A small portion of the sod had been broken when he located here, but the whole is now under a good state of cultivation, and admirably adapted to the raising in abundance of the various rich crops of the Prairie State. Besides the homestead Mr. H. is the owner of 400 acres in Ottawa County, Kan., which is also under the plow, and being intelligently operated by his children.

Mr. Halberstadt is a native of Franklin County, Ind., born Oct. 13, 1820. His father, John Halber-

stadt, Sr., was born and reared in Philadelphia, where he served an apprenticeship of seven years at shoemaking. When twenty-two years of age he removed with his father to Indiana. The latter, Anthony Halberstadt, was born in Russia, and came to the United States during the Revolutionary War as a Hessian soldier. He fought in the British army for some time, but his sympathies were finally turned toward the American people, and deserting the ranks of the English, he went over to the Colonists and became a driver for one of the Generals in the Continental army. This gentleman was the original progenitor of the family in the United States. After the independence of the Colonies had been established he retired to civil life, married an English lady, and became the father of four children.

Anthony Halberstadt finally emigrated to Indiana, and settled in what was afterward Franklin County, before the advent of any white people in that locality. Indians and wild game were plentiful, but the grandfather of our subject was a man of great courage and endurance and took up his residence there to stay. He established a comfortable home for those days, in the wilderness, where he passed the remainder of his life, and was buried upon the farm where he had lived for fifty years or more. His wife had previously returned to Kentucky with her son-in-law, and there died at an advanced age. Their son John, the father of our subject, assisted his father in the clearing of the timber from their claim in Franklin County, Ind. The Queen City of Ohio was at that time but a hamlet, and for years was their nearest trading-post. John Halberstadt afterward removed to Sullivan County, Ind., where he died when over eighty-five years old. The mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Mary Trusley, of West Virginia, removed with her parents to Indiana also during the first settlement of the territory. She survived her husband some years, and passed her last days with her children in Philo Township, this county.

The subject of our sketch was the eldest of nine children who completed the parental household. His early life was spent in Franklin County, Ind., where he was educated, and upon reaching manhood

was married to Miss Ruth Peterson, who was a native of that county. Her parents were reared and married in Philadelphia, Pa., whence they emigrated to Indiana after the birth of several children. They remained residents of Franklin County until their daughter, the wife of our subject, came to Illinois, when they accompanied her, spent their last days in Philo Township, and were buried at Linn Grove. Our subject and his wife were married in Indiana, and have become the parents of twelve children, four now deceased. The record is as follows: Catherine married Mead Bottsferd, a farmer of Crittenden Township, this county; Jane, the wife of Alex Welsh, lives on a farm in Ottawa County, Kan.; Anna is at home with her parents; Edith married John Copely, and lives in Ottawa County, Kan., where her husband is carrying on farming; Hattie is at home with her parents; Jerome married Miss Ella Brown, and is farming in Kansas; Franklin married Miss Fannie Toler, and with his brother, Wilbur, lives in Ottawa County, Kan.; Wilson was accidentally killed by the discharge of a gun in the hands of a cousin; Larion Roscoe was thrown from a wagon by a runaway team, and instantly killed; one infant died unnamed; Charles M. died of rheumatism when twelve years old. Our subject, with his wife and several of their children, is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. H. is a solid Republican, and a warm supporter of the principles of his party.

THOMAS LINDSEY. This honored pioneer of Champaign County and township, is the oldest settler now residing within its limits, and is accordingly held in more than ordinary respect as one who ventured upon the soil unturned by the plowshare and before the march of civilization had brought to this locality any of its conveniences or pleasures. He is a native of West Middletown, Washington Co., Pa., and was born July 8, 1820. His father, Thomas Lindsey, a native of the same county as his son, was born Jan. 13, 1791. The grandfather of our subject, also named Thomas Lindsey, who was born in Eastern Pennsylvania, in Lancaster County, it is believed was one of the earliest pioneers of Washington

County, where he purchased a tract of timbered land eleven miles from where West Middletown was subsequently located, cleared a farm and established a homestead, upon which he passed the remainder of his life. There with his excellent wife he reared a fine family, among whom was Thomas, Sr., the father of our subject. The latter in early youth learned the cabinet-maker's trade, which he followed nearly all his life. He became a resident of West Middletown during his declining years, and died there April 1, 1835.

Thomas Lindsey, Jr., attended school quite steadily until eighteen years of age and then, like his father before him, commenced to learn the trade of a cabinet-maker with his uncle, John Boyd, at West Middletown, where he served a thorough apprenticeship and worked at that and carpentering for several years. In the fall of 1841 he resolved to seek his fortunes in the great West. He came to this locality with limited means, most of the way on foot, and being twenty-two days on the road. He first stopped at Urbana, which at that time was but a hamlet, and Champaign had not even begun. He soon secured employment at his trade, remaining at Urbana during the winter. The following summer he spent at Mahomet, and in the fall of 1842, returning to Urbana, set up a shop and started in business for himself. He manufactured furniture in the winter, which his wife sold during the summer season while he worked out at his trade and as a carpenter and joiner. He was a natural mechanic and became the favorite builder of that time. He put up about thirty school-houses in Champaign County alone. As time passed on his business increased, his means also accumulating, and he added undertaking to his business. He carried this on for seven years, making coffins by hand. Many times he worked at the bench all night while his wife held the candle for him.

The success of the pioneers of those days, in many instances, was due in a large measure to the industry and good management of their wives. In his life companion Mr. Lindsey was peculiarly fortunate, having for his partner a true helpmeet and sympathizer, one who aided him by her counsel and sympathy as well as by her industry and

wise judgment. Mr. Lindsey, in 1862, found himself on the high road to a competency, and by his excellent personal worth had fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of his neighbors and acquaintances. He concluded that the most sensible way in which he could invest his savings would be in real estate, which could not be carried off to Canada by a defaulting cashier. He accordingly purchased a farm on section 24, in Champaign Township, to which he removed with his family, and while his sons managed the farm Mr. L. carried on business in town. He was thus occupied for several years until failing health compelled him to retire. He spent the winter of 1885-86 in Florida.

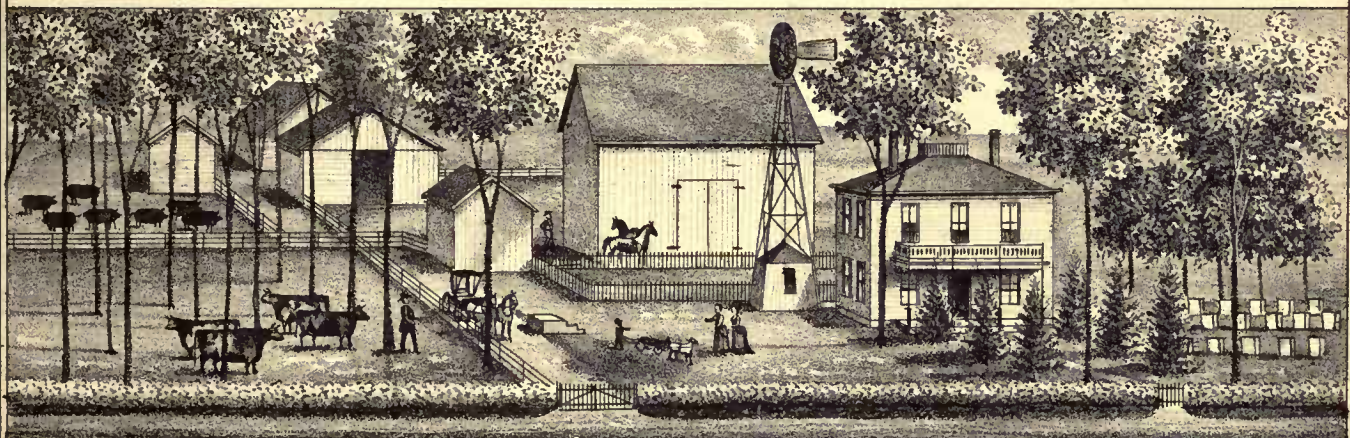
The maiden name of Mrs. Lindsey was Martha A. Bruer. She was born in Urbana, April 26, 1829, and was the daughter of Ashel and Martha (Day) Bruer, who came to this section of the country at an early day. Mr. B. was born in Mason County, Ky., whence he afterward removed to Bracken County, that State, and afterward to Illinois, locating three miles from the present site of Urbana. After the latter town was started he became one of its residents and put up the first hotel in the city, which he operated for many years. He died there in 1879, having arrived at the advanced age of nearly ninety years. The mother, who was born in Bracken County, Ky., also departed this life at Urbana in about 1875.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Lindsey there were born the following children: William is a resident of Humboldt, Kan.; Cornelia became the wife of W. S. McWilliams and lives in Ft. Scott, Kan.; James and Charles are residents of Urbana; Laura Belle married James Thornton, and lives at Yellow Springs, Ohio; George and Thomas E. occupy the homestead. This is one of the most beautiful farms in Champaign County, and gives evidence in all its appointments of cultivated tastes and ample means. The farm buildings and machinery are kept in good repair, the stock is well cared for, and the residence of the family is all that heart could wish.

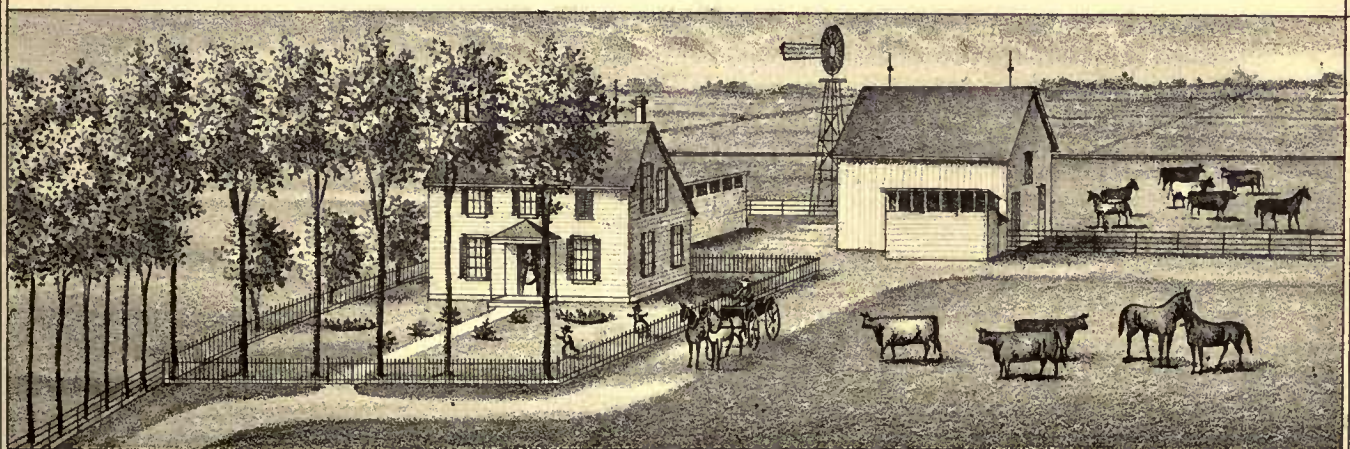
Politically Mr. Lindsey was an adherent of the Democratic party until after the breaking out of the war. Since that time he has cast his lot with



RESIDENCE OF C.E. WRIGHT, SEC. 21., NEWCOMB TOWNSHIP.



RES. OF JOHN A. OSBORNE, (BREEDER OF THOROUGH BRED POLAND CHINA SWINE), SEC. 6. (R. 10. E.), RANTOUL TOWNSHIP.



RES. OF JAMES W. VANSCHOYCK, SEC. 15., LUDLOW TOWNSHIP.

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the Republicans, and uniformly gives his influence and vote to the support of its principles. He is not connected with any religious organization but is a regular attendant of the Presbyterian Church.

The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Permelia Williams, and was born in Pennsylvania, March 1, 1789. She departed this life at her home in West Middletown, Pa, Nov. 24, 1835, when our subject was but a youth. His early education was conducted in the log school-house of the pioneer days with its puncheon floor and slabs for seats and writing-desks. The teacher was employed upon the subscription plan. The building and the course of instruction in those days were widely different from those of the present time, but the inconveniences and difficulties under which the children of the pioneers labored developed in them that hardy and self-dependent character which was the secret of their success in their later lives, and by which they made names for themselves which their children were glad to own. Socially Mr. Lindsey is a member of Urbana Lodge No. 139.



ANDREW D. RICKETTS, grain dealer and shipper of stock at Fisher, became a resident of the village in 1878, to which he removed from Ford County, this State. He is the son of John C. and Catherine (Duncan) Ricketts, the latter a sister of the Confederate General, Duncan, who commanded the forts at New Orleans during the siege of that city by the Union troops. The father was a native of Ohio, and the mother of Pennsylvania. After marriage they located in the Buckeye State, and Mrs. Ricketts died in Hancock County, in 1855. The father of our subject is still living, and a resident of Lincoln, Neb.

The parental household comprised five sons and one daughter, Andrew D. being the eldest. His birth took place in Hancock County, Ohio, Jan. 29, 1843, where he was reared and pursued his studies in the common school with the intention of entering college. This plan, however, was frustrated by the outbreak of the late war, the patriotism of

young Ricketts inducing him to lay aside his personal interests to assist in the preservation of the Union. He enlisted directly after the first call for troops in April, 1861, becoming a member of Co. F, 21st Ohio Vol. Inf., and serving with the three-months' men. At the expiration of that time, he re-enlisted in the same company and regiment, doing duty in the field until the fall of 1864.

During this time our subject participated in many of the important battles of the war, being present at the siege in front of Petersburg and Richmond, which, as is well known, engaged the troops for the summer of 1864, when they were constantly under fire. While many of his comrades were falling around him, however, our subject escaped unharmed, and at the expiration of his term of service, received his honorable discharge. Returning to Ohio he engaged in buying and shipping stock until the spring of 1873, when he came to McLean County, this State, and after residing at Saybrook one year, removed to a farm in Ford County, upon which he operated four years. Not quite satisfied, he then came to Fisher and engaged in his present business. His elevator here has a capacity of 15,000 bushels, and being in constant use is the source of a good revenue. Besides this property he also has 526 acres of finely improved land in Brown Township, much of it adjoining Fisher, and chiefly devoted to grain and pasturage.

Mr. Ricketts is always full of business, and when not engaged in his own affairs is looking about to do some good turn to a neighbor or his community. He and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mr. Ricketts being Superintendent of the Sunday-school, and working in many other ways for the good of the cause and the prosperity of the Church society. He is Republican in politics, and a member in good standing of the I. O. O. F., belonging to Fisher Lodge No. 704.

The marriage of our subject took place in the town of Findlay, Ohio, Sept. 3, 1867, when Miss Nancy J. Taylor, daughter of Thomas and Agnes (Haverfield) Taylor, became his wife. Mrs. Ricketts was born in Findlay, Ohio, Jan. 16, 1844. In due time there came to the household thus estab-

lished seven children, all living and bearing the following names: Charles K., Howard T., Gilbert, Dolly, John T., Clifton and Clara. The family residence is pleasantly located, and our subject and his wife are numbered among the first citizens of the village.

THOMAS MCCLINTOCK. This worthy citizen of Crittenden Township first opened his eyes to the light beyond the sea in County Fermanagh, Ireland, on the 4th of April, 1835. His parents were Alexander and Barbara (Wyley) McClintock, who had a family of five sons and three daughters. Of these our subject was the fourth, and the only one who left his native land to locate in the United States. He continued a resident of his native county until 1859, when he was twenty-four years of age, and then set sail from Liverpool, after a safe voyage landing in New York City in the early part of May. From there he proceeded to Center County, Pa., where he was employed as a laborer one year. Thence he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, remaining a resident of the Queen City until August, 1861, when he engaged to do the baking for R. B. Field, for a section of the Union army. He was similarly employed until after the war and into the spring of 1867, when he determined to remove further westward, and coming to this State located first in Will County, where he carried on farming one year, and then removed to Champaign County and settled where he now resides.

When our subject first took possession of the land which he now owns, it was in an uncultivated condition with no improvements. He has now 275 acres under the plow and productive of the choicest crops of the Prairie State. Of late years his land has been devoted mainly to grain and stock raising. He began as a land-holder in a modest way, at first purchasing but eighty acres, to which he added as time progressed and his means justified. His energy and industry have met with a just reward, and he has fully established himself in the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

Mr. McClintock was married, at Chicago, Ill., in

the spring of 1861, to Miss Mary Ann Frech, a native of Bavaria, Germany. Of this union there were born eleven children, one of whom died in infancy. Those living are, Mary Alice, Robert J., Alex W., Thomas H., John W., Alfred E., Barbara A., Charles P., Estella K. and Oscar E. It is hardly necessary to say that our subject is duly proud of his fine family, and that they are being trained to those habits of industry and principles of honor which have made their honored father successful in life, and placed him in a good position among his fellow-men.

Politically Mr. McClintock usually supports Republican principles, but will vote for a Democrat if he considers that he is the proper man for the office. He has served as Justice of the Peace and School Director three terms, and has also been School Trustee and Road Commissioner.

MARVIN READ, of Champaign Township, is a son of one of the earliest pioneers of this county, his father having emigrated to Illinois the year following its admission into the Union as a State. He is a native of Ontario County, N. Y., and was born in Phelps Township, April 28, 1817. His father, Joseph Read, was a native of North Adams, Berkshire Co., Mass., and his paternal grandfather, who served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, was one of the earliest pioneers of North Adams, where he spent the last years of his life, and died in 1838, at a good old age. His son Joseph, in early life, learned the trade of a saddler and harness-maker, and emigrated from Massachusetts to New York State in 1812. He first located in Canajoharie, Montgomery County, whence he removed two years later to Ontario County, of which he was one of the earliest settlers. This was before the days of canals or railroads, and the nearest market was miles away.

Joseph Read purchased a tract of timber land, a part of which he cleared and cultivated until 1819, then pushed on further westward into Illinois, making his first purchase of land in the Military Tract. He soon afterward set out to bring his family to

his new location, but was attacked with fever, died, and was buried among strangers. He left a widow with four children. The mother before her marriage was Miss Lorinda Eddy, also a native of North Adams, Mass. Her father removed to New York State in about 1820, and settled in Farmington, Ontario County, where he died in 1831. The mother of our subject kept her children together, although left without means of support. She was a woman of great industry and energy, and proved herself equal to the emergency, and with the assistance of her children, purchased a small tract of land in Ontario with a log house upon it, into which the family removed and which remained their home for ten years following. Here the mother died in 1834. The record of her four sons is as follows: Hulbert emigrated to Michigan and located in Lapeer County at an early period in its history, 1836; Carlos went to live with an uncle at Palatine Bridge, where he married and died, leaving two children; Henry removed from Michigan to Minnesota, and died there about 1865; our subject was the fourth.

Marvin Read, the youngest child of his parents, was but two years old when his father died. After his mother purchased her little tract of land, he assisted his brothers in clearing the farm, and remained with his mother until her death. He then started for the far West, via the Erie Canal to Buffalo, intending to go from there by the lakes to Michigan. On account of rough weather, however, the boat was obliged to put in at Ashtabula, Ohio, and young Read, with five others, started on foot for Michigan. After a long and roundabout journey, our subject reached Lapeer County, where he engaged in chopping wood. He saved what he could of his moderate earnings, and the following year purchased forty acres of land in the "oak openings," for which he paid \$1.25 per acre. In 1840 he received \$100 from his grandfather's estate, and with it entered eighty acres of land adjoining his first possessions.

Mr. Read's circumstances now seemed to justify him in thinking about the establishment of a future home and domestic ties, and accordingly, in 1842, he took unto himself a wife and helpmeet. The young couple settled in a frame "house" which

he had erected on his land, and with hope and courage began the battle of life together. In the summer season Mr. Read devoted his time to the improvement and cultivation of his land, and in the winter, with two yoke of oxen, worked in the timber region seven miles distant, going to the woods on Monday morning and returning Saturday night, the brave young wife in the meanwhile being left with but few neighbors in sight and very little opportunity to discuss "the fashions."

Our subject and his wife occupied their primitive home in Michigan until 1856. He had been prospered in his operations and had added to his first purchase until he became the owner of 224 acres of cultivated land, besides 115 acres of pine timber. In the year mentioned he sold his possessions in Michigan and started in the month of February with his wife and four children for Illinois. Their outfit consisted of a span of horses and a large sleigh with a double canvas covering in which, among other things, they placed a small stove. The journey, a distance of 500 miles, was completed in twelve days. Coming into Champaign Township, Mr. Read purchased forty acres of land, which is now included in the city limits, and commenced farming. Their residence was within the corporation, and they lived there about four years, then removed to their present homestead. Here Mr. Read has erected a shapely and substantial set of farm buildings, planted fruit and shade trees, and otherwise beautified his premises. He has 320 acres of valuable land, a part of which is devoted to pasture. He mostly raises grain and stock, the latter including graded Short-horn cattle.

The first wife of our subject, to whom he was married Jan. 31, 1842, was Miss Theodora Alverson, who was born in Warsaw, Wyoming Co., N. Y., in November, 1825. She was the daughter of Lewis and Finie Alverson, who removed from the Empire State to Michigan at an early day, settling in Washtenaw County. From there he moved in 1834, to Almont, Lapeer County, and engaged in mercantile pursuits. Detroit, fifty miles distant, was then the nearest market, to which the grain was hauled with ox-teams. Mrs. Theodora Read, after becoming the mother of six children, departed this life at the home of her husband in Champaign,

on the 14th of May, 1858. Two of their children died in childhood; Alfred lives in San Diego, Cal.; Caroline, who became the wife of S. K. Riker, and Emeline, Mrs. D. C. Hamilton, both live in Champaign Township.

On the 25th of February, 1861, Mr. Read was united in marriage with Mrs. Kate (Loper) Huff. This lady was born in Camden, N. J., in 1828, and is the daughter of David H. and Matilda (Huston) Loper, of New Jersey. She was first married to Charles M. Huff, of New Jersey, and they removed to Champaign County, this State, where Mr. Huff died. Of this union there were two children: Sallie H. married L. W. Ambrose, and lives in Galesburg, this State; Charles M. is a resident of Tolono Township. The two children of the present marriage of our subject are Josie and Addie F.

Mr. Read politically, is a staunch Republican, and cast his first presidential vote for Gen. Harrison in the days before the old Whig was abandoned by the organization of the Republican party. Mr. and Mrs. Read are both members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which our subject became connected while he lived in Michigan. In this he has held the offices of Trustee and Steward, and has contributed liberally and cheerfully to the support of the Gospel for many years.



SAMUEL WILLS, who is located on section 20, Newcomb Township, came to Champaign County from McHenry County, Ill., in 1870. He first located in Colfax Township, whence in the spring of 1876 he removed to the farm where he now resides. This includes 370 acres of good land, all of which is under cultivation, and improved with suitable farm buildings. He is engaged in mixed husbandry, and raises and handles considerable stock.

Mr. Wills was born in Devonshire, England, May 21, 1836, and is the son of John and Nancy (Partridge) Wills, also natives of the same shire; they were farmers by occupation. Our subject emigrated to America July 15, 1866, and stopped with his brother at Chicago for a while, thence go-

ing to McHenry County. He has all his life been engaged in farming pursuits. He was married in England, June 10, 1866, to Miss Sarah A. Austin, the daughter of James and Drusella Austin, and a native of his own country. Since becoming a naturalized citizen Mr. Wills has uniformly voted with the Republican party. While residing in their native land he and his wife became members of the Presbyterian Church.



HENRY FISHER, an extensive farmer of Tolono Township, is the owner of 320 acres of finely cultivated land on section 15. Of this he came into possession on the 1st of May, 1870, and since that time has been industriously engaged in beautifying and improving his property. The land is thoroughly drained with tile, and produces in abundance the choicest crops of the Prairie State. His residence and other farm buildings are of first-class description, and the homestead in all its appointments presents one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of this section.

Mr. Fisher was born in Clark County, Ind., Oct. 10, 1831, and is the son of Frederick and Sarah (Fouts) Fisher, natives of Indiana. In 1832, Frederick Fisher with his family came to Illinois and settled on a farm in Fulton County, where he died on the 5th of July, 1876. The mother survived until February, 1887. Our subject was the fourth of the twelve children comprising the parental household. He received a good common-school education, and was reared to farming pursuits. When twenty-two years of age he purchased a tract of land in Fulton County, which he cultivated industriously until his marriage in 1859, and in the meantime had laid the foundations for a good home and a competency. The lady of his choice was Miss Naomi E. Shields, a native of Fulton County, Ill., and the daughter of Andrew J. and Margaret (Reed) Shields. Mr. Fisher continued on his farm, which consisted of 200 acres, until 1868, then removed to Canton, in Fulton County, and in company with his brother David, engaged in the livery business. The year following they sold

out and David came to Champaign County. He was greatly pleased with the prospects in this region, and persuaded our subject to move here also. The latter then purchased the land which he now owns and occupies. He has brought about vast improvements since taking possession of it, as it had then been practically untilled.

Mr. and Mrs. Fisher have become the parents of ten children—Elmer, Minnie, Walter, John, Elsie, Zell, Naomi, Grace, Scott and Claude. Our subject takes an intelligent interest in State and National affairs, and casts his vote in support of Republican principles. He has never desired office, as his private business engages all his time and attention. He was for many years a member of the Christian Church, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity, Tolono Lodge No. 321.



JOHAN W. DAY. One day in 1870 there started out on foot from McLean County, Ill., a traveler with a limited amount of money, seeking a location and the best land to be obtained for the cash which he had in hand. After coming into East Bend, this county, he found 160 acres of unimproved prairie, within his means, which he at once contracted for, and which is now included in his present homestead. The land is now enclosed with neat fences, thoroughly drained with tile, supplied with a shapely and convenient set of frame buildings, and in all respects illustrates the enterprise and industry of its proprietor.

Mr. Day was born near Green Pond, N. J., March 5, 1824. This was also the birthplace of his father, Cornelius Day. His grandfather, Thomas Day, was a native of France, whence he emigrated to America in the Colonial days, and served as a soldier on the side of the Colonies in the Revolutionary War. After being mustered out he located in New Jersey, where his family was reared and where he passed the remainder of his days. His son, Cornelius, remained a resident of his native State until reaching manhood, and was married to Miss Nancy Wetherholt, of New Jersey. She was the daughter of John Wetherholt, who was born in

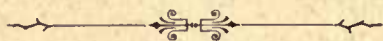
Germany, came with his parents to America when eleven years old, and afterward fought in the War of the Revolution, and in the interests of the Colonies. After the close of this struggle, he lived in New Jersey until about 1830, then removed to Ohio, locating at Galena, eleven miles from Columbus, and was there drowned in Elm Creek, when eighty-two years of age. He received a pension from the Government during the last years of his life.

The parents of our subject, in 1828, removed to Ohio and located in Franklin County, twelve miles east of Columbus. The father rented a tract of land which he cultivated the remainder of his life, and in 1862 died at the home of his son, our subject. The mother survived her husband seven years, dying in 1869. John W. was a lad of not quite five years old when his parents became residents of the young and rapidly growing Buckeye State. The opportunities for an education, however, in his vicinity were extremely limited and he was obliged to go three miles to pursue his studies. As soon as old enough he commenced to assist his parents on the farm. During the winter season when not in the harvest field, he chopped wood and split rails, receiving for the former twenty-five cents per cord, and for the latter fifty cents a hundred. He worked by the day and month until 1861, and became famous as a cradler of grain, cutting down one year eighty-five acres of wheat. When in his prime six acres was an average day's work. At the date mentioned he had saved quite a little sum of money and with it purchased twenty-one acres of good land five miles from Columbus, Ohio. From this he cleared the timber, put up a house and barn, and remained there four years. In 1865 he came into Cumberland County, this State, and purchased 160 acres of heavy timbered land which, however, he never settled upon, but rented land in Woodford and McLean Counties until he had accumulated enough means to buy something more suited to his business. In 1870 the time came when his hopes were realized.

Mr. Day was married in Ohio, Oct. 5, 1861, to Miss Emma Houck, a native of Fairfield County, that State, and born Feb. 22, 1836. Her father, Solomon Houck, was of German ancestry and par-

centage. He was a native of Pennsylvania, where he was married, and soon afterward removed to Ohio, locating in Fairfield County, where he remained until 1839. He then started with his family overland for Illinois, and arrived upon the present site of Metamora, Woodford County. His family, however, was soon prostrated with fever and ague, and becoming dissatisfied they retraced their steps to their old home in Ohio, where the father died soon after his return. The mother of Mrs. J. was formerly Miss Sarah Gawthrouph, who was born Nov. 14, 1783, in Maryland. After the death of her husband she made her home with her daughter, the wife of our subject, and died in McLean County, this State, on the 8th of February, 1873. She was a most excellent and worthy lady, born of English parents, and was left an orphan when ten years of age. After her marriage she became, with her husband, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Day received a good education in her youth, and when eighteen years old commenced teaching, which she followed quite steadily until her marriage.

The children of our subject and his wife, four in number, are, Pearl W., Dwight, Ella M. and Harry. The eldest son, Pearl, lost his bearing from sickness when four years old. Two years later he entered the Jacksonville Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, where he graduated in June, 1884, and afterward attended Kendall Green College, at Washington, D. C. Mr. John W. Day is a Republican in politics, and both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



ABRAHAM P. MEHARRY, of Crittenden Township, is one of the well-known residents and land-owners who have assisted materially in advancing the agricultural and industrial interests of this section. He came to this county in 1865, and took possession of the land which his father had given him, comprising an entire section, and upon which he now resides. This excellent parent at the same time presented his son with \$2,000 in cash, so that he began life

with abundant means, and to his credit it may be said he has taken good care of what was given him.

Our subject was born in Montgomery County, Ind., Feb. 16, 1842, and is the son of Thomas and Unity (Patton) Meharry (see sketch of Jesse Meharry), from whom he received careful training and a good common-school education. He remained a member of the parental household until twenty-three years of age, at which time he came to this county, as we have stated. Soon afterward he formed a partnership with his brother Jesse, and they engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1879, extensively and successfully. After dissolving partnership with his brother our subject took unto himself another partner, namely, Miss Martha J. McMillin, of Tippecanoe County, Ind., to whom he was married on the 3d of June of that same year. Mrs. M. was born Nov. 23, 1846, and is the daughter of John K. and Sarah E. (Stafford) McMillin, the former of whom is a prominent farmer of Tippecanoe County, Ind., and is widely known throughout that section as an extensive stock-raiser and shipper. The wife and mother departed this life in 1885, at the home of our subject while on a visit. Mrs. Meharry received an academic education, and resided in her native county until her marriage.

After this event Mr. and Mrs. M. took up their location on their present farm, which has been greatly improved since that time. The land has been thoroughly drained with tile and supplied with good buildings. Their first dwelling will soon be abandoned by the removal of the family into the fine residence which is now being erected and which will bear comparison with anything of the kind in this part of Champaign County. Besides the home farm Mr. M. afterward purchased 100 acres on section 7. His land is mostly devoted to stock-raising, which he has followed the principal part of the time since taking possession of it. His cattle are of the Polled-Angus breed, and he exhibits some of the finest specimens of the kind along the Mississippi Valley.

Our subject and wife became the parents of two children, one of whom died in infancy; the other, a son, Charles, was born March 11, 1885. Mr. M., politically, is a warm supporter of Republican prin-

ciples, but has steadily declined to become an office-seeker, having all he can possibly attend to in the management of his extensive farming interests. He is a valued member of the Methodist Church, and takes a genuine interest in the advancement of his community, religiously, morally and intellectually.



MRS. LUCY M. NELSON. This lady is well known among the intelligent residents of Condit and highly respected by all. She comes of an excellent New England family and was born in Guilford, Windham Co., Vt., March 5, 1826. Her father, Arad W. Lynde, was a native of the same town, and the son of Lemuel Lynde, a highly respected farmer whose land lay near the town limits. He was reared to farming pursuits, and when a young man also learned the blacksmith's trade in Guilford Village. Subsequently he built a shop on his father's homestead, and carried on the business there until his death, which took place in May, 1827. His wife, the mother of Mrs. N., before her marriage was Miss Mary Bolster, also a native of Guilford. When her husband died she was left with three children. She purchased a lot in Green River Village, upon which she built a house and there spent the remainder of her life.

Lucy M. Nelson, of our sketch, remained with her mother until her marriage in January, 1844, to Myron E. Nelson. Mr. N. was a native of Colerain, Franklin Co., Mass., and born Dec. 20, 1821. His parents were Obed and Elizabeth (Sturtevant) Nelson, who owned and occupied a farm in Colerain, and with whom he resided until his marriage. He received a good education and engaged in teaching in Massachusetts and Vermont, and for a brief time in Cook County, Ill., after coming to the West.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Nelson settled on a farm of Mr. N. was part owner, in Colerain Township, Mass. After two years they removed to Green River, where they kept a hotel for a brief season and then removed to Colerain. In 1856 they started westward, and coming to this State lo-

cated first in Cook County, where Mr. Nelson was engaged four years at farming, and the following four years kept a boarding-house six miles west of the County Court-House. In 1864 they removed to this county. Mr. N. had previously visited this locality and purchased 160 acres of railroad land in Condit Township. This had never been broken, and upon removing to this place he rented a farm, upon which he raised crops of broom corn for two years. In the meantime he worked upon his wild land as he had opportunity. He put up a house upon this in 1866, into which he removed with his family, and for a number of years was industriously engaged in the improvement of his new farm. He erected a good set of frame buildings, planted fruit and shade trees, and established a permanent and pleasant home, where his death took place Dec. 29, 1884.

The children of this household who now survive, four in number, are Myron E., Ahi S., Charles C. and Benjamin F. The only daughter, May Elizabeth, died when one year and seven months old. Mr. Nelson was a good citizen in the broadest sense of the term, and took a genuine interest in the welfare and advancement of his community. He was a warm supporter of Republican principles and greatly respected by his fellow-townsmen.



BL. TABLER, a successful lumber dealer of Philo Village, is one of its most energetic business men and a representative citizen of Champaign County. He became a resident of this locality in 1868, and passed his first three years as clerk in a general store. Early in life he displayed good judgment and business capacity, and saw the propriety of establishing a lumber-yard at Philo, by which he could supply the surrounding community with building material, which would be a convenience not only to his fellow-citizens, but a benefit to himself financially. Accordingly, in 1871, he began business in a modest way, meeting with success from the start, and finally building up a profitable trade.

Mr. Tabler is a native of Martinsburg, W. Va., and was born May 15, 1849. He descended from

excellent German ancestry, and the family history in this country dates back to about the beginning of the present century. His father, Christian Tabler, was born and reared in Baltimore, Md., where he met Miss Sarah R. Lyeth, who became his wife in 1848. The mother of our subject was born and reared in Maryland. Her parents were also of American birth but of Scottish ancestry. They remained in Maryland some time after their marriage, then removed to Martinsburg, W. Va., where their only child, our subject, was born. The father died six years later, in 1854. The mother was left with small means, but she possessed a brave and courageous spirit, and set about maintaining herself and her boy, at the same time training him to habits of industry and principles of honor. He grew to manhood with a strong affection for this, his best friend, and became her comfort and support in her declining years. Late in life she rejoined him in the Prairie State, and died at his home in Philo, Aug. 2, 1885.

Mr. Tabler began in early life to lay his plans for the future, and applied himself diligently to whatever he undertook. By his own efforts he secured a practical knowledge of business matters, becoming his own book-keeper and gaining a good insight into business methods. After having been established two years at Philo he returned to his old home in West Virginia, and was there married to Miss Mary H. Rankin, on the 7th of June, 1870. Mrs. T. was born in Stanton, W. Va., in 1852, and yielded up her life at the birth of her first child, Feb. 14, 1873, at Martinsburg in her native State. The loss of this excellent lady, an affectionate wife, was a sore bereavement to our subject, and he was further afflicted in the death of his little child, six months later. On the 26th of August, 1875, he was again married, to Miss Belle L. Campbell, a native of Coshocton County, Ohio, born in 1848, and the accomplished daughter of Patrick and Rachel (Mitchel) Campbell. This lady was orphaned at an early age and afterward received into the home of her uncle in Ohio. She pursued her first studies in the common schools and subsequently took a course in the college at West Lebanon, Ohio. She came to Illinois before her marriage with some of her relatives, locating

with them in Sydney Township. She has become the mother of four children, of whom two died in infancy. Those living are Clyde L. and Virginia C.

Mr. and Mrs. Tabler are members in good standing of the Episcopal Church, and our subject, politically, affiliates with the Democratic party. He has served his township as Supervisor for several terms, and has held other local offices within the gift of his fellow-citizens.



PHILLIP McLENNAN. Among the quiet, unobtrusive workers and the law-abiding citizens of Pesotum Township, the subject of this sketch is spoken of with the respect due his course of conduct in looking after the affairs of his homestead and providing for the wants of his family. He owned a snug farm of 130 acres in McLean County until 1882, and then on account of failing health sold out and moved into the town of Pesotum, this county, where he put up a good residence and provided the other conveniences of a modern home, which he now enjoys with his family. He is not at present engaged in any business, his labors in earlier life having enabled him to put by a snug sum for a rainy day.

Our subject is a native of the Dominion of Canada, and was born near Montreal, June 11, 1848. He is the sixth child of Alexander and Jane (Bicket) McLennan, natives of Scotland, who came to the Western Continent with their parents during their early childhood. Alexander McLennan, who had been bred to farming pursuits, owned about 100 acres of land near Montreal, whose cultivation he superintended and where he passed the later years of his life. He was a man who attended strictly to his own concerns, and while keeping himself well posted upon Governmental affairs, never participated in any of the agitations which periodically attack the Dominion.

Our subject remained under the parental roof until eighteen years of age, and coming to the States located first at Danville, Ill., where he worked as a carpenter about three years, and thence removed to Bloomfield, where he engaged in farming. After two years thus occupied in Edgar County he

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J. B. Kulick

came to Champaign County, began the establishment of a home, and placed at the head of his domestic affairs the young wife, whose maiden name was Miss Sarah Huggins, the daughter of Washington and Saphronia (Johnson) Huggins, formerly of Ohio. Into the household thus formed there came in due time seven children, one of whom died in infancy unnamed. The others were—James Edwin, Frank, Alexander, Jessie, George and Fred.

Mr. McLennan has usually voted independently of party, but is strongly inclined to Republican principles, and now gives his support to the party representing these. He has mingled but little in public affairs, preferring the retirement of his home, and expects after two or three years of life in town to return to the farm, and in the employments and enjoyments of rural life to probably spend the remainder of his days.



JESSE R. GULICK, a resident of Newcomb Township, and the son of Joseph and Eliza (Hilleary) Gulick, is a native of Pickaway County, Ohio, and was born Dec. 8, 1840. His father was a native of Virginia and his mother of Ohio. They settled in Pickaway County, the latter State, soon after marriage, whence they removed to Champaign County, Ill., in 1858. The elder Gulick was a farmer by occupation. After coming into this county they first located in Condit Township, whence in 1860 they removed to Piatt County, this State, of which they remained residents for seven years following. In the fall of 1867 they removed to Jasper County, Mo., where they still reside.

The parental household included twelve children, six sons and six daughters, of whom Jesse R. of our sketch was the second of the family. He came to Champaign County with his parents and remained with them until twenty-one years old. He had for three years, however, been engaged in teaching during the winter season. In the fall of 1862 he entered Asbury University, at Greencastle, Ind., where he remained for three years, in the meantime furnishing by his own labors the money necessary for his expenses. This course, however,

had a serious effect upon his health and he was obliged to abandon his studies before graduating.

Returning to Piatt County, our subject worked on the farm in the summer and taught school in the winter. His tastes, however, inclined to the legal profession, and in the summer of 1866 he entered the law office of Coler & Smith, under whose instruction he pursued his studies for one year. He was admitted to the bar in 1867, and at once opened an office in the city of Champaign, where he followed his profession for two years, and thence removed to Vandalia, Ill. He built up a good practice in the latter place, but in 1872, on account of failing health, was obliged to abandon it. He was School Commissioner *pro tem* for about three months, and was also tendered the office of Prosecuting Attorney, which he declined. He once more resumed briefly his farm life, returning to his profession when able, in the meantime varying its duties by dealing in live stock until the spring of 1875. He then returned to Champaign, and followed his profession until 1878, when he virtually abandoned the practice of law and took possession of his present farm in Newcomb Township, which he has since occupied. This comprises 630 acres, most of which is tillable, and upon which he has erected a fine modern dwelling, with all the other accessories of a first-class farm estate. He has been remarkably successful in his farming and business operations, and ranks among the representative citizens of the township, who began life in a modest way, and have by their own efforts attained to a good position, both socially and financially.

Mr. Gulick was married in the city of Champaign, Dec. 17, 1867, to Miss Louisa L. Everett, a native of Newcomb Township, born Dec. 4, 1848. She is the daughter of Joseph T. and Jemima (Piper) Everett, who were natives of Lewis County, Ky., and a sketch of whom appears in the biography of David L. Yancy, elsewhere in this volume. Our subject and his wife became the parents of seven children—Edward E., Joseph P., Roscoe E., Clyde D., Maggie G., an infant deceased, and Wilber L. While living in Mahomet Mr. Gulick served as Police Magistrate, and he has been School Director in Newcomb Township. Socially he belongs to the I. O. O. F. Mr. and

Mrs. G. are both members of the Baptist Church.

While Mr. Gulick has always been a staunch Democrat, and has contributed in a large measure to the success of the party in the county, yet he has never sought office for himself but has preferred to assist his friends in their ambition for party or political honors, and he numbers among his friends many of the prominent men of both the dominant parties in the county, as well as in his old home at Vandalia and other counties in this section of the State. As a lawyer during his practice he brought to bear on the duties of his profession a mind well trained in that most difficult and exacting of all professions. He was a pleasing and graceful speaker, and a strong and vigorous thinker, and his pleadings and legal papers were prepared with that degree of accuracy and legal acumen which characterizes the well-informed lawyer.

Mr. Gulick is a gentleman of large stature, good appearance and pleasing address, and it is with pleasure that we present to our numerous readers his portrait, together with a view of his handsome and elegant country home.



JAMES P. MITCHELL became a resident of Raymond Township in 1877, although his first entrance into the Prairie State was made fifteen years before. He first located in Sidney Township, this county, where he farmed on eighty acres, but afterward disposed of this property to take possession of his present homestead in Raymond Township, on section 3. Mr. Mitchell was born in Parke County, Ind., Oct. 14, 1830. His parents, James and Nancy (Burton) Mitchell, were both natives of Virginia, as was also his paternal grandfather, William Mitchell, who served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War and afterward drew a pension. After retiring from the army he engaged in farming and lived to the advanced age of ninety-eight years. His wife, the grandmother of our subject, was ninety-one years old at the time of her death. They removed from the Old Dominion to Indiana and reared a family of eleven children. Both died in Parke County, Ind.

James, the father of our subject, was the young-

est child, and was married in Kentucky, where his four oldest children were born. After crossing the line into Indiana he settled on the Wabash River when there was scarcely a white man to be seen in that part of the State. He was compelled, however, to leave this locality on account of sickness, whence he removed to Parke County, and from there in 1833, to Woodford County, Ill. He was also one of the early pioneers of that locality, and opened up a farm from the uncultivated soil, upon which he remained until his advanced age rendered labor no longer practicable. He finally removed with his wife into the village of Eureka, where he died at the age of seventy-four years, and the mother two years later, aged seventy-seven. Of their ten children, two died in childhood. The remaining eight lived to attain their majority, and the record is as follows: William and Josephus are farming in Woodford County; Elizabeth married John E. Craton, and is now deceased; Frederick is engaged in the hardware trade at Chicago, Ill.; John is deceased; James P. is our subject; Mary Ann became the wife of William S. Bullock, a successful stock-raiser of Woodford County; Eliza, who was married to John Foster of Woodford, is now deceased.

Our subject was but three years old when his father's family came to Illinois. He grew to manhood on the farm in Woodford County, and remained a member of the parental household until 1855, when he set out to farm for himself and was fairly successful in his business and agricultural operations. The present fine residence which he occupies with his family was erected in 1880. It is a shapely and commodious two-story structure and the only brick residence in the township. The premises on all sides indicate the enterprise and industry of the proprietor, who has done good service in building up a valuable homestead and advancing the agricultural interests of his township.

The marriage of James P. Mitchell and Miss Alice McElroy took place in 1881. Mrs. Mitchell was born near Marietta, Ohio, and is the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Franklin) McElroy. Of this union there have been born four children, of whom two, twins, died in September, 1886. Those surviving are Henry W. and Mary A. Our subject, politically, is a decided Democrat, but in local mat-

ters supports the candidate whom he thinks best qualified for office. He has been quite contented to remain as a private citizen, with no desire for official honors. He joined the Christian Church when sixteen years of age, and has remained faithful to its doctrines since that time.



GEORGE STUART, a native of Saratoga County, N. Y., whose birth occurred on the 28th of June, 1817, became a resident of Champaign, this county, in the spring of 1865. He is comfortably located on section 4, where he owns eighty acres of good land which lies on a pleasant ridge overlooking a large stretch of country. The father of our subject, Nathaniel Stuart, was a native of Danbury, Conn., born in December, 1786. When three years of age, his father removed with the family to Saratoga County, N. Y.

The grandfather of our subject, Joseph Stuart, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. At the close of this struggle and after the removal to New York State, Nathaniel was reared upon a farm in Saratoga County. Upon reaching manhood he was married to Miss Keziah Toby, who was born in Saratoga County in May, 1795. After marriage they located upon a small farm, but Mr. Stuart being afflicted with asthma, was able to do but little manual labor. He was not idle, however, but served as Deputy Sheriff of the county and also as Assessor and Tax Collector. They remained in Saratoga County until 1836, then removed to Union County, Ohio, where they took possession of a farm and where the mother died on the 21st of August, 1859.

The parental household included twelve children, eleven of whom survived the mother. Of these the record is as follows: Ephraim is a retired farmer of Mechanicsburg, Ohio; Eliza A., Mrs. Green, resides in Union County, that State; Isaac is carrying on the business of a woolen factory in Carthage, Ind.; Orlando died in Marysville, Ohio, in 1881; Lucinda became the wife of Nathaniel Raymond, of this county; she had formerly been married to Dr. Crew, of Logan County, Ohio. George, of our sketch; Melissa, deceased, was the

first wife of Nathaniel Raymond; Adeline, Mrs. Monroe, is a resident of Allen County, Ohio; Jane, Mrs. Wilkins, resides in Union County, Ohio, and her son, Beriah Wilkins, is a Member of Congress from Zanesville district, Ohio; Mary, Mrs. Henderson, and Joseph, are living in Olathe, Kan.

After the death of his wife, Mr. Stuart, with the exception of two years, during which time he visited among his children in Illinois, continued to reside in Ohio until his death, which occurred on the 12th of October, 1872. He was a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, and took a lively interest in State and National affairs. He was also a consistent member of the Christian Church, and although not wealthy, accumulated a fair amount of this world's goods.

George Stuart, of our sketch, passed his childhood and youth on the homestead in his native county, and was educated in the common schools of that day. He removed with the family to Ohio in 1836, and seven years later, on the 6th of April, 1843, was married to Miss Frances Fisher, a native of Ross County, Ohio. After becoming the mother of two children, Mrs. Stuart departed this life on the 10th of October, 1853. Her eldest son, Ephraim, died in Texas, April 11, 1887. William is a resident of Corsicana, that State.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Jan. 17, 1855, was formerly Miss Mary A. Vail, a native of Coshocton County, Ohio, and born Sept. 8, 1832. Her parents were Isaac and Julia (Richards) Vail, the former a native of Richland County, Ohio, and the latter of Lancaster County, Pa. Mr. Stuart gave his entire attention to agricultural pursuits until 1859, then engaged in general merchandising in Newton, Ohio, which he carried on in connection with farming until 1864. The year following he came to this State, locating first in Vermilion County, whence after a residence of one year, he removed to Champaign City, and was there occupied as a merchant until 1870. In that year he purchased the homestead which he has since occupied.

Of the three children of Mr. and Mrs. Stuart, one daughter, Grace, died at the age of two years. Those surviving are, Fannie, a teacher in Champaign, and Frank, a real-estate and loan agent in

Kansas. Mr. Stuart is Democratic in politics, and has held various offices in the township. He became connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1856, of which he has since been an active and consistent member.



PHILLIP SHAFFER, in the fall of 1868, became a resident of Newcomb Township, this county, starting out in a modest manner and working thereafter faithfully and industriously until he acquired possession of his present farm, which is now unincumbered, provided with good buildings, and under a fine state of cultivation. His family consists of his wife and six children, the latter constituting a bright and interesting group, who are being well reared and receiving the benefits of the admirably conducted free school system.

Our subject is a native of Knox County, Ohio, and the tenth of eleven children born to his parents, Valentine and Nancy (Taylor) Shaffer, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and West Virginia. The mother was of German and Irish ancestry, and after marriage Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer located in Knox County, Ohio, where they spent the greater part of their lives. In 1872 they disposed of their property in the Buckeye State, and came West to live among their children. The father died at the home of his son Paul in Condit Township in 1880. The mother still survives, making her home with her children.

The parental household included seven sons and four daughters. Phillip, of our sketch, attended school only until he was about thirteen years of age, and then began assisting his father and brothers on the farm, remaining there until he was nineteen years old, when, starting out for himself he worked by the month in Knox County, Ohio, a year afterward, and in the fall of 1868, commenced working in Newcomb Township, this county, being thus employed three years. He lived economically and saved his earnings, and at the expiration of this time got together the necessary implements and commenced farming on rented land. Two years

later he purchased fifty-seven and one-half acres on section 24, in Newcomb Township, which is included in his present homestead; it now comprises 120 acres.

In January, 1873, Mr. Shaffer was united in marriage with Miss Irene Fisher, at the home of the bride's parents in Mahomet. Mrs. S. is the daughter of Jonathan and Ziphora Fisher, and was born in Condit Township, Dec. 12, 1851. Their union resulted in the birth of seven children, of whom one died in infancy. Those surviving are Alberta B., Cora E., Elza J., Lillie G., Maude and Bessie M. Mr. Shaffer from a humble position in life, by his honest industry and moral worth, has arisen to a worthy place among his fellow-citizens, who regard him with confidence and esteem. In the spring of 1880 he was elected Supervisor of Newcomb Township, which office he held until the spring of 1887. He holds strong views upon the temperance question, being a decided Prohibitionist, and gives his support to Democratic principles. Both Mr. and Mrs. S. are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



HENRY W. STEPHENSON, one of the most enterprising young farmers of Hensley Township, is pleasantly located on a good farm on section 15. He belongs to a family well and favorably known in this section, being the son of Leonidas and Nancy Stephenson, of whom a sketch is given elsewhere in this work. Our subject was born in Center Township, Boone Co., Ind., Oct. 4, 1844, and commenced his education in the subscription schools of his native township. He afterward attended the free schools, and being a bright, ambitious boy, acquired a good fund of useful information. He remained under the parental roof until after the removal of the family to this State.

Our subject's marriage occurred in Indiana on the same day they started for Illinois. He first located in Logan County, purchasing a tract of land near that of his father, in East Lincoln Township. This was unimproved, but he was the son of a pioneer, and knew just what steps to take in opening

up a farm. He operated there successfully a few years, and became quite a speculator in land, buying and selling at different times until 1878. In the spring of that year he took possession of his present farm. This is under a good state of cultivation, and supplied with all necessary farm buildings and machinery. Mr. Stephenson possesses in a marked degree the industry and system which have always characterized the transactions of his father, and is on the road to prosperity.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married in February, 1865, was formerly Miss Cynthia Abbott, who was born in Clinton County, Ind., and is the daughter of Joseph and Annie (Dunn) Abbott. Their four children are, Albert, Annie, Leonidas and George W. The homestead is pleasantly located, and presents a picture of peaceful country life never found within the confines of the crowded metropolis, or in a community lacking in thrift and intelligence.

HORACE HAZEN, the proprietor of 260 acres of choice land in Newcomb Township, became a resident of this county in February, 1876, and took possession of a part of his present homestead. His birth occurred in the Green Mountain State, July 13, 1823, where he was reared on a farm and obtained a common-school education. He remained a resident of his native State until 1853, then emigrated to Ohio, and shortly afterward to Woodford County, Ill., where he lived until becoming a resident of this county. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, which he has followed all his life, and in which he has been uniformly successful.

The marriage of Mr. Hazen took place in Stowe, Vt., on the 2d of June, 1847, Miss Sarah A. Kellogg becoming his wife. The parents of Mrs. H. were Warner and Jennie (Gregg) Kellogg, also natives of Vermont. Of this union there were born eight children: Alma and Ellen M. died when quite young; George K. married Miss Emma Ellis, and resides in Fisher, Ill.; Fred married Miss Lelia Bonner, and is a resident of Newcomb Township; Pearl married Miss Addie Jayne, and lives in

Brown Township; Mark married Miss Cora Funston, and is farming in Newcomb Township; Dan is a resident of Woodford, Ill., and Ed resides at home. Mr. Hazen, politically, uniformly supports the principles of the Republican party.

MILTON J. FRAME. This gentleman, one of the successful farmers of Hensley Township and also a skilled mechanic, is pleasantly located on section 22. Here he has a snug homestead, with 160 acres of land under a good state of cultivation, and a convenient set of frame buildings. He has been a resident of this township since 1876, and is regarded as one of the important factors of the agricultural interests in this locality.

Our subject is a native of Montgomery County, Ind., born April 30, 1829. His father, William Frame, of Kentucky, grew to manhood in the Blue Grass State, where he was married. Thence he removed to Indiana and was one of the earliest pioneers of Montgomery County. He purchased a tract of heavy timber land, in the midst of which was a log cabin, into which he removed with his family. He cleared a part of the land and in due time erected a brick dwelling which remained his home until his death. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Susan Davis, of Virginia. The fourteen children of the parental household all grew to mature years. Of these our subject was the youngest and was but seven years old when his father died. After the death of her husband the mother kept the family together until they were old enough to start out in life for themselves. Her death occurred in Des Moines County, Iowa, in about 1862. Milton J. Frame lived with his mother until he was twenty-two years old, then started West to seek his fortune. He went to Iowa, locating in Kossuth, Des Moines County, and there carried on farming, together with blacksmithing and wagon-making, until the outbreak of the late war. In December, 1863, he enlisted in Co. K, 14th Iowa Vol. Inf., and served until the close. He was present at the battles of Pleasant Hill, Old Oaks, Mentotock, Miss., and participated in various

minor engagements and skirmishes. He escaped wounds and imprisonment, and in August, 1865, received his honorable discharge. He returned to Kossuth, Iowa, and resumed his trade until 1876, when he sold out, and coming into this county, purchased the farm in Hensley Township which he now owns and occupies.

The marriage of Milton J. Frame and Miss Maria Allen took place in Indiana in 1852. Mrs. F. was born in Fleming County, Ky., and is the daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Sullivan) Allen (see sketch of Joseph Allen). Of the seven children born to them, six are now living: Mary, Mrs. Seeds, and Elizabeth, Mrs. Bandy, live in Des Moines County, Iowa; Susan, Mrs. Rogers, is a resident of Butler County, Kan.; William, Robert and Mattie are at home; Julia became the wife of Charles Wright, and died in Hensley Township, Nov. 14, 1884, aged twenty-two years.

Politically Mr. Frame is a warm supporter of the Republican party. He is a gentleman of more than ordinary ability and keeps himself well posted upon the current events of the day. His opinions are those of a man decided in his views and whose counsels it will be usually safe to follow. He has been successful in his business and farming operations and both as a business man and a citizen is held in the highest esteem by all who know him.

JOHAN G. CAMPBELL, who is Postmaster of Dewey, is one of the oldest settlers of East Bend Township, of which he became a resident in 1857, and locating upon a tract of wild prairie land, commenced its improvement and cultivation, having in view from the first the establishment of a permanent home. In due time his labors met with their just reward and he occupied the farm thus opened up for a period of twenty years. He then practically retired from active labor and made his home with his oldest son three years. In 1885 he took up his abode in Dewey, where he has since lived, being appointed Postmaster in the fall of that year.

Mr. Campbell was born in Cumberland County,

Pa., April 1, 1818. His father, James Campbell, was a native of the same county, and his grandfather, who was born in the North of Ireland, was a descendant of Scottish ancestry. The first representative of the family came to this country and located in Cumberland County, Pa., where he followed farming and spent the remainder of his days. Upon this farm James Campbell was born and reared, seven miles from the town of Carlisle. After reaching manhood he was married to Miss Elizabeth French, a native of the same county as her husband, where they remained until 1827. They then determined to remove to Indiana, and started with a four-horse team for Pittsburgh, Pa., where they embarked on a river steamer said to be the first of the kind that ever ploughed the Ohio. They located in Switzerland County, Ind., among the earliest settlers, and the elder Campbell rented land the first year. The next spring he purchased a farm in Cotton Township, the same county, in the cultivation and improvement of which he was engaged until his death, in 1862. The wife and mother departed this life two years later.

Of their thirteen children, eleven grew to mature years, and the record is as follows: Joseph taught school for a number of years, and when last heard from was at Walla Walla, Wash. Ty.; Robert died in Switzerland County, Ind.; Jane, the wife of Abraham Atkinson, lives in Dearborn County, Ind.; Eliza, Mrs. David Weaver, is a resident of Atchison County, Kan.; William died in New Orleans; John G. of our sketch was the sixth child; James lives in Switzerland County, Ind.; Samuel in Lamonte, Pettis Co., Mo.; Oliver, now deceased, located at Pensacola, Fla., and during the Rebellion was conscripted into the rebel army; Caroline married Henry Faubra, and lives in Switzerland County, Ind.; Mary, the wife of Amsley Morrison, lives in Jennings County, Ind.

Our subject passed his boyhood and youth in the manner common to the sons of pioneers, receiving a limited education in the subscription schools, which were conducted in the typical structure built of logs, and covered with clapboards held in place by weight-poles. The benches and writing-desks were made by splitting a small log, turning the flat side upward, and putting in wooden pins

for legs. The school was kept up on the subscription plan and the teacher "boarded around." John G. remained with his parents until eighteen years of age, and then started out in life for himself. For six years following he was variously employed, most of the time in flatboating, taking produce down the river, which he sold at Natchez, Vicksburg or New Orleans. His time was thus occupied until after his marriage, when he rented a tract of land in Switzerland County, Ind., upon which he operated a few years and then, in company with another man, erected a set of buildings and provided all the appliances of a steam-turning establishment, putting in an engine, and had everything ready for operation and in good running order when the boiler exploded and the building and machinery were ruined. Thus nearly the entire capital of Mr. Campbell was destroyed and a radical change of plans ensued. He engaged as a laborer in the Madison & Indianapolis Railroad Shops for three years, and afterward became a traveling salesman for the firm of Clark & Mooney, remaining with them also three years. In 1857 he came to this county to sell fanning-mills. The face of the country pleased him greatly and he determined to locate, which resolve he put in execution the following spring, and renting a farm in Champaign Township, established himself upon it with his family. The next year he removed to East Bend, where he purchased the land upon which he permanently settled.

Mr. Campbell was married in Switzerland County, Ind., in the spring of 1842, to Miss Ruby Peabody, a native of that county, and born Dec. 15, 1821. She is the daughter of Stephen G. Peabody, a native of New York, who became one of the pioneers of Switzerland County, whence he removed in 1855 to Champaign County, Ill. Here he purchased 1,000 acres of land, all in East Bend Township, and in 1858 took possession of it, but finally removed to the city of Champaign, where his death occurred. Of six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Campbell the record is as follows: Oliver A. is a resident of Rantoul Township, this county; James is a member of the Nebraska Legislature, elected in 1886; he served four years as Clerk of Sarpy County, and is a resident of Papillion, the county seat; Mary be-

came the wife of John Strouse, who is farming in Condit Township; Elizabeth, the wife of William Wagoner, lives in Columbus, Kan.; John R. is farming in Rantoul Township, this county; Artemus W. is a resident of and the Sheriff of Sarpy County, Neb. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically our subject is Democratic, and represented his township in the Board of Supervisors six years.

WILLIAM McMILLEN. The subject of the following history, a resident of Champaign Township, and one of the honored pioneers of the Prairie State, is widely and favorably known throughout this county as a man revered alike for his genial and social qualities and his value as a citizen, and has done much to advance the interests of his adopted county and township. He comes of excellent ancestry, and was born in Highland County, Ohio, in November, 1809. It has been his lot to witness the remarkable growth of a country which was comparatively in its infancy when he first opened his eyes to the light. He remembers the time when the canal was considered a fine medium of transportation, and when a railroad project was considered a wild and improbable scheme. The remarkable changes which have occurred since he became old enough to note the development of the resources of the country have been witnessed by him with that satisfaction always felt by the intelligent man who has a genuine and patriotic regard for the land which gave him birth.

The father of our subject, Thomas McMillen, was a native of Pennsylvania. He grew to manhood in the Keystone State, whence after his marriage, he removed to Ohio and was among the first settlers of Highland County. He purchased land in the Military Tract and erected a log cabin in the midst of the heavy timber. He cleared 100 acres, and established a comfortable homestead where he spent the remainder of his life. His wife, the mother of our subject, was formerly Miss Jane Irving. After the death of her husband, she became a resident of Cass County, Ind., where she died in about 1839. She kept her children together until they were old enough to do for themselves.

William McMillen first saw the light of day in the humble cabin erected by his father in the woods of Highland County, Ohio, and was only ten years of age when the latter died. He remained with his mother, assisting his elder brothers in the improvement of the farm, and continued a member of the family until he had arrived at years of manhood. He still remembers seeing, in his childhood, the deer and wolves that scampered through the timber, and the howling of the latter at night around their cabin home. Before his marriage he had purchased a tract of land, and after this event he erected a log house to which he proudly conveyed his young wife, and they entered upon their future life with hope and happiness.

In 1859 Mr. McMillen disposed of his real estate in Cass County, Ind., and started overland for the Prairie State. His outfit consisted of three horses and a wagon of his own, in addition to which he hired another wagon and team to accompany him and his family. They traveled after the manner of the emigrants of those days, camping and cooking by the wayside, and upon their arrival in this county, Mr. McMillen purchased the farm which he now occupies. It is scarcely necessary to say that he has greatly improved its original condition, and that it compares favorably with the other beautiful and comfortable homesteads which are scattered so plentifully through one of the richest counties of Illinois. It is located about four miles from town, and the familiar form of its proprietor is always greeted with pleasure as he travels back and forth through the section of country which he first looked upon nearly thirty years ago.

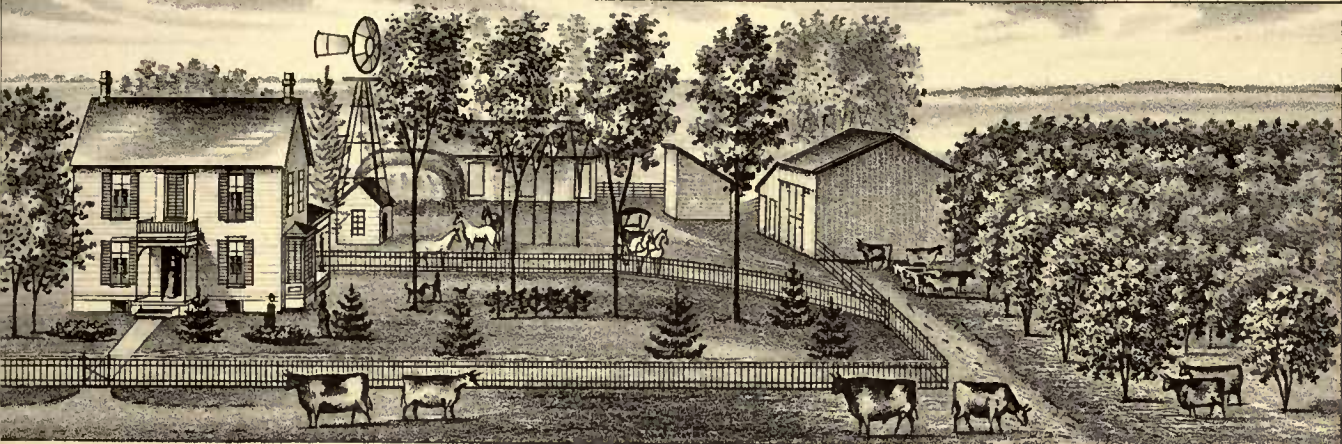
The marriage of William McMillen and Miss Rosanna Henderson took place at the residence of the bride's parents in Cass County, Ind., in 1835. The death of this esteemed lady occurred at the home of her husband in Champaign Township, in January, 1886. Of the children which came to bless the household six are now living, of whom the record is as follows: Lucinda became the wife of William Bell, and lives in Pratt County, Kan.; Susan married Frank Gothshall, and their home is in Logansport, Ind.; Newton is engaged in mining in Mexico; Isabel, Mrs. Thomas Graham, is a resident of Nebraska; Joseph lives in New Salem,

Kan., and Fremont carries on the business of the homestead for his father in Champaign County. Mrs. McMillen became a member of the Presbyterian Church soon after her marriage, and Mr. McM. in 1868. In politics he is Republican.

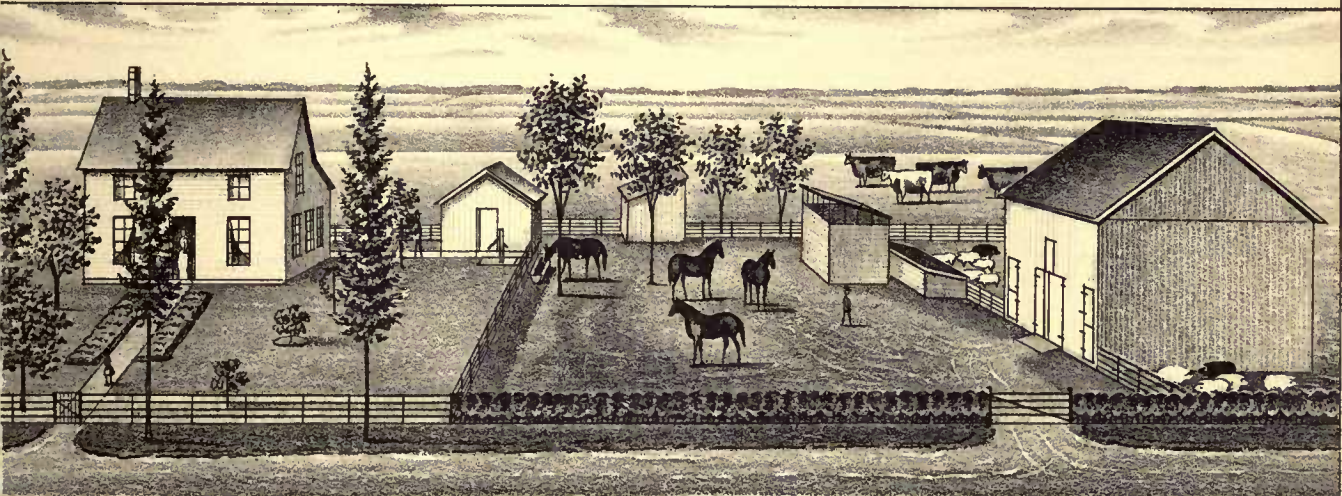
WILLIAM ELLARS came to this county in 1850, comparatively a poor man, when thirty-four years of age. He is now the owner of 1,300 acres of the finest farming land in Sadorus Township, where he has an elegant residence, with a fine barn and other substantial out-buildings, a valuable assortment of live-stock, costly and modern farm machinery and all the appliances of a first-class country estate. It is hardly necessary to say that to accomplish this has required persistent labor, with rare good management of his farming operations and a wise investment of surplus funds. His home stands prominently as one of the most attractive features in the landscape of Central Illinois, the fairest monument that could be reared to the resolution and energy of its proprietor.

Mr. Ellars was introduced to life and its responsibilities among the hills of Ross County, Ohio, on the 16th of July, 1816, and was the sixth child of Benjamin and Eunice (Taylor) Ellars, natives of Delaware, where the father followed farming, and where both parents spent their entire lives. The mother, however, was called away from her family of little ones when our subject was but a boy twelve years of age. His father married a second time, and William left home to carve out his own fortune, from the vicissitudes of a sometimes unfriendly world. Going to Chillicothe, Ohio, he entered upon an apprenticeship to the tailor's trade, to which his father had bound him. He became dissatisfied, however, and after eighteen months ran away to Washington, in Fayette County, where he worked at whatever his hands could find to do, until twenty-one years of age, most of his time, however, being spent in the tailor shop.

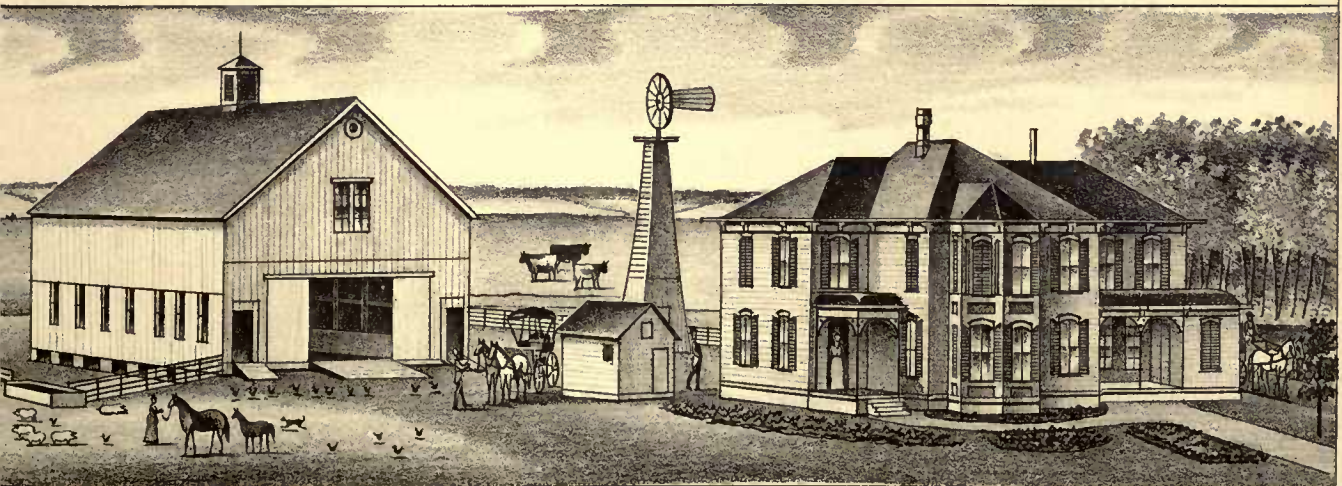
Our subject's health now began to fail, and he found that he could no longer endure the confinement involved in following his trade, and abandon-



RESIDENCE OF F.B. BATTLES, {BREEDER OF PURE BLOOD
HOLSTIEN CATTLE.} SEC.28, HARWOOD TP



RESIDENCE OF W.S. CORLIS, SEC.25, SIDNEY TOWNSHIP



RESIDENCE OF MINERVA PUTNAM, SEC.4, (T-20-N). OGDEN TP.

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ing it, engaged as a farm laborer. He worked by the month for five years following, sowing, reaping, plowing and mowing, there being little farm machinery in those days, and recovered his health, so that he felt fully competent to provide for a family. His heart had already been captured by Miss Eliza Jane, daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Coon) Harrison, natives of Ohio, and they were married in the fall of 1842. Mr. Ellars, then feeling quite independent, proceeded to rent a farm and begin agriculture on his own account. He was thus employed in Madison County for eight years following, his father in the meantime having joined him there, and making his home with his son.

In 1850 Mr. Ellars decided to find out for himself about the truthfulness of the reports coming from the Prairie State, which was offering great inducements to the enterprising emigrant. Getting his family and household goods together he journeyed into this county, and located on a tract of wild land in Sadorus Township, which embraced 190 acres and was located on section 34. His intention had been to enter land from the Government, but the day after his arrival, Sept. 20, 1850, the United States land office, at Vandalia, was closed, for the purpose of allowing the Central Illinois Company to choose their territory, which was to be each alternate section, on a strip of land fifteen miles wide, through the center of which the tract was to pass. Thus cut off from entering land, Mr. Ellars was obliged to content himself with what he could purchase and cultivate. He proceeded with his improvements, fencing his ground and putting up suitable buildings, and added to his landed interests by degrees until the result was obtained which we now behold. Although the necessity for arduous labor on his part has long gone past, he still retains the same active oversight of his affairs as ever, and exercises his uniformly good judgment in all important matters.

During the first years of their resolute and persistent labor, there came into the household of our subject and his wife a family of eight little ones, of whom seven are still living to administer to their joy and comfort. Their children were named respectively, James, John, Catherine, Sarah, Martin, Melissa, Emma and Martha. Their eldest son first

married Miss Jane Moore, who departed this life in 1885, leaving two children; the second wife was Miss Jane Bye, and they are residents of Douglas County; John married Miss Mary Quick, and is a resident of Bement, Piatt County; Catherine is the widow of James Webster, and is living in Philo; Sarah became the wife of A. J. Hunter, a farmer of Douglas County, and died in 1881, leaving a child, Anna, whom her grandparents took to their hearts and home when she was but four days old, and are now raising her as their own; Martin married Miss Ella Hess; he is now Postmaster of Philo, and is also engaged in the grocery trade there; Melissa is the wife of W. Collins, a prosperous farmer of Douglas County; Emma and Martha are at home with their parents.

Mr. Ellars, as a citizen having extensive interests in the real estate of Sadorus Township, could not evade a portion of the duties devolving upon a citizen of more than ordinary ability as a business man, and a member of an intelligent community. He has represented the township in the Board of Supervisors several times, and his influence has been sensibly felt in the ranks of the Democratic party in this locality. His enterprise has furnished an example which others have sought to emulate, and the result has been that the homesteads around him have attained to a higher degree of perfection, by the mere force of the example set before them in the beauty of the Ellars estate, in the cultivation of its soil, and the care which has been exercised in its entire management.

PHILIP HUMMEL. This gentleman, who is widely and favorably known throughout the township of East Bend, came to this section in the pioneer days, and has been one of its most industrious, intelligent and public-spirited citizens. He owns a good farm on section 28, besides property in the present village of Dewey, where he proposes to retire in due time and spend his declining years in the ease and comfort which he has justly earned.

Mr. H. is a fine representative of the substantial German element which has assisted so greatly in

building up the western country. He was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, June 13, 1815, and at an early age commenced attending the public schools, continuing his studies until fifteen years old. Afterward he remained with his father for some years, working on the farm of the latter, and in 1853 took possession of a tract of land which he inherited from the parental estate. In the meantime he had been married and become the father of three children, and believing that he could better his condition and that of his family in the New World, he sold his property in Germany and set sail from Havre for the United States. He landed with his family in New York City on the 4th of July, 1853, after a voyage of thirty-nine days. He proceeded directly westward, and after reaching Kane County, this State, was employed as a laborer for two years following, in the meantime having purchased a home in Kaneville, where his family were comfortably located. At the expiration of this time he rented a tract of land which he operated on until 1859.

During the latter-named year Mr. Hummel came to this county and purchased 120 acres on section 28, in East Bend Township, which are now included in his present farm. The land at that time was unenclosed and uncultivated, and the embryo town of Rantoul was the nearest trading-post. Deer and wolves still roamed over the prairie, which was unsettled, save here and there, where a lonely cabin would be seen. Mr. Hummel, however, with true pioneer courage set about the improvement of his land, which in due time responded generously to his labor and yielded excellent crops. He had the land enclosed with good fences and put up all necessary farm buildings. He also added to his estate as his means accumulated, and is now the owner of 320 acres under a good state of cultivation.

Mr. Hummell was first married, in 1843, to Miss Lizzie Kell, a native of his own Province in Germany, and they became the parents of two children—Philip, now living in East Bend Township, and Mary, the wife of Frank Brush, a resident of Oregon. The mother of these children died at the home of our subject in Germany, in 1848. His second wife, who in her girlhood was Miss Kate Bloss, was also a native of Hesse-Darmstadt. Of

this later marriage there were born five children, of whom the record is as follows: Henry is a resident of East Bend Township; Dora married John Clark, a farmer of Rantoul Township; Christian lives with his sister Dora; William is at home with his father, and Annie, the youngest, also resides in Rantoul with her sister. Mrs. Kate Hummel died in East Bend Township in 1872.

Our subject was again married, the following year, to Mrs. Amelia Herzberg. Mrs. Hummel was born in Prussia, and was the daughter of Frederick Rusch, a native of the same country, and she was first married there, in 1861, to Herman Herzberg, with whom she came to the United States five years later. They located in Bloomington, Ill., where Mr. H. died in 1870. The children of her first marriage were Frank, now a resident of Bloomington, and Hannah, who lives with her mother. Mr. Hummel is a decided Republican, politically, and both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church. He is a wide-awake citizen, having contributed \$1,000 toward securing the narrow-gauge railroad, and also having with a few others put up the school building in his neighborhood.



HON. FIELDING L. SCOTT, deceased. The name of this late esteemed resident of Mahomet was well and favorably known in past years among the business men and social circles of this locality, as a man of more than ordinary business talent and personal worth. He became connected with the affairs of Champaign County at an early day, coming with his wife and child from Kentucky in 1830. He endured with his brother pioneers the difficulties and hardships of settlement in a new section and contributed his full share toward its growth and development.

Judge Scott was born in Bourbon County, Ky., Jan. 27, 1807. His father was a native of Washington County, Pa., of Scotch ancestry, and his mother was born in Ireland. The latter came to America with her parents when a child. In 1778 the grandfather of our subject, in company with his own and about twenty other families, emigrated from Pennsylvania to Kentucky and located in Bourbon

County, where he died in 1806, leaving, among other members of his family, F. L. Scott, the father of our subject. The latter remained in Bourbon County, where he married and reared a family.

Fielding L. Scott, the subject of this biography, remained under the home roof until he reached his majority and was married, Sept. 18, 1827, to Miss Julia A. Herriott. Three years later he emigrated with his wife and child to this State, as we have stated. They located in Vermilion County, whence after a residence of six years they came to Champaign County and settled upon the farm in Mahomet Township which is now owned by Jacob Bellinger. Our subject carried on the cultivation and improvement of his land for a period of over forty years, and departed this life Nov. 16, 1877. He was a man greatly respected in his community; a Republican of the strictest type, and religiously a Missionary Baptist. During the late war he was a vigorous supporter of the Union cause and encouraged the enlistment of two of his sons in the army. One of these met his death at the battle of Kennesaw Mountain; the other, Thomas J., is ex-Sheriff of Champaign County.



WILLIAM SADORUS, in honor of whose father the township bearing this name was called, has been a continuous resident on section 1 for a period of sixty-three years, and is now, with his two brothers, among the oldest settlers of Champaign County. His father, Henry, in the journey from Indiana to this State was accompanied by the celebrated Mormon, Joe Smith, and his family. They reached Big Raccoon Creek on the east side of the Wabash River, and in the early spring set out for Illinois equipped with several yoke of oxen and cows. During the entire journey they required not even an ear of corn for their cattle, but fed them on the rich grass that grew by the way. On account of the rough condition of the thoroughfare they were obliged at times to put all the cattle to one wagon in order to pull through.

Mr. Smith settled in Sadorus Township, this

county, and spent the summer in clearing and fencing his land, but in the fall became discouraged and gave Mr. Sadorus all his improvements, together with 7,000 rails, on condition of Mr. S. hauling one load of household goods to Peoria. This now flourishing city was then a small French village, giving little promise of its future importance. Our subject in his prime was considered one of the most skillful hands with a gun in the country, and prided himself on his record as a deer hunter, having killed hundreds of these animals before they were frightened or destroyed by the march of a later civilization. For nearly forty years he battled with the hardships of the wilderness before the railroad was built and he could safely say he had a neighbor.

William Sadorus is a native of Allegheny County, Pa., born July 4, 1812, and was the eldest child of Henry and Mary (Titus) Sadorus, also of the Keystone State, but of German extraction. He remained at home with his parents until nearly twenty-six years of age, and on the 11th of March, 1838, was united in marriage with Miss Mary Moore, a native of Kentucky and the daughter of John and Hannah Moore, who were also born in the Blue Grass regions. Of this marriage there were seven children, namely, George W. B., Henry W., Margaret E., Samuel S., Sarilda J., Sarah S. and John T. In the summer of 1851, Mrs. Mary Sadorus, the affectionate wife and mother, yielded up her life, after having been the companion of her husband thirteen years. In September following Mr. Sadorus was married to Miss Quiney Ann Brunnley, of Kentucky, and of this union there were born two children, Mary E. and John A., both now deceased. The mother died Oct. 9, 1877. On October 7 of the following year our subject was married to Mrs. Charity Hastings, daughter of Bailey and Mary A. (Henson) Phillips, natives of South Carolina. The one child of this union, a daughter, Ida, is now away at school.

Previous to his first marriage Mr. Sadorus, in 1834, purchased eighty acres of land in this township, upon which he moved and engaged in its improvement and cultivation. He was successful from the start, and in due time added to his property until he was possessed of a good farm of 360

acres. This he has since divided among his children, having now but 104 acres, located on section 1, Sadorus Township. His son, George W. B., married Miss Phebe J. Brown, and is farming in Tolono Township; Henry married Miss Marvilla F. Padgett, and lives on a farm near his father; Margaret E. is the wife of O. C. McConney, a retired farmer now living in the village of Sadorus; Samuel was married in Utah, where he has spent many years as a minister in the Mormon Church; Sarilda, Mrs. T. M. Hixson, lives on a farm in Missouri; Sarah married Charles E. Mills, who is engaged in railroading at Pana, Ill.; John T., John A. and Mary E. are deceased.

Politically Mr. Sadorus is an uncompromising Democrat, and a fearless advocate of the doctrines of his party. He has for many years been connected with the Baptist Church, of which his wife is also a member. He has never been desirous of political distinction and uniformly declines to run for office, although he maintains a warm interest in State and National affairs. He is one of the honored landmarks of this section, who will be held in kind remembrance by numbers of its people long after he shall have been gathered to his fathers.



JOSEPH M. HARNIT. The people of Ludlow Township made the acquaintance of this gentleman in the fall of 1864, when he came to this county with his father and settled on the northwest quarter of section 7. Of this forty-five acres were broken, which constituted its only improvement. The land to-day with its appurtenances presents one of the finest country estates in this section. The fields are enclosed with neat hedges and supplied with a fine set of frame buildings, the whole constituting a monument of what may be accomplished by the energy and ingenuity of one man alone. Our subject occupied this fine farm until 1876, and after living upon an adjoining one for a year, removed to Ludlow Village where he has since been engaged in the practice of law. He became a member of the legal profession in 1877, and since that time has devoted the greater part of his efforts to his law business

and official duties. He has been Supervisor of Ludlow Township for a period of fifteen years and also held the office of Assessor and Collector, while at the same time serving as a member of the School Board, and giving his time to every worthy enterprise calculated to advance the moral and intellectual welfare of his community. He cast his first vote on Culpeper Plains on the march in Virginia, for Governor and other officers of Ohio, and supported the principles of the Republican party until the nomination of Peter Cooper as Presidential candidate of the Greenback party, since which time he has given his support to that political organization.

The subject of our sketch was born near Ehon Station, Beaver Co., Pa., May 20, 1842. His father, Samuel Harnit, a native of the same county, was born Feb. 9, 1804. His grandfather, a native of Wales, emigrated to the United States when a young man and located in Pennsylvania, where he soon afterward took to himself a wife in the person of Miss Anna B. Lutzenheizer, who was a native of Westmoreland County, Pa. Grandfather Harnit was a blacksmith by trade, and built a shop upon a small tract of land which he had purchased and which he cleared from the timber, carrying on farming and his trade, and also mining the coal which he used as fuel in his shop and house. He met his death in the coal mine, which caved in upon him with fatal results before he could be extricated. This occurred in December, 1803, two months before the birth of his son, Samuel, the father of our subject. The family then consisted of five children, who were all obliged to assist their mother in the maintenance of the family as soon as old enough to work. Young Samuel learned the trade of a wheelwright, which he followed until about 1852, then purchased a flouring-mill in Lawrence County, to which he devoted his time for ten years following. He was quite successful in his business and mill operations, and spent the last years of his life retired from active labor and in the enjoyment of a competency. His last residence was in Youngstown, Mahoning Co., Ohio, where he yielded up his life on the 4th of February, 1886, after reaching the advanced age of eighty-two years. The mother of our subject in her girlhood was Miss

Sarah Corey, who was born in Beaver County, Pa., and after becoming the mother of ten children, died there in 1848.

Mr. Harnit of our sketch, who was the eighth child and youngest son of the household, was ten years old when his father moved to Lawrence County. Four years later he went to Columbiana County, Ohio, where he remained two years, and from there to Marion County, of which he remained a resident until 1861. That year will long be remembered by every patriot as the time when both young and middle-aged men were called from home and the bosoms of their families to fight for the protection of those homes and families. Young Harnit was one of the first to respond to the call for troops, and on the 17th of April became a member of Co. K, 4th Ohio Vol. Inf., which was organized under the call for three-months' men. Six weeks later he re-enlisted for the three years' service in the same company and regiment, with which he remained until finally mustered out, June 23, 1864. He was present at the battle of Rich Mountain, Petersburg, Winchester, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, the Wilderness and Spottsylvania, being under fire for a period of thirty days, from the Wilderness to Cold Harbor, in May and June, 1864. During the weary marches and all other hardships incident to a soldier's life, he never evaded his duty, and at the close received his honorable discharge and the commendation of his superiors. After becoming a citizen he proceeded to Marion County, Ohio, and worked in the harvest field on his uncle's farm the following summer, and in the fall of 1864 made his first advent into Champaign County. His subsequent course we have already detailed.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married on the 10th of January, 1871, was Miss Libby, daughter of John Newlin, who was born in Montgomery County, Ind., May 24, 1852. Her father was a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, to which State her grandfather Newlin removed at an early period in its history. His son John was reared in his native county, whence he removed to Indiana, and was there married to Miss Cynthia Fleming, who was born near Middletown, Ohio, and is the daughter of Thomas Fleming, of Pennsylvania.

The parents of Mrs. H. removed from the Keystone State to Putnam County, Ill., in about 1854, where the father died three years later. Mrs. Newlin is still living, and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. H.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of four interesting children, namely, William, Claude E., Jessie L. and Joseph M. Mr. Harnit socially belongs to Pera Lodge No. 574, A. F. & A. M., of which he became a member in December, 1866, and served eight years as W. M. He was the first Commander of Ord Post No. 372, G. A. R.

The maternal grandfather of Mr. Harnit, who was a native of Switzerland, located in Eastern Pennsylvania when a young man, whence he removed later across the mountains to Westmoreland County. After marriage he removed to Beaver County during the early settlement of that region, where he spent the remainder of his life.



JOSEPH T. GRIMES, who was born and reared among the hills of New Castle County in the State of Delaware, is now numbered among the highly respected citizens of Tolono Township, of which he became a resident in 1866. He owns eighty acres of improved land, which is thoroughly drained and enclosed with good fences, and upon which stands a model farm-house and all necessary out-buildings. Although perhaps his farming operations have not covered as much ground as some of his neighbors, he has adhered to the theories of Horace Greeley and taken good care of his snug estate. Every acre is made available either for pasture or the raising of farm produce, and the premises present the picture of comfort and contentment, with plenty on every hand.

The birth of Mr. Grimes occurred on the 1st of October, 1841, and he is the son of John and Sally Ann (Sharp) Grimes, also natives of the State of Delaware, whence they removed to Ohio in 1852. They selected a location in Butler County, but subsequently removed to Hamilton County, the same State, where John Grimes followed farming until 1869. He then removed with his family

to Illinois, and after a residence of three years in Champaign County, took up his abode in Marion County, Kan., where he now lives, and has arrived at the age of seventy-two years. The mother died in August, 1879, when a little over sixty-three years old. The household circle, which was completed by the birth of eight children, was broken by the death of one daughter in childhood. Seven are yet living, of whom our subject is the eldest. The others are Levi; Mary Ann, now Mrs. John Dole; John A.; Emma, the wife of Hiram Beck; Robert, and Narcissa, Mrs. H. Smith.

The subject of this biography spent his childhood and youth amidst the peaceful surroundings of farm life. He was eleven years old when his parents removed from Delaware to Ohio, and remained with them the greater portion of the time until his marriage, which took place on the 30th of November, 1865. The maiden of his choice, Miss Mary Grace Louks, was a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, and the daughter of John and Mary (McLain) Louks. Her father is now a resident of Tolono. Mrs. G. was born on the 24th of February, 1848, and received careful home training and a fair education in the common schools. She was instructed in all needful household duties and remained a member of her father's family until her marriage. A year afterward Joseph Grimes and his young wife set out for Illinois and located in this county upon the homestead where they now reside. Their union has been blest by the birth of three children, all daughters—Ada Florence, Ida Blanche and Lena Ethel. Mr. and Mrs. G. are worthy members of the Presbyterian Church, and our subject politically is a hearty supporter of the Republican party.

WILLIAM H. SWAYZE, one of the honored pioneers of East Bond Township, was born in Wyandot County, Ohio, June 28, 1840. His grandfather, James Swayze, a native of New Jersey, emigrated to Ohio in the early settlement of the State, purchased a tract of timberland in Wyandot County, and spent the remainder of his life in its improvement and cultivation. With

scores of others in that vicinity he labored industriously for years in cutting down the forest trees and preparing the land for the raising of farm produce. This with the limited conveniences at hand would seem to the people of the present day an Herculean task, but the men of that period possessed a rugged industry which laughed at all obstacles and knew no such word as "fail." James Swayze possessed these qualities in a remarkable degree, and they have been transmitted to his children and grandchildren.

The father of our subject, Bescherer Swayze, was born in New Jersey, and was a young child when his parents made the journey overland to the Buckeye State. He grew to manhood in Wyandot County, and among the maidens of that region chose for his wife Miss Matilda Hunt, a native of his own State, who had removed to Ohio with her parents about 1820. Her father, William Hunt, located on a farm in Wyandot County, Ohio, where he died in about 1840. Bescherer Swayze in 1863 came to this county, where he purchased 120 acres of land which was partly improved, and later added to his estate 240 acres more. He became very successful in farming and stock-raising and accumulated a competency. He departed this life Feb. 5, 1867. The mother survived him over nine years, and died at Rantoul, Sept. 20, 1876.

The subject of this history was the second of ten children. His early education was conducted in the district schools, and when but a boy he commenced to assist his father on the farm. He remained a member of the home circle until 1861, and on the 17th of September of that year, the Civil War being in progress, he enlisted in the 11th Ohio Artillery and served for three years and three months. He marched with his comrades through the States of Missouri, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Florida, Kentucky and Tennessee, participating in many of the important battles of the war. He escaped wounds and imprisonment, and after his honorable discharge joined his parents in East Bend Township, this county, of which he has since been a resident.

Mr. Swayze took possession of his present farm in the spring of 1870. Considering that he now had a firm foothold on the road to prosperity and

a competence, and finding no pleasure in working for himself alone, he proffered his hand and fortune to the only lady whom he desired to share them, this being Miss Mary McJilton, and they were united in marriage Sept. 15, 1870. Mrs. S. is a native of Woodford County, this State, born Dec. 8, 1854, and the daughter of John T. and Elizabeth (Shaffer) McJilton. To this household there came seven children, viz., Della May, Barbara Belle, Jay T., Lora Alice, Nira Edith, Myrtle Edna and Clara Elizabeth.

The homestead includes 160 acres of finely improved land, with a tasteful farm residence and good out-buildings. Mr. Swayze and his family are held in high respect by the community. He has performed all the duties of a good citizen, and although never an office-seeker, has taken a genuine interest in placing the best men where they could do the most good, not confining himself to party lines but voting independently.



THEODORE FRY. The subject of the following sketch is the proprietor of a beautiful farm homestead in Champaign Township, on section 17, where since 1865 he has been industriously engaged in the cultivation of the soil and the various duties of farm life. He is descended from excellent German ancestry, and the first representative of the family in this country was his great-grandfather, who located in Pennsylvania and there spent the remainder of his life. His son John, also born in Germany, was quite young when his parents came to this country. He was reared to farm pursuits, which he prosecuted mostly near the homestead of his father in Pennsylvania, but spent the last years of his life near Harrodsburg. He was a man of great force of character, self educated, and of more than ordinary ability. He represented his county in the State Legislature, and took an active interest in the affairs of his State and Nation at large. His son Cornelius, the father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, reared on the farm, and trained in those habits of industry and principles of honor for which the family has always been distinguished.

When quite young he entered the army and served in the War of 1812.

In 1815, after his marriage, Cornelius Fry removed with his wife and child to Ohio, locating in Butler County. The removal was made on a flat-boat down the Ohio River to Cincinnati, and thence overland to Butler County, where Mr. Fry arrived with but \$1.25 in his pocket. He at once commenced working at whatever he could find to do, and was employed by the day or month at small wages. His wife possessed a spinning-wheel, and with the aid of this manufactured the cloth for the family wear. By the closest economy Mr. Fry was in due time enabled to save money enough to buy a team which, in 1826, he utilized in removing to Preble County, where he purchased eighty acres of timber land on time. One acre of this was cleared, and upon it stood a small log cabin, of which the family took possession, and the father immediately set about clearing more of the land and placing it under cultivation. For his first crop of wheat he received thirty-three and one-half cents per bushel. He progressed slowly but surely, and in time was enabled to clear the little farm of debt. Upon the homestead which he thus established after many years of toil, he passed the remainder of his days. In the meantime the log cabin was replaced by a substantial hewed log house, after which a barn was put up and an orchard planted.

Cornelius Fry, after a goodly and pleasant life, closed his eyes upon earthly scenes on the 21st of October, 1850, amid the universal regret of the friends whom he made by his straightforward and honest life and kindly Christian character. The mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Catherine Shafer, was also of German ancestry and a native of the Keystone State. Of her union with Cornelius Fry there were born five children, the record of whom is as follows: Eliza A. became the wife of Robert McDivitt, and is a resident of Preble County, Ohio; John lives in New Boston, Mercer Co., Ill.; Thompson died in Darke County, Ohio, when about sixty-two years of age; Theodore of our sketch was the fourth child; Andrew served in the Union army during the late war, and has not been heard from since its close.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm in his native county in Ohio, and pursued his early studies in the subscription schools. As soon as old enough he went out to work at very small wages, receiving the summer before his fourteenth birthday but \$4 per month and board. As his usefulness increased his wages were raised, and three years later he was considered worth \$16 per month during the summer season. He was occupied in this manner until twenty-one years of age, and then determined to seek a new location for his future efforts. Going westward into Indiana he rented land in Tippecanoe County, which he cultivated for the following fifteen years. He had been successful in his business and farming operations, and now found himself possessed of sufficient means to purchase a tract of land in the same county. There was upon it a small frame house, and twelve acres were cleared. He cleared thirty acres additional and erected a good set of frame buildings, also planting an orchard and adding other improvements. After a residence there of five years he exchanged for a prairie farm of eighty acres in Perry Township. This he sold two years later, and purchased another farm not far away, locating in Sheffield Township. Before removing upon this he sold it, making \$700 by the operation. He then purchased a tract of land in Fairfield Township, which he took possession of and occupied until 1865, then traded it for land in Champaign County. In October of that year, gathering together his family and household effects, he started with an outfit of four teams for Illinois. He did not, however, settle upon the land he had purchased, but traded for that which constitutes his present homestead. There was upon it at the time a small frame house and another structure dignified by the name of a stable. The family took possession of the former, and Mr. Fry began in earnest the cultivation and improvement of his land. In due time the first rude dwelling gave place to a handsome and modern structure, and the stable to a barn of goodly proportions. Mr. Fry also planted a variety of fruit and shade trees, and by other means beautified his premises until they became both attractive and valuable.

The marriage of Theodore Fry and Miss Lucy

A. Dryer took place in Indiana on the 18th of October, 1846. Mrs. Fry was born near Noblesville, Hamilton Co., Ind., in 1823. Her father, Edward M. Dryer, was a native of Massachusetts, and her grandfather, also a native of New England, removed from there to New York State at an early day, and spent the last days of his life in Cattaraugus County. His son, Edward M., was quite young when the family became residents of the Empire State, where he grew to manhood, received a good education, and adopted the profession of a teacher, which he followed the greater part of his life. When twenty-one years of age he located in Butler County, Ohio, where he married and lived until early in 1823. Thence he removed to a point near Noblesville, Ind., from which a year afterward he returned to the Buckeye State. Five years later he came back to Indiana and purchased a farm in Sheffield Township, Tippecanoe County, where he established a permanent home and spent the remainder of his life. His decease occurred on the 7th of April, 1836.

The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Fry was Margaret M. Gregory. She was born in Virginia, July 24, 1792, and was of Scotch-Irish ancestry. She departed this life in Tippecanoe County, Ind., Nov. 19, 1878. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Fry were both natives of Virginia, whence they removed to Kentucky, and after a short residence there took up their abode in the Buckeye State. These removals were made before the days of wagon-roads, their goods being transported upon pack horses. The grandmother, then a young woman, rode one horse and carried the mother of Mrs. F., then a little child, together with a large bundle of household goods. They located in Butler County, and were among the earliest settlers of that region. The grandfather, in company with others, erected a fort in which they all lived secure from the Indians. No one went into the fields without being armed, as the redskins were plenty in those days. The grandfather became possessed of a large extent of land and passed the last years of his life in Butler County.

The marriage of our subject and his wife was blest by the birth of six children, of whom the record is as follows: John D. is a resident of Cham-

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James Goudie

paing; Edward is farming in Scott Township; Margaret Catherine became the wife of John W. King, and resides in Newman, Douglas Co., Ill.; Alonzo lives in Scott Township; Jay in Ludlow Township, and Hiram G. on the old homestead. Mr. Fry during his early life affiliated with the Democratic party, but upon the organization of the Republican changed his views, and has since cast his vote in support of the principles of the latter.



JAMES GOUDIE, deceased. The name of this gentleman can scarcely be forgotten for many years to come, as he has left one of the finest homesteads in Pesotum Township, which will remain a monument to his enterprise and skill long after the present generation has begun to go down the other side of the hill. This beautiful country seat is located on section 5, and forms one of the most attractive spots in the landscape. Its broad acres stretch away on either side from the handsome and substantial buildings, and the green fields, with the yellow grain, form in the summer season a picture delightful to the eye.

He who thus effected the elimination of a homestead from the uncultivated prairie was a native of Eastern Pennsylvania, born in 1815, and the son of James and Mary (Alexander) Goudie. They were also natives of the Keystone State, where they remained until after their marriage, and whence, in 1819, they removed to Franklin County, Ind. There the father purchased a tract of land, which he cultivated industriously, and which both parents occupied until called from life and its labors.

James Goudie was a child of two years when his parents removed from his native State to Indiana. He remained with them until after reaching his majority and then set out for himself. About the first important step was his marriage with Miss Susanna Mathewson, which took place in the spring of 1839. Mrs. G. was the second daughter of James and Mary (Edgar) Mathewson, natives of Ireland, who crossed the ocean to this country when their daughter, Susanna, was a little girl eight years of age.

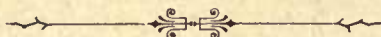
They located in the East, but shortly afterward removed to Indiana and settled upon a farm. Their daughter remained under the parental roof assisting her mother in household duties, receiving careful parental training and a fair education in the common school.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. G. located upon the quarter section of land in Franklin County, Ind., which our subject had purchased and upon which he labored until it was brought to a high state of cultivation. There most of the children were born, and there they remained residents for a period of twenty-five years. In 1863 Mr. Goudie became desirous of changing his location, and coming to this county entered a tract of land in Pesotum Township, to which he added by purchase from time to time until he became the owner of several hundred acres. This came into his hands wholly unimproved, and it is hardly necessary to say that it required years of labor to bring it to its present state. His farm was his pride, however, and he spared no pains to make it one of the finest in the county. He received a rich reward in the products of the soil, and in the income which enabled him to make the improvements he so much desired. In his later years he was enabled to rest and look around him upon the work of his hands, and truly had reason to feel that his labors had not been in vain. His death took place in this township in 1885, when he had reached the ripe old age of seventy years. The farm is now carried on by his sons, with whom the mother remains, an excellent and worthy lady held in the highest respect by all who know her. Mr. Goudie was not an active politician, nor did he ever seek political preferment. He was a careful reader, however, and kept himself well posted upon State and National affairs, and when casting his vote gave his support to the candidate whom he esteemed best qualified for the office.

The twelve children born to Mr. and Mrs. Goudie were named respectively Mary E., John A., Sarah J., Samuel F., Ida B., Eddie C., Rachel G., Rebecca A., Joseph B., James M., Aaron E. and Arthur N. Of these but six are living. John married Miss Rowena Schultz, of Indiana; Mary, the wife of James Barnard, and Sarah, Mrs. Archie

Allen, are also residents of the above State; Joseph, on account of ill-health, is traveling in California; Aaron E. and Arthur N. are at home with their mother.

The accompanying portrait of Mr. Goudie will be looked upon with pleasure by all who enjoyed his acquaintance, and will go down to posterity as the features of a man who aimed to do all the good possible, and who in all the relations of life was honorable and upright.



GEORGE W. JOHNSTON. The subject of the following sketch occupies a prominent position among the representative business men and farmers of Hensley Township, of which he has been a resident since 1859. In that year he emigrated from the town of his birth in the old Granite State, and soon afterward purchased 180 acres of land on section 4 of what is now Hensley Township. Upon this there was a log cabin, and 100 acres were broken. Aside from this the land was practically in its original condition. During many years of industry and forethought Mr. Johnston has brought about the transformation which is now so pleasant to contemplate. The smiling fields are in a fine state of cultivation, enclosed with beautiful hedge fencing, and Mr. J. has planted shade and other ornamental trees around the residence and farm buildings. He has also drained the soil with about three miles of tiling. His original purchase has been added to until he is now the owner of 320 acres, all of which is under a good state of cultivation.

The birthplace of our subject was Haverhill, N. H., and the date thereof June 4, 1836. His father, George Johnston, Sr., was a native of the same town, where he spent his entire life, and died there in 1837, when our subject was but a child little over a year old. The latter remained on the homestead with his mother, and after becoming of suitable age attended school, assisted in the labors of the farm, and spent his childhood and youth in a manner common to country boys. In 1859 he left his native State and came to this county, locating in Condit Township, whither his brother

had preceded him. There he lived with the latter until he established himself on a homestead of his own.

The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Susan Atkinson, a native of Boscawen, N. H., where she was educated and lived on the old homestead with her mother for some years. To this she returned after the death of her husband, and there spent the last years of her life, dying in March, 1887, after having reached the advanced age of seventy-nine years.

Mr. Johnston was married in this county, in September, 1864, to Miss Sarah C. Shearer, a native of Delaware County, N. Y., and the daughter of Arad Shearer. Her father was a native of Franklin County, Mass., where he followed farming pursuits and spent his entire life. The mother of Mrs. Johnston, before her marriage, was Miss Nancy Olin, a native of Vermont. She died at the home of her husband in Colerain, in 1857.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Johnston, four in number, are Lee, Jessie L., Herbert and Harley T. Mr. J. is a Republican in politics, and both he and his wife are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church. They are highly respected in their community, and have done much in shaping its moral sentiment and aiding in its general welfare and prosperity.



JULIUS CRANSTON, one of the honored pioneers of East Bend Township, is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Champaign County, Oct. 26, 1833. His father, Stephen, and his grandfather, John Cranston, were natives of Rhode Island, the former born in Foster, Oct. 1, 1793; the latter was an immediate descendant of Scottish ancestry, and the first representatives of the family in this country located in Rhode Island during the Colonial days. From there John Cranston; in 1813, emigrated to Ohio to Union County. He purchased a large tract of timber land, where he opened up a farm, and upon it remained until his death. The journey from Rhode Island to Ohio was made overland with horses and wagons. The father of our subject grew to manhood in his

native State, received a limited education in the subscription schools, and was bred to farming pursuits. He was twenty years of age when the family removed to Ohio, and six years later was united in marriage with Miss Esther Hammond, their wedding occurring July 25, 1819. Mrs. Cranston was born in Canterbury, Conn., Jan. 1, 1802. The young people located upon land which the father had purchased, where they resided for many years, but finally removed to a timber tract in Union County, from which Stephen Cranston cleared a farm which he occupied until his death, which occurred on the 10th of May, 1884. The mother is still living upon the old homestead. The father of our subject was one of the early Abolitionists, and his house an important depot of the underground railroad. Through his assistance many a fugitive was helped on to freedom. He was a sincere, whole-souled gentleman, and a member of the Christian Church.

The seven sons and two daughters of the parental family all lived to become men and women, and are located as follows: George is a resident of this State; John occupies the old homestead in Champaign County, Ohio; James and Stephen are residents of Union County, that State; Edwin is merchandising in Hardin County, Ohio; William died in the Union army during the late war; Phebe became the wife of Hiram Benton, and was herself a minister of the United Brethren Church, but is now deceased; Melissa married a minister who was of the Methodist persuasion; she was well educated and is now a practicing physician at Topeka, Kan.

The subject of this sketch was the fourth son of his parents, and remained with his brothers and sisters on the farm, pursuing his primary studies in the district schools. He completed his education in the seminary at Mechanicsburg. After reaching his majority he was employed as a canvasser, mostly in Virginia. In 1855 he came to Illinois, locating first at Clinton, and engaging as a laborer in a brickyard. Two years later he came into this county, having previously purchased a tract of land in East Bend Township, which he located upon and still occupies. In 1868 he sold his land and purchased a farm in Ford County, which he cultivated for a period of eight years, then returned

and took possession of his present homestead.

Mr. Cranston was married, on the 1st of May, 1859, to Miss Artemesia R. Atwood. Mrs. Cranston was a native of Stowe, Lamoille Co., Vt., born Feb. 6, 1839, and the daughter of Luke Atwood, a native of Woodstock, Windsor Co., Vt., born May 4, 1801. He was married in the town of Stowe, Oct. 13, 1828, to Miss Roxanna Kelsey, the latter also a native of Stowe, born Feb. 3, 1808. They located near that town, where they lived until 1851, and then emigrated to Ohio, settling in Champaign County. Three years later they again gathered together their household goods and started overland for the Prairie State. Their outfit consisted of four horses and two wagons, and they traveled after the manner of the emigrants of those days, carrying with them their provisions, cooking by the wayside and sleeping in their wagons at night. Mr. Atwood purchased land in Penola Township, Woodford County, which he occupied with his family until 1864, then sold and purchased a farm on section 6 of East Bend Township in this county. He proceeded with the cultivation of the soil, erected a frame house, and built up a comfortable home, where he passed the remainder of his life. His death occurred Dec. 5, 1875. Mrs. Atwood resides on the old homestead. Mr. Atwood, religiously, was a Universalist in belief.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of the following children, namely, Leslie A., Clara J., Mary E., Lucy R.; Phebe M., now deceased; Stephen C., Grace A. and Artie F. Leslie graduated from Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio, in June, 1887, and Mary is now a student in that institution. Mr. Cranston is a pronounced Republican. His first ballot was cast for Fremont, and all subsequent ballots for Republican nominees. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Protestant Church.

The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Cranston, Luke Atwood, by name, was born in Middleboro, Vt., and on her mother's side, her grandfather, Nathan P. Kelsey, was born in New Hampshire, whence he removed to Vermont during its early settlement, when he was obliged to cut down the trees and burn them before he could secure a space large

enough to build his house. His father, Giles Kelsey, was born in Scotland, whence he emigrated to America before the Revolutionary War, and became a soldier on the side of the Colonists. Mrs. Cranston's great-grandfather, Jacob Churchill, was also a Revolutionary soldier.

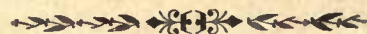


A BRAHAM ORDEL, a successful farmer and stock-raiser, is pleasantly located on section 35, in Philo Township. He came here in 1871, and is in possession of 160 acres of choice land, under a good state of cultivation and supplied with convenient and substantial buildings. He became a resident of the Prairie State when a young man twenty-one years old, but only remained two years, when he returned to Fairfield County, Ohio, and was a resident there until 1871. His birth took place in Washington County, Md., Jan. 8, 1831. His father, George Ordell, was a native of Germany, whence he emigrated to the United States early in life, and settling in Maryland, met and married Miss Catherine Baker, a native of his own country. They remained for a time in the latter-named State, where the father followed his trade of a weaver. In 1836 they removed with their children to Ohio, and settled on a farm in Franklin County, where both parents spent the remainder of their lives.

Upon first coming to this State our subject spent two years in Edwards and Tazewell Counties, then, returning to Ohio, was married in Fairfield County, to Miss Mary J. Hoshor, who was born there Feb. 8, 1833. Her parents were George and Mary (Litzenberger) Hoshor, natives of Pennsylvania, but of German ancestry. They removed to Ohio before their marriage, their wedding also taking place in Fairfield County. The father was born in 1800, followed farming all his life, and departed hence in 1882. The mother is yet living in Ohio. Mrs. O. was reared in her native county, and remained with her parents until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there were born nine children, two of whom, M. Catherine and Edward, are deceased. Those living are Ida B. and George, married, and John,

Emma E., William H., Samuel and Franklin at home.

After the marriage of our subject he settled with his wife upon a farm in Fairfield County, Ohio, where they remained until their removal to this State. They became residents of Champaign County in 1871, operating on rented land in Philo Township two years before the purchase of their present homestead. Both are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Raymond Township, of which Mr. O. is Trustee. Politically he uniformly casts his vote in support of the principles of the Democratic party.



E B. HAZEN, a representative business man of Philo Village, is engaged as a dealer in grain and all kinds of farm implements, in fact nearly everything pertaining to the carrying on of agriculture. He established business here in 1878, and has been uniformly successful, building up a good patronage and securing for himself the confidence of his fellow-citizens. He ships annually about 300,000 bushels of grain, and in addition to his town business carries on a good farm of 120 acres, located on section 24 in Philo Township. His land is well drained and finely improved, and produces in abundance the ordinary farm crops and vegetables. Mr. Hazen became a resident of Champaign County in 1860, since which time he has lived in both Sidney and Philo Townships. He carried on agriculture during the early part of his life, his first trade venture being his present business.

Our subject was born in Hampshire County, Mass., June 17, 1849, and is the son of Elbridge Hazen, also a native of the Bay State, but of English descent, tracing the history of the family back to the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers in this country. The grandfather, Nathan L. Hazen, was born in Connecticut, whence he removed to Massachusetts when a young man, locating in Hampshire County. He was there married to Mrs. Phebe Starkweather, a lady of New England ancestry, born and reared in Connecticut. Her father was an officer in the Revolutionary War, and her grand-

parents died in Hampshire County, both being about eighty-five years old.

Elbridge Hazen was born, reared, educated and married in Hampshire County, Mass. The maiden of his choice was Miss Lucy Brewster, a native of his own county, whose ancestors came from England in the Mayflower. After marriage the young people located on a farm in their native State, where they spent their entire lives, honored and respected by all who knew them. They were noted for their charities and hospitality, and were active members of the Congregational Church.

The subject of this history was the fifth of eighth children born to his parents, four sons and four daughters. Five of these are yet living. Elisha early in life was trained to habits of industry, and when of suitable years went to work for himself. After reaching manhood he was married, in Worthington Township, Hampshire County, to Miss Helen E. Burr, their wedding taking place Dec. 13, 1864. Mrs. H. is a native of the same county as her husband, and was born July 1, 1842. She is the daughter of Amos Burr, who lived and died in Massachusetts, and remained under the parental roof until her marriage. Of this union there have been no children. Our subject and his wife are worthy members of the Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Hazen, politically, is a warm supporter of the Republican party.



JAMES E. DAVIS, Postmaster at Pesotum, and otherwise identified with its interests, is one who considers the welfare of his township his own, and is willing to contribute generously of his time and means toward its well-being and advancement. He is a native of Clinton County, Ohio, where he first drew breath on the 9th of November, 1851, and is the second child of Jehu and Susan (Hanley) Davis, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. In detailing the personal character of our subject the fact that he is the son of one of the most valued citizens of Champaign County is sufficient to commend him to the people of this section of the State.

He came here with his parents in the spring of 1866, at the conclusion of the Rebellion, and remained on his father's farm, making himself useful as opportunity offered until after reaching his majority.

Our subject then took possession of a farm adjoining the parental homestead, and two years later, on the 1st of October, 1873, secured a partner of his fortunes in the person of Miss Lavina C. Crawford, who has been the sensible presiding genius of his domestic affairs, and an earnest sympathizer in his efforts to maintain a commendable position in society and among his fellow-men. The brother of this lady, John Crawford, in 1883 joined with him in the establishment of a tile factory in the village of Pesotum, which they operated successfully two years, then sold out and purchased the business and stock of S. M. Harvey, who had established a store of general merchandise. This then consisted of all the commodities required in town and a rural community. Mr. Davis has since added to his transactions the purchase and sale of coal and grain, in which he has built up a good patronage, and from which he realizes a handsome income.

Mr. Davis commenced fulfilling the duties of a citizen soon after reaching his majority, and has been elected to office nearly every year. He has served as Assessor, Collector, Town Clerk, etc., and the ease and good judgment with which he has upheld the dignity of the various positions to which he has been called has become proverbial. While thoroughly alive to his own interests he gives a generous share of his thoughts to the interest of his community, and devotes much time to the various enterprises which are set on foot tending to this end. Although Democratic in politics he reserves the right of a free American citizen to give his support to the most worthy candidate, regardless of party bias. Both himself and his business partner are well equipped for their undertaking, and are rapidly building up an extensive patronage among the best people of Pesotum Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis are the parents of one child, a son, Jehu Everett, born in 1874, and who is at home with his parents. They are members of the Pesotum Methodist Episcopal Church, where

their influence is sensibly felt both by their generous support of the society and their uniform interest in its maintenance and growth.

JONATHAN T. SEWELL, who resides with his son on a farm in Sadorus Township, has been a resident of this county since the spring of 1868. He at that time purchased eighty acres of land on section 2, which, with the exception of a brief residence in the village, has since been his home. Through his enterprise and industry the land has been brought to a fine state of cultivation, yielding in abundance the rich products of the Prairie State.

Mr. Sewell is a native of Jackson County, Ind., his birth taking place Sept. 7, 1819. He was the third child of his mother, Mrs. Polly (Tullis) Sewell, and the eighth child of Peter Sewell, of Virginia, who was thrice married, and the father of three families of children. In 1826 Peter Sewell removed with his family from Indiana to Champaign County, Ohio, and later to Iowa, where he spent the remainder of his days. Our subject remained a resident of Champaign County, Ohio, until the spring of 1854, when he started West in company with a brother-in-law, and located in Edgar County, Ill., where they contemplated buying land. They were induced, however, to abandon the project of buying, but remained in that county fourteen years, engaged in farming on rented land.

In 1868 Jonathan Sewell came to this county; his life thereafter we have already partially indicated. His marriage took place in Urbana, Ohio, in December, 1843, the lady of his choice being Miss Martha T., daughter of Thomas and Lucy (Wilson) Wilson. The parents of Mrs. S., although of the same name, were in no wise related. Of this union there were born seven children, four now deceased, viz., Mary E., Sarah, Clayton and Charles Philander. Laura became the wife of Joseph Lawrence, who is now engaged as Principal of the schools at Philo, and is assisted in his duties by his wife; they have become the parents of five children. Lucy married Thomas Stevens and resides with her husband on a farm two miles north

of her father's home; Wilson W., in 1876, married Miss Ida, daughter of Darwin and Penelope (Swayze) White, who were natives of Canada; this son lives on the home farm which his father put into his hands four years ago. The latter then removed to the town of Sadorus, where he had purchased seven lots, and prepared a home for himself and his aged companion, thinking to retire from active life and spend the remainder of his days in the comfort which he had so justly earned. In 1886 his residence, with all its contents, was destroyed by fire, and he returned to the farm to live with his son Wilson, and where he still remains.

Mr. and Mrs. S. are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Sadorus, and our subject although not mixing actively in political affairs, fulfills the duties of a good citizen each year at the polls, casting his vote and his influence with the Republican party.

EDWIN H. SHARPE owns eighty acres of land on section 3, in Sadorus Township, which he has carefully managed since locating upon it in the spring of 1869. He has strictly adhered to the theory that a few acres well cultivated are of more real profit than a large estate indifferently cared for. He has pursued a quiet and unobtrusive life, looking well to his business affairs and the comfort of his family, and enjoying the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens. He has devoted considerable attention to the raising of fine stock, which for a number of years consumed a larger part of the products of the field, and in return, by their salable value, yielded him a handsome sum annually. The delicate health of his wife has of late years induced him to abandon the more active labors of the farm, and content himself with keeping it up in good shape rather than the accumulation of more property. He has taken an intelligent interest in the welfare of his township, holding its minor offices and contributing whenever he could to the furtherance of worthy projects.

Mr. Sharpe is a native of this State, and was born in Pike County, Jan. 9, 1838. He is the old-

est child of Abisha P. and Fanny L. (Hutchins) Sharpe, natives of Connecticut, who came to Illinois in 1834. Since that time they have been residents of Pike County, their property there embracing 480 acres of valuable land, a part of which Abisha Sharpe entered from the Government, and afterward purchased the balance. The parents of our subject are most estimable people, and the father in his younger days was prominently identified with the growth and progress of Griggsville Township, where his farm is located. The parental family consisted of ten children.

Our subject remained a member of the parental household until over twenty-nine years of age, and then assumed marital and domestic ties, taking for his wife Miss Eva Chapman, the fourth child of Wilson and Alvina (Wood) Chapman, who were natives of South Carolina. Mr. and Mrs. S. remained on the father's farm two years after their marriage, our subject being engaged in the raising of grain and stock. He then came to this county, and purchased eighty acres of wild land in Sadorus Township, on section 3. His labors, extending over a period of twenty years, have resulted with great credit to himself, his skill and industry as a farmer, and his good judgment in his investments.

In the meantime the advent of five children into the family served to increase its pleasures with its responsibilities also. These are named respectively William, Iva, Mattie, Julia and Fannie. The lifeless form of the first-born was borne from the sorrowing home circle, and laid to rest in the quiet country burying-ground after he had brightened the household but four years. Those surviving are at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Sharpe, with their eldest daughter, are members of the Baptist Church.



ANDREW JACKSON DEVORE, one of the earliest pioneers of East Bend Township, is the oldest one now living who came in at that time. In the storehouse of his memory are treasured up hundreds of interesting incidents of pioneer life and its peculiar experiences,

which, if properly compiled, would make a most interesting volume. He came to this section when it was peopled principally by wild animals, and has seen as many as ninety-three deer in a herd at one time roaming over the then uncultivated prairie, but which is now smiling with fields of growing grain. Our subject during his young manhood was a great hunter and very lively on foot, being able to travel over the country at a rapid pace and possessed of great endurance. He has been a resident of East Bend Township for a period of over thirty years, and has noted with satisfaction the changes which have transpired since he arrived here after an overland journey of ten days, made with ox-teams.

Mr. Devore was born in Owen County, Ind., April 18, 1826, and is the son of Nicholas Devore, a native of Kentucky. His grandfather, Jerry Devore, whom it is supposed was born in Pennsylvania, passed the early years of his life in Kentucky, whence he afterward removed to Indiana and died in Putnam County, that State. Nicholas Devore grew to manhood and was married in Kentucky, and after the removal to Indiana located in Owen County, where he became proprietor of a large tract of timber land. From this he cleared a farm, which he occupied with his family until 1840, and then set out for the Prairie State. He was accompanied by his family which, with the household goods, were transported by means of two wagons and four yoke of oxen. They carried their provisions and camped and cooked by the wayside. After reaching Champaign County Nicholas Devore made a claim of Government land on section 2, in what was then township 22, range 8, now known as East Bend Township. There was a small log cabin near by and in this the family lived temporarily while the father proceeded to construct a hewed-log house of larger dimensions.

When the land came into market Mr. D. repaired to Danville, secured his title, and at once commenced the improvement and cultivation of his property. Chicago at that time was the nearest market and Bloomington the nearest trading point. Here the father lived and labored until one year before his death, when both parents removed to McLean County and died at the home of their

daughter, Mrs. Joseph Newton, the father in 1853, and the mother in 1862. The mother of our subject, who in her girlhood was Miss Mary Hardsock, was born in either Kentucky or Maryland. The parental household included twelve children.

Our subject was fourteen years old when the removal was made to this State, and attended all the athletic sports of that day in the surrounding towns after the country began to settle up. He became a champion foot-racer of that section, which position of honor he retained until voluntarily withdrawing from the field. He remained with his parents until after his marriage and then, locating on a part of the homestead, remained until 1852, when he purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. It was new land at the time he took possession, but after years of industrious labor it has been transformed into a fertile farm with a good set of frame buildings, neat and substantial fences, and all the requirements essential to the successful agriculturist.

Mr. Devore was married, June 17, 1847, to Miss Susanna Veatch. She was born in Fayette County, Ind., Oct. 10, 1826, and is the daughter of James Veatch, who became a resident of Indiana in an early day, whence he removed to this State in 1837, and located two and one-half miles northeast of Mahomet, where his death occurred six years later. He had married in early life Miss Barbara Hammer, who survived him twenty years, and died in Urbana, this county, in 1865. The wife of our subject was eleven years of age when her father's family came to this State, and she remained with her mother until her marriage, assisting in the duties of the farm and household, learning to spin and weave, and becoming an expert in this as in other employments common to the wives and daughters of the pioneers. She was naturally of industrious habits, and when not needed at home would often earn a little "pin money" by spinning or weaving for the neighbors at the munificent wages of seventy-five cents per week. Calico at that time was worth twenty cents per yard, and other "store goods" in proportion. Mr. Devore says that the first time he called upon his future wife she wore a dress of her own manufacture, having done the spinning, weaving, cutting and sewing. Their wedding took place

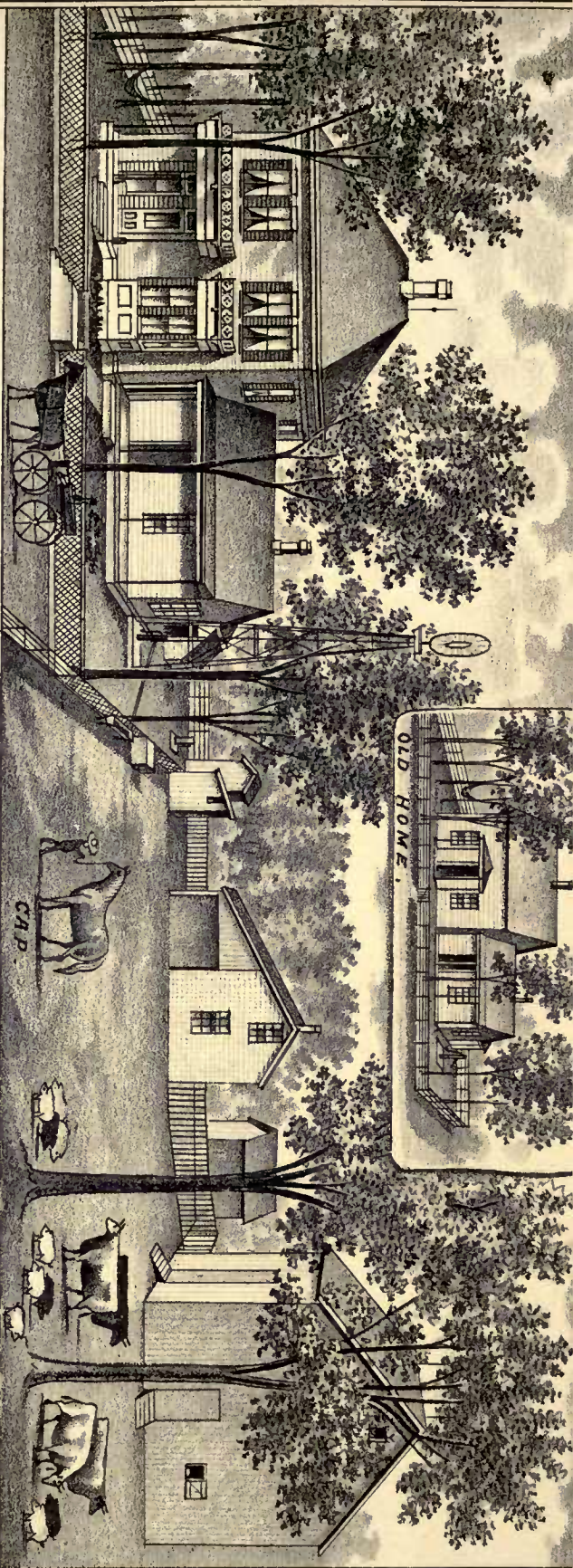
June 17, 1847, and they have been blest with four children—Sarah, David A., William Eldorado and Mary J. The parents and all the children are active members of the Protestant Methodist Church, and no family in the community is more highly respected than that of Andrew Devore. He is a thorough-bred Republican, and never expects to be anything else.

ISAAC S. RAYMOND. The subject of the following biography is a gentleman highly esteemed in the farming community of Raymond Township, and favorably known throughout Champaign County as a fair representative of its progress and enterprise. He is a son of Nathaniel Raymond, one of the early pioneers of this county, who emigrated from Ohio to Illinois in 1864, before the organization of the township which now bears the family name, given it in honor of this most estimable man and citizen.

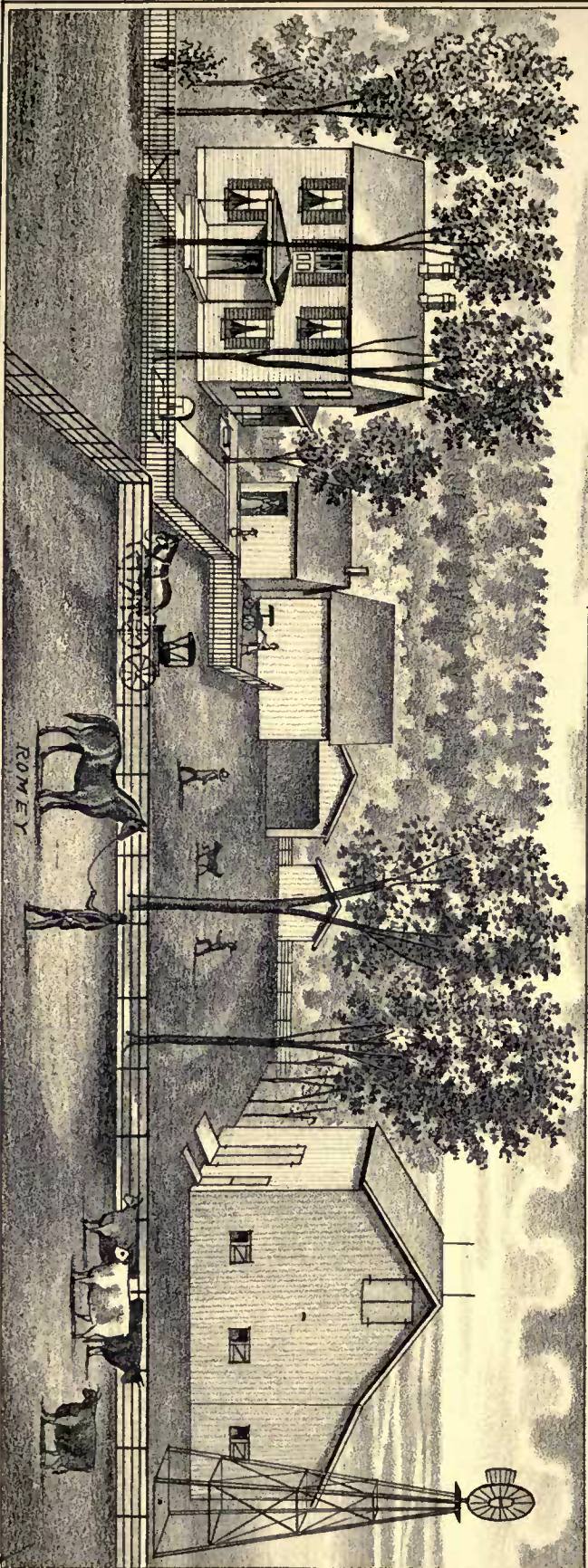
Our subject was born in Union County, Ohio, Jan. 29, 1849. His mother was formerly Miss Melissa Stewart, of that State. He resided with his parents in Ohio until fifteen years of age, and since that time has been a resident of this county. Here he completed his primary education, and when the State University at Urbana was opened for the reception of students, he was among the first to enter. After a thorough course of three years he returned to the farm and assisted his parents in tilling the soil. He was thus occupied until his marriage, in 1875. At that time he united his fortunes with those of Miss Edith, daughter of Lucius and Lucy Eaton, who were among the early pioneers of Philo Township.

After their marriage, the young people located in Raymond Township on section 8, upon a tract of land which our subject had purchased previously, and which comprised 160 acres, partially improved. He resided upon and occupied this until November, 1884, in the meantime having brought the land to a good state of cultivation, and embellished it with a fine set of farm buildings. At this time he traded farms with his father and now owns and occupies the old Raymond homestead. This includes 360 acres of choice land,

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RESIDENCE OF SAMUEL CROW, SEC. 25, COLFAX TP.

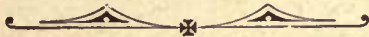


RESIDENCE OF LOUIS REINHART, SEC. 24 PESOTUM TP.

well drained, and supplied with good farm buildings. Of late years he has given most of his attention to the raising of graded stock.

Two children came to bless the union of our subject and his wife, namely, John and Ruth, who are still at home with their parents. Mrs. Raymond is connected with the Congregational Church, and a lady of much refinement, greatly respected for her personal worth and kindly disposition. She was born in Monmouth County, N. J., Sept. 1, 1853, and came with her mother to Illinois two years later, her father having already located in Philo Township, this county. Her education was completed in the public schools of the city of Champaign and the State University. She taught a country school for six years, and afterward presided over one of the village schools at Philo.

Mr. Raymond, politically, casts his vote with the Democratic party. He has served as School Trustee in his township for a period of fourteen years, and with his excellent wife takes an active interest in the establishment and maintenance of institutions of learning. He was also Collector of the township four years, and has been the encourager and supporter of everything pertaining to its progress and welfare. The home of our subject and his family is the abode of peace and refinement, and they enjoy the society of the most cultivated people of their locality.



LOUIS REINHART. This substantial and highly respected German citizen of Pesotum was born in Alsace-Lorraine in 1837, his birthplace then being a Province of France. He drew his first breath in the month of April, and remained in his native land until a boy six years of age, when his parents resolved to emigrate to America. With their family they embarked on a sailing-vessel at Havre, and after a voyage of several weeks, landed at New Orleans. Thence they followed the river up to the city of Peoria, where the father of our subject purchased eighty acres of land and commenced farming after the primitive style of those days. Their neighbors were neither numerous nor troublesome. The elder Reinhart

broke the first sod on his embryo farm and prospered in his labors. In due time he doubled his first purchase and finally had a comfortable homestead, where he passed his later years in peace and quiet, and folded his hands for his final rest in 1878. The mother is now living with her son, Anthony, in Crittenden Township, having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. She was a woman of splendid constitution and is still hale and hearty, retaining her mental faculties to a remarkable degree.

Two years after reaching his majority, the subject of this history was united in marriage with Miss Mary Eisenmenger, of Peoria County, but a native of Pennsylvania. The parents of Mrs. R. were natives of the same Province as her husband, and came to this country in 1836. The parents of both our subject and his wife were quiet, unassuming people, performing faithfully their duties around their home and to their children, and were greatly respected by their neighbors. When they first settled in Peoria County there were few people around them and they may be properly classed among the earliest pioneers. Land at that time in the vicinity of what is now a flourishing city could be purchased at \$3 per acre.

After his marriage Mr. Reinhart pursued farming in Peoria County for five years. From there he went into Marshall County, and three years later came to Pesotum Township, this county, where he first purchased eighty acres on section 24. This is now included in his present farm. His course from the beginning was uniformly prosperous, and he added to his first estate until he became the owner of 200 acres, all of which he has brought to a fine state of cultivation and supplied with good buildings. The residence is a two-story frame, finished and furnished in excellent style, and finely located. The barn is a shapely and substantial structure, and our subject has a good assortment of the better grades of live stock, including horses, cattle and hogs.

In January, 1882, Mr. Reinhart met with a severe affliction in the death of his wife, who had been his affectionate companion for nearly twenty-two years. The children born of this marriage were Catherine, Peter, Joseph, George, Edward, Wendel

(now deceased,) Annie, Matilda and Louis. Catherine is the wife of Richard Scott, a farmer of Crittenden Township. In October, 1882, Mr. Reinhart was married the second time, to Mrs. Annie (Kobler) Kennedy. By her former marriage Mrs. R. had a daughter, May, who is still at home. Mrs. Reinhart is the daughter of John Kobler, who was a native of Switzerland, and after emigrating to the United States served as a soldier in the Mexican War. He is now truly termed a veteran and receives a pension from the Government. Of the second marriage of our subject there were born four children—John, Clara, Emma and Frederick.

Mr. R. has never troubled himself with politics more than to deposit his ticket at the time of general elections, and then he usually votes for a Democratic candidate. Both he and his excellent wife are members of the German Catholic Church, and their home is the resort of the best people of the county. A lithographic view of Mr. Reinhart's handsome residence is shown on another page of this work.



SAMUEL CRAW, a prominent farmer of Colfax Township, is a member of the family widely and favorably known in this section as valued factors of the farming and business community. Our subject is the owner of 260 acres of choice land, the greater part of which is devoted to stock-raising. His residence in this county dates from 1857, and he took possession of his present farm nine years later. His birth took place in the State of Vermont, March 4, 1836, and his parents were Allen and Luey (Griswold) Craw, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work.

The family came to Illinois in 1837, settling first in Greene County, where Samuel of our sketch grew to manhood and was bred to farming pursuits. In 1858 he accompanied his brother, George B., to Champaign County, and purchased 160 acres of land in Colfax Township. Upon this he farmed for two years, and in 1859 was married to Miss Eveline E. Brown, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Richard and Rebecca Brown. After the birth of two children Mr. C. disposed of his property on

section 24, and took possession of his present homestead, a view of which is shown in this connection. The family of our subject and his wife consists of four children—Charlie A., Richard, George and Eugene. They attend the Methodist Church, and our subject politically votes with the Republican party. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

When Mr. Craw came to this township there were only two houses between his land and the embryo village of Champaign. He was the third settler in Colfax Township, and is now the oldest one living of the pioneers. Among the few amusements which the early settlers engaged in were the deer hunts, which Mr. C. and one of his neighbors often engaged in, the latter having a fine pack of greyhounds which gave additional zest and excitement to the chase. Where the fleet-footed tenants of the wilderness used to roam, the iron horse now rushes from city to city, and the once untrodden prairie is now laid off in beautiful farms and valuable homesteads. Our subject has watched with pride and satisfaction the march of civilization and progress, and has contributed his full quota toward bringing about the present prosperous condition of Champaign County.



EDWARD STYAN, an enterprising young farmer of Sadorus Township, has a fine body of land lying on sections 1 and 2. He possesses more than ordinary intelligence and ability, and it is expected that in due time he will become one of the weighty and influential citizens of this locality. He possesses excellent habits and since starting out in life for himself has made remarkably good progress. As one of the finest representatives of the foreign element which has been of such invaluable aid to this section, he is regarded as an important factor among its business and agricultural interests.

The childhood and youth of Mr. Styan were spent on the other side of the Atlantic, in Yorkshire, England, where he first opened his eyes to the light on the 3d of February, 1858, at Parkhouse, Newton-on-Ouse, the estate of the Hon. Payan Dawnay, where he remained until 1862, when his father removed to Beningbrough, under

the same landlord, and here he resided until his advent to this county in 1881. Mr. Robert Styan until his coming to America, had always lived on the same estate, and even his father, Seth Styan, and his grandfather, John Styan, lived there their entire lives, which speaks volumes for both the tenants and landlord.

Our subject was the only child of Robert and Ann (Jackson) Styan, natives of the same Province as their son, and where the mother passed from earth in 1858. Six years later the father was a second time married, to Miss Ann Cockerill, of Hackness, near Scarborough, Yorkshire. Of this later union there were born seven children, all living at present, and named respectively, William, Edith M., Lizzie J., George H., Beatrice E., Robert and Frances E. In 1882 Robert Styan left England with his family and sailed for the United States. He at once located in this county, and now lives with his son, assisting the latter in the lighter labors around the farm, and giving him the benefit of his experience and judgment.

Edward Styan came to America in 1881, the year before his father, and proceeding westward to this State, worked first on a farm in this county, and the second year purchased a quarter section of improved land, which constitutes his present homestead. It is located on sections 1 and 2, and bears fair comparison with that of his neighbors. He has become thoroughly Americanized, keeps himself well informed in regard to current events, and casts his vote with the Republican party.



JOHN T. JESSEE. This gentleman, who is a resident of Crittenden Township, is a native of Russell County, Va., where he first opened his eyes to the light on the 7th of August, 1836. His parents, Joseph and Cynthia (Smith) Jessee, were natives of the same county and State as their son, where they resided after their marriage on a farm until the death of the father when he was fifty-two years of age. The mother is still living in her native county, having now arrived at the advanced age of eighty-three years, and enjoys remarkably good health for one

of her age. Her mental facilities likewise are wonderfully preserved. Since her eightieth birthday she has frequently saddled a horse and ridden over the country, leaping over the fences as when a girl. The household circle was completed by the birth of eight children, who grew to man and womanhood. Of these, Tabitha is now deceased; Timothy was a soldier in Co. A, 29th Va. Vol. Inf., C. S. A., and in a skirmish near Richmond received a wound which caused his death; Mary became the wife of D. Gilmore; Ephraim K. was the second son; Sylvesta married Mr. John Perceel; Eliza is the wife of John Browning; Eunice married A. Smith; John T. is our subject.

The subject of our sketch was reared with his brothers and sisters on the homestead, and after the outbreak of the Rebellion, in 1861, became a soldier in the Southern army, enlisting in Co. A, 29th Va. Vol. Inf., in which he served until the surrender of Gen. Lee. He participated in the engagements at Cold Harbor, Corinth, Culpeper court-house and Suffolk, Va. Two days before the surrender of Lee, he received a gunshot wound in the right foot which disabled him so that he was compelled to use crutches for three years afterward. After receiving his discharge he returned to his home in the Old Dominion, where he remained until 1869, and then came to Illinois, locating upon the tract of land in Crittenden Township, which constitutes his present homestead. Here he has 120 acres lying on section 4, under a good state of cultivation, and supplied with all the buildings and other appliances essential to a modern farm estate.

Before coming to this county Mr. Jessee was married, in the spring of 1863, in Russell County, Va., to Miss America E. Bickley, who was a native of that county, born in 1853, and the daughter of James and Eveline (Bartee) Bickley. Their six living children, all born in this county, are as follows: Robert L., Minnie E., Belle, Grace, Clarence and Nellie. The two deceased are John B. and James B.

Our subject and his wife are both sincere believers in the Christian religion, and Mrs. Jessee is a worthy member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Jessee politically supports the principles of the

Democratic party; has served as Supervisor of his township one term, and was School Trustee for a period of six years.

JAMES H. POLLOCK, second child and elder son of Samuel and Margaret (Morrow) Pollock, was born in what is now Lawrence County, Pa., Oct. 24, 1822. His father was a native of Northumberland County, Pa., and his mother of Delaware. After uniting their fortunes for life, they located on a farm in Beaver, afterward Lawrence County, Pa., where they lived worthily and faithfully until life's duties for them were ended. Their family consisted of two sons and two daughters.

James H. of our sketch spent his boyhood and youth on the homestead, receiving a good education, and at about the age of twenty-five years began to learn the stone-cutter's trade, which, however, he abandoned for the more congenial pursuits of teaching and farming alternately. He continued a resident of his native State until October, 1863, in the meantime having assumed domestic ties, and then with his wife and six children started for the West. His first stopping-place was in McLean County, this State, where he farmed in Old Town Township for about nine years, and then removed to Brown Township, in this county. Here he has 160 acres of improved land on section 21, besides village property in Foosland. His residence and farm buildings compare favorably with those of his neighbors, and his career as a member of the farming community has been eminently creditable and one by which he has secured the respect of his fellow-citizens, both on account of his industry and enterprise, and his excellent personal qualities.

Mr. Pollock has held the offices of Township Clerk, Assessor, Collector and Trustee. He is Republican in politics, a strong temperance man and a Prohibitionist. In 1864 he and his wife became members of the Methodist Protestant Church, of which they have since remained cheerful and liberal supporters, interested in everything pertaining to the religious and moral welfare of the community. During their residence in Pennsylvania they had

been members of the Presbyterian Church, but on removing here—that church being so far distant—they identified themselves with the Methodist Protestant Church.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married in Darlington, Beaver Co., Pa., Oct. 31, 1850, was formerly Miss Lydia M. Phillips, born near Vershire, Vt., June 25, 1831, and the third child of Joseph and Lydia (Davis) Phillips, also natives of the Green Mountain State, where they were reared and married and where they lived until 1835. Thence they emigrated to what is now Lawrence County, Pa., becoming the parents of three daughters and four sons, and passing to their final rest at the old homestead in the Keystone State. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Pollock, eight in number, were named as follows: David W., Joseph P., Samuel H., Robert M., Charles K., Milton D., Ulysses S. G. and Emma M. Joseph married Miss Ida Ball, and is engaged in merchandising in Foosland; from 1882 to the present he has officiated as Postmaster of that place. Samuel married Miss Jennie Carlyle, and Robert married Miss Jennie Maltby. They also are residents of Foosland.

In 1880 Mr. Pollock began merchandising with his three sons—Joseph, Samuel and Robert—under the firm name of J. H. Pollock & Sons. Since that time David and Milton have been admitted to the firm. They carry a large and well-selected stock of goods and have built up an extensive patronage. Of late they have added grain and coal and farm machinery of all kind.

MATTHEW A. PHILLIPPE, an esteemed farm resident, located on section 3, Hensley Township, is a native of this county, having been born in Condit Township, April 29, 1848. His father, John Phillippe, who is now deceased, was a native of Virginia, born in Wythe County, Jan. 13, 1821, and his grandfather, John Phillippe, Sr., also a native of the Old Dominion, was born April 22, 1779. He followed farming pursuits in his native State until 1832, then emigrated with his family to Illinois, the entire journey being made overland with horse-teams.

They brought their household goods with them and camped by the way. On arriving in Illinois the elder Phillippe located with his family in that part of Vermilion now included in Champaign County. He entered 160 acres of Government land on section 32 of what is now Condit Township, and erected a hewed log house which is still standing. Here he made his home until his death, which occurred about 1884.

John, Jr., the father of our subject, was but fifteen years old when his parents came to Illinois. He assisted his father in clearing the farm and remained under the home roof until his marriage. Afterward, his father having given him a part of the old homestead he settled upon it, and with the exception of five years made it his residence until the close of his life. In those days the nearest market was Chicago, whither the grain and other produce was transported in wagons, which trip over bad roads consumed two weeks' time. In 1880 Mr. P. removed to Butler County, Kan., where for five years following he made his residence, after which he returned to this county, and died in the city of Champaign in 1884. His remains were laid to rest in the cemetery there and a handsome monument marks the spot where he was buried. The widowed mother still occupies the old homestead. She was formerly Miss Susan J. Buscy, and a native of Shelby County, Ky., born April 31, 1821. She was the daughter of Mathew E. and Sarah E. (Smiser) Buscy (see sketch of Sanford Buscy.)

The parental household included six children, four of whom are now living: Mary F. became the wife of Alfred Scrogins, and lives in Logan County, this State; Matthew A. of our sketch is the third child; John F. is mentioned elsewhere in this work; Nellie F. became the wife of George Clevinger, and lives in Butler County, Kan.; Sarah E. married Wiley Buckles, and is now deceased; Melissa, Mrs. R. M. Buckles, died in Logan County. The father was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the support of which he contributed cheerfully and liberally of his means and influence.

The homestead of our subject is pleasantly located, and Mr. P. has spent much time in beautifying it with shade and other choice trees; he has

also erected a good set of frame buildings. The premises in all respects denote the thrift and enterprise of their proprietor and indicate the home of the progressive and intelligent modern farmer. The excellent grades of farm stock are well cared for, and the fences and buildings are kept in good repair. Mr. P. has distinguished himself as an excellent citizen and a good business man, and enjoys in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of the friends who have known him as a man prompt to meet his obligations, and as one of the important factors in the business and agricultural community.

The marriage of our subject occurred Dec. 11, 1871, the maiden of his choice being Miss Ida Simpson, who was born in Fayette County, Ind., Nov. 29, 1849. She was the daughter of Henry and Melinda (Lemon) Simpson, who were natives respectively of Tennessee and Kentucky. They emigrated to this State in about 1857, and located in Hensley Township, where the father died Oct. 27, 1858. The mother still survives and is a resident of Hensley Township. Our subject is Republican in politics, and cast his first Presidential vote in 1868 for U. S. Grant.

WALLACE SILVER is a well-known and respected citizen of Philo Township. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Joseph Silver by name, spent the earlier part of his life in New Jersey, and from there removed to Ohio, where he carried on farming in Warren County, was uniformly successful, and lived to a good old age. He married and reared a family, and among the children was David, the father of our subject, who was born Feb. 15, 1798, before the removal to Ohio, and died in Warren County, the latter State, Nov. 10, 1875, aged seventy-eight years. He was fairly successful as a farmer and business man, and took an active part in local politics. During the existence of the Whig party he was one of its staunchest supporters, and after its disbandment identified himself with the Republicans. The mother of our subject, who was Miss Eliza Munger, was married to David Silver in Warren Coun-

ty, Ohio, June 26, 1823. Her birth occurred in Montgomery County, same State, Jan. 2, 1802. She came with her husband, to Champaign County, Ill., where her death occurred in 1863, when she was sixty-one years old.

The parental household of our subject included five children, four sons and one daughter; one of the former is deceased. Wallace of our sketch was born May 29, 1829, near Springboro, Warren Co., Ohio, where he was reared and educated. He was first married in Warren County, Ohio, April 25, 1850, to Miss Rebecca Mullen, a native of that county, where she was reared by her parents, who are now living in Warren County, Ohio, at an advanced age. By this union there were two children, Howard and Charles W. The former married Miss Edna Foster, and is teaching in Springfield, Mo.; Charles W. is a resident of Rice County, Kan. The boys were both graduates of the State University at Champaign, and after the completion of their studies engaged in teaching.

Our subject was a second time married, Nov. 13, 1866, to Miss Mary D., daughter of Andrew and Mary (Morris) Karr, natives of Monmouth County, N. J. The wife of our subject was also born there, where her father followed the trade of a carpenter until after the birth of three children. The parents then moved to Burlington County, same State. Mrs. Silver was born Oct. 15, 1832, and was fifteen years of age when her parents removed from her native State to Ohio. The father afterward died at Miamisburg, in 1876, aged eighty-five years. The mother also lived to an advanced age, departing this life on the 23d of December, 1885, aged eighty-six. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The father, politically, was a staunch Democrat. Of her union with our subject Mrs. Silver has become the mother of one child, David A., who completed his studies in the Business College at Champaign.

The homestead of our subject and his family includes 160 acres of land on section 3, Philo Township, and substantial and convenient farm buildings. The land is well drained and has been brought to a high state of cultivation. Of late years Mr. Silver has given much attention to the breeding of French draft horses. He has been

Assistant Supervisor of Urbana Township for several terms, and politically is a warm supporter of the Republican party. Religiously Mrs. Silver is a member of the Baptist Church at Urbana.

JOHN SAMUEL BUSEY, a worthy representative of that well-known family who were among the first citizens and pioneers of this county, is a native of Shelby County, Ky., and first opened his eyes to the light on the 16th of April, 1827. His father, Mathew E. Busey, was a native of North Carolina, from which State he emigrated to Kentucky at an early day with his parents, who were among the pioneer settlers of Shelby County.

The father of our subject was quite a youth at the time of the removal. He developed into manhood and was married to Miss Sallie Fibel, who was a native of the Blue Grass State and of German parentage. They lived in Kentucky until 1829, and then with their family of seven children started overland for Illinois. Their outfit consisted of two pair of oxen and a horse and cart. They brought with them their household goods and lived after the manner of the emigrants of those days, cooking and camping by the way. A great part of the journey lay through the wilderness, in which they followed Indian trails. Their objective point was the present site of Jacksonville, but upon landing they found themselves two miles east of the present site of Urbana. They camped in the timber and meeting a man who had a "squatter's" claim and who offered to sell it for \$600, Mr. B. offered him \$500 if he would throw in what meat he had on hand to carry him through the winter. This consisted of bacon from the wild hogs which abounded here at that time. At first the man refused this offer, but the morning after Mr. B. had hitched up his teams ready for starting he came to him and accepted the proposition of the night before.

At this time there were five log cabins at the grove, which were all covered with bark for the roofs, and had puncheon floors. These contained the only settlers for many miles. The nearest

mills and depot for supplies were over the line in Indiana and the journey occupied sixteen days to go and return. Chicago at that time was a place of no importance, but after the lapse of a few years it became a market where Mr. Busey and his neighbors disposed of their grain for cash or needful household and farm supplies. The corn was shelled by hand and transported to the market by means of ox-teams, which journey usually consumed twenty-two days. After the land came into market Mr. B. entered 1,240 acres in what is now Urbana Township. He lived to see the county well developed and a town of upward of 2,000 inhabitants within two miles of his first location. He improved a large tract of land and erected a good set of frame buildings, and established a comfortable home which he occupied until his death, in 1862. The wife and mother died in May, 1887, on the old homestead, aged ninety-six years.

Mr. Busey of our sketch was the seventh child of the parental household, and was two years old when his parents came to this county. He pursued his primary studies in the pioneer schools, which were carried on in a log cabin with its puncheon floor, its huge fireplace, and seats and desks made by splitting logs and turning the flat side upward. The school was supported by subscription, and in other respects was widely different from those of the present day. When not in school young Busey assisted in the improvement and cultivation of his father's land, remaining under the home roof until twenty-three years old, at which time he started out to do for himself.

Our subject had been reared to habits of economy and saved what he could of his modest earnings of \$12 per month. In due time he was able to enter fifty acres of land on section 31 of what is now Homer Township. He erected a set of buildings, improved his first purchase, and in due time his father presented him with 160 acres of land. This little farm he occupied for three years following, then sold out and removed to Iowa, locating in Marion County, and being among the earliest settlers of that region. There also he entered a tract of Government land, which he occupied and cultivated for eight years following. He then returned to Illinois, and traded his Iowa farm for a

farm in Urbana Township, this county, which he occupied for ten years, then sold out and purchased his present homestead. This consists of 160 acres, all improved, and provided with a good set of frame buildings. This now constitutes an ample and comfortable homestead, under a good state of cultivation, well cared for and indicating in all respects the cultivated tastes of its proprietor.

Our subject was first married to Miss Marilla Waterman, who was born near Columbus, Ohio, and was the daughter of Aden Waterman. This lady died in Iowa, May 3, 1858. The second wife of our subject was Miss Permelia Loudonback, who was a native of Indiana, and also died at the home of her husband in Iowa. The present wife of our subject was formerly Miss Phebe Midaugh, a native of Ohio. Of the first marriage there were four children, of whom only two are living—Sarah F., Mrs. Stickrood, a resident of Champaign, and Charles A., of Missouri. Of the second marriage there was one child, who is now deceased. Of the third marriage there have been born four children—Mary E. and Isaac, who died in infancy, and Ora and George, at home. Our subject is Democratic in politics, but beyond casting his vote does not meddle much with political affairs, preferring the more peaceful pursuits of the farm, to which he gives the greater part of his time and attention.



RICHARD B. VAIL. The homestead of this successful farmer and stock-breeder of Philo Township, is pleasantly located on section 21. Here he has eighty acres of finely cultivated land, upon which he settled in the spring of 1886, and to which he removed from Crittenden Township, where he owned 100 acres. He is a native of Hancock County, Ohio, and was born March 16, 1849. His father, Isaac Vail, also a native of the Buckeye State, was a tanner by trade, and married Miss Julia A. Richards, a native of Ohio, and of German ancestry. The Vails originated in Scotland.

The grandfather of our subject, Jonathan Vail, was sixteen years old at the breaking out of the Revolutionary War, and before its close he was

seen carrying a musket to shoot the British with, whom he disliked as cordially as any native American. Besides himself his four brothers at the same time were engaged in assisting the Colonists to maintain their independence. At the second outbreak in 1812, although then too old for fighting in the field, he aided the cause of liberty by his voice and influence whenever opportunity occurred. After his retirement from military service he removed to Coshocton County, Ohio, where he died at a ripe old age. The maiden name of the grandmother was Miss Polly Rendfrew. She also lived to be quite aged, and died in Ohio.

Their son Isaac, the father of our subject, possessed in a marked degree the substantial qualities of his parents, and upon reaching manhood was united in marriage with Miss Julia A. Richards. He had served an apprenticeship to the tanner's trade, at which he was employed until forty years of age, and then, in company with fifty well-disciplined men, Capt. Carlin, of Findlay, Ohio, at the head, set out with teams and provisions to cross the plains. They left Independence, Mo., in 1849, and pursued their course toward the setting sun until they arrived in Sacramento, Cal. The journey consumed four months' time. Mr. Vail located in the Sacramento Valley on the river of that name, and for three years following engaged in cutting and selling grass and hay. At the expiration of this time he returned to Ohio, and locating in Putnam County engaged in farming. He is still living there with his aged wife, being about seventy-eight years of age, and the mother seventy-five. He has adhered tenaciously to Democratic principles and held various offices in his county and township. Both he and his aged partner united with the Methodist Church over fifty years ago, and have lived together as husband and wife in peace and harmony for a period of fifty-five years.

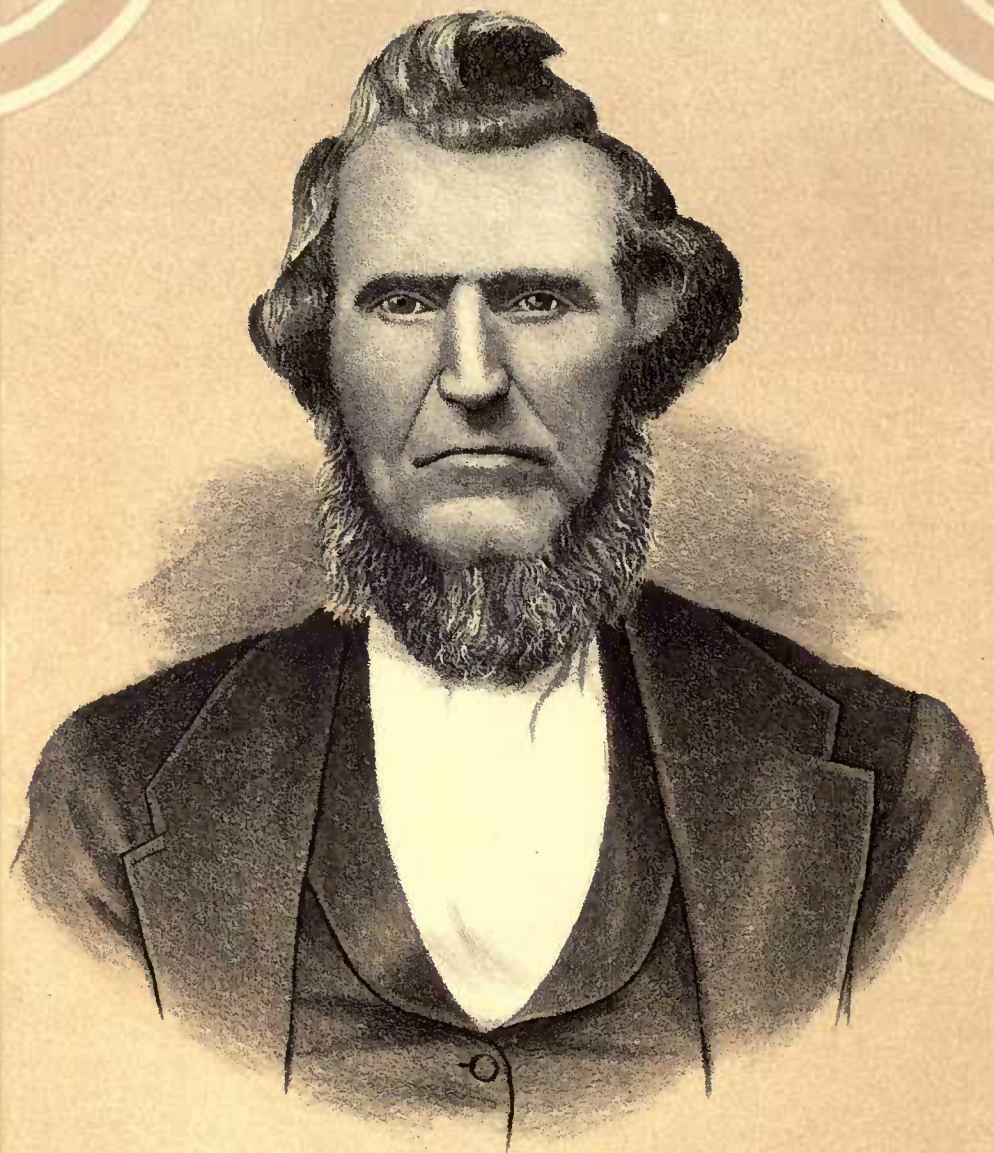
Richard B. Vail was the third son and seventh child in a family of four sons and six daughters. He received a fair education in the primitive schools of his native county, where he spent his boyhood and youth. His first trip to Illinois was made in 1867, and he spent three years in Champaign, De Witt and Piatt Counties. He then returned to the old homestead, and was married in his native town

on the 1st of October, 1872, to Miss Mary E. Burt, of Coshocton County, Ohio. Mrs. Vail was the daughter of Thomas H. and Mary L. (Chapin) Burt, and was born Dec. 8, 1851. Her father was a native of New York, and the mother of Massachusetts. They emigrated to Ohio in their youth, and were there married, subsequently locating on a farm in Coshocton County. Besides his agricultural operations, Mr. Burt was quite extensively engaged in the coal business, which for a period of several years yielded him a handsome income. He was cut down in the prime of life, dying when thirty-eight years of age, in 1869. The mother is yet living and engaged as a teacher in the public schools of Peoria. Although fifty-five years of age she retains her mental faculties as brightly as ever, and in the duties of her profession is remarkably efficient and popular. Mrs. Vail of our sketch, after receiving her education, also engaged as a teacher in Putnam County some time before her marriage. Of her union with our subject there have been born four children—Isaac B., Lenora A., Julia and Richard W. Mr. and Mrs. V. are prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject, politically, votes with the Democratic party.

CURTIS E. PERCIVAL, a promising young farmer of Philo Township, is pleasantly located on sections 5 and 6, where he has 120 acres, fairly well improved, and where he is making arrangements to add still further to its beauty and value. He is a native of Urbana Township, this county, and was born on his father's old homestead Feb. 29, 1856. He began his education in the public schools and completed his studies at the University in Champaign, where he took a three years' course. His father, S. P. Percival, a resident of Champaign Township, is widely and favorably known as a representative citizen and business man, fully entitled to the position which he holds in the esteem of his community.

After our subject had completed three years at the University he became a teacher in the public schools, which profession he followed for several

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years. He was married, March 30, 1881, at the residence of the bride's parents in Dunlap, Peoria County, to Miss Helen, daughter of Burley and Sylvia (Pride) Dunlap, natives of New York State, and both born in Sandy Creek, Oswego County, where they were reared, and whence they removed to Peoria County before their marriage. Their union took place in the latter county, and Mr. Dunlap carried on farming until the death of the mother in 1873. Mr. D., who is now fifty-seven years of age, is a resident of Dunlap.

Mrs. Percival was the eldest child of her parents. She was educated in her native county and remained a member of the parental household until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there were born two children—Avis H. and one deceased. Mr. and Mrs. P. soon after their marriage located upon their present farm, which our subject purchased after reaching his majority. They enjoy the confidence and esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances, and are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. P. is Steward, Trustee and Class-Leader. He is also School Director. Politically he is a staunch supporter of Prohibition principles. He was nominated as County Clerk in 1886, receiving the full vote of his party ticket.



JAMES S. HANNAH, Justice of the Peace of Newcomb Township, is the proprietor of a snug homestead on section 34, which he operates successfully in connection with his official duties. He is practically what may be termed a self-made man, starting out in life with little save his resolute will and willing hands. He has been a resident of Champaign County since the fall of 1851, when he took up his abode in Newcomb Township, where he has since resided. He is a man of note in his township, in which he has exerted a healthy influence since his residence here, being the encourager of every enterprise calculated to promote the welfare of the people. His farm comprises 300 acres of finely improved land, with a handsome and substantial dwelling, whose inmates

are surrounded by the comforts and refinements of modern life.

'Squire Hannah is the son of David and Jane (Smith) Hannah, who were of English and Irish descent, and were married in Clarke County, Ohio, where they located soon afterward. From there they removed to Logan County, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Of their ten children, James S. of our sketch was the third in order of birth. He first opened his eyes to the light in Clarke County, Ohio, Feb. 18, 1817. He was reared on his father's farm, and has followed agricultural pursuits all his life. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-seven years of age, then married, and located first in Logan County, Ohio, whence he removed, as we have said, to this county. Mrs. Hannah, who before her marriage was Miss Sina J. Banes, was the daughter of Gabriel H. and Sallie (McKinnon) Banes. Her parents located in Clarke County, Ohio, at an early period in the history of that region, and afterward removed to Logan County and then to Champaign, where the father died. The mother is still living, having arrived at an advanced age, and is a resident of Newcomb Township, this county. Mrs. Hannah was born in Clarke County, Ohio, Oct. 12, 1826. She became the wife of our subject April 13, 1844, and departed this life at her home in Newcomb Township, April 10, 1879.

The ten children of Mr. and Mrs. Hannah are recorded as follows: Sarah J. died in infancy; Nancy H. is the wife of C. E. Wright, of Newcomb Township; Mary A. married George Wyant, of this county; Joseph W. married Miss Sarah Lyons, and is a resident of Seward County, Neb.; Martha W., Mrs. Henry J. Caldwell, is a resident of Piatt County, Ill.; Gabriella married J. W. Morris, of Seward County, Neb.; Maria B., Mrs. J. Tucker, and Emma, Mrs. J. W. Lyons, are residents of Newcomb Township; Abraham L. and John are at home.

Mr. Hannah has served as Justice of the Peace for a period of thirty years, and has held the offices of School Treasurer and Collector. Everybody knows 'Squire Hannah, and he is probably the most popular man in his township. Politically he is a strong Republican, and religiously is a member in

good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which his wife was also connected. His career through life has been one well worthy of imitation by the ambitious youth of the present day, and a forcible illustration of what may be accomplished by an honorable and upright course of action, and steady perseverance in the effort to obtain a good position, both in the business world and society at large.

The portrait of Mr. Hannah, which is presented in this connection, will be looked upon with pleasure by his many friends and associates, who have seen in him at all times a man who has striven to uphold the right, and to better the condition of his fellow-men.



BENJAMIN F. MERRY, deceased. There are few permanent residents of Pesotum Township to whom the name of this pioneer settler is not familiar, and none name him but to praise. His character was that of a man noble in his impulses, enterprising and industrious, and as jealous of the reputation of his township and its interests as he was of his own and that of his family. From the time of coming to this locality, over thirty years ago, he was identified with its interests, and to him it has been in a large measure indebted for some of its best features, as indicated in the homesteads around that which he built up, and whose proprietors had profited by his own example of thrift and industry. Both socially and in a business sense he was the same, a model of integrity and sterling worth, one who could be relied upon, and whose judgment it was safe to follow.

Mr. Merry was a native of Montgomery County, N. Y., born April 14, 1831, and departed this life at his home in Pesotum Township, Dec. 3, 1870. He was the eleventh child of Jirah and Hannah (Jones) Merry, natives of Connecticut, who became residents of the Empire State. Their son Benjamin remained under the home roof, where he was taught filial obedience, and those principles which formed the basis of his character in later years. He was trained to habits of industry and economy, and

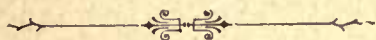
early in life learned to depend upon himself. When eighteen years of age he had already formed his plans for the future, the first important step being his marriage. This took place on the 3d of October, 1849, the lady of his choice being Miss Catherine, daughter of Harvey and Sallie (Merry) Norton, natives of New York. After this event Mr. Merry remained four years in his native State, where he owned and operated a farm of 135 acres, in connection with his brother, James M. In 1853 he sold out his interest in the property to his brother, and removed to Geauga County, Ohio. His brother in the meantime had sold the farm which they owned together, and followed Benjamin F. to Ohio, but died soon after his arrival. Our subject engaged in dairying for two years, manufacturing cheese for the trade in the surrounding country.

In 1855 Mr. Merry resolved to migrate further West, and coming to this county rented a tract of land known as the University Farm. The same year he purchased 102 acres on section 12, in Pesotum Township, moving upon it the following spring, where he labored for ten years following, brought the land to a good state of cultivation and put up a set of substantial buildings, then, selling his farm at a good price, he purchased the quarter section which now constitutes the homestead of his widow and the children who remain with her.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Merry consisted of two daughters and a son, namely, Cyrena E., Matilda and Charles D. The eldest daughter, Cyrena, married Shadrack H. Brown, who owns and operates eighty acres adjoining the Merry homestead, but lives on the latter; Matilda is the wife of Egbert P. Little, proprietor of a farm of ninety-four acres in Crittenden Township; Charles D. married Miss Eva, daughter of Willis Stone of Tolono, and cultivates the east eighty acres of the homestead, and forty acres adjoining, which his mother purchased since the death of her husband. He has put up a tasteful residence near his mother's home, and is considered one of the promising young citizens of Pesotum Township.

Mr. Merry had never identified himself with any church organization, but was preparing to unite with the Presbyterian Church at the time of his

death. He was Democratic in his political views, and occupied the various offices of his township, representing it in the Board of Supervisors two or three terms, and serving as School Trustee, Director and Road Commissioner. His whole course in life was one which commends itself to the young men of to-day, and he has left a record which is viewed with pride by the bereaved wife and children. Mrs. Merry in 1870 identified herself with the Presbyterian Church at Tolono, and presents the example of a consistent Christian. In assuming the management of her husband's affairs she has displayed excellent judgment, and is the safe adviser of her sons, who bid fair to emulate the virtues of their father and to preserve his memory with credit and honor.



DR. JAMES M. BARTHOLOW located in Philo in 1869, and by his skill as a practitioner and integrity as a citizen, has built up a large and profitable patronage. He is an extensive reader, a close student, and applies himself conscientiously to the duties of his profession. He is also one of the substantial property holders of the village, and the possessor of a fine farm of 120 acres in Philo Township, the cultivation of which he superintends in a successful manner.

Dr. Bartholow is the second son and child of his parents, whose household included four children, one of whom, a daughter, died in infancy. Of the three sons living, E. C., the eldest, is a practicing physician of Mahomet, this county, and the youngest, John H., is one of the leading druggists of Mansfield, Piatt County. Our subject was born in Uhrichsville, Ohio, Feb. 18, 1847. His childhood and youth were spent under the parental roof, his early education in the meantime being conducted in the public schools. Later he entered Wesleyan State University at Bloomington, Ill. The war breaking out about this time he responded to the call for three-months' men, and at the expiration of this time enlisted for the three years' service in Co. G, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf.

Young Bartholow served out his term of enlistment and then veteranized, and was transferred

to the 37th Illinois Infantry, with which he remained until his honorable discharge in the beginning of 1866. He had seen much hard service but fortunately escaped gunshot wounds and imprisonment, although he was seriously injured by a log accidentally being thrown upon him at the battle of Five-Mile Creek. While in the army he improved his leisure moments in reading medicine, and after his retirement to civil life entered Rush Medical College at Chicago, where he took a thorough course and graduated with honors in the class of 1866. He commenced the practice of his profession at Lincoln, Ill., and soon became distinguished as a skillful surgeon for many miles along the different railroad lines in that vicinity. After a residence, of eighteen months at Lincoln he had a good opportunity to purchase the practice of Dr. Hill, an old and reputable physician of Philo, and soon succeeded to his large and lucrative practice. He arrived in this place at evening and the following day earned \$45 at his profession. His success since that time speaks well for him as a practitioner.

The father of our subject, Rev. Benjamin Bartholow, was a native of Ohio, and of Scottish ancestry. He was an active minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church for a period of forty years, thirty-two of which were spent in the Central Illinois Conference. He was a man of fine abilities and exerted a wide influence for good in whatever direction his duty lay. He was possessed of sound judgment and fluent speech, and performed a great work in establishing and maintaining Church societies. His first charge was at Lytleville, which before the days of railroads was a promising town of McLean County, this State, but which is now practically extinct. The associate of Rev. Mr. Bartholow was James Shaw, the well-known author.

On the 16th of February, 1885, while at the home of his son, our subject, in Philo, Rev. Benjamin Bartholow departed this life at the age of sixty-two, and went to receive the reward of the faithful. There are in the museum at Cincinnati, Ohio, various interesting relics formerly in the possession of the Bartholow family, and which were brought from England by some of its first representatives in this country over 250 years ago. The

parents of our subject were reared and married in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, the mother having been Miss Mary Heller, whose father and mother were of German and English descent respectively. She was carefully trained and well educated by her parents, remaining with them until her marriage, and, with her husband, experienced bravely and patiently the vicissitudes of itinerant life. She passed away one year before his death at her home in Urbana, March 18, 1884, leaving behind her a record of womanly virtues and a host of friends to mourn their loss.

Dr. Bartholow of our sketch was united in marriage with Miss Florence Ford at Mason City, Ill., Feb. 29, 1867. Mrs. B. was born and reared near Lafayette, Ind., and came to Illinois when a young woman some time before her marriage. Her father, who was formerly a grain merchant and stock dealer, is now retired from active business and a resident of Normal, Ill., superintending the education of the younger members of the family. The mother before her marriage was Miss Elizabeth Rothrock, of Lafayette, Ind. Mrs. B. received a good education, and for several years before her marriage was employed as a teacher in the public schools. Of her marriage with our subject there have been born two children: Otho F. will soon graduate from the State University with the title of Doctor of Philosophy, and he is now known as one of the most efficient teachers of Champaign County; the daughter, Mary Hortensia, is at home with her parents. Our subject and his family are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically the Doctor uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party.

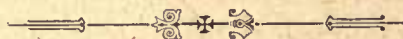


WILLIAM QUINLAN, Assessor of Crittenden Township, is also one of its most highly respected citizens, and carries on a farm of 120 acres, which is pleasantly located on section 20. He was born near Covington, Ky., March 15, 1856, and is the son of Daniel and Margaret Quinlan, who soon after his birth emigrated from their native State to Illinois and located in Peoria, where the childhood of the latter was principally spent.

Twelve years later the family came to this county, and located in Crittenden Township, of which our subject has been a resident since that time.

William Quinlan received a common-school education, and assisted his father in tilling the soil of the home farm until 1879. He was then united in marriage with the maiden of his choice, Miss Mary A., daughter of James and Ellen Ryan, and who was born in Ohio, in October, 1855. After their marriage the young people settled upon the farm which constitutes their present homestead. Their family consists of four children—Maggie, John, James and Ellen.

Although Democratic in politics Mr. Q. does not confine himself strictly to his party, but supports the candidate who in his estimation is best fitted for office. He possesses good judgment, both in political and business affairs, and has been connected with the School Board of his township for several terms. Mr. and Mrs. Quinlan are both prominent members of the Catholic Church at Tolono.



HENRY PUTNAM. The gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch is one of the earliest pioneers of Condit Township, and located on section 33, on the land which by his industry and enterprise has been transformed into one of the finest farms in Champaign County. It lies on a pleasant ridge drained partly by the Vermilion and partly by the Sangamon Rivers, and attracts the attention of the passing traveler on account of its neat fences and fields, its shapely and substantial buildings, its general air of thrift and prosperity, and the evidence of cultivated tastes and ample means. Mr. Putnam is one of the most intelligent and progressive men of his community, always interested in whatever pertains to its welfare and advancement, morally, intellectually and religiously. He has been the encourager and supporter of educational institutions, and an honored Elder of the Presbyterian Church since 1868.

Our subject is a native of Jersey Township, Licking Co., Ohio, born Aug. 13, 1832, and the son of Charles Putnam, born in Marietta, Ohio. His

grandfather, David Putnam, was a native of Connecticut, and the grandson of Israel Putnam, of Revolutionary fame, whose name is perpetuated in history. The paternal grandfather of our subject removed to the Northwest Territory in about 1798, and located on the present site of the city of Marietta, among the earliest settlers of that region. He was a lawyer by profession and soon after his removal to what was afterward the State of Ohio, accepted the position of Agent of the Ohio Land Company, which he held until withdrawing from active business. His death took place in Marietta in about 1860.

The father of our subject, who had been carefully reared under the home roof, united with the church when quite young and became a minister of the Presbyterian faith. His first and only charge was the church of Jersey, Ohio, of which he remained pastor for a period of nearly forty years. He only survived his father eight years, dying in 1868. He had married in early life Miss Abbie Edgerton, a native of Connecticut, and the daughter of Luther Edgerton, of New England. She departed this life in Columbus, Ohio, eleven years after the death of her husband, in 1879. Of the nine children comprising the parental household, six are yet living: Henry of our sketch was the eldest born; Luther; Lydia and David are residents of Columbus, Ohio; Douglas lives in Springfield, Mo., and Howard in Colorado.

Henry Putnam of our sketch attended school quite steadily until reaching manhood and acquired a good education for those days. He then commenced teaching, in which he was occupied during the seven winters following, and in the summer season was employed in farming. He remained a resident of Ohio until the fall of 1856, when he was married, and, accompanied by his bride, came to this county and located on their present homestead. The land was almost uncultivated at that time, but under his excellent management, as we have said, has been transformed into one of the finest country estates in this section. He was prospered from the start and added to his first purchase until he now has 440 acres, all under cultivation, with the exception of fifty acres in timber and pasture.

Mr. Putnam was married, Sept. 10, 1856, to Miss

Phebe Condit, a native of the same township as her husband, and the daughter of Wyckliff and Nancy (Mingis) Condit, natives of New Jersey, who afterward became residents of Licking County, Ohio, where they spent the remainder of their lives. The union of our subject and his wife was blest by the birth of five children, all living but one, namely, Alice C., Julia C., C. Wyckliff and J. Willett. Mr. Putnam is Republican in politics, and with his wife a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church.

JOSEPH ALLEN, Assessor and Collector of Hensley Township, owns and occupies a comfortable homestead on section 27. His birthplace was Fleming County, Ky., and the date thereof, June 21, 1829. He is a son of Henry Allen, a native of the same State. His grandfather, Joseph Allen, is supposed to have been a native of New England. He served in the Revolutionary War, and after its close removed to Kentucky, being among the earliest settlers of the Blue Grass region. He was well educated for those days and while engaged in agricultural pursuits, employed the winter seasons in teaching school. His death took place in Kentucky.

The father of our subject was reared in his native State, and after reaching manhood was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Sullivan, of the same locality. He was a natural mechanic and readily became master of his trade as millwright, while also employed at cabinet-making. He died in Fleming County, Ky., leaving a widow and ten children. The mother kept the remainder of her family together in Kentucky where she rented land until 1852. In that year she removed north to Indiana, settling in Montgomery County, which remained her home for the following ten years. She then came to Illinois. The removal from Indiana to this county was made overland with wagons. Mrs. Allen settled with her little family in Hensley Township, and lived to see her children established in comfortable homes of their own. She died there in about 1882.

After coming to Hensley Township our subject commenced his career as an independent farmer on

rented land. In 1867 he made his first purchase of land, including eighty acres of his present farm. To this he has added from time to time until he is now the possessor of 280 acres, finely improved and under a good state of cultivation. This is embellished with a convenient set of farm buildings and his family and domestic ties are all that could be desired.

The marriage of Joseph Allen and Miss Annie Baker was celebrated Dec. 19, 1867. Mrs. A. was born in Mason County, Ky., in February, 1843. Her father was Hiram, and her mother, Mrs. Margaret (VanBuskirk) Baker, both of whom it is believed were natives of Virginia. Mr. Baker died in Mason County, Ky., in 1847. The wife of our subject was reared in her native county, whence she came to Illinois, and located in Champaign County in 1866. Here her mother joined her a few years later, and departed this life in 1882. The five children of Mr. and Mrs. A. are Maggie E., Cora A., Charles M., Mary M. and Lulu M. Our subject is Republican in politics, and both he and his wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



CR. WYMAN. Lying on section 19 in Philo Township, is one of the most valuable farms of that locality, the cultivation of which has been superintended for many years by the subject of our sketch. He comes of excellent German ancestry, and is a fine representative of that reliable element to which the West is so largely indebted for its development and progress. All over the fair prairies of Illinois are scattered the substantial homesteads of the men who mostly in their youth left their native land to seek their fortunes in the New World. Among these was Mr. Wymann, who was born in Edenkoben, Germany, June 10, 1838. His father, Dr. Charles Wymann, is now a resident of Landau, Bavaria, where he is still practicing his profession, in which he has been remarkably skillful. He is now seventy-five years of age, but through life has followed those habits that have lengthened his days and preserved his health and strength beyond the usual threescore years and ten.

The mother of our subject was formerly Miss Caroline Kline, a native of the same Province as the father and son, where she died in about 1881, when sixty-three years old. The family is of pure German stock, possessing the best elements of their race.

The parental family of our subject included four children, of whom he was the only son. His eldest sister, Matilda, became the wife of F. M. Bowman, a Government official in the Postal Department at Munich; Minnie married Jasper Manlove, editor of the *Air-Line News* at Kirklint, Ind.; Emily is the wife of a Government official in the Postal Department of Bavaria, and located at Landau. Our subject lived at home until fourteen years of age, completing his studies in the college at Edenkoben, where he graduated with a good knowledge of his mother tongue.

Soon afterward, in 1852, in company with friends, Mr. Wymann set sail for the United States, and located first in Philadelphia, where he engaged as a gunsmith. Two years later he started for the West, and after arriving in Indiana located near Shawnee Mound in Tippecanoe County. There he engaged as a farm laborer, and there met Miss Catherine Bowers, the lady to whom he was afterward married, the wedding taking place Sept. 5, 1861. Mrs. Wymann was born at Trier-on-the-Rhine in Prussia, May 25, 1842, and was the daughter of Adam and Eva Bowers, who emigrated to America when their daughter was about two years of age. They settled in Lafayette, Ind., where the father died the following year. Mrs. Wymann became a member of the well-known family of Samuel Meharry, of Shawnee Prairie, Ind., but now a resident of Lafayette, Ind. She remained with the family of Mr. M. until her marriage with our subject, and received a fair education in the public schools. She was treated as kindly by her foster parents as though she were their own child, and repaid their care and affection with an ever-grateful heart.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wymann located in this county, where they have since lived, with the exception of nine years spent in Chicago. They took possession of their present farm in the spring of 1877. To this household there has been born one child only, a daughter, Carrie, and they

have an adopted son, Lincoln, who married Miss Lena Morris, and is a resident of Tolono. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically Mr. Wymann is a solid Republican.



WILLIAM W. WOOD, of Condit Township, is a gentleman of more than ordinary ability both as a business man and a citizen. He sprang from a humble condition in life, but nature did much for him in providing him with a good amount of common sense, an observing eye to what was going on around him, and the qualities of perseverance and energy which have served him well in the battle of life. He is descended from excellent English ancestry, his father having been a native of Lincolnshire, where he was reared, and when quite young commenced life as a sailor in the merchant service. Upon abandoning the sea, he emigrated to America, settling first in New York State. From there after two or three years he removed to Ohio, locating on a tract of timber land in Defiance County, from which he cleared a farm, which he occupied until his death in 1882. He was married, in New York State, to Miss Mary J. Yexley, who was born in the city of London, England, and they became the parents of three children: William W., of our sketch; Lucy, who married Azariah Hattery, a resident of Hicksville, Ohio, and Edward, who died at that place in 1863 or 1864.

Our subject was reared on his father's farm amid the surroundings of pioneer life, when wild game was plenty and white men were few. He recollects seeing his father stand in the doorway of their log cabin and kill a deer which passed by. The nearest market was at Ft. Wayne, twenty-four miles distant, and the produce was transported in wagons. Young Wood commenced to assist his parents as soon as he was large enough, and remained with them until reaching manhood. He first visited Illinois in 1857, and engaged as a farm laborer one year. At the expiration of this time he returned to the old homestead in Ohio. He came back to the Prairie State two years later, and

worked by the month as before, in this county, then, believing that the possession of a home and family would prove a stimulus to his efforts in battling for a livelihood, and having become already greatly attached to a certain fair lady of his acquaintance, Miss Susan Johnson, he consulted with her upon this important matter, and finding her willing to take him for better or worse, they were made husband and wife on Jan. 1, 1861. They commenced housekeeping in unpretentious style, and in due time additional plates were laid on the table, until the family circle was completed by the birth of the fourth child. Of these but three are now living—Edith L., Arthur and Wylie V.

After his marriage, Mr. Wood located upon forty acres of land which he purchased in 1863, and which is now included in his present farm. A part of this had been broken and a small amount of fence laid. He made a small cash payment and had three years in which to pay the balance. He put up a small plank house or shanty, 15x18 feet square, which the family occupied three years before making any addition. In 1886 he erected the present fine residence, which is surrounded by fruit and shade trees with a good barn in the rear, and all other necessary buildings required by the thorough and intelligent farmer.

Martin Johnson, the father of Mrs. Wood, was born in Madison County, Ohio, March 11, 1812. He was the son of Abraham Johnson, a native of Virginia, who removed to Ohio during its early settlement, and spent the last years of his life in Madison County. Martin grew to manhood and was married, Aug. 28, 1833, to Miss Luranah Mortimer. This lady was born in that part of Guilford now included in Greene County, N. C., July 19, 1811, and was the daughter of Robert and Sarah Mortimer. Her parents removed from North Carolina to Ohio in about 1815, and were among the early pioneers of Fayette County. They afterward became residents of Madison and Mercer Counties, spending their last years in the latter.

Martin Johnson after his marriage remained a resident of his native county four years, then purchased a tract of timber land in Williams County, where he opened up a farm which he occupied ten

years. He removed from there in 1846, to Illinois, and purchasing land in Pike County, lived upon it until his decease, which occurred July 15, 1865. The mother is now living with her daughter, Mrs. Wood. Our subject and his wife are connected with Mt. Vernon Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically Mr. Wood is a decided Republican. His fine home and productive farm are the results of his own industry. He received but limited advantages when a boy, but kept his eyes open to what was going on around him, and ranks among the most intelligent citizens and valuable members of his community. He possesses excellent judgment as a farmer and business man, is prompt in meeting his obligations, and greatly respected by a large circle of acquaintances and friends.

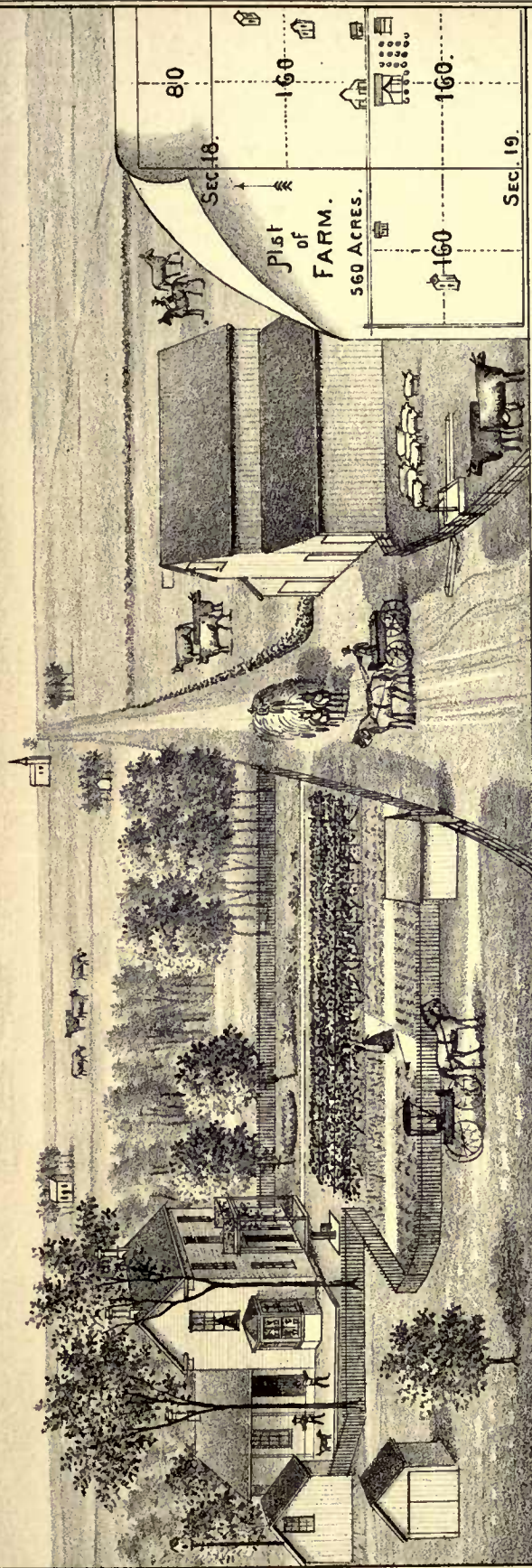
JOSEPH BONGARD, a wealthy pioneer settler of Raymond Township, came to this vicinity in 1857. He is a native of "fair France," born in the Province of Lorraine on the 3d of January, 1822. His parents, Sebastian and Ann (Florentine) Bongard, natives of the same country, passed their entire lives there, where their remains are buried. Of their family, which included six children, our subject was the youngest and the only one who came to the United States. He was reared on a farm in his native France, and on the 4th of July, 1843, was united in marriage with Miss Victory Vallance, who was born June 22, 1821, and reared in the same neighborhood as her husband. They became the parents of six children, and in 1854 our subject and wife with their eldest daughter set sail from Havre for the United States. They reached New York Harbor after a voyage of twenty-eight days and proceeded directly to Chicago, Ill., where for seven months Mr. B. was employed at whatever his hands could find to do. The following year he took possession of a farm in Cook County, and a portion of the time was employed by Emanuel Dunlap, who afterward became a resident of Champaign County.

Our subject was prospered in his labors and was soon enabled to purchase eighty acres of railroad land in Champaign County, to which he removed

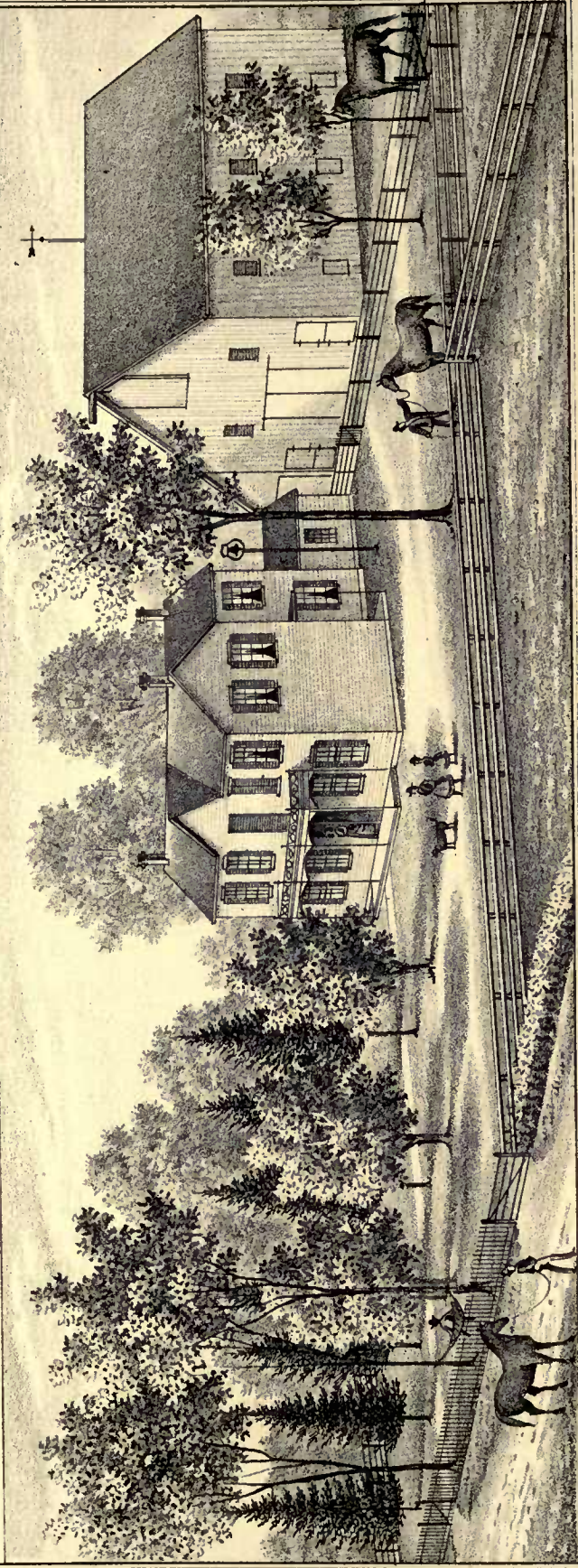
with his family and household goods, making the journey with a yoke of cattle and a wagon valued at \$35. After breaking about fifty acres of the sod and finding it unprofitable, he allowed the company to take possession of it, and afterward purchased 120 acres on section 19, in Raymond Township, which is now included in his present homestead. Under his cultivation this land responded generously with the choice products of the Prairie State, and he soon began to realize satisfactory profits. He added by degrees to his estate until he is now the proprietor of 640 acres, thoroughly improved and valuable. Upon this he has been largely engaged in corn-raising, and some years has sold as many as 14,000 bushels. His residence is a commodious and convenient structure, and the barns and other out-buildings meet all the requirements of the modern and progressive farmer. A view of the place is shown on another page of this work. In addition to his farm property Mr. B. has a store building in Tolono which rents for a good round sum.

The eldest daughter of our subject, Mary, is the wife of H. D. Waldo, and Amelia married John Hagen, of Sumner County, Kan. Mr. B. is Republican in politics, and has served as School Treasurer in his township for two years. He believes in the rights of American-born citizens, and that they should hold the offices and govern the country. The family, religiously, hold to the faith of the Roman Catholic Church.

THOMAS M. STONE, who settled in Tolono Township in 1875, occupies a comfortable homestead on section 22, where he owns seventy-five acres of good land, which is well cultivated and supplied with good buildings. His family consists of his wife and nine children, the latter being named as follows: John S. and Lucy E. (twins), Willis, Allie, Lewis B. and Martha C. (twins), Harry T. and Clara E. (twins), and Grover C. It is hardly necessary to state that Mr. Stone is Democratic in politics and named his youngest child after the present National Executive. He is a gentleman highly respected in his community; is



RESIDENCE AND FARM PROPERTY OF JOSEPH BONGARD, SECS. 18. & 19, RAYMOND TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF T. M. STONE, SEC. 22, TOLONO TOWNSHIP.

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Road Commissioner, and has held the office of School Director for many years. Religiously he inclines to the doctrines of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Our subject was born in Gibson County, Ind., Dec. 26, 1841. His father, Samuel Stone, was a native of Kentucky, whence his parents removed to Indiana while he was yet an infant. They located on a farm in Gibson County, and there passed the remainder of their days. The mother of Mr. Stone, who was formerly Miss Lucy W. Mattox, was born in Indiana in about 1813, and the parental household included sixteen children. Of these twelve are living; four died in infancy.

Thomas M. Stone of our sketch remained on the homestead until twenty-one years old, and then coming to Illinois, located on a farm in Menard County, where he followed agricultural pursuits until October, 1867. He was then united in marriage with Miss Permelia Knowles, a native of his own county in Indiana, and daughter of John and Eleanor (Montgomery) Knowles, natives of the same county. He was at this time the owner of 160 acres of land in Menard County, which he tilled until 1875, the year of his removal to this township. He has been fairly prosperous in his business and farming operations, and is considered a reliable farmer and business man. A lithographic view of Mr. Stone's handsome farm residence is shown in connection with this sketch.



ARTHUR RICE, proprietor of 320 acres of finely improved land on sections 33 and 34, in Pesotum Township, has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1854. He comes of old Virginia blood and passed his early days in Wood County, that State, where he first opened his eyes to the light on the 9th of February, 1839. He was the fifth child of Shelton and Elizabeth (Brown) Rice, also natives of the old Dominion, the former born in about 1810, and the latter in 1815. Shelton Rice was an extensive farmer and pursued his calling until he rested from his earthly labors, his death taking place in about 1863.

The mother had preceded her husband to the other world in 1853.

The grandparents of our subject were of European descent, and crossed the ocean at a period in the early history of this country. The family were noted for the energy and ambition with which they pursued their agricultural and business affairs, and were uniformly prosperous in their undertakings. Our subject came to this State during his youth, settling in what was then Coles, but is now Douglas County, six miles south of his present residence. A year later he came to this county. In the meantime he was accompanied by his father, who purchased a farm of 150 acres of wild prairie, which Arthur assisted in cultivating and improving. He lived with his father until his marriage, which took place on the 26th of February, 1862. The maiden who had been successful in gaining his regard was Miss Mary A. Lee, a native of Pulaski County, Ky., and daughter of Squire and Elizabeth (James) Lee. Her parents were also natives of Pulaski County, where the father engaged in farming pursuits until the removal to Illinois, at which time they settled near where the father of our subject took up his abode. Mr. Lee soon afterward purchased a tract of land in this county, and contributed his full share in assisting to reclaim the face of the country from the wilderness. As one of the earliest pioneers he was held in great respect and lived to a ripe old age, his death occurring in 1885. The mother is still living and remains on the old homestead. She is in full possession of all her faculties, and her description of life in the early days forms an interesting tale to which the youth of her neighborhood delight to listen.

Our subject after his marriage remained two years on his father's farm, and then purchased eighty acres on section 34, in Pesotum Township. His early experiences had been of great service to him, and after taking possession of his new farm he was uniformly successful in his operations, and in the cultivation of his land exhibited rare good judgment. He added to his first purchase as his means accumulated, and in due time had completed a fine set of farm buildings which are as ornamental to the face of the country as they are useful and convenient to the proprietor. The farm is finely

laid out, the fields neatly fenced, and everything about the premises is kept up in first-class condition. Our subject in looking after his farming interests has not had very much time to devote to political questions, but declines to be confined within the narrow system of party lines, reserving his right to cast his vote for the man whom he esteems best qualified for office. He is a strong temperance man and has of late years arrayed himself on the side of the Prohibition party.

The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Rice are Norah E., Martha A. and Fred L. The elder daughter is the wife of Archie Armstrong, her marriage taking place Sept. 2, 1886. She resides with her husband on a farm twelve miles distant from her father's homestead. Our subject and his wife became members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Nelson Chapel in 1881, with which they have since been connected, and to the support of which they have always contributed liberally and cheerfully.



ROBERT G. RAYBURN, of Mahomet Township, became a resident of this county when a boy eleven years old. He was born in Madison County, Ohio, Oct. 29, 1842, and was the sixth child of John R. and Mary (McCoy) Rayburn, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Ohio. They located in the latter State soon after marriage, and in 1853 came into Champaign County, settling in Mahomet Township, and remained there the balance of their lives. John R. Rayburn died Aug. 31, 1872, and the mother of our subject Jan. 22, 1868. Their ten children consisted of seven sons and three daughters, of whom six survive.

Young Rayburn spent his youth and childhood on his father's farm, receiving a common-school education, and remained under the home roof until twenty-one years of age. During the progress of the late war and toward its close, in February, 1865, he enlisted in the 154th Illinois Infantry, and served until the close. He then returned to Mahomet Township and resumed farming, in which he has since been engaged. His homestead includes 430 acres of choice land, all improved, and fur-

nished with a handsome and substantial residence, a good barn and all necessary out-buildings. The fences, machinery and stock are well cared for, and the homestead comprises in all its appointments a first-class modern country estate.

Mr. Rayburn was married in Mahomet Township, June 4, 1862, to Miss Isabella A., daughter of William and Louisa Herriott. The parents of Mrs. R. were natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky, from which latter State they came to this county in about 1851, and locating in Mahomet Township, here passed the remainder of their lives. The mother died Nov. 15, 1875, and the father, March 25, 1883. Their fourteen children included seven sons and seven daughters, of whom the wife of our subject was the youngest. She was born in Scott County, Ky., Sept. 22, 1845. By her marriage with our subject she became the mother of thirteen children, of whom eleven are living; James F. and another child died in infancy. Those surviving are Ida M., Eda B., John R., Henry A., Effie G., William M., Robert J., Charles D., Mary L., Benjamin F. and Laura J. Ida is the wife of Phillip Mohr, and a resident of Mahomet Township; Eda B. married Lewis Clapper, of Mahomet Township. Our subject has been Commissioner of Highways and School Director, and with his wife is prominently connected with the Presbyterian Church. Politically he supports the principles of the Republican party.



JAMES W. HERRIOTT. This gentleman is well and favorably known in Mahomet Township as being an honest man and a good citizen, and the proprietor of a well-cultivated farm on section 12. He is a gentleman of enterprise and industry, as his homestead indicates on every hand, and in his agricultural pursuits has been fairly successful. He comes of a good family, being the son of William and Louisa Herriott, who were natives of Virginia. After their marriage they located in Bourbon County, Ky., whence they removed to Scott County, the same State, and from there in the fall of 1851 to Illinois. Coming into Champaign County, they located in

Mahomet Township, of which they were residents the remainder of their lives. The mother departed hence Nov. 24, 1875, and the father, March 24, 1883. Their family consisted of fourteen children, seven sons and seven daughters.

James W. Herriott was the ninth in order of birth, and first opened his eyes to the light in Scott County, Ky., Aug. 26, 1836. He was fifteen years of age when his parents became residents of this county. With the exception of three years spent in the army he remained a member of the parental household until 1869. His education was conducted in the common schools, and he followed the occupation of his father before him, engaging in farming since his earliest recollection. His army experience dates from September, 1861, when he became a member of Co. I, 25th Ill. Vol. Inf. He was present at the battle of Missionary Ridge, receiving a wound in the right hip and the right arm by minie balls, and is now a pensioner of the Government. Many times he barely escaped with his life, and his health was seriously impaired by the hardships and privations which he endured in the service. At the battle of Stone River he was captured by the rebels, but soon afterward paroled. At the close of the war he received an honorable discharge, was mustered out of service at Springfield, Ill., and returned to his home in Champaign County. Soon afterward he purchased a farm in Hensley Township, which he occupied ten years, then disposed of it and returned to Mahomet Township. Here he has 200 acres, forty of which are in timber. The soil is easily tilled and productive of the richest crops of the Prairie State.

The marriage of Mr. Herriott took place in Condit Township, Dec. 21, 1869, the maiden of his choice being Miss Susan A., daughter of John and Elizabeth A. (George) Washington, both natives of Virginia, and descendants of the Father of his Country. They first settled in Virginia proper, where John Washington departed this life in February, 1862. Mrs. W. still survives, and is a resident of that State. Of their ten children the wife of our subject was the sixth in order of birth. Her native place was Loudoun County, Va., and the date of her birth Feb. 9, 1848. She remained a member of the parental household until her mar-

riage, receiving a fair education and being trained in all useful household duties.

Mr. and Mrs. Herriott became the parents of nine children, namely, William W., Lulu E., Rosa G., Minnie S., Nettie, James T., George L., Lydia M. and Bertie. Lulu E. and Lydia M. are deceased. Mr. Herriott takes a genuine interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his county and community, and in politics supports the Democratic party. Both he and his excellent wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and highly esteemed by a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

GEORGE C. STEWART. On section 23, in the township of Philo, is located the comfortable homestead of our subject, where he has carried on his farming operations since the spring of 1857. In addition to grain-raising he has also been a successful breeder of good grades of stock, and in all his transactions has exhibited that good judgment and forethought which have made him successful as a farmer and business man, and have secured for him the esteem and respect of his fellow-citizens. He is a native of Woodford County, Ky., born in 1818, and is the son of Ralph Stewart of Maryland, who with his parents removed to Virginia when a young boy. His childhood and youth were passed in the Old Dominion, and after arriving at manhood he was there married to Mrs. Agnes Hugh (Campbell) Kerkem, a native of that State. The young people soon after their marriage removed to Woodford County, Ky., but later to Henry County, where they lived until the death of their father, which took place about 1833. Afterward the mother came to Illinois, and resided with her son, our subject, until her death, which occurred Sept. 20, 1858.

Our subject was the eldest child of his parents, and remained under the parental roof until his marriage, which took place in Henry County, Ill. The maiden of his choice was Miss Elizabeth Bridges, who was born in Bourbon County, Ky., whence she removed with her parents when quite young to Henry County, the same State. Of this marriage there have been born seven children: Leslie mar-

ried Miss Sarah J. Barr, and is a resident of Edgar County, Ill., where he is successfully carrying on farming; S. Campbell is senior member of the firm of Brown & Stewart, grain dealers of Philo; John is a resident of Colorado; Ralph, George and Agnes are at home; Lucy is a graduate of the State Normal University, and is teaching at Pekin, Ill. The farm of our subject includes 280 acres, finely cultivated, and supplied with handsome and substantial buildings. Mr. and Mrs. S. are Presbyterian in religious belief, and politically he affiliates with the Democratic party.



FRANK STEIN. The fine farm of 240 acres lying on the southeast part of sections 22 and 28, in Pesotum Township, has often been the subject of comment by the passers-by. Its air of comfort and plenty strikes the beholder with a pleasing sensation. The land is neatly fenced, conveniently divided into grain and pasture fields, and the farm buildings, plain and substantial, have about them evidences of the thrift and prosperity of the proprietor. Mr. Stein is a worthy representative of the nationality which has contributed so materially to the building up of the West, the development of its resources and the reputation of its rich and productive soil.

Our subject was born in Hesse-Cassel, Oct. 28, 1833, the same day on which his brother Nicholas first drew breath. At an early age he was placed in school, and continued his studies almost uninterruptedly until fourteen years old. Afterward he assisted his parents on the farm, and when seventeen years of age set out for the United States. He landed at Philadelphia in the spring of 1851, spending his first years near the Quaker City on a farm. In the spring of 1852 he emigrated to Butler County, Ohio, where he was engaged in farming pursuits for a period of ten years. His next move was to this State, and he first settled in Peoria, where he was engaged in laboring on a farm by the month until 1872. In the meantime he had saved up quite a sum of money from his earnings, which he invested in eighty acres of land included in his present farm. To this he afterward added 160

acres, and has the whole well drained and its best qualities fully developed.

While a resident of Peoria Mr. Stein was united in marriage with Miss Louisa Wittingfelt, who with her parents, William and Elizabeth Wittingfelt, was a native of Germany. Mrs. Stein when a young woman came to this country by herself and earned her own living until she became the wife of our subject. Her parents remain in their native country. Of this marriage there were born five children, of whom only three survive, namely, Charles, Carrie and Amelia. William N. and Emma died when one and one-half and ten years old respectively.

On the 17th of February, 1887, the devoted wife and affectionate mother, Mrs. Louisa Stein, passed to her long home, leaving the husband and three children to mourn their loss. Mr. S. and his wife united with the Lutheran Church many years ago, and lived quiet and unostentatious lives, devoted to their children and to each other. Our subject has frequently served as School Director, and in politics is independent, supporting the candidate whom he esteems best fitted for the office.



JOSEPH JERVIS, one of the self-made men and progressive farmers of Condit Township, owns and occupies a good farm, consisting of 400 acres of improved land lying on sections 35 and 36. He has about seventy head of cattle and 200 head of sheep and lambs, and keeps about nine head of horses and colts. The residence and out-buildings are substantially built and kept in first-class order. Our subject came to this locality in the fall of 1861, and commenced his farming operations on rented land. He continued thus for three years, then purchased eighty acres of uncultivated prairie, where he put up a house and devoted his time mainly to raising grain. This he has found to be profitable, and has given to this branch of agriculture his special attention, together with his stock operations.

Mr. Jervis is a native of Staffordshire, England, where his birth occurred Aug. 30, 1835. His parents were Thomas and Hannah (Wiggin) Jervis,

natives of the same shire, where they spent their entire lives. Only two of their children came to the United States—Andrew, who settled in Newcomb Township, and Joseph of our sketch. Both sons were reared to farming pursuits, and our subject was thus employed until twenty-one years of age. He then engaged on the railroad which ran from Liverpool to London, and was thus occupied until 1860, when he decided to seek his fortunes in America. He accordingly set sail from Liverpool, and after a voyage of a few weeks, landed in Newark, N. J., where he arrived with a cash capital of \$100. He remained in that State until the following fall, and then set his face for the further West, coming into this county, where he rented a tract of land and commenced farming, as we have already indicated.

Seven years later, in February, 1868, Mr. Jervis was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Sheargold, also a native of Staffordshire, and the daughter of Edward and Hannah (Jevins) Sheargold. Mrs. J. came to America in 1865, when twenty-one years of age. Of her union with our subject there have been born nine children—Annie, Thomas, Norma, Harry, Lewis, Dan, Arthur, Burt and Kate. Both our subject and his wife were reared in the Episcopal faith, to the doctrines of which they still adhere.



CAPT. CALEB TAYLOR, who received his military title for services rendered in the Union Army during the late war, located in Raymond Township, this county, in the spring of 1868, and since that time has ranked among its most valued citizens. He is the son of Jonathan and Mary (Phillips) Taylor, who were natives of Pennsylvania and lived in Fayette County at the time our subject was born, which event took place on the 8th of June, 1838. Three years later they removed to Pickaway County, Ohio, and located on a farm, where the parents spent the remainder of their lives. Their eight children all grew to mature years and are recorded as follows: Francis M. is a resident of Pickaway County, Ohio; Phillip, of Fayette County; Delilah is deceased; Jonathan

lives in Pickaway County; Sarah married Thomas Graham, and they located in Scott County, Kan.; Caleb of our sketch was the sixth child; Richard M. J. died in Ohio; Ann, the wife of Lewis Longboon, is living in Jay County, Ind.

Caleb Taylor was but three years old when his father removed to Ohio with his family. He was there reared to manhood on a farm, receiving a common-school education, and assisting in the labors around the homestead. In 1867 he was united in marriage with Miss Amanda Davis, who was born and reared in Pickaway County, and is the daughter of Ebenezer and Mary (Crabb) Davis. The following year the young people decided to seek the prairies of Illinois, and coming into this county located on a tract of land which our subject rented for one year. At the expiration of this time he purchased eighty acres, partially improved, which is included in his present farm. He was successful in his undertakings and added to his real estate as time passed on, so that he is now the owner of 203 acres all under a good state of cultivation. This comprises one of the finest grain farms in Champaign County. He erected a handsome farm residence in 1882, and adjacent to it stand all the necessary buildings required by the progressive agriculturist. The Captain is Republican in politics and cast his first vote for Stephen A. Douglas as Representative. He has held the offices of School Trustee, Director and Highway Commissioner, the duties of which he discharged with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned.

Shortly after the outbreak of the late Rebellion our subject enlisted, in September, 1861, in Co. A, 20th Ohio Vol. Inf., where he was soon made a non-commissioned officer. He marched with his regiment to the scene of conflict, and during the siege of Vicksburg was commissioned Second Lieutenant. In the spring of 1864 he became First Lieutenant, and soon afterward was presented with a Captain's commission. During his military career he participated in the battles of Richmond, Champion Hills, Jackson, Miss., and went with Sherman on his famous march from Atlanta to the sea, being also at the siege and capture of the latter city. His regiment participated in forty-five regular engagements,

during which, although never seeking to escape the fire of the enemy, he was neither seriously wounded nor taken prisoner. After the surrender of the Confederate army he was mustered out at Pocatigo, S. C. He then returned to his farm in Raymond Township, and since then has been industriously engaged in cultivating and beautifying his homestead.

The mother of Mrs. Taylor before her marriage was Miss Mary Crabb. Both parents were born in Ohio, where they passed their entire lives. The birth of Mrs. T. occurred on the 16th of July, 1848, in Pickaway County, where she was reared, educated, and became the wife of our subject. She has proved the suitable companion of her husband during the years of a worthy life, in which he has displayed the qualities of an excellent citizen and become a valued member of his community.



JOSEPH MAXWELL, a retired farmer of Mahomet Township, residing on section 17, is the son of Jonathan and Johanna (Sterling) Maxwell. The parental household consisted of ten children, five now living, and of whom our subject was the sixth in order of birth. He was born in Bartholomew County, Ind., May 16, 1824, was reared on the farm, and in 1830 came with his parents to Illinois, settling in Mahomet Township, where the latter died.

Mr. Maxwell is essentially a self-made man, who enjoyed but a limited education but has made the most of his time and opportunities. He has always been observant of what was going on around him, and by the exercise of his natural talents has obtained a fine insight into business matters and become uniformly successful in his undertakings. With the exception of two years spent in California and one year in Vermilion County, he has been a resident of Mahomet Township since coming here. While on the Pacific slope he was engaged in freighting. He is the owner of about 1,300 acres of land, 320 of which are in Piatt County.

Mr. Maxwell was married in Mahomet Township, Sept. 8, 1852, to Miss Rosanna, daughter of Samuel and Olive (Franklin) Hyde. The parents of Mrs.

M. were natives respectively of Vermont and New York, and removed from the latter State to Illinois, locating in Mahomet Township, this county, in 1849. Both are now deceased. Of their thirteen children Mrs. M. was the fourth. She was born in Vigo County, Ind., April 22, 1832. Of her marriage with our subject there were born ten children, of whom the record is as follows: George F. married Miss Phebe Bird, and is farming in Mahomet Township; Elizabeth died when eighteen months old; Charles H. married Miss Martha E. Robinson, and lives in Mahomet Township; Jephtha, now of Piatt County, married Miss Hattie Johnson; Martha S., Mrs. Elias Barnhart, is also a resident of Piatt County; Mary S. married Thomas J. Paisley, of Mahomet Township; Willie died in infancy; Julia O. is the wife of Joel W. Pinkston; Johanna and Joseph R. are residents of Mahomet Township. The mother of these children died at the home of her husband in Mahomet Township, Jan. 6, 1882. She was a lady highly respected in the community and a member in good standing of the Baptist Church, to which our subject also belongs.

Politically Mr. Maxwell is a decided Republican, and has held various township offices. Socially he is a member of Mahomet Lodge No. 220, F. & A. M. He is esteemed as a good citizen and worthy member of society, and has contributed his full share to the agricultural interests of this section.



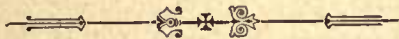
AH. BALDWIN, engaged in general husbandry on section 18 in Pesotum Township, is a native of the Empire State, born near Rochester, May 31, 1850. He is the fourth child of Samuel S. and Mary E. (Fairchild) Baldwin, who were married in that State, and located on a farm, where they remained until 1857. Mr. Baldwin then came to Illinois and purchased 320 acres of wild land in Pesotum Township. The task before him seemed an Herculean one, but he set himself industriously to work, fencing his purchase and breaking the sod, and in the course of a few years had transformed the prairie land into a good farm. He put up suitable buildings, and by

purchase and breeding finally had his farm well stocked with good grades of cattle and horses.

Upon the homestead thus established the parents of our subject lived for many years and reaped the result of their labors in due time by finding themselves surrounded with all the comforts of life. The father passed away on the 3d of October, 1874. Mrs. Baldwin survived her husband for two years, her death occurring Dec. 28, 1876, at the old homestead. This is now occupied by their son, the subject of this sketch, although there now remains but 130 acres of the original purchase. Whatever is lacking in quantity, however, is fully made up in quality, as our subject has worked upon the theory of Horace Greeley, namely, that a few acres well tilled were more valuable than a larger area partially neglected.

Our subject remained under the parental roof until several years after reaching his majority, and when twenty-seven years of age was married to Miss Melissa J., daughter of John and Mary (Sturges) Cook. The parents of Mrs. B. were residents of Montgomery County, Ill., where the father owned and operated a good farm. Of the union of our subject and wife there have been born two children—Theodore H., Oct. 15, 1880, and Herbert E., Feb. 1, 1884.

Mr. Baldwin, although a continuous resident on his father's farm since his first recollection, is the owner of a large tract of land in Crawford County, Kan., to which he has decided to remove and develop it. He has always given his strict attention to his own concerns, never meddling with politics or desiring office. His land has been chiefly devoted to the raising of grain, in which he has been very successful, and which has yielded him the larger part of his income.



RRANC H. LANGE, an extensive farmer and stock-raiser of Hensley Township, is a fair representative of the substantial German element which may be found in the best section of Illinois, and which has assisted so materially in its development and progress. Our subject was born in Hanover, July 9, 1833, and is the son of Phillip

and Mary Ann Lange, natives of the same Province. He attended school in his native town until about seventeen years of age, and then concluded to seek his fortune in America. Accordingly he set sail from Bremen in August, 1850, and after a voyage of eighteen weeks landed in New York City, a stranger in a strange land, without means, and nothing to recommend him but his good health and willing hands. He did not tarry long in the Empire City, but proceeded to Cleveland, Ohio, where he soon obtained a situation as clerk in a clothing store. He proved faithful and efficient, and held his position nine years. The two years following he was engaged as clerk in a wholesale grocery store. In 1860 he decided to turn his attention to agricultural pursuits in the West. He was yet a poor man and unable to buy a farm, so rented a tract of land in Hensley Township, which he cultivated four years, and at the expiration of that time was enabled to purchase eighty acres, which is now included in his present farm. Of this thirty-five acres had been broken and there was a small shanty. He had taken to himself a wife and helpmeet, and with a few repairs this structure was made inhabitable and they occupied it for a brief time. Our subject proceeded with the improvement and cultivation of his land and was greatly prospered in his undertakings. The unbroken prairie of his first purchase has now been transformed into a fine farm, with a good set of buildings, fruit and shade trees, and all the conveniences and decorations which indicate the intelligent and progressive farmer of cultivated tastes and ample means. Mr. L. has added to his first purchase until he is now the owner of 500 acres in one body, which constitutes one of the finest farms in this part of the county and invariably attracts the eye of the passing traveler. His stock is of the best grades and well cared for, and the farm buildings and machinery are kept in the best of repair.

The first wife of our subject, to whom he was married May 5, 1860, was Miss Elizabeth Leiden-deker, sister of Henry J. Leidendeker, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this work. This lady died at the home of her husband in Hensley Township, Sept. 20, 1874. Of this marriage there were six children—Henry, Albert, Amelia, Edward, Mary

and Julia. On the 3d of January, 1879, Mr. L. was married to Miss Louisa Luehrmann, who was born in St. Louis, Mo., and is the daughter of John H. Luehrmann, a native of Westphalen, Prussia. Of this union there have been born three children—George, Clarence and Oscar. The various members of the family are connected with the Lutheran Church. Our subject is Republican in politics, and widely and favorably known in this community as a man prompt to meet his obligations, and one whose word is as good as his bond. As will have been seen, his possessions are the result of his own industry, and the estimation in which he is held by his fellow-citizens is due to his innate honesty of character and conscientious course in life, by which he has always been enabled to look the whole world in the face.



ANTHONY REINHART, one of the most thorough farmers of Crittenden Township, commenced life in a modest manner with a team and a few hundred dollars in cash. He is now the owner of 380 acres of valuable land, a fine farm residence and suitable out-buildings, with a goodly amount of choice stock and modern farm machinery. In addition to this, and probably what he prizes most, he has a fine family of ten children, and many other desirable things in life which have constituted him a good citizen, duly thankful for the prosperity which has marked his footsteps and for the respect and esteem of his fellow-men. His land when he took possession of it was much less valuable than at present and he has expended for drainage alone the sum of \$4,000. It is now mainly devoted to stock-raising, in which department of agriculture Mr. Reinhart has secured an enviable reputation for the intelligence and success with which he has managed and the prosperous condition to which he has attained.

Mr. Reinhart came to this part of the county in the spring of 1873. He was born in the town of Brenmelbach, Province of Alsace, County Sultz, which then belonged to France, but was afterward ceded to Germany, on the 21st of February, 1844. His parents were Nicholas and Catherine (Poudler)

Reinhart. Nicholas Reinhart was the son of a farmer whose given name is not known. His mother was Catherine (Oebelhaar) Reinhart. They were the parents of nine children, six boys and three girls. Catherine (Poudler) Reinhart is the mother of eleven children, seven living, as follows: Michael, Nicholas, Wendel, Martin, Joseph, Louis and Anthony, our subject, who was the youngest. Those deceased are John, George, Louis and Theresa. The grandparents of our subject on his mother's side were Michael and Magdalena (Bauer) Poudler, and they were the parents of twelve children, six of whom died in infancy. Magdalena, Catherine, Selma, Barbara, Theresa and Wendel grew to maturity, and of these the mother of our subject alone remains, and she at the age of eighty-eight years retains her mental vigor and strength and bids fair to survive many years. A large portion of this sketch was obtained from her.

Three years after the birth of our subject his parents emigrated to the United States and proceeding westward located in Peoria County, Ill. Here Anthony Reinhart grew to manhood, attended the common schools, and assisted in the tilling of the soil. He was married in Peoria County, Sept. 26, 1865, to Miss Mary, daughter of A. and Mary Vogel. Mrs. R. was born in Butler County, Pa., June 12, 1845. After his marriage our subject rented land in Peoria County until the spring of 1873. In the meantime he had visited this county and purchased 122 acres of land, to which he now removed his family, and which continued their home until the spring of 1884. He then sold out to excellent advantage and took possession of his present homestead. Here, with his characteristic enterprise and industry, he has brought about fine improvements, and, surrounded by his family and friends is, now in middle life, enjoying the fruits of his early labors and the results of his wise and temperate judgment. The children of the household are recorded as follows: Wendel J. was born Aug. 6, 1866; Michael N., May 27, 1868; Rose B., Oct. 14, 1870; Anthony M., July 18, 1872; Louis, Oct. 13, 1874; Frank J., Feb. 15, 1877; Anna M., Aug. 14, 1879; Simon G., Oct. 22, 1881; Catherine E., March 16, 1884; Julia E., Dec. 26, 1886.

Mr. Reinhart uniformly gives his support to

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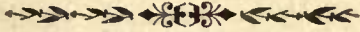


Robert Pennman



Emma J. Pennman

Democratic principles, and has held the office of Highway Commissioner. For several years he has served as Justice of the Peace, and is present incumbent, and in matters of religion is a devout Catholic.



ROBERT PENMAN. The subject of this biography, a native of the Prairie State, first opened his eyes to the light in Kendall County, June 21, 1848. He is of excellent family, his father being of pure Scotch ancestry, born in Roxburyshire, Scotland, Oct. 12, 1812. When a young man about twenty-four years of age he emigrated to the United States, making his first location near Ft. Wayne, Ind. After a residence there of two years he came into DuPage County, this State, where he remained another two years, and then took up his abode in Kendall County, where he entered 100 acres of land. To this he afterward added a like amount, and is still living upon the farm thus established and where he has been prospered in his efforts to build up a home and secure a competency.

The mother of our subject, who in her girlhood was Miss Jane Stephenson, was born in the North of Ireland, and came to the United States with her parents, Isaac and Elizabeth (Davis) Stephenson, in 1844 or 1845. They are both deceased. She married Mr. Penman in Kendall County, Ill., and departed this life on the old homestead, in July, 1854, leaving three children. Of these two are yet living—Elizabeth, the wife of Jacob McClosky, and Robert of our sketch. After the death of his first wife Thomas Penman was married to Miss Cordelia Williams, and they became the parents of three children—Mary Ann, Perry and Julia.

After the death of his mother our subject remained an inmate of his father's house and received a common-school education. He resided in his native county until twenty-five years old, and then, in 1873, came to this county and located on a tract of land consisting of 162 acres, which he had purchased in 1869. It was then an uncultivated prairie, but is now among the finest land in this township, improved with a good set of farm buildings and devoted chiefly to the raising of stock and

grain. Everything about the premises indicates the industry and enterprise of the proprietor.

The marriage of Robert Penman and Miss Emma J. Waite took place on the 29th of January, 1880, at the home of the bride's parents in Kendall County, this State. Mrs. P. is the daughter of Abraham and Caroline (Austin) Waite, who are still living and residents of Yorkville, Ill. Mrs. P. was born near that town, Jan. 29, 1854, and was married beneath the same roof where her birth took place. Our subject and his wife have one child only, a son, Thomas Abraham. They are sincere believers in the Christian religion, and Mrs. Penman is connected with the Baptist Church. Mr. Penman is Democratic in politics and is now serving his fourth term as Assessor; he is also Road Commissioner. He has been School Director for a period of seven years, and enjoys in a marked degree the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

Among the galaxy of portraits of Champaign County none are more worthy of a place than that of Robert Penman, and we are pleased to present it in this connection, together with that of his estimable wife.



FRANK L. VAN VLECK, of the firm of Van Vleck & Bro., is an extensive dealer in grain and farm implements at Philo, and in 1887 became an active partner with his brother, C. H. Van Vleck, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this ALBUM. Since that time they have operated together successfully, shipping annually from 200,000 to 300,000 bushels of grain, and extending their operations to all important points East and West. Mr. Van V., besides his profitable business in the village of Philo, owns a good farm, a part of which is in the limits.

Our subject is a native of Brownsville, Monroe Co., N. Y., and was born June 15, 1835. He received a fair education in the public schools, and after reaching manhood was employed for some time in the American Hotel at Jersey City, as clerk, where he gained a good insight into business methods. He came West while unmarried, and located in Joliet, where he became connected with the Rock Island Railway Company as locomotive

fireman. From there he went to the Michigan Central and was employed as an engineer for five years. After the close of the late war he ran a train on the Memphis & Louisville Railroad for about six years. In 1870 he took up his residence at Philo, and in company with J. R. Moore, whom he succeeded in the hardware business, operated until 1872. He then sold out to Mr. Ennis, and returned to the Michigan Central Railroad, running a train from Joliet to Lake, Ind., for about five years, then, much to the regret of the company whose trusted employe he had been so long, he returned to Philo and engaged with his brother in their present business.

Our subject was married, Jan. 29, 1869, at Bloom, Cook Co., Ill., to Miss Sarah J. McCoy, who was born and reared in that county, and is the daughter of John and Sabra McCoy. The former died when Mrs. Van V. was about twelve years old, in 1854, having been a victim of cholera. Mrs. McCoy survived her husband for a period of twenty-eight years, and departed this life in 1882, aged eighty-four. The parental family consisted of twelve children, of whom the wife of our subject was the eleventh. Of the seven sons and five daughters, two of the former were killed in California, one by accident and one murdered for his money. Mrs. Van V. was reared and educated in Aurora, Ill., and remained with her parents until her marriage. She became the mother of three children, one of whom, Charles M., is deceased. Belle and Bertie are at home with their parents.

Our subject and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Philo, and politically Mr. Van V. is an uncompromising Democrat. He has held the various offices of his township and village, and was a member of the Board of Supervisors in 1876.

HENRY T. SADORUS. The 400-acre farm occupying the greater part of section 7, in Pesotum Township, has been built up mainly by the energy and industry of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch, and who has arrived at the age of sixty-four

years. His life has been one full of interesting experiences and his make-up that which has gathered knowledge from what he has observed in life and instruction from its various phases.

Our subject is a native of Rush County, Ind., where he was born in 1823, and was the seventh child of Henry and Mary (Titus) Sadorus, natives of Pennsylvania. In 1849, when twenty-six years of age, he started out from his home on a long journey to the Pacific Coast, going overland with mule-teams, one of his companions being Richard Oglesby, now Governor of Illinois, and about his own age. After arriving in the Golden State they entered the mines at Downieville, where Mr. Sadorus was very profitably employed for twelve months, and accumulated a goodly package of the yellow ore.

At the expiration of this time our subject returned to his old home in Illinois, where he remained just long enough to gather together a large herd of cattle, with which he started in the spring of 1854, and drove through to Butte County, Cal., the trip consuming a period of four months. He sold his animals at an immense profit, and then took up the business of butchering and stock dealing, which he followed for two or three years, and then, on account of the scarcity of cattle, proceeded to New Orleans and, accompanied by fifteen men, made a trip into Texas to replenish his herd. In the central part of the Lone Star State he purchased 649 head of cattle, which he started to drive through to California, as on the first trip. On his way up the Arkansas River the Indians stampeded the drove one night and succeeded in getting away with 249 head, involving a loss of more than \$17,000 to Mr. Sadorus, the cattle being worth about \$70 per head in California. The remainder of the herd was safely landed in Butte County, where our subject remained four years following, butchering as before, and gathering in a handsome little fortune.

From California Mr. Sadorus came eastward as far as Humboldt County, Nev., where he continued butchering and also engaged in mining until 1863. He then wandered through the mining districts generally from Idaho to Montana, spending two years in prospecting and digging. Then he and

four companions concluded to return to the States. They drifted down the Missouri River to St. Joseph, where they took passage for Illinois by rail. Mr. S. was already the owner of a quarter section of land in Sadorus Township, and upon this he now settled and began the more quiet pursuit of farm life in the Prairie State. He added to his first purchase and in due time built up the splendid homestead which is now the admiration of both the surrounding community and the passer-by.

The lady who for the last twenty years presided over the household affairs of our subject, and who was the honored mother of his children, was formerly Miss Sarah Fields, a native of this State, but reared in Fountain County, Ind. Of this marriage there were born five children, of whom the eldest, a son, John, died in early childhood. The surviving are living at home, and bear the names respectively of Jessie M., Melissa, Aldula and Jordan. The faithful and affectionate wife and mother departed this life on the 18th of June, 1885, and the daughters have since been the household companions of their father.

Mr. Sadorus devotes much of his time to the breeding of fine cattle, his favorites being the Short-horns, and he feeds all the grain he raises. He has been too much absorbed in his farm interests and the welfare of his family to give much time to politics, but dutifully casts his vote with the Democrats. As may be supposed he entertains very little regard for the American Indian, and relates many instances illustrating the barbarity of the untrained savage. In 1856, during the trip down the Humboldt in company with James Bryden, of Monticello, they came to the home of the Holliday family, who had been engaged in farming and grazing. This family had been warned of the proximity of the enemy, but resolved to fight for their home and its surroundings. When Mr. Sadorus and his party arrived at the place they found a newly made grave to mark the place where the house had stood, and beneath the sod were laid the bodies of six of the family by a party of men who were then engaged in a running fight with the Indians, who had exhumed the bodies after their first burial to secure their clothing. Mrs. Holliday alone escaped the general massacre, but was left for dead, having been shot

seven times and then scalped. She was picked up by the first party, who had buried the others, and taken to Dogtown, a small supply station, where she eventually recovered. The party which followed the Indians captured their entire camp and put the savages to death. Among the trophies secured was the scalp of Mrs. Holliday, which they returned to her in due time. This was but one of the many acts of cruelty by the Indians of which Mr. S. was a witness during his life in the West.



PATRICK FLYNN, a fair representative of the farming community of Philo Township, is the proprietor of 200 acres lying on sections 20 and 28, the residence being on the former. The farm is systematically arranged, with all necessary conveniences for the raising of grain and stock, and with substantial and commodious buildings. It came into the possession of our subject by degrees, he having first purchased forty acres in 1862, to which he subsequently added as his means accumulated. For a period of twenty-five years or over, he has been industriously engaged in its improvement and cultivation, and may look upon the result with pardonable pride. Most of it was uncultivated prairie at the beginning, which he has now converted into a farm which will bear comparison with any in the county.

Mr. Flynn was born in Ireland in 1834, and when about twenty years old set out alone for the United States, landing in New York City in April, 1854. Thence he soon afterward proceeded to Chicago, and then to La Salle and Springfield, engaging in the latter place with the Wabash Railroad Company, whose road was then known as the Great Western. He remained with this company for many years, and enjoyed in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of his employers. He worked with them faithfully, the only time lost being when he was laid up with a crippled foot, a part of which he lost by being run over on the 19th of September, 1856.

Mr. Flynn was married, in Philo Township, July

3, 1859, to Miss Mary Ryan, who, like her husband, was born in Tipperary County, Ireland, and when fourteen years of age, came, unaccompanied by any member of her family, to the United States. Her mother died in Ireland in about 1874; the father is yet living in his native Erin. Mr. and Mrs. Flynn became the parents of ten children, five now deceased. Those surviving are, Margaret; John, who married Miss Eliza Johnson; Mary J.; Honora, who married George O'Burn, and Thomas. Our subject and his wife are loyal adherents of the Catholic faith of their fathers, and politically Mr. Flynn is a staunch Democrat.



GEORGE A. FISHER, a prominent young farmer of Condit Township, is pleasantly located on section 6, where he makes a specialty of the breeding of fine stock. He keeps about seventy-five head of cattle, among them twelve thoroughbreds and the balance high grades. His homestead is neatly arranged, the buildings kept in good repair, and on every hand is indicated the industry and enterprise of the proprietor. Mr. Fisher is a native of this county, born in Mahomet Township, Aug. 24, 1858. His father, Robert Fisher, was born in Madison County, Ohio, Aug. 22, 1829, and was the son of James W. Fisher, a native of Ohio, whence he removed to the Prairie State in the year 1848, and located in this county in the days of its first settlement. (See sketch of William C. Fisher elsewhere in this work.)

Robert Fisher, the father of our subject, remained a resident of his native county until 1848, and then came to Illinois with his parents. They at once located in Mahomet Township, where Robert was married, and remained on the homestead until the death of his father, which took place one year afterward. In 1860 he removed to Newcomb Township, and located on section 21. Before the death of his father the two had purchased the whole of section 6, in Condit Township, with the exception of forty acres of timber, and had entered a quarter section from the Government on section 1 of Mahomet Township; he also bought

a quarter section of another party. There had been but few improvements made previous to his removal here in 1860. Rantoul, ten miles distant, was the nearest railroad station at the time. Mr. Fisher was one of the prime movers in the building of the Narrow Gauge Railroad from Le Roy, Ill., to Lebanon, Ind., and had the station located on his land, on section 36 of Brown Township, the village being named in his honor. He continued on his homestead on section 21, of Newcomb Township, until the spring of 1884, then removed to Hubbell, Thayer Co., Neb., where he and his sons together purchased large tracts of land, which they are now improving and also engaged in general merchandising.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Sarah A. Ham. She was born in Virginia, and was the daughter of Bartholomew Ham, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this ALBUM. By her marriage with Robert Fisher, she became the mother of seven children, whose home training she carefully looked after, and to whom she set an example of patience and goodness well worthy of their imitation.

The subject of this history was the third child born to his parents, and spent his early years after the manner of most farmers' boys, assisting in the lighter labors of the farm, and attending the district school. After reaching manhood he was married, and settled in Fisher Village, having determined to try some other occupation than farming for a time at least. He accordingly engaged in the mercantile business and manufacture of brick and tile, and after three years' experience was satisfied to return to the farm, where he has since remained. He has been successful in his agricultural operations, which have been chiefly devoted to stock-raising, and exhibits some of the finest specimens of thoroughbred animals to be found in this section.

The wife of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Ellie McClelland, a native of Franklin Township, Licking Co., Ohio, and the daughter of Joshua R. McClelland, of Pennsylvania, of whom a sketch will be found on another page in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher have become the parents of two bright children, who are the light of

the household, and whom they named Loren V. and Robert Forrest. Mr. Fisher takes an intelligent interest in current events and uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party.



WALTER REESE, of Hensley Township, is a native of Washington County, Ohio, and the son of George Reese, of Hazel Valley, Pa. His grandfather, Stephen Reese, a native of Wales, came to America with his parents when a small child. The family located in Pennsylvania, where the great-grandparents of our subject spent the last years of their life. Their son, Stephen, was reared, married and lived in his native State until about 1818, when he removed to Ohio and located in Washington County, where he died six years later during the cholera epidemic of 1822.

George Reese, the father of our subject, grew to manhood in his native State, where he learned the trade of a carpenter but afterward followed his father to Ohio. His first work in Ohio was to assist in the building of a keel-boat. After this he removed to Washington County, and purchased a farm near Newport. This he cultivated with the aid of hired help while also carrying on his carpenter business, in which he became quite famous, and was finally engaged solely as a contractor. He died in Washington County, Ohio, in about 1876. The mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Margaret Kerr, was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., Aug. 22, 1800, and lived there until eighteen years of age. She then went to Ohio with the family of her father, Charles Kerr. The latter was a native of Pennsylvania and of German parentage and descent. Mrs. Margaret Reese departed this life on the old homestead in Ohio in about 1885, after having been the faithful and affectionate companion of her husband for a period of over fifty years.

The parental household included ten children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the eldest. He was reared on his father's farm, and when seventeen years of age became employed in a nursery at Newport. After seven or eight years thus occupied

he removed to Lawrence County, Ohio, where he rented a farm and lived until 1856. He then came to Illinois, worked out one season, and then took a piece of land for another party. In 1861 he located on the place which he now owns and occupies. It was wild land when he took possession, but he has brought it to a good state of cultivation, erected a shapely and convenient set of frame buildings, planted fruit and shade trees, and marked off the different fields with hedge fences. It now bears fair comparison with the thrifty homesteads for which this section is noted.

The marriage of Walter Reese and Miss Julia Gorrell took place in July, 1847. Mrs. R. is a native of Tyler County, W. Va., and the daughter of Levi and Charity (Shinn) Gorrell. Of this union there were born seven children; Joseph B. was the Assessor of Hensley Township four years; Eliza became the wife of William Chambers, now deceased, and lives in Danville, Iowa; Dora, Conders C., Grant and Anna, are at home; Trella R. married James R. Shivers, and lives in Winfield, Kan. Mr. and Mrs. Reese are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically he is a straight Republican.



JACOB H. JUDY, a prosperous farmer of Newcomb Township, first opened his eyes to the light in Greene County, Ohio, Sept. 8, 1821. He is the son of John and Christina (Hittle) Judy, the former a native of Virginia, the latter of Ohio, and both of German ancestry. They located in Greene County, Ohio, soon after their marriage, whence they emigrated in the fall of 1825, to Sangamon County, Ill., being among the pioneer settlers of that region. They made the journey in wagons, driving their cattle before them. After settling the family and gathering the provisions for the winter, the elder Judy, in company with George and Jonas Hittle, started North on an exploring expedition, going first to Pekin, and then to Peoria. The former place at that time was a hamlet of three cabins, and Peoria, known as Ft. Clark, was then composed of twelve cabins. The

father of our subject had brought with him \$200 in gold.

The two men made a claim in Hittle Township, and then returned to Sangamon County for their teams and provisions, leaving their families until the next trip. Returning to Hittle Township they put up three cabins, and in February, 1826, moved their families into their new quarters. Here Mr. Judy established a comfortable home, which he occupied with his family until the death of himself and his excellent wife. The mother died in 1845, and the father in 1861. The household circle included eight children, four sons and four daughters.

The subject of this history was the eldest son and second child of his parents, and was a little over four years of age when they brought him to Illinois. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-one years old, and then served an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade which, however, he practically abandoned to take up the more congenial occupation of farming. For the greater part of fifty-six years following he made his home in Tazewell County, this State, with the exception of four years spent in Atlanta, Ill., on account of the illness of his wife, and during which time he followed his trade. He sold his farm in Tazewell County and came to Champaign County in the spring of 1881, locating in Newcomb Township, on section 11. Here he has one of the finest farms in the entire county. It comprises 240 acres of choice land, with a beautiful dwelling, a good barn and all other necessary farm buildings. He also owns eighty acres in Brown Township. The residence grounds are laid out with great taste, and much care has been exercised in the general appearance of the homestead, which evinces on all sides the cultivated tastes and prosperity of its proprietor.

The marriage of Jacob H. Judy and Miss Lucinda Clarno was celebrated on the 10th of May, 1845, in Tazewell County. This lady was the daughter of William and Sarah (Whitman) Clarno, and was born in Ohio, whence she removed with her parents when a young child to Tazewell County, Ill. Of her marriage with our subject there were born four children, of whom the record is as follows: Thaddeus died when four years old; John

died in Tazewell County, of consumption, aged thirty-two years; George married Miss Edith Allsbrook, and is a merchant in Armington, Ill.; Hester became the wife of John Steller, and resides in Tazewell County. Mrs. Lucinda Judy departed this life at Atlanta, Ill., in about 1853.

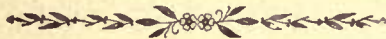
The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married in Tazewell County, Nov. 11, 1856, was Miss Alice Blair, who was born near Detroit, Mich., of New England parentage. She is the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Clark) Blair, and a cousin of ex-Senator Blair of Michigan. Of this marriage there have been born six children, who are recorded as follows: Lillie died when four years old; Lot married Miss Addie Phillips, and is a dealer in horses at Dorchester, Neb.; Edward married Miss Libby Nesbit, and is a resident of Newcomb Township; Loren is a practicing physician; Emma is attending the State Normal University at Normal, Ill.; Olive died young. Mr. and Mrs. Judy are members of the Christian Church, and our subject politically is a firm Republican.

GEORGE F. GEIGER, a substantial representative of the hardware trade of Mahomet, came to this locality in the spring of 1870. During the early part of his life he was engaged in farming, from which he retired in 1882 to establish himself in his present business. He is a native of Germany, and was born April 23, 1834. His parents were George J. and Catherine Geiger, natives of the same country, where they passed their entire lives, and where their remains were laid to rest.

Our subject was the second of a family of four children. He received a High School education in his native town, where he remained until he was twenty-two years of age. He then came by himself to the United States, and after reaching the shores of the New World proceeded directly to Illinois, locating in Sangamon County, and engaging as a farm laborer. Three years later he rented a tract of land which he cultivated on his own account. He remained four years in Sangamon County, whence he removed to Logan County, and after

farming there two years on rented land, purchased eighty acres which he cultivated and occupied for four years. He then sold out, and in 1870 purchased a farm in Mahomet Township, this county, which he conducted for a period of twelve years. At the expiration of this time he placed it in the hands of a responsible tenant and established himself in the hardware trade at Mahomet, of which he has since been a resident. He is considered by all as a stanch and reliable citizen, and one contributing his share toward the business interests of the community.

Mr. Geiger was married in Marion County, Ill., in December, 1859, to Miss Mary Simmons, who was born in Missouri in 1836. Of this union there are two children—Katie M., the wife of Irving Rising, of Mahomet, and Rosa A., at home with her parents. Mr. G. for six years was Supervisor of Mahomet Township and for several years served as Road Commissioner. Politically he is Republican, socially, an Odd Fellow, and religiously, a member of the Reform Church. His wife is a member in good standing of the Baptist Church.



FRANCIS M. WATTS, who is pursuing the even tenor of his way as the leading merchant of the village of Ivesdale, in Sadorus Township, established in business there in the spring of 1881, and has built up a good trade in general merchandise, having among his patrons the best people of his community. He first appeared upon the stage of action in Perry County, Ohio, Nov. 13, 1844, and was the second in a family of seven children born to Charles and Elizabeth (Tracy) Watts, the father a native of Ohio, and the mother of Maryland. They followed farming in a modest manner in the Buckeye State, and Francis M. remained a member of the parental household until the outbreak of the late Rebellion.

When a little over nineteen years of age our subject enlisted, Feb. 18, 1864, as a soldier of the Union Army, becoming a member of Co. G, 76th Ohio Vol. Inf., which was assigned to the 1st brigade in the 1st division of the 15th Army Corps, under command of Capt. Stewart, and proceeded to the

South, where the troops entered upon the continuous struggle which succeeded from that time until the fall of Atlanta. Young Watts, with his comrades, joined in the march with Sherman to Savannah, where he remained during the winter on provost duty. In the spring his regiment moved out and followed the line of Sherman's march to Columbia, S. C., where our subject served in a similar capacity during the siege of that city. From there they proceeded to Bentonville and engaged in the last fight of the Union troops with Gen. Joe Johnson, during which he surrendered, and upon which closely followed the final capitulation of the rebels generally. Mr. Watts, with his command, proceeded to Washington and participated in the grand review, after which his regiment was transferred by rail to Louisville, Ky., where they remained until the 12th of July, 1865, when they received their honorable discharge and were mustered out.

Our subject during his seventeen months of army life came out without receiving a scratch, and returning to his home in the Buckeye State, remained there until the fall of 1868. He then came to this State, locating first in Piatt County, where he followed farming on rented land until 1874; afterward he purchased eighty acres, and soon by a series of circumstances was induced to change his location and occupation. Coming to Ivesdale, this county, he learned telegraphy, and was agent on the Wabash road for a period of eight years. From that position he drifted into mercantile business, which he followed in Ivesdale two years, and then selling out, went to Kansas, with the design of locating there and following the same vocation. Failing to find anything desirable he returned as far east as Indiana, and engaged in the grocery trade at Kokomo. A year later he sold out there and returned to Ivesdale, where he has since remained. He carries a stock of groceries and the lighter articles required about the farm and household, and by his correct business methods has built up a flourishing trade. Most of his time has been spent strictly attending to his own affairs, as he finds this the easiest method of getting on. Although reasonably anxious that the Republican party should have the management of National affairs,

and those of importance nearer home, he takes no further part in its deliberation than to cast his vote at the general election.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married Jan. 28, 1876, was formerly Miss Angeline B., eldest child of Robert and Catherine Redmond, natives of Ohio. Mrs. Watts was born near Indianapolis, Ind., in 1855, and there spent the greater part of her childhood and youth. Of her union with our subject there were born two sons—Charles B. and Francis Joseph. The former died during their trip to the West. Mr. and Mrs. Watts are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and enjoy the association of a large circle of friends.



B. FEEMAN. The snug homestead of this gentleman lies on section 21, in Brown Township, on the road leading to the city of Mahomet and to Center School-House. He has followed out the theory of Horace Greeley in possessing himself of a medium-sized farm well cultivated. Each acre is made available either for grain or pasturage, and all are neatly enclosed with good fences. The farm buildings, unpretentious in style, perhaps, are suited to all the requirements of the small family of our subject, where they live peaceable and contented lives in the midst of comfort, and respected by their friends and neighbors.

The parents of our subject, Benjamin L. and Frances (Leitnacker) Feeman, were natives of Fairfield County, Ohio, where they established a home after their marriage and where they still reside. They had a family of four sons and four daughters, of whom Henry B. of our sketch was the third child. He also was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, Aug. 8, 1845, and remained with his parents on the farm, receiving a common-school education and learning to plow and sow until the outbreak of the late Civil War. Then, although but sixteen years of age, he resolved to enter the Union ranks, and enlisted in Co. M, 12th Ohio Vol. Cav., serving two years and three months. With his comrades he encountered the enemy at Mt. Sterling, Ky., where he was captured by the rebels, but after

a few hours made his escape by eluding the guards and taking "leg bail." He rejoined his regiment at Mt. Sterling, with which he remained until the expiration of his term of service.

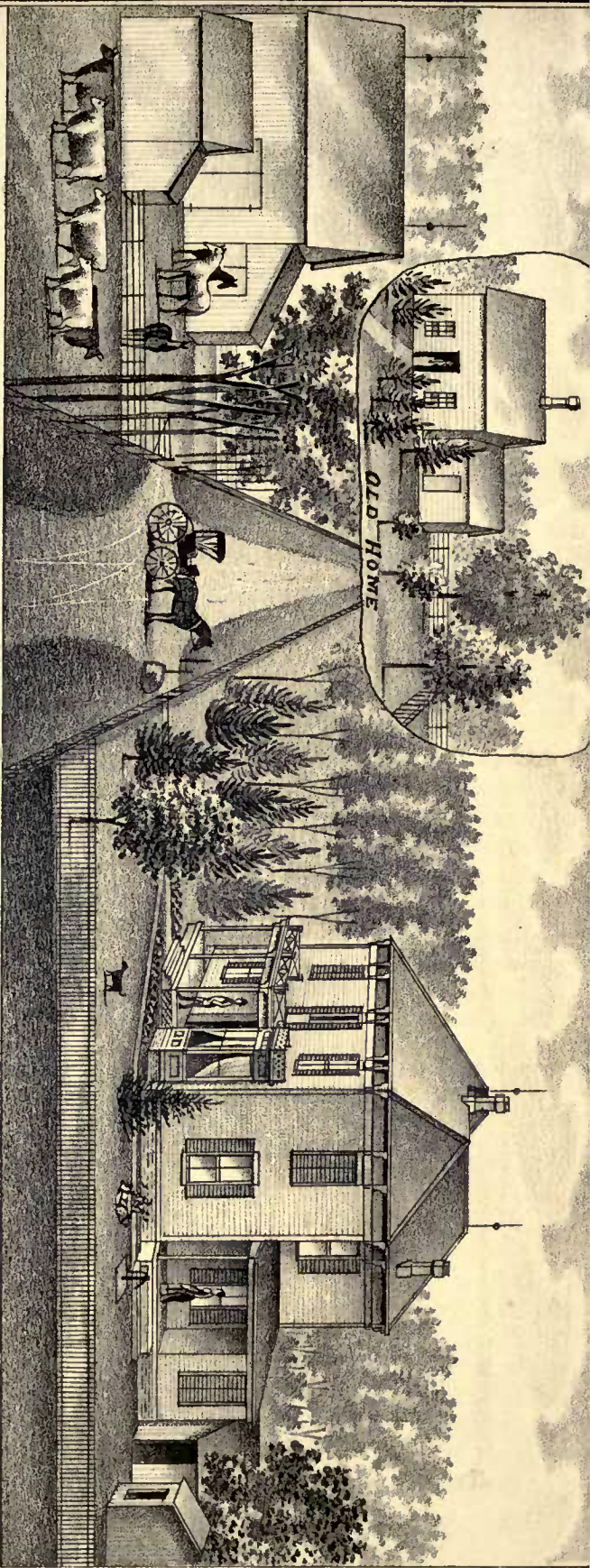
Returning to his old home in Fairfield, Ohio, our subject worked for his father two years, and in 1867 came to Shelbyville, this State, and for the year following engaged in farming on rented land. He then returned to Fairfield County, Ohio, and purchasing a threshing-machine occupied himself with this until in the spring of 1872, when he again came to Illinois and rented a farm in Champaign Township, this county, two years. At the expiration of this time he rented the Ball farm in Brown Township, which he operated for a year, and in the meantime purchased the land which he now owns and occupies. This he took possession of in the spring of 1874. He has expended about \$600 in tile, and each year adds some new improvement enhancing the value of his property.

The marriage of Mr. Feeman took place in his native county in the Buckeye State, Jan. 16, 1872, when Miss Maggie H., daughter of David and Priscilla (Wells) Ewing, became his wife. The parents of Mrs. F. were natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania respectively, and after their marriage located in Fairfield, Ohio, where they reared two children, the wife of our subject being the second. Mrs. Feeman is a native of the same county as her husband, born June 13, 1848, and like him was reared in the Buckeye State. She was given the advantages of its free schools in early life, is a worthy and intelligent lady, and belongs to the Protestant Methodist Church. Their two children—Harlan L. and Henry E.—are still at home with their parents. Mr. Feeman votes with the Republican party, and socially belongs to Van Wert Post No. 300, G. A. R., in Fisher.

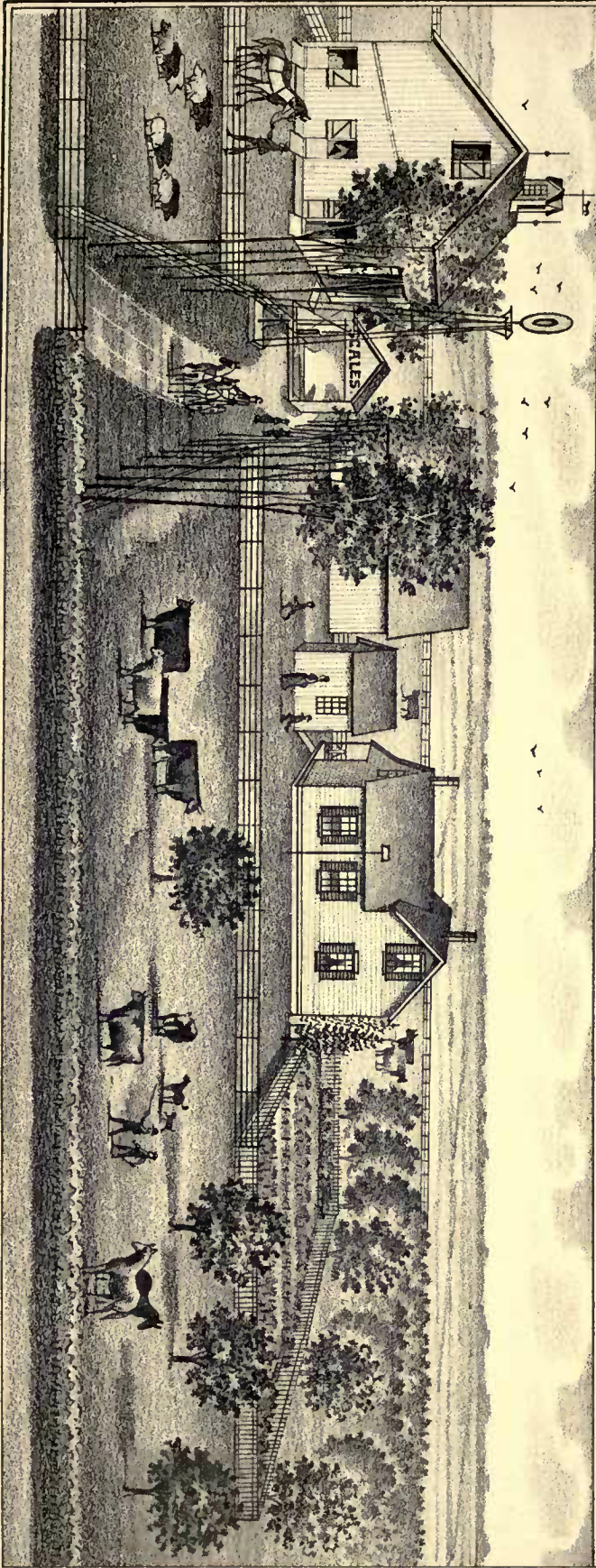


JAMES H. LOTT, who is engaged in merchandising in Mahomet, has been a resident of the Prairie State since a child four years of age. He is a native of Steuben County, N. Y., and was born June 19, 1842. He received a limited education, and his mother died when he was twelve years old, and school privileges at that

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RESIDENCE OF AMOS BOURNE, SEC. 20, TOLONO TP.



RESIDENCE OF FRANK OFFENSTEIN, SEC. 20, SADORUS TP.

time were few and far between. His parents were Henry and Elizabeth (Arnwine) Lott, the father a native of New Jersey and the mother of Pennsylvania. After living in Steuben County, N. Y., a few years they came to Illinois, locating in Kankakee County, where the mother died in 1854. Henry Lott afterward made his home with his children, his death occurring in 1885 at the residence of his son, in Mahomet.

The ten children of the parental household consisted of seven sons and three daughters, of whom our subject was the eighth child. He commenced the duties of life at an early age, and engaged in farm work until after the outbreak of the late war. He then enlisted in Co. A, 28th Iowa Vol. Inf., and served three years and eight days, suffering bravely with his comrades the hardships and difficulties of camp life and the march until August, 1865, after the close of the war, when he received his honorable discharge and was mustered out at Savannah, Ga. He participated in the siege and capture of Vicksburg, and was present at many hard fought battles, including those of Winchester and Cedar Creek, besides various minor engagements and skirmishes, from all of which he escaped injury.

After his retirement from army life Mr. Lott until 1872 carried on farming in Newcomb Township, whence he removed that year to Mahomet, and in January, 1873, established himself in the dry-goods trade, which he has conducted since that time. Two years later his stock and store were destroyed by fire, which involved nearly all his earthly possessions. In April of the following year, however, he started again upon a small capital, and since that time has met with success, enjoying a good trade, and being able to put up a convenient and commodious store building.

The marriage of James H. Lott and Miss Sarah J. Hinton took place in Newcomb Township on the 24th of June, 1869. Mrs. L. is the daughter of Pleamon and Nancy (Anderson) Hinton, residents of Newcomb Township, where the father died in about 1883. Mrs. H. is still living, and a resident of Newcomb Township. Mrs. Lott was born in Clinton County, Ind., May 25, 1851, and by her marriage with our subject became the mother of

five children, only three of whom are living—Minnie O., Maud A., and Lillie L. Nancie and Lura A. are deceased.

Mr. Lott is a gentleman highly esteemed in the community, being genial, courteous and hospitable, and giving evidence of his birth and breeding as a gentleman in the highest sense of the word. He has served his township as School Director and member of the Village Board. He is connected with the Blue Lodge, in Mahomet, and Champaign Chapter, Champaign. Politically he is independent, aiming to vote for the men best qualified for office. Mrs. Lott is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.


FRANK OFFENSTEIN owns a good farm which is especially adapted to corn-raising, and which lies on section 29, in Sadorus Township. His buildings, although by no means pretentious, are comfortable, and answer fully the modest requirements of the proprietor, who knows how every penny of his property was accumulated, and who has learned to take good care of the results of his industry and perseverance. The early home of our subject was on the other side of the Atlantic, in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, where he was born Jan. 18, 1842, and spent twelve years of his earliest childhood in the valley of the Rhine. His parents were Philip and Margaret E. (Rodmaker) Offenstein, also natives of the Fatherland. The former was a brickmaker by trade.

In 1854 Philip Offenstein, not satisfied with his condition and prospects in his native country, resolved to emigrate to the United States. Setting sail from Havre, France, after a tedious voyage of six weeks, they arrived on American shores in the month of November. The two eldest daughters, not wishing to come at that time, remained with their relatives on the other side, but afterward joined the family here. After following the river up to Illinois, the father of our subject engaged in brickmaking in St. Clair County, where the family took up their first residence, and where they remained until 1868. The father then, in company

with his son, our subject, came into Champaign County, where Frank Offenstien purchased 160 acres of slightly improved land in Sadorus Township, on section 29. Soon afterward they were joined by the balance of the family, and here our subject has lived since that time, his father and mother remaining with him until they were called hence.

In the spring of 1867, the marriage of Frank Offenstien and Miss Katrina Kuntz was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Belleville, Ill. Mrs. O. is the daughter of Adam and Katrina (Lambertas) Kuntz, who were natives of Germany, but their daughter was born in St. Clair County, Ill. The result of this union is ten children, who were named respectively as follows: Rudolph, Millie M. and Philip (deceased), Frank William, John Frederick, Anna Catharine, Ida Mary, Eliza Margarette, Theodore Henry and Emma Fredericka. The surviving eight are all at home with their parents, the eldest being about nineteen years of age.

Mr. Offenstien devotes the greater part of his time to the production of corn, for which his farm seems best fitted. Since becoming a naturalized citizen he has voted with the Republican party, but further than this takes no active part in politics. He has served his township as School Director, and with his estimable wife is a member in good standing of the Lutheran Church. A lithographic view of Mr. Offenstien's residence is shown on another page of this work.



AMOS BOURNE, of Tolono Township, has been a resident of this county since the spring of 1865. He first opened his eyes to the light in Franklin County, Ind., on the 9th of January, 1840. His father, Nathan Bourne, a native of Barnstable County, Mass., was born May 10, 1794, and during his early manhood followed the trade of a carpenter. After reaching his majority he started for the West. His route led him through the State of Pennsylvania, where he made the acquaintance of Miss Sarah Ross, which friendship ripened into a deeper feeling, and they were married there. After this event they located

on a farm in Franklin County, Ind., where they passed the remainder of their lives. The death of Nathan Bourne occurred July 27, 1863. The mother was born May 29, 1806, and survived her husband twenty-two years, her death taking place on the 19th of November, 1885. Their habits of frugality and industry had been amply rewarded, and at his death the father of our subject was the owner of 200 acres of valuable land, with good improvements. The five children born to the parental household were: Eline, who married Henry Shultz, and lives in Missouri; Lucy, the wife of George Shultz, a resident of Franklin County, Ind.; Amos, of our sketch; Nathan, of Franklin County, Ind., and Almira, the wife of Patrick Gill, also of Franklin County.

Amos Bourne was reared on his father's farm and received a common-school education. After arriving at years of manhood he was married, Feb. 21, 1861, to Miss Maria Shultz, the daughter of John and Catherine Shultz. Mrs. B. was born in Franklin County, Ind., Sept. 9, 1841. Of this marriage there were born nine children. One little daughter at the age of two years was taken from the home circle by death on the 22d of February, 1872. Those living are Lillian L., the wife of William Hayes, of Connorsville, Ind.; Ulysses James; Mary R., the wife of William Rose; George S., Flora C., Nathan L., Roena Violet and John H. The parents and two children are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. R., politically, is a straight Republican. He has always been interested in the moral and intellectual welfare of his community, and has officiated as a member of the School Board several terms.

Our subject owned a farm of eighty-one acres in his native county, which he tilled until 1864, when he sold out, and the following year came to Illinois, becoming a resident of Tolono Township on the 3d of April, 1865. He had previously purchased eighty acres of land which constitutes a part of his present homestead, and to which he added until he now has a valuable farm of 280 acres under a state of good cultivation. In 1886 he erected a fine two-story dwelling, and has a good barn and all necessary buildings for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. The homestead in all its appoint-

ments is one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of Tolono Township, and is highly creditable to the industry and forethought of its proprietor. A view of the place is shown in this connection.



MATTHEW J. ROE, deceased, who was well and favorably known in Pesotum Township, was born in Bath County, Ky., April 9, 1826. He was second of the five children of Stephen and Rebecca (Johnson) Roe, the former a carpenter by trade, but who spent much of his time in the more congenial occupation of farming. He owned a fine homestead in Bath County, including 200 acres of land with good improvements, and remained a resident of his native State until his decease.

Matthew Roe, in 1855, desiring to see something of the world outside of his native State, came north into Menard County, Ill., where he purchased forty acres of land, and was engaged in its cultivation until the outbreak of the late war. Then, leaving his family in the care of David F. Hopkins on an adjoining farm, he entered the Union service, enlisting in Co. K, 106th Ill. Vol. Inf. He participated with his comrades in many important battles, including those of Vicksburg, Pine Bluff and Little Rock, besides various minor engagements. As a soldier he performed his duties faithfully, having had already some experience in the Mexican War. Although encountering many hairbreadth escapes he came out without a scratch, but suffered considerably in health, in fact this was the final cause of his death, which took place on the 5th of January, 1886.

The marriage of Matthew J. Roe and Mrs. Lucy (Bailey) Hopkins was celebrated at the home of the bride in the fall of 1850. Mrs. Roe was the widow of J. M. Hopkins, a native of Bath County, Ky., and who only lived two years after his marriage. Of this union there was born one child, David Francis, who married Miss Emily J. Propst, and is a resident of Douglas County, Ill. To Mr. and Mrs. Roe there were born two children, of whom one, Caleb C., died when eight years of age; the surviving son, William Walker, born in 1853, was

married to Miss Rosalie Cooper, on the 10th of May, 1882. The first six months they lived with his parents, and then moved into Pesotum, where they continued three years, and until the fall before the death of Mr. Roe, William being engaged in the grain business. He is now the chief support and adviser of his widowed mother, and possesses in a marked degree the enterprise and good judgment of his father. The young people are the parents of two children—Alba M. and Elwayne C.

After retiring from the army Mr. Roe purchased eighty acres of land in Pesotum Township, this county, and was very successful, being prospered from the start. He made good improvements, and in due time added to his landed area until he became the owner of 300 acres. During the latter years of his life he gave his attention principally to stock-raising. Mr. Roe, early in life, before the organization of the Republican party, was an old-line Whig. Later he endorsed Republican principles, and supported them by his voice and vote. He never connected himself with any church organization. Mrs. Roe, formerly a member of the Christian Church, in 1858 withdrew and identified herself with the United Brethren. As the widow of a veteran she draws a pension from the Government.



JOHN J. ZERBE, of Brown Township, came to Champaign County in 1863, from Berks County, Pa., and settled in what is now East Bend Township, whence he removed to Brown Township in 1866, and has since resided there. He has a good farm, embracing 160 acres of improved land on section 21, equipped with all necessary out-buildings for comfortable living and for farm purposes. He is in all respects conducting himself as an honest man and a good citizen, cultivating the soil, raising good crops which occupy a creditable place on the market, and as he has opportunity, contributing his share toward the welfare of his community.

The parents of our subject, John W. and Elizabeth (Arnold) Zerbe, natives of Pennsylvania, after becoming husband and wife settled down to housekeeping and farming in Berks County, where

they lived until 1877. That year they joined their son in Illinois and took up their abode in Sidney Township, where the father died in 1879; the mother still survives, making her home in Berks County, Pa. Of the children born to this worthy couple John J. was the sixth, his birth taking place Sept. 30, 1837, in Berks County, Pa. He remained a member of his father's household until twenty-six years of age, in the meantime being employed as clerk in a store and as a teacher in the district schools, following the latter for seventeen winters in succession. Aside from this the greater part of his life has been devoted to agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Zerbe was married, in Newcomb Township, this county, on the 1st of December, 1870, the lady of his choice being Miss Maggie Mitchell, a native of Harrison County, Ohio. Mrs. Z. is the daughter of John and Nancy (Edgar) Mitchell, and was born May 9, 1845. The six children of this household are named as follows: Minnie M., John F., Charles G., Lillian B., George W. and Grover C. The name of the last child satisfactorily indicates the politics of Mr. Zerbe. He has been honored with the various offices of his township, having served as Assessor, Clerk, Justice of the Peace and School Trustee. Both our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Protestant Methodist Church, and rank among the representative people of one of the most thrifty communities in the State.



WILLIAM R. CLARK, a prominent and highly respected citizen of Ludlow, has been successfully engaged as a grain dealer since the spring of 1881. He bears the reputation of a high-minded Christian gentleman, honorable and upright in his business transactions, and a valued member of the refined society of his community. Mr. C. comes of an excellent family, and was born in Harrison County, Ohio, March 9, 1822. His father, John Clark, of Virginia, emigrated to the Buckeye State when a young man and was among the earliest pioneers of Harrison County. He purchased a tract of land, which he occupied

and cultivated for a few years with success, and later removed to Coshocton County, afterward becoming also a resident of Knox and Champaign Counties, in the latter of which he spent the last years of his life.

William R. Clark was the youngest of his mother's children, and during his youth and boyhood pursued his early studies in the pioneer schools conducted in the primitive log cabin, mostly on the subscription plan. He remained a member of the parental household until twenty-two years old, then settled on a piece of land which his father had given him. Five years later he rented his farm and removed to Miami County in the western part of the State where, with a partner, he engaged in mercantile business at Casstown. A year of this sufficed, and he returned to Urbana, where he lived seven years and engaged in merchandising. He then sold out and purchased a farm near Cable, in Champaign County, Ohio, where he operated as a grain dealer and followed farming. In September, 1868, he came to this county and purchased a tract of land on section 14, in Ludlow Township. Seven years later he removed to the village and commenced dealing in coal and flour, to which he afterward added lumber, and has continued thus employed until the present time. His grain transactions began in 1880, and have been conducted successfully since that time.

Mr. Clark, in 1844, was united in marriage with Miss Sophia Baldwin, at the home of the bride's parents, in Wayne Township, Champaign Co., Ohio, the wedding taking place on the 11th of April. Mrs. Clark was born in Logan County, Ohio, in the same year as her husband, 1822, in the month of December. They have four children living and located as follows: Minnie became the wife of G. W. Payne, a resident of Sullivan, Ill.; Ida and Alta are twins; the former married John Jackson, a resident of Ford County; Alta became Mrs. William Hamilton, and settled with her husband near Wellington, in this State; Nettie married E. A. Ekstrand, a prosperous merchant of Ludlow.

Our subject and wife became members of the Methodist Episcopal Church early in life, of which he was Trustee in Ohio, and has filled the same po-

sition here. Politically he supports the principles of the Republican party. He was one of the first subscribers for the *Urbana Citizen and Gazette*, which was established in 1843, and has taken the paper continuously since that time. He was School Treasurer for a number of years, and has been one of the foremost men both in social and business circles, always encouraging the march of progress and every enterprise tending to the welfare of his fellow-citizens. During the late war he, in 1864, enlisted in Co. F, 134th Ohio Militia, and was commissioned Second Lieutenant, serving until September.



JAMES ALEXANDER HOSSACK. This representative of a prominent family of this county, is pleasantly located in Champaign Township, where he occupies a fine home-
stead with his sisters, Mrs. S. H. McLellan, Margaret M. and Jemima M. Hossack. The Hossack family was originally from Scandinavia, but afterward removed to the north coast of Scotland, where several generations were born and passed away. The great-grandfather of our subject, Saunders Hossack, removed to Gourock on the Clyde, which, however, now knows the family no more, its various members since then having scattered over England, Scotland and America. The only Hossack of this branch of the family in the West, is James A., of Champaign, of whom we write. He is the only son and second child of the late Capt. Alexander and Susan (MacCunn) Hossack, of Greenock, Renfrewshire, Scotland, in which city he was born in 1845. The other members of the family are Susan Campbell, Margaret Milne and Jemima MacCunn Hossack. Of these Susan Campbell was married to Hugh McLellan, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and of that union there is one surviving child, Mary Clutha.

Alexander Hossack, the father of our subject, was the eldest son of James and Margaret (Milne) Hossack, of Gourock, who were the parents of four daughters and three sons, of whom Alexander was the fourth child. Of this large family but one remains, Rev. John Hossack, of Handsworth, Birmingham, England. He is an old man of about

seventy years, and has no family. Dr. James Hossack, the third son, was lost at sea on his way to China in about the year 1855; he was never married. The subject of this history is the only grandson who bears the paternal name. Capt. Alexander, the sailor, died in 1848. He had made many voyages to the East Indies and China, but in the latter years of his life most of his sea journeyings were to and from America. Upon two of these voyages his wife accompanied him, with their eldest child upon the first, and their two eldest children upon the second. The vessel, the "New York Packet," was owned principally by members of the family. This adventurous wife and mother was the daughter of John MacCunn, of Gourock, who with his brothers, James and William, were owners of stock in the first steamer that plied the waters of the Clyde. The "New York Packet" belonged principally to the late John MacCunn, of Greenock, son of the above and brother of Mrs. Hossack. His ships were to be seen on all waters, and when Tennyson became popular as a poet, were called after his heroes or heroines, namely, King Arthur, Sir Lancelot, Guinevieve, etc. About a year previous to the death of Capt. Hossack he retired from the sea, and went into business as a ship plumber, which promised to be profitable, owing to his long connection with the ship-owners, and no doubt would have been but for his early death, which occurred in Greenock when he was in the thirty-second year of his age.

Upon the death of her husband, the mother of our subject determined to devote her life to the care of her four children, the eldest of whom was then five years and a half old, while the youngest was but five months. How faithfully she fulfilled her trust only her family can testify. For four years after her husband's death, Mrs. Hossack remained in Greenock, then, thinking that a change might be beneficial for her children, she, in 1852, removed to Dunoon, Argyshire, where the family lived for several years. In 1857 she had the misfortune to lose a great part of her money, being a stockholder in the Western Bank of Scotland, which became financially embarrassed, and on account of this calamity she resolved to emigrate to America, having a favorite sister, Mrs. Robert

Thallon, in Brooklyn, N. Y. She arrived there with her little family in November, 1858, this being her third and final visit to this country, where she remained the balance of her life. Although of frail constitution, and a great sufferer physically, her self-sacrificing interest in her children's behalf, enabled her to endure much, while her resolution of character was remarkably illustrated. She immediately placed her children in the public schools, where her son James remained until he was fourteen years of age. He was then taken into the office of his uncle, the late Robert Thallon, who was one of the founders of the New York Produce Exchange, and one of its most honored members. The office was located in Hanover Square, and here James Hossack remained for nearly three years, gaining a good insight into general business methods. Then, by the advice of his uncle, he entered the packing-house of Rutherford & Adams, on Twenty-seventh street, in New York City, to learn their business. This not being to his taste, however, a few years later he returned to his former office, which was now in possession of Charles W. Lord, who had succeeded Mr. Thallon in the business, when the latter went to Europe.

While in Mr. Lord's office, our subject met with a great affliction in the death of his tender and affectionate mother, who had lived just long enough to hear that peace was declared in the country whose interests had become hers, and whose destiny she had regarded with an affection no less than one of its own children. The last public meeting which she attended was upon the occasion of the eulogy delivered by Dr. Richard Storrs upon the martyred Lincoln. The death of this estimable lady occurred on the 9th of June, 1865, when she was in the fifty-second year of her age, and her remains were laid to rest by her sorrowing family in Greenwood Cemetery.

James A. Hossack then decided to seek his fortunes in the great West. He had inherited a strong love for the sea, and felt obliged to fly from the temptation that daily assailed him while he was in sight of it, in order to keep the promise which he had made his mother that he would never be a sailor. Accordingly in the fall of that year he came to Illinois, and in due time purchased 200

acres of wild prairie, upon which there was not a single tree and scarcely a stone. This land, redeemed from its original condition, now constitutes the homestead of our subject, a beautiful farm, well drained, wooded and tilled. It is scarcely necessary to say that its present condition has been brought about by years of industry and excellent business management. Mr. Hossack also turned his attention to stock-raising, and in all respects has been uniformly successful. Politically he is a Republican, but at the last presidential election considered himself justified in casting his vote for Grover Cleveland. Mr. Hossack has never married, his domestic affairs being presided over by his sister, Miss Margaret Hossack.

Religiously the family may be properly called Presbyterian. The grandfather, James Hossack, in his native Scotland walked every Sunday a distance of three miles from Gourrock to Greenock to attend the United Presbyterian Church in St. George's Square, and continued these journeyings until he was over eighty years of age. The Champaign County branch of the family worship with the Congregationalists at Champaign, presided over by the Rev. W. G. Pierce.

JAMES LUMLEY, whose early home was in Yorkshire, England, where he was born in 1824, came to the United States in 1846, and to this State in 1857. He is now a resident of Sadorus, where he carries on a trade in agricultural implements and also conducts a butcher-shop, supplying the best grades of meat to the citizens of the village, and first-class farming implements to the agriculturists in the surrounding townships. His straightforward business methods and his reliability as a man and a citizen, have secured him the confidence of large numbers of friends and patrons.

Our subject is the eldest child of a family of seven born to Charles and Catherine (Gates) Lumley, who were natives of England. When he was nine years of age, his parents changed their location, going from the northern to the western part of Yorkshire, where the boy engaged in a wool-combing factory, and followed this occupation for a

period of twelve years, in the meantime also learning the butcher's trade, at which he employed himself when business was dull in the other. In 1846, when twenty-two years of age, he decided to make a change, and seeing no prospect of advancement in the land of his birth, resolved to emigrate to America, and try the experiment of living under another system of government. Accordingly he set sail from Liverpool on the 28th of February, and after a tedious voyage of forty-one days arrived in Boston, Mass. He had already been married, in August of the previous year, to Miss Harriet, daughter of William Firth, and also a native of Yorkshire, England.

Three months after his arrival in this country, Mr. L. sent for his wife. She joined him near Lowell, at a place called Ballard Vale, where they lived for about a year, and thence removed to West Chelmsford, in Middlesex County, where our subject followed wool-combing for a time and then worked in the regular factory, until his earnings enabled him to buy a small house and lot. Desiring, however, to go into business for himself, he soon afterward sold his little property, and invested in a butcher's outfit, setting up business and meeting with fair success. About this time his attention was attracted by the glowing accounts of the West, in regard to the desirability of a homestead on the prairies of Illinois, and in 1857 he disposed of his interests in the Bay State and came to this county, purchasing a quarter section of railroad land in Sadorus Township. He afterward sold back eighty acres of this to the railroad and occupied his time in improving the balance, afterward adding to it forty acres, and now owns a fine farm of 120 acres, with good buildings, and all other modern appliances.

In 1852 Mr. Lumley met with a sad affliction in the death of his wife, Harriet, who left him with two children—Mary and Joseph. They are still living, Mary being the wife of Samuel Goodnight, who is engaged in farming in the southern part of the State. Joseph is unmarried, and is a clerk in Kansas. In 1853 our subject was married to Miss Hannah O'Leary, a native of Ireland, who had emigrated to the United States about a year previous to her marriage with Mr. Lumley. Of this

union there have been born four children: The eldest son, James, married Miss Sarah Martin, of this county, and carried on farming in Chautauqua County, Kan., but is at present living in Colorado. Alice, the wife of William Martin, lives with her husband on a farm near West Cliff, Col.; Ellen married Ander N. Tabler, and they occupy the farm of our subject in Sadorus Township; Annie is the wife of David M. Williams, a farmer of Colfax Township.

In the spring of 1869, Mr. Lumley having spent a good many years in persistent labor on the farm, established his present business in the village of Sadorus. For this purpose he had purchased property and put up buildings, while still retaining his residence in the country, until the spring of 1885. He then purchased a home in the village, to which he moved, and now gives his entire attention to his town trade, his farm in the meanwhile being carried on by his son-in-law, Ander N. Tabler.

After becoming a naturalized citizen, and acquainting himself with the different theories regarding American government, Mr. Lumley decided that his tastes and sympathies inclined to Republican principles. He cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont, and since that time has been a staunch adherent of the Republican party. From the start he distinguished himself as a capable business man and conscientious citizen, and was early selected for the minor offices of his township, serving as Road Commissioner and Justice of the Peace, and gaining the good-will of his fellow-townsmen by encouraging the various enterprises which were set on foot, and had for their object the general welfare of the community.



MELLARS, Postmaster at Philo, became a resident of the town in 1874. He at once established himself in business as a general merchant, in which he has been fairly prosperous, and has secured the confidence and patronage of the best people of this locality. He located in Champaign County in 1850, making his home for several years in Sadorus Township, where his fa-

ther, William Ellars, was one of the pioneer settlers and is yet living.

Our subject was born in Madison County, Ohio, Aug. 22, 1849, and was only one year old when his parents came to the West. They settled on a tract of land which had only been partially cultivated, and our subject spent his childhood and youth after the manner of most farmers' boys, pursuing his studies in the district schools and assisting in the labors around the homestead. When twenty-four years of age he was married at the home of the bride's parents in Sadorus Township, Sept. 10, 1873, to Miss Ella, the only daughter of G. W. Hesse, now deceased. Mr. H. was a native of Switzerland County, Ind., and located at an early day in Douglas County, this State, whence he afterward removed to Sadorus Township, this county, in 1863. He followed farming, and was married to Miss E. J. Dodson, who was born in Indiana, and is now living with her children in Philo Village.

Mrs. Ellars was born in Ohio County, Ind., July 23, 1858. She was but a year old when her parents removed to Douglas County, this State, and came with them later to this county, where she received her education and remained with her parents until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there have been born four children—Maude, Leila, Cora and Ralph. Mr. Ellars received his commission as Postmaster in September, 1885. He is Democratic in politics, and a representative citizen of a thriving community.



JOHAN A. SIMPSON. The subject of this history, a resident of Hensley Township, is a native of Fayette County, Ind., becoming a resident of Champaign County, Ill., when a lad twelve years old, and with the exception of the years which he gave in assisting to preserve the Union, he has been a resident here since that time. His birth took place on the 1st of August, 1846, and his parents were Henry H. and Melinda (Lemmon) Simpson, the former born in Ohio, in May, 1809, and the latter in Harrison County, Ky., March 16, 1813. The grandfather of our subject,

Thomas Simpson, a native of New England, emigrated to Ohio when a young man, after his marriage, where he lived until 1813, then, feeling perhaps, as did Daniel Boone, that there were too many people gathering around him he pushed further westward into Indiana while it was yet a Territory. He selected Fayette County as his location, and had for his neighbors mostly only Indians, who were jealous of the encroachments of the whites and became very hostile to the settlers.

Thomas Simpson, in company with some of his brother pioneers, erected a blockhouse, in which they with their families took refuge. Mr. S. then cleared a farm from the wilderness, upon which he remained until the close of his life. There also he and his womanly and courageous helpmeet reared an interesting family of children, among whom was their son Henry, the father of our subject. He grew to manhood amid the primitive scenes of life in a new settlement infested by savages and wild animals, and was there married and continued to live until 1858. In the spring of that year he came to this county and purchased a tract of land on section 31, in what is now Hensley Township. He lived, however, but a few months afterward, his death occurring on the 25th of October following. His family remained on the land, improving and cultivating it for three years afterward, then sold out and purchased that which constitutes their present homestead on section 17. The mother is still living and in the enjoyment of good health.

The maternal grandfather of our subject, Robert Lemmon, followed farming all his life, mostly in Harrison County, Ky., where his death occurred in March, 1814. The mother of our subject was but a year old when her father died, and remained with her mother in Kentucky until 1828. The family then removed to Indiana, where the daughter was married to Henry Simpson. The parental household included eight children, namely, Thomas, Sarah, James, Mary, Margaret, Robert, John and Ida.

After the death of his father our subject remained with his mother until 1863. He was then seventeen years of age, and in May of that year, the late Civil War being in progress, he enlisted in Co. B, 135th Ill. Vol. Inf., with the three-months' men. After serving seven months he was honored

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Jesse McHarry

with his discharge, but in 1864 re-enlisted in Co. A, 154th Ill. Vol. Inf., remaining in the service until the close of the war. He then returned to his mother in Hensley Township, where he remained until 1869. In the spring of that year he crossed the Mississippi, and going into Labette County, Kan., spent one year, after which he returned to Champaign County, and there lived until 1873. Going back to Kansas he remained there six years, after which he concluded there was no better locality in the West than Champaign County, and finally settled down contentedly here and resumed farming on the old homestead, where he has since been successfully engaged.

In September, 1886, Mr. Simpson was united in marriage with Miss Ida May Church, daughter of George and Elizabeth Church, and born in Mahomet Township in 1869. Mr. S. uniformly votes the Republican ticket, and is fully entitled to be classed among the honest men and good citizens of his community.



JESSE MEHARRY, Supervisor of Philo Township, and whose portrait is shown in this connection, is widely and favorably known throughout Champaign County as one of the most extensive land-owners and successful farmers in Southern Illinois. His fine farm is beautifully located on section 20, near the W. & St. P. R. R., which passes south of his residence. His landed possessions in the township of Philo embrace in one body 1,040 acres, which have been brought to the highest state of cultivation and are supplied with commodious and substantial farm buildings. Besides this Mr. M. owns 427 acres in McLean County, Ill., and 275 acres in Tolono Township, this county. The farm is finely laid out and well stocked with the best grades of cattle and horses. Of the former he makes a specialty, keeping a large number of cows and raising numbers of calves each year. The business of the farm is conducted in the most admirable manner, with method and system, and indicates on every hand the intelligence and enterprise of its proprietor.

Mr. Meharry located in Philo Township in 1865,

and since that time has made it his permanent home. He visited the State when a child with his father, who entered land in Crittenden Township, in 1855. Our subject was born in Coal Creek Township, Montgomery Co., Ind., Oct. 9, 1835, and is the son of Thomas and Unity (Patton) Meharry, natives of Ohio, and the grandson of Alexander and Jane (Francis) Meharry, who were of Scottish parentage but Irish birth, and emigrated from their native country to the United States in the Colonial days.

The family was originally driven from Scotland to Ireland during the persecution of the Protestants in the reign of Queen Mary. The grandparents of our subject were married in Ireland in the spring of 1794, and in May following embarked on a sailing-vessel for the United States. After a voyage of three weeks they landed in New York City, whence they proceeded to Philadelphia, and later to New London, Cheshire Co., Pa. The year following they removed to Connersville, Fayette Co., Pa., and afterward took up their residence in Adams County, Ohio, where the grandfather was accidentally killed by a falling tree on the 21st of June, 1813. The bereaved widow was left with a family of seven sons and one daughter, who grew to maturity, and she lived to see them married and settled in life. Her death occurred in 1842, when she was well stricken in years. It may be properly stated that when her husband met his death he was riding home from camp-meeting in the middle of the day; there was not a cloud in the sky, and the tree which killed him fell without warning, his death being instantaneous. He was a man of much energy and force of character, possessed of sound judgment, and was successful as a business man and farmer. He was honest and upright in his transactions, and was a leader among his brother pioneers. He improved a good farm of 200 acres, from the proceeds of which each of his sons obtained a good start in life.

The father of our subject was reared in Adams County, Ohio, but was afterward married in Brown County, in December, 1827. His wife, who was formerly Miss Unity Patton, was of English and Welsh descent, and was born in Brown County, Ohio, Aug. 16, 1802. Soon after marriage the


young people removed to Indiana, locating first in Fountain County, and from there moved to Montgomery County, where he purchased a tract of land which remained his home until his death, which occurred Jan. 29, 1874. In 1853-55 he came to Illinois and entered a large tract of land in McLean, Shelby and Champaign Counties, which after a few years became very valuable. He had at one time been the owner of 4,000 acres, the larger part of which was divided up among his children before he passed away. The mother is yet living on the old homestead, with her son Isaac N., but spends a great part of her time visiting with her children. She is now eighty-five years old, and is still bright and intelligent and can relate in an interesting manner many of the incidents of her early life.

The subject of our sketch during his childhood and youth attended the schools of his native county, and completed his studies at the college in Greencastle, Ind. He came to Illinois with his father in 1855, but did not permanently locate here until 1865. He was united in marriage with Miss Addie A. Francis, Feb. 27, 1873. Mrs. M. is the daughter of Abraham and Mary A. (Davison) Francis, natives respectively of Ireland and Brown County, Ohio. Her maternal grandparents were William and Jane (Love) Francis. They owned land in Ohio, but in their old age made their home with their daughter, Mrs. Hugh Meharry, in Montgomery County, Ind., where they passed their declining years and where their remains were laid to rest. The parents of Mrs. Meharry soon after their marriage located in Will County, Ill., in the pioneer days, in 1835, and erected one of the first log cabins in that vicinity, but the Indians soon afterward became so troublesome that they were compelled to return to Indiana temporarily. After a month's sojourn they again took possession of their land in Will County. This humble dwelling remained their home until it was replaced by a better one, and during the latter years of their life they inhabited a substantial modern frame house.

Mrs. Meharry was the ninth child of a family of eleven, and was born in New Lennox Township, Will County, Sept. 12, 1851. She was there reared and educated, completing her studies at Joliet, and afterward returned home and assisted her mother in

the household duties until her marriage. Our subject and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which they have been connected for several years. Mr. Meharry is the financial center of the church in his township, as well as the various other enterprises which have tended to its development and progress.

Mr. M. served as Supervisor of his township for five years consecutively from 1869 to 1874, and in the recent election was placed in the same office once more. His energy and ability have always distinguished him as a citizen among his fellow-citizens, whose confidence and esteem he enjoys in a marked degree. Since the organization of the Republican party he has been a warm supporter of its principles, casting his first presidential vote for Fremont, and being a loyal adherent of his party since. In his various undertakings financially and in his position socially, Mrs. Meharry has been a cordial sympathizer and companion, and has proved herself well worthy to be the wife of a man possessing his substantial traits of character and the qualities which have made him an honest man and a good citizen.

 DAVID RICE is proprietor of one of the best regulated stock farms in Sadorus Township. His estate includes 400 acres of land in the home farm and 160 a mile north, on section 14. The handsome and commodious residence, and the fine barn and out-buildings, together with the neat fences, well-fed animals, and valuable farm machinery, stand as silent witnesses of the character of their owner. The fields and pens contain South Down sheep, with Shropshire and Short-horn cattle, while within the stable may be found some fine specimens of Norman horses, in the breeding of which our subject has been engaged for the last four years.

When Mr. Rice came to this State with his parents in 1854, they located at first in Douglas County, whence they removed to this county in the fall following. The father purchased 160 acres of land on section 26, in Sadorus Township, and David remained there until after his marriage, four years later. He then brought his bride to the

homestead, where they lived two years, at the expiration of which time our subject took possession of a tract of land on section 16, which he had purchased, and where stood a modest dwelling, which remained the shelter of himself and family for four years afterward. In the meantime, his parents had passed away, and he purchased the interest of the other heirs in the old place, which he has occupied since that time, and enlarged by purchasing land adjoining. On this farm still stands the first frame barn built in the county, and which is regarded by the people of that section and the passer-by as a monument of a generation past and gone.

The parents of Mrs. Rice, who was formerly Miss Sarah Haynes, were Elijah C. and Matilda Haynes, natives respectively of Ohio and Arkansas. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Rice, two daughters, Eleanor M. and Carrie M., are both living and married. The former is the wife of Frank T. Hutchinson, who owns eighty acres of land on section 14, in Sadorus Township; they have two children—Nora M., and David. Carrie married Cassius M. Craig, a physician of Tolono. Mrs. Rice has been connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church since 1870, and is a lady of rare good qualities and kindness of heart. Our subject, although a true blue Republican, has sturdily declined to become an office-holder, maintaining that he could serve his party fully as well in a more unobtrusive manner.

JR. MOORE. The subject of the following biography is the leading dry-goods and boot-and-shoe merchant of the town of Philo, where he has built up a good trade, and in connection with this operates a farm of eighty acres on section 27, in Philo Township. He established his present business in the village in 1870, first dealing in general merchandise, which later was merged into the specialties which he now carries.

Mr. M. became a resident of this locality in the fall of 1869, and established the pioneer tinshop of Philo Township. Later, discovering that a different kind of business would pay better, he established a general store, and purchased his farm in

1878. He is a native of Muncie, Ind., and was born Nov. 1, 1839. When four years of age his parents removed to Warren County, that State, where he was reared and educated. His father, Levi Moore, a farmer by occupation, was born in Scioto County, Ohio, where he remained until seventeen years of age, then removed to Delaware County, Ind., where in due time he was married to Miss Louisa Wilson, a native of that State, and of Irish descent. The Moore family were originally from Scotland. After their marriage Levi Moore and his bride located on a farm in Delaware County, Ind., where their first child, our subject, was born. Afterward they removed into Warren County, Ind., where they still live, aged respectively seventy and sixty-six years.

Young Moore remained under the parental roof until reaching manhood, in the meantime having learned the trade of a tinner. He then established himself in Williamsport, Ind., where he remained for a short time, then came to Illinois and located in Philo. He was married, May 10, 1865, in Warren County, Ind., to Miss Amelia Minear, who was born in that county, Oct. 10, 1845, and was the daughter of George and Mary (Preble) Minear. Mr. M. was a farmer and stock-raiser, and at the time of his death occupied the office of Sheriff. He was Republican in politics and was prominent in the local affairs of that section. The mother died when the wife of our subject was only eight years of age. She remained with her father and received a common-school education. Of her marriage with Mr. Moore there have been born four children, two of whom, Daisy and an infant, are deceased. Cora married Fred C. Hess, who is a druggist and groceryman at Philo, and Mary is at home with her parents. Mrs. M. is connected with the Presbyterian Church.

During the late war Mr. Moore, although not of age, proffered his services as a soldier, but was rejected on account of his youth. Later he tried once more, and finally became a member of Co. E, 86th Ind. Vol. Inf., which was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. He was in the fight at Stone River and in all the battles of that campaign down to Atlanta and Jonesboro. He received a flesh wound from a shell in the cheek, the marks of

which he will carry as an honorable scar to his grave. After serving thirty-one months he was compelled to resign on account of ill-health. He entered as a private and was promoted at different times until he reached the rank of First Lieutenant.

After returning from the army Mr. M. resumed his farming and merchandising, and soon became one of the prominent citizens of Philo, enjoying the respect and confidence of his townsmen. He is Republican politically, and takes a genuine interest in the welfare and prosperity of his community.



STEPHEN C. ABBOTT. Among the self-made men whose biography will form an interesting page in the history of Champaign County, and will be read with satisfaction by his descendants, is the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch. He began life a poor boy, and by the exercise of his native talents and resolution of character, has arisen to a prominent position in society, and also forms an important factor in the business and agricultural interests of this section. He at present occupies the office of Supervisor of Mahomet Township, to which he was elected in 1887. He became a resident of this county in 1853, and there are few enterprises tending to its development and prosperity which he has not encouraged and contributed to by his means and influence.

Mr. Abbott was born in Rockaway, N. J., May 25, 1825, and is the son of Abijah and Elizabeth (Conger) Abbott, the former a native of Connecticut, and the latter of New Jersey. After marriage they settled in Rockaway, the latter State, where they spent the greater part of their lives, but finally removed westward to Illinois, and spent their last days in Mahomet, this county. The parental household included eleven children, seven sons and four daughters, of whom our subject was the fourth in order of birth. He received a limited education, and remained under the home roof until seventeen years of age, when he was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith's trade in his native town. After serving four years he went to Boston, Mass., where he worked as a "jour" one year, and

thence to Providence, R. I. From there, in the spring of 1848, he proceeded westward and followed his trade in different cities, among which was New Orleans, La., where we find him in 1849, and from which he journeyed in the latter part of that year to Independence, Mo.

The California gold excitement at that period was attracting many young men toward the Pacific slope, and young Abbott also becoming infected with the fever, started across the plains with hundreds of others to seek his fortune among the mines. He spent three years in California engaged jointly in mining, trading and teaming, with fair success. At the expiration of this time, longing for a sight of the old homestead and the friends of his youth, he returned to New Jersey. His natural energy, however, allowed him to remain there but a short time, when he started for the West once more, and reached this county in the latter part of 1853. Here he invested his money in real estate, and since that time his interests have been closely connected with those of the people of this State and county. He was remarkably successful in his farming and business transactions, and opened up several fine farms in the vicinity of Mahomet. After a few years he removed into the village, where he has since made his home, and where, for a period of several years, he was engaged in mercantile pursuits.

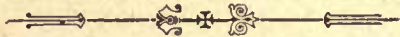
Soon after the outbreak of the late war, Mr. Abbott, laying aside his private and personal interests, enlisted as a soldier in the Union army, becoming a member of Co. H, 125th Ill. Vol. Inf., in which he served until January, 1865. With his comrades, he endured bravely and faithfully all the vicissitudes of war, the wearisome marches, the hard fare, and the discomforts often of sleeping without shelter, and was present at many important battles. At Peach-Tree Creek, near Atlanta, he was wounded in the right hip by a minie ball, after which he was unable to do further service, and even after returning home was obliged to use crutches for several years. For this he now receives a pension.

After his return from the army Mr. Abbott resumed his farming and business pursuits in and around Mahomet, and in 1873 received the appoint-

ment of Postmaster, which he held until after the change of administration and until June, 1885. He is still busily employed keeping watch over his various interests, although practically retired from active labor.

The marriage of Stephen C. Abbott and Miss Mary E. Rea was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Mahomet Township, on the 21st of February, 1854. Mrs. Abbott is the daughter of John J. and Sarah T. (Henderson) Rea, who were both natives of Kentucky. She was born in Lewis County, that State, Feb. 20, 1838, and of her union with our subject there are three children: Byron D. married Miss Mattie Bolinger, and resides at Maanomet; Laura is the wife of H. J. Moorehouse; Abijah married Pearl Cowen.

Mr. Abbott has held the office of Notary Public sixteen years, School Treasurer eleven, and Village Treasurer seven years. Politically he uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party. He became a member of the Presbyterian Church when seventeen years of age, with which denomination he has since been connected. Mrs. Abbott is a member of the Baptist Church. They occupy a comfortable and handsome home in Mahomet, and enjoy the association and friendship of the most cultured people of Mahomet Township.



LEWIS LAYMAN. On the northeast quarter of section 21, in Condit Township, lies one of the neatest farms in this county, which its present proprietor, the subject of our sketch, transformed from a tract of wild prairie into its present valuable condition and made it a pleasant spot which invariably attracts the eye of the passer-by. Mr. Layman located upon his land in 1870, at the time of starting out in life for himself, and just after he had been united with his chosen partner and helpmeet, who has remained his faithful and affectionate companion since that time. Since the establishment of this household the number of its members has been increased by the birth of five bright children, namely, George; Rieffy was born Aug. 8, 1874, and died Sept. 18, 1885; Fred, Bertie and Frank. The elder of these have as-

sisted their parents in building up the home and beautifying it and there is presented the picture of a happy family, enjoying the society of each other and the respect of their neighbors and many friends. Mr. L. has been fairly successful in his farming and business operations and has been enabled to surround himself and family with all the necessities of life and many of its luxuries. His course as a citizen and business man has been worthy of imitation, as he has been straightforward in his dealings and accumulated his capital by the exercise of his own industry.

The subject of this history was born in Mason County, this State, April 2, 1850. His father, Henry Layman, a native of Shenandoah County, Va., grew to manhood in his native State and learned the cabinet-maker's trade, at which he worked in Virginia, Ohio and Indiana. He removed from the latter State to Illinois in the spring of 1845, and purchasing a farm in Mason County turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. After a residence there of about twenty years he sold out his interests and, in 1865, purchased another farm in Logan County, above five miles from the town limits of Lincoln, where he spent the remainder of his days, his decease occurring in 1868. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Elizabeth Kretsinger, also a native of the Old Dominion.

Of the nine children comprising the parental household our subject was next to the youngest, and was fifteen years old when his parents became residents of Logan County. He continued under the home roof until his marriage, in the meantime receiving excellent home training and a common-school education. He then marked out his plans for the future, which he has persistently followed with success. Mr. L. attached himself to the Methodist Episcopal Church at an early age and is a devoted Christian.

Politically Mr. L. was a Republican, but is a staunch advocate of prohibition, and in the last presidential campaign gave his support to St. John. The wife of our subject, to whom he was married in September, 1870, was formerly Miss Sarah C. Penny, a native of Sangamon County, Ill., and daughter of William Graham and Eleanor (Duff)

Penny. The parents of Mrs. L. were natives of Ohio and Kentucky, whence they afterward removed to Sangamon County, Ill. Both are now dead. Mrs. L.'s father died in the service of his country at Little Rock, Ark.



BENJAMIN F. THOMAS. The gentleman whose name heads this biography owns and occupies a comfortable farm on section 9, in Mahomet Township, of which he took possession in the spring of 1884. He commenced life in a modest way and accumulated his first capital as a farm laborer in Condit Township. He is a native of Chautauqua County, N. Y., born Feb. 8, 1834, and is the son of Leander and Paulina (Kilbon) Thomas, both natives of Worcester County, Mass. They were married in their native county, where they settled for a time, afterward removing to the Empire State, and from there to Warren County, Ohio, where they spent the remainder of their lives. The father of our subject was a tanner by trade, which occupation he followed many years.

The parental household included four sons and four daughters, of whom our subject was the third child and son. He was quite young when his parents removed to Ohio, and was reared as a farmer. After coming to Illinois and during the progress of the late war, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. H, 71st Ill. Vol. Inf., in which he served three months, but afterward returned to Champaign County. In 1865 he removed to Scott Township, where he engaged in farming for a period of five and one-half years, then purchased a farm in Colfax Township, which he operated until 1882. During that year he went to California, and for two years afterward engaged in farming on the Pacific slope. At the expiration of this time he returned to this county and purchased 180 acres in Mahomet Township, where he has since resided. He has brought his land to a fine state of cultivation, has erected a handsome modern dwelling, and is now the owner of 263½ acres, most of which is under a good state of cultivation.

The marriage of Benjamin Thomas and Miss Mary Cresap, was celebrated in Champaign, Ill.,

Aug. 14, 1866. Mrs. Thomas is the daughter of Daniel and Margaret (Humes) Cresap, and the sister of Benjamin Franklin Cresap, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. She was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, May 27, 1833, was reared by her parents, and received a good education in the common schools. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have three children—Charles D., William A. and Benjamin F., Jr.

Our subject has held most of the minor offices of his township and in politics is a straight Republican. Socially he is a member of Eph. Scott Post No. 464, G. A. R. Mrs. Thomas is a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



HUGH J. ROBINSON. The important events in the history of this gentleman, necessarily made brief in a work of this kind, are recorded as follows: He was first introduced to life and its responsibilities in the North of Ireland on the 28th of March, 1833, and was the seventh child of Robert and Maria (Jackson) Robinson, the former a first cousin of Gen. Andrew Jackson, who named his son, our subject, after the uncle of Andrew, namely Hugh Jackson.

Mr. Robinson spent but four years in his native country, at the expiration of which time his father, in the hope of bettering his condition and giving to his children greater advantages in life, set sail for America and after landing, proceeded to Dutchess County, N. Y., of which they remained residents for twelve years following. The mother died in Ireland when Hugh was about four years old. Young Hugh, with his brothers and sisters, was reared to farming pursuits and removed with the family into Fond du Lac County, Wis., in 1849. There the elder Robinson purchased 160 acres of wild land and proceeded, with his brother pioneers, who, by the way, were located at long distances from each other, to cultivate the soil and build up a comfortable homestead. The pious labors of the father were cut short by his death three years later, and the children, remaining on the new farm, worked as best they could in keeping together, providing for their wants and learning to

till the soil and raise products necessary for their sustenance. Seeing that he could be reasonably well spared, our subject, in the October following his father's death, came to Illinois and located at Urbana, where he commenced working on the Illinois Central Railroad, which was then in process of construction. His duties consisted in getting out ties and in other ways preparing for the reception of the rolling stock.

In the spring following, desiring to change his location, our subject went into the town of Bourbon, Douglas County, where he assisted in building a mill and in filling a contract for 250,000 ties for the Illinois Central and Wabash Railroads. He then put 6,500 cords of wood on the track for the Illinois Central, and was thus engaged until 1858, in the meantime having been enabled to lay up a snug sum of money. He chose as the safest investment for his surplus cash 160 acres of unimproved land lying on the north half of section 33, in Sadorus Township, upon which he expended his energies until the fall of 1860. He had now prepared it for the reception of his family, and with pardonable pride introduced them to it and made them comfortable in the house which had been erected under his careful supervision. The home thus established he now occupies, having added to it enough to constitute a half section, every acre of which he has brought to a high state of cultivation. His possessions are the result of his own industry and the good judgment which has led to a wise investment of funds.

The first marriage of Mr. Robinson took place in October, 1856, his chosen wife being Miss Jane, daughter of Dr. Jacob Thrasher, of Geauga County, Ohio. The three children born of this union are Robert, Cullen and Mattie, all living. Robert married Miss Lillie Kellar, a native of Ohio, and occupies a farm half a mile north of the homestead; Mattie, the wife of William R. Miller, lives on a farm with her husband about three miles south of Sadorus; Cullen is unmarried and remains under the parental roof, while at the same time, with an eye to business and perhaps domestic ties of his own in the future, he is carrying on a farm of his own, consisting of 160 acres in the southeast part of section 33. The wife and mother departed

this life on the homestead in the summer of 1875. Our subject was next married to Miss Jennie Hutchison, who was born in Erie County, N. Y., and is the daughter of Capt. Scott Hutchison, of Calhoun County, Mich. The one child of this marriage was a son, John W., who died when four and one-half years old.

Politically Mr. Robinson has been a lifelong Douglas Democrat. His ability as a business man, and reliable qualities as a citizen, long ago obtained the recognition of his townsmen, who have kept him in the position of Supervisor for a period of twelve years. He has made it his duty to observe what was going on around him, keeping full pace with important events, and seeing as much of the United States as his time and means would permit. He has traveled from East to West, from Niagara Falls to New Orleans, and through Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa. He viewed the strange sights at the Exposition in the Crescent City in 1885, and his greatest pleasure has been in crossing rivers and territories, and becoming acquainted with the habits of different nationalities as represented in various cities of the United States. He possesses an intelligent mind, and reaps his highest satisfaction from the advantages of to-day as compared with those of forty years ago.

NOAH M. COYNER. Among the extensive farmers and stock-raisers of Hensley Township, the name of this gentleman is widely and favorably known as one of the most energetic and intelligent members of the agricultural element. He owns a valuable and extensive tract of land on section 16, upon which he settled in 1869, and which he has brought to a fine state of cultivation. The farm residence, grounds and out-buildings are all indicative of the cultivated tastes and ample means of the proprietor, and the homestead in all its appointments constitutes one of the pleasantest spots in the landscape of this county. The high-grade Short-horn cattle raised upon this farm will bear favorable comparison with any in the Mississippi Valley, and the Norman horses, principally

roadsters, are models of symmetry and beauty. Our subject has also made a specialty of Poland-China hogs, and has seventy-five registered Merino sheep.

Mr. Coyner is a native of Ross County, Ohio, and was born in Concord Township, Aug. 12, 1844. His father, David Coyner, a native of Hardy County, Va., was born in April, 1812. His grandfather, John Coyner, a native of Pennsylvania, removed to the Old Dominion in early manhood, and there married Miss Laswell, who was of Scottish parentage. After marriage they removed to Ohio and were among the earliest settlers of Ross County, locating there in 1814. John Coyner purchased a tract of timber land in Concord Township, where he improved a farm and spent the remainder of his days. His son David, the father of our subject, was but four years old when his parents removed from Virginia to Ohio. He grew to manhood in the Buckeye State, and married Miss Sarah Mallow, who was a native of Ross County, and the daughter of Adam and Sarah Mallow. Adam Mallow was a Virginian by birth and removed to Ohio at an early day, where he was captured by the Indians and kept in captivity seven years. At the expiration of this time a treaty of peace was made and the prisoners were liberated. Adam Mallow was then permitted to return home, and spent the last years of his life in Ross County, Ohio. In the meantime he purchased a tract of land which was partially improved and upon which he worked for several years. He then sold out and returned to the old homestead in Ross County, Ohio, which his grandfather had improved. This farm now includes nearly 600 acres of land, and is considered one of the most valuable in Ross County.

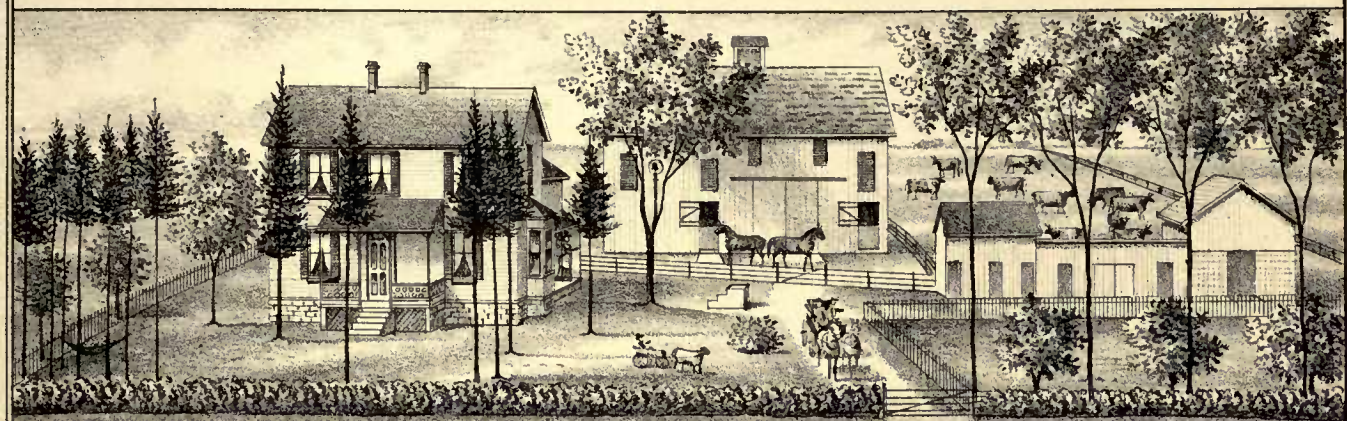
The parental household of our subject included twelve children, of whom eight grew to mature years. He is the fourth in age of those living, and occupied himself in farming pursuits until the outbreak of the late war. He then enlisted as a Union soldier in August, 1862, becoming a member of Co. K, 89th Ohio Vol. Inf., in which he served until peace was declared. He was present at the battles of Charleston, Murfreesboro, Chickamauga and Mission Ridge, and joined Sherman's army in its march from Atlanta to the sea. He participated in all the battles from Chattanooga to Atlanta, includ-

ing the siege and capture of the latter city. Returning from the sea coast he marched with his regiment up through the Carolinas to Richmond, and from there to Washington, where he participated in the final grand review, and received his honorable discharge in June, 1865. He then returned to his father's house and remained with his parents until 1869, in which year he became a resident of Hensley Township. His father, in 1855, had purchased a quarter section of land, and upon a part of this our subject went to work to improve and cultivate it. He kept bachelor's hall for a few years, then returned to Ohio, remaining there four years. In 1875 he started again for the West, and located on the farm which he now owns and occupies.

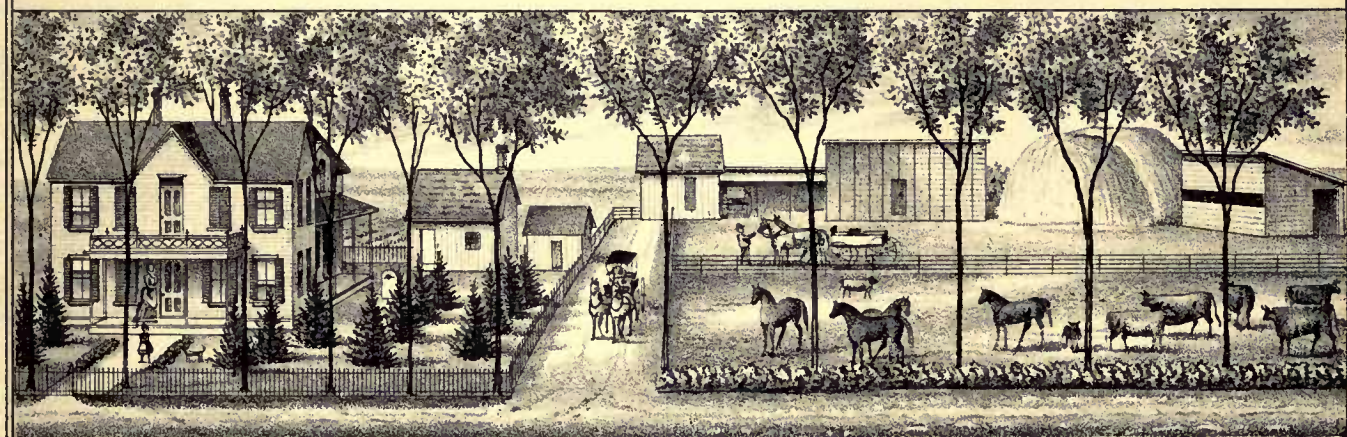
Our subject was married, Sept. 22, 1874, to Miss Ollie R. Hanawalt, who was born in Ross County, Ohio, Aug. 19, 1854, and is the daughter of Christopher and Elizabeth (Speaks) Hanawalt, natives respectively of Ohio and Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Coyner have four children—Maude F., Grace E., Mary C. and David Floyd. Mr. C. is Republican in politics and exercises a marked influence among his fellow-citizens. His fine tastes are evinced by the work of his own hands, as he possesses more than ordinary ability as an artist, the walls of his house being decorated with fine drawings, of animals principally, executed by his own hand.



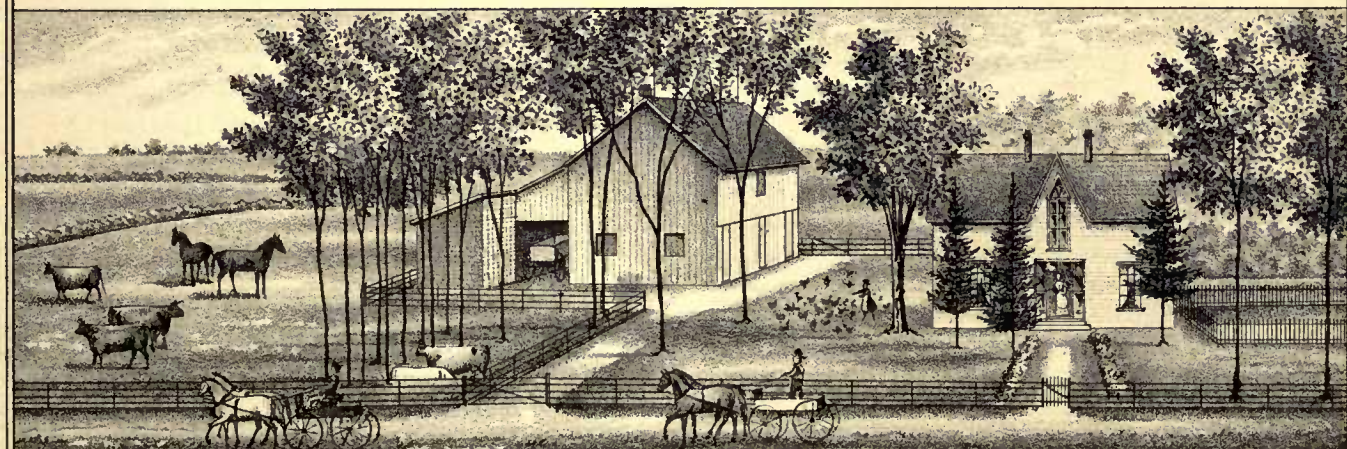
DAVID FRY, a highly respected farmer of Condit Township, was born near Hookstown, Beaver Co., Pa., Aug. 5, 1828. His father, William Fry, a native of Reading, Pa., was of German parentage, and followed the pursuit of agriculture during the latter years of his life. When a young man he was engaged on the river, flat-boating. After his marriage he settled with his young wife in Beaver County, Pa., and farmed on rented land. In 1840 he purchased a farm, which he occupied for a period of about thirty-two years, then sold out, and coming to this State settled in Peoria County, where he resided about twenty years. He then located in the city of



RESIDENCE OF SAMUEL GROVE, SEC. 10., PHILO TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF THOMAS LYONS, SEC. 17., TOLONO TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF STEPHEN DOTY, SEC. 8, GRITTENDEN TOWNSHIP.

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Champaign, where he spent the latter part of his life. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Sarah McKinney, born near Pittsburgh, Ohio, and of Scotch-Irish ancestry. She departed this life in Peoria in about 1882.

The parental family consisted of nine children, of whom David of our sketch was the eldest. He was reared on the farm and received such schooling as was afforded in those days. In December, 1853, he started with his father's family for Illinois, the journey being made via the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Peoria. He continued a resident of that place until after his marriage, then purchased a farm in Logan Township, Peoria County, which he occupied a few years, then sold out and purchased land in Bloomfield, Ill., which he occupied and cultivated one year. In the meantime he had purchased the tract of land in Condit Township, this county, which is now included in his present farm. Of this only a few acres were broken, and he took up his residence in Piatt County for a time before taking possession of this. He came into Condit Township for permanent settlement in March, 1869, and after fifteen years of industry, has transformed the wild prairie into a desirable homestead, erected a good set of buildings, and planted fruit, shade and ornamental trees. His land is well drained with tile, and is in all respects one of the model farms of that locality.

The marriage of our subject took place on the 3d of June, 1854, the lady of his choice being Miss Ann Fleming, a native of County Kerry, Ireland, and the daughter of James and Mary (Straten) Fleming. Her father was a farmer by occupation, a native of the same county and descended from the Scots. He spent his entire life in his native Ireland. Mrs. Fry came to the United States when about twenty-five years of age. Of her marriage with our subject there were born four children, only one of whom is living, a daughter, Isabella, who came to their home on the 16th of December, 1857. She remained with her parents until her marriage on Christmas Day, 1883, to Edwin Hutchison. Mr. Hutchison was born in Sangamon County, Ill., April 19, 1861, and is the son of John and Sarah Hutchison, natives of Pennsylvania.

The other children of our subject were, May, who was born June 15, 1856, and died Sept. 10, 1857; Henrietta, born Feb. 9, 1860, went out forever from the parental household on New Year's Day, 1865; Anna, born March 7, 1867, died Sept. 22, 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Fry take pride in the fact that they have two bright grandchildren—David and Anna Myrtle. The family are all members of the Presbyterian Church, and our subject, politically, casts his vote in support of the Republican party.

SANFORD W. MOORE, one of the public-spirited farmers of Champaign County, owns and occupies a fine farm located on section 30, in Crittenden Township, a view of which is shown in this work. He took possession of this in 1868, and since that time has built up a reputation as an intelligent and skillful agriculturist, and one of the enterprising business men who have contributed their quota to the general welfare and prosperity of the community. His farm of 240 acres is all neatly enclosed with good fences, and the family residence, together with the barn and other out-buildings, bears comparison with anything of the kind in this locality.

Mr. Moore since becoming a resident here has identified himself with the interests of his township, serving as Road Commissioner, and in other respects taking a genuine interest in whatever is designed to add to its welfare and progress. Politically he is Republican, and religiously is connected with the Society of Friends. His family consists of his excellent wife and nine children, the latter named as follows: Marion L.; Rutlr R., the wife of Charles Green, of Harvey County, Kan.; Charles P., Walter E., Bertha E., Mattie May, Josie L., Lucy K. and George H. The mother of these children before her marriage, was Miss Louisa Thornhill, and she became the wife of our subject on the 25th of November, 1852. Mrs. Moore was born in Clinton County, Ohio, March 1, 1836, and is the daughter of Barnett and Ruth (Jones) Thornhill.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Moore located on a farm in Ohio, and our subject afterward

became the owner of three farms in succession in Clinton County, Ohio. In 1868 he made his first trip to the West, and selected his future location on section 30, in Crittenden Township. Here he purchased 160 acres, and before the close of that year had removed his family and taken possession.

Mr. Moore was born in Clinton County, Ohio, Nov. 1, 1830, and is the son of Macagah and Rebecca (Magee) Moore, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Ireland. The parents soon after their marriage located on a farm in Clinton County, Ohio, where they both died the same year, 1856, in middle life, the father aged fifty-four and the mother forty-eight. Of their thirteen children, three died in early childhood, ten attained their majority, and seven are now living.

Our subject remained a resident of his native State during his childhood and youth, and was educated in the common schools. His present possessions are mainly the result of his own industry, and both as a citizen and business man he is held in much esteem by his fellow-townsmen.



JOHN T. MOORE. The subject of this history represents the best element of his community, being a gentleman possessed of more than ordinary ability and a manner kindly and reserved, one who invariably commands respect and is most highly esteemed by those who know him best. His life has been conducted upon the highest moral principles, and he is one of that limited number whose word is as good as their bond.

Mr. Moore owns and occupies a good farm on section 19, in Philo Township, which is well stocked and under a fine state of cultivation. The farm buildings are constructed after the most approved manner and everything about the premises is well cared for, indicating at once the industry and enterprise of the proprietor. The land was practically in its original condition when our subject took possession of it and the improvements which he has brought about are mostly the result of his own labor and forethought. In addition to other worldly surroundings, he enjoys the society of an

accomplished wife and daughter, and the esteem and confidence of his neighbors and acquaintances.

Mr. Moore is a native of Brown County, Ohio, born March 7, 1843, and the son of Henry W. Moore, who was born in the same county as his son and was of Scotch-Irish descent. He was married in his native county to Miss Maria Davidson, whose lineage was similar to his own, and they located on a farm in Brown County, Ohio, where they lived until 1849. Then, with their three children they emigrated to Montgomery County, Ind., and moved onto a farm belonging to his brother-in-law, Hugh Meharry, where they both died in 1852, the mother in April and the father in December. They were aged respectively thirty-eight and thirty-five years. Mr. H. W. Moore had eighty acres of unimproved land in Madison County, Ind., but owing to poor health of himself and wife preferred to be among friends and therefore lived upon the farm of his brother-in-law.

Our subject remembers his mother as a lady of great loveliness of character, and both parents possessed those traits which caused them to be respected and beloved wherever known. Both were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the father, politically, was a supporter of the Whig party.

Of their four children John T. was the eldest; Mary E. became the wife of Isaac Meharry, now of Montgomery County, Ind.; Maggie, who married Isaac Armstrong, died when twenty-one years old, in 1868, in Tippecanoe County, Ind., leaving two children; her son, Allen W., lives with his uncle, our subject; the daughter, Emma, is with her aunt, Mrs. Emma Campbell, of Lafayette, Ind. The youngest brother of our subject, Frank Andrew, died when nearly twenty-one years old. He was a promising young man, possessing more than ordinary ability, and was mourned by a large circle of friends.

After the death of his parents Mr. Moore took up his abode with Samuel Meharry, now a retired farmer of Lafayette, Ind., and one of the prominent and successful men of Tippecanoe County. He was treated by Mr. Meharry as one of his own family and endeavored to repay the kindness of his benefactor by cheerful and dutiful obedience to his

wishes. Mr. M. had no children of his own and our subject and his sister Maggie, with others, constituted his family. He remained with his foster parents until he reached his majority, and was then presented by Mr. Meharry with the farm which constitutes his present homestead. This consists of 160 acres, and Mr. Moore by his attention to and care of it, has shown his appreciation of the generous gift.

The marriage of John T. Moore and Miss Minnie Myers took place in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, Oct. 7, 1866. Mrs. Moore is the daughter of James and Marie (Romig) Myers, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania, in which latter State the grandparents of both families originally lived. Mr. and Mrs. Myers after their marriage located on a farm in Tuscarawas County, where they resided until their death. They raised a large family of children who became useful and respected citizens. Of these, which included five sons and seven daughters, Mrs. Moore was the youngest. She was carefully trained, received a common-school education, and remained with her parents until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there were born two children, of whom only one is living, Grace L., a bright and interesting girl of twelve years. Mr. Moore politically, is a warm supporter of Republican principles, and religiously, both he and Mrs. M. are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has been Steward.



ABRAHAM C. BROWN. The name of this highly respected citizen is familiarly known throughout East Bend Township, of which he has been a resident since 1869. He is a gentleman of more than ordinary ability, received a good education, and for several years followed the profession of a teacher in Woodford, McLean and Champaign Counties. He occupied himself teaching principally during the winter seasons, and being fond of agricultural pursuits engaged in farming during the summer. As a boy he was thoughtful beyond his years, and when fourteen years old became a member of the Church, in which

he has labored faithfully since that time as Superintendent and teacher in Sunday-schools and as a supply preacher. He was ordained as an Elder about 1873, and for long years has exerted an influence which will be felt after he has gone the way of all mankind.

The subject of this history was born in what is now Kansas Township, Woodford Co., Ill., Nov. 13, 1839. His father, Uriah Brown, was a native of Tennessee, whence his grandfather, William Brown, removed to Illinois in the pioneer days, and locating in McLean County in 1826, spent the remainder of his life there. He was a preacher of the Gospel in the Church of Christ. He died June 16, 1845. Fannie, his wife, had preceded him, having died Sept. 2, 1840. He reared a fine family, among the sons being Uriah, the father of our subject, who was a young man when the removal was made from the South to Illinois. A few years later he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Carlock, a native of his own State, who emigrated to Illinois with her brother when a young girl. Her parents came from Germany. Her father attained to the age of ninety years. Her mother died in 1802.

After their marriage the parents of our subject crossed the Mississippi and located in Barry County, Mo., on a tract of land along the White River. There Uriah Brown put up a log house and improved a few acres of land, when he was stricken down by the hand of the Destroyer. Of the four children thus made fatherless the eldest was a daughter in her teens. The mother remained in Missouri with her family two years, and was then taken into the home of her brother, Reuben Carlock, in Woodford County, Ill. She supported her family by spinning and weaving, and kept her children together until they were old enough to take care of themselves. She trained them to habits of industry, and principles of virtue and honor, and still lives, the object of their respect and affection, having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-five years. She united with the Christian Church in her youth, of which she has been a devoted member since that time, and after the death of her husband still kept up the family altar and exerted over her children the influence of a conscientious, pious mother. The eldest daughter, Minerva, became the wife of

Joseph Moore, and lives in Montgomery Township, Woodford Co., Ill.; Amie, who married John Crinsbury, a farmer, and Fannie, Mrs. David Hood, are residents of Buffalo County, Neb.

Abraham C. Brown, of our sketch, was but two years old when his parents located in Missouri, and eight years old when his mother returned to Illinois. His early education was conducted in the primitive log school-house. The family lived in a house adjoining that of his uncle, and when not in school young Abraham assisted the latter on his farm. During the winter seasons he attended school, and chopped wood for his board nights and mornings. He remained with his uncle until fifteen years old, then went to live with his older sister, where he remained until his marriage.

After this event our subject located upon a tract of land in Woodford County, which he rented two years, and finally, in 1868, came to this county and purchased eighty acres which are now included in his present homestead. The land was wholly unimproved. He took possession of it in 1869, and commenced the building of a house, into which he moved with his family as soon as enough of it was completed so that they could be comfortable. The means with which he purchased his land were obtained by teaching, and as time passed on and he was successful in his farming operations, he added to his real estate, so that he now has 160 acres, all under a good state of cultivation and supplied with excellent frame buildings, including a tasteful residence, a good barn and sheds for the shelter of stock. He has also planted numbers of choice fruit and shade trees, and the premises have a home-like air which is pleasant to behold.

Mr. Brown was married, Oct. 3, 1866, to Miss Mahala Phillips, who was born in Woodford County, Ill., Oct. 3, 1841. Her father, James Phillips, was one of the pioneers of Woodford County, to which he removed from Tennessee, locating in Montgomery Township in 1832, where he improved a farm and passed the remainder of his life, dying on the 14th of June, 1881. The mother of Mrs. Brown was formerly Miss Jane Jones, also a native of Tennessee, who came to Illinois with her uncle and here met and married James Phillips. She survived him five years, dying in December, 1886. Mr. P.

served as a soldier in the Black Hawk War. His father served in the War of 1812, during which time he died. The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Brown are Byron A., Arabella May and Alla Dell. Our subject and his wife are connected with the Christian Church, and Mr. B., politically, casts his influence in support of Democratic principles.



THOMAS BABB. While traveling through Champaign County the biographical writers of this ALBUM met with but few active business men who were natives of the county, State, or even of the United States. The vast majority of those who are to-day tilling the soil and raising stock or engaged in business or commercial enterprises, or are members of any of the professions, were born, many without the borders of the State and many across the Atlantic. Of the latter class scores upon scores have furnished the sinew of trade and agriculture, and have become most important factors in the prosperity of the rapidly growing West. Of this class the subject of this history is no unimportant illustration.

When a youth of nineteen years, which had been spent in the place of his birth, Staffordshire, England, Thomas Babb, who possessed the spirit of enterprise and ambition in a remarkable degree, had already begun to revolve in his mind the possibilities which might lie for him in a new country, where many of his countrymen had already gone and become prosperous. It did not take him long to decide to follow their example, nor to put his resolve into execution. He set sail from Liverpool in May, 1860, and after a voyage of fourteen days set foot upon the shores of the New World. After a very brief time spent in New York City he proceeded to Licking County, Ohio, and was there variously engaged until October of the following year. He then started for Illinois overland, with a team and cow, landing in this county, where he rented a farm. With his team he was enabled to earn the munificent income of ninety cents per day, out of which he boarded his horses and himself.

Mr. Babb prospered, however, by the very might

of his persistency, and the following spring practically started in business for himself by renting a farm. He successfully operated this one year, and with the means which he had saved by the closest economy, purchased forty acres of prairie land in Mahomet Township. Twenty acres were broken, this being the only effort at improvement; there was neither fence nor building on the place. He had now a young wife to care for, and his first business was to prepare a habitation. He put up a small frame house, improved the balance of the land, and after two years sold out and bought fifty-seven acres in Hensley Township, which, at the time of purchase, was in much the same condition as was his late possession. There also he built another house, but a year later removed again to take possession of eighty acres which he had purchased in Condit Township. This latter property he occupied two years, then disposed of it and purchased another eighty-acre tract of wild land in the same township, which he improved and occupied for a period of twelve years. During that time he transformed the land into a good farm, which he rented, and going into Rantoul Township, purchased eighty acres adjacent to the village of Thomasboro.

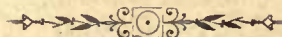
Mr. Babb, at the expiration of this time, had obtained quite an insight into the American method of doing business and had become thoroughly citizenized. In 1878 he commenced buying and shipping hogs, and two years later began the operations in grain which have since been attended with success. Since commencing his transactions in this line, Thomasboro has become one of the best grain markets in this section, and Mr. Babb one of the most popular business men in Champaign County. He has continued his live stock operations in connection with his grain business, and has confined himself strictly to upright and honorable methods of dealing. He has from time to time added to his farm property, and is now the owner of 680 acres, comprising some of the finest land in Rantoul and Condit Townships.

The birth of our subject occurred on the 15th of December, 1841, in the town of Greatwiche, Staffordshire, England. His parents, Jeffrey and Catherine (Deville) Babb, were natives of the same

country. The latter's forefathers trace their descendants back to the time of William the Conqueror, with whom they crossed over from Normandy to England. Jeffrey Babb spent his entire life in his native England, engaged in farming pursuits, and died on the farm where he had lived many years, and where his father lived before him, and which had been the property of his family for many years. After the death of her husband the mother came to America, in December, 1882, and is now living at the home of her son-in-law, Mr. Deakin, in Thomasboro.

The parental household included eleven children, all of whom lived to become men and women. They were John, Elizabeth, Margaret, Thomas of our sketch, Catherine, Jeffrey, Jane, Ann, William, Mary and Alice. Margaret is now the only one remaining in her native England. The homes of the others are variously located in this and adjoining States. Thomas lived with his parents until eighteen years old, then commenced handling freight at a railroad station, being thus engaged until starting for the United States.

The marriage of Thomas Babb and Miss Eleanor Philbrook took place in Licking County, Ohio, in October, 1861. Mrs. Babb is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Licking County, in 1837, and the daughter of Cyrus and Anna C. (Martin) Philbrook, natives respectively of Maine and Ohio. Of this union there are four children—Jeffrey E., Lena A., Cyrus E. and Bertha A. Mr. Babb was reared in the Episcopalian faith, and although not at present a member of any religious denomination, still cherishes a profound respect for the religion of his parents.



JOHN N. NORTON has been a resident of this county since December, 1855, at which time, accompanied by his young wife, he came and rented land near the city of Champaign, which is now occupied by the grounds and buildings of the State University. He subsequently purchased sixty acres of raw prairie, which is now included in his present homestead and to which he afterward added 180. His estate embraces 240 acres, under a high state of cultivation and supplied

with a fine set of farm buildings. The land is well drained and entirely destitute of swamp ground. For the last fifteen years our subject has been mainly engaged in stock-raising. The farm lies on section 18 of Crittenden Township, and section 13 of Pesotum Township, and invariably attracts the attention of the passer-by on account of its general air of thrift and prosperity, the well-kept stock, the neat fences and buildings, and all the other evidences of enterprise and industry. A view of the residence and surroundings is shown in this work.

Mr. Norton was born in Cortland County, N. Y., May 20, 1833, and is the son of Harvey Norton, a native of Connecticut. His mother, who was formerly Miss Sallie Merry, was a native of the Empire State, and resided with her parents on a farm until her marriage. By her union with Harvey Norton she became the mother of five children, one of whom died in infancy. Those living are, Stephen; Cyrena, now Mrs. Spencer; Catherine, Mrs. Merry; and John N. of our sketch. All reside in Champaign County. The mother of our subject departed this life at her home in Spafford, N. Y., in 1839. Harvey Norton was afterward married to Miss Betsey Haight, in Ohio, to which State he had removed after the death of his first wife. There he was a resident of Geauga County until about 1864, when he came to this county with his family. His second wife died soon after coming to Illinois, leaving one daughter, Laura, now the wife of Ed Payne, and a resident of Colorado. The father of our subject passed from the scenes of his earthly labors Feb. 14, 1886. He was a good man in the broadest sense of the term, a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and one who observed the duties of his profession.

Our subject was but six years of age when he was deprived of the affectionate care of his mother. The family were then separated, and for a period of twenty years the children never met all together at one time. This state of things afterward happily met with a change, as they now all live in one neighborhood. John N. of our sketch resided in the family of an uncle until the second marriage of his father, and then went to live with the latter in Ohio. Harvey Norton carried on a large dairy farm in the Buckeye State, in the labor of which

our subject assisted until he was twenty-two years of age.

In the latter part of that year, on the 16th of September, 1855, Mr. Norton was united in marriage with Miss Esther Percival, a native of Geauga County, Ohio, and the daughter of Olney and Lovina (Ford) Percival. She was born in Geauga County, Ohio, June 28, 1834. Her father was a native of Vermont, and her mother of Ohio, in which State both parents died. Mrs. Lovina Percival was the first child born in Troy Township, Ohio, and ate of the first apples that grew in that township.

After marriage our subject and his wife, as we have said, became residents of Illinois and this county. Their union has been blest by the birth of three children, one of whom, named Harvey J., died at the age of eighteen years and six months, on the 17th of June, 1875. Those living are Stephen A. and Minnie M., both at home with their parents. Our subject is Democratic in politics and has served his township as Road Commissioner and School Trustee; at present he is School Treasurer, which office he has held the past three years. Socially he is a member in good standing of Tolono Lodge No. 391, A. F. & A. M.

JOHAN ROACH, who is numbered among the old and highly respected residents of Crittenden Township, came with his parents to Illinois in the spring of 1864, and since that time has been a resident of the Prairie State. He is the son of John and Ann (Grimes) Roach, and his birth took place in Greene County, Pa., on the 22d of March, 1817. His childhood and youth were passed upon his father's farm, but after reaching manhood he engaged in the manufacture of brick, and also learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed for several years. His marriage took place before he had quite reached his majority, on the 27th of February, 1838. The maiden of his choice was Miss Rachel Pettit, who was a native of his own county, born Jan. 28, 1820, and the daughter of John and Mary (Warford) Pettit.

Mr. R. and his bride first settled down in their

native county, where they remained until 1864, then came to the West, locating first in La Salle County, this State. After a residence there of four years, Mr. Roach purchased 100 acres of land in Crittenden Township, this county, which he cultivated for several years, and with his wife in the meantime reared a family of ten children. The eldest daughter, Maria, is now the wife of Stephen Doty, a prosperous farmer of Crittenden Township; Mary Ann married William Pershing, of Springfield, Ohio; the eldest son, George, died when twenty years old, and John died when twenty-one years of age. The loss of these promising sons at the most interesting period of their lives was a great affliction to the parents. The next son, William, lives in La Salle County, Ill., and David in Springfield, Ohio; Charity married Charles West; Jennie is the wife of John P. Navity; Lydia was married to Fred Buckingham; Oscar, unmarried, lives in Springfield, Ohio, and Sallie, Mrs. George P. Bliss, in Sidney Township, this county.

Mr. Roach is Democratic in politics, and with his excellent and worthy lady, a member of the Baptist Church, as are also several of their children.

JOSEPH KAMP, one of the pioneer farmers of Tolono Township, owns 160 acres of land on section 20, with a shapely and convenient residence and other good improvements. He became a resident of this county in the fall of 1870, settling upon his present farm, since which time he has given his entire attention to its improvement and cultivation. He has been fairly prospered in his farming and business transactions and occupies a good position in the community as one of its worthy and reliable citizens.

Our subject is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Butler County, June 16, 1837. His father, Christian Kamp, whose birth occurred in Alsace, Germany, in 1808, set sail from his native land for the United States when nineteen years of age. After reaching American shores he proceeded first to Pennsylvania and afterward to Ohio. In the latter State he met Miss Magdalena Somers, and

she became his wife. They remained residents of Ohio for several years, and in 1848 started for the farther West. After reaching Illinois they located in Woodford County, where Mr. K. first rented a tract of land but subsequently purchased eighty acres which he cultivated until 1856, and then met with an accident, the breaking of his leg, which resulted in his death in about six weeks. Mrs. Kamp afterward married Mr. Christian Moser, and is still a resident of Woodford County.

The parental household included six sons and three daughters. Joseph of our sketch came with the family to Illinois in 1848, and grew to manhood in the counties of Woodford and McLean. He worked for several years as a farm laborer and was in the employ of one man for five years. He then commenced business on his own account by the cultivation of rented land in McLean County, where he remained until the fall of 1870, and then came to Champaign County.

In 1859, our subject was married in McLean County, Ill., to Miss Fannie Stalder, who was a native of Germany. She only remained the companion of her husband one short year, dying the following summer. In 1861 Mr. Kamp was married to Miss Phebe Stalder, a sister of his former wife, and who died in 1862. The following year he was married to Miss Rosa Kohler. This lady is a native of Switzerland, and became the mother of eight children. Two little daughters, Elizabeth and Mary, died when about three years of age; Christian died when nine years old. Those surviving are Susie, John, Peter, Lydia and Joseph. Mr. Kamp, politically, is a decided Republican. Religiously he is a believer in the doctrines of the Omish Church. A lithographic view of Mr. Kamp's residence is shown on another page.

GEORGE KARCHER. This gentleman, who is a worthy representative of the farming interests of Tolono Township, came in 1870, and purchased 160 acres of land on section 21. He cultivated this until 1880, and then removed to his present farm, on section 27. This includes 400 acres of choice land under a good state of cultiva-

tion, which is enclosed with well kept fences and supplied with handsome and substantial buildings. The residence is one of the finest in the county. The land is chiefly devoted to grain-raising. Besides this property Mr. K. is also proprietor of a valuable store building at Freeport, the rent from which yields him a handsome income. He is a man who has been uniformly successful in life, having accumulated a competency for his declining years, and by his upright business course, has gained the confidence and respect of his fellow-citizens. He is still comparatively young in years, with the prospect of a bright and prosperous future.

Our subject is a native of this State, and was born in Freeport on the 11th of July, 1845. He is the son of John and Solona Karcher, both natives of Alsace, France. John Karcher served five years in the French army, under Louis Phillip. The parents were married in 1841, and soon afterward emigrated to Canada, where they remained for a time visiting relatives, then came to this State and settled on a farm near Freeport, Ill. The father of our subject was a fine representative of the industrious and enterprising French element, and at the time of his death in 1878, at the age of sixty-five years, left an estate valued at \$100,000. This property included two farms and three store buildings. He belonged to the Evangelical Association, and as a member of business and social circles his word was considered as good as his bond. The mother is still living, and a resident of Freeport. Their family consisted of four sons and one daughter: John is farming near his native city, Freeport; George of our sketch was the second son; Louis is practicing law in Chicago, Ill.; Henry is engaged in real-estate business at Pierre, Dak.; Sarah is at home with her mother.

Mr. Karcher was reared under the parental roof and made his home with his father's family until he attained his majority. He then removed to a farm in Logan County, which he operated for three years. In the meantime he had been married, March 11, 1869, in Logan County, to Miss Jane Stewart, who is the daughter of Charles and Mary (Griffin) Stewart, and was born in Randon, Scotland, Feb. 14, 1850. Of this union there are three children—Solona, William H. and Jemima.

Mr. K. uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party, but has never desired office, having as much as he could attend to in carrying on properly the affairs of his farm and other business. He is not a member of any church but was converted in 1884 by a spirit from on high. His wife experienced the same conversion, the same year.

ERRE GORMAN, who located on section 7, in Raymond Township, in the spring of 1877, is the proprietor of 320 acres of land, and since the time of his coming here has cultivated the soil and been fairly successful in his farming operations. His birth occurred in Queen's County, Ireland, in March, 1849, and his parents were John and Kate Gorman, the former of whom died at about middle age in his native Ireland. In 1865 the mother with her three children set sail for the New World. Soon after landing in New York City she proceeded directly westward to Illinois, first taking up her abode in Grundy County. There the two daughters were married and one still resides. The other removed to Iowa. In 1877 our subject with his mother came to Champaign County, and located upon the land which is now included in his present farm. He first purchased 160 acres, and afterward doubled that amount, the whole of which constitutes a good farm under a fair state of cultivation. The aged mother makes her home with her son, being now nearly seventy years old. Our subject politically is a staunch supporter of Democratic principles, and in religious matters adheres to the Catholic faith in which he was reared. He has served as School Director in his district.

Mr. Gorman was married, in August, 1880, to Miss Mary, daughter of James and Margaret Fitzgerald, and a native of Champaign County. Of this union there are four children, all living at home, and named as follows: John, Margaret, Kate and Mary.

Mrs. Gorman's father was born in County Limerick, Ireland, in about 1837. He came to the United States when fifteen years old, and after sojourning with friends for a brief time in New York

City, proceeded to the home of his brother John, in New Hampshire. The following year he came to this county, and for several years afterward was in the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, and resided at Spring Creek, Mattoon, etc. Afterward he purchased 160 acres of land, which is well improved, and furnished with a good set of farm buildings. He was married in this county to Miss Margaret Coyne, also a native of Ireland, who came to America when a young girl. They raised a family of ten children, of whom nine survive, as follows: Thomas, John, Mary, Jerre, Patrick, Willie, Maggie, Elhora and James. Mr. F. is Democratic in politics and Roman Catholic in religion.

DAVID MAXWELL. The subject of this history, one of the most substantial and reliable residents of Crittenden Township, comes from excellent Scottish ancestry, and was himself born in the Port of Glasgow on the 25th of January, 1845. His parents, Joseph and Mary (Russell) Maxwell, five years after the birth of their son emigrated from their native land to the United States, and soon after landing at New York Harbor proceeded to Boonton, N. J. The following year they decided to try their fortunes in the West, and coming to this State located on a farm in Peoria County, where they resided until 1869. Thence they came into this county and took up a tract of land on section 7, in Crittenden Township. It was at that time unbroken prairie, but through the industry and enterprise of Joseph Maxwell in due time it was transformed into a good farm, enclosed with neat fences and supplied with a comfortable residence and all other necessary buildings.

Upon the homestead thus established, and which is now in possession of our subject, Joseph Maxwell lived until the 1st of November, 1885, then departed this life at the age of seventy-three years. His aged companion still survives, and resides with her son David, of our sketch. She was born in 1807, and is consequently now eighty years old. The family of these excellent people included four children, all born in Scotland. One son and a

daughter died in Peoria County, Ill.; and the surviving brother of our subject, James Maxwell, is a resident of Marshall County, Kan.

Mr. Maxwell was a little lad six years old when his father's family located in Illinois. He was reared to manhood on the farm in Peoria County, and educated in the common schools. After coming to this county he remained with his parents and assisted in the improvement and cultivation of the farm, and on the 23d of November, 1870, was married to Miss Asenath Merry. This lady was a native of Montgomery County, N. Y., and the daughter of Benjamin and Sally Merry, also natives of the Empire State. She was born Sept. 22, 1844, and came to Illinois with her parents when a young girl. They located in Douglas County, where they remained until 1868, when they located in this county. The father yet lives here; the mother died in New York State. Mrs. M. remained under the home roof until her marriage. She is now the mother of three children—Mary, Frank and Ella.

Our subject politically is a member of the Republican party; he was reared in the doctrines of the Scotch Presbyterian Church, of which his honored parents were active and devoted members.

SAMUEL GROVE. This gentleman is said to be the most energetic man in Champaign County, busy, ambitious, and always having some project in view, in the execution of which he usually succeeds. He is one of the largest land-owners of Philo Township, having a farm of 400 acres, all of which is finely cultivated and well adapted to stock-raising, of which he has made a specialty, and in this, as in most of his other undertakings, has been very successful.

Mr. Grove is a native of Cumberland County, Pa., and was born Dec. 17, 1838. He was reared and educated in his native town and remained at home until after the outbreak of the late war, when he became a transportation master in the army, in which he was employed about seventeen months. At the expiration of this time, after a brief visit at his own home, he started for the West, and

locating in Naperville, Ill., engaged as clerk in a store. This he abandoned after one year's trial, and then began to farm on shares, operating in this manner for five years following. He then purchased land in Du Page County, which he cultivated until 1883, when he sold out and secured possession of his present home in this county.

The marriage of Samuel Grove and Miss Amanda Erb took place in Chicago, Ill., Dec. 21, 1865. Mrs. G. was born in Lancaster County, Pa., Aug. 10, 1847. She is the daughter of Joshua and Sarah (Yount) Erb, also natives of the Keystone State, but now residents of Naperville. Her father was a farmer of large means and a man of influence in his community. Both the Grove and Erb families were of German descent, and possessed in a marked degree the reliable and substantial traits of their forefathers. Our subject and his wife became the parents of five children—Hattie A., Harrison, Ely, Evan and Ervin S. The father of our subject, Jacob Grove, whose ancestors were from Holland, died in Naperville, Ill., in 1861. The mother, who in her maidenhood was Miss Mary Seitz, is now living with her second husband in Naperville. A lithographic view of Mr. Grove's residence, with its surroundings, is shown on another page of this volume.



HIRAM L. DURFEY became a resident of Champaign County in 1861, and spent his first year on a rented farm near Parkville. The following year he was similarly occupied in Tolono Township, whence after a residence of four years, he came to Philo and purchased eighty acres of land on section 18, where he proceeded to lay the foundations of a permanent home. This has remained his residence since that time, with the exception of five years which he spent on a farm with his sons in Tolono Township. His land, when he took possession of it, was not far removed from its original condition and he industriously set about its improvement and cultivation, meeting with abundant success. The farm is finely laid off and conveniently arranged for the raising of grain and stock. Nothing is wasted, every acre being

made available, and everything about the premises is well cared for and kept in good order.

Mr. Durfey is a native of Licking County, Ohio, born in Hartford Township, Aug. 15, 1820. His father, Daniel I. Durfey, was a well-educated man, and for many years a teacher in the Buckeye State. He was a potter by trade, but at one time owned a small farm and operated a sawmill. He was born in Vermont, of New England parentage and English and Scotch descent. When twenty-two years of age he removed to Licking County, Ohio, and there married Miss Alcý C. Rose, a native of Massachusetts and of English descent. She became a resident of Licking County, Ohio, when a small girl.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. D. settled on a farm in Licking County, where the father passed the remainder of his life, dying April 27, 1872, at the age of seventy-nine years. The mother, who is now eighty-seven years of age, is still living at Hartford, Ohio, and retains her mental faculties to a remarkable degree, as well as her health and strength. She is still an active member of the Congregational Church, which she attends regularly.

Our subject was the eldest child and only son of three children born to his parents, one of whom, Lucy, formerly the wife of Henry Smith, is now deceased. His sister, Adeline, Mrs. Cornell, is a resident of Lock, Knox Co., Ohio. Mr. Durfey remained a member of the parental household until twenty-four years of age, and the three years after his majority worked with his father in the sawmill. He was married, Nov. 1, 1843, at the residence of the bride's parents in his native township, by the Rev. Mr. Brown, to Miss Lucina D. Smith. The parents of Mrs. D., Heman and Sarah (Winston) Smith, were natives of Connecticut and of New England parentage. Mr. Smith in early life was occupied as a clothier, but later engaged in milling, which he followed until his death, at the age of fifty years, in Delaware County, Ohio. His father, Heman Smith, Sr., was lost at sea. It is supposed that his vessel was taken by pirates, as it disappeared and was never afterward heard from. The mother of Mrs. Durfey departed this life when forty years of age. She was a lady highly esteemed and respected by all who knew her, and both parents

were most worthy members of society, training their children to principles of temperance and morality. Of the nine children included in the household circle, Mrs. Durfey was the third in order of birth. She received a common-school education and remained at home until her marriage.

By her union with our subject Mrs. Durfey has become the mother of eight children, who are recorded as follows: Julius T. married Miss Nancy V. Hamilton, and is a resident of Downs, Osborne Co., Kan.; Edgar W. lives at home, and assists in operating the farm; Daniel I., Jr., married Miss Mary VanMeter, and is a farmer of Tolono Township; Eva, formerly a teacher, is rustivating in Kansas; Emma P. became the wife of L. H. Wright, a farmer and mechanic, and resides in White County, Ind.; Alice, Alonzo and Clarence are deceased. The parents and all the children are worthy members of the Presbyterian Church. Politically, Mr. Durfey is one of the most radical Republicans of the county.



JAMES STEVEN. One of the finest residences in Sadorus Township is situated on the northwest corner of section 27, and is the property of the subject of this sketch. It is doubly valuable to Mr. S. as having been the house of his parents, which he removed from the home in 1885, and fitted up with modern improvements. It makes a solid and substantial structure, the frames of the houses of thirty-two years ago having been built of much heavier timber than those of the present. The grassy yard, shaded by trees, and the neat buildings in the rear, with the fields on either side, present a pleasant picture for the eye to contemplate. The well-fed cattle and fine horses belonging to the estate form no unimportant part of its embellishments. Mr. Steven, as a stock-raiser, ranks among the representative men of his township, and closely superintends the operations of the farm, which Benjamin Franklin maintained was the only method by which anything could be done properly. He often said in plain words, "If you wish anything done well, do it yourself." Mr. Steven, so far as lies in his power,

has followed this maxim, being active and industrious, while at the same time devoted to his family and alive to the interests of his community.

James Steven comes from excellent Scottish ancestry, and was born in Forfarshire, a maritime county of Scotland, having east the North Sea and south the Firth of Tay. In this county were the celebrated Braes of Angus, a part of the Grampian Range, the Vale of Strathmore, and the Sidlaw Hills, and the rich plain along the Firth of Tay and the Sea. The parents of our subject, James and Christina (Gray) Steven, were born among the Highlands in Scotland, where they were married and remained until 1854, when our subject was a young man of twenty-one years. They left one son, a sailor, in Scotland, but were accompanied by four other children. The elder Steven, after reaching American shores proceeded directly Westward to the rapidly growing State of Illinois, and entered eighty acres in Sadorus Township, this county, which, with the assistance of his son, was soon transformed into a fertile farm. Here both parents spent the balance of their lives, the death of the mother occurring about 1876, and that of her husband six years later. After the death of his parents James took possession of the homestead which had been deeded to him by his father, and which he kept up in the same creditable manner as before.

One of the most important events in the life of our subject took place in the spring of 1864, when he was united in marriage with Miss Laura, the eldest child of Joseph and Earnestine (Kuhling) Goodman, who were natives of Germany. Our subject and his wife continued to occupy the home farm until 1885. He had been remarkably prosperous in the meantime, and had purchased 290 acres, being now the owner of 370 acres of some of the finest land in Champaign County. His property is located on sections 15, 16 and 22.

One of the most attractive features connected with the home life of our subject is the presence of seven children, namely, Joseph W., Alexander, Walter, Robert, Anna, Maggie and Elsie. William, the first born, died in childhood. Mr. and Mrs. Steven may be pardoned for the feeling of pride and satisfaction with which they look upon their children. The latter have been carefully

trained and well educated, and form no unimportant part in the enjoyment and satisfaction of the parents' lives. The prospect is that in due time they will be numbered among the most valued members of society and bear the mantle of their honored parents in a manner creditable to themselves and to those who have watched their lives from the dawning to the present time.



WILLIAM L. BRADEN, who became a resident of Ludlow Township in 1866, and has firmly established himself in the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens, is a native of Decatur County, Ind., and was born March 1, 1844. He is the son of John H. Braden, whose parents emigrated from the North of Ireland in about 1790, soon after their marriage. Their (then) only child died while on the voyage, and its body was preserved to be buried on land. The last dollar which the parents possessed was required to pay the funeral expenses, leaving them penniless in a strange country. They made their way to Greensburg, Pa., where the father succeeded in obtaining employment and prospered, while a considerable family grew up around them. When Kentucky was being colonized they pushed on and settled among the pioneers in the new State.

Observing the many evils attendant upon the system of slavery as practiced there, they resolved to leave that locality, and accordingly removed to Indiana in 1820, six months after the birth of their eleventh and youngest child, John H. They located in what is now Greensburg, and there John H. remained a member of the parental household until his marriage. This event took place Sept. 3, 1840, the lady of his choice being Miss Louisa Reeder, of Rush County, Ind. She was the youngest child of her parents, who were of Welsh and German descent. Her grandfather, who emigrated from Wales, was murdered by the Indians about the beginning of the present century, on what is now the site of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Shortly after their marriage Mr. Braden and his young wife set up housekeeping in a log cabin in the midst of a tract of timber land, eighty acres of

which he had purchased, and upon which no improvements whatever had been made. Their first dwelling was constructed by his own hands. Soon afterward he began to clear and cultivate his land, and in due time the country around him slowly settled up. When the government of the township came under discussion Mr. B. distinguished himself as a staunch Whig and a radical temperance advocate. Their oldest child, Margaret J., now resides near Gilman, Ill., and is the wife of Simeon Collier, who served as a soldier in the Union army during the late war.

Our subject was the eldest son of his parents, and in his boyhood and youth was made fully acquainted with the experiences of life in a new country. In 1852 his father traded the farm, which now consists of 209 acres of improved land, for a more valuable homestead in the same vicinity. In 1853 he exchanged this for a stock of general merchandise and a fine residence in the village of Milford, Ind. Here his son enjoyed better facilities for schooling, and at thirteen years of age became serviceable in his father's store. In March, 1864, when twenty years of age, he was stricken down with spotted fever, which left him with a shattered, nervous system, from which misfortune he has never fully recovered. In the fall of that year his parents, with their family of six boys and two girls, removed to State Line City, between Indiana and Illinois, six miles east of Danville. They remained there, however, but a few months, coming thence to this county.

Notwithstanding his constant ill-health, unwilling to be idle, our subject opened a general store in the village of what was then Pera, but is now Ludlow, in partnership with Daniel Allhand. The latter-named gentleman, after disposing of his interests to R. J. Braden, the brother of our subject, died about 1872. Our subject, by his straightforward method of doing business and promptness in meeting his obligations, in time built up a good trade and made many friends. In 1867 he was elected Clerk and Collector of Ludlow Township, the duties of which he fulfilled with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. He served as School Treasurer for a period of eleven years, holding it until his business

affairs, in 1880, induced him to resign. He is at present engaged in the grain trade with William C. Holmes. The father of our subject now resides in Milford, Ill., and in company with his two sons, Richard F. and John H., Jr., is conducting a large dry-goods store at Watseka, Iroquois County, where they enjoy an extensive patronage.

William L. Braden, on account of his sad affliction, has never fully developed the social side of his nature, but so far as he is able is an earnest worker in the temperance and other good causes, and is the encourager of all enterprises tending to the moral and intellectual welfare of his community. He is a consistent member of the Christian Church, in which he has filled the office of Clerk for fourteen years. He supports the principles of the Republican party, but takes no active part in politics, preferring his business to any political emoluments.

EW. EVANS, who became a resident of Philo Township in 1858, upon first coming into the county located in Urbana Township, where he was part owner of eighty acres of land. This he sold in the year mentioned and purchased eighty acres of his present homestead, to which he afterward added forty acres, and has now a snug farm, under a good state of cultivation, with convenient and comfortable buildings and all the surroundings of a successful agriculturist.

Mr. Evans is a native of Brown County, Ohio, and was born Nov. 4, 1821. His father, Edward Evans, died before our subject was born, and the latter, when a child of two or three years, went to live with his grandfather, also named Edward Evans, who carried on farming in Brown County. There he made his home until he started out in life on his own account. After reaching manhood he was married in his native county, Jan. 16, 1844, to Miss Charlotte Morrow, a native of Brown County, and born Feb. 23, 1825. Her father, James Morrow, owned and occupied a farm in Bird Township, where he died of cholera, in 1832. The mother, who was formerly Miss Lavina Drake, lived to the age of seventy-four years, and died at the old homestead in Brown County. Mrs. Evans remained

under the parental roof until her marriage. By her union with our subject there have been born two children—Cornelia, the wife of Frank Wells, a successful farmer of Philo Township, and Lavina F., who died in infancy.

After their marriage Mr. Evans and his young wife located in Bracken County, Ky., where they lived three years, then returned to Brown County, Ohio, and thence, one year later, removed to Montgomery County, Ind. There our subject rented land about three years, at the expiration of which time they became residents of this county. Mr. Evans is a first-class Democrat of the old type, and has been Township Supervisor and Road Commissioner a number of terms. Both he and his wife are members of the Christian Church.

FRANK B. VENNUM, a native of the Prairie State, is one of the most enterprising business men in the town of Fisher, being now the banker of the community, and identified with its most important interests. His birth took place in Iroquois County, Oct. 12, 1853, at Milford, and his parents were Christopher C. and Mahala (Horn) Vennum, both natives of Washington County, Pa., where they lived several years after their marriage, and whence they removed to this State about 1833. The father was a farmer by occupation, and pursued his calling until his decease, which occurred at Onarga, Iroquois County, in about 1868. The mother still survives, and is a resident of Fisher.

Our subject was the third of three sons and two daughters comprising the parental household, and received a good education, first by attending the common schools and afterward at the Grand Prairie Seminary in Onarga, where he took a three years' course and graduated in the English branches. Afterward he learned telegraphy, and operated the wires at different points for two years following. Then, desiring a more active life, engaged first as a grain dealer at Belleflower for about one year, then took up merchandising in connection with the grain trade, and selling out five years later came to Fisher, and after a brief time occupied in merchandising as before, in which he was quite successful, aban-

done this for banking. In seeking a safe deposit for his surplus cash he considered that nothing would be safer than land, and accordingly has invested considerably in real estate, including 400 acres in Champaign County and some of the most valuable property in the village.

The marriage of Mr. Vennum took place in Belleflower Township, McLean County, Nov. 25, 1877, the lady of his choice being Miss Sarah A. Marsh, who was born in Fulton County, this State, and is the daughter of L. B. and Abbie (Sherman) Marsh, natives of New York State. Mr. Marsh spent his last days in Fisher, dying at the home of his son-in-law in 1886. The mother still survives, and is a resident of Fisher. The additions to the household of our subject are a son and daughter, Earnest M. and Vinnie V. Mr. Vennum votes for the support of Republican principles, and with his wife belongs to the Christian Church.



HENSON RICHMOND. This thrifty and prosperous farmer of Newcomb Township is pleasantly located on section 2, where he has a good farm of 240 acres, and in the prosecution of his chosen calling has been eminently successful. He is a native of Muskingum County, Ohio, born May 27, 1824, and the son of Joseph and Nancy (Iler) Richmond, natives respectively of Maryland and Pennsylvania. The parents of our subject soon after their marriage located near Zanesville, in Muskingum County, Ohio, whence, in the fall of 1830, they came to this State, and were among the earliest settlers of Tazewell County. The spot which they selected as their location is now included in Hittle Township. The winter following will be remembered as one of great severity and of the deep snow.

About the middle of February, Joseph Richmond, in company with Samuel Judy, and shod with snow-shoes, started for Mackinaw Village, fifteen miles away. After a tedious journey they reached their destination in safety and loaded themselves with provisions to take home to their own families and the few neighbors in their vicinity.

When within two and one-half miles of home Mr. Richmond became exhausted with cold and fatigue, and told his companion that he could go no further, urging the latter, however, to proceed without him. Mr. Judy, taking off his own cloak, wrapped it around his companion, who had sat down in the snow, and proceeded on his way for assistance as rapidly as possible. He could not return, however, until morning, and when his friends found him Mr. Richmond was frozen to death, sitting in the same position in which he had been left. Mrs. R. survived her husband several years, dying in Tazewell County in the fall of 1833 or 1834. Their family consisted of four sons and three daughters, of whom Henson of our sketch was the fifth child.

Our subject was but six years of age when his parents became residents of Illinois. He remained in Hittle Township until, on account of rheumatism, owing to the dampness of the soil, he was obliged to remove. Going to Mackinaw Village he engaged as a stock dealer, and continued there until the spring of 1878, and during fourteen years of that time was engaged in breaking prairie. In the spring of the year mentioned he came into Newcomb Township, this county, and purchased a tract of land which is included in his present homestead. This now comprises 240 acres, finely cultivated, and Mr. R. also has 240 acres adjoining, which is operated by a tenant.

The marriage of Henson Richmond and Miss Harriet Judy, was celebrated in Tazewell County, Ill., May 23, 1850. Mrs. R. was born in Hittle Township, Tazewell County, and was a sister of Jacob Judy, whose biography appears in another part of this work. She became the mother of three children, and departed this life Jan. 6, 1856. Two of her children died in infancy; the one surviving, a son, Scott, married Miss Laura Fondersmith, and is a resident of Newcomb Township.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Aug. 2, 1858, in Clinton, Ill., was Miss Elizabeth, daughter of James and Rebecca (Walton) Franks, natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky. After living in Boone County, the latter State, a number of years, they removed to Pekin, Ill., in the fall of 1836, and ten years later, to McLean County, where the father died Dec. 31, 1872,

and the mother Dec. 25, 1882. The household included eleven children, eight daughters and three sons. Mrs. Richmond was the second child, and was born in Boone County, Ky., March 15, 1833. Of the six children born to Mr. and Mrs. R. only two survive, Homer and Ella, both residing at home. The others died in infancy. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Christian Church, and politically Mr. R. affiliates with the Republican party.



JOHAN ANDERSON. Many of the most thrifty and intelligent agriculturists of this section of Illinois were born and reared on the other side of the Atlantic, and to Scandinavia especially is Illinois largely indebted for some of her most enterprising and valued citizens. As a splendid example of what may be accomplished by energy and determination, amid strangers in a strange land, and upon the soil of a new country, we point to Mr. Anderson, who is now a resident of Ludlow Township, and owns one of the finest farms in Champaign County. This is embellished with every comfort, and invariably attracts the eye of the passing traveler as a model country estate under the supervision of a proprietor more than ordinarily intelligent and progressive.

Mr. Anderson has been uniformly prosperous in his business and farming operations, and is now in possession of a valuable landed estate, located on section 6, and embracing 360 acres of finely cultivated land, which he improved from wild prairie, and which now yields in abundance the richest products of the Prairie State. The family residence is an elegant and commodious structure, finished and furnished in modern style. The other farm buildings correspond fully with the dwelling.

Mr. Anderson came to this county in the pioneer days, and after having a desperate struggle with the ills of life. He possessed, however, that firm and undaunted spirit for which the pioneer element was so eminently distinguished, and which was so necessary to success, and settling down in the midst of others, who were striving, like himself,

to establish a home upon an uncultivated soil, proceeded with courage to redeem the land from its original condition. Time has proved that he was equal to the task. Considering what his course has been since a resident of this locality, and what he has been able to accomplish, the reader cannot help being desirous of becoming acquainted with his early history.

Mr. Anderson first opened his eyes to the light in the Kingdom of Sweden, four miles from the city of Gothenberg, Oct. 14, 1816, on the farm owned and occupied by his father, and which continued his home for the following twenty-five years. Then, with his newly wedded wife, he departed from the home roof, and located on a farm belonging to her father. This contained but twenty-five acres, ten of which were tillable, and the remainder devoted to pasture. He kept one horse and five cows, remaining upon the place until 1854, and then, despairing of getting on in the world as he wished, set sail for this country, which promised to the hand of industry greater results than any he had realized in the country of his birth. The voyage commenced on the 24th of June, and he landed in the city of Boston on the 10th of August. His destination from the first had been the West, and he proceeded directly to Chicago, going thence, a week later, to La Salle, in this State.

Our subject had been obliged to borrow money to pay his passage to America, and on his arrival in La Salle was \$139 in debt. For seven months afterward he worked on the farm for \$18 per month and boarded himself. Later he removed to Princeton, and worked by the day or month as he could obtain employment, and for more than two years applied all his spare earnings to the payment of his indebtedness. Afterward he commenced to save his money, with the intention of buying land. After a residence in Princeton of one and a half years, he purchased forty acres of stump land four miles south of the city. He cleared a part of this, and prepared it for cultivation, but sold out in 1864 and came into this county. By this time his fortunes had mended considerably, and in 1864 he purchased 160 acres of wild prairie, at \$9 per acre, which is now included in his present farm. This, at the time of purchase, was neither fenced nor sup-

plied with a building. He first erected a shanty 8x16 feet, into which the family moved and lived for a time until he was enabled to erect a more commodious structure. Prosperity now began to reward his efforts, and the seasons in their turn smiled upon his husbandry, and he realized from the products of the soil a handsome income. He then added to his real estate, and at one time was the possessor of 360 acres of land, all of which he improved from the wild prairie.

In 1842 our subject was married, in his native country, to Miss Ann B. Anderson, who was born near the birthplace of her husband in Sweden, Dec. 5, 1811. They became the parents of six children before coming to the United States. The wife and mother departed this life Jan. 8, 1881, and her remains were laid to rest in the Swedish churchyard near Farmersville, Ford County, this State. The record of the children is as follows: Lottie died at Princeton when an interesting child of ten years old; Anna, the wife of Henry Godey, lives in Chicago; August is farming in Ludlow Township; John B. remains on the homestead; Hannah, Mrs. John W. Stillman, is a resident of Barton County, Mo.; Andrew died at La Salle, this State, when eight months old.

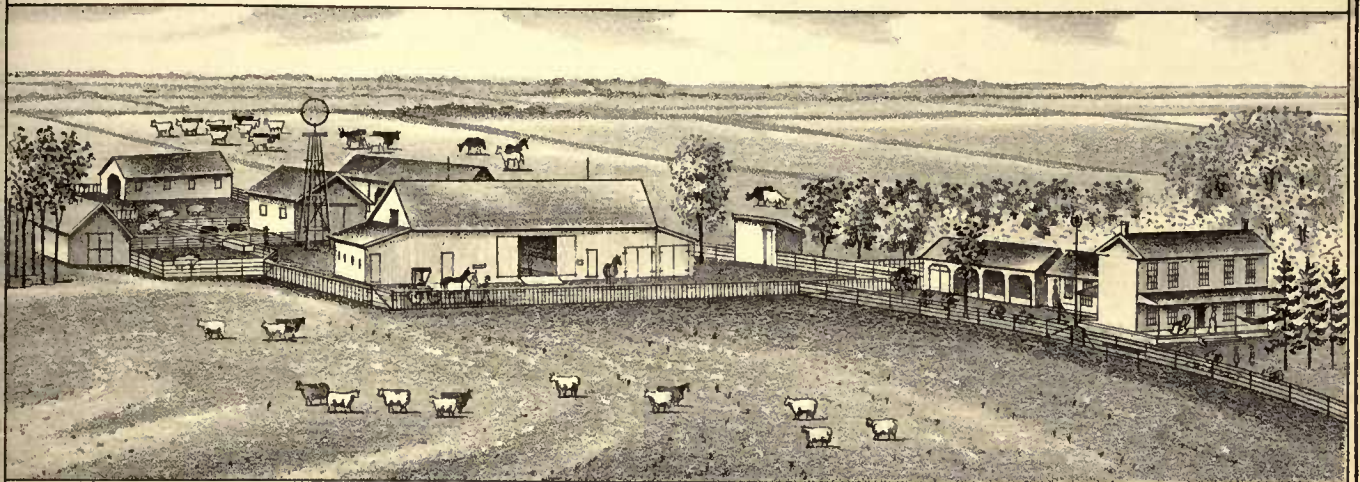
The family attend the Lutheran Church, and politically our subject is a staunch supporter of the Greenback party. His sons are wide-awake, energetic young men, who have inherited the reliable and substantial qualities of their father, and bid fair to occupy the same enviable position in the community, respected by their fellow-citizens, and performing their part as honest men and valued members of society.

WILLIAM H. ROBERTS, one of the pioneer farmers of Tolono Township, came into Champaign County in the fall of 1866. He is a native of this State, born Dec. 1, 1819. His father, John Roberts, a native of Maryland, was reared to manhood in his native State, and married Miss Shears. This lady, after becoming the mother of several children, died in Virginia. John Roberts was afterward married to Miss Delilah Jones,

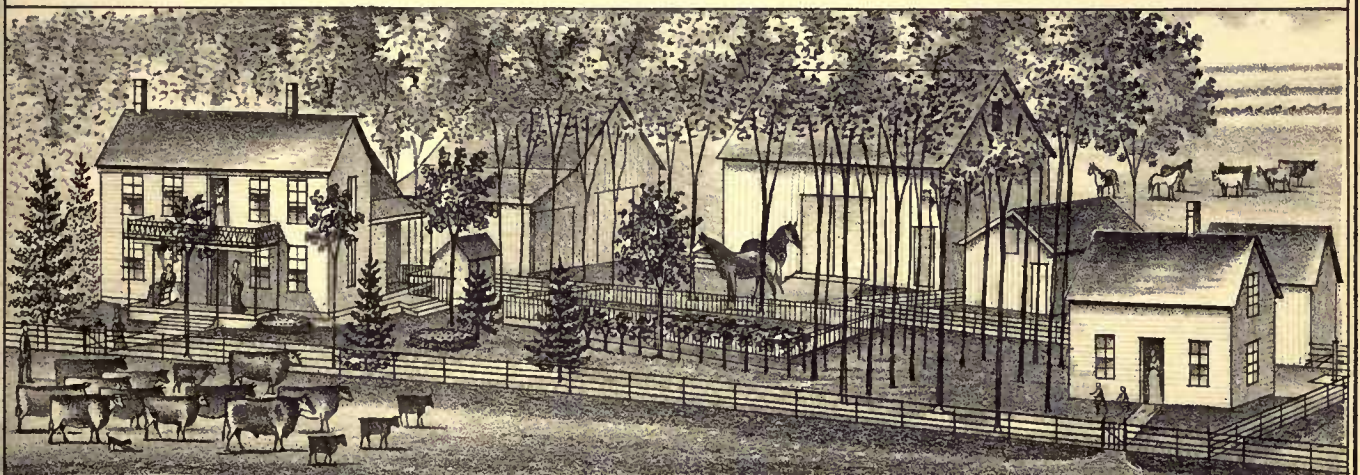
who was born in Tennessee. They afterward removed to Kentucky, and in 1819 to this State, being among the pioneers of Central Illinois. They located in Sangamon County, whence they afterward removed to Macoupin County, and there spent the remainder of their days. John Roberts was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and served four years, the first two under Gen. Marion and the last two under Gen. Washington. He departed this life in 1831, and his wife, the mother of our subject, in August, 1866. John Roberts was greatly prospered in his western venture, became the owner of a good farm, and also operated a grist-mill which yielded him a good income. The family consisted of seven children, of whom our subject is the only one now living, so far as known.

William H. Roberts grew to manhood in Macoupin County, and after leaving home was employed in driving cattle for stockmen to the Alton and St. Louis markets. He also dealt in stock occasionally on his own account. He afterward purchased a farm in his native county, which he operated successfully until becoming a resident of Champaign County. His homestead in Tolono Township includes 160 acres of valuable land adjoining Sadorus Village, which is under a good state of cultivation and supplied with excellent buildings. All of this world's goods which he possesses have been accumulated by his own industry, and he has lost considerable money in the manner in which many men have been ruined, by going security for friends and having to pay the amount. He and his family occupy a comfortable farm residence and are surrounded by the good things of life. Mr. Roberts, politically, is a staunch Democrat, but has never connected himself with any religious denomination or secret society.

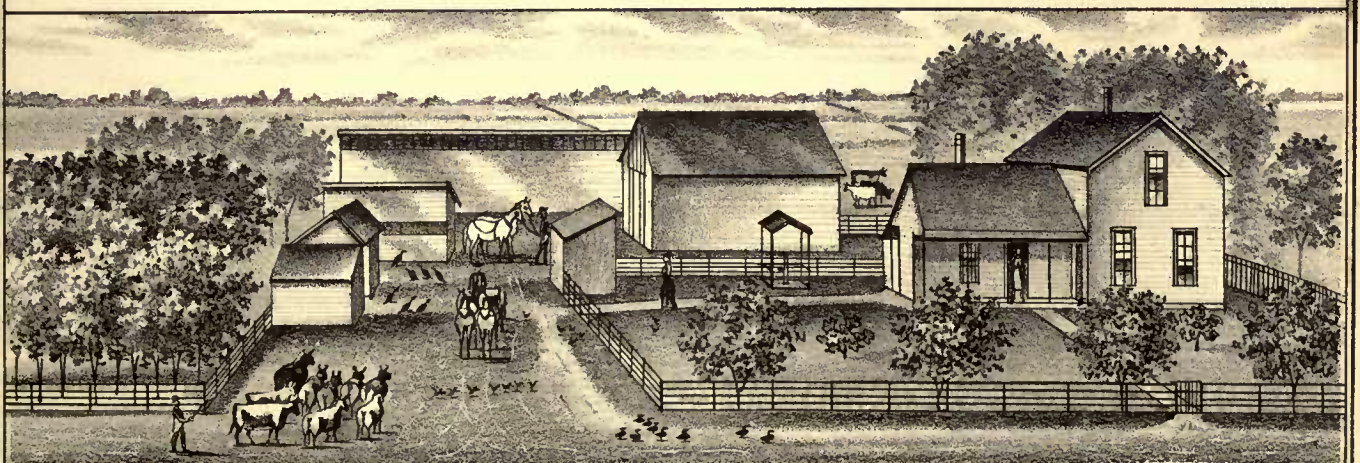
Our subject was married, near Scottsville, in his native county, on the 14th of March, 1844, to Miss Sarah Bristow, who was born in Tennessee but removed when a small child with her parents to Macoupin County, Ill., and were among the early settlers of that county. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts had a family of nine children. Of these John W. departed this life at Sadorus when twenty-two years of age; James T. died when eighteen years old, and Charles at thirteen; Mary married Charles Atte-



WALNUT GROVE FARM, RESIDENCE OF W. A. CONKEY, SEC. 7, (R-14-W), HOMER TP.



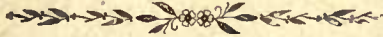
STOCK FARM OF J. K. THOMPSON, BREEDER OF SHORT HORN CATTLE, SEC. 3, PHILO TP.



RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH PIERCE, SEC. 17, HARWOOD TP.

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berry, became the mother of four children, and died in Mead County, Kan., in December, 1885; Emeline married Fred Griswold, of Sadorus; Sena C. is the wife of Edmund Jones; Dora J., Mrs. George Connet, is a resident of Kansas; William and Lucy Ella are at home.



JOHN B. NEAL, an enterprising and successful young farmer of Philo Township, took possession of his present homestead of 160 acres on section 21, in the spring of 1883. He is the son of Richard Neal, of Pennsylvania, and was born Jan. 3, 1847. His father, a carpenter by trade, removed to Montgomery County, Ohio, when a young man, and was there married to Miss Eliza Bunton. Richard Neal departed this life when his son, our subject, was but four years old. The latter afterward went to live with Mr. Job Mullin, of Warren County, that State, with whom he remained nine years. At the expiration of that time, the late Civil War being then in progress, although only fifteen years old, he enlisted as a Union soldier, becoming a member of the 87th Ohio Infantry. He was present in the fight at Harper's Ferry, where he was taken prisoner but at once parolled. He soon afterward enlisted in Co. H., 84th Ohio Vol. Inf., and was at the battles of Winchester, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek and other engagements. He endured bravely with his comrades the vicissitudes of war, escaping without serious injury, having only received a slight wound at the battle of Winchester, and received an honorable discharge at the close in the summer of 1865.

After his return from the army Mr. Neal lived in Ohio one year, then came to Philo Township, this county, and began working out by the month. In 1869 he visited the Territory of Montana, where he worked two years in the gold mines, for a part of which he received \$5 per day. In 1871 he returned to Philo Township, and on Jan. 19, 1875, was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Bennett. Mrs. Neal was born and reared in Clinton County, Ohio, her birth taking place June 8, 1850. She remained with her parents until 1869, then came to Illinois and lived with her sister, Mrs. Silver, of Sidney,

until her marriage. She is the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Reek) Bennett, who are still living, and residents of Clinton County, Ohio, where the father has followed his trade as a cabinet-maker successfully for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Neal have four children—Florence, Herman, Estella and Norah.

The farm of our subject produces in abundance all the crops of the prairie State, the land being finely drained with 1,200 rods of tile. Mr. Neal is a thorough business man and agriculturist, and the home of himself and family is a pleasant resort for the many friends whom they have gathered around them by their genial, hospitable manner and uniform kindness of heart. Mr. Neal is held in high esteem by his fellow-citizens, has served as Road Commissioner two years, and politically is a staunch Republican, whose opinions are highly valued by the members of his party in this section. A lithographic view of Mr. Neal's handsome residence is presented in this book.

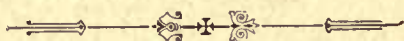


JOHN LOCKE first opened his eyes to the light in the Province of Ontario, Canada, Sept. 9, 1848. He is now a worthy and substantial resident of Philo Township, located on a fine farm on section 36. His father, William H. Locke, was born in Devonshire, England, and bred to farming pursuits. After reaching manhood he was united in marriage with a lady of his own shire, Miss Hannah Joice. After the birth of several children they gathered together their household effects and their family and set sail for America. Going into the Province of Ontario, Canada, they located in Yarmouth County, where William Locke purchased several hundred acres of good land and resided several years. The mother died in the fall of 1874, while from home on a visit. The father and the remaining members of the family afterward came to Illinois, taking up their abode in this county, in March, 1861. William Locke purchased land in Philo Township on section 36, whose cultivation and improvement he carried on until he became unfitted for active labor. After arriving

at the age of fourscore years he departed from the scenes of his earthly labors in June, 1875.

John Locke, the subject of this sketch, was the youngest son in a family of nine children born to his parents. His education was conducted in the common schools, and he was never afterward separated from his father until the death of the latter. He was married, March 14, 1874, at the home of the bride's parents in Philo Township, to Miss Mary C., daughter of Cyrus Arnold, and a native of Kendall County, Ill., born Jan. 5, 1858. Of this marriage there have been born seven children, two of whom, Carrie and Rhoda, are deceased. Those surviving and at home are Mabel, Julia, Edna, Claude A. and Clara Belle.

Mr. and Mrs. Locke after their marriage settled upon the farm which constitutes their present homestead, and a view of which is shown on another page. It is well stocked with fine grades of Durham cattle, thoroughbred horses and Poland-China swine. The landed area of our subject embraces 400 acres, all of which is highly improved and yields in abundance the choicest products of the Prairie State. Mr. L. is yet a young man and has made good progress thus far, giving promise of becoming one of the most successful farmers of Champaign County. He is Republican in politics, and with his wife, a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



JC. REED. The finely arranged farm of this successful agriculturist and stock-raiser is pleasantly located in Philo Township, on section 16. It came into his possession in the spring of 1880, and includes 480 acres, which have been brought to a fine state of cultivation, being drained with 30,000 rods of tiling. The farm buildings and stock are of first-class description, and the family residence, a view of which will be found on another page, will bear comparison with that of any in Champaign County. Our subject came to this vicinity from Wheeling, W. Va., where he was born May 19, 1822. His father, John Reed, was a Virginian by birth, and the descendant of Irish ancestors. He was married in his native State to Miss

Louisa Caldwell, also a native of the old Dominion, the wedding taking place near Wheeling, where they afterward settled and lived until the '50's, when they came West with other members of the family and settled in the northwestern part of Peoria County. There the father died soon afterward, aged sixty-two years; the mother survived until about 1865. Both parents were active members of the Presbyterian Church, and highly esteemed wherever known.

William Reed, the grandfather of our subject, a native of County Armagh, Ireland, emigrated from his native land with his family and settled near Wheeling, W. Va. His son John, the father of our subject, was the youngest child and the only one born in West Virginia. The maiden name of the grandmother was Miss Jane Jackson. Both she and her husband died near Wheeling. The Reed family are connections of the Caldwells, McCulloughs and Bogges, and the Caldwells were connected with the Calhouns, both by blood and marriage. Lewis Wetzel, the noted Indian fighter, was also connected with these families, all of whom figured prominently in the early history of Virginia. Many of them were of Scottish ancestry.

The subject of this history possesses the marked characteristics of a reliable and substantial race. He was the fourth of twelve children, and received his early education in the primitive log school-house of the early days. He was a bright and ambitious boy, and engaged in merchandising when sixteen years of age. He also for some time was employed in transportation on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, and for a period of eight years was occupied as a drover, handling annually over 1,000 head of stock. He was at one time quite extensively engaged in the buying and shipping of horses, and was remarkably successful in his undertaking. His first experience as an agriculturist dates from his arrival in this county, when he bought a tract of land in Philo Township. He was a man greatly attached to his family, and in his retirement from farm life had in view the improvement of his wife's health and the better training of his children.

In 1877 Mr. Reed took a trip overland and into the region of the Rocky Mountains with his private

teams, and accompanied by his wife and two children. This trip practically completed his tour of the Western Continent, and he possesses a valuable fund of information gathered from his observations during his journey from Virginia to Illinois and thence to the farther West. He was joined by others in this latter trip, which made a party of twenty-one persons. They carried their provisions and were equipped with the modern conveniences of camp life, including a physician and a blacksmith. Mr. Reed, in fact, has employed much of his time—about six years—in traveling over the different States in the Union.

Mr. Reed was married in his native county, on the 19th of May, 1868, to Miss Mary B. Bell, also a native of the Old Dominion. They have become the parents of five children—Charles W., Henry K. L., Mary B., John C., Jr., and James B. Mrs. Reed is a lady of culture and education, and numbers among her friends and acquaintances the best people of Philo Township. Both our subject and his wife are connected with the Presbyterian Church, and in politics Mr. Reed is a firm supporter of Republican principles, although he has uniformly declined to become an office-holder.



THOMAS E. CONDON represents the agricultural implement trade at Pesotum, in connection with the lumber business. He has been a resident of Champaign County since 1865, coming here soon after his retirement from the army at the close of the war. He ranks among the citizens of Central Illinois, who have shaped its prosperity and assisted in establishing its reputation as a desirable place of residence for both the farmer and artisan.

Our subject's early years were spent in Carroll County, Md., where his birth took place Nov. 15, 1835. He was the ninth child of Thomas and Alvira (Barnes) Condon, natives of the same State, where they spent their entire lives, both dying in middle life, when their son Thomas, of our sketch, was but six years old. The older children kept the family together for four years, and were then sepa-

rated, Thomas going to the home of his grandparents, with whom he remained until nineteen years old. He then started out in the world for himself, casting his lot in Clay County, Ind., where he engaged first on a farm with an uncle, where he followed farming until he could secure means to fulfill the cherished hope of pursuing a course of study in the university at Greencastle. This he accomplished to his satisfaction, in the meantime fitting himself for a teacher, and thereafter taught and farmed alternately until 1857.

In June of the latter year there occurred one of the most important events in the life of our subject, namely, his marriage with Miss Sarah M., daughter of John and Rhoda (Holland) Dickerson. The parents of Mrs. C. were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and North Carolina, and after their marriage located in Ohio before it had been admitted into the Union as a State. There also Mr. Condon followed teaching and farming until after the outbreak of the late war. In 1862 he enlisted in the 4th Indiana Cavalry, under command of Col. Gray, now the Governor of that State. The first winter was spent by his battalion in Kentucky in guarding the State, and in the spring they went to Murfreesboro, Tenn., by way of Nashville. There our subject, with his regiment, was placed under the command of Gen. Rosecrans, and not long afterward participated in the memorable battle of Chickamauga, after which they followed Wheeler, the raider, and for twenty-two days were seldom out of the saddle and never in camp. Upon this expedition they were upon half rations for five days, and realized in a forcible degree the hardships and privations of war.

After chasing Wheeler from the State of Tennessee, this regiment returned to Winchester, whence they were sent to Nashville and remounted soon afterward to relieve Burnside at Knoxville, where he was besieged by the rebel General, Longstreet. This portion of the Union army successfully raised the siege, but the entire winter was spent in continuous skirmishing with the enemy. In the meantime their Colonel had been killed, and Gen. Gray resigning, was succeeded by Schuyler, and he in turn by Leslie. The following spring Longstreet was driven out of East Tennessee, and the 4th Indiana

was sent to another part of the State to form the left wing of Sherman's command, our subject being detailed to remain at Chattanooga as Sergeant, where he spent his time until Sherman started out on his march to the sea. The 4th was then dismounted, and sent by rail to Louisville, Ky., where they were again provided with steeds and sent on a raid through the Blue Grass regions, following the enemy and fighting as they went. They finally drove him out of Kentucky, and in the meantime Hood had been chased from Tennessee by Thomas. Their next destination was Mississippi, where they remained in East Port during the following winter. In the meantime the Tennessee River, overflowing its banks, had swept the entire valley and created a malaria from which Mr. Condon, in common with many others, suffered greatly. He was finally sent to the hospital, and in a few brief months the war had practically closed.

Mr. Condon remained under treatment at Jeffersonville, Ind., until June 19, 1865, when he was mustered out of service and returned to his home. He remained in Indiana until August following, and then coming to this county located in Sidney, where he was occupied in such labor as his health would permit. After two years and a half he leased eighty acres of wild land, deciding to try the experiment of farming for the restoration of his health. The result proved satisfactory, and two years later Mr. C. purchased eighty acres in Crittenden Township, where he built a house and which he occupied for thirteen years.

In the meantime Mr. and Mrs. C. became the parents of four children, and in the fall of 1884, Mr. Condon, desirous of giving them better advantages of education, removed to the city of Champaign, at the same time availing himself of a much needed rest from labor and business cares. Not long afterward, however, in company with A. M. Coffeen, he commenced dealing in coal, and the year following, in connection with W. F. Hardy, added the trade in agricultural implements. He and his partners operated together in Champaign until February, 1887, when Mr. C. disposed of his interests in that city, and coming to Pesotum engaged in the agricultural implement and lumber business, which he still continues.

The faithful wife and mother departed this life on the 23d of March, 1886. Since that time the daughters have kept house for their father. Agnes is teaching school not far from the homestead; Mary L. became the wife of Jonathan Dubre, and died three years later, leaving one child, Artie L., now with his father in Indiana; Agnes and Edna preside over the affairs of the household. Mr. Condon has never been connected with any church organization. Socially he is a member of the G. A. R., and politically is liberal, although he usually votes with the Republican party.

WILLIAM G. CARSON. The name of this gentleman is favorably known throughout Philo Township as a successful and progressive farmer and stock-raiser. He is pleasantly located on section 33, where he owns 160 acres, and also has forty acres on section 34. His land is well drained, enclosed with neat fencing, and supplied with all needful farm buildings, including a fine residence, a good barn, and ample conveniences for the shelter of stock and grain. Our subject has been a resident of Champaign County since 1855, and purchased his land directly from the Government. As may be supposed it was totally uncultivated at the time he took possession of it, and the contrast between now and then is as great as it is satisfactory. He began tilling the soil after the manner of the other early settlers before the march of civilization and invention had given the labor-saving machinery which the agriculturist of the present day enjoys in such a large measure. A harvester in the fifties was a curiosity which the farmer would go several miles to look upon.

Mr. Carson was born in Vermillion County, Ind., June 29, 1829. His father, Isaac Carson, a native of South Carolina, was of Southern parentage and Irish extraction. The family remained in the South until the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, in which various members of the family participated, together with the Andrews family, of whom the mother of our subject was a daughter. Her father, James Andrews, also served in the War of 1812. The grandparents of both the Carson and

Andrews families died in the South. Isaac Carson became a resident of Vermillion County, Ind., before his marriage with Miss Maria Andrews. The father departed this life when his son, our subject, was but three months old, and the mother eight years and nine months later, so that our subject at nine years of age was left an orphan. He then went to live with his grandfather, James Andrews, with whom he remained until sixteen, and then set out in life on his own account.

Young Carson from this time was variously employed until 1851, when twenty years of age. Then, in company with one Amos Curtis, a young man about his own age, he started across the plains to California. They visited Salt Lake City on their journey, and there met a Mr. Holliday, who was largely engaged in the transportation of merchandise from St. Louis to the Mormon capital. After reaching San Francisco young Carson and his friend decided upon proceeding to Australia, but owing to a delay in the sailing of the vessel they changed their minds and started up into the Sacramento Valley, where they were employed on a ranch at the generous stipend of \$100 per month. At the expiration of this engagement our subject went into the mountains and began mining upon what is known as Mormon Island, on the American River. He was fairly successful in this venture, and after eighteen months thus employed, becoming anxious for a sight of the old home and the faces of his friends, he returned to Indiana.

In the latter-named State he was married, Feb. 23, 1854, to Miss Martha Bales. Mrs. C. was born and reared in Vermillion County, Ind. Her parents were from Virginia, of Irish and German descent. Her father, Caleb Bales, removed to Vermillion County at an early period in the history of that section, in 1816, and was there occupied in farming until his death. He married Miss Emma Spangler. The mother of Mrs. Carson is still living on the old homestead, two miles from Dana, with one of her sons. She is now seventy-seven years of age, and remembers distinctly many of the interesting incidents connected with pioneer life. Mrs. Carson was reared and educated in her native county, remaining with her parents until her marriage. She has become the mother of ten children,

of whom the record is as follows: Josephine became the wife of Eugene Ford, who resides in Garnett, Anderson Co., Kan., engaged in the practice of law; Caleb married Miss Mattie Congleton, and lives in Ashland, Boyd Co., Kan., where he is Postmaster of Ashland and a successful real-estate dealer; Ellen is in Kansas with her brother Caleb; Marc is the wife of D. P. Simms, a dentist of Schuyler, Neb.; Villa and Frank are at home with their parents. Four died in infancy.

Mr. Carson is a staunch Democrat, politically, and has held the minor offices of his township. He is duly respected as a citizen and business man, and is contributing his quota toward the welfare and advancement of his community.



EDWARD DAVIS, a leading stock dealer of Philo, became a resident of Champaign County in 1858, purchasing a farm and locating in Crittenden Township. He occupied this, in the meantime carrying on its improvement and cultivation, for ten years afterward, after which he went to Chicago and for a period of six years was connected with the stockyards there. In 1874 he returned to Philo, of which he has since been a resident, owning valuable property in the village and land in the township. In the meantime he has also dealt quite extensively in cattle, buying and shipping, and realizing a handsome income from his transactions in this line.

Mr. Davis comes of excellent and substantial ancestry, and was born in Wales in 1832. His father, Edward Davis, Sr., carried on farming in his native country and spent his entire life in the land which gave him birth. The mother, who in her girlhood was Miss Anna Davis, also died in Wales in 1855. Our subject received a fair education in his native country, and early in life crossed the water to the United States. He remained in New York State three years and then came direct to this county. Soon afterward he was married to Miss Caroline Markle, Dec. 2, 1867. Mrs. Davis was born in Jackson County, Mich., Oct. 13, 1841, and is the daughter of J. J. and Doretha (Almendinger) Markle, who were natives of Germany, where they were

married and whence they came to the United States in about 1831, locating in Ann Arbor, Mich. From there they removed to Jackson County, where Mr. M. improved a farm. He afterward sold out and removed near Grass Lake, Washtenaw County, where both parents died, each being seventy-five years old. Mrs. Davis was reared to womanhood under her father's roof and received a good education, attending school at Albion and Ann Arbor. After completing her studies she engaged in teaching, and was pursuing that occupation in Philo when she met our subject and afterward became his wife. Among her pupils were many of the now prominent young men of this county who remember her as a skillful instructor and a judicious counselor and friend.

Mr and Mrs. Davis have become the parents of six children, of whom Gracie M. and an infant unnamed are deceased. Lizzie is attending college at Jacksonville, Ill., and is a bright and promising girl; George E., Charles M. and Mary B. are attending school at Philo. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. Davis is Trustee. He also holds the same office in the school district, and politically votes the Republican ticket.

JAMES M. CAMPBELL, a gentleman who is esteemed among the pioneers of Hensley Township, is pleasantly located on section 34, which was the home of his father before him. It comprises 200 acres of valuable land, with excellent frame buildings and all other modern improvements. Our subject has been a resident of Illinois since 1856, and during the last thirty years, has watched with interest and satisfaction the growth and development of the Prairie State. He has distinguished himself as an honest man and a good citizen, and has contributed his full quota toward bringing his township to its present condition, both morally and financially.

Our subject was the second child of Washington and Eleanora (Lilley) Campbell, and was born in Bird Township, Brown Co., Ohio, Nov. 11, 1834. He was reared by his parents and pursued his pri-

mary studies in the common schools. When not in school he assisted his father in the labors of the farm. He came with the family to Illinois and remained a member of the parental household until his marriage. He then purchased the old homestead, upon which he has since resided.

The wife of our subject, formerly Miss Sarah O. Cook, to whom he was married in 1863, was born in Urbana, Ohio, Oct. 28, 1844. After remaining his faithful and affectionate companion for a period of nearly forty years, she departed this life April 2, 1884. Their five children were Lizzie J., William, Minnie, Frank and Sarah.

Mr. Campbell cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont, and has been a supporter of Republican principles since that time. As a farmer, business man and citizen, he is held in high esteem, and constitutes one of the valued factors of the social and business life in Hensley Township.

THOMAS F. McCracken, who came to Ludlow Township in 1874, taking possession of a good farm on section 22, is numbered among its most substantial and reliable citizens. The forefathers of our subject originated in the Land of the Thistle, probably as far back as the time when the Stewarts governed Scotland, and his paternal grandfather emigrated directly from that country, which in addition to its romantic history produced some of the sturdiest people in the world, distinguished for their scorn of a mean action. After reaching America McGuire McCracken located in Tennessee, whence he removed in about 1826 to Illinois, settling with his family in Washington County. The country around him was practically unsettled and the present site of Chicago tenanted by a few emigrants who dwelt in structures which would now scarcely be dignified by the name of houses. Mr. McM. was a hatter by trade, which occupation he followed the greater part of his life.

His son, Thomas McGuire McCracken, the father of our subject, was but a boy when the family made the journey overland from Tennessee. He was reared under the parental roof and assisted in the labors of the farm, receiving a limited education

in the subscription schools. After reaching manhood he was married, in Washington County, Ill., to Miss Sarah Goodner, a native of St. Clair County, this State. Her father, Benjamin Goodner, emigrated from his native State of South Carolina to St. Clair County, Ill., in the pioneer days. The young people located upon a farm seven miles from Nashville, the county seat of Washington County, which they occupied until 1852. Mr. McC. was a man of more than ordinary ability and took a prominent part in the affairs of his county. He served as Clerk for a term of four years, and was re-elected in 1856 and 1860. He did not live to serve out the latter term, departing this life in February, 1861.

The subject of this sketch was born in Washington County, Ill., April 25, 1846. There were four children in the family, which two years later was deprived of the affectionate care of the mother, who was taken from their midst by the hand of the Destroyer in 1848. The children remained with their father until his death, our subject then being fourteen years of age. His brother, James W., located in Macon County, where he now lives. William L. and Henry are deceased.

Mr. McCracken of this sketch received a good common-school education, and when twenty years of age engaged as salesman in a flouring-mill. Two years later he went to Pennsylvania for the purpose of selling patent rights, spending two years in that locality. Afterward he crossed the Mississippi and traveled over the State of Kansas a year, then returned to Nashville, Washington County, and engaged in the mill where he had been before employed. He was then occupied in farming until 1874. In the spring of that year he came to this county, first farming on rented land in this and Ford County, and afterward worked by the day or month four years. He had now saved a little sum of money, and going southwest into the Indian Territory engaged in herding cattle one year. He then returned to Champaign County, and was employed by B. J. Gifford as Superintendent of his farms, a position which he occupied for a period of seven years. In 1886, he found he had sufficient means to purchase a farm, and took possession of his present homestead. This now includes eighty

acres of land under a good state of cultivation, with a good residence, barn, and all other buildings required for the carrying on of a farm after the most approved methods.

While a resident of this county, Mr. McCracken was united in marriage with Miss Della Wheatley, Jan. 5, 1882. Mrs. McC. is a native of Perry County, this State, her birth taking place in 1861. The household has been brightened by the birth of two sons and a daughter—Gracie E., Litle and Ray F. Our subject is Democratic in politics, but has little time to give to public affairs, his private business engrossing most of his attention.



DANIEL CONCANNON, who first opened his eyes to the light in Erin's Green Isle, County Galway, on the 22d of March, 1833, is one of the substantial farmers of Tolono Township, this county, of which he became a resident in 1857. He is the proprietor of 240 acres of choice land, furnished with good buildings, and is industriously engaged in general farming.

The parents of our subject were Frank and Catherine (Gilgan) Concannon, and the mother died in about 1837, leaving two children—our subject, who was only about four years old, and a daughter, Adelia, who is now deceased. Frank Concannon died in Ireland in about 1863, having survived his wife for a period of twenty-six years. He was a farmer by occupation, and little Daniel, as soon as old enough, commenced to assist in tilling the soil, and remained with his father until nineteen years of age. He then set sail for the United States, and landed in New York Harbor in April, 1852. He first proceeded to Freehold, N. J., where he engaged as a farm laborer at \$8 per month for two years.

Our subject then decided to seek his fortune in the Great West. Coming to Chicago he entered the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad Company as baggage-master, and was thus employed for two years. From there he went to Lodi, Iroquois Co., Ill., still in the employ of the company, by whom he was transferred in 1857, to Tolono. After that he served in the same capacity for the

I. C. R. R. and the W., St. L. & P. R. R., following railroading for a period of twenty-two years. During the last years thus occupied, he received \$90 per month salary, and as he had lived economically, soon found himself in possession of a snug sum of money saved from his earnings. With this, in 1863, he purchased 120 acres of land in Tolono Township, and which constitutes a part of his present farm. He doubled the amount of his real estate in 1882, and is now in the enjoyment of a fine property. His farming operations have been carried on skillfully and successfully, and he is rated among the intelligent and progressive agriculturists of this section.

Our subject was married, at Tolono, on the 14th of December, 1857, to Miss Mary O'Neil. Mrs. Concannon was born in County Antrim, Ireland, and is the daughter of Patrick O'Neil, who is now deceased. Of this union there were born eight children—Frank D., Mary, Joseph T., James C., Hugh M., Henry P., George C. and John E. Our subject is Republican in politics, and has taken a genuine interest in the affairs of his county and township. He served as Road Commissioner twelve years, and has been School Director almost from the time of taking up his residence here. Religiously he is a faithful adherent of the Roman Catholic Church.



JOHN A. VOSS, manufacturer of tile and brick at Thomasboro, has been identified with the business interests of the county since 1874. He is wide-awake and full of energy, and from a modest beginning, in which he was dependent upon his own resources, has built up a good business, and contributed his full share toward the advancement of the industries of this section. He is a worthy representative of the persistent German element which has figured so prominently in the settling up of this section, being a native of Mecklenburg, his birth taking place Jan. 10, 1855. His parents, Frederick and Sophia Voss, also natives of the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg, were there married, and became the parents of

nine children, of whom only five are now living. The father died there in 1879. The mother still resides there. A brother and sister of our subject came to America: George, a resident of Chicago, and Minnie, Mrs. Peters, who lives in Thomasboro.

Mr. Voss commenced attending school when a child six years of age, continuing his studies until fourteen. He was afterward employed in his father's factory until 1873, being then eighteen years of age. He had been a thoughtful and ambitious youth, and was desirous of something better than the prospects held out to him in his native land, and he now determined to seek his fortune across the sea. After arriving upon American shores, he proceeded directly westward, and at Chicago was employed for one season in a lumber-yard. The spring following he went into De Witt County, where he worked on a farm by the month for five years. For two years afterward he was employed in a tile factory at Farmer City, whence he came to this county, and locating in Mahomet, was appointed Superintendent of the tile factory there. He had now gained a good insight into the business, understanding fully all its details, and at the expiration of two years entered into partnership with Capt. Howell, at Urbana, where they operated together two years. Our subject then withdrew, and coming to Thomasboro purchased twelve acres of ground adjacent to the town, and putting up suitable buildings and machinery, established his present business. He has been successful from the start, and gives employment to nine men. The plant consists of two dry houses, one 135x28 feet, the other 100x20 feet, with two floors in each. He also has two kilns, and his machinery is after the most approved patterns.

After opening the way for the establishment of a home and domestic ties, Mr. Voss was married, on the 24th of February, 1881, to Miss Lena Linnigren. Mrs. Voss was born in the city of Grausebeet, Germany, in 1858, where she lived until 1872, and then, accompanied by her mother, sister and brother, emigrated to the United States. They located in the city of Champaign, where Mrs. Voss remained with her mother's family until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Voss have three interesting young daughters—Sophia, Minnie and Matilda.



John M. Spencer



F. J. Gates.

Our subject and his family occupy a handsome and commodious residence, which he erected in 1883, from brick manufactured at his own yards. This is finished and furnished in modern style, and with its surroundings makes a desirable and comfortable home. Mr. Voss as a man and a citizen enjoys the thorough respect of all who know him, and is rated at his full value as one holding an important position among the business interests of Champaign County.

PERRY J. GATES, a valued farm resident of Pesotum Township, was born in Gallia County, Ohio, July 10, 1849, and was the fifth child of David M. and Mahala B. (Armstrong) Gates. His father was born in the same county in December, 1816, and is still living. His mother was born in Lawrence County, Ohio, in 1820, and died in 1872. The father of our subject purchased land in this county in 1861 with the view of locating upon it, but upon reconsideration, concluded not to do so. Although a farmer he was well posted in business matters and spent much time in platting and making deeds to lands, and was frequently appointed to positions of trust and responsibility, as such men were not as common in those days as at the present, with its free schools and the many advantages with which our youth are surrounded. His superior knowledge and excellent judgment were of incalculable value to those with whom he was associated in business, nor was he less successful as a farmer and stock-grower, but in each displayed the intelligence and executive ability which stamps the business man wherever he is met. His stock farm consists of about 1,000 acres, and is located in Gallia County, Ohio.

When our subject reached his majority he came to this county, locating in Crittenden Township, where he purchased 240 acres of land, which he operated for the following five years during the seasons of sowing and reaping, and teaching school during the fall and winter.

Mr. Gates sold his farm in Crittenden Township in the spring of 1875 and settled upon his present homestead, which he had purchased the previous

fall. Here he has a beautiful farm of nearly a half section, finely improved and well drained. Mr. Gates after his removal here devoted the following four winters to teaching, and still takes a genuine interest in school matters.

Our subject was married, Feb. 25, 1875, to Miss Philena Nelson, the daughter of Benham and Lydia (Smith) Nelson, natives of Virginia and Ohio, respectively. Her father was a man known far and wide for his large-hearted generosity. They were the parents of thirteen children, twelve of whom are still living. The four children of Mr. and Mrs. Gates, all at home with their parents, are Clarence C., Leslie O., Scott and Orus. Mr. G. is now serving his third term as Township Supervisor, and has frequently officiated as Trustee and Town Clerk. Politically he is a stanch Republican, holding to the principles of his party with unwavering devotion. Mr. and Mrs. Gates have been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, doing what they could for the Master's cause, and are held in high esteem by their friends and neighbors.

As a fitting accompaniment to the foregoing sketch, nothing could be more appropriate than the portrait of Mr. Gates, and we accordingly present it in this connection. It will be looked upon with pleasure by all who know him, and will certainly enhance the value of the ALBUM to those who possess it.

JOHAN M. SPENCER, deceased. Among the early pioneers of Illinois who have passed to "that bourne from which no traveler returns," none are more deserving of having their names perpetuated in history than this excellent and worthy gentleman, who is held in kindly remembrance by all who knew him. His birth took place in Allegany County, N. Y., on the 5th of September, 1827, and his parents were Asa A. and Betsy (Doty) Spencer, natives of New York. In 1837 the family removed to Troy, Ohio, where John M. received his education and served an apprenticeship at the blacksmith's trade, which he followed for about ten years in his native county. In the meantime he had been married, Nov. 28, 1855,

to Miss Cyrena Merry, a native of New York, and born April 28, 1829.

Four years later, in 1859, having saved a sum of money, Mr. Spencer, accompanied by his wife, came to Illinois, and located in this county, purchasing 460 acres of land on sections 17 and 20, in Crittenden Township. He brought with him from Ohio twenty head of milch cows, and for several years afterward engaged in the manufacture of cheese. His land, at the time he took possession of it, was unbroken prairie. He at once set about its improvement and cultivation, and in due time it was transformed into a fine farm, enclosed with neat fencing and furnished with a shapely and substantial set of buildings. Year after year he toiled and sowed, and while laying the foundation for a permanent and valuable homestead, also established himself in the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. His later years were principally devoted to the feeding of cattle, from which he derived, annually, a handsome income.

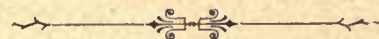
Mr. Spencer was a man always prompt to meet his obligations, and was straightforward and upright in his dealings with his fellow-man. He had become converted and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1857, and ever afterward was one of the most faithful laborers in the vineyard, and contributed liberally and cheerfully to the building up of the cause of Christ as he had opportunity, both in the Sunday-school and in the world outside. In the early days he frequently swam the Embarrass River to attend church. He believed that the children who were imbued with religious ideas would more certainly find the fold than those whose early impressions were lacking in this respect.

Politically our subject was an uncompromising Republican, and could always be relied upon for his loyalty to his party and the interests of the principles in which he sincerely believed. Although never desiring office, he served as Supervisor of his township, and his opinions were always regarded as those of a man well balanced and liable to be founded upon reason instead of caprice or sentiment. During the last eight years of his life he was afflicted with paralysis. He was finally relieved from earthly affliction on the 22d of September,

1885. He left a valuable estate, the accumulation of years of industry, and a record of a good life replete with kindly acts.

Of the marriage of Mr. Spencer there were born two sons only, James C., whose birth took place in Troy, Ohio, July 28, 1858, and Sheridan, born in Champaign County, April 3, 1865. They both reside on the homestead with their mother, and carry on the operations of the farm with excellent judgment and forethought. They are model young men in all respects, members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and like their father, Republican in politics.

This brief sketch and the accompanying portrait will serve as a means of perpetuating the memory of one of the most esteemed and worthy citizens of Champaign County.



JOHNS CRAWFORD, a dealer in general merchandise in the village of Pesotum, is a native of Ohio, born in Carroll County, Jan. 5, 1853, and is the son of Lemuel and Sarah (Henderson) Crawford, who are also natives of the same county. They moved from Ohio to McLean County, this State, in 1865, settling near McLean Station, where the father carried on farming, which had been his occupation in Ohio. He remained on the farm in McLean for about seven years, then, coming into this county bought 120 acres of wild land, which he at once set about to cultivate and improve, making it a beautiful and attractive homestead, where he still resides, carrying on general farming.

Our subject was twelve years of age when his parents removed from Ohio to Illinois. He remained under the parental roof, assisting to carry on the farm, until reaching his majority, then started for himself, following agriculture for about nine years, after which, he, in company with Edwin Davis, opened a tile factory at Pesotum, under the firm name of Davis & Crawford. They operated this business for two years, then sold out and bought the store of general merchandise in the village formerly owned by S. M. Harvey, which they have managed successfully since that time. The

firm is also extensively engaged in buying and shipping grain, and has the entire control of the coal tradé. Mr. Crawford is making for himself an enviable reputation for business integrity, and can reasonably look forward to the future with hopes of entire success.

Miss Anna Nelson, daughter of William and Sarah (Weigner) Nelson, natives of Virginia, captivated the heart of John Crawford when he was a young man, and they were united in marriage Feb. 25, 1876. They have become the parents of three children, two of whom are living, Harry L. and Elmer C., both at home. Mr. and Mrs. Crawford are members of the Pesotum Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically the sentiments of our subject are Democratic, but when at the polls he chooses to be governed by his own judgment rather than that of any party. He has been Town Collector for a period of five years, but is not an aspirant for office. Mr. and Mrs. Crawford are highly respected in society, and are filling their little niche in life with credit, while they enjoy the esteem of all who know them.



OLIVER DECK, a native of the Buckeye State, is now one of the most valued residents of Condit Township, where he owns a fine farm on section 18. He has been industriously engaged in the cultivation and improvement of this land since the spring of 1862, and besides building up for himself a reputation as a skilled agriculturist, has distinguished himself as a straightforward business man and valuable member of the community. His birth took place on the 14th of May, 1830, six miles north of Columbus, in Franklin County, Ohio. His father, John Deck, Jr., was born in Pennsylvania, and his grandfather, John Deck, Sr., was either a native of Germany or of Pennsylvania, born of German parents. It is known, however, that his early life was passed in the Keystone State, whence he removed to Virginia with his family in about 1801. He located on a farm which he had purchased near Winchester, and there engaged in agriculture and the rearing of an interesting family, and spent the remainder of his life.

John Deck, Jr., the father of our subject, was a

lad of eight years when his parents migrated to the Old Dominion. There he grew to manhood, learning the trade of a miller, and afterward went into Fairfield County, Ohio. He purchased a mill one mile from Dublin in that county, which he operated until 1838, about which time the death of his wife occurred. After this bereavement he sold out and removed to Union County, purchasing a farm in Mill Creek Township, which he conducted until the fall of 1858. He then sold out there and removed across the Mississippi into the territory of Kansas, locating in Miami County during the early settlement of that section. The journey was made with teams, and the father of our subject was accompanied by his family, which included five children. It proved to be his last removal, his death occurring in Kansas in 1876. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Eliza Wheeler, who was of German parentage.

The parental family consisted of eight children, and when the mother died Oliver was a lad eight years old. He remained with his father until reaching manhood, receiving an education in the district school, and assisting in the labors of the farm. When twenty years old he started out on his own account, and was variously employed for the year following, at the expiration of which time he engaged in a sawmill in Union County, where he remained the greater part of five years. In the meantime he took a trip East, and spent one winter in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Deck was united in marriage with Miss Sophia A. Goodsell, in September, 1857. Mrs. Deck is a native of Oswego County, N. Y. They have two bright daughters—Ida B. and Kittie A. The former is the wife of S. Bonner Sale, and lives in Fisher; Kittie married Frank E. Putnam, a farmer of East Bend Township. Our subject and his wife with their daughters are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Deck politically, was Democratic until the nomination of Abraham Lincoln as President, when he began to vote the Republican ticket, and is now a Prohibitionist.

After his marriage Mr. Deck located with his bride in Watkins, Union County, and engaged in the manufacture of pearlsh, which proved an un-

profitable undertaking, by which he lost nearly all his savings. In 1859 he went into Missouri and located on a piece of land in Camden County, where he occupied himself at farming until early in 1861. He then recrossed the Father of Waters, and coming into this county operated on rented land in Newcomb Township two years, with success, and then purchased his present homestead. Its condition at that time was widely different from the present, as but a few acres had been broken and there were no improvements. Mr. Deck has erected a substantial set of frame buildings, planted an orchard, and in various other ways improved and embellished his homestead so that it is a pleasure to the eye, besides forming a comfortable residence for his family and a cheerful resort for his friends. He is held in great respect as a citizen and business man, and has contributed materially to the advancement and welfare of the community.

JOHAN N. AXTELL, a leading representative of the lumber interests of Fisher, was born in Washington County, Pa., Nov. 24, 1823, and is the son of Charles and Elizabeth (Vennum) Axtell, also natives of the Keystone State. They were reared and married in their native State, settling there, in Washington County, where they lived until 1833, and then removing to Iroquois County, Ill., established a permanent home in Milford Township, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

The parental household consisted of four sons and five daughters, John N. of our sketch being the second child. He was ten years old when the removal was made to this State, and remained with his parents until reaching his majority, acquiring a common-school education and a thorough knowledge of farm pursuits. Upon starting out for himself he spent his first five years in Fayette and Bremer Counties, Iowa, and then, returning to the homestead in Iroquois County, Ill., took up his abode there until the spring of 1880. In the meantime, among other things, he engaged in the lumber trade, and at the date mentioned came into this county and established his present business at

Fisher. He has, however, never abandoned his taste for agriculture, and purchased 220 acres of land in Iroquois County, which is operated by a tenant. At Fisher he has a pleasant home within the village limits, where he has fully identified himself with the interests of his fellow-citizens, and is held by them in the highest respect, both for his qualities as a citizen and his ability as a business man.

Mr. Axtell made the acquaintance of Miss Martha Ray, of Vermilion County, which ripened into mutual affection and they became husband and wife. This lady only survived her marriage one year, dying in Vermilion County. The second marriage of Mr. Axtell took place Nov. 7, 1854, in Iroquois County, when he was united with Miss Margaret Strain. Of this union there were born two children—Orien I. and Charles W., both married and residents of Nebraska. The mother of these children died in Iroquois County.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in the village of Fisher, Sept. 4, 1881, was formerly Mrs. Sabrina (Thrasher) Warrenburg, daughter of Benjamin and Millancy (Cobern) Thrasher, and widow of John Warrenburg. Mrs. Axtell was born in Geauga County, Ohio, Dec. 24, 1845. She has been three times married; her first husband was Oliver York, by whom she had one daughter, Eva, now the wife of Harvey B. Platt, a dentist in Fisher. By her second marriage she became the mother of one child, Otis, now a resident of Fisher. Mr. Axtell uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party, and socially belongs to Fisher Lodge No. 74, I. O. O. F.

JOHAN CROUCH, JR., a highly respected farmer of Condit Township, owns a good homestead on section 29. He is a native of Illinois, where his birth took place Feb. 1, 1854. His father, John Crouch, Sr., was a product of the Buckeye State, born Dec. 23, 1824. He was reared on a farm near Chillicothe, and after reaching manhood was united in marriage with Miss Levenia McNett in the year 1843, who was born in Virginia July 4, 1827. After their marriage the young people settled in Madison County, Ohio,

where they lived until the fall of 1851, and then started overland for Illinois. Their outfit consisted of two horses and a wagon, and their destination was Piatt County, where the elder Crouch rented land which he cultivated for ten years following. In the fall of that year he came to this county and purchased land in that part of Newcomb Township which has since been included in Condit Township, which he improved and lived upon until resting from his earthly labors, Nov. 6, 1871.

The father of our subject, as a pioneer citizen, was one eminently worthy and useful to his community, and his neighbors and old friends unitedly bear testimony to his sterling worth and integrity. Upon first locating in Piatt County deer and other wild animals were abundant. There was no market for produce within thirty miles of their early home, and the children of the family obtained a limited education by going long distances through the forests and studying their lessons in rude log cabins. The system of education in those days was widely different from that of the present, which the sterner duties of life completed and gave them a practical insight into business methods which served them fully as well in those days as does the ornamental instruction imparted to the pupils of this later period. Amid those primitive scenes were developed in the character of those children the qualities which constituted them worthy citizens and valued members of their community.

The nine little ones who came to that household in the early lives of the parents are all now living, and recorded as follows: Samuel is a resident of Jasper County, Mo.; Mary E. became the wife of Abram Frazier, a farmer of Condit Township; Clinton lives in Boone County, Iowa; John, of our sketch, was the fifth child; Scott is living in Mahomet, and George W. in Boone County, Iowa; Richard, Andrew and Levina H. are in Condit Township. By a second marriage of the father there was born a daughter, Lavina E.

Mr. Crouch of this sketch was a lad of six years when his parents became residents of Newcomb, now Condit Township. When not in school he assisted his father and brothers on the farm, and remained a member of the household until the death

of both parents. Afterward he became a resident of Mahomet for a year, and then returned and purchased a farm adjoining the old homestead, where he has since remained. He was married, Nov. 7, 1877, to Miss Stella H. French, a native of Johnstown, Licking Co., Ohio, and daughter of Truman and Rachel M. French. Mr. and Mrs. C. are worthy members of the Presbyterian Church, and number among their friends and associates the best people of the community.



THOMAS E. JEFFERSON, senior member of the firm of Jefferson & Ekstrand, general merchants at Ludlow, may be truly termed a self-made man and one who has generously identified himself with the public enterprises of his adopted city. His birthplace was in Essex County, Del., and the date thereof Feb. 9, 1844. His father, John W. Jefferson, a native of the same State, descended from excellent English ancestry, which upon coming to the United States, located first in Virginia.

John W. Jefferson, during the earlier years of his life, was engaged in mercantile business in the State of Delaware, where he remained until 1852. In the spring of that same year he emigrated to this State, locating in Belleville, St. Clair County. On account of failing health he only remained there one year, returning then to his native State, where he died one year later. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Mary A. Morris, also a native of Delaware. She became the mother of three children, and departed this life in 1846, when her son, our subject, was a child two years of age. One of the sons, William J., during the late war served as a Union soldier in Co. A, 8th Ill. Vol. Inf., and was killed at the battle of Ft. Donelson; Ann E. became the wife of G. F. Eaton, and lives in Brookston, Ind.; Thomas E. of our sketch was the youngest child.

Our subject was but ten years old when the death of his father completed his orphaned condition, and he was taken into the home of William Gilmore, in Monroe County, this State. He lived with Mr.

G. five years, and then going to Decatur in Macon County, was employed on a farm near that city until 1861. Soon after the first call for troops to put down the Rebellion, he enlisted among the first volunteers in Co. A, 21st Ill. Vol. Inf., under command of (then Col.) U. S. Grant. During a service of three years, he experienced all the hardships, dangers and privations of a soldier's life, and engaged in the battles of Frederickstown, Mo., Perryville, Ky., Stone River and Chickamauga, besides encountering the enemy in various other places. At the expiration of his term of service, on the 5th of July, 1864, he received his honorable discharge, and was mustered out.

Soon afterward Mr. Jefferson located in Nashville, Tenn., and engaged in the sale of confectionery one year. He then returned to Decatur, and resolved to perfect himself as a book-keeper and in the general methods of doing business. He attended public school one year, then entered the Commercial College at Decatur, from which he graduated in 1867. He afterward taught book-keeping in the same school one year, spent the next year at Belleville, St. Clair County, and the two years following traveled as salesman for a St. Louis grocery house. Two years later he went to Bloomington and engaged as clerk in a dry-goods house. After a year thus occupied he went southwest into the Indian Territory, after receiving the appointment of Assistant United States Deputy Marshal, and remained a resident of that section of country until 1877. In the spring of that year he returned to Indiana and engaged in mercantile pursuits until 1880, which year he spent at Sheldon, Iroquois County, and in February, 1881, came to Ludlow, and in company with his half-brother, James W., engaged in merchandising until 1883. He then sold out, and the firm of Jefferson & Ekstrand was formed, the two gentlemen operating together since that time.

Mr. Jefferson has performed the duties of a good citizen. Socially he belongs to Pera Lodge No. 574, A. F. & A. M., and Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 38, of Paxton. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F., with which he became connected in Burrows, Ind., and in Ludlow is connected with De Witt Lodge No. 367, I. O. G. T. He belongs

to Ord Post No. 372, G. A. R. Religiously he is prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the support of which he contributes liberally and cheerfully as his means justify. Politically he is a staunch Republican.



STEPHEN ENGLISH came into Crittenden Township, this county, in 1856, during the period of its early settlement. He is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Fayette County, Jan. 23, 1833, and the son of James and Marinda (Mountjoy) English, both natives of Virginia, whence they removed to Fayette County, Ohio, in the pioneer days. They opened up a farm in the wilderness, and became the parents of ten children, who were reared on the homestead in Fayette County, where the father died in 1844. These children were: Thomas, now deceased; Joseph; George and James, deceased; William D.; Stephen; Elizabeth, the wife of George Hewlin; Sarah, Mrs. Charles Adams; Nancy and Mary J., both deceased. Four brothers of our subject, Thomas, George, William D. and James were volunteers in the Union army during the late Civil War, George and James dying in the service. After the death of her first husband the mother was married to Eli Boulden, and lived to the age of over ninety years, departing this life at her home in Northern Ohio, in 1885.

Stephen English was reared on the parental homestead in Fayette County, Ohio, remaining there until twenty years of age. Then, desirous of seeing something of the world, he journeyed westward into Indiana, and was there employed as a farm laborer until 1856. He then pushed over the line into Illinois, arriving in this county on the 16th of May. Here he was employed on a farm two years, and then returned to Indiana, and on the 4th of March, 1858, was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Bocoek, whose acquaintance he had made during his former sojourn in that State. Mrs. E. was also born in Fayette County, Ohio, and the daughter of Lewis Bocoek, a native of the same State.

Immediately after his marriage our subject, ac-

accompanied by his bride, returned to this county, and settling in Crittenden Township, followed farming on rented land until 1862. He then purchased 120 acres on section 2, which he improved and cultivated until the spring of 1872. Soon afterward he removed to Bates County, Mo., where he followed agricultural pursuits nearly four years, and then retraced his steps to this county, arriving here on the 7th of November, 1880. He this time decided that he could find no better location and accordingly took up his abode permanently. He now ranks among the prosperous and respected citizens of Crittenden Township, where he has served as Assessor and Collector, and in other ways has identified himself with the interests of his community. He and his estimable wife have become the parents of nine children—William, Charles, Amie E., Frank, Morton, Burt, Edward W., Harvey and Ida B. Mr. E. became connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1860, and has since been one of its most worthy and consistent members. Politically he is a solid Republican.

COLUMBUS WALKER CONGLETON, deceased, was widely and favorably known throughout Crittenden Township for his social and genial disposition as a neighbor and friend, and for his straightforward methods as a business man and citizen. He was highly esteemed by a large circle of friends and acquaintances, and at the time of departing from the scenes of his earthly labors was sincerely mourned by scores who had learned the worth of his character and his reliability.

Mr. Congleton was a native of Kentucky, his birth taking place in Bath County on the 23d of January, 1827. He grew to manhood in his native State, and was reared to farming pursuits, while at the same time he imbibed those principles of honor and virtue which became the basis of his after life. When twenty-two years of age he was married, Feb. 28, 1849, to Miss Margaret E. Sharp, who was a native of his own State, and born Nov. 25, 1829. They resided first in Bath, and afterward in Mont-

gomery and Nicholas Counties, from which latter place they removed in the spring of 1866, to Illinois. They first took up their abode in Christian County, but in the fall removed to Sangamon County and from there, in the spring of 1869, to Crittenden Township, in this county, where Mr. C. purchased eighty acres of land. This was located on section 28, and was but slightly improved.

Mr. Congleton for several years following worked industriously upon his little farm, building fences and putting up the necessary structures for the storing of grain, the shelter of stock, and the family residence. He was successful in his labors as an agriculturist, and as time passed on and his means accumulated, added to his possessions until he became the owner of 240 acres, which, under his wise manipulation became very valuable. The little household in due time included several children, four of whom died in childhood and four lived to survive the mother. The latter, while visiting at her old home in Kentucky, departed this life on the 13th of October, 1872, and was buried among her kinsfolk. The children of our subject who survive are, Frank P.; Sarah, the wife of John L. Love; Martha, Mrs. C. W. Carson, and William C. The second marriage of Mr. Congleton took place on the 1st of October, 1874. The lady to whom he was united was Miss Mary E. Reddick, who was born in Kentucky, Oct. 10, 1840. Of this union there were two children, both now deceased. The mother died at the old home Sept. 5, 1877.

The subject of this sketch died at his home in Crittenden Township on the 6th of July, 1880. Soon after attaining his majority he became a member of the Presbyterian Church, and was a cheerful and liberal giver to the cause of Christ. He maintained a warm interest in the welfare and prosperity of his community and was the encourager by his voice and means of every enterprise calculated for its moral and intellectual growth. Although a warm supporter of the Democratic party, he always treated with courtesy those who differed with him, holding the right that every man was entitled to his honest opinion. He served his township as Supervisor several terms, and from time to time was entrusted with the various minor offices. He was ever modest and unobtrusive in

demeanor, and possessed that uniform kindness of heart which made him a ready listener to the tale of affliction and distress; while no one in need was turned empty-handed from his door.

Frank Pierce Congleton, son of the above, was born in Nicholas County, Ky., Nov. 3, 1852, where he was reared and received a common-school education. He resided in his native State during his boyhood days, and in 1866 came with his parents to Illinois and Champaign County. He remained a member of the parental household and assisted in the work of the farm until the death of his father, when he was appointed administrator of the estate, and since its division has become owner of the homestead and sixty acres of land.

Mr. Congleton was married, Feb. 21, 1883, to Miss Anna M. Davis, who was born in Lawrence County, Ohio, in 1854, and is the daughter of John J. and Catherine Davis, natives of Wales and Pennsylvania respectively. Of this marriage there are two children—Carl Newton and John Walker. Mr. C. is Democratic in politics, and a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has served as School Trustee, and has inherited in a marked degree those principles which made his father so well beloved as a citizen and so honored as a member of the community.



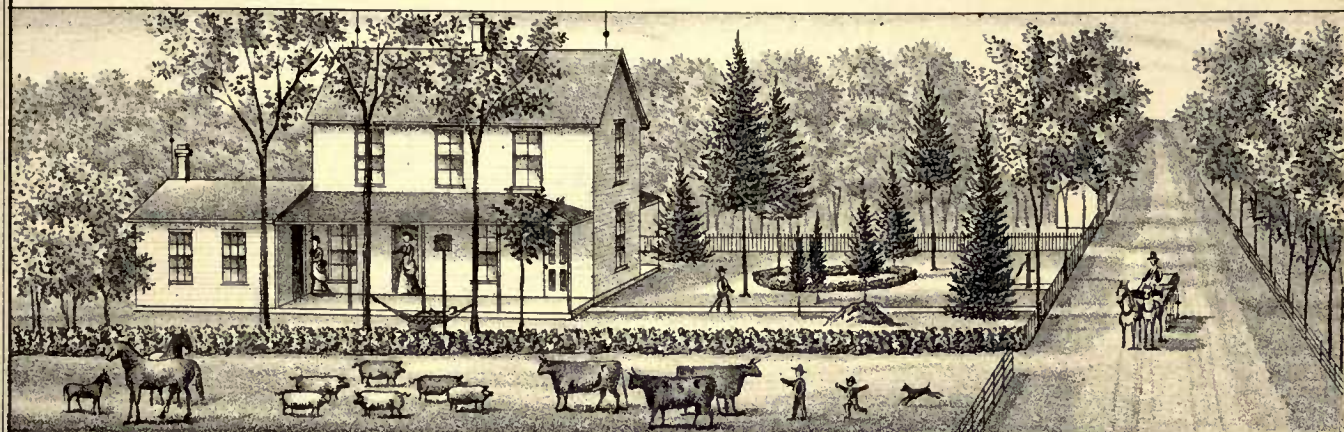
CHARLES ELLS, a worthy and prominent resident of Champaign Township, first opened his eyes to light in New England, being a native of Blandford, Hampden Co., Mass., and was born on the 30th of March, 1819. He is the son of Joseph Ells, a native of Stonington, Conn. The first representative of the family in America was Maj. Samuel Ells, an English officer of Cromwell's army, who came to this country in the seventeenth century and settled in Connecticut. There were preachers in each of the six succeeding generations, who faithfully and intelligently expounded the doctrines of the Congregational Church in New England.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was a farmer by occupation, and his son Joseph, the father of our subject, also followed that calling,

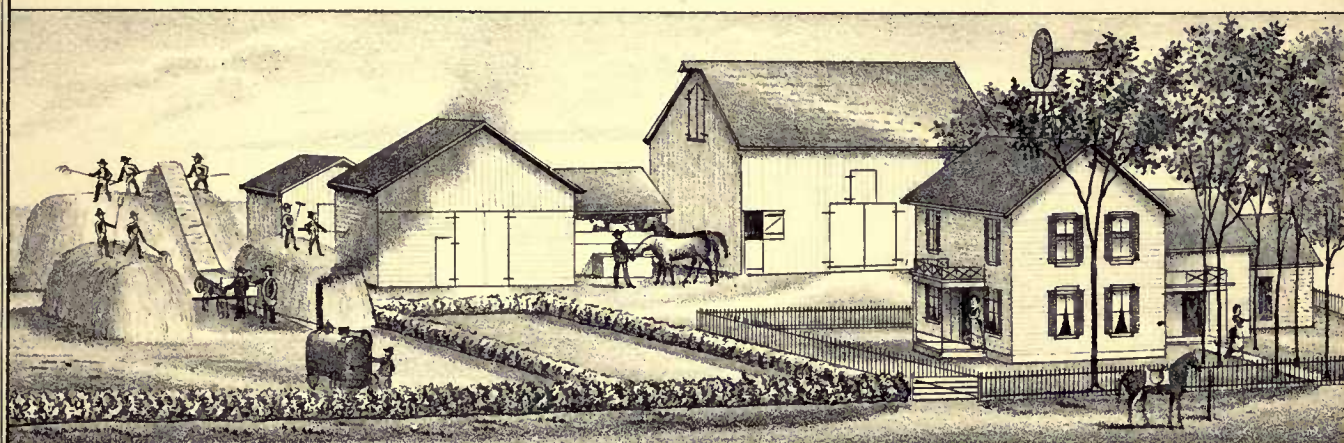
after his marriage, in Hampden County, Mass., being located near Blandford, where he resided until 1835. In that year he emigrated to Ohio, locating near Norwalk, where he purchased a home and dealt in stock in a small way, and where he spent the remainder of his life. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Elizabeth Warner, who was born in Connecticut, and died there in 1822. The parental family consisted of nine children.

The subject of this history was but three years old when he was deprived by death of the tender and affectionate care of his mother. He then became the especial charge of his elder sisters, and remained under his father's roof until he was sixteen years old, when, going to Windsor, Conn., he commenced working on a farm in summer and attended school during the winter. Two years later he removed with his father to Norwalk, Ohio, where he lived two years, then, going to the city of Dayton, he engaged as clerk for his cousin in a book-store. After one year he commenced in the book business on his own account, in which he was occupied for six years following, in Dayton, and then, adding pianos and other musical instruments to his stock, continued in this branch of trade until 1864. He then came to Illinois, and deciding to change his occupation purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies, and has since devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits.

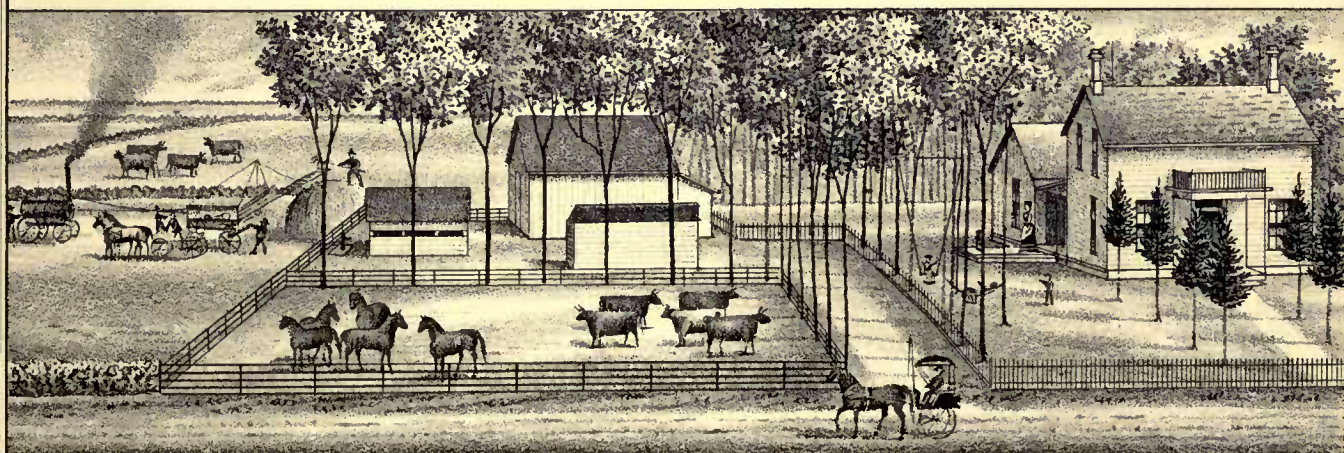
The marriage of Charles Ells and Miss Mary Stanage was celebrated on the 24th of November, 1859. Mrs. E. was born in West Liberty, Ohio, and is the daughter of James and Sarah Stanage, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Virginia. Of this union there have been born two children: Carrie May, the wife of Irving Hodges, lives in Diller, Neb; Harry is a resident of Champaign County, this State. Mr. and Mrs. E. are prominent members of the Presbyterian Church, to the support of which they contribute liberally and cheerfully, and our subject is in all respects the friend and encourager of every enterprise calculated to increase the intelligence and welfare of society at large. During his early life he was a Whig, politically, but since the abandonment of the old party by the organization of the Republican he has



RESIDENCE OF JOS. KAMP, SEC. 20, TOLONO TOWNSHIP



RES. OF J. N. NORTON, SEC. 18, CRITTENDEN TOWNSHIP.



RES. OF JOHN B. NEAL, SEC. 21, PHILO TOWNSHIP.

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cheerfully endorsed the principles of the latter, with which he uniformly casts his vote.

The homestead of Mr. Ellis joins the city limits of Champaign, is finely located on section 13, and one of the most desirable farms in this county. The residence is a commodious and tasteful frame building, situated on a rise of ground, and commands a fine view of the surrounding country. Mr. E. has given much time and attention to the beautifying of his home, and in all its appointments it indicates the care and supervision of the intelligent and progressive modern farmer, who still has time from his manual labors to devote to the improvement of his mind and the cultivation of naturally fine tastes.

DAVID G. FISHER, one of the most extensive farmers and land-owners of Tolono Township, is the proprietor of a fine estate on section 10, where he located in 1868. He is a native of the Prairie State, born in Fulton County, Dec. 30, 1839, and the son of Frederick and Sarah (Fouts) Fisher. The former was born in North Carolina and the latter in Clark County, Ind., and was the daughter of Jacob and Mary Fouts. When Frederick Fisher was five years old, his father, Frederick, Sr., and his mother, Barbara, removed with their family from North Carolina to Indiana, where they reared their children and lived to see most of them married and settled in life. David G., of our sketch, was reared to manhood in Illinois, and assisted his father on the farm, in the meantime receiving careful parental training, and the instruction afforded by the district schools.

In 1832 Frederick Fisher removed from Indiana to Illinois, settling near Canton in Fulton County, and was among the earliest pioneers of that section, this being prior to the Black Hawk War. He remained a resident of Fulton County for over forty years, and departed this life on the 5th of July, 1876. He had been very successful through life, and left a fortune of \$30,000, which was divided among his children. He was a man of great force of character, in former years a Whig, but afterward a cordial supporter of Republican principles. He was strongly opposed to slavery, and fearless in

the expression of his views upon this subject. Early in life he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but later united with the Christian Church, and contributed liberally and cheerfully to the support of the Gospel. He enjoyed to a remarkable degree the confidence of his fellow-citizens, and was entrusted with the local offices. The wife and mother survived her husband for a period of nearly eleven years, and died at her home in Fulton County, Feb. 17, 1887.

The parental family included twelve children, and all grew to become men and women with the exception of one daughter, who died when fourteen years of age. Those living are, Jacob, John, Henry; Cynthia, Mrs. Copple; Mary; Sarah, the wife of Marion Kimberlin; David G., of our sketch; Clara, the wife of John Ford; Isabelle, Mrs. Jacob Fouts; Elizabeth, Mrs. John Carter, and Ellen, the wife of Thomas Beets.

Our subject remained under the parental roof during his childhood and youth, and received a common-school education. He was married on the 21st of May, 1863, to Miss Mary Ellis, who was born in Fulton County, March 9, 1845. Mrs. Fisher is the daughter of Isaac and Nancy Ellis, who were among the early pioneers of Fulton County, where they located in 1832. Our subject continued farming in Fulton County two years after his marriage, and then, on account of failing health, abandoned active labor, and removing to Canton, engaged in the livery business. In 1868 he purchased section 10, in Tolono Township, and taking up his abode there, commenced its improvement and cultivation. It was but little removed from its original condition when it came into his possession, but he in the course of time transformed it into a valuable and productive farm. He afterward sold a portion of the land, but is still the owner of 400 acres, which is thoroughly drained with 2,200 rods of tile. He has one of the finest residences in the county, which was erected in 1886, and all necessary out-buildings for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock, having of late years given much attention to the breeding of fine horses and cattle.

The household circle of our subject and wife was completed by the birth of five children, of whom

two little ones, Kate and Robert, died in infancy. Those surviving are Hattie, Fred and Pearl. Mr. Fisher politically is a supporter of Republican principles, but has steadily declined to become an office-holder, his private business absorbing all his time and attention. He takes an interest in the welfare and prosperity of his township and county, however, and contributes of his means and influence to every enterprise tending to its advancement, socially, morally and intellectually.

WILLIAM F. CLENNON, a native of Grundy County, this State, is now pleasantly located on section 4, in Crittenden Township, on a fine farm of which he took possession in 1878. His homestead comprises 199 acres of choice land, which he has brought to a good state of cultivation, and which is supplied with all conveniences necessary for the successful cultivation of the soil. The birth of our subject took place on the 4th of July, 1851, and consequently for a period of over thirty years he has joined in a double celebration, of his own birth and that of American Independence.

Our subject's parents, Martin and Mary (Flynn) Clennon, were natives of Ireland, the father born in Queens County and the mother in County Cavan. Before marriage they emigrated to the United States, and first located in Cincinnati, Ohio, where they became acquainted and were afterward wedded. They first took up their residence in Indiana, where they lived until 1849, then came to Illinois and spent one year at Peru, in La Salle County, where they still reside on a farm. Martin Clennon has been very successful as a business man and farmer since coming to the United States, and is the owner of an entire section of land which is finely improved and valuable. On the farm in Grundy County, the little household was completed by the birth of the following children: Lawrence, Martin, Andrew, Patrick, Katie, Mary (now the wife of William Moran) and Susan.

Our subject, with his brothers and sisters, attended the common school during his childhood and completed his studies in the Christian Broth-

ers' School of Peru. After this he returned to the farm and assisted in its labors and duties until his marriage, on the 5th of March, 1878. Mrs. C., who was formerly Miss Adelia Moran, was born in Michigan, and is the daughter of William and Sarah Moran, natives of Ireland and Canada respectively. The young people after their marriage settled upon the land which constitutes their present homestead, and which the enterprise and industry of its proprietor has transformed into one of the most attractive spots in Crittenden Township. The five children of the household are Mary A., Martin J., Francis, Sarah and Agatha. The parents and children are members and regular attendants of the Roman Catholic Church, and politically Mr. Clennon uniformly votes the Democratic ticket. He is highly respected in his community for his enterprise as a farmer and his reliability as a business man, and is now serving his second term as Township Collector.

HENRY NELSON resides on section 28, Pesotum Township. His life has been fraught with many difficulties, but through all he has preserved the even tenor of his way and presents the life of a quiet and unobtrusive citizen, fulfilling his duties manfully and enjoying the esteem and confidence of all who know him.

Mr. Nelson is a native of Pendleton County, W. Va., and born March 1, 1811. He was the second child of Benjamin and Delphia (Arbaugh) Nelson, both natives of Greenbrier County, W. Va., the father born in 1781, and the mother in 1792. They remained in their native State after their marriage until 1822, and then removed to Lawrence County, Ohio, where Benjamin Nelson purchased a quarter section of land in Synmes Township. For a period of nineteen years he endured the hardships of pioneer life, and in due time became the proprietor of 400 acres of land. The household circle included fourteen children, thirteen of whom grew to mature years, married, and raised families of their own. In 1841 the father of our subject sold his farm in Lawrence County, and removed to a point

near Anderson, Madison County, where he purchased 280 acres of improved land, which he occupied until his death, in 1846. The mother died in 1877.

The subject of this biography remained a member of the parental household until his marriage, on the 9th of February, 1832. The maiden of his choice was Miss Polly Smith, of Gallia County, Ohio, and the young people after their marriage located on a farm adjoining that of the father of our subject, and which consisted of eighty acres. This amount Henry soon doubled by purchase, and remained in possession of it for a period of twenty years, when he sold to a Mr. Armstrong who had purchased the farm of his father twenty years before, at the time of the removal of the latter to Indiana.

When Henry Nelson sold his property in Ohio he followed his father to Indiana and located about ten miles north of Anderson, upon a farm partly improved and embracing 317 acres. Five years later he disposed of this also and decided to become a resident of this county. Here he first purchased eighty acres on section 28, in Pesotum Township, where the family residence now stands. He is now the possessor of a half section, thoroughly drained and well stocked, and furnished with all the appliances of a first-class country homestead.

The wife of our subject, the second child of John and Eve (Proce) Smith, was born in Gallia County, Ohio, in 1814. Her father was a native of Greenbrier County, W. Va., and her mother was probably from Pennsylvania. The four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have all passed away. Their son Joseph Washington, who was born March 20, 1834, married Miss Isabella McMear, of Madison County, Ind., and coming West in 1857, located on a farm which his father had purchased for him in Douglas County, Ill. His marriage took place in 1855 and there was born one child. His death was caused by an accident, which took place at his father's homestead in this county while he was in Pesotum Township on business. He had his gun with him, and after starting on his homeward journey this was accidentally discharged, both loads cutting across the bowels and going through the thick part of the thigh. He died from the effects

of this seven days later, Dec. 22, 1858, after great suffering. Their little son Denham, when but two months old died by his mother's side in the night, having seemingly been in perfect health up to that time. The daughter, Elsie, died of scarlet fever when eight years of age; the youngest child yielded up his breath before he had been given a name.

While remarkably fortunate in many respects, Mr. Nelson has experienced adversity and been quite a sufferer from accidents. While in Ohio, in a playful scuffle with a friend his shoulder was broken, and on the 2d of January, 1861, while in Indiana on business, a horse fell upon him and broke his thigh. After recovering from this he returned to his home in Illinois, and one dark night in 1867, fell from the church steps at Nelson Chapel, breaking his thigh a second time. In 1878 our subject was visited with another affliction in the loss of his wife, to whom he was greatly attached, her death taking place in the spring of that year. Since that time his grandson and wife have had charge of the domestic affairs. This latter gentleman, Morris Cook Nelson, was married in 1877, to Miss Ella Snyder, of Champaign County, who was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, and is the third child of Jacob and Elizabeth (Riggle) Snyder, also natives of the Buckeye State. To Mr. and Mrs. Nelson there have been born five children, four now living, and at home with their parents and grandfather. They are named respectively Joseph W., Willard C., Elmer R. and Jacob R. Edna P. died when an infant of seven months.

Mr. Nelson is in the enjoyment of excellent health, and surrounded by his grandchildren and great-grand-children, is enjoying, as he deserves, the sunset time of life, comforted with a good conscience and the knowledge that he has fulfilled his part in the great human drama to the best of his ability, always ready to speak a kindly word or perform a kindly act whenever opportunity afforded. He is highly esteemed by all. He possesses in a remarkable degree his mental facilities, his memory being singularly acute, enabling him to readily recall the scenes of his youth and early manhood, with the tales of which he often regales both young and old. He relates an incident of 1832, when the remarkable immigration of squirrels almost entirely

destroyed the crops of the farmers in that region. During their passage over the fields Mr. Nelson and his neighbors killed over 2,700 of these little animals by actual count.



CHRISTOPHER BURLINGAME, one of the honored pioneers of Philo Township, after a life of industry, is spending his declining years in the village of Philo. He is a native of Marietta, Ohio, born April 18, 1803. His father, also named Christopher, became a resident of Marietta in the fall of 1790, two years before that portion of the county was opened for settlement. He took shelter for five years following in a block-house on account of the depredations of the Indians, who were a constant source of terror and annoyance to the pioneers.

The parents of our subject were married in Massachusetts, of which the mother was a native, but Christopher Burlingame, Sr., was born and reared in Rhode Island. He was a descendant of excellent English ancestry, and possessed in a marked degree their reliable and substantial traits of character. Our subject's parents, after the birth of two children, removed from Rutland, Mass., via Pittsburgh, down the Ohio River on a flatboat, settling at Marietta, when there were only a few block-houses at the mouth of the Muskingum River. Their next two children were born in the old fort where they, with several other families, gathered together for protection from the Indians.

The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Susanna Putnam, a daughter of Gen. Rufus Putnam, of Revolutionary fame. The General and his family also removed to Marietta in 1790, where the sturdy old soldier acted as a kind of protector for the little colony at the fort. He was also appointed General Surveyor of the then Northwest Territory, receiving his commission direct from President George Washington. Gen. Putnam died at Marietta in 1824.

The father of our subject was a hatter by trade and made the first article of this description west of the Alleghany Mountains. He was a man of great energy and industry, and the beaver hats of

that period were the product of his skill and invention. In addition to the proceeds of his trade, he became owner of 108 acres of land, but pursued his manufacture of hats, in connection with farming, as long as he was able to engage in active labor. His life measured the span of fourscore years and eight, his death occurring in July, 1841. The mother had died the year previously, aged seventy-two. They reared a family of eleven children, five sons and six daughters, all of whom, with one exception, lived to maturity. Our subject is the second living; Edwin is a resident of Delavan, Ill., and is over ninety years of age; Rufus P. is living in Calliope, Iowa, and is eighty-two years old.

The childhood and youth of Mr. B. of our sketch were passed under the parental roof, alternately as a farm laborer and in assisting his father at his trade. He received his education in the primitive schools of that day, and upon reaching manhood was married at Marion, Ohio, on the 15th of November, 1826, to Miss Elizabeth R. Bartlett. Mrs. B. was a native of New York City, born Sept. 26, 1802, and removed to Marietta with her parents when a child. Both died in Marietta, the father in 1822, of an epidemic fever, and the mother in about 1840. Mrs. Elizabeth R. Burlingame departed this life in Champaign in 1876, aged seventy-four years. Our subject and his wife became the parents of seven children: Ann M. became the wife of William Newman, a farmer of Zanesville, Ohio; Sarah B. married Jonathan Hutchinson, who died April 23, 1887; Mrs. H. is now a resident of Champaign; Edwin married Miss Jennie Whitehouse, and resides at Duluth, Minn., where he is a member of the Board of Trade; Charles L., a locomotive engineer, married Miss Eliza Barker, and resides in Green Bay, Wis.; Eliza J., Mrs. Thomas Wight, is a resident of Chicago, her husband being on the Board of Trade there; Luther was married, and died at Marietta, Ohio; William W. met with an accidental death when three years of age by falling backward into a kettle of boiling water.

Mr. Burlingame after his marriage resided four years at Marietta, Ohio, then removed to Zanesville, in the same State, where he remained a resident until 1856. That year he emigrated to Illinois, and locating upon a farm in Champaign Town-

ship, operated as an agriculturist for several years. In 1876, after the death of his wife, he returned to Zanesville, Ohio, and lived there two years. In 1878 he came back to this county, and on the 15th of January was married to Mrs. Eliza A. (Heath) Francisco, who was born in Franklin County, Vt., Aug. 29, 1817. The present wife of our subject is the daughter of Samuel L. and Susan (Spafford) Heath, natives of Connecticut, and of New England ancestry and parentage. They were married at Middlebury, Vt., where the father operated as a miller for many years, but afterward removed to Whitehall, N. Y., where he died when sixty-six years of age. He was an active local politician and served in the War of 1812. He was a staunch Whig and a man of decided views. His wife, the mother of Mrs. B., died in middle life in New Haven, Vt. She was a lady of excellent Christian character and greatly esteemed by all who knew her. The parental household included eleven children, of whom Mrs. B. was the fourth. She was reared and educated in Vermont, and was married to Mr. Francisco in Augusta, Mich.

Mr. and Mrs. B. are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Philo, to the support of which they contribute liberally and cheerfully. Our subject was one of the chief organizers of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Champaign. Politically he is a warm supporter of Republican principles, and as a man and citizen, has contributed his full share toward sustaining the reputation and well-being of his township. Mrs. B. is a lady of superior attainments, and is universally respected wherever known.

JOHN M. MATTHEWS. The first settler of Tolono Township was Isaac Miller, the second C. M. Hamilton, and the third the subject of this biography. The two former departed from the scenes of their earthly labors some years since, and Mr. Matthews is now the oldest settler in the township. He has been a resident of Champaign County since February, 1854, and during a period of over thirty years has gathered around him hosts of friends. His birth occurred in Montgomery County, Ind., April 8, 1830, and

since coming here he has lived on his present farm.

His father, William Matthews, was born in Armstrong County, Pa., where he grew to manhood and learned the trade of a ship carpenter. For his wife, among the maidens of Armstrong County he chose Miss Jane Guthrie, who was also a native of that county. Soon after marriage they proceeded to Montgomery County, Ind., and settled among the early pioneers of that region, where William Matthews followed farming until 1854. The parents of our subject then came to Illinois with their family, and located on section 29, in Tolono Township. At that time there were only nine families in this locality, who lived amidst the timber in the southwestern part of the township. On the north, the nearest settlement was where the city of Urbana now stands. Both parents died the following year. Of the seven children comprising the parental household, three only are now living, namely, Sarah, Mrs. McKelvy, of this township; Naney, Mrs. Alen, of Olney, Ill., and John M. of our sketch.

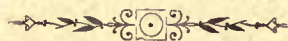
Mr. Matthews grew to manhood in his native State and assisted his father in tilling the soil. He removed with the family to Illinois, and broke the land upon which were raised the first crops in Tolono Township. He has all his life been engaged in farming pursuits, and is now the owner of 347 acres of land, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation. Of late years he has devoted considerable attention to the breeding of fine stock. The homestead comprises a convenient and substantial set of farm buildings, and everything about the premises is kept in good shape, indicating in a marked manner the intelligence and enterprise of the proprietor. Mr. Matthews, both as a citizen and business man, is highly esteemed in the community which has known him long and well. He is a believer in the Christian religion, and was for some years a member of the Christian Church at Tolono. The society disbanded some time ago. His children are connected with the Methodist Church.

Our subject after coming to this State was united in marriage with Miss Lovisa Ann Monroe, on the 3d of January, 1856. Mrs. M. was born in Scioto County, Ohio, and was the daughter of Joseph and Nancy (Snyder) Monroe, natives respectively of

Alleghany County, Md., and Scioto County, Ohio. Joseph Monroe was born in October, 1810, and his wife the 5th of February, 1811. Both are now deceased. They were the parents of nine children, named as follows: William J., Lovisa A., Charles B., Lydia M., Nancy, Martha J., Sarah A. and Eliza A. (twins), and George W., only four of whom are living: William J., Lydia M., Eliza A. and George W.

By her union with our subject Mrs. Matthews became the mother of eight children. She fulfilled all life's duties in a faithful and praiseworthy manner, and after a consistent Christian life closed her eyes to the scenes of earth on the 21st of January, 1887. The last struggle continued but a few hours, as she was stricken down with paralysis and soon passed from this world to the higher life beyond. She had also been afflicted with dropsy for many years. Her remains are interred in Craw Cemetery in Colfax Township.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Matthews, living, are Nancy Jane, Amanda (Mrs. Gilbert Smith), John W., Samantha, Albertha May and Joseph A. (twins), and Addie L. One died in infancy unnamed. They have been carefully trained and well educated, and prove a source of comfort to their father in his declining years. Mr. Matthews supports the principles of the Democratic party, and has served as Road Commissioner of Tolono Township.



M. ANN LOUISA FERRIS. The homestead of this highly respected lady is located in East Bend Township, on section 1, of which her late husband, Isaiah Ferris, took possession in the spring of about 1850. He afterward sold the farm to his brother, and Mrs. F. bought it back. Mr. Ferris departed this life Jan. 27, 1873. He was a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, and located in East Bend Township shortly after coming to this State. The subject of this history was born near Covington, Ky., Aug. 4, 1828. Her father was Daniel Robbins, of Kentucky, and her paternal grandfather was a native of Maryland, who became a sailor and was lost at sea when his son Daniel was a young boy. The latter was reared

to manhood in his native State, and married Miss Elizabeth Vickers. In 1835 they removed to Illinois, the journey being made overland with wagons and a carriage. They located near the present city of De Witt, among the pioneer settlers of that region, and Mr. Robbins was the first man to engage in general merchandise there. His goods were transported from Chicago by farmers who carried their grain there to market, and whom he hired to bring his merchandise on their way back.

Whenever Mr. Robbins had occasion to visit the then insignificant little town of Chicago he made the journey on horseback, traveling through a district infested by wolves and Indians, and all sorts of game, including turkeys and deer. It was no uncommon thing for a member of the family to go out and shoot a deer before breakfast. Mr. Robbins and his brother put up the first house near the present site of the city of De Witt, before the organization of De Witt County. After this Mr. Robbins was elected County Judge, in which position he served eight or twelve years. Later in life he retired to the city of Clinton, where his death took place in about 1872. The mother of Mrs. Ferris died in Kentucky in 1834. The parental household included eight children, all of whom lived to maturity. Mrs. F. was but six years old when her mother died, and a year later her father came to Illinois. He afterward married Miss Rebecca Day, who still survives.

Mrs. F. made her home with her father until her first marriage, Oct. 18, 1848, to Henry Rudolph. The latter was a native of Logan County, Ill., and the son of Peter Rudolph, who was born in Southern Illinois and became a resident of Logan County at an early period in its history. Henry Rudolph was a carpenter by trade, which he followed, in De Witt County until 1858, then removed to Livingston County, Mo., and purchased a small farm where he followed agricultural pursuits. He then returned to Logan County, where he lived a year, and in the spring of 1862 came to this county and rented a farm in East Bend Township.

The Civil War being then in progress, with no prospect of an immediate settlement of the difficulty between the North and South, Mr. Rudolph, in the fall of that year, laid aside his personal in-

terests and enlisted as a soldier of the Union in Co. F, 125th Ill. Vol. Inf. He participated in many of the hard-fought battles of the war, and in the engagement at Kennesaw Mountain, June 27, 1864, was instantly killed by a ball from the enemy. Of his marriage there were born six sons and two daughters: Miranda Jane is deceased; Charles F. is a resident of Meade County, Kan.; Francis V. resides on the homestead with his mother; Kansas F. is farming in Bourbon County, Kan.; Fremont is a resident of Syracuse, Kan.; William lives in Bent County, Col., and Henry, a teacher, makes his home with his mother. Mr. Rudolph was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mrs. Rudolph was married to Isaiah Ferris on the 6th of July, 1865. Since the death of her husband she has managed her farming and business affairs with excellent judgment, and is a lady greatly respected for her excellent traits of character. As a mother she has been devoted to the interests of her children, rearing them wisely and giving them the benefits of a good education. She united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1861, and has been the encourager and supporter of every enterprise tending to the intellectual and moral welfare of the community.



SIMON P. PERCIVAL, one of the honored pioneers of this county and Champaign Township, came to this locality in the spring of 1852, and in the years that followed has thoroughly identified himself with the interests of his adopted county. He commenced in life with but little capital save his native resolution and industry, and presents a fine illustration of the self-made man who has arisen from a humble position to the front ranks among his fellow-citizens and in the industrial and agricultural community. His fine homestead, located on section 24, is a model farm in all respects. The residence is finely located, and the barns and other out-buildings are admirably adapted to the needs of the extensive stock and grain raiser.

Mr. Percival was born in Brownington, Orleans Co., Vt., Jan. 20, 1818. His father, Orin Percival,

a native of Hampshire County, Mass., was there reared on his father's farm, and after arriving at years of manhood married Miss Laney Burroughs, a native of Plainfield, Mass. After their marriage the young couple located in Vermont, being among the earliest settlers of Orleans County. The father of our subject purchased a tract of land, which he cultivated until 1824. Then, desiring to see something of the West, he emigrated with his family to Ohio, and being pleased with the appearance of the country, bought a farm in Geauga County, and established a permanent homestead, where he spent the remainder of his life. Simon Burroughs, the maternal grandfather of our subject, emigrated from Massachusetts to Ohio in 1803, making the entire journey with ox-teams. He was among the earliest settlers of Geauga County, where he cleared a farm from the wilderness, and occupied it until his death.

Simon P. Percival was a lad of six years when his parents removed from the Green Mountain State to Ohio. He grew to manhood on his father's farm in Geauga County, and received a fair education in the pioneer schools. He remained under the home roof until twenty-five years old, and afterward, for some years, made his home with his brother-in-law in Parkman Township. He was of a speculative turn of mind, and while engaged in farm work dealt considerably in horses and cattle. In 1850 he came to Illinois and engaged in farming in Cass County.

On the 9th of April, that year, Mr. Percival was united in marriage with Miss Catherine C. Beals. Mrs. P. was born in Geauga County, Ohio, Aug. 14, 1823, and was the daughter of Alvord Beals, who was born in Cummington, Mass. Her paternal grandfather was Peter Beals, also a native of the Bay State. Her maternal grandfather, Jedediah Beard, also a native of Massachusetts, was one of the earliest settlers of Geauga County, Ohio, going there soon after it was admitted into the Union as a State. For many years afterward Pittsburgh was the nearest milling point and depot for supplies, and Mr. Beard used to make the journey on horseback, following an Indian trail. Peter Beals settled in Geauga County in about 1812, and built the first hotel in the town of Burton, which he conducted for some time. His son, Alvord, was fourteen

years of age when he removed with his parents to Ohio, and was married in Geauga County to Miss Charlotte Beard. He purchased land and cleared a farm four miles from Burton. In the winter of 1842-43 he sold out, and removed with his wife to Illinois. They located in what was afterward Beardstown, where Mr. B. purchased a farm and established a permanent homestead, where he passed the last years of his life.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Percival spent one year in Cass County, where our subject farmed on rented land. In the spring of 1852 he came to Champaign County, and purchased forty acres in Urbana Township, on section 19. Upon this was the first log house which had been built in this township, and which was utilized as the first hotel. It was subsequently taken down and removed to the land which Mr. Percival had purchased. This he occupied with his family for a period of ten years. He was prospered in his farming operations and in due time added to his real estate, erecting, in 1862, the more modern frame dwelling which is now the family residence. Upon coming to this State Mr. Percival was the possessor of \$400 in cash and eighty acres of land in Michigan, for which he had traded a second-hand wagon. He is now the owner of 700 acres of choice land, besides valuable personal property and bank stock. The seven children of our subject and his wife are Charles A., Alvord, Curtis, Otis, Orin, Joseph and Abraham. Mr. Percival is Republican in politics and has for many years been prominent among the affairs of his township and county.



LEE VAN WEGEN, an enterprising young farmer of Champaign Township, is a native of Orange County, N. Y., where he was born on the 3d of June, 1858. He became a resident of the Prairie State in 1867, and is now pleasantly located upon a finely improved farm, on which is erected a good set of frame buildings, and which in all respects indicates the supervision of the modern and progressive agriculturist. Mr. V. takes a just pride in his homestead and has spent about \$1,000 in tile alone, with which the

land is thoroughly drained, and is now capable of producing the finest crops in this section of the State.

The father of our subject, James Van Wegen by name, also a native of the Empire State, was born in Orange County on the 3d of June, 1827. It is supposed that the grandfather of our subject, Phillip Van Wegen, was also a native of New York State, in which the great-grandfather, a native of Germany, settled at an early day, where he spent the remainder of his life. The ancestors of our subject were farmers for several generations back. Phillip Van Wegen owned a farm in Orange County, N. Y., six miles from Port Jarvis, where he spent the latter part of his life, but died at the home of his son in about 1876. His wife, before her marriage, was Miss Clarissa Skinner, of Orange County. Their son James, the father of our subject, was reared on the farm in Orange County, and after arriving at years of manhood, was united in marriage with Miss May E. Wells, on the 29th of June, 1850. Mrs. V. was born in Sullivan County, N. Y., March 16, 1827. Her father, William Wells, was also a native of the Empire State, where he spent his entire life, dying in Sullivan County in 1862. The mother, who before her marriage was Miss Elizabeth Skinner, was also born in Orange County, and was the daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth Skinner, natives of New York State.

After their marriage the parents of our subject lived on the old homestead in Orange County four years, then removed to Sullivan County, to the farm belonging to the mother of Mrs. Wells, where they resided until May, 1867. Thence they removed westward to this State, and Mr. V. for some years operated on rented land, then purchased a farm in Tolono Township. They made their home there until 1883, when, on account of failing health he sold out, and removing to Kansas, purchased property in Drury, Sumner County, where he put up a store building and engaged in general merchandise, which he carried on until his death in January, 1886. Mrs. V. now lives with her son, our subject.

Lee Van Wegen was a lad of twelve years when he came into this county with his parents. Here his education was completed, and he made his home

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Joseph H. Willes

with his parents until he was twenty-two years of age. He was then married and commenced life for himself on a rented farm, which he occupied for five years following. In the meantime he purchased two eighty-acre tracts of land in Tolono Township, which, in 1883, he traded for the farm he now owns and occupies. This he has brought to a good state of cultivation and it is supplied with a good set of frame buildings. He is yet a young man, but his energy and industry bid fair to pave his way to prosperity and a handsome competency.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Ellen Hammer took place in Tolono Township on the 27th of February, 1879. Mrs. V. was born in Scott Township, this county, April 30, 1859, and is the daughter of John and Mary (Harper) Hammer, both natives of Ohio, who came to this vicinity and located in Scott Township in the pioneer days. Mr. Hammer there purchased a tract of wild prairie land, from which he opened up a fine farm, which he occupied until his death, in 1874. The mother had died two years previously, in 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Van Wegen have two children—Nellie and Ettie. In politics our subject is Democratic, and a cordial supporter of the present administration. In local affairs he is independent.



JOSEPH H. WELLES, a resident of Compromise Tp., for over twenty years, and whose portrait is shown in this connection, in seeking a location for his permanent home, selected a spot many leagues from his birthplace, the latter being Glastonbury, Conn., and the date thereof Oct. 19, 1818. His parents, Joseph and Lucy (House) Welles, natives of the same State, removed from New England to Ohio in 1835, locating near the spot which is now occupied by a large portion of the city of Columbus. The father engaged in farming, and the parents made their home there during their lifetime, the mother passing to her final rest in 1844, and Joseph Welles, eight years later, in 1852. The latter was a cousin of Gideon Welles, late Secretary of the Navy. The parental family included fourteen children, eleven of whom grew to adult years, and five of

these still survive, viz., Delia W., Mrs. Weaver; Lucy W., Mrs. Maynard; Clarissa W., Mrs. Butler; Samuel, and Joseph H. of our sketch.

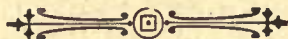
The subject of this history, during his boyhood and youth, spent his time after the manner of most farmers' boys, until the spring of 1835, when he was nearly seventeen years of age. Then, proceeding to New York City, he became clerk for his brother Edwin, who was engaged in the grocery trade. After two and one-half years, his parents in the meantime having removed to Ohio, he joined them there, and in 1848 was united in marriage with Miss Sarah A. Jones. Mrs. Welles was born in the town of Unity, Waldo Co., Me., March 8, 1830, and is the daughter of Thomas and Nancy A. (Ames) Jones, who removed from Maine to Ohio in 1844. Mr. Welles, having inherited fifty acres of land from his father's estate, located upon this after his marriage, remaining there until 1863. In the fall of that year he came to this State, and lived in Tazewell County two years, whence he removed to Champaign County, locating upon his present homestead. This originally consisted of 320 acres, half of which he afterward sold, and has now 160. The thorough and proper cultivation of this employs most of his time. At the time of purchase, not a foot of his land had been broken, and it may easily be imagined how faithfully and industriously he has labored to perfect it as the property of the modern and progressive farmer.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Welles resulted in the birth of nine children, who are recorded as follows: Lucy is the wife of C. C. White, of Gifford, Ill.; Fannie died when seventeen years old; Samuel resides near Penfield; Hattie, the wife of Mahlon K. Taylor, lives in Columbus, Ohio; Lidie is at home with her parents; Mary B. married Charles W. Ellis, and they live in Gifford; Maria W., with her husband, Joseph McHenry, is a resident of Brazil, Ind.; Thomas B. and Winthrop are at home.

Mr. Welles politically affiliates with the Republican party, of which he has been a member since its organization, in 1856. He has been a man prominent in his community, and one whose opinions are held in respect. He served as Town Clerk for several years, and, with his wife, is a believer

in the Christian religion, although not identified with any Church denomination.

The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Welles were Amos and Mary Jones. The former was born in Massachusetts in 1761, and was of Scotch ancestry. Directly after the Revolution he migrated with a family named Coster, with whom he was related, to Unity, Me. His wife, Mary Pattee, was the oldest daughter of Ebenezer Pattee, of the State of Maine. Her parents were of Irish descent. Her father built the first mill in the village of Unity. Amos Jones served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and received an honorable wound, on account of which he afterward drew a pension from the Government. He died April 20, 1842; his wife June 8, 1838, aged seventy-two. Mrs. Welles' mother's parents, John and Nancy Ames, also natives of Maine, spent their entire lives near the place of their birth. A brother and sister of Mrs. Welles are living in Kansas. Thomas Jones and his second wife died in Piatt County, this State. The mother of Mrs. Welles died in her native State of Maine.



SIDNEY KETCHUM, retired farmer and stock-raiser, is now occupying a pleasant and tasteful residence in the village of Fisher, where he owns valuable property. besides a fine farm of 320 acres in Condit Township and 170 acres in Marshall County, this State. His land is nearly all improved, and the farm furnished with suitable buildings and the latest improved machinery. Mr. Ketchum may be fairly ranked among the representative men of this county, who by his energy and enterprise has contributed materially to its growth and prosperity. His birth occurred in Bucyrus, Crawford Co., Ohio, Dec. 3, 1844, his parents remaining in the Buckeye State seven years afterward, when they disposed of their property there and removed to Illinois. They were Eddie and Harriet (Smith) Ketchum, the former, born near Auburn, N. Y., in 1802, and the latter a native of Pennsylvania. After marriage they settled in Crawford County, Ohio, among the pioneers of that region, where Mr. K. carried on farming until his removal to the Prairie State, in

1852. The father for several years afterward carried on agriculture in Marshall County, and finally retired to the residence of his son, Eliphalet, in Ford County, Ill., where he departed this life in October, 1884. The mother is still living, and a resident of this county.

The parental family comprised six sons and four daughters, the eldest of whom died when quite young. The record of the survivors is as follows: Daniel married Miss Mary C. McVicker, and resides in Henry, Ill.; Nancy, the wife of John Combs, is living on a farm near Bushnell, this State; Eliphalet married Miss Amanda Hiltabrand, and is a resident of Ford County; Ichabod married Miss Anrilla Doud, and lives near Rantoul; Smith married Miss Martha Clement, and lives three miles northwest of Elmwood, this State, where he is minister of the Baptist Congregation; Spencer married Miss Electa Atwood, and is farming in Marshall County, Ill.; Harriett S. became the wife of C. W. Peck, a farmer of Condit Township, where also resides Martha E., now Mrs. H. J. Stansell; Sidney of this sketch was the youngest son.

Our subject was bred to farming pursuits, which he has been contented to follow thus far in life. He is yet in his prime, but was obliged to abandon active labor on account of ill-health. Although having the general supervision of his land, it is chiefly operated by a tenant, and from the proceeds Mr. K. realizes a handsome income annually. In politics he is a staunch Democrat.



SALEM HENSLEY, a highly respected farmer of the township which bears his name, is the owner of 240 acres of valuable land, finely improved and thoroughly drained, located on section 26. He is a representative citizen in all respects, and a practical illustration of what may be accomplished by industry, energy, and the exercise of wise judgment. Our subject is a native of Brown County, Ohio, and was born Dec. 10, 1836. He is the son of Archibald P. Hensley, who was born in Kentucky in 1806. The mother of the latter was left a widow when Archibald was quite small, but remained with her

family in Ohio, and there grew to manhood. He was reared on a farm until seventeen years old, then became an apprentice to learn the tanner's trade, at which he served some years, but only worked as a "jour" a short time. Soon after becoming master of his trade he purchased a tract of land near Ripley, Brown Co., Ohio, where he established a tannery and conducted this in connection with farming until 1855. In that year he sold out, and coming West to Illinois laid his plans for the establishment of a future home. The journey hither was made via the Ohio and Wabash Rivers to Covington, Ind., and thence to Champaign overland. He had visited this section the fall previous and purchased a tract of land in what is now Hensley Township. This land was little removed from its original condition. The family remained in Champaign a few weeks while the father cut lumber at Urbana and removed it to his embryo farm, where he erected a frame house and commenced the improvement of his land, following this up until his death, which occurred Aug. 1, 1876.

The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Wealthy T. Shaw, also a native of Brown County, Ohio, who came West with her family. She is still living and makes her home with her children. Archibald Hensley was the first Supervisor of the township, and became a man of influence, holding the various offices of trust within the gift of his townsmen. He was Assistant Supervisor when this was a part of Champaign Township. He united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in early life in Ohio, and was a cheerful and liberal contributor to the cause of education and morality.

The subject of this history was the fifth child and third son of his parents. He received his early education in the district school, and upon becoming of suitable age assisted his father on the farm. He was eighteen years old when he came to Illinois, on which journey he was accompanied by his brother. Their outfit consisted of one pair of oxen, a span of horses and two wagons. They left the oxen in Cincinnati, as they had become unfit for further service, and finished their journey with their horses alone. After the parents joined them our

subject took up his abode with them, remaining until his marriage. About this time he purchased eighty acres of land which constitutes a part of his present farm. The wife of our subject before her marriage was Miss Rebecca A. Howard, and the wedding occurred in January, 1864. Mrs. H. was born in Brown County, Ohio, and is the daughter of Campbell and Angeline (Forsythe) Howard, also natives of the Buckeye State. Our subject's family included seven children, namely: Weltha Angeline, who married Curtis Paul, and died Jan. 9, 1886, leaving two children—May and Florence; the latter died July 28, 1886; Howard, Frank, William C., Charles Marion, Alfred Salem and Mary Elizabeth. Our subject is Republican in politics, and both he and his wife are prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Howard family settled in Brown County, Ohio, at an early day, taking up their abode in Union Township while it was yet a wilderness. There the father cleared a farm and established a comfortable homestead, which he occupied until his death. In early manhood he was a member of the Whig party, but after the organization of the Republicans cordially endorsed their principles, and afterward cast his vote in support of them. Both parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



CHARLES PARKER. Among those who assisted in redeeming the prairie from its original condition and fitting it for the introduction of the rich crops indigenous to the soil of Illinois, the subject of this sketch took a prominent part. He came West in March, 1866, and after a brief residence in Woodford and Livingston Counties, this State, purchased the land which he has now transformed into one of the finest farms in Ludlow Township and which embraces 160 acres of section 4, and eighty acres adjoining in Ford County. The fields are outlined by beautiful hedge fences and most of them include forty acres, a part devoted to pasturage and the balance to grain-raising. As a farmer Mr. Parker has been methodical in his operations and uniformly successful, while as

a business men he is prompt to meet his obligations, his word being considered as good as his bond.

Our subject is a native of the wealthy and populous State of Ohio, his birth taking place in Tate Township, Clermont County, Feb. 13, 1836. His ancestors were English and located in New Jersey, whence his grandfather, Isaac Parker, in 1847 emigrated to Ohio, locating in Hamilton County. Cincinnati, the Queen City of the West, was then but a small village, and it is said that Isaac Parker was offered a tract of seventy acres now included in the city limits in exchange for a horse, but declined, considering that he would be no gainer by the bargain. He resided in Hamilton County but a short time, then going into Clermont County, cleared a farm from the wilderness and established a comfortable homestead, which he occupied until his death. There also he reared a fine family of children, among whom was Isaac Parker, the father of our subject.

When but a youth of eighteen years old the latter had located with his parents amid the wilds of Clermont County, Ohio, where not long afterward he married, and purchased the farm in Tate Township, upon which he settled in 1830, and which his father-in-law, Robert Burnett, opened up in 1803. This property still remains in possession of the family. In those days there was no market for produce in the whole State, and Isaac Parker was obliged to carry his corn to a distillery and have it made into whisky, which, with bacon and other produce, he transported on a flatboat down the river and sold at the plantations or in different towns. He occupied the farm upon which he first settled until his death, which took place in December, 1886, when he was eighty-six years old. His wife, who was formerly Mrs. Hannah Burnett, was born in New Jersey, and was of Welsh parentage and ancestry.

The children of this worthy pair received careful home training and such education as the district schools of those days afforded. Charles, of our sketch, later entered Clermont Academy, where he fitted himself for college, by a three years' course. When nineteen years old he became a student of Farmer College, in Hamilton County, where he attended three years, and completed his education,

after coming to Illinois, in Eureka College, in Woodford County. After graduating he accepted a position as book-keeper with the firm of Burnett & Abrahams, merchants in Bowie County, Tex. After the outbreak of the Rebellion he returned to Ohio, taught school in the winter, and worked on a farm the balance of the year until 1866, the year of his arrival in this State.

The marriage of Charles Parker and Miss Louisa Marion took place in Tazewell County, March 18, 1875. They have one child, a son, Jean Chester, born Jan. 12, 1885. The parents of Mrs. Parker were Calvin and Elizabeth (Hughes) Marion. The paternal grandfather, Elijah Marion, a native of Massachusetts, emigrated to Ohio in about 1805, and located in Franklin County soon after its organization. The farm which he cleared from the wilderness is now included in the city of Columbus, where he died when eighty-six years of age.

Calvin Marion was three years of age when his parents removed from Massachusetts to Ohio, where he was reared to manhood and whence, in 1832, after his marriage, he emigrated overland to Illinois, locating first in Tazewell County. The land which he entered was finally included in Groveland Township. Peoria, then Ft. Clark, was the nearest depot for supplies. He sometimes transported his wheat with teams to Chicago, which was 170 miles distant. Both parents are living, and occupy the old homestead in Tazewell County, the father being eighty-five years old and the mother eight years younger.

Mrs. Parker is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having joined when eighteen years old. In politics Mr. Parker is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party. All his family have always been Democrats since the organization of the party.

THOMAS LYONS, of Tolono Township, located on section 17 in 1873. Here he has 200 acres of highly cultivated land, and one of the finest residences in the county, a view of which is to be seen on another page. He is well known as one of the most successful and skillful farmers of this locality, who has secured a beauti-

ful home and a competency through his own unaided efforts. Mr. Lyons is a native of "Erin's Green Isle," and was born in County Kerry, in December, 1829. He is the son of Timothy and Juliã (Kane) Lyons, and early in life was taught those habits of industry and economy which have been the secret of his success.


Our subject, in 1855, in company with his father, set sail for the United States. From New York City they proceeded to Chester County, Pa., where they remained until 1859, the mother having joined her husband and son the year after their arrival here. At the expiration of this time the parents came to Illinois and settled in Sangamon County, where the father died in 1861, and his remains were laid to rest in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield. The mother afterward joined her son in Champaign County, and departed this life at her home in Tolono Township. She was buried in Champaign Cemetery. Of their family there are now only two children living—Thomas, of our sketch, and his brother Michael, a resident of Colfax Township.

Our subject spent his early years in his native county, and when nineteen years of age sought the great city of London, England, where for a time he secured employment as a general laborer. After emigrating to this country he remained with his parents in Pennsylvania four years, working for one man during the entire time. After coming west to Sangamon County he was employed by one man seven years, beginning with \$10 per month, which was increased to \$20. In due time, by careful management and the exercise of close economy, he found himself possessed of \$500, with which he purchased a team and other necessary farm implements, and commenced as an agriculturist on his own hook. For seven years he carried on a farm in De Witt County, whence he removed to Champaign County in 1873. He has been most prosperous in his undertakings, and considering the fact that he had but twenty-five cents in his pocket when landing upon American shores, his career has been truly remarkable.

The faithful and devoted companion of our subject, who has followed him through all his wanderings, and rejoiced in his successes, was Miss Lizzie

Clifford, who became his wife in London, England, in 1853. She was a native of his own county in Ireland, and they became the parents of nine children, of whom the record is as follows: Julia became the wife of Col. George Butler, of Indianapolis, Ind., and died there in 1883; she is buried in Crown Hill Cemetery. Mary married John Loftus, and is living in Urbana; Jeremiah is deceased, and his remains are interred in Oak Ridge Cemetery; Ellen is keeping house for her brother in Urbana; John F. is engaged in the grocery trade in the latter-named place; Thomas E. is a partner in the grocery trade at Urbana; William, deceased, is buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery; Daniel W. is also engaged in the grocery trade with his brothers, John and Thomas, and the firm is well known as Lyons Brothers; one child died in infancy, and is also buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery.

Mr. Lyons, politically, usually affiliates with the Democratic party, although not by any means a partisan, but in 1860 cast his presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. Religiously he adheres to the Catholic faith of his fathers, and attends religious services at Tolono.


 CORNELIUS DYER, a highly esteemed farm resident of Hensley Township, is a native of Bloomingburg, Fayette Co., Ohio, and was born Sept. 21, 1841. His father, Hugh C. Dyer, and his grandfather, Isaac Dyer, were both natives of Virginia, whence the latter removed late in life and spent his last days in Fayette County, Ohio. His son Hugh, the father of our subject, was reared to manhood in the Old Dominion, and was there first married. After his wife's death he went to Ohio and purchased a partially cleared tract of land in Fayette County. He had learned the trade of a carpenter and miller in Virginia, but after becoming a resident of the Buckeye State devoted the principal part of his time to farming. He passed the remainder of his life in Fayette County, and died in about 1859. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Mary A. Abernathy, of Virginia, and by her union with Hugh Dyer she became the mother of twelve children.

Cornelius Dyer, of our sketch, was the seventh child of the family, and spent his childhood and youth on the farm, in the meantime pursuing his studies in the public schools; later his education was advanced by attendance at Audubon University. After leaving school he engaged as clerk in a boot-and-shoe store at Bloomingburg, Ohio, until the outbreak of the war. He then proffered his services as a soldier in the Union army under the first call for troops, becoming a member of Co. F, 21st Ohio Vol. Inf., for the three months' service. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he returned home and purchased a half interest in the store where he had been employed, and engaged in business in Ohio until January, 1862. He then decided to seek the Prairie State, and coming into this county engaged in teaching. The war still being in progress, he enlisted again in 1863, in Co. H, 71st Ill. Vol. Inf., for 100 days. He served his time once more, and then returning home resumed teaching one year, afterward returning to Ohio, and was occupied as clerk until 1866. In the spring of that year he returned to Champaign County, and the following summer herded cattle on the open prairie.

In the fall of that year Mr. Dyer was married, and returning with his bride to Ohio, resumed clerking two years, and then came back to Illinois and locating in Ashmore, Coles County, engaged in the furniture trade until 1870. He then sold out and engaged in the grocery business until fall. In 1871 he returned to this county and established a general store at Fisher, which was the first institution of the kind there. After two years he removed his goods to Foosland, where he erected a store building and continued in business seven years. He was greatly prospered in this venture, and in due time put up four dwellings and accumulated other property of value in town. He remained there until the spring of 1881, when he decided to change his occupation, and selling his interest in Foosland removed to the farm which he now owns and occupies. This consists of 180 acres of finely cultivated land, all enclosed and improved and supplied with a good set of frame buildings. His farm operations have been conducted in a skillful manner, the stock and farm machinery are of the best class, and ev-

erything about the premises indicates the industry and enterprise of the proprietor. While in Foosland Mr. Dyer dealt extensively in grain and produce, and in that line his good judgment served him as faithfully as in all his other undertakings.

The marriage of Cornelius Dyer and Miss Elizabeth S. Waugh was celebrated in the Sucker State, Aug. 29, 1866. Mrs. Dyer was born in Ross County, Ohio, and is the daughter of Richard and Rebecca (Coyner) Waugh (see sketch.) Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically Mr. D. is a staunch adherent of the Republican party.

 **R**ICHARD WAUGH, of Mahomet Township, is the proprietor of a good homestead lying on section 14, the land under a good state of cultivation, and the farm buildings possessing all the modern improvements for the shelter of stock and storage of grain. Our subject is the son of Lemon and Rachel (Holland) Waugh, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of Maryland. Soon after their marriage they emigrated to Ross County, Ohio, where Lemon Waugh engaged in farming, and where both parents resided until their death. Their five children included three boys and two girls, of whom our subject was the youngest.

Richard Waugh was born in Ross County, Ohio, Feb. 4, 1816, and remained a resident of his native place until 1849, when he was thirty-three years of age. He had in the meantime been married and become the father of four children. He now concluded to seek his fortunes in the Prairie State, and accordingly, coming to this county, located in Hensley Township and followed farming until 1881. He then sold out and purchased 107 acres of land in Mahomet Township, where he now lives. He owns 120 acres, and has from year to year added improvements here and there so that his home is a model of comfort and an attractive spot for the eye to rest upon.

The marriage of Richard Waugh and Miss Rebecca Coyner, was celebrated in Ross County, Ohio, May 21, 1840. Mrs. Waugh is the daughter

of John and Hannah (Lewell) Coyner, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Virginia. After their marriage they settled in Augusta County, W. Va., whence they afterward removed to Ross County, Ohio, and were among the pioneer settlers of that region. They there opened up a farm and established a comfortable homestead, upon which they spent the remainder of their lives, dying at a ripe old age, surrounded by their children and a large circle of friends. Their family consisted of ten daughters and three sons, of whom Rebecca, the wife of our subject, was the youngest. She was born in Ross County, Ohio, June 8, 1823. Her union with our subject was blest by the birth of four children—Julia A., David C., Elizabeth S. and John A. Julia is the wife of Alfred Dyer, and resides in Pittsburgh, Pa.; David enlisted in the army during the late war at the age of nineteen years, and died in the hospital at Nashville, Tenn., April 5, 1863, after a long period of illness; his remains were laid to rest in the Soldiers' Cemetery near that city; Elizabeth is the wife of Cornelius Dyer, of Hensley Township; John A. married Miss Emma Feltham, and resides in Champaign. Mr. Waugh politically is a straight Republican, and has served as Justice of the Peace and School Treasurer in his township. Both he and his excellent wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

JOHAN T. BEIER owns 117 acres of good land on section 29, East Bend Township, which he transformed from wild prairie into fertile fields, which now produce some of the best crops in the Prairie State. He was born in the Kingdom of Prussia, March 25, 1839, and is the son of Henry and Minnie Beier, natives of the same country, who emigrated to the United States with their four children in 1857, and became residents of Blue Mound Township, McLean Co., Ill. The father of our subject engaged in farming until his years of active labor were passed, and departed this life in January, 1887, at the advanced age of eighty-four. The wife and mother died in 1878. Of their five children, one died in Prussia;

Frederick is a resident of Chenoa, Ill.; Charles and August are farming in Blue Mound Township; John, the subject of this sketch, is the oldest of the family.

Mr. Beier was eighteen years old when he came with his parents to America. He resided with them in McLean County, Ill., until 1862, and then, the Civil War being in progress, enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. H, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf. His regiment was assigned to the department of the Gulf, and he participated in some of the most important battles of the war, including the siege and capture of Vicksburg. He was also with the Red River expedition, and present at the principal engagements of that campaign, including Ft. Morgan and Spanish Fort. He followed the fortunes of his comrades on the march and in the field, enduring with patience and courage the hardships and privations incident to a soldier's life, and at the close of the war received his honorable discharge at Galveston, Tex., in August, 1865. He then returned to his home in McLean County, where he resumed farming and lived until 1868. That year he came to East Bend Township, in this county, and purchased 120 acres of uncultivated land. He was successful in its improvement, and put up a good set of frame buildings. He afterward sold a part of his land but still has sufficient left to meet all necessary wants, and provide for his comfort and that of his family.

Mr. Beier was married in 1868, to Miss Mary S. Swain, a native of Bavaria, and the five children born to them are Laura, Ida, Amelia, George and Mary. Mr. Beier votes the Republican ticket, and with his worthy wife is a member in good standing of the Lutheran Church.

JAMES HOWARD, a native of New Jersey, emigrated to Logan County, Ill., in 1851, and Champaign County in 1873. He is now the owner of about 150 acres of good land in Brown Township, on section 31, on which the town of Howard (named in his honor) is situated, at the crossing of the Wabash and Illinois Central Railroads. His land is well cultivated, and his farm

buildings convenient and substantial. He has devoted the greater part of his life to agricultural pursuits, and is conducting the various departments of his farm in a successful and intelligent manner.

The parents of our subject were David and Sarah (Morgan) Howard. He was born on the other side of the Atlantic, in Wales, his wife in New Jersey. They first settled in Sussex County, N. J., and from there, in 1836, emigrated to Warren County, Ohio, where the mother died in 1840. David Howard afterward removed to Union County, Ind., where his death occurred in 1844. The parental family consisted of four sons and two daughters, and James of our sketch was the fifth child. He was born in Sussex County, N. J., March 2, 1828. He removed with the family of his father first to Ohio and then to Indiana, and after the death of the head of the household became a member of the family of his brother in Butler County, Ohio. Two years later he returned to Warren County, and afterward lived in different places in Ohio until 1851, when he took up his residence in Sangamon County, Ill., but shortly afterward went to Logan County, and thence to Tazewell County, where for a period of seventeen years he was a resident of Boyington Township. In 1873 he removed to Brown Township, this county, of which he has since been a resident.

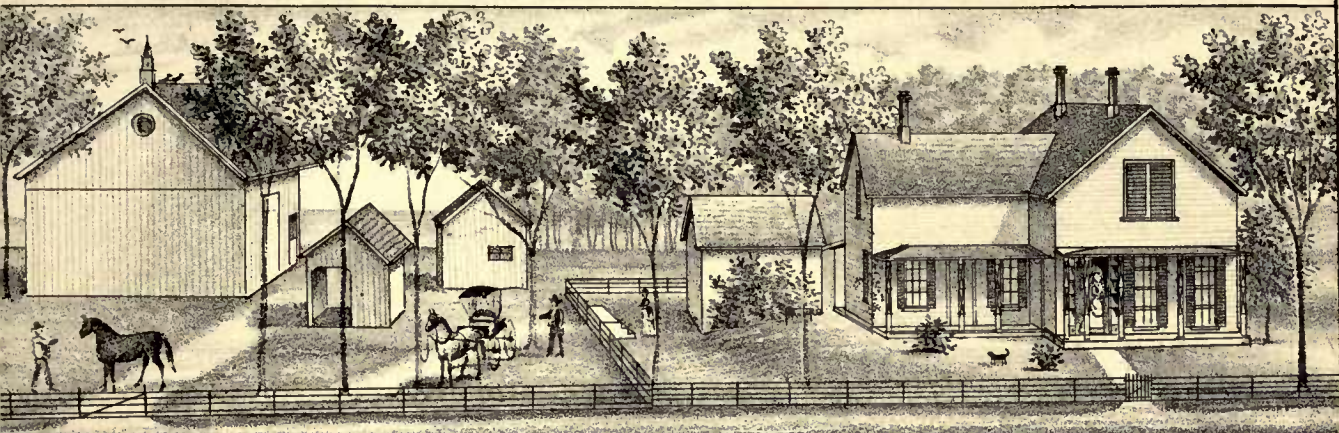
While a resident of Logan County, this State, Mr. Howard was united in marriage, Feb. 26, 1856, with Miss Sarah Ware, of De Witt County, Ill. Mrs. Howard was born June 29, 1827, in Amherst County, Va., and was the daughter of Andrew and Cynthia A. (Burfort) Ware. She became the mother of eight children, and died at the home of her husband in Brown Township, May 31, 1879. The sons and daughters of our subject are recorded as follows: David A. married Miss Mary M. Gibbons, and is farming in Brown Township; John E. married Miss Susan Blair, and is a resident of Wichita, Kan.; Marion married Miss Anna Gibbons, and is operating a farm in East Bend Township; Cassius P. is at home; James A. is residing at Ft. Meade, Dak., where he is Postmaster, also partner and local manager of the store at the Post; Joseph died when eighteen years of age, on the 29th of September, 1885; Martha L. and Cynthia A. remain on the

home farm with their father. Martha was appointed Postmistress of Howard in June, 1885, and still holds that position. The deceased wife and mother was a lady greatly respected for her womanly virtues and kindness of heart. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for a period of thirty years and adorned the profession in her daily life, both at home and in the outside world. Mr. Howard is also connected with the Methodist Church; he is a Prohibitionist.

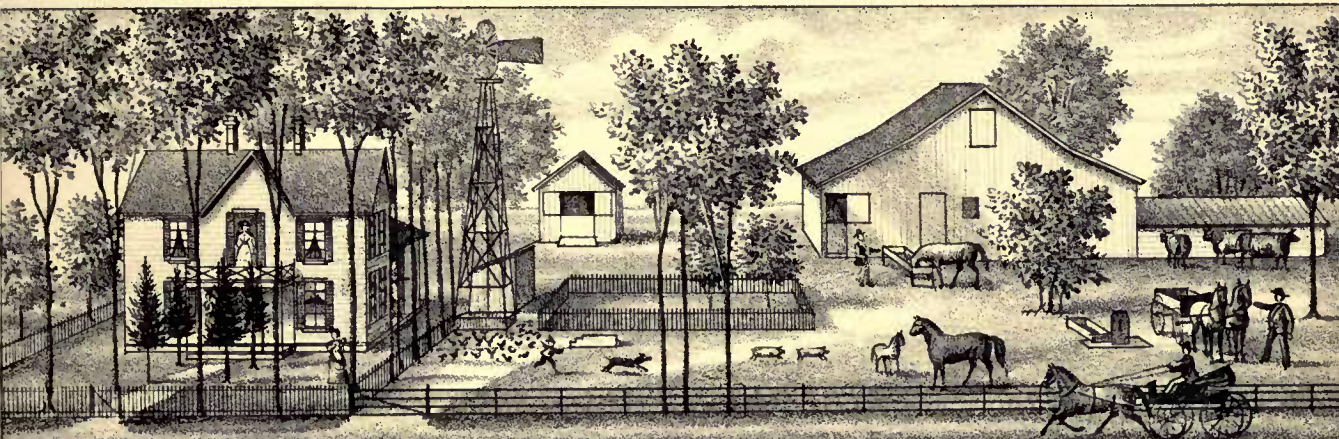
L EVI FURST. Among the active and successful farm residents of Philo Township, the subject of the following sketch is entitled to more than a passing notice. He owns and occupies a finely improved farm of 160 acres, of which he took possession in 1870, and which he purchased of G. W. Riley, now deceased. Previous to this he had operated it for a period of thirteen years on shares. He became its proprietor in 1883, since which time he has been laboring industriously for its improvement and cultivation, and has spent much time and money in effecting its thorough drainage.

Mr. Furst is a native of Cumberland County, Pa., and was born Aug. 1, 1841. He is the son of John Furst, who was born in Dolphin County, and was of German ancestry and parentage. He was reared in his native county, and is now living in Champaign. He was formerly a successful farmer and highly respected citizen. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Sabina Poorman, who was the descendant of an excellent English family and, like her husband, a native of Pennsylvania. They located in Cumberland County, that State, where they resided until 1857, and then removed with their family to Clarke County, Ohio. From there, in the fall of 1865, they came to Champaign County, of which they are now residents, both being well advanced in years.

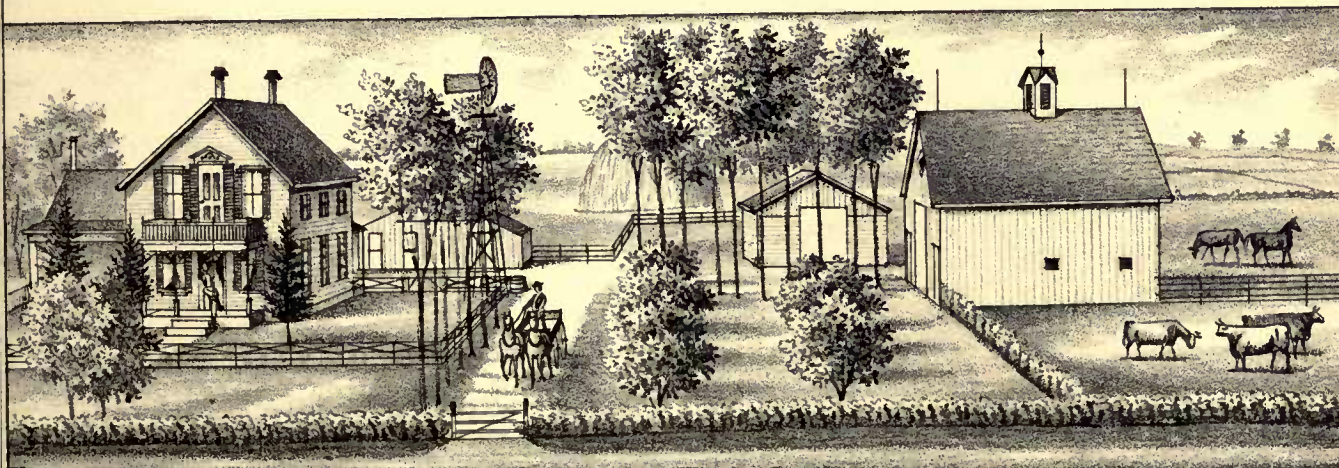
Levi Furst was the second child of his parents. By a former marriage Mrs. F. had become the mother of two children, the name of her first husband being Christian Liber. Levi remained under the parental roof until twenty years of age, and



RESIDENCE OF E. W. PARKER, SEC. 10, PHILO TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF S. W. MOORE, SEC. 30, CRITTENDEN TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF W. M. DAWLEY, SEC. 3, SCOTT TOWNSHIP.

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was married in Clarke County, Ohio, Oct. 27, 1861, to Miss Christina Smith. Mrs. F. was born in the latter-named county, May 22, 1842, and was there reared and educated in the public schools. She is the daughter of Peter and Jane (Maxon) Smith, the former of whom died in Clarke County, Ohio, Nov. 23, 1885. The mother is yet living there in the town of New Carlisle, and is seventy-four years of age. Our subject and his wife became the parents of eleven children, of whom Florence and George are deceased. Sabina J. became the wife of Elisha M. Woolever, a farmer of Sidney Township; Elzina, Christian, William, Lizzie, John, Peter, Jessie and Charles are at home. Mr. and Mrs. Furst have been residents of Champaign County since 1865. They are consistent members of the Christian Church of this vicinity, of which Mr. F. has been Deacon since 1873. Politically he affiliates with the Democratic party.

A J. REED owns and occupies a good farm of 160 acres in Philo Township, which is located on section 25, and of which he took possession on the 22d of October, 1868. It was then an unbroken stretch of prairie, but after years of industrious labor our subject has converted it into one of the most attractive farms in his locality. He has brought the land to a fine state of cultivation, and it is now provided with a substantial and convenient residence, a good barn, and all other conveniences for the shelter of stock and the storing of grain. A lithographic view of the place is shown on another page. The land is drained by 900 rods of tile, and yields in abundance the rich products of the Prairie State. As a farmer and business man Mr. Reed occupies a position in the front ranks among his fellow-citizens, and is esteemed not only for his straightforward business methods but for his excellent qualities as a neighbor, friend and citizen.

Our subject was born in Chester County, Pa., Aug. 4, 1824, and resided in his native county until twenty-eight years of age. He is the fourth son of Hugh and Catherine (Gordon) Reed, who were born, married and died in Chester County. The

father was engaged the greater part of his life in farming pursuits and was uniformly successful as an agriculturist and a business man. He departed this life June 14, 1873, when seventy-five years of age. He possessed a fair education, took an active interest in general politics, and was an adherent of the Democratic party. The mother died April 19, 1841, aged forty-five years. Both parents were reared in the Quaker faith, to which they remained loyal during their lifetime. The maternal grandfather served creditably as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. The grandmother of our subject, Anna Reed, at the time of the Revolutionary War was fifteen years old, and lived till after the War of the Rebellion, dying at the advanced age of one hundred and five years, having retained her mental and physical vigor until the last.

After reaching manhood our subject was married, in his native county, Oct. 15, 1852, to Miss Mary A. Miller. Mrs. Reed is a native of the same county as her husband, born in Brandywine Township, Feb. 27, 1829, and the daughter of Jacob W. and Ann G. (Batton) Miller, both natives of Pennsylvania. Her father was a shoemaker by trade, and for a number of years carried on business for himself as a dealer in shoes. He departed this life May 22, 1862, when fifty-nine years of age, having been born Nov. 13, 1803. The mother was born Aug. 5, 1808. She removed to Illinois and died in La Salle County, Nov. 22, 1856. Of the five children which completed the household circle Mrs. Reed was the eldest. Three others are still living, and all married.

Mr. and Mrs. Reed became the parents of nine children, two of whom were removed from the home circle to a brighter world, Anna in infancy and Charles at the age of twenty-four years; Fannie became the wife of H. F. Young, a master mechanic in the railroad shops at Cairo, Ill.; Laura M., the wife of William O'Neal, resides in Urbana with her husband, who is a fireman of the L. B. & W. R. R.; G. F., unmarried, is farming on his own account in Raymond Township; Harry T. is a resident of Colorado; Edwin A. remains at home and assists in conducting the farm; Ella and Asher are also at home.

Our subject and his wife after their marriage, united their efforts in securing a permanent home.

They first located on a farm in Kendall County, this State, when there were more wolves, deer and other wild animals than people around them. Four years later they removed to La Salle County, again taking up a tract of unbroken prairie, which our subject improved and cultivated for a period of sixteen years. In 1868 he disposed of his interests there and located on his present homestead. While industriously engaged in tilling the soil he has also labored to make his home attractive by the erection of tasteful buildings and the planting of choice trees and shrubbery. At the same time he has established himself in the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens and has held the various township offices, including those of Assessor and Collector.

Politically Mr. Reed is a first-class Republican, and religiously, with his excellent wife, is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Of this he is now Class-Leader, Steward and Trustee, and from the time of coming into the county, has been active in the establishment and maintenance of Sunday-schools, acting as Superintendent for many years, and in other respects giving much time and attention to the furtherance of the cause of religion.



JOHAN O. DARMER, who has been a resident of Champaign County since 1869, is one of the self-made men who have distinguished themselves as good citizens and useful members of society, assisting materially in the building up of this section of country. Our subject was born in Shelby County, Ind., March 28, 1840. His father, Benedict M. Darmer, was a native of Maryland, and his grandfather, John C., was born in Germany. The great-grandfather of our subject was a sailor, and took his son John C. with him when quite young. They were captured and sold to the Turks, and nothing was heard from the great-grandfather afterward.

John C. Darmer escaped from bondage after he had grown to manhood, and coming to America, located in Maryland. He there married a lady of American birth but German ancestry, and remov-

ing west to Indiana was among the earliest pioneers of Shelby County, where he improved a farm and passed the remainder of his days. Among the members of his household was Benedict M., the father of our subject, who grew to manhood in his native State of Maryland, and accompanied his father to Indiana. Prior to this removal he had been married, and after locating in Indiana purchased a tract of land, upon which he made some improvements and then sold out. He repeated this several times, buying and selling land in Indiana until 1843. In that year he removed to Iowa and settled near Muscatine. After three years he returned to Shelby County, Ind., and lived there until 1853. Thence he removed to Illinois and located in Christian County, where he died the following year of cholera. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Harriet W. Cook, a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, and the daughter of Cornelius Cook, a pioneer of Hamilton County, of German ancestry, and a native of Virginia.

The subject of this history was the second of nine children. He was but thirteen years of age when his parents removed to Christian County, Ill., where he grew to manhood on the farm, and obtained a limited education in the subscription schools. His father died when he was but fourteen, and at an early age he commenced working out by the month. When nineteen years old he assumed the management of the home farm, upon which he remained until 1869, the year of his arrival in this county. His first purchase here was forty acres in Sadorus Township, which he occupied two years, then sold out and purchased land in Colfax Township. This tract he also held only two years and removed thence to Crittenden Township, after which he rented land for one year following and then purchased and sold again. He then moved to Macon County and rented land one year. In 1876 he returned to Colfax Township and bought a farm, remaining there five years, when he sold and moved to Tolono Township, remaining one year. In 1882 he came to Champaign Township and purchased the place he now owns and occupies. His homestead consists of 180 acres of choice land, which he has brought to a good state of cultivation, and erected a large barn and corn-

cribs, besides making a large addition to the dwelling. He has 300 black walnut trees in bearing condition, which are quite a curiosity in this section of country.

The marriage of Mr. Darmer and Miss Ann Robertson took place in 1862. Mrs. D. was born in Tennessee, and is the daughter of Charles and Dolly H. Robertson, natives of Tennessee. Our subject's family consists of five children—William D., Charles O., George A., Minnie E. and John E. Mr. Darmer and his family are regular attendants of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, with which he has been connected many years. He is highly esteemed in his community as a citizen and business man, and has set an example of resolution and perseverance under difficulties which the young men of to-day would be wise in following.



SAMUEL FURNISH. This highly respected resident of Condit Township became a citizen of Illinois in 1863, locating first in Marshall County, whence he removed two years later to Peoria and resided there for a period of nine years, when he came to Champaign County. In 1872 he purchased the land which he now owns and occupies, and since that time has been industriously engaged in its improvement and cultivation. He ranks among the intelligent and successful farmers of this section, and is in possession of a comfortable residence, with all needful substantial farm buildings around it. While engaged in the cultivation of the soil he has also kept pace with passing events, and possesses an excellent fund of general information obtained from extensive reading and an observant eye upon what has been going on around him.

Our subject is a native of Carroll County, Ky., his birth taking place July 17, 1816. His father, John Furnish, was a native of Virginia. The paternal grandparents of our subject were natives of Virginia, whence they emigrated to the Blue Grass region during the early settlement of the State, when Indians and wild animals roamed through the forests almost undisturbed by man. Amid these primitive scenes John Furnish was reared to man-

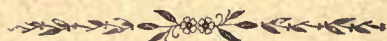
hood and fitted for the stern duties of the life which lay before him in a new country. When first starting out for himself he purchased a tract of timber land seven miles from the embryo town of Carrollton, a portion of which he cleared and then sold. He repeated this experiment several times, buying wild land, then clearing a part and selling at an advanced price. In this way he accumulated means to establish a comfortable home and secure a competency. The last years of his life were spent about seven miles from Carrollton, and he died in 1855. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Lucretia Cofer, a native of Kentucky.

The household circle was completed by the birth of twelve children, of whom eleven grew to maturity. Our subject with the other sons assisted his father in clearing the farm and tilling the soil until twenty-five years of age, and then started out for himself. Proceeding northward into Indiana he purchased a tract of timber land in Switzerland County, where he put up a log house and commenced clearing the farm. Soon afterward he took unto himself a wife and helpmeet in the person of Miss Elizabeth Atkinson, a native of that county, who remained his companion for a period of about twenty-one years, and departed this life in Peoria County in 1868. Of this marriage there were born seven children, of whom only two are now living, viz., Sylvester and Mary.

Our subject was married the second time in October, 1869, to Mrs. Jane Collins, who was born in New York State, Oct. 20, 1835. Her parents were Henry and Sarah (Taylor) Martin, natives of Canada, where they were reared and married, and whence they removed to New York State. From there they came to Illinois in 1839, and settled among the early pioneers of Peoria County. Mr. Martin purchased a claim in what is now Benton Township, entering the land from the Government. Soon afterward he was seized with fatal illness and died before making any improvements. The mother, who was left with eight children, entered the land and reared her family there. She lived to see them comfortably settled in life, and departed from the scenes of her earthly labors in 1885, at the home of one of her children in Cambridge, Henry County,

this State. Her father was Daniel Taylor. The present wife of our subject was first married in Peoria County to John Collins, a native of Ohio. During the late war he enlisted in the Union army and died in the service when thirty-four years of age. Of her union with Mr. Collins there were born four children, of whom three are living—William, Taylor and Eliza. By her union with our subject there have been born two children—Laura and Emma.

Mr. Furnish is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in all respects is fulfilling the obligations of a good citizen. He takes a genuine interest in the welfare of his community, both morally and intellectually, and is the encourager and supporter of whatever will be for its best interests.



CHARLES M. GROVES. This gentleman, a resident of Ivesdale, and a native of the Buckeye State, came to Illinois when a young man, soon after his marriage, arriving here in the spring of 1860. He first located in Piatt County, where he purchased eighty acres, began improving it, and soon afterward doubled the amount of his real estate by the purchase of another eighty acres in Champaign County adjoining. He subsequently added forty acres more to this and occupied it until 1871. He then sold out and returned to Ohio on a visit, but with the intention of finally locating in the West, and engaging in some other business more suited to his circumstances. His wife was then in poor health, which was augmented by her grief at the loss of their two children, John H. F. and Cora, who died of diphtheria, within nine days of each other, the son being thirteen years of age and the daughter four. Since then two more children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Groves, both sons, named Frank and Harry, who are still at home with their parents.

The birth of our subject took place in Hancock County, Ohio, Aug. 14, 1830, and he was the second child born to John and Elizabeth (Clark) Groves, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. John Groves was born April

11, 1800, and became a resident of Ohio twelve years later. He was reared on a farm, and followed agricultural pursuits until too old to labor. In 1884 he came to Illinois to make his home with his son, our subject, with whom he now resides, a well preserved old man, and able to read without spectacles. His recollections of the early days in Ohio are still quite clear and distinct, and he relates many an interesting incident, connected with the times, before the face of the country had been disturbed by canal or railroad.

The early life of the subject of this sketch was passed on his father's farm in Ohio, and he remained under the parental roof until his marriage, in 1855, when he was twenty-five years of age. The wife of our subject was formerly Miss Lucinda Shively. She was born in Ohio in 1832, and was the fifth child of Henry and Margaret (McCarty) Shively, natives of Pennsylvania. The subsequent life of Mr. and Mrs. Groves we have already indicated up to 1872.

Upon the return of Mr. Groves to Illinois, at the date above mentioned, he engaged in the agricultural implement trade, at Cerro Gordo, in Piatt County, where he remained three years, and then, selling out, came to Ivesdale and established himself in the same line of business, adding hardware and builders' supplies. His correct business methods and square business dealings have secured him a first-class patronage, and he in all respects ranks among the representative men of Sadorus Township. He has frequently served as Town Clerk, and affiliates with the Republican party.



THERON F. JORDAN, a prominent farmer and land-owner of Tolono Township, is the proprietor of 400 acres on section 16, of which he took possession in the spring of 1860. He is a skillful agriculturist and thorough business man, and is regarded as one of the important factors of an intelligent and prosperous community. He is a native of the wealthy and populous State of Ohio, where his birth took place in Cuyahoga County, July 23, 1833. His father, William Jor-

dan, was a native of the Empire State, where he grew to manhood on a farm and was married to Miss Mary Usher, whose parents were natives of Connecticut.

After their marriage William Jordan and his young wife emigrated to Ohio and settled upon a timber tract. The forest stood around them in its native wildness, but Mr. Jordan proceeded to clear the land, and in due time had established a comfortable home for his family. They experienced all the hardships and difficulties of settlement in a new country, but possessed the true pioneer spirit which never gave way to discouragement, but provided a way through every emergency. After building a record of most worthy lives, the parents passed to their final rest in about 1845. To this humble home thus established in the wilderness there came thirteen children, as follows: John W.; Jane, now the wife of Sidney Lawrence; Hezekiah H.; William; Myron, who died in 1879; Theron F., of our sketch; Mary, who married Samuel Brown; Benson; Cynthia; Allen; Lucy; Newton, who died when four years old, and James.

Mr. Jordan of our sketch resided with his father's family in Ohio until 1860. Then, accompanied by his brother Benson, he came to Illinois, and they joined their brother Myron, who was then a resident of this county. Theron F. and Benson purchased 160 acres of land, which comprised the north-east quarter of section 16, of which they took possession in 1865. Since that time our subject has been a resident of this county, adding to his landed interests as time passed on and his means accumulated. He has been prospered in his farming operations and secured a competency for his old age.

The marriage of Theron F. Jordan and Miss Ellen Barnum was celebrated at the home of the bride in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, on the 12th of January, 1864. Mrs. J. is a native of that county, born Sept. 26, 1841, and the daughter of George T. and Phebe (Brown) Barnum, who established a home in the Buckeye State in the pioneer days. George T. Barnum was born in Vergennes, Vt., and his wife, Phebe, in Rhode Island.

Our subject and wife became the parents of seven children, who, with the exception of a son, Theron F., who died in infancy, are all living and

named as follows: Illinois, Theodore N., Mary, Helen, George T. and Agnes. Politically Mr. Jordan is an uncompromising Republican, and has served as a member of the School Board in Tolono Township for a number of years. He has noted with satisfaction the progress and development of his adopted county, and has been an important factor in bringing about its present prosperity.



JAMES BEVER, when twenty-eight years of age, began the year 1875 by taking up his residence in Brown Township, where he has since remained. He is pleasantly located on section 35, where he has 160 acres of tillable land, with a good house and convenient farm buildings. Although not the hero of any thrilling adventures he has filled his niche in life worthily as a peaceable and law-abiding citizen, contributing his quota to the agricultural interests of his township, and encouraging the enterprises calculated to be of benefit to his community.

Our subject is the son of Samuel and Eliza (Curtis) Bever, the former a native of Adams County, Ohio, and the latter of Fountain County, Ind. After marriage they located in the latter county, of which they remained residents for a period of twelve years, and thence they came to McLean County, this State, settling near Shirley. Afterward they removed to Tazewell County, where the death of the mother occurred in 1885. The father still survives. Their family of eleven children consisted of four boys and seven girls, of whom our subject was the fourth in order of birth. His native place was Fountain County, Ind., where his birth occurred Nov. 9, 1846. He was about three years of age when his parents came to McLean County. He remained with them during their residence in Tazewell County until twenty-three years of age, and after their removal from there continued in charge of the farm for five years following, after which he took up his residence in this county.

Mr. Bever was married in Tazewell County, Oct. 3, 1869, to Miss Julia A. Pearson, also a native of Fountain County, Ind., born April 22, 1850, and

the daughter of Joseph and Ann E. (Livengood) Pearson. Of this union there were born six children: Clarence M. died when about two years of age. Those surviving are Olive E., Florence A., Walter E., Iva E. and Eunice E. Mr. Bever casts his vote with the Democratic party, and has held the various minor offices of Brown Township. In all respects he is discharging his duties as an honest man and a good citizen.



STEPHEN DOTY, of Crittenden Township, has been a resident of Champaign County since February, 1868, when he took possession of a part of his present homestead. This lies on section 8, and now includes 180 acres of choice land, under a good state of cultivation and supplied with shapely and substantial buildings. He first opened his eyes to the light in Greene County, Pa., on the 7th of September, 1834, in the home of his parents, Lewis and Nancy (Sibert) Doty. The former was a native of New Jersey, and the latter was born in the same county as her son, our subject. The family resided on a farm in Greene County, Pa., the greater part of their lives, and still occupy their original homestead, the father being eighty-two years old and the mother seventy-seven. The household included ten children, all of whom attained to man and womanhood, and are recorded as follows: Rachel, the eldest daughter, is at home with her parents; Hannah became the wife of John Kilgore; Stephen is our subject; Peter and Thomas are deceased; Wilson, Isaac, Francis and Jacob, live in Pennsylvania; Joseph lives in Tolono Township, this county.

Stephen Doty started for the West in 1855, soon after becoming of age. After reaching this State he engaged as a laborer on a farm in La Salle County, where he remained until 1858. He then returned to Pennsylvania, and was united in marriage with Miss Maria Roche, a native of his own county, and born Nov. 1, 1838. She was the daughter of John and Rachel Roche, natives of Greene County, Pa. After their marriage Mr. D. and his bride settled down in Greene County, where they lived two years, but our subject not being

satisfied with his prospects in that locality once more started for the West, accompanied by his wife. He again sought his old haunts in La Salle County, where he had made many pleasant acquaintances, and renting a tract of land, followed farming until the fall of 1868. He then came to this county and purchased eighty-one acres of unimproved land, which is now included in his present homestead. He has been uniformly successful in his undertakings, and is valued as a skillful farmer and straightforward business man.

Of the six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Doty, three were snatched from the home circle in their childhood by the hand of the Destroyer. Elizabeth remained with her parents until reaching womanhood, and was then married to Mr. T. C. Retherford, of Moultrie County, Ill.; Charles T. and Daisy remain with their parents. Our subject and his wife are earnest Christian people, the former being a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mrs. D. attending the Baptist Church, of which she became a member over thirty years ago. Politically Mr. Doty is an uncompromising Democrat, and has served fifteen years as School Director.

A lithographic view of the residence and surroundings of Mr. Doty is shown on another page of this work.



JOHAN THRASH. Pleasantly located on section 28 in Philo Township, is a finely improved farm of 120 acres, which invariably attracts the attention of the passing traveler through that locality as the home of a prosperous and progressive farmer and intelligent citizen and business man. This snug homestead is the property of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch. It is finely laid out, and enclosed with well-kept fences, and the residence and other buildings are tasteful and substantial in their character.

Mr. Thrash took possession of the above described place in the spring of 1874, coming to this county from Ohio. He is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Bloom Township, Fairfield

County, Jan. 22, 1839. His childhood and youth were passed under the home roof, and he remained a resident of his native county until coming to this vicinity. His father, Michael Thrash, who was born in Baltimore County, Md., was of German-Irish parentage. The father of the latter was a staunch defender of American liberty and put his theories into practice by serving as a soldier in the Revolutionary War upon the side of the Colonists. In fact he practically gave up his life to this cause, as he contracted a disease in the army which was the cause of his death not long afterward. His son Michael, the father of our subject, was then a young boy of six or seven years. The mother followed her husband to the silent land a few years later, leaving the orphan boy without other means of support than that of his own hands.

Michael Thrash learned the trade of a tanner, at which he worked, however, but a short time, when he left his native State, and going into Franklin County, Ohio, bought a farm, which he sold the following year, and then moved into Fairfield County and purchased a tract of timber land in Bloom Township. He cleared the land and brought it to a tillable condition and established a comfortable home in the wilderness, where he spent the remainder of his days. He departed this life in 1863, after having arrived at the advanced age of ninety years. He was first married in Franklin County, Ohio, to Miss Cramer, who became the mother of three children, all now deceased. Mrs. T. died in middle life in Fairfield County. Michael Thrash contracted a second marriage in that county, with Miss Rebecca Rush, who was born in Pennsylvania, whence she removed when a young woman to Ohio with her parents. The latter, Jacob and Elizabeth (Cramer) Rush, were natives of Berks County, Pa., of German descent, and died in Fairfield County, Ohio. The mother of our subject after arriving at the age of eighty years also died in the latter-named county, in 1880. Michael Thrash served through the War of 1812.

John Thrash was the fourth of his parents' six children, four sons and two daughters, of whom only one daughter is now living, Mrs. Caroline Zalm, a resident of Lithopolis, Fairfield Co., Ohio. The surviving brother is Levi, a successful Buck-

eye farmer. The childhood and youth of our subject were passed on the family homestead until he was twenty-one years of age. He was married in his native township to Miss Matilda Knepper, who was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, Aug. 9, 1839. Her parents were Joseph and Hannah (Knoyer) Knepper, who were born, reared and married in Ohio, and were of Dutch parentage. After their marriage they located in Pickaway County, Ohio, where the mother died in middle life. The father afterward removed to Jay County, Ind., where he died at the age of seventy years. Mrs. Thrash remained with her father until a short time before her marriage. Of her union with our subject there have been born seven children, five living; Emma, who married A. J. Pettigrew, a farmer of Wayne County, Ill., and Perry, William, Lydia and John H. at home. Two died in infancy.

Our subject and his wife remained for a time after their marriage in Fairfield County, Ohio, where he cultivated a tract of land. In the fall of 1873 he came to this State, and purchased his present farm in Philo Township, upon which he located the following spring. Politically he is a reliable Democrat, and religiously is, with his highly respected lady, a prominent member of the United Brethren Church.

JOSEPH COVINGTON is pleasantly located on section 33, in East Bend Township, where he settled in 1875. He owns eighty acres of good land, which he has successfully cultivated since taking possession of it. He was born near Lincoln, in Logan County, this State, Jan. 18, 1844, and is the son of James B. Covington, whose birth took place in Wales, June 20, 1790. The father of our subject emigrated to America when a young man and located near LaFayette, Ind., in the pioneer days. He was a weaver by trade and followed his occupation in Indiana until his removal to this State, in 1825. After crossing over the line he settled in Eminence Township, Logan County, while it was still a part of Fayette County, and was one of the early pioneers of that section before the land had been surveyed. He entered a timber

was a minister of the Methodist Church, in which he labored as preacher and pastor for a period of forty years. The parental household comprised three children—Emery C., of our sketch; Dr. J. M., who is a resident of Philo, and John H., of Mansfield, Ill.

The subject of this sketch was born in Uhrichsville, Tuscarawas Co., Ohio, Dec. 31, 1844. He came to Bloomington with his parents, and attended the common schools until fourteen years of age. His studies were continued in Marshall College in Clark County, Ill., and completed in Wesleyan University, Bloomington, where he prepared himself for teaching. After the breaking out of the war, however, he enlisted in Co. G, 94th Ill. Vol. Inf., from which, after eighteen months, he was transferred to the 37th Regiment, where he was promoted Sergeant, and served one year in that regiment. He was in the army two and one-half years and, with the exception of a serious sunstroke, escaped injury. After the expiration of his term of enlistment he went to Chicago, and continued his studies in Rush Medical College one year, after which he practiced in Mahomet for several years, then returned to college and graduated in 1871.

Mr. Bartholow became a resident of Mahomet in February, 1867, where he has lived, with the exception of one year, since that date. In 1884 he purchased a stock of drugs and has carried on the store successfully since that time. He was married at Le Roy, Ill., May 9, 1867, to Miss Mary O. Moorehouse, who was a native of Batavia, N. Y., and born July 5, 1843. They became the parents of five children, of whom one is deceased. These surviving are Edgar L., Lena B., Nellie and Cyrus D. Frank died when five years old, on the 25th of March, 1881. The first wife of our subject died at Mahomet, Jan. 14, 1886, and he was again married, Dec. 15, 1886, at Le Roy, Ill., to Mrs. Eliza (Smith) Gay, daughter of R. S. Smith, and widow of Daniel Gay, who died in 1882. Mrs. Bartholow was born at Warsaw, N. Y., in 1852, and was the daughter of R. S. and Eliza A. Smith.

Dr. Bartholow, in 1876, was elected to the Thirtieth General Assembly of the State, where he served two terms. He has been President of the Village Board two terms, officiated as Magistrate

and School Trustee, and is now a member of the Village Board. Socially he belongs to Eph. Scott Post No. 464, G. A. R. With his excellent and accomplished wife he is a member in good standing of the Methodist Church. Politically he is a straight Republican.



WILEY DAVIS. The subject of the following history bears no unimportant part among the business and agricultural interests of Champaign County. He owns and occupies a fine farm on section 22, in Mahomet Township, of which he took possession in 1849. Since that time he has been industriously employed in its improvement and cultivation, and has made of it one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of Champaign County. The family residence is a handsome and substantial structure, finely located. The barns and other out-buildings are conveniently arranged for the shelter of stock and the storage of grain, and the farm machinery and other appliances are of first-class description. The homestead includes 740 acres, all improved, and under a good state of cultivation. Mr. Davis of late years has given much attention to the breeding of fine stock, and keeps about 150 head of cattle, a flock of sheep, and a number of fine horses. His grain and stock operations probably aggregate more than those of any other man in this locality.

Mr. Davis is a native of Ohio, born in Newark, Licking County, on the 5th of May, 1819. He is the son of Zachariah and Elizabeth (Roberts) Davis, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Virginia. Both became residents of the Buckeye State early in life, and were married in Newark, where they permanently located and where the mother died in 1846. After the death of his wife Zachariah Davis came to Illinois, and located in Champaign County at an early period in its history. After farming here a number of years he removed to Vermilion County, and died at Danville about 1872. The parental household included eight children, six sons and two daughters, of whom four only survive—James, Wiley, Eliza and William. Zachariah, the youngest, died in 1827; Mar-

garet became the wife of William Robinson, and died at Danville in 1882.

The subject of our sketch spent the first thirty years of his life in his native county in the Buckeye State, where after reaching years of manhood, he carried on farming and was quite extensively engaged in the shipping of stock. He was married at Dayton, Ohio, Feb. 18, 1847, to Miss Mary J., daughter of Elijah and Margaret (Koogler) Slider, both natives of Ohio. Mrs. Davis was born at Dayton, June 28, 1821. Our subject and his wife have no children. He is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, a member of Mahomet Lodge No. 220, F. & A. M., and with his wife is prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Davis has taken a genuine interest in the development and welfare of his adopted county, and has been connected with many of its most worthy enterprises. He is held in the highest respect, not only for his rare business talents, which have enabled him to accumulate a handsome property, but for his goodness of heart and genial disposition, which have led him to perform a thousand acts of kindness unknown to the outside world, but held in grateful remembrance by the objects of his sympathy and generosity.



THOMAS J. SCOTT, a retired farmer, and ex-Sheriff of Champaign County, is widely and favorably known throughout this section, as a man possessing strong and excellent points of character, which have constituted him a most reliable, enterprising and valuable citizen. He comes from an excellent family, being the son of Hon. Fielding L. and Julia A. (Herriott) Scott, mention of whom is made in the sketch of Judge F. L. Scott, deceased, which will be found elsewhere in this ALBUM. The marriage of the parents was blessed by the birth of ten children, of whom our subject was the sixth.

Thomas J. Scott was born on the old Scott homestead in Mahomet Township, Nov. 20, 1838. He received careful home training from his worthy parents, and pursued his primary studies in the

common schools. He remained under the home roof until twenty-three years of age, and then, as the Civil War was in progress, proffered his services as a Union soldier, and enlisted in Co. I, 25th Ill. Vol. Inf. He entered the army as a private, and was promoted First Sergeant. At the battle of Chickamauga he received thirteen bullet wounds in different parts of his body, and was conveyed to the hospital at Nashville. A week later his father, who had hurried to the South with the expectation of carrying his body home to be buried, brought him home alive, and he recovered, contrary to the expectation of all his friends. He remained at home under a physician's care from the fall of 1863 to 1864, when he was ordered back to his regiment, though still on crutches. After reaching Nashville again he was attacked with varioloid, and confined in the pest-house five weeks. He applied for transportation to the North, but as his name could not be found in the list, he was sent to the front, and three days later gangrene set in his heel, and he then succeeded in getting a furlough. At the above-named battle, Mr. Scott was also captured by the rebels, but soon exchanged. He was mustered out of service at Springfield, Ill., after serving nearly three years. He considers that he is justly entitled to the pension which he now receives from the Government.

In the fall of 1866 Mr. Scott was elected Sheriff of Champaign County, and at the expiration of his term of two years, returned to Mahomet, where he engaged in farming and has since lived, with the exception of two years spent in Colfax Township. In 1876 he removed into the village, where he has a good residence and pleasant home. Besides his village property he is the owner of 400 acres of land in Mahomet Township, half of which is in timber.

Mr. Scott was married, in Mahomet Township, Jan. 24, 1864, to Miss Sarah Rea, a native of Kentucky, and the daughter of J. J. Rea. Of this union there were born twin girls—Sarah and Kate. The former is the wife of S. J. Purnell, and resides in Champaign City. Kate married William Gancy, and lives on a farm in Newcomb Township. Mrs. Sarah Scott departed this life Feb. 18, 1865, at her home in Mahomet Township. Our subject was

married the second time, in London, Ohio, Oct. 16, 1866, to Miss Mary E. Davidson. This lady is a native of Madison County, Ohio, born Oct. 12, 1842. Their five children are Daisy, Anna, Fred, Vera and Paul. Politically Mr. Scott is a staunch Prohibitionist. Socially he belongs to Eph. Scott Post No. 464, G. A. R., and religiously, is connected with the Missionary Baptist Church. Mrs. Scott is a member of the Methodist Church.



MENZO DUNLAP, proprietor of the well-known Evergreen Home Farm in Champaign Township, is one of the early pioneers of this and Cook County, and is pleasantly located on section 36, Champaign Township, of which he took possession in 1855. At the time of its purchase by our subject the farm was wild land, which he has now brought to a fine state of cultivation, enclosed it with good fences, and erected upon it a substantial and convenient set of frame buildings.

Mr. Dunlap is a native of Otsego County, N. Y., and was born Dec. 19, 1816. His father, William J. Dunlap, was a native of Montgomery County, N. Y., and the son of John Dunlap, whose father, a native of Ireland and of Scotch ancestry, emigrated to America when a young man. John Dunlap was reared to farming pursuits and spent the greater part of his life in Cherry Valley, N. Y., of which State he was one of the earliest pioneers and served in the War of 1812. During that struggle his family, in common with many others in that section of country, suffered greatly from the depredations of Indians and for a long period lived in fear of their lives. Amid these thrilling scenes William J. Dunlap, the father of our subject, was reared to principles of honesty and the courage required by the men of those times to successfully cope with the difficulties that surrounded them. Young Dunlap followed farming during the earlier years of his life, some of the time kept hotel and also operated a flouring-mill. In 1836 he emigrated to the Prairie State, and was one of the earliest pioneers of La Salle County. After a brief residence there he removed to Cook County, of which

he remained a resident until 1857. Thence he came to Champaign County, soon afterward retiring from the active labors of life, his decease occurring in Champaign Township.

The mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Margaret Lane, was a native of Cherry Valley, N. Y. Of her marriage with William J. Dunlap there were born ten children, all of whom lived to become men and women. Of these, Menzo was the fifth child. He was fifteen years old when his parents became residents of Lewis County, N. Y., where they lived two years, and thence removed to Jefferson County, spending two years there also. In 1836 the parents with their eight children started with four horses and two wagons for Illinois, making the entire journey overland, and being seven weeks on the road. The father purchased a farm in La Salle County, where they lived a brief time, then took up their abode on a tract of wild land in Cook County. Their location was fifteen miles from Chicago, then a humble hamlet. Here our subject in due time purchased forty acres of Government land, upon which he built a frame house, and placed the whole under a good state of cultivation. He occupied this until 1856, then selling out came to this county and purchased the tract of land which he now owns and which he has converted into a valuable farm. It was at that time a wild, uncultivated prairie, no part of which had been turned by the plowshare. Mr. Dunlap, after years of industry, has placed it under a good state of cultivation and erected all needful farm buildings. Upon a part of his original purchase now stands the flourishing town of Savoy.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Isabella Pierce took place in Du Page County, this State, the day before Christmas, 1841. Mrs. D. was a native of Oswego County, N. Y., and was born April 3, 1825. Her parents were Smith D. and Polly (Dunlap) Pierce, both natives of the Empire State. The father, now eighty years of age, makes his home in Belmont, Iowa. Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Dunlap, nine in number, seven are now living: Isabelle became the wife of Jackson Burt, and is a resident of Urbana, Ill.; Maggie married Willoughby Condit, and lives in Scott County, Kan.; Burleigh is practicing law in De

Smet, Dak.; J. Hammil married Miss Ella Coon, and lives at Savoy; Mary, Mrs. J. C. Jordan, is a resident of Champaign Township; R. Livingston married Miss Lettie Jutkins and they live on the home farm; Lillian, the wife of J. C. Cline, lives in Monticello, Minn. The mother of these children departed this life at her home in Champaign Township on the 13th of May, 1880.

Mr. Dunlap, who was formerly Democratic in politics, has since the organization of the Republican party identified himself with it, and uniformly casts his vote in support of its principles. He has been a stirring business man and a skillful farmer, keeping full pace with the march of progress in the great and rapidly developed West. In 1886 he added a new feature to his farming operations, in the shape of a steam engine and other necessary apparatus for the manufacture of apple jelly and pure cider vinegar. This he carries on in partnership with his son, R. Livingston.



ABRAM FRAZIER, a native of Knox County, Ohio, for the past fifteen years has been operating a good farm on section 20, in Condit Township. His birth took place on the 9th of June, 1841. His father, Jacob Frazier, of Virginia, was the son of John Frazier, who descended from Scottish ancestry. The first representatives of the family in this country located first in Virginia, and the grandfather served as a soldier in the War of 1812. At the close of the struggle and upon returning to civil life he visited the State of Ohio, and being greatly pleased with the outlook in that section concluded to settle there.

It took him three years to wind up his affairs in Virginia so that he could effect his removal, and when this was done he selected Coshocton County as his place of abode. He was among the earliest pioneers there, and taking up a tract of Government land occupied it until 1841, when he removed to Knox County. He had been crippled by an ulcer for some time, and spent a large part of his property in seeking relief. After settling in Knox County he had a limb amputated and not being

able to perform very active labor employed his time in the manufacture of shoes and shingles. His death took place in 1864. In early manhood he had married Miss Rachel Cosner, a native of Maryland, and the daughter of Philip Cosner.

Of a family of twelve, Abram of our sketch is the only representative in this county. He spent his youth and childhood in attendance at the district schools and in assisting to perform the lighter labors of the farm. He came to this county when a young man twenty-five years of age, and two years afterward was united in marriage, Oct. 15, 1868, with Miss Mary E. Crouch. Mrs. F. was born in Madison County, Ohio, and is the daughter of John and Lavena (McNett) Crouch, a sketch of whom appears on another page in this volume. Our subject, with his wife, in 1870 located on the old Crouch homestead, which they have since occupied. Their four children are Eleanor A., Della P., Clinton G. and Kittie N.

Mr. Frazier enlisted in the service on the 20th of April, 1861, at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, in the 4th Infantry, and served till the 1st of September, the same year; he re-enlisted Sept. 20, 1861, in the 20th Ohio Infantry, serving until Jan. 1, 1864, and re-enlisted the same day in the same regiment, and served until the war closed in 1865.

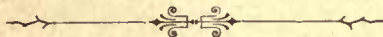


DR. CALVIN E. PARKER. Among the successful young business men of Champaign County, there are none possessing greater enterprise and energy than the subject of this history, who is now engaged as a banker and dealer in real estate at Philo. He has been thus occupied since 1883, and his operations extend over a wide stretch of territory, embracing lands in Kansas, and a large amount of real estate in Illinois. He was the pioneer banker of Philo, and since his establishment here in connection with this enterprise, has met with uniform success.

Dr. Parker was born in Worcester, Mass., Sept. 7, 1850. The history of his parents will be found in the sketch of E. W. Parker, published elsewhere in this volume. He was but a boy when his father emigrated from the Bay State to Illinois and

located at Philo, where the son grew to manhood, in the meantime pursuing his primary studies in the public schools and graduating at Champaign University in the class of 1872. He was afterward engaged as a teacher in the public schools of this county, and at the same time employed his leisure hours in the study of medicine, under the instruction of Dr. Howard, of Champaign. Afterward he went to St. Louis and took two courses of lectures at the Medical College there. In 1877, after graduating, he returned to Philo, and entered upon the practice of his profession. In connection with his practice he also conducted a drug-store, but after a time abandoned both, finding that he could reap more benefit in another branch of business. His banking operations have been conducted with good judgment, and his upright methods have secured for him the confidence of his fellow-citizens and patrons.

The marriage of Dr. Calvin E. Parker and Miss Martha E. Baker was celebrated on the 3d of July, 1873, in Philo Township. Mrs. Parker was born in Bellefontaine, Ohio, Sept. 1, 1851, and is the daughter of Reuben and Susan (Kimbrough) Baker, who came to this county and located in Philo Township on a farm, where the father died in about 1874. The mother, now about fifty-six years of age, is a resident of Champaign. Mrs. Parker was educated in the public schools, and was sixteen years of age when she came with her parents to this county. Dr. Parker has been Township Supervisor for three years, and is also Treasurer. He was appointed Postmaster in 1879. Politically he endorses the principles of the Republican party.



WILLIAM H. ALLISON, well known as one of the worthiest farmers of East Bend Township, is a native of the Old Dominion, born in Loudoun County on the 23d of February, 1837. His father, Wilfred Allison, was born in Fairfax County, Va., in April, 1799, and his grandfather, John Allison, is supposed to have been a native of the same county, where he owned a plantation and spent his entire life. Wilfred Allison served for a number of years as overseer on a large

plantation belonging to a nephew of George Washington. After marriage he removed from Fairfax to Loudoun County, where he lived until 1839, when, accompanied by his wife and six children, he started overland with wagons for the young and rapidly growing State of Ohio. He settled upon a tract of partially cleared land in Goshen Township, Champaign County, which he had purchased, and making further improvements by clearing the balance of the timber and thoroughly cultivating the soil, established a good homestead, where he passed the remainder of his days.

The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Susan Littleton, who was born near Leesburg, Va., and was the daughter of John Littleton, a native of the same State. In the family of Wilfred Allison there were ten children. Of these seven grew to man and womanhood: Mary, Mrs. Stewart, died in Mechanicsburg, Ohio; Mrs. Ann O. Roberts is a resident of Urbana, that State; Mrs. Martha Frankenberger lives in Mechanicsburg, Ohio; Charles C. died at Wichita, Kan.; William H. is the subject of our sketch; Edwin M. is a resident of Brown Township, this county; Mrs. Kate Gibson lives in Oregon.

The subject of this sketch was but two years old when his parents made the removal to Ohio. During his boyhood and youth he attended the Clover Run district school and completed his studies in the public school at Urbana. He commenced teaching in Champaign County, Ohio, when nineteen years of age, which he followed for three winters. Soon afterward, in 1857, he came to this State, and locating in De Witt County, followed teaching during the winter and farmed in summer for a period of nearly thirteen years. In 1869 he came to this county and settled in Brown Township, purchasing a farm on section 35, which he occupied until 1881, then sold out and purchased his present homestead. This includes 100 acres of land, with a good set of frame buildings, and everything necessary for its proper cultivation and improvement.

Mr. Allison was married on the 8th of December, 1861, to Miss Mary E. Karr. She was born in De Witt County, Ill., March 10, 1844, and is the daughter of John Karr, formerly of Ohio, and who

came to Illinois and located in De Witt County during its early settlement, in 1840. He improved a farm in Wapella Township, and spent the last years of his life there. The mother of Mrs. Allison, who before her marriage was Miss Mary Morgan, was born in Ohio, then went to Kentucky, and removed to Illinois in her girlhood. The parents are now residents of McLean County, this State. The five children of our subject and wife are Lolo L., Eva, Mary E., Carrie and Minnie Myrtle. The family name was formerly spelled Alliston, but the father of our subject dropped the "t" during the latter years of his life.

Mr. Allison is a gentleman of good education, with a thorough knowledge of law, in the practice of which he has been engaged of late years, doing a large business in the country districts. He was formerly Justice of the Peace and Clerk of Brown Township. He has served as Supervisor at East Bend for three terms and has held various other local offices. He is a staunch supporter of Republican principles.



JOHAN H. FUNSTON, a successful farmer of Newcomb Township, is pleasantly located on a fine farm on section 14, of which he took possession in 1857. This consists of 400 acres of land, most of which is improved, and a convenient and substantial set of farm buildings. Mr. F. is in all respects a representative citizen and progressive farmer, and is properly classed among the first citizens of his community. Upon first coming to this locality he occupied a cabin 12 x 14 feet, which was the only structure on the farm. One and one-half years later he put up a more convenient dwelling, to which he has since added, and furnished with modern conveniences. Upon one occasion, while occupying their cabin home, they entertained twenty-four visitors, a part of whom would partake of refreshments at the table within and then go outside to make room for others.

The subject of this history is the son of Thomas and Nancy (Hubbard) Funston, the father of Irish and German descent. After their marriage they located in Ross County, Ohio, where, after a period

of twelve years the father died in the house which the family first occupied. With the exception of the time spent in the army during the War of 1812, Thomas Funston was engaged in farming pursuits, and was never forty-five miles away from his home. His death occurred in 1858. Afterward, the mother, with her family, came to Champaign County, where she resided until her death, which occurred in 1862, in Newcomb Township.

Of the eleven children which constituted the parental family, seven daughters and four sons, our subject was the second son and sixth child. He was born in Ross County, Ohio, Feb. 9, 1828, and remained with the family until twenty-two years old. After completing his limited education he learned the carpenter's trade and worked as a "jour" one year in Ross County. In 1851 he came to Illinois, first locating in Monticello, Piatt County, where he worked at his trade until in March, 1857. That year he became a resident of Champaign County, locating in Newcomb Township, upon the farm which he still occupies. He added to his original purchase as time passed on and his means accumulated, and for a period of over twenty years pursued uninterruptedly the cultivation and improvement of his property.

The marriage of John H. Funston and Miss Elizabeth E. Bailey took place in Piatt County, Ill., Nov. 18, 1852. Mrs. F. is the daughter of John and Mary (Hubbard) Bailey, natives respectively of Ireland and Ohio. After marriage they located in Madison County, Ohio, whence they removed to Piatt County, this State, about 1834. In 1879 they crossed the Mississippi into Iowa, where the mother died in March, 1885. Mr. Bailey is still living, and is now seventy-nine years old. The thirteen children which comprised the parental family embraced eight daughters and five sons. Of these Mrs. F. of our sketch was the eldest. She was born in Madison County, Ohio, Nov. 26, 1832, and by her union with our subject became the mother also of thirteen children. Of these the record is as follows: Thomas A. died when one year old; Eliza J. became the wife of J. F. Trotter, and is a resident of Newcomb Township; Margaret A. died when thirteen months old; Mary A. is the wife of Henry J. Hinton, of Newcomb Township;

Naney I., Mrs. W. W. Downs, lives in Newcomb Township; John W. and George Wiley are at home; Cora is Mrs. Mark Hazen, of Newcomb Township; Fannie died when a little over three years of age, and Charles when two years old; Edmund B., Jesse G. and Minnie E. are at home with their parents.

Mr. F. has been Assessor several years and was School Trustee of Newcomb Township for a period of nineteen years. He is a member of Mahomet Lodge No. 220, A. F. & A. M., at Mahomet, Ill. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics he is a Republican.



ALBERT NOFFTZ, a prominent and prosperous stock and grain raiser of Champaign County, residing on section 8, Pesotum Township, is a native of Prussia, born Dec. 28, 1844, and the youngest child of Charles and Anna (Zenkil) Nofftz, natives of the same country. After the death of his father, which occurred in 1853, young Albert came with his widowed mother to America. The long journey was made across the sea in 1856, and after landing on American shores they proceeded directly to Chicago to meet a sister, who had previously emigrated to this country, and was living in that city. He remained with his sister a few months and then came to Sadorus, where he worked on his brother's farm until 1862.

The late Civil War then assuming alarming proportions, Mr. Nofftz at once tendered his services in support of the Union cause, enlisting in Co. B, 76th Ill. Vol. Inf. He was engaged in many battles and skirmishes, doing his whole duty as a soldier, and participated with his comrades in the long siege of Vicksburg, being present at its surrender on the memorable 4th of July, 1863. He was also at the siege and evacuation of Jackson, Miss., July 17, at Champion Hills and Benton, Miss., and Jackson, La., the same year. He was at the siege and assault on Ft. Blakely, Ala., in 1865, and on the 22d of July of that year, received an honorable discharge. At the siege of Vicksburg he contracted rheumatism from exposure, by being compelled to lie in the ditches in the cold and wet, and at the engagement

at Blakely, Ala., was so jarred by the bursting of a shell, that he was almost deprived of his hearing and memory, which for a time seriously incapacitated him for duty. His company was under the command of Col. S. T. Busey, who had been promoted to the post made vacant by the resignation of Col. Mack.

After his discharge from service, our subject returned to Sadorus and bought forty acres of unimproved land upon which he at once commenced operating successfully, one of his first duties being the erection of a small house. In November, 1866, he was married to Miss Caroline Messman, and with his young bride immediately took up his abode at his little home. The parents of Mrs. Nofftz were Michael and Arena (Glove) Messman, natives of Germany, and now residents of this county. Mr. Nofftz has since added to his original tract, by three more purchases, and now has 280 acres of fine land under a good state of cultivation. In 1876 the first humble dwelling was replaced by a commodious residence, and here the family reside, in comfort and enjoyment.

Mr. and Mrs. Nofftz have become the parents of nine children—Flora A., Emma M., Anna A., Frederick A., Rudolph T., Hulda L., Edward T., Frank W. and Henry J.; the latter is deceased. Those living are all at home with their parents. Politically Mr. N. is independent, voting according to his honest convictions, regardless of party. He has served his district as School Director for several terms.



JAMES O'BRIEN, a valued member of the farming community of Pesotum Township, is a native of Tipperary County, Ireland, and was born in 1841. His parents, Morgan Patrick and Mary (Henesy) O'Brien, were natives of the same county as their son, where they followed farming through life, the death of the father occurring in 1847, and that of his widow eighteen years later, in 1865.

At the age of seventeen our subject became impressed with the great possibilities lying on the other side of the sea, and the prospects held out to the enterprising young men of the day, and accord-

ingly he bade farewell to the Emerald Isle and set sail for the United States, with anticipations of a bright future. He landed at New York and remained in that vicinity for one year, engaged in farming and railroading, then migrated to Sandusky, Ohio, where he was similarly engaged for years.

March 27, 1853, our subject was married to Margaret Duggan, the eldest daughter of Dennis and Ellen (Doherty) Duggan, natives of Ireland, who immigrated to this country in 1855. Their daughter, Mrs. O'Brien, came in 1850 with friends. Mr. Duggan first located in Ohio, but shortly afterward came to Illinois, locating in the vicinity of Champaign, this county, where his death occurred in February, 1856. His widow survived him twenty years and died at the age of seventy-five.

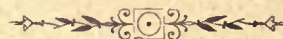
When James O'Brien first came to this county, he located in the city of Champaign, but in 1858 removed to Tolono and bought property in that place. In 1863 he determined on a trip to Ireland to visit his mother and brothers who were still living there, and to arrange some unsettled business. His father had died in 1847. He remained six months, and re-embarking sailed for his adopted country, and returned to his home in Tolono. The following year he bought eighty acres of land on section 12, in Pesotum Township, and at once commenced improving it. Afterward he purchased 120 acres more, but selling forty has now only 160 in the home farm. This is under a good state of cultivation and well drained.

Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien have become the parents of three children, only one of whom is now living: Morgan P., who was born March 10, 1854; he married Miss Mary Conner, of Rantoul; he is route agent on the Wabash Railroad. Dennis W. was born Sept. 22, 1856, and died in 1857; Mary E. was born Sept. 24, 1858; she married William E. Murphy, a merchant of Tolono, and died Jan. 14, 1885, leaving one child.

Prior to the late Civil War our subject spent some time in Louisiana as a contractor and builder on the levees, and while there became strongly imbued with pro-slavery ideas, entering thoroughly into the spirit of the Southern sentiment, but on his trip to Ireland, as above mentioned, he took

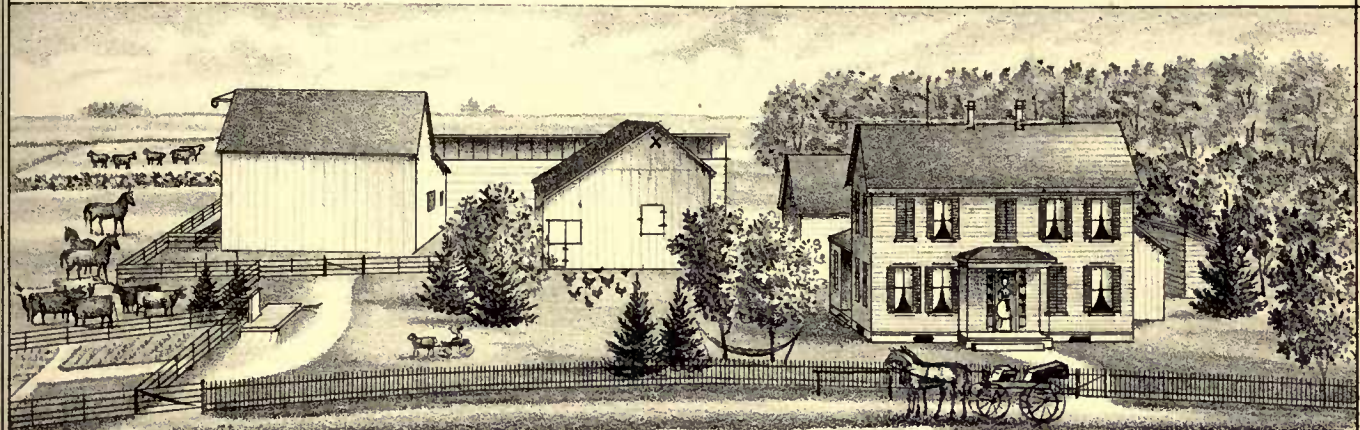
passage on the steamer Glasgow, which had on board the crew of the Alabama, the famous blockade runner, with the history of which all patriots are familiar. During the passage the crew indulged in so many petty insinuations, tending to aggravate Mr. O'Brien and his associates, that they became disgusted, and the consequence was their sympathies were aroused in favor of the Union, and they stood by it until the close of the war.

Mr. O'Brien has never had any political aspirations, but has served on the School Board for six years, and has always voted an independent ticket, but is Democratic in principle. He and his wife are members of the Roman Catholic Church at Tolono, and are highly esteemed for their excellent traits of character.

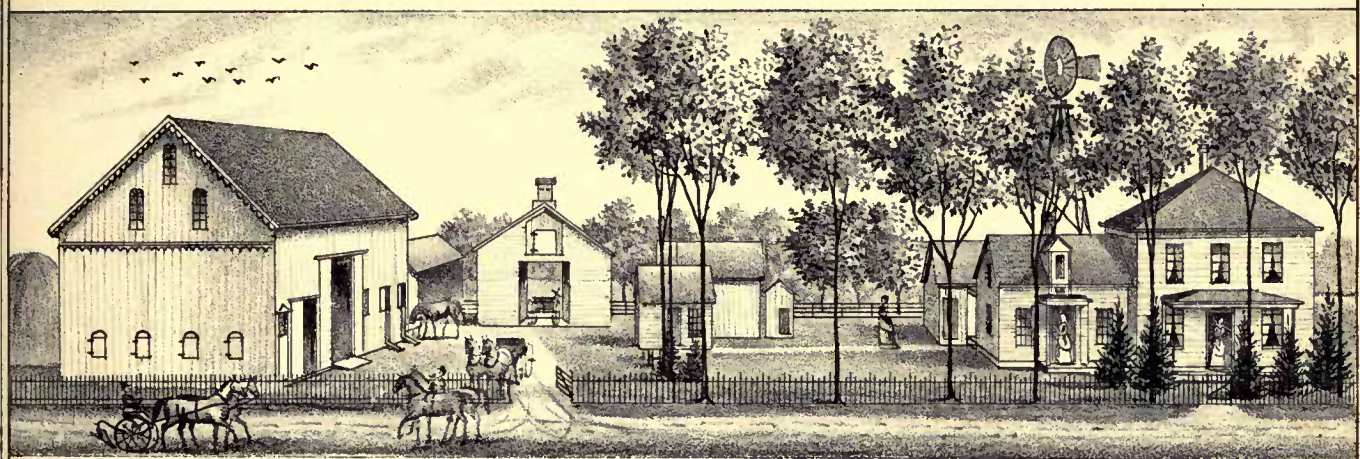


SAMUEL A. TODD, a representative of the hardware trade in Thomasboro, established his present business there in 1882. He carries a full line of shelf articles, and also deals largely in stoves, tinware, and everything kept in a well-appointed store of the kind. He has studied the wants of the people and by strict attention to business and square dealing has established a good business.

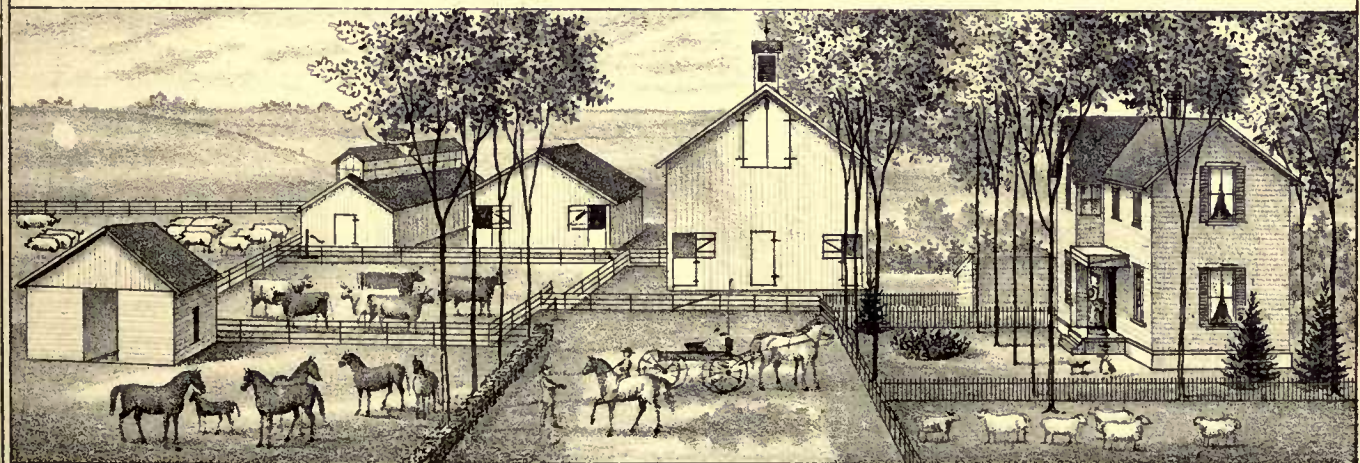
Mr. Todd is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Clarke County, March 14, 1850. His father, James Todd, was a native of Dauphin County, Pa., where his grandfather, Samuel Todd, carried on farming extensively and spent the last years of his life. James Todd was reared in his native county, whence after his marriage he removed to Clarke County, Ohio, and renting a tract of land engaged for a few years in farming. He then took up his abode in Springfield, the county seat, and purchasing an interest in a sawmill there, operated it until about 1857. He then sold out his interest in the mill, and coming to this State farmed on rented land in Tazewell County until his earthly labors ceased, in 1861. He had married in early life Miss Ann Maria Espy, a native of his own county in Pennsylvania. The household circle included four children, of whom the subject of this sketch



RESIDENCE OF J. C. REED, SEC. 16, PHILO TOWNSHIP.



RES. OF JOHN D. SELTZER, SEC. 30, RAYMOND TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF D. B. GEORGE, SEC. 2, TOLONO TOWNSHIP.

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was the eldest. One brother, David E., is a minister of the Congregational Church, stationed in Florida; Nancy M. became the wife of Oliver Pettyjohn, who is engaged in business at Farmington, Ill.; William A. is farming in Tazewell County, this State.

Our subject was seven years of age when his parents removed from Pennsylvania to Illinois, and four years later his father died. Two years afterward the mother was again married, and Samuel A. resided with her until he was nineteen years old. In the meantime he had received a good education and was now competent to engage in business for himself. In the years 1872-73 he was in the employ of the C., P. & S. W. R. R. Co., as Station Agent at Groveland, and after leaving this position engaged on a farm by the month. He lived economically, having a due respect for the value of money, and in 1876 was enabled to purchase eighty acres of land in Vermilion County, Ill., where he carried on farming until 1882. In the spring of that year he came to Thomasboro and established his present business.

Mr. Todd was married in Tazewell County, Sept. 10, 1874, to Miss Mary Sniffin. Mrs. Todd was born in Tazewell County, of which her parents were early pioneers; they are now deceased. Politically Mr. Todd is a "true-blue" Republican, and as a citizen takes a genuine interest in the welfare and advancement of his community.

JACOB G. CHAMBERS, M. D., who in 1882 abandoned the practice of his profession for the more congenial pursuits of farm life, is the possessor of a beautiful country estate located on section 11 of Sadorus Township. Here he has 480 acres of land, and a residence which would do credit to a modern city, being supplied with all the conveniences of life and the inventions which have contributed so much to the comfort of the household in its domestic relations. The dwelling stands in the midst of grounds finely laid out, and planted with choice shrubbery and shade trees, while the out-buildings in the rear are shapely and substantial. The fields stretch away on either side,

and in the summer season present a series of grain and pasture lands that are delightful to look upon. The Doctor devotes most of his attention to grain-raising, but has his farm well stocked with good grades of cattle and several fine horses. He may be readily pardoned for taking pride in his farm and household, while at the same time he possesses that liberal and public spirit which induces him whenever opportunity occurs to interest himself in whatever will benefit the community around him.

The subject of our sketch is a native of the Empire State, born in Tompkins County in 1842. He is the youngest child of Joseph and Sarah (Rymph) Chambers, natives of Ulster County, N. Y., and spent his early years at home pursuing his first studies in the common schools. He was fond of his books and advanced rapidly, and when thirteen years of age entered the Classical Department of Hobart College, where he remained two years, and thence went into the Medical Department of the same. After a two years' course he was considered fully qualified to assume the duties of a physician, and began the practice of his profession in Tioga, Pa., where he remained until the 24th of June, 1864. He then entered the army as Surgeon, becoming a member of the 190th Pennsylvania Infantry, in which he served his country until the preservation of the Union had been assured.

Dr. Chambers then returned to the Keystone State, where he resumed practice, but six months later removed to Watkins, N. Y. After practicing there two years he came to Illinois, locating in Douglas County in the spring of 1868. A year later he was married to Miss Anna Rock, a native of this township, and the daughter of William and Nancy (Beaver) Rock, who resided on a farm in this county. Soon after their marriage the young people settled down in Sadorus, where our subject continued in practice for three years. In riding through the country from time to time, the green fields and the air of contentment pervading the rural districts bred within him a desire to change his occupation. Accordingly, in the spring of 1872, having secured a farm of 160 acres, one and one-half miles from the village of Sadorus, he became a member of the agricultural community, and commenced with energy the duties of the new life before him. He has

never had reason to regret the change, and in his various employments pertaining to the farm has been remarkably successful. The property of his wife and himself includes 480 acres, which constitutes the home farm, and is all under a fine state of cultivation.

To the household of our subject and his wife there came in due time a little family of six children. George, the first born, died when eighteen months old; those surviving—William, Gertrude, Josephus, Clifton and Ralph—are at home with their parents. In 1869 the first residence was destroyed by fire. The following year another was erected, which the family occupied until 1886, when it was abandoned to other parties, the Doctor and his family leaving it to take up their residence at their present home.

Dr. Chambers has been prominent in the affairs of his township, and is now serving his fourth term as Supervisor. He is Democratic in politics, and although not aspiring to office takes an intelligent interest in county affairs, and exerts his influence in electing the men best qualified to look after the interests of the people. He is not at present connected with any religious organization, but Mrs. Chambers is a member and regular attendant of the Baptist Church. Socially the Doctor is a member of J. R. Gorm Lodge, A. F. & A. M., at Sadorus, and Sadorus Post, G. A. R., at the same place.



JARED D. BUSH, Postmaster at Rising Station, is also extensively engaged as a merchant and grain buyer in Hensley Township, of which he has been a resident since 1869. He is a native of Tippecanoe County, Ind., born Aug. 23, 1848, and the son of Jared and Charlotte Bush, natives respectively of New York and Kentucky. His grandfather, William Bush, was a native of Massachusetts and of Welsh ancestry. He removed to Indiana while it was yet a Territory, and before the days of railroads, the entire journey being made overland, and on which he was accompanied by his family. He purchased land from the Indians, and located near Dayton,

seven miles from Lafayette, in the locality known as Wild Cat Prairie. There he improved a large tract of land, which he occupied until his death, and was laid to rest in a pleasant spot on the old homestead which he had established in Sheffield Township.

His son, Jared, Sr., the father of our subject, was born near Utica, N. Y., in 1807, and was a young child when his parents removed to Indiana. He grew to manhood in Tippecanoe County, in the meantime learning the trade of a shoemaker, and when quite young had a shop of his own and carried on business in Dayton. He was of a speculative turn of mind, and also engaged in the buying and selling of land. During the last years of his life he devoted his time principally to farming. His death occurred in 1848, seven months before the birth of our subject. He was cut down very suddenly, and while away from his family. He left home one Monday morning with a neighbor, bound for Peru, Ind., nearly 100 miles distant. The journey was made on horseback, and Mr. Bush was taken ill the day of his arrival, and died eight days following. There being no railroads nor telegraphs it was several days before his family knew of his death. The eldest child of the bereaved mother was but fifteen years old when deprived of the father's care. Mrs. Bush bravely managed and kept her children together until they grew to man and womanhood. They were William R., now a resident of Howard County, Ind.; David F., who enlisted in the army when eighteen years of age, becoming a member of the 10th Indiana Battery, and died in the service; Alma, Mrs. McKee, of Hensley Township, this county, and Charlotte, who lives in Howard County, Ind.

Our subject assisted his elder brothers in clearing the farm, and when fifteen years old commenced working out by the day or month. He made his home with his mother until his marriage, then rented a farm in Benton County, Ind., which, however, he only occupied a few months. In February, 1882, he opened a store at Rising Station in this county, where he has since been engaged in business. He succeeded in having the post-office re-established here, and was appointed Postmaster May 2, 1882. The year following he commenced

buying grain, and has been remarkably successful in this branch of trade.

The marriage of Jared D. Bush and Miss Ellen A. Royal took place March 30, 1882, at the home of the bride's parents in Dayton, Tippecanoe Co., Ind. Mrs. Bush was born in that county, and is the daughter of William and Eunice Royal, both natives of Ohio, whence they removed to Tippecanoe County in 1850. Of this union there have been born three children—Mabel C., Alma K. and Julia F. Mr. and Mrs. Bush are prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church at Rising, and our subject, politically, is a firm supporter of the Republican party.

The maternal grandmother of Mr. Bush was a native of Scotland, and when twelve years of age was enticed on board an ocean steamer by a lawyer and his wife who were bound for America. By threats she was induced to keep quiet during the voyage, but after their arrival in the United States she ran away from them and for a time made her own living. She finally married and settled in the South. Her husband, Mr. Clarke, was of American birth and Scotch ancestry.

LEWIS H. LORENZ. This highly respected resident of East Bend Township is essentially a self-made man, one who began life with only his own resources, and attained to a good position as a business man and citizen. His birthplace was on the other side of the Atlantic in the Kingdom of Saxony, and his parents were Gottlieb and Theodora Lorenz, a brief sketch of whom is given in the biography of Ernst Lorenz, elsewhere in this ALBUM. The parents emigrated to America when their son, our subject, was but two years old, locating first in Cincinnati, Ohio, whence they shortly afterward removed to Covington, Ky., where he grew to manhood. He attended school quite steadily until seventeen years old, but in the meantime had been trained to habits of industry and was accustomed to assist his father in the shop and market, which he continued until leaving the parental roof to seek his fortunes in the West.

After coming into this county Mr. Lorenz rented

land and engaged in farming with fair success, then purchased a tract on section 27, in East Bend Township, which he occupied until 1878. He then went to Elliott, Ford County, where he opened a stock of goods costing \$17. He then decided to change his occupation and opened a meat-market which he conducted one year, when he sold out and removed to Paxton, where he carried on a hotel for eighteen months following. In February, 1881, he removed to Dewey, and in partnership with his brother conducted a mercantile business four months. He then put up a store building, and prepared to engage in general merchandising.

He now carries a large and varied stock and has built up a good patronage. He has been honest and methodical in his transactions, prompt to meet his obligations, and in all respects has gained the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens.

Our subject has been particularly fortunate in the choice of a wife and helpmeet, Mrs. L. being of a business turn of mind and increasing the income by carrying on a millinery store. This lady, who was formerly Miss Matilda Heinemann, and who was married to our subject Aug. 5, 1872, was born in Aurora, Ind., Feb. 26, 1854. Her parents were John N. and Julia (Market) Heinemann. Mr. and Mrs. L. have two interesting children—Lillian A. and Minnie M. They belong to the Lutheran Church, and our subject uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party.

CAPT. THOMAS JEFFERSON MATHENY, Postmaster of Thomasboro, came to this vicinity in the spring of 1869. For the following three years he engaged in farming in this county, and in 1873, with limited means, commenced in the grocery business at Thomasboro. His first move was to buy a lot, where he put up a small frame building, in the front part of which he opened a store, and the rear part consisted of a small room occupied by his family. The contrast between then and now is indeed great. He still carries on the grocery business, but has now a large fine store building, with a handsome dwelling adjoining, and is enjoying the patronage of the best

people of his township. He received the appointment of Postmaster after President Cleveland became Chief Executive, the duties of which office he has discharged in a creditable manner.

Capt. Matheny is a descendant of a good family, originally from England, his great-grandfather having emigrated to America during the Revolutionary War. He located in Virginia, where he reared a family and spent the remainder of his days. His son, Michael, born in the Old Dominion, removed to Kentucky previous to 1800, being among the earliest settlers of Jessamine County. He carried on a farm and was the owner of slaves, but afterward purchased a large plantation in Mercer County, where he remained until his death. In his family was Francis A., the father of our subject, who studied medicine and became eminent as a practitioner. He married in Kentucky, and in 1830 removed to Indiana, locating in Morgan County, from which, in about 1850, he removed to Brown County. After this latter removal he abandoned his practice and engaged in merchandising, carrying on a general store at Nashville.

Francis Matheny was a man of much force of character and succeeded well in business. In due time he purchased a farm a mile north of Nashville, to which he retired and spent his declining years, relieved from active labor and business cares. Politically he was a staunch Democrat, and was elected to represent Mercer County in the State Legislature. Before leaving Kentucky he had been married in Mercer County, to Miss Eliza L. Ekles, who was a native of that county. She removed with her husband to Brown County, and died on the homestead in 1866. The parental family included thirteen children.

Thomas Matheny of our sketch was born in Morgan County, Ind., Jan. 31, 1844. He received a common-school education, and after the outbreak of the war volunteered as a Union soldier in Co. H, 82d Ind. Vol. Inf. He participated in the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, the capture and siege of Atlanta, going with Sherman on his famous march to the sea, and afterward being present at the grand review in Washington after the surrender of Lee, and when the troops were preparing to be mustered out and return home. He en-

listed as a private, was promoted First Lieutenant in 1864, and presented with a Captain's commission, and commanded the company until receiving his honorable discharge. His war record was eminently a creditable one, which he may justly look back upon with pride and satisfaction.

After bidding adieu to his comrades of the tented field, Capt. Matheny returned home and visited for a short time among his old friends and acquaintances, then started out to view the country west of the Mississippi. After visiting the States of Iowa and Nebraska he returned to Illinois, and located upon a farm in Mason County, where he lived two years. In 1870 he came to this county, continued farming until 1873, and then removed to Thomasboro, where he established himself in the grocery business. His subsequent history we have already detailed. Mr. Matheny was married, July 22, 1870, to Miss Susan C. Freisner, a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, born in 1849, and the daughter of Samuel and Mary Freisner.

LEONIDAS STEPHENSON, retired farmer, is now a resident of Thomasboro, where, surrounded by all the comforts of life, he is enjoying the fruits of the labor of earlier years, and the respect and confidence of a large circle of friends. He commenced life for himself in an extremely modest manner, having only his own resources to depend upon, and is what may be termed a self-made man. He has battled bravely and successfully with the difficulties of life, built up a good home and a competency, and with his worthy and excellent wife reared a family of ten children, of whom any parents may be proud, for they, like their fathers, are industrious, honest, faithful to duty, and will hand down to future generations a name of which their descendants will be justly proud.

The Stephenson family possesses a good record, having descended from Scottish ancestry, and possessing in a remarkable degree the sterling integrity and uncompromising honesty of their race. The father of our subject, Henry Stephenson, was born in Glasgow, and when a youth sixteen years old

emigrated to America with his parents. They located upon the present site of Cincinnati, which was then occupied by a few straggling log houses. After residing there a few years they removed into Warren County, Ohio, where the father purchased land, and where the family remained until the death of the latter. The son Henry had learned the trade of a weaver in Scotland, at which he worked in Cincinnati, but after the removal to Warren County devoted his time to farming.

After reaching manhood Henry Stephenson purchased land near Lebanon, was married, and lived there until about 1825, when, accompanied by his family, he started for the new State of Indiana, making the journey overland with teams. They camped and cooked by the wayside and slept in their wagons at night. After reaching their destination Mr. Stephenson entered a tract of Government land in Union Township, Boone County, in the wilderness, where he first built a log cabin for the shelter of his family, and in due time cleared a large farm and erected suitable frame buildings. After a life of industry, during which he built up a good record as a father and citizen, he departed this life in the summer of 1843. The maiden whom he had chosen to share his fortunes, Miss Phebe Foote, was born in West Virginia, and survived her husband for a period of thirty-one years.

Of the nine children in the parental family, Leonidas of our sketch was the second in order of birth. He first opened his eyes to the light in Warren County, Ohio, Sept. 11, 1822, and was but eleven years old when the family removed to Indiana. His early studies were conducted on the subscription plan, in a log cabin during the winter seasons, and when old enough he assisted his father on the farm. He remained with the family after the father's death until he assumed domestic ties of his own. After this event he rented first a farm near Lebanon, operating there for ten years, and then purchased a tract of timber land ten miles from the old homestead in Center Township. Here he pursued the same routine of his father before him, chopping down the forest trees and first building a cabin for the reception of his family. He cleared a part of the land and occupied it until 1865, then sold out, and coming to this State first purchased a

farm in East Lincoln Township, Logan County, which he occupied until 1883. In the spring of that year he parted with his property and purchased land lying adjacent to the village of Thomasboro. At the same time he purchased a section of land in Somer and Rantoul Townships, which is now managed by his children. Since taking possession of his property near Thomasboro Mr. Stephenson has put up a set of fine frame buildings which are furnished with all the conveniences and comforts of modern life.

Our subject was married, Nov. 2, 1843, to Miss Nancy Stephenson, a native of his own county, and born May 28, 1824. Mrs. S. has been the cheerful sharer of her husband's life in storm as well as sunshine, and the tie between them was strengthened by the birth of ten children. Of these the record is as follows: Henry W. is married and farming in Hensley Township; Lydia, the wife of William N. Beck, is living with her husband on a farm in Scott Township; Lanra died at the age of four years; Amazetta married G. B. Roberts, and resides in Chillicothe, Mo.; Mary, the wife of Charles Thompson, lives in Rantoul Township, this county; Anna, Mrs. Wiley Buckles, is a resident of the city of Champaign; John W. is farming in Rantoul Township; Charles and Roy are twins, the former remains with his parents and the latter is located at Chillicothe, Mo.; Ora L. is still with his parents.

Mr. Stephenson votes the Democratic ticket, and by a thorough course of reading and communication with other intelligent men, keeps himself well posted upon current events. Mrs. Stephenson early became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

FREDERICK PELL, a representative farmer and citizen of Philo Township, is proprietor of a valuable country estate, consisting of 200 acres of good land, a fine residence, and ample and convenient barns and outhouses. A view of the premises will be found on another page of this work. The land has been brought to a high state of cultivation by the aid of 2,000 rods of tile, and in all other respects constitutes the model

homestead, conducted by a first-class and progressive agriculturist. Besides the property where he resides, Mr. Pell owns eighty acres on section 8, in Philo Township, and 120 acres on section 20, in Urbana, all of which is adapted to the production of the choicest crops of the Prairie State.

Our subject became a resident of Champaign County in 1856. He was then a young man and emigrated alone from Lewis County, Ky., where he was born on Quick's Run, Sept. 8, 1832. He is the son of Henry Pell, a native of Virginia, of English descent. The latter, when about sixteen years old, removed from his native State with his widowed mother to Lewis County, Ky., where they took up a homestead on Quick's Run, and there lived until the death of the mother, which took place at the age of eighty years. Henry Pell was married in early manhood to Miss Sarah Orms, who was born, reared, married and died in Lewis County, her decease occurring in March, 1885, when she was eighty-five years old. The father of our subject, who was born the same year as his wife, in 1800, is yet living on the old homestead in Kentucky, a hale and hearty old man, who still preserves his early habits of industry and is remarkably active for one of his years. He was for a long period a Deacon in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which the mother was also a worthy and consistent member. Henry Pell before the war affiliated with the Democratic party, but since that time has warmly supported Republican principles.

Mr. Pell of this history was the fifth of ten children, four sons and six daughters. All of the former and four of the latter still survive. The entire family lived to maturity and located in homes of their own. The early life of our subject was passed in his native county, and he pursued his first studies in the subscription schools, remaining under the home roof until the spring of 1856, when he set out for the prairies of Illinois. He was equipped with two horses and a small amount of money, and after arriving in this county, rented a farm, upon which he remained until 1861. He then purchased a tract of land which he has now converted into a highly improved farm and comfortable homestead. Of late years he has given much attention to stock-raising, feeding and selling annually numbers of cattle


and hogs, and has also been engaged at times in the breeding of horses. His present possessions are the result of his own industry and economy, and he furnishes a forcible illustration of what may be accomplished from a small beginning.

Mr. Pell was married, Sept. 24, 1857, in Urbana Township, to Miss Martha Jones, who was born in Brown County, Ohio, in 1830, and came to Illinois with a married sister in 1856. She died at her home in Urbana on the 20th of March, 1865, while Mr. Pell was serving in the army. By this union there were born four children: Ida died in infancy; Charles J. married Miss Della Pratt, who died in 1885; he lives in Kansas, as also does James R., who is single; Martha died in infancy.

Two years after the close of the war, on the 24th of September, 1867, Mr. Pell was married to Mrs. Mary A. (Kiler) Cover, daughter of John and Rebecca (Lowe) Kiler, who were both natives of Baltimore, Md. They emigrated to Ohio after their marriage and located on a farm in Greene County, where they died, the father when sixty and the mother when about fifty years of age. Mr. Kiler had been successful, financially, during his lifetime, and both parents were members of the Universalist Church. Mr. K. was elected Representative of Greene County in the State Legislature, serving three years. Politically he was a firm adherent of the Whig party. Mrs. Pell was the fourth child of the parental household, which included three sons and six daughters. Of these only three are now living. The wife of our subject was first married in Greene County, Ohio, April 16, 1850, to John F. Cover, also a native of Baltimore, Md., but reared in Greene County, Ohio, whence he removed to Illinois the same year of his marriage. He departed this life in Urbana Township in 1863. He served as a Union soldier during the late war, being a member of Co. G, 76th Ill. Vol. Inf. Eighteen months after enlisting he was taken ill at Natchez, Miss., and after being sent home, died a week later. He left four children, one of whom, Frank, is now deceased. John, a tile-maker, married Miss Eunice Barton, and resides near Camargo, Douglas Co., Ill.; Frances, Mrs. George Garrett, is a resident of Urbana Township; Sallie lives in Peoria. Of her marriage with Mr. Pell there have been born

five children, of whom three are deceased—Fred, Blanche and Harry, all dying young. Those surviving are Henry N. and Mary M., at home.

On the 12th of February, 1862, during the progress of the late war, Mr. Pell enlisted in Co. G, 76th Ill. Vol. Inf., under command of Capt. Park, of the Army of the Tennessee, and participated in the battles of Vicksburg and Jackson, and was in many other engagements and skirmishes, escaping, however, without a wound. He received his honorable discharge Aug. 5, 1865, and was mustered out at Chicago. Politically he is a stanch Democrat, and has held the office of Commissioner of Highways.

 **P**ERIS S. COLER, now living in quiet retirement in the village of Sadorus, spent his early life among the hills of Knox County, Ohio, where he was born on his father's farm, Sept. 30, 1831. He was the third in the first family of children born to Isaac Coler, whose first wife was formerly Miss Amelia Nichols, a native of New Jersey. The father of our subject was a Virginian by birth. Mrs. Amelia Coler passed from earth at the home of her husband in Knox County, Ohio, in 1837. Mr. C. was afterward married to Miss Mary Cathers, and in 1863 he removed from Ohio to Sadorus, where he spent the remainder of his life.

The subject of this biography, when a youth of nineteen years, left home to care for himself, and coming West spent eight or nine months in this county. He then went back to Ohio, and four months later returned to Illinois with his brother-in-law, James Hoskinson, locating in Clark County. They remained there until 1853, then came to this county, where our subject purchased 240 acres of wild land and began to improve it. In this he was aided by Mr. H., with whom he made his home. Two years later the sister of our subject, who had come with her husband to the West, was called hence. Mr. H. then returned to Ohio, and Mr. Coler occupied the premises alone for two years following; he then sold out and purchased 480 acres on section 2, in Sadorus Township, which he took possession of and began to improve.

On the 12th of July, 1857, there occurred a very important event in the life of Mr. Coler, namely, his marriage with Miss Rebecca Rock. This lady was the seventh child in a family of ten born to William and Nancy (Beavers) Rock, natives of Maryland, who came to Champaign County during the pioneer days. Her parents long since passed away, but their children are living in this county, and the important points in the history of their lives are recorded elsewhere in this work.

Mr. and Mrs. Coler, after their marriage, remained but a year on their farm, on account of the failing health of our subject. They then moved into Urbana, where not long afterward Mr. Coler was stricken down with typhoid fever, from the effects of which he did not recover for two years. At the expiration of this time, his health being much improved, they returned to rural life. Mr. C. purchased his father's homestead of the heirs, in 1867. This was located on the line between Sadorus and Colfax Townships. They lived upon this about nine years, and in the meantime Mr. Coler had purchased a stock of drugs, which he placed in a store at Sadorus, and in which he carried on a lucrative trade, in connection with farming, with his brother-in-law, Dr. Chambers. His health again failing, he was now obliged to retire entirely from business and farming pursuits. The following six years were spent in traveling west and south, in which journeying he was accompanied by his wife. At the expiration of this time, having somewhat recovered his vitality, he returned to Sadorus, and purchased the home where he and his wife now live. Mr. Coler devotes his attention to the simple duties connected with his family affairs.

The four children of Mr. and Mrs. Coler were born as follows: Ida N., June 3, 1858; Dora A., July 31, 1861; Fannie M., Sept. 2, 1876, and Annie C., April 9, 1883. The latter was born in Kansas while the parents were traveling in that State. Ida N., in 1876, became the wife of W. F. Nelson, a real-estate dealer in Kansas City and Nebraska; they have one child, Benham C. Coler, born in 1877. Dora, in 1878, became the wife of W. C. Chapman, who owns and occupies a good farm in Pesotum Township. There were born to them four children, of whom one, Fannie L., is deceased.

Those surviving are Wilfred C., Ida C. and Francis B. Fannie M. Coler died in infancy; Annie C., the youngest, is a bright little girl of four years old, the joy and pride of her parents' hearts. Mr. Coler, although no politician, casts his vote with the Democratic party. Mrs. C. is a member of the Baptist Church. Their home is pleasantly located, and they are surrounded by a large circle of friends.



AUGUST SPERLING, a representative farmer of East Bend Township, has established his permanent home a long way from the place of his birth, the latter being at the foot of the Hartz Mountains in the Province of Saxony, Prussia. The date thereof was June 14, 1834. His father, Freidrich, was born at the same place, where the grandfather of our subject, in early manhood, learned the trade of a millwright, and operated a flouring and oil mill for many years, and until he departed from the scenes of his earthly labors. He had married, and raised a fine family, among the sons being Freidrich, the father of our subject, who attended school during his boyhood and youth, and when of suitable years went into the mills with his father. After the death of the latter he inherited the mill property, of which he retained possession until 1850.

During the latter-named year Mr. Sperling sold his interest in the paternal estate, and setting sail from Hamburg, after a safe voyage, landed in New York City with his wife and two children. They proceeded directly to Wisconsin, and the father, locating in Sheboygan, lived upon the interest of his money for two years following. He then purchased a farm four miles south of the city, to which he removed, and made every preparation to live happily and comfortably without excessive labor. He was a man of great generosity, and became security for friends, by which he lost all his property excepting the homestead of forty acres. Five years later he sold this and became a resident of East Bend Township, this county, making his home with his son, our subject. He has now arrived at the advanced age of eighty years. The mother, who was formerly Miss Christine Baller,

died on the 3d of July, 1866. One daughter, Dorothea, died in Prussia when about nine years old; the second child died in infancy; Frederick is farming in East Bend Township, and August, of our sketch, was the fourth and youngest child.

In accordance with the laws and customs of his native country, our subject was placed in school at an early age, which he attended quite steadily until the family came to this country, at which time he was eleven years old. After reaching Sheboygan, Wis., he resumed his studies in an English school for about two years, after which he was engaged on a farm with his father and in a flouring-mill in Sheboygan until 1861. In the spring of that year he commenced operating a mill at Winona, Minn., which he afterward abandoned to engage in the grain trade. A brief experience in this department of business was satisfactory, and he resumed farming. In 1865 he came to this county and located on a farm in East Bend Township, where he operated as a renter for six years. In the meantime, in company with his brother, he purchased 240 acres, which they fenced and broke as opportunity permitted, and in 1871 put up a dwelling and other necessary buildings and took possession. The brothers afterward divided the property, our subject coming into possession of the north half of the tract purchased. Upon this he has planted a large variety of fruit and shade trees, and erected a fine set of frame buildings, which are second to none in the township. He has also operated quite extensively as a beekeeper; he has about thirty-five stands, and in this department of agriculture has been very successful, and is enlarging his facilities as an apiarist each year. In the breeding of fine stock also he has been very successful.

The marriage of our subject took place on the 22d of April, 1861, the maiden of his choice being Miss Anna J. Burkhardt. Mrs. Sperling was born in the Kingdom of Wurtemberg, Oct. 30, 1841, and is the daughter of Conrad and Maria Burkhardt. Her father died in the old country in about 1850, and afterward the mother, with six of her children, in 1852, emigrated to the United States, where two of her brothers had preceded her. She located first in Buffalo, N. Y., and later removed to Kiel, Wis., where her death took place about





A yearzel



Ann Margaret Yearzel

1884. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Sperling are, Emma, Frederick, Anna, Alwin, Godfrey and Hannah.

Mr. Sperling votes the Republican ticket, and is regarded as one of the most valued members of his community. His farm is one of the best conducted in East Bend Township, and invariably attracts the eye of the passing traveler on account of its shapely and substantial buildings and the general air of thrift and prosperity that surrounds it.

MRS. ANN M. YEAZEL, widow of the late Abraham Yeazel, who was a prosperous and highly respected farmer of Homer Township, was the daughter of John and Mary (Spangler) Umbenhowe, natives of Pennsylvania, where they were reared and married. Her father was born in 1785, and died in Champaign County, Ill., in 1830. He was a worthy citizen, and a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife, Mary, was born in 1787, survived her husband twenty-seven years, and departed this life in Sidney Township in 1857. The thirteen children of this household were James, Anthony, Ann M., John, Samuel, Mary, Elizabeth, William, Isaiah, Jacob, George, Thomas and Nellie. Their daughter, Ann M. of our sketch, was born Oct. 12, 1813, and was but two years of age when her parents removed to Berkeley County, W. Va., where she received her education.

When a young lady of nineteen years old Miss Umbenhowe went to Ohio, and there became acquainted with her future husband, Abraham Yeazel. This friendship ripened into a mutual affection, and they united their lives and fortunes on the 30th of October, 1834, with the assistance of Rev. Hinkle, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the wedding taking place near Springfield, Ohio. Mr. Yeazel was a native of Clarke County, Ohio, born six miles east of Springfield, May 15, 1813. He commenced the struggle of life without means, but was possessed of much natural ability, being enterprising and industrious, and in due time after coming to Illinois had accumulated a sum sufficient to purchase eighty acres of land. When this was paid for he had fifty cents left. The land was only

partially improved, and the task before him would have discouraged a man with less resolution and energy. He kept steadily onward, however, living economically and disbursing his funds in the wisest manner, and at the time of his death, besides giving to each of his adopted children a small farm, had 200 acres reserved for his own use.

Mr. and Mrs. Yeazel became the parents of one child only, William J., who only lived a few weeks. He was born Aug. 13, 1835, and died on the 4th of October following. Early in life they united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, but in 1876 became members of the Christian Church, with which Mr. Y. was connected at the time of his death. This sad event occurred on the 4th of March, 1887, upon the homestead which he had labored so many years to build up and in which efforts he succeeded so admirably.

Mr. Yeazel is remembered by all as an honest man and a good citizen, and one who contributed his full share toward the building up of his township, having come here in the early days (May, 1835,) while a large portion of the prairie was waiting to be cultivated by the enterprising emigrant. He represented Homer Township on the Board of Supervisors for several years and was otherwise connected with local affairs. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Yeazel has managed the farm with rare good judgment and ability, her aim and object being to sustain the reputation which it gained by the efforts of her deceased husband.

Mr. and Mrs. Yeazel lived together, sharing each other's joys and sorrows, for over half a century, laboring with one object in view, the establishment of a home, but at the same time helping others. Their portraits, which are placed on a contiguous page, will be recognized and appreciated by all who enjoyed their friendship or acquaintance.

ADOLPHUS W. HYDE, one of the most extensive and successful farmers of East Bend Township, owns a tract of valuable land on section 25, which he has brought to a good state of cultivation and upon it erected a handsome and substantial set of frame buildings.

He came on horseback to this State from Indiana, in 1850. After his marriage he located first in Switzerland County, Ind., whence he removed two years later to this county, making the journey with a pair of horses and wagon. He and his young wife the first year lived three miles east of Mahomet, and in the spring of 1853 came to the present site of Champaign, where our subject rented land, which is now included in the city limits and covered with dwellings. He remained in that vicinity until 1869, in the meantime having purchased a part of his present farm. It now contains 320 acres, most of which was uncultivated at the time of purchase. The fields are now mostly enclosed with beautiful hedges, and Mr. A. has embellished the ground around the residence by the planting of shade trees and choice shrubs. The barn and other out-buildings are of first-class description, and the stock and machinery well sheltered and cared for.

Mr. Hyde is a native of Allensville, Switzerland Co., Ind., his birth taking place Feb. 16, 1825. His father, Amasa Hyde, a native of Vermont, was born near Rutland in 1796. He was the son of Walter Hyde, a native of the same State. His father, it is supposed, was of English birth and parentage, and was one of the pioneer settlers of the Green Mountain State, where he spent the last years of his life. Walter Hyde removed from Vermont to New York when a young man, and thence to Indiana in 1835, where his death occurred about 1844, at the home of his son, in Switzerland County. He married, in Ontario County, N. Y., Miss Paulina Bennett, a native of that county, born March 10, 1797. In 1818 they removed to Indiana, making the journey via the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers on a raft. He leased a tract of land in Switzerland County for a period of seven years, then purchased seventy acres in Cotton Township, of which fifty acres were cleared, and which he soon afterward sold at a good profit, and bought 160 acres of heavy timber, where he first put up a log cabin and proceeded to chop down the forest trees. The logs were rolled together and burned, the stumps dug out of the ground and also burned, and after being raked off the land was ready for the plow.

Amasa Hyde in the above manner prepared about 120 acres for cultivation, and in due time

put up a good set of farm buildings. He was a man of influence and standing in his community, and after building up a good record as a citizen, neighbor, friend and father, departed this life on the 10th of February, 1864. The mother survived for a period of twenty-one years, and died at the home of her son, two miles distant from the old homestead, in November, 1885. The parental family included eleven children, of whom four died young and seven lived to mature years. William B. is a resident of Polk County, Mo.; Samuel died in Switzerland County, Ind., in about 1885; Rosina married William McFadden, and lives in Switzerland County, Ind.; Adolphus W. of our sketch was the fourth child; Olive became the wife of William Peabody, and died in East Bend Township in 1872; Wesley is a resident of Maples, Allen Co., Ind.; Albert occupies the old homestead.

Our subject was reared on his father's farm and educated in the pioneer schools. His first studies were conducted in a log cabin, and he attended school principally in the winter season, the remainder of the year assisting to clear the land and till the soil. He remained under the parental roof until attaining his majority, and then, in partnership with his brother, engaged in farming on a portion of the land belonging to his father. They operated together for three years, when our subject assumed the management of the homestead. Two years later he decided to locate in the Prairie State.

After having laid his plans for the establishment of a future home, Mr. Hyde, on the 6th of November, 1850, was united in marriage with Miss Sophia H. Choat. Mrs. H. was born in Posey Township, Switzerland Co., Ind., Jan. 25, 1828, on the farm of her father, Cautious J. Choat, and was reared to womanhood by her parents, with whom she remained until her marriage. Mr. Choat, a native of Vermont, was the son of Seth S. Choat, of Massachusetts. The latter located in Vermont at an early period in its history, whence he emigrated later to Indiana, and in 1850 to Illinois, where he spent the remainder of his life. His death occurred at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Moss, in 1864. His son, Cautious J., the father of Mrs. Hyde, was about sixteen years old when his parents removed from Vermont to Indiana. He remained with them

until reaching manhood, and was married in Switzerland County to Miss Elizabeth Cunningham. She also was a native of the Green Mountain State.

After marriage the young people remained in Switzerland County, Ind., until 1845, when they came to Illinois, and Mr. C. purchased a tract of land five miles south of the city of Peoria, upon which he located and remained until his death. The mother had died in Switzerland County, Ind., in 1835. The six children of Mr. and Mrs. Hyde are located as follows: Elizabeth C., the wife of George Durbin, lives in Wolcott, Ind.; Peoria A. is the wife of Joseph Neal, a prosperous farmer of East Bend Township, this county; Albert A. is a resident of Hoopeston, Vermilion Co., Ill.; Callie A. became the wife of James H. Abbott, and lives in Logan County, this State; Bruce A. and Lewis A. are at home with their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. H. became members of the Protestant Methodist Church in 1873, and have contributed liberally and cheerfully to the support of the society in their community since that time. Mr. Hyde was an adherent of the Whig party early in life, but on its abandonment by the organization of the Republican, cheerfully endorsed the principles of the latter, with which he has cast his vote continuously since that time.

ELIAS L. HARLESS. The subject of this sketch, a resident of Condit Township, was born among the hills of the Buckeye State, and with its free air imbibed that self-dependent spirit which has distinguished him as a worthy representative of the industrious element which has brought this country to its present proud position. He began the serious business of life with limited means, but took good care of his funds as they accumulated, and in due time was rewarded by the consciousness that he was "getting on" in the world, and the prospect of becoming of some importance in both business and social circles. There is no doubt that this is a most comfortable state of mind and spurs a man on to still greater exertions. He was a wise man who some time since made the statement that "nothing succeeds like success."

Mr. Harless is a descendant of excellent German ancestry, being the son of Elias Harless, Sr., and the grandson of Elias Harless, whose parents came direct from the Fatherland. They located in the Keystone State when it was scarcely removed from its condition as a Territory, where they remained a number of years, and then, with a family of children, removed to Virginia, where the latter were reared to the estate of men and women. Among them was Elias, the father of our subject, who was born in the Old Dominion and there reared and married. Afterward he removed to Ohio, locating first in Miami County, whence he removed two years later to Darke County, and was among the earliest settlers of Washington Township. He purchased a tract of timber land and erected a cabin in the wilderness when game of all kinds was plenty and he could stand in his doorway and shoot deer as they passed by.

Elias Harless, Sr., lived to see the country well developed, and cleared a farm, establishing a comfortable home, where he spent the remainder of his days. His death occurred in May, 1881, when he was about eighty-four years of age. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Naomi Layton. She was born in Virginia in 1796, and departed this life at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Skidmore, in Darke County, Ohio, on the 6th of March, 1886, in the ninetieth year of her age. She was a lady remarkable for her sprightliness and intelligence, and was in perfectly good health, her death being the result of an accident, she having fallen and broken her hip, which proved fatal ten days later. She was the mother of fourteen children, all of whom, with one exception, grew to mature years.

The subject of this history was the eleventh child of the parental household, and passed his boyhood and youth in the manner common to the sons of pioneers, receiving his early education in a log cabin. He pursued his studies at the Seminary in Randolph County and fitted himself for a teacher. He came to Illinois in 1855, and opened his first school in Logan County, where he taught nine years in succession. At the expiration of that time he concluded to turn his attention to farming, and operated on rented land until 1868, then came into

Champaign County and took possession of the farm which he now owns and occupies. It was a wild tract of open prairie at the time of purchase, as was also the greater part of the land adjacent. He at once commenced its improvement and cultivation, erected a good set of frame buildings, has all the land enclosed, and produces some of the finest crops in the Prairie State. The residence is a tasteful and substantial structure and the barn and other out-buildings are those of the modern and progressive farmer.

Mr. Harless was married in Logan County, to Miss Martha E. Myers, a native of Springfield, Ill., and the daughter of Elijah Myers, of Pennsylvania, and one of the early pioneers of Sangamon County. Mr. M. was a skillful farmer and mechanic, and removed from Springfield to Logan County, where he purchased a farm and still lives. Of this marriage there have been born three children: Josephine, Mrs. White, is a resident of East Bend Township; Zeni was born in 1872, and Alvah in 1883. These two latter reside at home with their parents. Our subject and wife are consistent members of the Christian Church, and Mr. H., politically, is a decided Republican.



EMANUEL RADEBAUGH, who has been a resident of this county since the spring of 1872, is the possessor of a comfortable homestead on section 16, Champaign Township, which comprises 100 acres of finely improved land and a good set of farm buildings. He is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Pleasant Township, Fairfield County, Nov. 11, 1841. His father, Peter, and his grandfather, John Radebaugh, were natives of Bedford County, Pa., to which the grandfather, Nicholas R., removed from the eastern part of the Keystone State in the pioneer days. The latter cleared a large farm in Bedford County, of which he remained a resident until 1802. He then sold out his interests in Pennsylvania, and, accompanied by his wife, children and grandchildren, turned his steps westward, and settled in Fairfield County, Ohio, at an early period in the history of that region. The Indians still roamed the wilderness,

the present site of Lancaster, the county seat, being one of their camping grounds.

Nicholas Radebaugh at this time, although beyond his prime, still possessed the energy which characterized his youth, and immediately commenced the improvement of a farm. He added to his first claim as time passed on, and at one time owned upward of 5,000 acres of land. He lived and labored until 1850, his death then occurring after he had arrived at the unusual age of one hundred and three years. His son John, the grandfather of our subject, who was at the time of the removal to Ohio a married man with a family, also cleared a farm from the wilderness and established a comfortable homestead, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying in about 1849, a short time before the death of his venerable father.

Peter Radebaugh, the father of our subject, was in his second year when his parents located in Fairfield County, Ohio, where he was reared to manhood. In the meantime he assisted his father in clearing the farm, received a limited education in the pioneer schools, and remained under the parental roof until his marriage. After this event he settled upon a tract of land in Pleasant Township, Fairfield County, which had been given him by his grandfather, and where he lived until his death in 1864. His wife, formerly Miss Sarah Simon, was born in Bedford County, Pa., and lives on the old homestead in Ohio.

Of the eight children born to the parents of our subject, Emanuel was the third. He was reared, like his forefathers, to farming pursuits, attended school during his childhood and youth, and remained with his parents until twenty-one years of age, when he married, and rented land near the old home. This he operated for three years, and in 1865 purchased a small farm of sixty-two acres, which he occupied seven years. Then, not being quite satisfied with his condition or prospects in his native State, he set out for the prairies of Illinois, and locating in this county, rented land, first in Champaign Township for three years, then in Urbana Township for two years, and afterward in Tolono Township, until 1881. That year he purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. Here with his family he is enjoying all the com-

forts of life and the esteem and confidence of his neighbors and friends.

The marriage of our subject took place in November, 1862, the lady of his choice being Miss Sarah Danner. She also is a native of Ohio, born in Greenfield Township, Fairfield County, Jan. 9, 1842. Her father, John Danner, a native of Germany, emigrated to America when a young man and located in Ohio. He was there married to Miss Caroline Shaffer, a native of his own country, and they located on a farm, where the father still resides. The mother departed this life in 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Radebaugh are the parents of nine children, namely, Clara Alice, S. P. Willis, Susie H., John W., Cyrus Emanuel, C. Estella, Harry E., Roy and Russell. The eldest daughter is the wife of Alfred Reed, and resides in San Diego, Cal. Mr. Radebaugh takes an active interest in the welfare of his township and county, and uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party.

JOHAN D. SELTZER, a substantial and prosperous farmer of Raymond Township, comes of excellent Pennsylvania stock, and was born in Schuylkill County, that State, April 6, 1843. His parents, Michael and Mary (Fryer) Seltzer, were natives of the same county as their son, the former born in 1810 and the latter in 1808. Their parents were also natives of Pennsylvania, born in the same neighborhood where the first representatives of the Seltzer family in this country located during the first settlement of the State.

The parents of our subject were married in 1833, and while residing on a farm also kept hotel for a time. The father was a staunch Democrat, and at one time served as Deputy Sheriff in Schuylkill County. They reared a family of four sons and three daughters, all of whom reached their majority. The eldest, Francis B., was married, became the father of three children, and died in Pennsylvania; Abraham, during the late war, was a private in Co. A, 48th Pa. Vol. Inf., and served until the close; he then returned to his home, and from there went to New York City, whence he wrote back to his parents that he was about to sail

on an ocean vessel for a voyage, and was never afterward heard from. Charles is a resident of Parsons, Kan.; John D. of our sketch, was the fourth son; Rebecca became the wife of John Meddler, and is a resident of Pennsylvania; Amanda married Jacob Kimmel, and Elizabeth became Mrs. Joseph Bordy; both reside in Schuylkill County, Pa.

The parents remained in their native county until 1878, and then going to one of their grandchildren in Kansas, lived there one year, then returning East as far as Illinois, took up their abode with their son, our subject. The mother departed this life March 11, 1882. The father is still living, and in the enjoyment of good health. Both were members of the United Brethren Church.

Mr. Seltzer of our sketch, in common with his brothers and sisters, received his primary education in the common schools. He subsequently entered Eastman Business College at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., whence he graduated in 1863. His father had purchased a piece of land in Du Page County, Ill., and as the sister did not wish to go West, his father told him that if he desired to go, he should have a claim upon the land. There having been paid \$500, our subject was quick to accept the proposition. The land included 190 acres, and had been partially improved. He remained upon it two seasons and then sold out. His father in the meantime had sent him \$1,000 in money, and from the sale of the land he realized a small profit, so that he now considered himself in a fair way to be able to provide for the needs of a family. Accordingly on the 15th of February, 1866, he was married to Mrs. Sarah E. (Erb) Davis. Mrs. Seltzer is a native of Lancaster County, Pa., born in 1838.

After our subject disposed of his farm in Cook County, he located in Naperville, and during the county seat contest, he was appointed as one of the policemen to guard the County Records, and subsequently served as a Street Commissioner. In 1871 he removed to Champaign County, and on the 26th of July following, purchased 160 acres of raw prairie, which is now included in his present homestead. His wife remained in Du Page County until the following fall, by which time Mr. Seltzer had put up a suitable dwelling. He was very suc-

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cessful in this venture and added to his real estate from time to time until he is now the owner of 440 acres, all improved and supplied with two sets of farm buildings. His residence and its surroundings, a view of which is shown in this ALBUM, is one of the finest in this section of the country, and of late years he has been principally engaged in the raising of grain and stock.

Our subject and his wife have become the parents of five children, namely, Ella, Amanda, Lydia, John and Susie. Mrs. Seltzer had one child by her former marriage, a son, Charles Davis. All the brothers of Mr. Seltzer served as soldiers of the Union army during the late war. John D. desired also to join them, but his father persuaded him to attend school instead. Mr. Seltzer takes an active interest in all public enterprises, and although not a member of any church, has assisted in putting up the buildings of the religious denominations in his neighborhood. He affiliates with the Democratic party, and has served as Justice of the Peace and Highway Commissioner, besides being Township Treasurer for several years.



EDWIN M. ALLISON, a native of the Buckeye State, wherein he was reared until he reached his majority, in starting out for himself in life journeyed into Illinois, of which he became a resident in November, 1868. He was bred to farming pursuits, which he has followed thus far in life, and is now located in Brown Township, on section 35. Here he has 100 acres conveniently laid off in pasture and grain fields, with a comfortable dwelling, good barn, and all the other buildings necessary for the carrying on of agriculture after the most approved methods.

The birth of our subject occurred in Champaign County, Ohio, Sept. 7, 1846. His parents, Wilfred and Susan (Littleton) Allison, were natives of Virginia, where they were reared and married. They removed from the Old Dominion to Champaign County, Ohio, in 1839, and built up a home in a new country, where they passed the remainder of their days. The mother passed to her final rest on

the 5th of August, 1855. The death of Wilfred Allison occurred Nov. 5, 1867. The household included ten children, of whom Edwin M. of our sketch was the youngest. In common with his brothers and sisters he attended school during his boyhood, and as soon as his services could be made available assisted his father on the farm.

Three years after locating in this county, and feeling that his financial prospects would justify him in taking the step, Mr. Allison began the establishment of a home by taking unto himself a wife, Miss Nancy Summers, to whom he was married April 14, 1871. Mrs. A. was born in De Witt County, Ill., Sept. 2, 1849, and is the daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Swermgen) Summers, natives respectively of Indiana and Illinois. The parents of Mrs. A. after marriage took up their abode in Wapella Township, De Witt County, where they still reside, and where their family of eleven children one by one gathered around the hearthstone. Before her marriage Mrs. A., who had received a good education, taught school in De Witt, McLean and Champaign Counties. After her marriage the eight children who claimed her attention as mother and tutor were Frank, Lulu B., Edna M., Nola E., Kate G., Byron W., Oris W. and Irene G. Of these, three daughters—Lulu, Edna and Kate—lie in the quiet country burying-ground, and their names are held in tender remembrance by those who are left behind.

Mr. Allison has held the various offices of his township, is Republican in politics, and socially is a member of Lodge No. 704, I. O. O. F., at Fisher. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church at Fisher, and still hold their membership in a worthy and consistent manner.



DAVID L. YANCEY, the proprietor of 433 acres on section 34, of Newcomb Township, has been a resident of this county since 1860. Three years later he located in the above-named township, of which he remained a resident for seventeen years, and then removed to Mahomet, where for six months he was

engaged in the grocery trade. In 1885 he returned to Newcomb Township, thence in 1887 to Mahomet, which will probably become his permanent home. He has one of the finest farms in this section of country, with a handsome and substantial residence and all modern improvements. He has also by his straightforward business methods and excellent qualities as a citizen, established himself in the esteem and confidence of the residents of the township and enjoys the association of its best people.

The parents of our subject, William and Katurah (Arnold) Yancey, were both natives of Kentucky, where the father learned the trade of a blacksmith but gave his principal attention to farming. They spent their entire lives in their native State and in the county which gave them birth. The parental household included two children only, David L. of our sketch and his brother, John. Our subject was born in Lewis County, Ky., March 13, 1827. When but an infant his parents removed to Fleming County, that State, where he lived until twenty-five years of age. He then took up his abode in Mason County, where he lived until 1860, the year of his removal to this county. His subsequent career we have briefly indicated. Included in his homestead are 124 acres of valuable timber. The land has been well tilled and produces the finest crops of the Prairie State.

The marriage of our subject took place in Newcomb Township, Aug. 26, 1858, the maiden of his choice being Miss Margaret A., daughter of Joseph T. and Jemima M. (Piper) Everett, also natives of Lewis County, Ky. Mr. and Mrs. E. became residents of Champaign County in 1841, locating in Newcomb Township, where the mother died nine years later. Mr. Everett had been here in 1837, when he entered land in Newcomb and Mahomet Townships. Mr. E. was married a second time and took up his abode in Champaign City, where his decease took place June 11, 1878. Their three children were Margaret A., wife of our subject; Martha, and Louisa L. Mrs. Yancey was born in Newcomb Township, Dec. 14, 1841, and became the mother of three children, of whom one died in infancy unnamed; Josephine died when eight months old; William married Miss Kate Scott, and is farming

in Newcomb Township. Mr. Yancey is a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity, and, with his wife, is connected with the Baptist Church. Politically he is a firm supporter of Democratic principles.



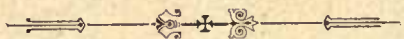
JOHN M. SMITHSON, of Pesotum Township, was born in Highland County, Ohio, June 13, 1823. His father, a native of Virginia, was born about the year 1780. He located in Highland County, Ohio, after his marriage. The bride, formerly Miss Millie Murrell, lived near Lynchburg. In 1836 they removed from the Buckeye State to Indiana, but four years afterward returned to Ohio, settling in Clinton County, where he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1879, when he had arrived at the advanced age of ninety-nine years.

The subject of our sketch was the fifth child of a family of twelve, and was born and reared on a farm. When called upon to choose his vocation he at once determined to follow in the footsteps of his father and grandfathers, and unhesitatingly made his arrangements to continue rural life. Coming to Illinois he located in this county and first purchased forty acres of land, which amount he soon afterward doubled.

In 1845 Mr. Smithson was married to Miss Mary Moon, eldest child of Solomon and Hannah (McLin) Moon. Her parents, both born in 1803 and natives of Tennessee, removed to Ohio in 1809, being among its earliest pioneers. They were strong advocates of temperance, and practiced its principles through life. Religiously they were connected with the Society of Friends. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. S. were natives of Georgia, while her mother's family were from Tennessee, and were also Quakers in religious faith, being among its teachers and preachers.

Mr. and Mrs. Smithson became the parents of seven children, five of whom are living—Mahala E., Lydia M., Florence, Frank and Louis Carter. Hannah died in infancy; Helena married Isaac M. Bundy, a Methodist minister of this county, and on Jan. 25, 1884, passed away, leaving three children;

Mahala married Matthew B. McFadden, a Methodist minister of Adams County; Lydia married James R. Pucket, and resides on the home farm which he lately purchased, adjoining that of our subject; Florence married Elijah M. Jeffers, a Methodist minister of Piatt County, this State; Frank and Louis remain single, and are at home with their parents. Mr. Smithson was formerly a member of the Methodist Church, but is now, with his wife, associated with the Friends. He has served as School Director for many years, and politically is a Republican of the first water.



WILLIAM WILSON, deceased, who established a permanent homestead in Raymond Township in the spring of 1866, and became one of its most highly respected citizens, was a native of County Arinagh, Ireland, where he was reared to manhood and engaged in teaching until his marriage with Miss Martha Fulton, a native of County Tyrone. After becoming the parents of three children they set sail for the New World in the hope of bettering their condition and giving to their offspring those advantages which were denied them in their native country. They arrived in the city of New York in the fall of 1846, and after a residence there of eight months, came to this State. They remained here, however, only until 1849, when they returned eastward as far as Ohio, and took up their abode in Cincinnati. From there they removed to Springfield, and thence to near Urbana, Ohio. In 1856 they returned to Illinois and once more became residents of Vermilion County, where they remained until 1864, and in that year came into Champaign County.

William Wilson was a man of excellent education and had followed the profession of a teacher in his native Ireland before coming to the United States. He resumed his chosen calling in this country until about four years before locating upon his farm in Raymond Township. This included 240 acres of choice land, which he cultivated and supplied with good buildings, and where he spent the remainder of his days, his decease occurring in October, 1874, at the age of fifty-five years,

ten months and twenty days. The faithful companion of his joys and sorrows still survives and is now seventy years old. She makes her home on the old home place.

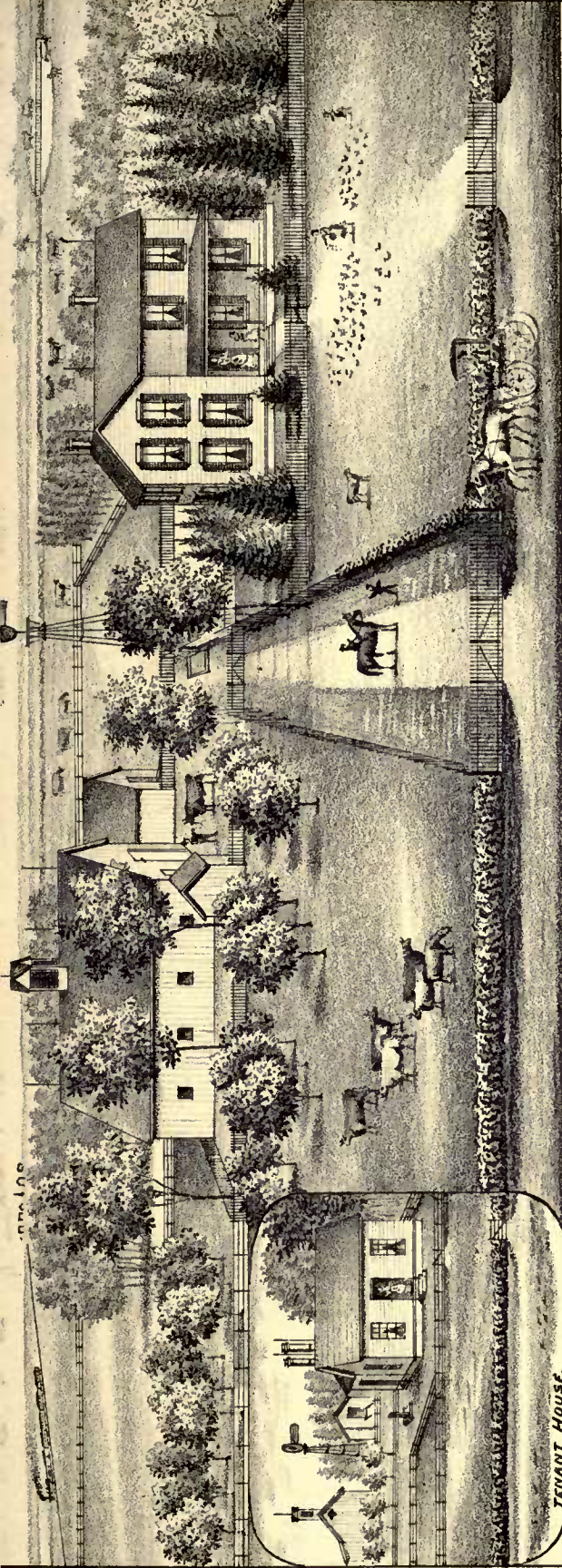
William Wilson and his wife became the parents of nine children, of whom two daughters died in childhood and Martha J., when thirty years of age, March 25, 1883. There are yet living six sons, namely, George, William, Thomas, John, Henry and James. These, with the exception of John, who is living near Savoy, are farming in Raymond Township. Mr. Wilson proved himself a worthy and valued citizen and was held in high respect by all who knew him. Religiously he held to the belief of Episcopalian doctrines, and politically he was a staunch Democrat.



DAVID NAYLOR. This highly esteemed citizen of Newcomb Township owns and occupies a good farm of 160 acres on section 3. He was at one time the owner of 400 in Newcomb and Brown Townships, a part of which he divided among his children. The homestead is supplied with a good residence, barn and out-buildings, which are kept in first-class order, and the entire premises give evidence of the industry and good taste of their proprietor. When Mr. Naylor came to this section there were no houses to rent and he with his family occupied a school-house, 12x14 feet, until he could put up a dwelling. He has been eminently successful as a farmer and business man, and besides his land in this township, owns 440 acres in Iowa.

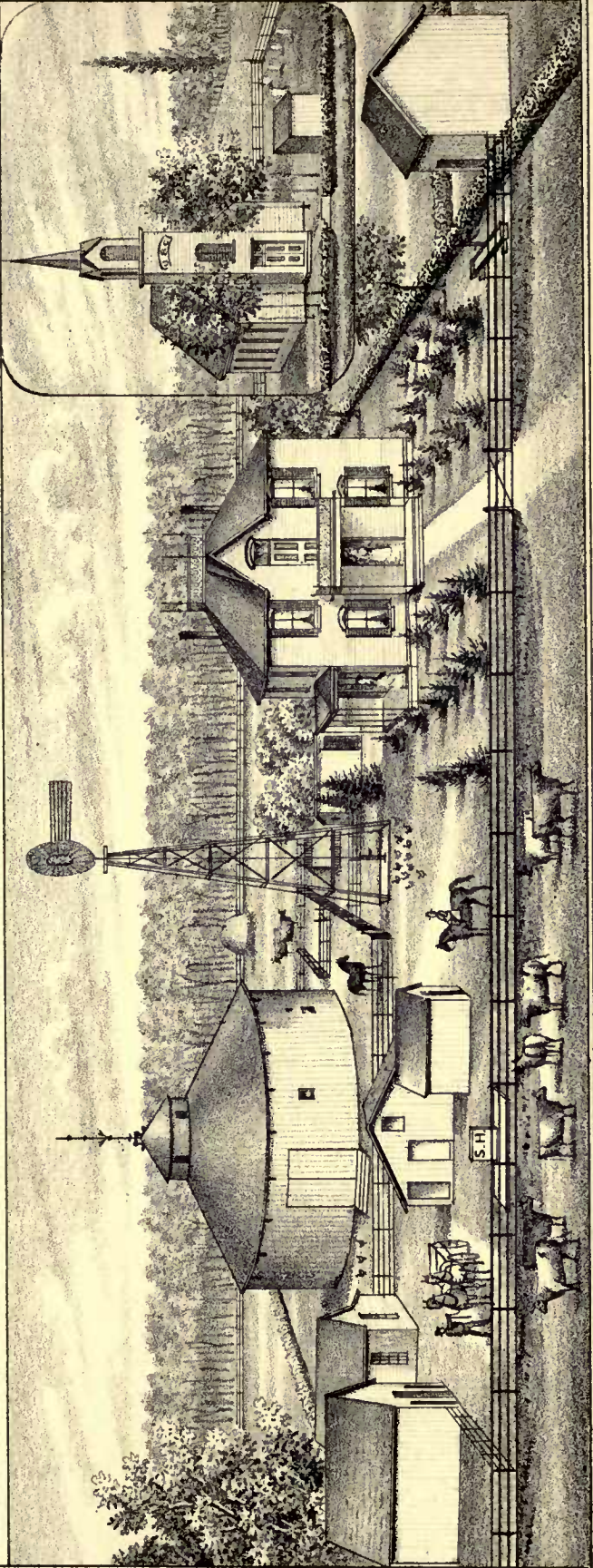
The subject of this history was born in Adams County, Ohio, Oct. 28, 1819, and is the son of Samuel and Sarah (Tucker) Naylor, natives respectively of Kentucky and Virginia. Samuel Naylor was of English descent, and after his marriage located in Adams County, Ohio, where with his excellent wife he spent the remainder of his days. The mother died in 1851, and the father a few years later. The twelve children born to them consisted of seven sons and five daughters.

David Naylor was reared on his father's farm



TEHANT HOUSE.

RESIDENCE OF EDMUND NAYLOR, SEC. 35, BROWN TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF DAVID NAYLOR, SEC. 3, NEWCOMB TOWNSHIP.

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and remained with his parents until twenty-five years old. He then married and engaged in business for himself. He continued in Adams County the following year and thence removed to Brown County, where he engaged in mercantile business eighteen months. He then returned to his native county and engaged in merchandising and the sale of cord wood from 1845 to 1854, when his father died. He then settled up the estate, purchased the interest of the heirs in the homestead, and continued a resident of Adams County until 1865. That year he came to Illinois, and located in Newcomb Township, this county, of which he has since been a resident.

The marriage of David Naylor and Miss Mahala Wade took place in Adams County, Ohio, May 15, 1845. Mrs. N. is the daughter of Zephaniah and Mary (Washburne) Wade, who were of German ancestry and became residents of Adams County, Ohio, soon after their marriage, where they spent the remainder of their days. They became the parents of fifteen children, eight boys and seven girls, all of whom lived to mature years. Mrs. Naylor was a twin. She was born in Adams County, Ohio, Oct. 17, 1816. Of her union with our subject there have been born eleven children, of whom only four survive, namely, Edmund, Sarah A., James B. and Ida M. Five of their children died in infancy. Edmund married Miss Fannie M. Mider, and resides in Brown Township, this county; Sarah is the wife of Alfred Loveless, a farmer of Newcomb Township; James married Miss Sarah Fairfield, and is farming in Condit Township; Mary, who married Rev. Joel Corley, of the United Brethren Church, died in Saybrook, McLean Co., Ill., March 19, 1872, leaving one child, David B., who was only eight days old. Before her death she gave the boy to her parents to bring up, by whom he was tenderly cared for, but the cords of love which had been broken by the death of their daughter, were only destined to be more rudely shocked by the sudden death of their dearly loved grandson, when he was about fifteen years of age. On the 18th of June, 1887, while at the village of Fisher, he was jerked from his feet by his frightened horse, and instantly killed, his neck being dislocated. Zipporah Naylor died in Newcomb Township in

November, 1871, of diphtheria. Ida M. is residing with her parents.

Politically Mr. Naylor is a staunch Republican. He has been a very abstemious man, never tasting liquor, and never using tobacco in any form. It is hardly necessary to say that he is warmly interested in the success of the Prohibition movement. Both our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the United Brethren Church, in which Mr. N. holds a license to preach and has been Class-Leader and Trustee. A lithographic view of the handsome residence and home place of Mr. Naylor is shown elsewhere in this work.



PETER THOMPSON, a retired farmer, who has spent the last few years in comfortable retirement in the village of Fisher, has with the exception of the time spent in the army, been a resident of the Prairie State for several years, mostly engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is a descendant of an excellent Scottish family, the first representatives of whom in America, Peter and Mary Thompson, the parents of our subject, located first in Adams County, Ohio, in 1818. They were born in Scotland and spent their last days in the Buckeye State.

The parental household, of whom Peter Thompson was the seventh child, included seven sons and three daughters, a part of whom were born in Scotland. The subject of our sketch is a native of Adams County, Ohio, and was first introduced to the busy world on the 23d of March, 1832. He was reared on his father's farm, and during the winter seasons employed his time in study at the district schools, continuing an inmate of his father's house until twenty-one years of age. He was more than ordinarily intelligent and had made good use of his opportunities, and was now well fitted for the duties of a teacher of those days. He followed teaching in his native State for twelve years successively, and afterward a short time in Illinois. He first visited this State in March, 1854, sojourning in DeWitt County three years, after which he returned to Ohio and remained a resident of his native county until 1874.

In the meantime, after the breaking out of the war, Mr. Thompson enlisted in July, 1861, soon after the first call for troops, in Co. I, 39th Ohio Vol. Inf., serving until the close. He entered upon his duties as a private, was first commissioned Second Lieutenant, and in the spring of 1865 promoted First Lieutenant. He participated in the battle of Corinth, was in Sherman's Georgia Campaign and the march to Atlanta and the sea, also through the Carolinas back to Washington, where he participated in the grand review. He came out of the service unharmed and returned to his native county in Ohio, where he remained until the spring of 1874.

Our subject then determined to try his fortunes in the West, and coming to this county purchased 480 acres of land in Newcomb Township, which he afterward sold, and bought various tracts of land on other sections. He is now the owner of 700 acres, all improved and with suitable buildings. Since 1880 he has been a resident of Fisher. He casts his vote with the Republican party, and socially is a member of Van Wert Post No. 300. Although perhaps not the hero of any thrilling incidents in life he has filled his niche worthily as a reliable citizen, prompt to meet his obligations, and presenting the example of a man whose word is as good as his bond.



JONATHAN H. LINEBARGER, a tile manufacturer and dealer in grain and coal, having his headquarters in the village of Fisher, Brown Township, is one of the important factors of the business community of this section, possessing all the enterprise and energy requisite for the successful prosecution of his chosen calling. We give the main points of his history as follows: His parents, Henry and Nancy (Hougham) Linebarger, were natives respectively of North Carolina and Ohio, the former a descendant of excellent German ancestry, and the latter of English and Welsh. After marriage they located in Parke County, Ind., whence they removed, in 1832, to Will County, this State, locating about seven miles from the present site of Joliet, then a mere hamlet,

where they engaged in farming, and spent the last years of their lives.

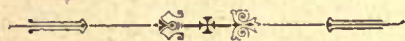
The parental household included three daughters and four sons, our subject being the fourth child. He was born on the farm in Jackson, Feb. 1, 1836, and lived with his mother until attaining his majority, his father having died when he was but six years of age. Henry Linebarger, by industry and forethought had laid the basis of a home and a competency for his family, and with the money inherited from his mother's estate our subject, upon coming of age, purchased a tract of land near the old homestead in Will County, which he improved and cultivated until 1868. Then, deciding upon a change of location and occupation, he sold his farm and repairing to Elwood, in that same county, engaged in merchandising, his stock in trade comprising dry-goods, grain and lumber.

Two years later, abandoning this project, Mr. Linebarger removed to Stanford, McLean County, and in company with his two brothers, Lewis and Henry, built an elevator, and besides large transaction in grain dealt also in lumber. They erected an elevator at Varney, in Marshall County, in the fall of 1871, made memorable by the Chicago fire, and two years later put up another elevator at La Rose. In about 1876, extending their operations, they built an elevator at Minier, Tazewell County. This, however, after two years they sold, and purchased the elevator at Washburn, in Woodford County. In 1874 they provided Foosland, in Brown Township, with a structure of the same description, and that same year Mr. Linebarger removed there with his family. This last elevator the partner disposed of in 1879, and the following year our subject became a resident of Fisher. In 1877 Linebarger Bros. purchased the elevator at Oxford, Johnson Co., Iowa, which they operated with the same success that had distinguished their other ventures.

The brothers continued together until 1884, during which time they had erected a building for the reception of grain at Dickerson, Ill. Since the date above mentioned our subject has conducted business alone, erecting in 1886 a building for the manufacture of tile. Soon after this industry had been fairly started the boiler burst, incurring seri-

ous damages, but without the loss of life. In the tile factory Mr. L. gives employment to from eight to ten men, and the proceeds yield him annually a handsome income. Besides his property in Fisher he has a fine farm of 152 acres in Brown Township, and a valuable tract of ninety-two in East Bend Township. He erected a tile factory at Savoy in this county in 1887, which is now being carried on by Samuel J. Felton.

The lady who became Mrs. Linebarger on the 26th of February, 1857, formerly Miss Sarah Davis, was born in Will County, July 2, 1838. Her parents were Jacob and Elizabeth Davis. Jacob was born in Centerville, Wayne Co., Ind., and Elizabeth Parsons in Kentucky, whence she moved to Indiana when fourteen years of age. They were married in 1835, and moved to Illinois the same year. Mrs. L. remained under the parental roof during her childhood and youth, receiving a common-school education, and was married at her home in Will County. Of the seven children born to our subject and his wife only three survive, namely, John H., Mary E. and George E. All are at home with their parents. Those deceased are Levi H., Clara I., Frank and Willie. Clara died when an interesting girl of fourteen years, and the others in infancy. Mr. L. casts his vote with the Democratic party. He is a strong temperance man, anxious for the success of the prohibition movement. He and his wife became members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1859 and 1857 respectively.



THOMAS GORDY, a retired farmer of Philo Township, is now living within the village limits where, after a busy and active life, he took up his residence in 1885 to pass the remainder of his days in the comfort and quiet justly earned after a career of active industry. He became a resident of Champaign County in 1876, locating on section 15, in Philo Township. He first purchased a farm of eighty acres and then another tract of land elsewhere in the township. In due time he sold the homestead to his eldest son, W. N. Gordy, by whom it is now occupied. Besides five

acres within the village, Mr. G. owns eighty just south of the limits and 240 acres in Crittenden Township, which is finely located and improved, and forms one of the choicest bodies of land in that section.

Mr. Gordy is a native of Pickaway County, Ohio, born in August, 1821, and is the son of John Gordy, who died when our subject was a small child. Although having been a soldier in the Revolutionary War he was but seventy-three years of age at the time of his death. He enlisted as a drummer boy when eighteen years old. Our subject is sixty-six years old, and this is probably the only instance on record of a man of his age having a father who assisted in bringing about the independence of the Colonies. John Gordy after his retirement from the army resumed his trade as a cooper, and it is supposed was married in Delaware, whence he removed to Ohio. His wife, the mother of our subject, was formerly Miss Sarah Handy, a native of Delaware; she was the second wife of John Gordy. She accompanied her husband to Ohio, and after his death came to Illinois and located in Douglas County, where she died in about 1862 or 1863.

Thomas Gordy was the youngest but two of his mother's children, and passed his childhood and youth in Pickaway County, Ohio. He remained the supporter of his widowed mother until twenty-seven years of age. He was married, Feb. 22, 1850, to Miss Millie A. Maddox, a native of that county, and who removed with her parents to Illinois when a young lady. She was born in 1822, and died in Christian County, Ill., in 1869, leaving seven children—William W., Benjamin, Nancy M., Francis V., all married; Margaret, Sarah E., married, and Mary A.

The second marriage of Mr. Gordy took place in Coles County, Ill., Sept. 5, 1870, with Mrs. Margaret L. (Maddox) Redden, who was a sister of his first wife. She was born in Monroe Township, Pickaway Co., Ohio, Dec. 15, 1830, and was the daughter of Benjamin and Nancy (O'Neil) Maddox, natives of Kentucky, where they were reared and married. After the birth of one child, they moved to Pickaway County, Ohio, where they lived for some years on a farm, and in 1848 came to Illinois, set-

ting in Douglas County among the other pioneers of that section. There the father died in 1862, when sixty-three years of age. The mother is yet living on the old homestead in Sargent Township, Douglas County, and is now arrived at the advanced age of eighty-seven years.

Our subject and his wife have lived in Christian, Macon and Champaign Counties, in each of which Mr. G. has dealt considerably in real estate. They have one son, Arthur C. Mrs. G. by her first marriage became the mother of seven children: Mary A. is deceased; George W., Amanda E., Sarah F., James W., and Dora B. are married; Eliza J. is at home. The parents and most of the children are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which our subject is a Trustee and a prominent member in its counsels. Politically he upholds the principles of the Democratic party.



ERNST LORENZ, the pioneer merchant of Dewey, is one of the independent spirits who was not afraid to risk his fortunes in a new and untried country, having full faith in the abundance of its resources and development. He is a gentleman still in the prime of life, and has watched with unabated interest the growth and prosperity of his adopted State, to which he came with his parents when but a lad. His birthplace was Saxe-Weimer, Germany, and the date thereof, March 7, 1843.

Gotlieb Lorenz, the father of our subject, and a native of the same Province, was born Oct. 18, 1813. He attended school in his youth, and served an apprenticeship to the tailor's trade, after which he engaged in business on his own account in his native county, until 1849. Then, with his wife and family, he set sail from Bremen, and after a voyage of five weeks, landed in New York City safely with his four children and their mother. They located first in Cincinnati, whence after a year they removed to Covington, Ky., of which they remained residents until 1866. Mr. Lorenz then decided to seek his fortune in the western country, and also to change his occupation. After reaching Illinois he came to this county, and purchased a tract of wild

land on section 22, in East Bend Township. He at once put up a dwelling, into which he removed his family and proceeded with his farming operations. The death of the wife and mother, Mrs. Dorothea (Beisch) Lorenz, occurred in 1874. Four of their five children are now living: Edward, in Covington, Ky.; Ernst, of our sketch; Anna, the wife of Philip Hummel, Jr., and Louis H.

Our subject was the second child of the parental household, and after coming to this country continued his studies in the public schools at Covington. As soon as old enough, in common with his brothers and sister, he assisted his father, remaining a member of the family until 1861. By this time he had become a genuine American, and after the first call for troops to defend the Union, was willing to lay aside his personal and private interests to join the Union army. He enlisted in the 6th Ohio Infantry, and served three years and three months, receiving his first discharge at the expiration of his term of service. He then veteranized in Co. G, 11th Ky. Cav., with which regiment he remained until the close of the war, making more than four years spent in the service of his adopted country. He was one of the first to enlist and one of the last to be mustered out. He was present at many of the important battles of the war, including Shiloh, Stone River, Chattanooga and Missionary Ridge, besides innumerable engagements.

After retiring from military service Mr. Lorenz came West and located in East Bend Township, this county, where he rented land the first year, then purchased forty acres on section 4, put up a house, commenced improving his purchase, and occupied it two years. He then removed to section 31, and leased a farm, upon which he operated four years, and thence removed to Houstonville, in this county, where he established a store of general merchandise, was appointed Postmaster, and remained in business there until 1876. In July of that year he came to the present site of Dewey, and in the middle of an oat field erected the first building of the kind which was utilized as a store, dwelling and post-office. Mr. L. was the first incumbent of the office, which he held until the change of administration in 1885.

The wife of our subject was formerly Miss

Catherine Bowman, a native of Darke County, Ohio, and daughter of John and Mitchel (Blizzard) Bowman, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Maryland, and of German descent. Their wedding took place in the summer of 1866, and their eight children are, Ida, Dora, Emma, Edward, Carrie, Minnie, Ernst and Annie. Mr. Lorenz is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He has served as Assessor in East Bend Township for twelve years, Justice of the Peace fifteen, and School Director for an almost equal length of time. Socially he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Fisher Lodge No. 704, and since the organization of Dewey Post No. 282, G. A. R., has been its Commander.



SAMUEL MCKEE. For the last thirty-five years this worthy citizen of Homer Township, has walked in and out among its people and watched with interest the growth and prosperity of the county to which he came in its primitive days. His early education was conducted in the pioneer log school-house, with its greased paper for window-panes and rude slabs for benches and writing-desks. The dwellings around it usually corresponded with the temple of learning, and the people of those days, with their simple tastes and habits, probably had less of bitterness and discontentment in their lives than those surrounded by the luxuries of a later civilization.

Our subject has been fairly successful in his honest efforts to obtain a livelihood, being in the enjoyment of a comfortable homestead in Homer Township on section 16, where he is carrying on farming and stock breeding with the intelligence which years of experience and observation have brought him. He was born among the hills of Muskingum County, Ohio, on the 16th of November, 1819, and is the son of Joseph and Annie (Ross) McKee, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ireland. Joseph McKee followed farming all his life and was gathered to his fathers many years ago. Early in life he was a sturdy Jackson Democrat, but later changed his views and cast his lot with the Republican party. Both par-

ents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The wife and mother preceded her husband a few years, departing this life in about 1837, in Muskingum County, Ohio. The nine children of the household were Thomas Jackson, John, Elizabeth, Robert and Margaret (twins), Rebecca, Samuel, Joseph and William, the two latter deceased.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed after the manner of most farmers' sons, engaged in the lighter labors around the homestead and attending the pioneer school during the winter season. After reaching his majority he remained in Ohio a few years, but in 1851 decided to try his fortunes in the farther West. He accordingly emigrated to Vermilion County, Ill., where he remained one year, and then, coming to Champaign County, purchased the quarter section of land of which he now owns 120 acres. Upon this he has made great improvements, redeeming the soil from its wild condition so that now he has a series of fertile fields, rich in grain and pasturage, neatly fenced, and upon the pleasantest part of the farm, a substantial residence with all necessary out-buildings. His industry and straightforward method of doing business, have gained him the esteem and confidence of his fellow-townsmen, who have entrusted him with the minor offices, including those of Treasurer and School Director. Politically he is decidedly Republican, ever ready to fight valiantly in defense of his principles.

Mr. McKee, when about twenty-eight years of age, finding life very unsatisfactory without a permanent home and a cheerful companion at the hearthstone, invited a greatly respected lady to become the sharer of his fortune, namely, Miss Jane Neblock, who became his wife on the 19th of March, 1849, and has since most worthily filled the position as head of his domestic affairs and the mother of his children. Mrs. McKee, like her husband, is also a native of the Buckeye State, born in Guernsey County, June 30, 1822. She is the daughter of David and Ann (Matthews) Neblock, natives of Pennsylvania. Her father followed farming all his life and rested from his labors in about 1850. The mother died on the 8th of December, 1867, at the old homestead in Ohio. The nine children of the parental household are as follows: Maria, the eld-

est daughter, is deceased; Adaline became the wife of John Hayes, now deceased. She lives in Vermilion County, Ill. Carl died in early childhood, also William; Richard M. died when an infant of five months; James M. married Miss Nancy Henline, and lives in Homer; John J. married a Miss Davis, who is deceased; David Y. married Miss Mary A. Peltz; Solomon N. married Miss Edith Jett.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. McKee gradually became tenanted with little people until their offspring numbered twelve children, of whom the record is as follows: Adaline died when eighteen years of age, on the 3d of April, 1863, leaving a sad vacancy in the household of which she was the eldest child; John married Miss Celia Roach, of Ohio; Charlotte A. is living at home; Vincent H. married Miss Ellen East, who died within a few years, and he has been since married to Miss Sadie Hubbard. This son is a carpenter by trade and lives in Danville, Ill. Robert L. is single and at home; Elizabeth C. became the wife of Van C. Thompson; Maria I. died when three years of age, Oct. 1, 1869, and Mary Jane when fifteen months old, Aug. 15, 1856; Thomas married Miss Belle Hill; James C. died of consumption on the 15th of June, 1886, aged twenty-three years and six months. He was a promising young man, an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a teacher in the Sabbath-school, presenting in his daily walk a bright example of early piety, and whom to know was but to love and respect. His death was a sad blow to the stricken parents, and he passed away lamented by a large circle of friends. Clara E. was the eleventh child; Cora V., the youngest, is a bright and interesting girl of seventeen years.



MRS. ANNA SAXON, daughter of John and Sarah (Vanzalas) Shultz, and widow of James R. Saxon, came with her husband to this county in 1870, and took possession of the fine farm which she now occupies, and which is located on section 21, Ludlow Township. The homestead embraces 320 acres of fertile land, under a good state of cultivation and supplied with excellent frame buildings.

Mrs. Saxon was born four miles from Lebanon in Warren County, Ohio, Feb. 14, 1822. Her father was a native of New Jersey and of German ancestry. The first representatives of the family in this country were four brothers who emigrated prior to the Revolutionary War. They married and raised families and were a people universally respected wherever known. They mostly engaged in agricultural pursuits. The father of Mrs. Saxon was reared on a farm, but when young went to Philadelphia and learned the hatter's trade. This, however, was unsuited to his tastes, and he concluded to return to the farm. In about 1815, he emigrated to Ohio and bought land near Lebanon in Warren County, where he became extensively engaged in raising grain and stock, and also put up a distillery which he operated for many years. His produce was transported on flatboats down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans. He was a man of great energy and industry, became widely and favorably known throughout Warren County, and remained a resident there until his death, in about 1833. The mother of Mrs. Saxon, also a native of New Jersey, passed to the land of the hereafter previous to the death of her husband, in about 1827. The household was composed of seven children, of whom Milton, the eldest, died in Brown County, Ohio; Watson is a resident of Rantoul, this county; John is farming in Tazewell County; Delia, Mrs. Randolph, died in Tippecanoe County, Ind.; Eliza J., Mrs. Hufford, is a resident of Warren County, Ohio; Rachel, Mrs. Verbright, died in Tazewell County, Ill.; Huston and Robert were children of the second marriage.

Mrs. Saxon was the fifth child of the household and was but five years old when deprived of a mother's care. Six years later her father also died, so that she was left an orphan when a young girl of eleven years. She was cared for by her brother Milton, with whom she made her home until her marriage, which event took place June 20, 1843. Her husband, James R. Saxon, was born in White County, Ind. After marriage they located in Warren County, Ohio, where he worked at his trade as a carpenter two years, then removed to Brown County and purchased a farm which he operated fourteen years. Subsequently he came with his

family to this State. They first located in this county, but afterward removed to a farm which he had purchased in Carroll County, Ind., three miles from the city of Delphi. He sold that property in 1870, and returned to this county, locating in Ludlow Township, which has remained his permanent home.

Mr. and Mrs. Saxon became the parents of the following children, viz., Robert; Kate, the wife of Harry Carson, of St. Louis; Emma, now Mrs. Joseph Amberg, of Minneapolis; Sarah, wife of Thomas Wright, a farmer of East Bend Township, this county; James M. and William, at home with their mother. Mrs. Saxon became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in early youth. Mr. S. was a believer in the Universalist doctrines.

FREDERICK SPERLING owns one of the most finely cultivated farms in East Bend Township, lying on section 32, and which comprises 114 acres. Mr. S. is ranked among the enterprising German citizens of this county, and has inherited in a marked degree the substantial traits of an excellent ancestry, which have made of him an honest man and a good citizen. His birth took place at the foot of the Hartz Mountains, in the Province of Saxony, Prussia, on the 1st of September, 1836, and he is the eldest son of Godfried and Christine (Baller) Sperling, of whom mention is made in the sketch of August Sperling on another page in this volume.

Our subject commenced attending school when six years old, pursuing his studies in Germany until coming to the United States with his parents. After reaching the shores of the New World they located in Sheboygan, Wis., where young Frederick continued his studies in the schools and assisted his father on the farm. After the breaking out of the late Rebellion he proffered his services as a soldier of the Union army, and became a member of Co. A, 9th Wis. Vol. Inf., giving his time to his adopted country from August, 1861, until December, 1864, when its union and safety had become assured. He endured with his comrades bravely all the vicissitudes of a soldier's life, participating

in a number of regular battles and minor engagements, and during that time traveled through the States of Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas and Indian Territory.

At the expiration of his term of service Mr. Sperling received his honorable discharge and returned to his home in Wisconsin, where he remained until the following year. He then came to this State, and locating in Bloomington was employed first in a nursery and afterward in a lumberyard, and finally rented a farm which he occupied six years. In the meantime he had purchased a tract of wild land in East Bend Township, this county, and in 1869 commenced in earnest its improvement and cultivation. He was successful in his operations and in due time added to his acreage and erected a good set of frame buildings. The homestead now embraces 114 acres under a fine state of cultivation and producing in abundance the choice crops of the Prairie State. As a business man and a member of the community he is held in the highest esteem for his personal qualities and his systematic and praiseworthy method of transacting business.

The marriage of Frederick Sperling and Miss Ann M. Miller took place in Sheboygan County, Wis., in the summer of 1860. Mrs. S. is a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of seven children, viz., Dorothea, J. C. Rudolph, Laura, Edwin S., Minerva, Frederick W. and Annie Maria C. The wife and mother is a lady greatly respected in the community and beloved by her family. Of late years she has been in delicate health, but is remarkably patient under her affliction. Mr. Sperling since becoming a voter has uniformly supported the principles of the Republican party.

REV. JOHN H. PAYTON, deceased. The record of this gentleman, who filled worthily an important position in life, is, in its main features, as follows: He was born in Butler County, Ohio, June 1, 1814, and was the second child of Jacob and Lois (Hutchings) Payton, also natives of the Buckeye State. While he was yet a

child his parents removed to Delaware County, Ind., where his youth and early manhood were spent on his father's farm. On the 29th of June, 1829, at the early age of fifteen, he was converted to the Christian religion, and united with the church that same year. He was soon given a license to exhort, and at once entered upon the active duties of his chosen life work. His first license was conferred by the Baptist Conference, but failing to find the full measure of satisfaction with this denomination, he afterward withdrew and united with the Methodists.

Mr. Payton was united in marriage, March 23, 1837, with Miss Temperance Drago, who was a native of Preston County, W. Va., born Sept. 22, 1819, and the fourth child of William and Elizabeth (Prunty) Drago, natives of the Old Dominion. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Payton, David and Anna Prunty, were also natives of Virginia, and among the pioneer settlers of the north-western part of that State. Their residence for many years was in Taylor County, where David Prunty founded the village of what is now Pruntytown, a thriving town, and the best monument which could have been reared to his memory. He was active and enterprising in its building up, and viewed with satisfaction the progress and prosperity of its people. He walked in and out among them during the later years of a long life, and his remains were laid to rest near by.

After receiving his license to preach, by the Methodist denomination, Mr. Payton became a member of the Northern Indiana Conference, in 1849, at its Logansport session. He had been ordained as Local Deacon by Bishop Janes two years previously, and in 1853 was ordained Elder, by Bishop Ames, at Richmond. His first charge was at Bluffton, in 1849, where he remained one year, and was then assigned to Monmouth, Adams Co., Ind. In 1851 he was placed in charge of a congregation at Auburn, De Kalb Co., Ind., and the following year stationed in Allen County, that State, where he remained until the close of 1852. In 1853-54 he labored in behalf of the Gospel at Leesburg, Ind., and the following year found him at Manchester, Ind., whence he was removed a short time afterward to Columbia City, that State.

In 1857 he was invited to return to his old friends at Bluffton, his first charge, where he remained one year and was afterward called to Winchester. There he passed the year 1859, and spent 1860 at Albany. His next station was at Farmland, from which he was transferred at the end of the year to Munsey Circuit, where he remained during 1863. In 1864 he served at Camden.

Mr. Payton now felt that his usually robust constitution was weakening under the strain of the various duties assigned him, and resolved to change his manner of life. Going to Henry County he located upon a farm of 160 acres, which he had previously purchased, and life in the rural regions soon had the desired effect. In 1866 he returned to his ministerial labors, being assigned first to Edward's Mission for six months, after which he entered the Central Illinois Conference, and in this was first assigned to Millersburg. Believing then that his health would permit, he requested to be returned to the work permanently, and in 1868 was reinstated in the regular ministry, his first appointment being on the Warren Circuit. His hopes, however, were destined to disappointment. In less than a year he was obliged to abandon his labors as a minister of the Gospel, and was again superannuated. He was not content, however, to give up the work entirely, but continued to preach whenever opportunity afforded, serving the Master to the best of his ability in his weakened state.

In 1867 Mr. Payton exchanged his farm in Henry County, and purchased 220 acres on section 20, in Harwood Township. He occupied several years in the improvement and thorough cultivation of this farm, and in the meantime not neglecting his Church duties. In 1869 he organized the Pera Circuit, in Central Illinois, which has since been changed to Ludlow Circuit, and was serving as a supply for this at the time of his death, which took place Dec. 14, 1883. He preached his last sermon in Ludlow Church, the Sunday before his death, also administering the Lord's Supper on that day, which was the last time on earth that he broke bread with his congregation.

Mr. Payton was a man of marked ability and keen perceptive faculties. His fertile brain was always devising some method by which the progress

and improvement of the people around him might be effected. His exertions were not confined solely to religious matters, for he believed in a healthy attention to the practical concerns of life, the best and most convenient methods of labor, and advocated the use of machinery as involving more time for rest on the part of the laboring classes. He invented and constructed an improved plow, which he designed to manufacture, but his inexperience in the use of machinery made it impossible for him to succeed, and after seven abortive efforts he gave it up, and much against his inclination turned his sole attention to the farm. During his entire pilgrimage through life he constantly labored to build up society, and further the cause of Christianity in his immediate community. He had been ill but a short time before his death, which was very sudden and entirely unexpected. After laboring thirty-four years in the ministry, during which he had built up a good record, he was stricken down with apoplexy, and his life went out like the departing sunshine at eventide. Upon this ever-to-be-remembered morning he arose and attended to the first duties around the homestead, appearing to be in his usual health, and conducted the services at the family altar with his wonted zeal and earnestness.

As a husband, father and friend, Mr. Payton possessed all the manly virtues, being indulgent to his family almost to a fault, and earnestly devoted to the cause of humanity. He never failed in meeting an appointment, never neglected his duty or grew weary in well doing. His pious and exemplary life was cut off in the midst of its usefulness, before those who were nearest to him on earth had had warning of the approaching Destroyer.

Of the thirteen children born to Mr. and Mrs. Payton seven had preceded their father to the other shore. These were named respectively Charles Crawl, Elmer Ellsworth, Jacob, Griffy Thomas, Cora Ellen, Mary Alice and John Lemon. Those surviving are William Wesley, Melissa Jane, Loia Amanda, Rebecca Emeline, Sarah Ann and Lizzie Belle. Wesley Payton, who was born Sept. 16, 1840, was married in 1862, to Miss Adeline, daughter of William and Rebecca Bowen, of Indiana. After spending three years in the army he returned home and is now merchandising in Duunkirk, Ind.;

his good wife departed this life Dec. 16, 1886. Melissa Payton became the wife of Joshua Kenagy, of Ohio, a miller by trade, and now dealing in agricultural implements at Bluffton, Ind.; the eight children belonging to this household are John W., Mary A., Samuel A., William Carlen, Gertie Belle, Susie Harris, Carrie Dragoo and Harry Earl. Emma Payton married Courtland Brown, and is living on the farm with her husband a few rods from her mother's home (see sketch.) Sarah Payton married Porter Lennox, a farmer of Harwood Township, but now deceased; they had four children—Flora Belle, Nettie Maude, Clara May and Claude Porter. Belle Payton, the youngest daughter, is the wife of James Rollin, who is carrying on a farm near the Payton homestead.

Mrs. Payton and her daughter, Loia Amanda, still occupy the farm, and carry forward the work it involves to the best of their ability and with a reasonable degree of success. Mrs. P. is a lady highly respected for her many estimable qualities, and her children in a large degree emulate the virtues of their honored and lamented father.



ALBERT L. KUDER, a sketch of whose parents appears on another page in this volume, lives on a part of his father's farm, on section 28, in Kerr Township, although he is himself owner of 150 acres in Kerr Township, located in the very northeast corner of Champaign County. He prefers to rent his own property while he follows stock-raising on his father's land. He has a fine herd of fifty cattle, his favorite breed being the Short-horn, and he also gives considerable attention to Chester White hogs, while his stables contain some fine specimens of Norman horses. His agricultural operations are carried on mostly in partnership with his father, the former having the muscle and endurance and the latter the matured judgment essential to success.

Our subject was born in Kerr Township, on the 6th of June, 1858, and was the sixth child in a family of nine, the offspring of Lewis and Susanna (Wood) Kuder. He received his education in the common schools near his home and continued with

his parents until his marriage. The young people then established themselves in a dwelling adjoining his father. His wife was formerly Miss Ella Watkins, a native of Vermilion County, this State, born Jan. 20, 1862, and the daughter of Isaiah and Mary E. (Layton) Watkins, also natives of Illinois and still residents of Vermilion County, where the father owns a good farm property.

Isaiah Watkins during the late war served three years as a Union soldier and was in many of the hard-fought battles of that desperate struggle, receiving, however, but one wound. In 1876 he took up his residence in Champaign County, but removed to Ford County three years later. It was during the residence of the family in this county that our subject became acquainted with his future wife. They were married Dec. 19, 1882, and have one child, a daughter, Gracie, born July 21, 1885. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Watkins, six in number, namely, Ella, Elon, Charles, Katie, Benni and Maggie, are all living, and with the exception of Mrs. Kuder, are at home with their parents.

CASSIUS M. CRAIG, M. D., one of the popular young physicians of Tolono, is the only son of Walter Craig, and was born in Ripley County, Ind., Sept. 26, 1857. His father, who was a native of Ohio, married Miss Elizabeth Watts, of Indiana. Both parents are living, and reside on a farm in Ripley County, Ind. Cassius M. was the eldest of three children, and was reared on his father's farm. He pursued his early studies in the district schools, and when nineteen years of age attended the Normal School at Lebanon, Ohio, one year. He afterward entered Moore's Hill College, in Indiana, and after a course of two years commenced the study of medicine, under the instruction of Dr. James Lamb, of Aurora, Ind. Subsequently he attended the Ohio Medical College, from which he graduated in 1882. He entered upon the practice of his profession at Mt. Auburn, Ind., where he remained two years, and thence removed to Ivesdale, Champaign Co., Ill. He remained there until August, 1886, then formed a partnership with Dr.

L. K. Lamb, and took up his abode in Tolono. Since that time he has been successfully engaged as a physician, and enjoys in a marked degree the confidence of his patrons and the citizens at large.

Dr. Craig was married on the 28th of September, 1886, to Miss Carrie M. Rice, a native of this county, and the daughter of David and Sarah (Haines) Rice, who located here in the pioneer days. Mrs. C. is a lady highly respected, and our subject, socially, belongs to the Masonic fraternity. Mr. and Mrs. Craig are the parents of one child, a daughter, as yet unnamed.



THOMAS M. O'CONOR, Supervisor of Colfax Township and a resident of this county since the spring of 1877, owns eighty acres of valuable land on section 33. This was raw prairie when he took possession of it, and by years of industry he has transformed it into a beautiful farm. He is a native of this State and was born in La Salle, Sept. 3, 1851. His father, John O'Conor, was born and grew to manhood in Ireland and there married Miss Catherine Gearty. They emigrated to the United States in 1847, locating at once in the village of La Salle while it was still in its infancy. The elder O'Conor became a contractor on the Illinois Central Railroad and also on the canal. He only lived, however, eleven years after coming to this country, his death taking place in 1858. The mother of our subject still survives and is a resident of La Salle. Their family consisted of five sons and two daughters, of whom only three sons and one daughter are living: Joseph is a resident of Baxter Springs, Kan.; Thomas, of our sketch, is the next eldest; Luke and Catherine still live at La Salle. John died in La Salle July 30, 1881.

Thomas O'Conor grew to manhood in his native town and was educated in the school of the Christian Brothers there. As soon as old enough he commenced working in the coal mines of that vicinity, filling nearly all the positions incident to the business, from driving a mule to that of pit boss. In 1871 he crossed the Mississippi, and for three years dealt in grain at Plattsmouth, Neb. He then re-

turned to his native town and accepted a position as foreman in the Gas Works, attending to the contracts and doing general plumbing, etc. In 1877, desirous of changing his occupation and making a permanent settlement, he came to this county and purchased a tract of land which he has since occupied.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1876, was formerly Miss Bridget, daughter of James and Winnifred Kane, of Colfax Township. Of this union there have been born four children—John, Winnifred, Luke and James. Mr. O'Connor politically affiliates with the Democratic party, and is serving his third term as Supervisor. In 1886 he was the candidate of his party for the office of Sheriff, but was defeated with the balance of his ticket. He is an intelligent and useful citizen and has served as School Director for a period of nine years. Religiously he adheres loyally to the faith of his forefathers, being a firm adherent of the Catholic Church.



HENRY WILSON, a native of Springfield, Ohio, whose birth occurred on the 28th of June, 1850, became a resident of this county in the spring of 1864. He is now pleasantly located on section 9 in Raymond Township, where he owns forty acres of land and also has an interest in his father's farm, a fine estate consisting of 240 acres.

Our subject is the son of William and Martha (Fulton) Wilson, who were born in the North of Ireland, the former in County Armagh, and the latter in County Tyrone. They were married in Ireland and their three oldest children were born there. In 1846 they emigrated from their native land, taking passage on a sailing-vessel for the New World, and after a tedious voyage of thirty days landed in New York Harbor. They remained in the Empire City for a period of eight months, and then coming to Illinois, via Chicago, located at Pilot Grove in Vermilion County, about the 1st of July, 1847. They resided in that county until early in 1849, whence they removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, and from there, in the fall of that year, to

Springfield, in the same State. Afterward they became residents near Urbana in Champaign County, Ohio, and from there in 1856, again turned their steps westward, returning to Vermilion County, this State, and removing from there in 1864, to Champaign County. The father of our subject was a well educated man and taught school in his native Ireland, resuming the same occupation after coming to the United States. Upon becoming a resident of this State he located on a farm in Vermilion County and carried on agriculture successfully. In 1864 he first settled in this county, and later removed to a farm on section 9, in Raymond Township, which he had purchased and which included 240 acres. This he continued to cultivate and improve until the illness which terminated in his death in October, 1874, at the age of fifty-five years, ten months and twenty days. The wife and mother is still living, having reached threescore years and ten. Of the nine children included in the parental household two daughters died young, and Martha J. departed this life when thirty years of age, March 25, 1883. Six sons are living, namely, George, William, Thomas, John, Henry, of our sketch, and James. All of these with the exception of John, who is a farmer near Savoy, are farming in Raymond Township.

Our subject was but seven years of age when the family made their final removal to Illinois. He was educated under the thorough instruction of his father and remained a member of the parental household until in 1886. On the 17th of February, 1886, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Fulton, who was born and reared in Hamblen County, Tenn. Mr. Wilson made her acquaintance while sojourning in the South for the benefit of his health. Of this marriage there has been born one child, a daughter, Mary Bessie.



PARIS ROBINSON, the leading hardware merchant and tinner of Philo Village, established his business there in August, 1877, which he has followed continuously since that time, and has built up a thriving and profitable trade. He carries a full line of everything necessary in an agricultural community and

a country town, and is prominently identified with the business interests of this section. In former years he was engaged as a farmer in Sidell Township, Vermilion County, this State, and still owns a good farm there of 160 acres, finely improved, with first-class drainage, being well tiled. His life has been one of industry and energy, and he is a fair representative of the prosperous element of Champaign County.

Our subject is a native of Jeffersonville, Fayette Co., Ohio, and was born Nov. 27, 1843. He is the son of Singleton Robinson, a native and farmer of the Buckeye State, who was reared in Fayette County and there married Miss Ann Janes, of Virginia. The mother of our subject removed with her parents from the Old Dominion when a young child, and located with them in Fayette County, Ohio, where they followed farming until the father retired from active labor. He is still living, having arrived at the advanced age of seventy-eight years. The mother died in 1857. The household included four sons and three daughters, of whom one of the latter died in infancy.

Mr. Robinson was the third son and fourth child of his parents, and received his education in the public schools of his native county, remaining under the parental roof until the second call for troops to put down the Rebellion. He was greatly opposed to slavery, and with the hope of being able to assist in its abolition, cheerfully took upon himself the duties of a soldier, with its attendant hardships and dangers, becoming a member of Co. C, 90th Ohio Vol. Inf., commanded by Capt. Black, of the Army of the Cumberland. He was in the battle of Stone River, and at the first attack was wounded in the breast by a piece of shell, in consequence of which he was confined in the hospital a brief time. After his recovery he was appointed Orderly by Col. Sweet, and retained this rank until his honorable discharge in July, 1865.

After the close of the war Mr. Robinson returned to Ohio, whence he came to Vermilion County, this State, in 1868. Four years later he was married to Miss Carrie Mandeville, their wedding occurring at the residence of Henry Michener, Nov. 19, 1872. Mrs. R. was born in Seneca County, N. Y., April 19, 1850, and was the daughter of

Elijah and Hulda (Benton) Mandeville, who removed to the West when she was fourteen years of age. They located in this county, and the mother died in Champaign, Ill. Mr. M. survived his wife a number of years, and died at the home of his son, in about 1886. Mrs. R. received a good education and became a teacher in the public schools of this county. Of her marriage with our subject there were born four children, one of whom died when an infant. Those surviving are Glenn, Jessie and Willis. Our subject is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, and Mrs. Robinson is a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church.

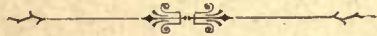


GEORGE W. WILSON, of Raymond Township, is the eldest son of William and Martha (Fulton) Wilson, and was born at the early home of his parents in County Tyrone, Ireland, on the 20th of October, 1841. Five years later the family emigrated to the United States, and young George received his principal education under the tuition of his father, who had followed the profession of a teacher in his native Ireland, and resumed it after becoming a citizen of the United States. Our subject remained a member of the parental household until the 1st of December, 1870, in the meantime assisting in the labors of the farm, and following the fortunes of his parents until their final removal to and location in, this county.

Our subject was married, Dec. 1, 1870, to Miss Malinda, daughter of Robert and Hannah Porterfield, and who was a native of Armstrong County, Pa. After becoming the mother of two children, she departed this life at her home in Raymond Township, on the 1st of August, 1876. One of these children died in infancy; the surviving daughter, Anna J., resides with her grandmother. After his marriage, Mr. Wilson engaged in farming on his own account. He was fairly prosperous and is now the owner of 160 acres of good land, which he has cultivated and improved with excellent results. Upon this are two dwellings and all other necessary buildings for the carrying on of general farming. Mr. Wilson was the first Constable of Ray-

mond Township, which office he held for a period of four years. Although Democratic in politics, he has never been a partisan, but aims to support the man best qualified for the office sought. Religiously, he is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married March 15, 1881, was Miss Jane Carleton, a native of County Derry, in the North of Ireland. Of this union there have been born three children, namely, William George, Mary and Ida.



JOHAN W. GIDDINGS, a highly respected farm resident of Ludlow Township, came to Champaign County in 1878, and located first on a tract of rented land, two years later purchasing eighty acres, which after a year he sold and became possessor of the farm which he now owns and occupies. This embraces 160 acres, and was only partially improved when he took possession of it. He has labored industriously, keeping steadily in view the purpose to build up a permanent and comfortable home, and to secure for himself a good position in the community. This he has fairly accomplished. The farm is now under a good state of cultivation, and supplied with suitable and necessary buildings. Mr. Giddings is still a gentleman in the prime of life, surrounded by its comforts and enjoying the esteem of his neighbors and friends. Although, perhaps, he has been the witness of no very thrilling events, or the central figure of any important occurrence, he has faithfully attended to the duties before him, and made a good record as an honest man and a worthy member of the community.

Our subject is a native of Erie County, Pa., and was born June 25, 1841, being the seventh child of Moses and Sophronia (Stafford) Giddings, whose parental history will be found in the sketch of Thomas W. Giddings, elsewhere in this volume. During his boyhood and youth our subject passed his time after the manner common to farmers' boys, taking advantage of the limited opportunities for education, and assisting in tilling the soil. He was sixteen years old when his parents emigrated

from the Keystone State to Illinois. They located in Warren County, and he remained under the home roof until 1864. The Civil War being then in progress, and the time of peace undecided, he enlisted in Co. C, 138th Ill. Vol. Inf., which was assigned to the department of Missouri. His duties were mostly in the Southwest, and he saw very little active service. Before the surrender of Gen. Lee he was mustered out with his comrades in October preceding, and returned home. Soon afterward he commenced business on his own account, and with two partners engaged in the feeding and shipping of stock. He commenced farming in the spring of 1865, on land which he rented from his father, and continued agricultural pursuits in Warren County until he decided to locate in Champaign County. His subsequent course we have already indicated.

The marriage of John W. Giddings and Miss Rachel Chaffee took place in Warren County, Ill., Nov. 29, 1866. Mrs. Giddings was born in McHenry County, this State, Aug. 21, 1847, and is the daughter of James C. and Lucy A. Chaffee, natives respectively of New York and Massachusetts. They became residents of McHenry County, Ill., in about 1847, and resided there a short time, subsequently moving to Warren County; they are now deceased. The three living children of Mr. and Mrs. Giddings are, Allie, Harry and Bertie. Arthur died when seven years of age; Henry, twin brother to Harry, died when nearly seven years old.

Our subject and his wife united with the Methodist Episcopal Church at Berwick, Warren County, in 1865, of which they have since been devoted members, and contributed liberally and cheerfully to its support. In politics he is a staunch Republican.



JOSEPH LETTERMAN, a successful general farmer and stock-raiser of Philo Township, owns 170 acres of land located on section 30. He is a native of Baltimore, Md., was born April 2, 1839, and is the son of Joseph, Sr., and Catherine Letterman, natives of Germany. His father was a carpenter by occupation, and is yet living, being a resident of Peoria County, this

State. The mother died in that county of cholera soon after their location there, in about 1852.

Our subject was but three years old when his parents became residents of Illinois, and after the death of his mother he lived with his father until the outbreak of the late war. He then enlisted in Co. E, 77th Ill. Vol. Inf., Aug. 13, 1862, at the time the company was organized. He marched to the front with his comrades, and participated with them in the various engagements with the enemy, being at the battles of Magnolia Hill, Champion Hills, Black River, the siege and capture of Mobile, Ala., and Vicksburg, Miss. In the fight at Vicksburg he was one of the front pickets when the rebels surrendered, and within a few feet of the fort. He was also engaged in various skirmishes, but escaped being wounded. He lay in the hospital, however, from a severe attack of the measles. After the close of the war he received an honorable discharge at Mobile, Ala., July 10, 1865.

After his retirement to civil life Mr. Letterman returned to Peoria County, this State, and one year later became a resident of Champaign, this county. He was married, in August, 1867, to Miss Mary Delana, who was born in Ireland, and came to the United States alone, after the death of her parents, in about 1865. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Letterman located in Crittenden Township, this county, where our subject purchased eighty acres of land and began to farm on his own account. He occupied this until 1877, and then took possession of his present homestead. Of four children who came to bless the home circle, two, John and Johnson, are deceased; Joseph H. and Mary are at home with their parents. Our subject and his wife are faithful adherents of the Catholic Church, and politically Mr. Letterman casts his vote with the Democratic party.



ELMER F. POWERS, of the firm of Smyser, Powers & Fielding, publishers of the Champaign *Times*, is a native of the Buckeye State, born in 1848, and is the son of Oliver P. and Rebecca (Kliver) Powers, natives of Virginia and Ohio. The subject of our sketch attended school

during his childhood and youth, and when twenty-one years old commenced to learn the printer's trade, in Dresden, Ohio. He afterward came to Illinois and worked at his trade in Cairo, for eighteen months. Thence he went to Memphis, working there and at other places in the South until 1874, when he entered the office of Messrs. Smyser & Mize, of Sullivan, becoming part owner of the Champaign *Times* five years later. The *Times* is the only representative of the Democracy in this county, and is receiving the patronage which it justly deserves. It is being conducted with ability and success, and has become indispensable to the people of the county.

Mr. Powers was married in 1886, to Miss Florence H. Nelson, a resident of the city of Champaign.



GEORGE W. SMITH has been a respected resident of Raymond Township for a period of eleven years, and is pleasantly located on section 12, where he owns 160 acres of land, which he has cultivated intelligently and successfully, and raised some of the choicest crops of the Prairie State. Mr. S. was born in McNairy County, Tenn., Dec. 3, 1835. His parents were Joseph and Amy Smith, the former a native of Alabama, and the latter born near Richmond, Va. The father of our subject was a free man, and in early life removed from Alabama to Tennessee, where he was reared to manhood. The mother, born in slavery, was sold when a little girl to a man named Cooper, with whom she removed to Tennessee. After his death the mother and her seven children were sold to a man named Jesse Walsh, with whom she remained until her death, which occurred in June, 1849. Her five sons and two daughters were afterward sold to different masters and remained in slavery until emancipated. One son served as a soldier in the 3d United States Heavy Artillery, and died in Memphis in the spring of 1865. The balance of the family were scattered about to parts unknown, our subject being only aware of the whereabouts of one sister, Mrs. Jennie Anderson, who resides near Bell Station, Boone Co., Tenn.

The father is still living and a resident of Mississippi, where he owns 320 acres of land.

Our subject was born while his mother was in the Cooper family, and was nine years old when she was sold to Mr. Walsh. He was then separated from her and became the property of Alexander McCullough, of McNairy County, Tenn. His old master is still living and is now nearly one hundred years old. Our subject remained with Mr. McC. until 1862, when he escaped and joined the Union army. At the battle of Shiloh he was a guide for the regiment of Gen. Logan from Corinth to Jackson, Miss., and was afterward detailed as a scout to disarm rebels in that locality. His unusual intelligence recommended him to the officers of the Union army, and he was subsequently proffered the post of Provost Marshal at Jackson, Tenn., and also the office of Adjutant General in the same place.

In the fall of 1863 Mr. Smith came to Springfield, Ill., with Gen. John A. McClernaud, and remained with this gentleman in and around that city for a period of thirteen years. In 1876 he came into this county and rented a tract of land which he cultivated one season, and in the fall purchased eighty acres of his present farm, which amount of land he afterward doubled, and now owns a quarter section. He has always been industrious and straightforward in his dealings, and has come honestly by his possessions.

While living in Springfield Mr. Smith formed the acquaintance of Mrs. Mary Eliza (Oglesby) Gains, whom he married in March, 1866. Mrs. S. was born of free parents in Fairfield District, S. C., and who were by name William Wesley and Nancy Oglesby. In 1848 the family made all preparations for a removal to Illinois, when the father was taken violently ill and died within a few days. Mrs. Oglesby in due time completed her preparations for coming North, and, accompanied by a brother and her four children, reached Illinois and located in Carlyle, Clinton County. The mother afterward died in that county. Three of her children are still living. One daughter married Elias Rollins and died in Springfield, in 1876. The living are John D., of St. Joseph, Mo.; Monroe, a resident of Springfield, Ill., and Mary E., Mrs. Smith of our

sketch. The wife of our subject by her first marriage became the mother of one child, a son, Albert A. Of her union with our subject there have been born six children—Fred, Salona E., Charles, Anna S., Walter William and John M. Mr. Smith is Republican in politics, and a citizen held in high respect for his intelligence as a farmer and his worthiness as a member of the community.



JOHN C. HAYS owns a fine farm of eighty acres on section 16, Ayers Township. He is the son of Rankin and Hannah (Crance) Hays, and was born in Fayette County, Ohio, Dec. 14, 1825. His father was a native of Ohio and his mother of New York. They were both devoted Christians and members of the Methodist Church. His mother died in 1860 at the age of sixty-three years, and his father in 1864 at the age of sixty-five. They had a family of ten children, namely, John C., Matilda, Sherman, Andrew, David, Michael, Electa, Elizabeth, Angelina and Mary.

John C. Hays resided with his parents until he was twenty-one years of age, receiving a good education in the common schools, and assisting in the labor of the farm. Aug. 16, 1849, he was married to Miss Deborah Morrison. She was born June 5, 1825, and is the daughter of David and Deborah (Van Gorder) Morrison, natives of Pennsylvania; her mother died in 1828. David Morrison married a second time and became the father of twenty children, named as follows: Margaret, Elizabeth, James, Jacob, Rachel, Deborah and David by his first wife, and Seth, Harriet, Nancy, Amy, Martha, Francis, Alexander, Hannah, Ella, Caroline, Willis, George, and one who died in infancy, by his second marriage. His family were members of the Old School Presbyterian Church.

Joan C. Hays and his wife have had nine children, of whom James, who was married to Miss Alice Blair, was accidentally killed in early manhood at the stockyards in Chicago, where he was employed. He died in Cook County Hospital at 9:10 P. M. of the evening he was hurt, and just ten minutes before his wife arrived. When the ac-

cident occurred, it was found that the only way to relieve the unfortunate man from his terrible situation, was by cutting away a portion of the caboose. An ax was accordingly procured, and a noble-hearted brakeman, named Miller Reed, wielded it with such good effect that Mr. Hays was soon extricated. During the ordeal, the injured man patiently waited for his release, not uttering a groan, yet perfectly conscious. Those who witnessed the sight declared his bearing to be heroic. After being moved to his boarding-house, he asked for a cigar which was in his pocket, and coolly smoked it. Deceased was twenty-four years of age, and had been married just three months at the time of his death. The names of the other children of our subject and wife are, Martha, married to A. C. Thullberry; Verlin, who died at the age of sixteen months; Andrew J. and Ellen, twins; Phillip E., Margaret E.; America and Adeline, twins; the former died at the age of four years and six months, after a severe illness of twenty-five days.

John C. Hays came to Illinois in 1849, but was not a resident of this township until 1869. He is a man of great executive ability and is actively interested in public affairs. During the last four years he has been Mail Contractor.

It is not often that we are called upon to record the incident of an entire family devoted to the service of Christ. Mr. Hays, his wife, and all of his children are faithful members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, of which he is one of the Elders. He is a Democrat, and his political views partake of the Old Jeffersonian School.

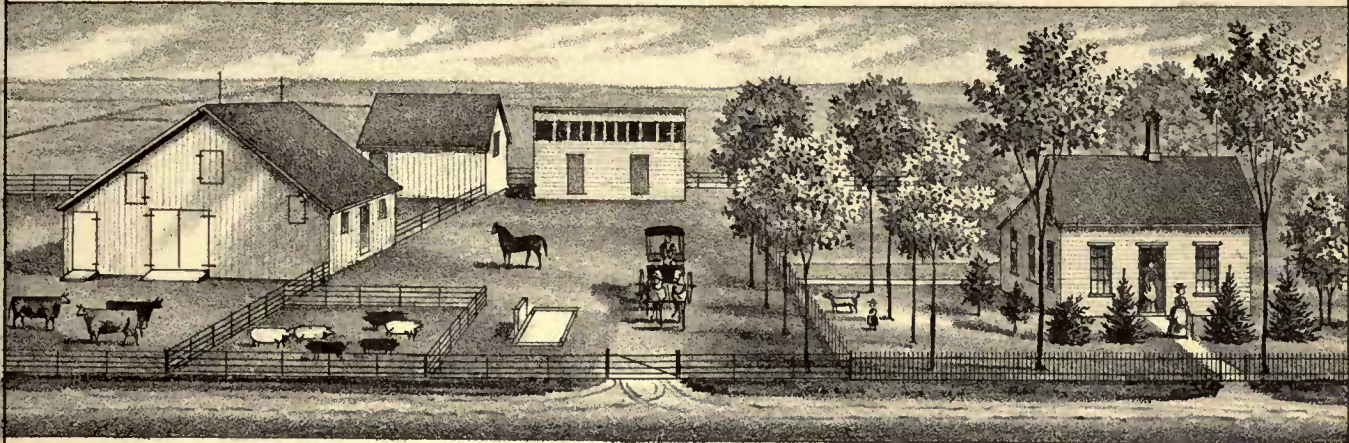
L C. PORTERFIELD. The brilliant success which so frequently attends honest industry and enterprise, is one of the remarkable features in the history of the growth of Illinois, and the family of Mr. L. C. Porterfield is one to which this remark may well apply. His highly cultivated farm of 315 acres is one of the finest in Sidney Township, located on section 29. He was born in Armstrong County, Pa., Dec. 17, 1839, and is of Irish and German extraction. His parents, R. G.

and Hannah (Campbell) Porterfield, were natives of Pennsylvania, and removed from that State to this county, where they passed the remainder of their lives. His father died Oct. 22, 1872, and his mother Feb. 25, 1879, and they are buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery at Sidney. There were ten children in their family, named as follows: Nancy J., who became the wife of George Forsythe, and has since died; L. C. is the subject of this sketch; Sarah A., deceased; Samuel A. married Elizabeth Williams, who is now deceased; Melinda B. became the wife of George Wilson, and is also deceased; Robert M. married Margaret Hunter; James W., deceased; Mary E., single; Hannah is the wife of John McKinnon, and Martha A., deceased.

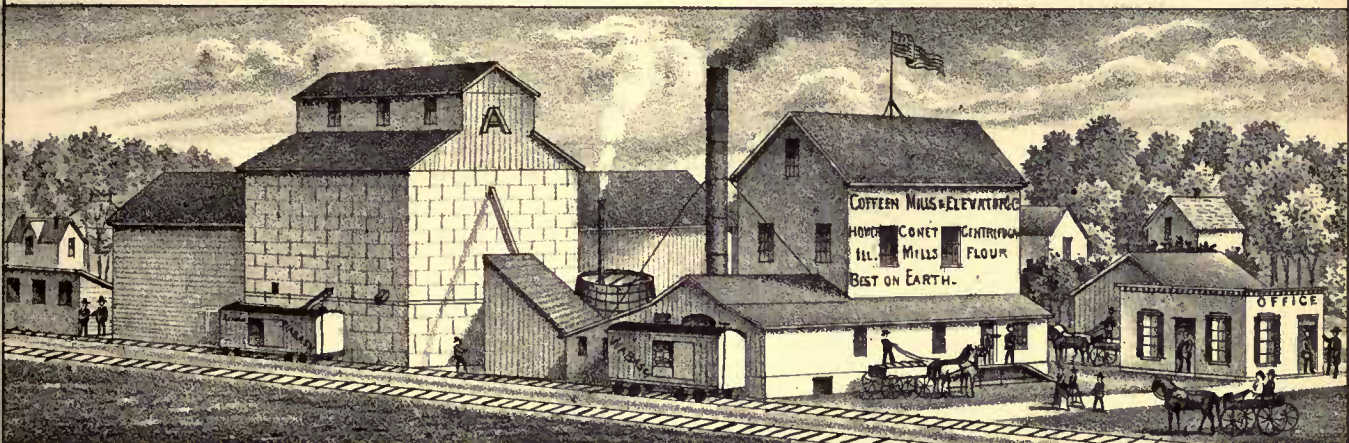
Mr. L. C. Porterfield was married, Oct. 20, 1872, to Miss Mary A. Toy. She is the daughter of Delilah and Mary (Bowser) Toy, and her parents are both natives of Pennsylvania. Her mother died in that State April 17, 1887, and her father is still living there. There were fourteen children in their family. The names of the children are as follows: Michael, deceased; Catherine, single; Margaret, deceased; James, who was married to Rebecca Friley, is now deceased; Abraham married Margaret Ann Bowser, and is deceased; Peter married Ellen Boubt; Elizabeth married James C. Burford; Hettie J., formerly the wife of David Lemon, is now deceased; Valentine married Anna Addison; Mary A., wife of our subject; Barbara E., who is the wife of Adam Steinmetz; Delilah M. is the wife of Hamilton Bowser; Benjamin L., who married Rachel Hindman, and Ross M. married Catherine Steinmetz.

In the family of our subject and wife there were nine children: Anna B., born Nov. 4, 1873; Katie M., Nov. 23, 1874; Martha A., June 10, 1878; Lulu M., March 17, 1880; Lemuel B., Aug. 22, 1881; Cora E. and Nora E. (twins), May 6, 1883, and two (twins) unnamed.

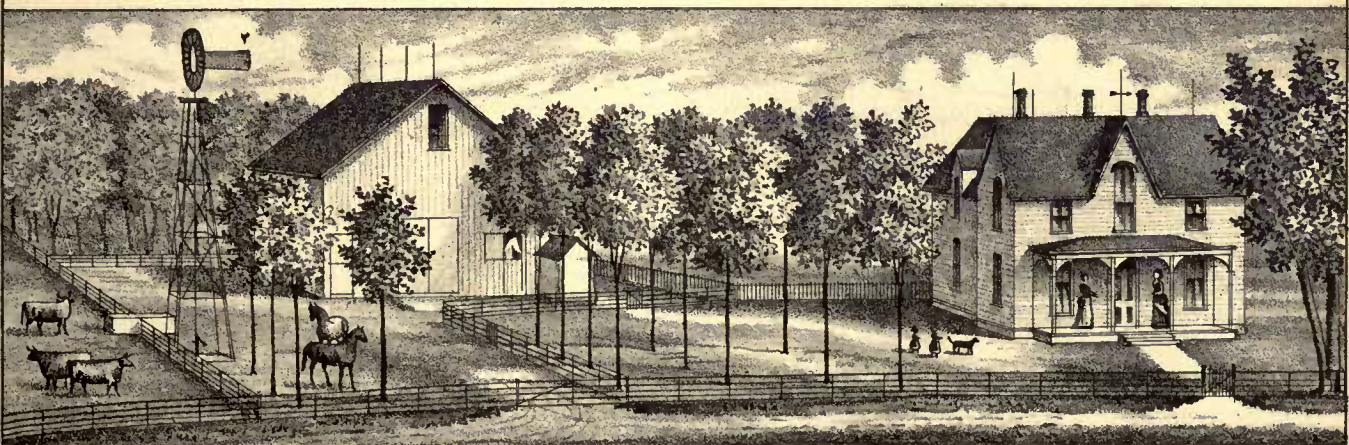
In his early life Mr. Porterfield passed through many business vicissitudes, although his father had successfully followed the pursuit of farming throughout his entire life. During one year he worked at the carpenter's trade, afterward for two years he was engaged in the lumber business in Pennsylvania, and for about three years was occu-



RESIDENCE OF THOMAS WILSON, SEC. 30, SIDNEY TOWNSHIP.



COFFEEN MILL AND ELEVATOR CO., HOMER, ILL., M. D. COFFEEN, PRES.



RESIDENCE OF ISAAC BROWN, SEC. 21, HOMER TOWNSHIP.

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pied in burning charcoal and taking out railroad ties. He now has a goodly amount invested in a coal shaft in this township. The barns and out-buildings on his farm are commodious; his residence is elegant and tasteful, and his grounds are adorned with a beautiful grove of shade trees. He is a public-spirited man, identified with the interests of the county, and has successfully held some of its official positions. His wife and himself are prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics he is Republican.

JOHAN M. LEWIS, one of the substantial farmers of Urbana Township, was born in Johnson County, Ind., near Franklin, the county seat, Nov. 6, 1845. His grandfather, James Lewis, was a native of Virginia, and subsequently removed to Kentucky. Andrew Lewis, father of our subject, was born in Virginia, but at a very early age removed with his parents to Kentucky. He there married Miss Elizabeth Clarke, and with his wife moved to Johnson County, Ind., where they remained until 1856. At that time he removed with his family to Champaign County and located in Urbana Township, where he was engaged in farming until his death, which occurred Feb. 19, 1887. He was born in the year 1800. His wife was born in 1803, and is still living. She was the mother of nine children, four of whom are still living.

John M., next to the youngest of his parents' children, received a good, practical education and graduated at the High School in Urbana. At the age of eighteen he enlisted in Co. I, 26th Ill. Vol. Inf., as a recruit, and served for nineteen months. At Resaca he met his first baptism of fire, then Dallas, New Hope Church, Kennesaw. On July 22, near Atlanta, Ezra Chapel, Jonesboro, Lovejoy; next the memorable following of Hood, and was with Sherman on his triumphant march to the sea, thence through the Carolinas, and in the grand review at Washington of the armies of Gens. Grant and Sherman. He was honorably discharged at the close of the war, July 29, 1865. After his return home he again attended school for a short time

and then took a trip to Kansas. In about eighteen months he returned to Champaign County and engaged in farming on the old homestead, which is a fine estate containing 480 acres of valuable land. He is actively interested in public affairs, and is a member of Black Eagle Post No. 129, G. A. R.

In 1873 Mr. Lewis married Miss Fannie Rice, the daughter of George S. Rice, formerly of Madison County, Ill., and their union has been blest by the birth of a son, Stanly M. The brothers and sisters of our subject are: Thomas, who enlisted in Co. I, 2d Ill. Cav., lost a leg at the battle of Pleasant Hill, and Aug. 8, 1864, was honorably discharged and returned home, and is now a resident of Los Angeles, Cal.; Mary is the wife of F. M. Myers, now residing in Kansas; Andrew T. is a resident of Sitka, Alaska; Nancy J. was a teacher for many years, and died in 1869; Willis F. was killed in the battle of Ft. Donelson; he was a member of Co. A., 20th Ill. Vol. Inf. Mr. Lewis and wife are members of the Baptist Church. Politically he is a prominent Republican.

JOHAN H. JAKUES, of the firm of W. H. Jaques & Son, is successfully engaged in the hardware trade with his father at Tolono. He has inherited the fine business abilities of the latter, and is reckoned among the substantial citizens of the town, and as a worthy representative of the family name. Our subject is the only son of William H. and Eliza P. (Dunham) Jaques, and was born in Joliet, Ill., June 14, 1848. His early education, begun in the common schools, was completed at Painesville Academy, Ohio, and when seventeen years of age he commenced to work at the tinner's trade under the instruction of his father. He served a thorough apprenticeship, and gained a good insight into the business, and when nineteen years old was taken into partnership with his father. They continued together four years, and our subject then disposed of his interest in the business and went into the employ of the firm which had been formed after his withdrawal—Jaques & Tewksbury. In 1879 he purchased the

business of the gentleman who had succeeded him, and father and son continued as before.

The marriage of J. H. Jaques and Miss Lola M. Fouts took place in 1867. Mrs. J. was the daughter of W. D. Fouts, of Lexington, Ind., in which State she was born. She departed this life on the 7th of August, 1885, leaving three children, all sons—William H., Clarence J. and Elmer F.

Politically Mr. J. is, like his father, a firm supporter of Republican principles, and is now a member of the Town Council. He also belongs to the I. O. O. F., being connected with Subordinate and Encampment Lodges in Tolono.



JAMES HARVEY MORRIS is an enterprising farmer of Urbana Township. He was born in Rush County, Ind., near Rushville, Dec. 17, 1832. His grandfather, William Morris, was a native of Delaware, whence he moved to the State of Kentucky, and a few years later to Illinois, where he settled in Edgar County and made his home there until his death. Mr. John Morris, the father of James H., was born in Kentucky, and was there married to Miss Mary Miller, daughter of Titus and Mary Miller. Mr. Miller's family were among the earliest settlers of Kentucky. In 1821 John Morris moved to Rush County, Ind., where he purchased a farm which he improved and cultivated until his death, which occurred when he reached the age of eighty-four years. His wife died in 1865. They reared a family of nine children, of whom James H. is the youngest living. He passed his boyhood in his native county, and was educated in the school at Rushville. In 1855 he was married to Miss Mary Beabout, a native of Kentucky. After his marriage he settled in Rush County, Ind., and remained there until the close of the year 1862, when he removed to Edgar County, Ill. After remaining there two years he came to Champaign County and settled in Urbana Township, on section 15, where he has a fine farm containing 320 acres of choice land, which is all under good cultivation and kept in excellent order and repair. He has made a specialty of raising cat-

tle and hogs, in which he has been very successful financially.

His first wife was removed by death in 1884, leaving a family of seven children—Lillie, Albert, Robinson, Ida, Minnie, John and Thomas. Lillie is the wife of Thomas Dougan. Oct. 25, 1885, Mr. Morris formed a second marriage, with Mrs. Margaret Carle, widow of Albert G. Carle, and daughter of John and Almira Burt. Her father was a native of Osage County, N. Y., born Sept. 23, 1806. In 1833 Mr. John Burt moved with his family to Coshocton County, Ohio, which place has since been their permanent home. His daughter, after her marriage to Mr. Carle, came to reside in Champaign County, and located on the farm where she now lives with Mr. Morris. The farm contains 160 acres of valuable, well-improved land. She had one son by Mr. Carle, named Willie, who died at the age of one year. Mr. Carle died in March, 1881.

Mrs. Morris is a lady of much refinement and intelligence. She is a highly esteemed member of the Methodist Church, and takes a lively interest in all the social affairs relating to the community in which she lives, and of which she may be regarded as one of the pioneers. Mr. Morris is a man of excellent business qualifications. His farm is well improved, and all of its appointments are appropriate and in order. He is a member of the Christian Church.



WILLIAM C. STOCKARD, a settler of Champaign County of 1866, after residing in the city one year, moved into the township of Philo and purchased eighty acres of land, all of which is now in the town limits. At the time of his settlement here, Philo Village was an humble hamlet of five houses, and during the years which have elapsed since that time, our subject has watched with interest and satisfaction the growth, not only of the Prairie State, but of this county, and has contributed his full share toward its progress and development.

Mr. Stockard is a native of Rockingham County, Va., his birth taking place May 14, 1818. His fa-

ther, Charles Stockard, also a native of the Old Dominion, was of Scottish ancestry, and possessed in a marked degree the characteristics of his ancestors. The Stockard family in Scotland occupied a high position both in financial and social circles, and the first representatives in this country came here at an early day, and settling in Virginia, became intimately identified with its industrial and agricultural interests. After reaching manhood Charles Stockard was married, in his native county, to Miss Elizabeth Walters, a Virginia lady of Irish descent, whose father served in the Revolutionary War upon the side of the Colonists. The maternal grandparents of our subject finally removed to Lancaster, Ohio, where they spent the last years of their lives, and where their remains were buried. The father of our subject served as a soldier in the War of 1812, before his marriage. He was the son of William Stockard, who spent his early life in Virginia, but afterward removed to Lancaster, Ohio, where he spent his last years. His wife, Margaret, died in Fairfield County, that State.

The subject of our sketch was only a year old when his parents removed from Virginia to Ohio, in 1819. They located in Fairfield County, among the earliest settlers of that region, and followed farming until the death of the father, who was cut down in the prime of life, being only twenty-five years of age at the time of his death. The mother of our subject afterward married Rev. James Gurley, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of much influence and usefulness, and who died at Union, Montgomery Co., Ohio, at the advanced age of eighty years. The mother afterward removed to Bucyrus, that State, where her death occurred when she was eighty-four years old.

William C. Stockard was the second child, and after the death of his father remained with his mother and step-father until he was twenty years of age. He then started out on his own account. He was married at Zanesville, Ohio, May 29, 1838, to Miss Mary E., daughter of Edwin and Jane (Evans) Burlingame, natives of Ohio, both born in the blockhouse at Marietta during the early settlement of the State, and while Indians and wild animals were to the pioneers both an annoyance and a terror. Several years later they removed to

this State, locating in Delaware, Tazewell County, where the mother died and where the father is now living, aged ninety-one years. The wife of our subject departed this life Feb. 14, 1875, at the age of about fifty-five years, having been born April 28, 1820. They had become the parents of ten children, five of whom are yet living: Homer is married, and a resident of Philo Township; Elizabeth, Mrs. Lovell, lives in Philo; Rufus is in Kansas; Ella lives in Philo, and James remains on the homestead.

Mr. Stockard and his wife united with the Methodist Episcopal Church many years ago, and politically our subject is a staunch Republican. Three of his sons served as soldiers in the war; the elder, Charles, who participated in the battle of Pittsburg Landing, afterward died of small-pox in a hospital of that city, on the 21st of April, 1862; Rufus enlisted first for ninety days and later for three years, in the 95th Illinois Infantry.



THOMAS YOUNG, who is worthily fulfilling his obligations as an honest man and a good citizen, is successfully engaged in farming pursuits, being the proprietor of sixty acres of finely cultivated land on section 21, in Ayers Township. His early home was many leagues from his present one, being County Tyrone, Ireland, where he was born Nov. 12, 1823, and which he left in 1848. He is the son of Thomas and Margaret (Byers) Young, natives of the same county and of pure Scotch ancestry. The father died on the Atlantic Ocean, of cholera, in May, 1855, on the vessel Charles Crockett, while on his way to this country. The mother afterward joined our subject in Hartford, Conn. There he had learned the trade of a machinist, at which he worked seventeen years, and the last five of which he spent in the employ of the Government, manufacturing Sharp's breech-loading rifles.

Thomas Young, the father of our subject, was an expert weaver of linen fabrics of all kinds, turning out some of the most beautiful patterns that were ever known. He possessed but a limited education but more than ordinary ability, and was very intelligent, keeping himself well informed upon cur-

rent events. Added to this, his industry combined to gain him the respect of all who knew him. The mother survived until 1873, and died in the city of Hartford. The eight children of the parental family were John, Jane, Margaret, Sarah, Thomas, Nancy, Rebecca and Edward. The latter during the late war enlisted in a Connecticut regiment, and was killed at the battle near Raleigh, N. C., April 13, 1865. He left a wife and one child.

The first wife of our subject, to whom he was married in Hartford, Conn., in November, 1852, was formerly Miss Matilda Irwin, a native of his own country, born in 1828, and the daughter of Joseph Irwin, also a native of Ireland, and now deceased. Of this union there were born three children—Irwin, Arabella and Thomas. The mother of these children departed this life in October, 1863, for a residence in a brighter world. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church and a lady of great kindness of heart, respected by all who knew her.

The present wife of Mr. Young, to whom he was married in August, 1864, at Hartford, Conn., was Mrs. Catherine (Byers) Porter, born in County Cavan, Ireland, in 1838. The one child of this union was a daughter whom they named Katie, and who is now engaged in teaching school. Mr. Young has filled his niche in life worthily and has fully identified himself with American customs and institutions. As soon as invested with the rights of citizenship, he identified himself with the Republican party, of which he has since remained an adherent. He has officiated as School Trustee besides occupying other positions of responsibility. He is straightforward and upright in his business methods, and may be properly classed among the representative men of his township.



JOHNSON A. SWEARINGEN, a native of the Blue Grass region, is one of the most successful farmers of Ogden Township, where for years he has chiefly turned his attention to the cultivation of 250 acres of choice land, which, through his judicious management has yielded some of the finest wheat and corn of the Prairie State. He occupies with his family, a com-

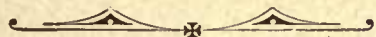
modious farm dwelling, which, with its substantial barn and adjacent out-buildings, gives a general air of thrift and prosperity to the premises. The fields are conveniently laid off and neatly fenced, the farm machinery is of the latest and most improved pattern, and the live stock comprises some of the finest animals in this part of the county, including a full-blooded Jersey cow of great beauty and value.

Johnson A. Swearingen was born in Lewis County, Ky., Jan. 13, 1823, and is the son of Bartley and Jane (Rankin) Swearingen, natives of the same State and county. The former was born in 1794, and coming to this State in 1842, located in Champaign County, of which he remained a resident until his death, which occurred in 1843. He uniformly voted with the Democratic party. The mother was a member of the Christian Church, a lady of much worth and highly respected. The children of the household are recorded as follows: John J. is the eldest; Matilda died when an interesting maiden sixteen years of age; John A., of our sketch, was the third son; two died in infancy unnamed; James R. married Miss Charlotte Moore; William married Miss Margaret Long; Frank is also married, and Drusilla became the wife of Mr. William Bailey.

Our subject came to Champaign County in the spring of 1842, arriving here on the 11th of April. In November following he was united in marriage with Miss Sidney Wright, who is a native of Indiana, born on the 10th of March, 1821, and is the daughter of John B. and Elizabeth (Stevens) Wright. Their children are Nancy, Jessie, Phebe, Mary, David, James, Rebecca, Sidney, Hannah and Catherine. The farm of Mr. Swearingen is finely located on what was formerly called the Old State Road, and just forty-seven years ago the writer of this sketch passed along this road with his parents when they removed from Ohio to Hancock County.

The children of our subject and his wife, eight in number, were as follows: William, who married Miss Flora Risk; Matilda, Mrs. Bruner; Elizabeth, Mrs. William Sprigs; Gilford, who married Miss Mariah Hall; Alice, who died in 1884; Drusilla B., Mrs. Saddler; Jessie, deceased, and a son who died

unnamed in infancy. Mr. S. is Republican in politics, and socially belongs to Lodge No. 252, I. O. O. F., at Homer. He has held the various offices of the Lodge, and has been Deacon of the Christian Church for several years. His wife is also a member of the same church.



FREDERICK G. LEDDERBOGE. This gentleman, born across the ocean, in the Kingdom of Prussia, is one of the most intelligent and respected citizens of this county, and is thoroughly Americanized and identified with the interests of his adopted country. The West is full of just such men, who in their youth cherished ambitions which they thought would never be realized in their own land, and who had the courage to come almost empty-handed, and without exception, found a ready welcome for all who arrived with an honest purpose to attain success by the labor of their hands and improvement of the mind.

The birth of our subject occurred Aug. 27, 1835, and he is the son of Gotlieb and Mary Ledderboge, natives of the same country as their son and where they spent their lives. Young Frederick commenced attending school at an early age, continuing his studies until he was fourteen years old, and then entered a store to learn general merchandising. After an apprenticeship of three and one-half years in the village of Seehausen he removed to Seesen, where he was occupied as a clerk in a fancy goods store for six months. After several removals he returned to his native village, Magdeburg, and was clerk in a grocery store until 1858. He was an ambitious youth, and not being satisfied with his prospects in his own country, determined to seek his fortune in the New World. With \$300 in his possession he sailed from Bremen in June of that year, and reached New York harbor on the 1st of July, from there making his way directly to Chicago. In the meantime he had met with a great misfortune, his money having been stolen from him, and he found himself a stranger in a strange city, without means or friends at hand. For six months also he was out of regular employment. He finally se-

cured a position as clerk in a general store, and afterward went into the dry-goods store of J. B. Shay, where he remained five years. He became very efficient as a clerk and finally received the handsome wages of \$35 per week. In 1865 he purchased a stock of groceries and queensware and set up in business at the intersection of North Clark and Superior streets, where he engaged in trade until 1869. He was now seized with a longing for country life, and in June of that year sold out his stock and good-will, and coming to this county purchased a quarter section of wild prairie land, which he has since retained as a part of his present farm. It was quite a change from his former life and comparatively a new experience. He persevered, however, amidst all difficulties, and in due time received the reward of his industry. He put up a good set of frame buildings, has his land enclosed with 800 rods of hedge fencing, and eighty acres under a good state of cultivation. His farm stock will compare favorably with any in this vicinity. He has been wise in his expenditures, lived economically, and has a fine property to show for his labor.

Mr. Ledderboge was married at Chicago in 1861, to Miss Louisa Martin, a native of the Kingdom of Bavaria, Germany, who emigrated to the United States with her parents in 1854. She is the daughter of Jacob and Margaretha (Schaefer) Martin, natives of the same country; her father is deceased; her mother survives, and is residing at the home of our subject. Of this union there were born seven children—Emelie, Lewis, Clara, Annie, Bessie, Stella and Emil, all at home with their parents. Mr. L. since obtaining the right of suffrage has uniformly cast his vote with the Republican party.



JULIUS HAMILTON, proprietor of the Champaign Lumber Yard, established himself in business here in 1880. He was born in Loudoun County, Va., July 16, 1832, and came to Illinois in 1855. He is the son of Charles B. and Sarah C. (Luekett) Hamilton, natives of the Old Dominion, where the former carried on, in Loudoun County, a large flouring-mill, and was also extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits. He re-

maintained a resident of his native State until 1855, then emigrated to Illinois and purchased a large farm in Cass County, which he operated until 1860. In that year he sold out, and removing to Bath, Mason County, on the Illinois River, retired from active labor.

The father of our subject was a man of much force of character, with a large amount of energy and ambition. He had received a fair education and became prominent in the affairs of his native county before removing North, having served as Justice of the Peace and occupying other responsible positions. He had also studied law and been admitted to the bar, but chose farming rather than the legal profession. He was of a kind and generous disposition, a member in good standing of the Lutheran Church, and universally respected wherever known. After building up for himself a good record he departed this life in Mason County, Ill., in the spring of 1863. The mother is living and making her home with her son, Charles L., at Carlinville, Macoupin County. The parental household included seven children, one now deceased. Those surviving are, Rebecca, Mrs. Dr. Logan, of Newmansville, Cass Co., Ill.; Julius, of our sketch; Samuel, a resident of Ashland, Cass County; Maria, Mrs. Berry, of Colorado; Charles L. of Carlinville, Macoupin County, and Serena, of Ashland, Ill.

The subject of this biography spent his younger days on his father's farm, in the meantime pursuing his primary studies in the common schools. When fifteen years old he entered Hillsboro University, where he pursued a thorough course of study under the instruction of Prof. Potts. When eighteen years old he left the home roof and engaged as clerk in a store at Morgantown, where he was employed three years. Subsequently he embarked in farming in Cass County, which he abandoned in 1860, to engage in mercantile business at Chandlersville. After two years thus occupied he engaged in the lumber trade at Carlinville, where he remained for nearly eighteen years. In the meantime he purchased real estate and erected houses, and from the sale of these realized a handsome profit. In 1879 he sold out his interests in Macoupin County and afterward spent eighteen months in Kansas, where, in the meantime he established a

lumber business at Wellington, with branches at Caldwell and Anthony. Closing out there in 1880 he came to this county and established his present lumber business, while also being engaged in real estate operations. He possesses the energy and enterprise necessary for the successful carrying on of this department of trade and has become one of the valued citizens of Champaign. Politically he affiliates with the Democratic party, and socially is a member in good standing of the I. O. O. F. His office and yard are located on North Walnut street.

Mr. Hamilton was married in 1857, to Miss Virginia, the daughter of Fenton and Mary (Sanders) VanDeventer, who were natives of the Old Dominion. Mrs. H. was born in Illinois in 1837, and of her union with our subject there are three children—Mary, Lizzie and Charles F. The latter was married July 3, 1884, to Miss Mary, daughter of Daniel Rugg, of Champaign.



NATHAN W. COCKAYNE. The snug farm of eighty acres lying on the northeast quarter of section 30, Homer Township, with its modest buildings, neat fences and group of well-kept stock, is the property of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch, and of which he took possession in the spring of 1885. Here, with his little family, consisting of a wife and two children, he is enjoying much comfort, interspersed with the simple pleasures of a rural community, and is worthily filling his niche as a peaceable and law-abiding citizen. In addition to his farm labors he also understands every detail of the carpenter trade, to which he gives much of his spare time and in which he has attained a goodly degree of skill.

Our subject is a native of Wayne County, Ind., born Jan. 12, 1834, and the son of Thomas and Martha (Stokes) Cockayne, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of New Jersey. The father of our subject died in about 1863, during the progress of the late Civil War, and the mother's death occurred twenty days after that of her hus-

band, in Madison County, Ind. The parental household included six children: Sarah became the wife of Mr. Lewis; Benjamin married Miss Maria Cook; Nathan W., of our sketch, was the third child, and Elizabeth the fourth; Ann married William Framp-ton; James married a Miss Brown.

The youth and boyhood of Mr. Coekayne were passed upon a farm in his native county, and when a young man he began working at the carpenter's trade. He was married quite late in life, on the 1st of January, 1872, to Miss Abbie Mitchner, who was born in 1847, and is the daughter of David and Lucetta (Smith) Mitchner, natives of Ohio, and still living. Their eight children were Ralvin, Abbie, Earl, Minor, William, Ava, Lulu and Dell. The two children of our subject and his wife are a son and daughter—Charles, who was born in May, 1873, and Ava, May 29, 1882. Mr. C. is a decided Republican, politically, and was reared among the Quakers, in the faith of which he has remained since early youth.

CALVIN BEATTY. One of the best farms in Newcomb Township lies on section 5, and is the property of the subject of this biography. It embraces 280 acres of finely improved land with first-class farm buildings which, with their surroundings, constitute a pleasant spot for the dwelling-place of our subject and his family. Mr. Beatty in seeking his location traveled many miles from his native State, having been born in Sussex County, N. J., where he was reared on his father's farm and lived at home until twenty-seven years of age. He is the son of George B. and Elizabeth (Stites) Beatty, natives of the same State as their son, and locating after their marriage in Sussex County, where the mother died in about 1842. The father is still living, having arrived at an advanced age. Their family of six children included five sons and one daughter, our subject being the fifth in order of birth.

Calvin Beatty first opened his eyes to the light on the 6th of February, 1840, and in 1867 became a resident of Illinois, locating in Henry County, where the first year he worked by the month, and

later was engaged in farming. In the fall of 1869 he came to this county and purchased a tract of land in Newcomb Township, which is now included in his present homestead. After leaving his native State he was married in Sussex County, July 26, 1868, to Miss Ella, daughter of John and Ann (Currant) McKinney. Mrs. B. was born in the same county as her husband, Feb. 19, 1844, and remained with her parents until her marriage. They are now deceased, both dying in Sussex County, N. J. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Beatty, five in number, were named as follows: George L., Lillian M., Lulu G., Saddle M. and Hattie S.

Mr. Beatty has been prominent in the affairs of his township since coming here, being at this time Justice of the Peace, which office he has held for a period of seven years. He and his excellent wife united with the Protestant Methodist Church, he in 1884 and she in 1886, of which he has been Steward and Trustee, and has served as Class-Leader for the past three years. Politically he votes with the Democratic party, and is a man whose opinion is generally respected.

The father of our subject, George B. Beatty, held the office of Justice of the Peace, in Sussex County, N. J., for a period of thirty years, finally being obliged to relinquish it on account of ill-health. Only three sons of the family lived to mature years—Charles J., Christopher and Calvin. Charles J., who died in Georgia, was married and became the father of three children, one of whom died in infancy, and one, George H., a bright, promising young man, lived to be twenty years of age, and died in Sussex County, N. J.; the other son, Charles Halsey, is living in New Jersey with his grandfather. Christopher remains a resident of his native county in New Jersey, where he is carrying on farming.

HENRY GORHAM, a gentleman in the prime of life, is following farming successfully on section 9, in Ayers Township. He has 160 acres of good land, with a handsome farm residence set in the midst of well-kept grounds, and substantial out-buildings adjoining. The fences,

farm machinery and stock are well cared for, and everything about the premises denotes thrift and prosperity.

Our subject is a native of this State, born in Morgan County, Dec. 10, 1849, and is the son of Josiah and Roxana (Johnson) Gorham, natives of Ohio. The father still lives, and is engaged in farming pursuits in this county. He was born Dec. 21, 1819. The household included two children, who were favored with more than ordinary advantages. Henry, of our sketch, after completing his primary studies in the country schools, entered the Illinois College at Jacksonville, where he took a scientific course, completing his studies in 1868. After leaving school he engaged in clerking for three or four years and then, returning to his father's farm, entered upon the career which he has since followed, namely, the pursuit of agriculture.

After he had decided upon his future course financially, Mr. Gorham was united in marriage with Miss Mary Doremus, March 14, 1878. Mrs. G. is a native of New Orleans, born Oct. 17, 1852, and the daughter of Rev. J. E. C. and Catherine L. (Ulrich) Doremus. Mr. and Mrs. Gorham have become the parents of three children: Maude, born July 10, 1879; Josiah, Dec. 5, 1881, and Margaret D., Nov. 27, 1885. Mr. Gorham is Republican in politics, and a member of Homer Lodge No. 199, A. F. & A. M., with which he became connected in 1883. He is yet a young man, and possesses good business abilities and sound common sense, which will assure his success, both socially and financially.



J C. WHALLON, of East Bend Township, is pleasantly located on section 5, of which he took possession in 1869. It was then but partially improved, and he has been industriously engaged in completing what was then begun, so that he now has a series of productive fields, from the proceeds of which he lives independently, and has been able to surround himself with all the comforts of life. Our subject is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Butler County, July 16, 1823. His father, Jacob Whallon, was born in New Jersey, March 7, 1798, and his grand-

father, Thomas Whallon, it is supposed, was a native of Ireland. He located in New Jersey when a young man, where he was engaged as a farmer and carpenter, and whence he emigrated to Ohio in about 1807, and was among the earliest pioneers of that locality. He assisted in clearing the timber from several acres of land in that section, erected a set of farm buildings, and upon the homestead thus established spent the greater part of his life. His death occurred at the home of one of his daughters in Butler County, May 6, 1844.

A part of Thomas Whallon's family had been born in New Jersey, among whom was Jacob, the father of our subject, who was a lad of nine years when the family bade adieu to their old friends in New England and started on their journey overland to the Buckeye State. Young Jacob completed his education in the pioneer schools, and upon reaching manhood became the husband of Miss Margaret Brewer, who was born in Kentucky, Sept. 2, 1794. The young couple located upon a tract of land which had been given Mr. Whallon by his father, and which was yet covered with timber. His first duty was to put up a dwelling, which was built of logs and finished and furnished after the manner of those days. In this humble structure the subject of our sketch was born.

Jacob Whallon, year after year, labored on the farm which he had cleared from the wilderness, and realized the just reward of his labors in the establishment of a good home and the enjoyment of the comforts of life, with the respect of many friends. Seven children came into the household, which was deprived of the affectionate care of the wife and mother while she was still a comparatively young woman, her death occurring in March, 1846. Mr. W. subsequently married again, and of the second marriage there were born three children.

The subject of this history was the fourth child of his father's first marriage. His early education was conducted in the pioneer schools on the subscription plan, and as soon as he was strong enough he began to assist his father in the cultivation of the farm. He remained under the home roof until reaching his majority, and in 1844 started out for himself. Going into Kentucky he engaged there in farming until 1848, then, returning to Ohio,

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J. W. Smith



Joseph L. Gorman

worked by the month two years. At the expiration of this time he located on a tract of rented land, which he cultivated for eight years thereafter, and then removed to Indiana, where he purchased eighty acres in Clay County, twelve miles east of Terre Haute. This he occupied until 1866, then sold out and came into Woodford County, this State. He only lived there a year, however, taking possession of his present homestead in 1869.

The lady who has been sharer of the fortunes of our subject for a period of over forty years was formerly Miss Catherine Corban, to whom he was married in March, 1846. Mrs. W. is a native of Scott County, Ky., born Dec. 3, 1824, and the daughter of Henry and Deborah (Hinton) Corban, of the same county. Of this union there have been born six children, only two of whom, Joseph Irving and Parker, are now living. Joseph I. lives in Gibson, and Parker is at home.

Mr. Whallon, politically, is independent, and has always taken a genuine interest in the advancement and welfare of his adopted county. He represented East Bend Township in the Board of Supervisors one term, has held the office of Justice of the Peace, and has served as School Director both in Indiana and in this county. He is in all respects a worthy and reliable citizen, who is contributing his full quota to the agricultural and business interests of his community.



JOSEPH L. GORMAN. The homestead of this gentleman, which he took possession of in the spring of 1884, is pleasantly located on section 32, Tolono Township. Here he has 100 acres of finely cultivated land with convenient and substantial farm buildings. In his operations as an agriculturist he has enjoyed fair success, and as a gentleman is a highly respected member of the community.

Our subject is a native of Fleming County, Ky., where his birth occurred on the 5th of January, 1829. His father, Daniel Gorman, a native of Lancaster County, Pa., was born Jan. 15, 1780, grew to manhood in his native county and learned the trade

of a shoemaker. When nineteen years old he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Watson, who survived less than a year after their marriage. In 1800, Mr. Gorman removed to Fleming County, Ky., and was there married to Miss Nancy Strahan. They afterward removed to Scott County, Ind., and in about 1824, after becoming the mother of one daughter, Mrs. G. departed this life. The daughter, Eveline, married Samuel Morgan, and they located first in Fleming County, Ky., and later in Rush County, Ind., where Mr. M. died in 1857. Mrs. Morgan then moved to Tolono, Ill., where she died in April, 1886.

Daniel Gorman, after the death of his second wife, returned to Kentucky, and in March, 1828, was married to Miss Mary Lewis. This lady was a native of North Carolina, where she was born Jan. 21, 1798. They located in Kentucky, where Mr. G. followed his trade until 1855, when they removed to Rush County, Ind., where he departed this life in 1865. Mrs. Gorman then came to this State, and died at Tolono one year later, in 1866. Of this marriage there were born three children, two of whom died in infancy, the child surviving being Joseph L. of our sketch.

Joseph L. was reared to farming pursuits, received his education in a private school, and when nineteen years of age commenced teaching. He followed this occupation during the winter seasons for a period of twenty-five years and in the summers engaged in farming. On the 8th of January, 1856, he was united in marriage, at Lebanon, Ind., to Miss Elvira A., daughter of John and Jane (Jamerson) Stephenson. Mrs. G. was born near Lebanon, June 27, 1840. Of this marriage there were born eleven children, and the parents were bereft of seven of these, who died in childhood. Lilly departed this life June 13, 1887. Those surviving are Nannie, who married S. D. Cannady, a druggist in Missouri; Orville is teaching in this county; Grace resides at home.

Joseph L. Gorman became a resident of this county in 1865. He first purchased a farm in the township of Pesotum, which he occupied for eleven years and then removed into the village of Tolono, where he was elected Justice of the Peace, and was also engaged in the insurance business. In March, 1884,

he took possession of his present farm, and is most pleasantly situated and prepared to enjoy life in a high degree. He became a member of the Republican party at its organization and has been a warm supporter of its principles since that time. In former years he was a Whig. He united with the Presbyterian Church in early life and is in all respects a substantial and representative citizen who is contributing his full share toward the welfare and prosperity of his community. We are pleased to present a portrait of this estimable citizen in this work, he being a gentleman worthy of the highest distinction.



THOMAS W. SMITH, Supervisor of Crittenden Township, and in other respects a representative citizen, owns and occupies a good farm on section 29, of which he has been in possession since the spring of 1882. His estate consists of eighty acres, which is under a fine state of cultivation, and upon which is a tasteful and substantial residence and all the buildings and machinery required by the first-class agriculturist. In addition to his own land he also cultivates eighty acres belonging to his father.

Mr. Smith was born in Sangamon County, this State, Oct. 4, 1856, a year made memorable by the organization of the Republican party, of which our subject is a staunch supporter, but is serving his third term as Supervisor in a township which is strongly Democratic. This is evidence of his popularity and the respect his fellow-citizens have for him. His father, Richard C. Smith, also a native of Sangamon County, was born Feb. 12, 1833, and his grandfather, John Smith, a native of Kentucky, and born March 18, 1805, when a young man seventeen years old emigrated to this State and located with the other early settlers in Sangamon County, and with a scythe cut grass from the ground where now stands the capital city of the State. The great-grandfather of our subject, Thomas Smith, was a native of Virginia, where he was born in 1769. He came to this State and settled in Sangamon County, where he remained until his death, which occurred Jan. 28, 1841. His wife was Elizabeth

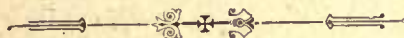
Peters, who was born in 1772 in Kentucky. The great-grandfather on the mother's side was Stephen Shelton, who was born in North Carolina about 1777, and was there married to Lydia Heath. They came to this State in the spring of 1826, where they both spent the remainder of their lives. Stephen Shelton was twice married and his widow is still living in Sangamon County, aged about eighty-three years.

After locating and laying the foundation for a future homestead John Smith took unto himself a life partner, Miss Jane G. Drennan. This lady became the mother of six children, and departed this life at her home in Sangamon County, Sept. 16, 1833. Four of that little family are still living, among them Richard C., the father of our subject, who was but an infant when his mother died and his father married a second time. He grew to manhood in his native county, where he was reared to farming pursuits and received a limited education in the pioneer schools. After becoming of age he was married to Miss Amarine Shelton, who was born in Sangamon County, Sept. 2, 1835. She was the daughter of William and Prudence (Neal) Shelton, natives of Kentucky, whence they removed to Illinois in the pioneer days. Richard Smith remained a resident of his native county until the fall of 1874, when he purchased 160 acres of land in Crittenden Township, this county. This he occupied until the fall of 1881, and then with his wife, returned to his native county, where they still reside. Their children, eight in number, were Thomas W. of our sketch; John R.; Maria E., now the wife of Joseph Smith; James A., Richard E., Charles E.; Flora, Mrs. E. A. Baugh, and Frederick.

The subject of this biography, who was the eldest of his father's family, at an early age commenced to assist his parents in the home work and gained what education he could in the common schools. He came with them, in 1874, to this county, and completed his studies at the State University at Champaign. He subsequently taught and attended school alternately and supplemented his studies by a course at Central Normal College in Danville, Ind. Afterward he continued teaching until the spring of 1882, since which date he has given his entire attention to farming.

Mr. Smith was married on the 25th of October, 1881, to Miss Margaret R. Campbell, a native of Wayne County, Iowa, and born May 27, 1861. Mrs. Smith is the daughter of James E. and Nancy J. (Gibson) Campbell, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Sangamon County, this State. Both parents are still living and are now residents of Piatt County, Ill. Our subject and his wife have become the parents of two children—Claude E. and Edna J.

Mr. Smith in addition to his other duties, officially and as a farmer, is also general agent for the Tower Cultivator Company. Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith are prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in every good work of the community take an active part. Our subject, although a young man, has taken a very prominent part in the councils of his township, and also of the county, and is regarded as a man of excellent business talents and splendid judgment. It is therefore with pleasure that we place his portrait in the galaxy of those of leading men presented in this volume.



CHARLES H. LILLY, engaged in general merchandising in Thomasboro, is a native of Champaign City, this county, born Jan. 20, 1860. It will thus be seen that he is a young man, but for several years he has been conducting business for himself, and if appearances give any indication he is on the high road to prosperity and a competence. He has seen considerable of the world, having traveled over the States and Territories of Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Montana, Dakota, Wisconsin and Minnesota, and at last satisfied himself that there was no section of country equal to that of Central Illinois. He accordingly took up his location in Thomasboro, establishing in business there in 1884. He carries a general and well-selected stock of goods, and by his courteous manner to all, and his systematic business methods, has built up a patronage which speaks well for his ability as a business man, and which is steadily on the increase.

The first representative of the Lilly family in this country located in the South. The father of our

subject, Rev. Robert H. Lilly, was born in Kentucky, and his grandfather, Amiger Lilly, was born about forty miles west of Richmond, Va., June 7, 1763. He removed to the Blue Grass regions in about 1784, being among the earliest settlers of the State. After a residence there of over forty years he again started westward, probably feeling like Daniel Boone, that the country was becoming too crowded. Crossing the Mississippi he located near Millersburg, Mo., where his death occurred in 1832. In the meantime he had married and reared a fine family, among the sons of which was Robert H., the father of our subject. He was born May 11, 1804, and developed from an unusually bright and serious-minded boy into a minister of the Presbyterian Church, although in the meantime, commencing when eleven years of age, he had learned the trade of a book-binder, and for several years was engaged at that in connection with printing. When twenty years old he became a member of the church at Paris, Ky., and at that time had resolved that as opportunity occurred he would employ his leisure time fitting himself for the ministry. For two years following he studied in and out of school, working at printing to pay his expenses. In the fall of 1828 he entered the Theological Seminary at Princeton, N. J., to which place he made his way on horseback, selling his horse after his arrival there in order to replenish his exchequer. He completed the full course of study, and in April, 1831, was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Philadelphia. In May, 1833, he took charge of the church at Franklin, Tenn., and the year following was ordained as an Evangelist by the Presbytery of West Tennessee. Afterward he preached in Caldwell and Livingston Counties, Ky., until 1836, then, moving to Princeton, started a private school and organized a Church society. In 1839 he came to this State, commencing his labors first at Mt. Carmel, and afterward becoming a missionary in Clark County during its early settlement. In 1851 he came to this county as the supply of the Urbana Church, then called West Urbana, but which is now the flourishing Church of Champaign. He labored in that section as pastor and teacher until 1855, when he accepted an invitation to supply the Union Churches in Richland,

this State. He remained there two years, then returned to this county, taking up his abode in Champaign City, where he passed from the scenes of his earthly labors, Jan. 14, 1874. He was never strong physically, his mind always reaching beyond what his hands were able to perform. Although remarkably zealous in the cause of Christ, his health never permitted the continuous duties of a regular charge, and he could only act as a supply.

The first wife of Rev. Robert Lilly, who before her marriage was Miss Sarah L. Butler, died in November, 1849. His second marriage, in 1852, was with Miss Martha Winter, who only lived a little over a year afterward, leaving an infant son, Robert. Mr. Lilly was married a third time, to Miss Valeria Gordon, of Coles County, Ill., and they became the parents of eight children, viz.: Mary C., who became the wife of Wiley Buckles and is now deceased; Charles H., of our sketch; James E., now located in Cincinnati, Ohio; Willie, who died when two years old; Clara, who died when eleven years old; John C., Fannie S. and Susie R., the three latter are at home.

The mother of our subject was born in Canton, N. Y., and was the daughter of Valeria Gordon, a native of County Antrim, Ireland, of Scottish ancestry, and the son of John Gordon. The mother of Mrs. L. was Susan McCulloch, of Berkshire, Vt., also of Scottish ancestry, and who died in Coles County, Mo.

Charles H. Lilly, who was the second child and eldest son of his father's family, received a good education, which, begun in the primary schools, was continued in the High Schools until he was twenty years of age. He then entered the Illinois State University, from which he graduated in the class of 1884, with the degree of B. S. Soon afterward he was engaged as second chemist in the Champaign Sugar Refinery, and afterward, going to Nashville took the position of first chemist in a similar establishment there, whence in the spring of 1885, he came to Thomasboro and formed a partnership with Mr. E. F. Bogardus, and purchased the stock and good-will of the store of the late W. B. Hoag. In January, 1886, he purchased the interest of his partner, and now carries on the business alone. He was appointed Postmaster under

the administration of President Arthur, and served until October, 1885. Politically he belongs to the Republican party.

The marriage of Charles H. Lilly and Miss Julia C. Putnam was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents, on the 3d of September, 1885. Mrs. L. is the daughter of Henry and Phebe (Condit) Putnam, and was born in Condit Township, in 1862. Their only child, who is a son, is named Henry Wilmot. Mr. and Mrs. L. are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, and number among their friends and associates the cultivated people of their community.

SAMUEL FUNKHOUSER, a highly respected resident of Somer Township, is a native of St. Joseph Township, Dearborn Co., Ind., and was born Feb. 20, 1830. His father, Abraham, was a native of New Brighton, Beaver Co., Pa., and his grandfather, Jacob, a native of Maryland, was the son of Abraham Funkhouser, Sr., who was born in Germany, whence he emigrated to this country when a young man and served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He afterward settled in Maryland, where he reared his family and spent the last years of his life. His son, Jacob, when a young man left his native State and located in Beaver County, Pa., where he was married, and engaged in farming pursuits with the exception of the time spent as a soldier in the War of 1812. Six years afterward he removed to Indiana and was among the earliest settlers of Dearborn County. He purchased a tract of Government land, which he occupied, however, but a few years, when he removed to Ripley County, that State, where he spent the remainder of his days.

The father of our subject was reared on a farm in his native county of Beaver, Pa., and was there married to Miss Margaret Foster. This lady was a native of the same town as her husband and was the daughter of James Foster, also a native of the Keystone State, and who emigrated to Dearborn County, Ind., where his death occurred in about 1876.

Abraham Funkhouser removed with his parents to

Indiana and for a short time rented a tract of land in Dearborn County. He had been trained to habits of industry and economy, and hoarded his small income until he was enabled to purchase forty acres of Government land and also entered another forty acres. He put up a log cabin into which he removed with his family, and commenced in good earnest the improvement and cultivation of his purchase, which was very heavily timbered. The original dwelling was constructed after the manner of the pioneer days before the erection of sawmills in the county. After a few years he built a more pretentious residence of hewed logs, which in those times was considered a great possession. In due time this also was replaced by a frame house whose rafters were hewed by hand, and which was considered substantial, but was broken in two by a hurricane, leaving the lower story standing. Mr. F. was, however, successful in his labor of clearing his farm, and destroyed the most beautiful saw logs by fire in order to get rid of them. Those logs now would sell at a good round price. He occupied his farm in Dearborn County, Ind., until 1851, then sold out and started overland with teams for Iowa. He took up a tract of Government land in Monroe County and also purchased sixty acres adjoining, which gave him a tract of land consisting of 240 acres. This he improved into a valuable farm which he occupied until 1866. In that year he sold out and recrossed the Father of Waters, purchasing a farm in Greene County, Ill., five miles from White Hall, which remained his home until his death, in 1876. The wife and mother had departed this life two years before. Of the fourteen children born of the parental union, all grew to man and womanhood, married, and reared families of their own.

The subject of our sketch was the sixth child and fourth son, and remained on the farm homestead until sixteen years old. He then started out in life for himself, and became a flatboatman on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. These boats carried produce, lumber and other merchandise, and young Samuel visited all the principal towns on the two rivers from Cincinnati to New Orleans, being on the river in winter and following farming in summer until 1849. He then returned to Dearborn

County, Ind., and took charge of a sawmill in Aurora one winter, after which he located at Ft. Madison, Iowa, and engaged in brick-making. He lived there and in West Point for two years following, after which he went into Missouri and spent eight months in Memphis, Scotland County. After this he returned to Aurora, Ind., and after four years became foreman of a large distillery. Six years later he removed to Mokena, Ill., where he operated a distillery two years.

In October, 1862, Mr. F. purchased 120 acres of land in Monroe County, Iowa, which he occupied one winter, then returned to Lawrenceburg and engaged once more in a distillery. In 1863, he became a soldier in the Union army, and for six months was on guard duty in the Southern part of the State. The regiment, commanded by Capt. Burckam, was known as the Indiana Legion, and they engaged three times with Morgan's men at the time of the famous raid in Southern Ohio. After leaving the army Mr. F. located in Carrollton, Ky., and engaged in distilling, removing thence, in January, 1864, to Lafayette, Ind., where he followed the same business two years. In 1868 he came to this county and purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. It was, however, by no means a farm at that time, but uncultivated land which it took years to bring to a good bearing condition. His first business was to erect a dwelling for his family, into which they removed the following year. One of the features of this now productive and valuable farm is a pond covering three acres, and stocked with German carp.

The family of Mr. Funkhouser occupied the farm while he returned to Harrison, Ohio, and was engaged in distilling, seven years there and four years at Cincinnati. In 1880 he took up the same business at Indianapolis for six months. His family occupied the farm until 1874, then all removed to Harrison, Hamilton Co., Ohio. After three years spent in the Buckeye State they returned to the farm, and since 1881 Mr. F. himself took up his abode here and superintended its further improvement. All his land is now under a good state of cultivation and he has erected a fine set of frame buildings. His enterprise and energy have become proverbial, and both as a citizen and business man,

he is regarded as a valued member of the community.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Susan Lutz took place at Napoleon, Ripley Co., Ind., Aug. 5, 1849. Mrs. F. was born in Ripley County, Feb. 4, 1831, and was the daughter of Moses and Mary (House) Lutz. The mother died when Mrs. F. was but two days old, and her father one and one-half years later. She was reared by strangers until nine years of age and then lived with an elder sister. Of her marriage with our subject there were born ten children, seven now living: Francis is a resident of Hamilton County, Ill.; Sarah A., Mrs. Albert Kirby, lives in Somer Township; Ella, the wife of J. W. Prickett, lives in Hamilton County, Ill.; Hattie, Mrs. C. F. Calloway, is a resident of Stanton Township; Josephine, who married David White, lives in Somer Township; Emma, Mrs. Stephen Finnessy, in Clinton Township, and William C. is at home. Mr. F. politically is a staunch supporter of the Republican party.



JOHN THERMAN WHITE, one of the most thorough and skillful farmers of St. Joseph Township, became a resident of this county in the spring of 1870, locating on his present farm on section 30, and which presents a picture of one of the finest homesteads in this region. Mr. White is a native of the great commonwealth of Ohio, his birth taking place near Chillicothe, Ross County, April 22, 1846.

The White family in the early days was quite conspicuous in the history of what is now West Virginia, where the grandfather of our subject, David White, was born, reared and married, and from which he subsequently emigrated to Ohio, settling in Ross County, and becoming prosperous as a farmer and a stock-raiser. After the close of a long and useful life, during which he had reared a family of sons and daughters, and whom he, with the assistance of his excellent wife, had fitted for worthy members of society, he departed from the scenes of his earthly labors.

Among the sons of David White and his estima-

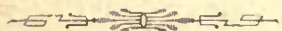
ble wife was John R., who constituted a member of the household circle before the removal from the Old Dominion, where his birth took place in 1817. He removed to Ohio with his parents and was afterward married to Miss Dorothea Ann, daughter of John and May Bitzer, who was born June 1, 1820. The Bitzer family was of German ancestry. The Whites came originally from Scotland. The parents of our subject settled first in Ross County, where they remained until February, 1870, having their family increased in the meantime by the birth of six children. Then John R. White decided to remove further westward, and coming to Central Illinois, located in St. Joseph Township, of which he is still a resident, and with his excellent wife is enjoying the society of most of his children. These were named, Mary C., who married James Brittenham; Martha A.; John T. of our sketch; David N.; William M. and Samuel.

Our subject was the eldest son and third child of the parental family, and spent his boyhood and youth in his native State. His first studies were conducted in the primitive log cabin and he remained with his parents until their removal to this State in 1870. Soon afterward he began farming on his own account, but was not married until Feb. 29, 1876, when nearly thirty years of age. His chosen bride was Miss Sarah, second daughter of Joseph and Nancy (Banan) Street. The two who thus commenced life together went to housekeeping on the farm of our subject, which he had purchased previously and fitted up in expectation of the coming change. Here he has eighty-five acres of choice land, besides thirty-five on section 19, all under a good state of cultivation, and the farm properly supplied with a handsome and convenient residence, good barns and out-buildings, and the entire outfit of the modern and enterprising farmer. In addition to general agriculture Mr. White has given considerable attention to the breeding of good grades of stock, including hogs, cattle and horses, the latter being principally draft animals. He has been peculiarly fortunate in his investments, and were he not happier in being employed would be wise to retire from active labor and enjoy the accumulations of his thrift and industry.

The three sons born to our subject and his wife

are bright and intelligent lads, whom they named respectively Sanford, Perry E. and Joseph N. They are all living and at home with their parents. Mrs. White is a member in good standing of the United Brethren Church, and a lady respected for her sterling worth of character. Mr. W. politically affiliates with the Republican party, whose principles he has fervently endorsed since casting his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, in 1864.

Mr. White, after the first call for troops to assist in defending the Union, enlisted as a soldier in the 147th Ohio Infantry, serving until the close of the war. He met the enemy in the battle of Fredericksburg and in various skirmishes and minor engagements. After receiving his honorable discharge, in August, 1865, he returned to Ross County, Ohio, and began the career which has progressed with such credit to himself and of which his children will be proud to read in after years.



ELI HALBERSTADT, who has been a resident of this county for a period of over thirty years, among other business interests, is the proprietor of the Union Roller Mills at Urbana, which he established in 1866. In 1884 he remodeled the mill building, and put in new modern machinery so that in the patent process for the manufacture of flour it is not excelled by any institution of the kind in Central Illinois. Our subject bears upon his countenance the index of his character as an honest man, a good citizen, and one who has assisted materially in the building up and development of this section.

Mr. Halberstadt was born in Frederick County, Md., Sept. 15, 1820, and is the son of Peter and Susan C. (Maus) Halberstadt, who were natives respectively of Maryland and Pennsylvania. The father of our subject, a well-educated man, was a carpenter by trade, at which he worked in the summer and taught school in the winter. He removed from his native State to Ohio in 1829, settling in Darke County, where he died. The mother died in Maryland in about 1830. The parental family included three children; only one, Eli, of our sketch, is now living; Eliza, Mrs. Plain, of Frederick

County, Md., died in April, 1887. The parents belonged to the German Reform Church. Peter Halberstadt served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and the paternal grandparents of our subject were both soldiers in the Revolutionary War. The first representatives of the family on the mother's side came from Hanover, Germany, and on the father's side from Prussia, at an early day. The paternal grandfather of our subject's mother emigrated in his boyhood and after his arrival here was sold for his passage. He afterward paid the price, and upon arriving at a suitable age was married and raised a family, of whom his eldest son served in the Federal army during the Revolution. The maternal grandfather of our subject, during his early manhood, farmed extensively in the State of Maryland but spent his declining years in Pennsylvania, where his remains are buried.

Eli Halberstadt was a lad of but ten years when he was deprived of the affectionate care of his mother. After her death he was taken into the home of his uncle, Jacob Grove, with whom he lived two years, and then went to live with another uncle, Jacob Maus, on a farm, where he remained until seventeen years old. He then served an apprenticeship of three years at the tailor's trade, and afterward worked as a journeyman for three years in Carroll and Washington Counties, Md. At that time, on account of poor health, he determined to abandon his former occupation, and opened a store in the same place, which he operated two years. He then sold out and removed to Miami County, Ohio, where he resumed the tailoring business two years, and thence came to Urbana, this county. In the spring of 1856, in company with two others, he opened a store which they operated one year, when Mr. H. bought out his partners and continued business alone until 1865. That year he put up his gristmill on Ray street, and subsequently changed it to a rolling-mill. The capacity of this at the present is seventy-five barrels per day. During the period of his extensive business operations in this county, Mr. Halberstadt has firmly established himself in the confidence of his friends and patrons, and for years has been one of the leading business men, esteemed alike for his integrity and ability. He was elected Mayor of Urbana in 1868,

in which office he served four terms, and while the custodian of the interests of the city exercised the same conscientious care and forethought which he has always shown in the transaction of his own private business. He is Democratic in politics and with his excellent wife is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has been Steward and Trustee, and to the support of which he has always contributed liberally and cheerfully. He is also an honored member of the Masonic fraternity and of the I. O. O. F.

Our subject was married in September, 1842, to Miss Rebecca Legore, a native of Maryland, and the daughter of Jacob and Rachel (Hull) Legore, of the same State, where Mr. L. in early life worked as a stonemason and bricklayer. Of this union there were born five children: Frances A., Mrs. Shilling, of Urbana; David B., of Washington, D. C.; George H., of Urbana; Susan C., Mrs. Day, of Washington, D. C., and Douglas E., of Chicago. The family residence is a handsome structure finely located, and our subject and his wife enjoy the society of hosts of friends.

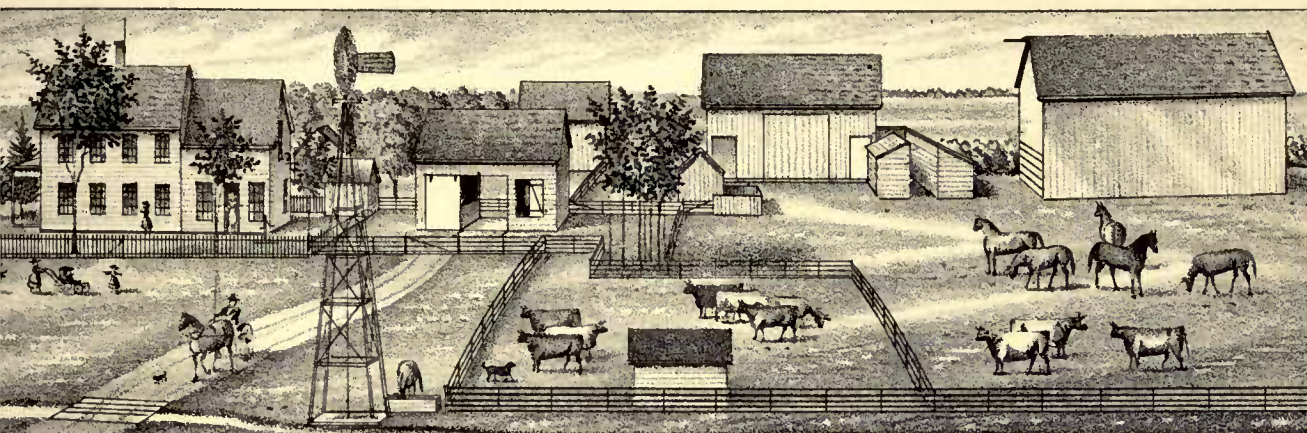


WILLIAM J. AND JOSEPH ALEXANDER, farmers and goodly land-owners of Ayers Township, of excellent Scottish parentage, are natives of County Tyrone, Ireland. They came to this country in 1858 or 1859, and after leaving New York City, proceeded directly westward to this State, locating near the town of Brimfield, twenty-five miles west of Peoria. Three months later they repaired to Jacksonville, where they engaged as farm laborers two years, and then embarked in agriculture on their own hook. Unlike many of their brethren they were provided with some means, and now purchased 480 acres of land and tried the experiment of stock-growing, which they continued with fair success until 1870. They then disposed of their interest in that section and purchased two farms in Logan County, which they disposed of in 1872. Their next venture was in Ayers Township, where they purchased 1,000 acres of land, which is esteemed as of the choicest quality to be found in this region.

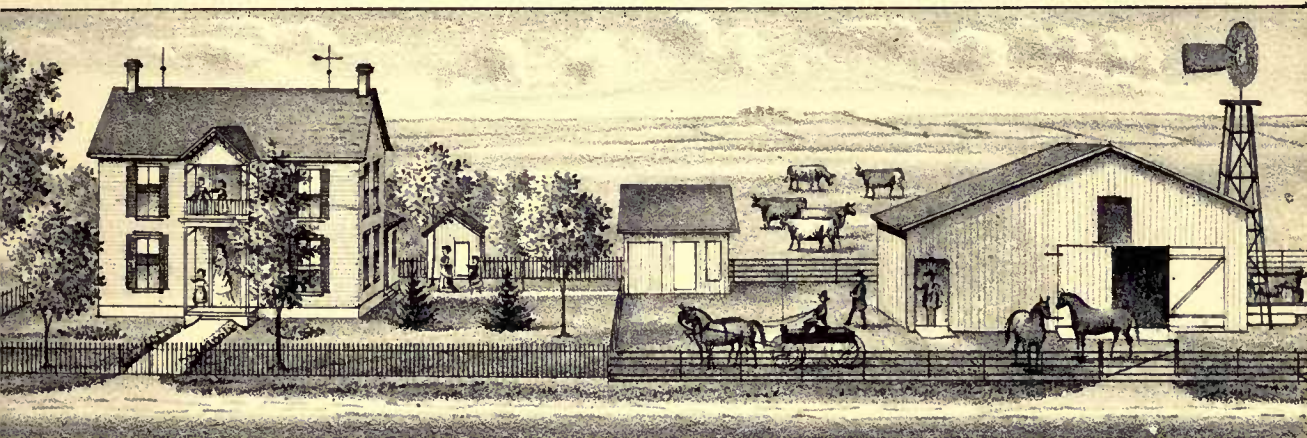
The Alexander brothers possessed remarkable energy, and in a comparatively short time had erected a fine set of buildings, including a handsome two-story dwelling and a barn, which for beauty of architecture and quality of material will compare favorably with anything of the kind in this part of Champaign County. The buildings occupy a slight elevation, and command a fine view of the surrounding country. They also attract the attention of the passing traveler, and the admiration of all who behold them. Alexander brothers are now tacitly acknowledged to be the largest individual farmers in Ayers Township. They feed and ship annually about 800 head of cattle, chartering each year a number of trains to transport their animals to the markets of Chicago and other points East. In addition to their real estate in Ayers Township they own a large tract of land in Washington and Nuckolls Counties, Neb., and also land in Colorado.

Upon starting out in life William and Joseph Alexander had nothing to depend upon but their own resources and a small cash capital of perhaps \$100. They are probably now the largest tax payers in Ayers Township. For the last four years Joseph has made his home principally in Nebraska, but in 1887 returned to Illinois, and will probably now be content to settle down permanently in the Prairie State. Notwithstanding the rich land west of the Father of Waters he admits that there are advantages to be enjoyed in this State not possessed by the territory west.

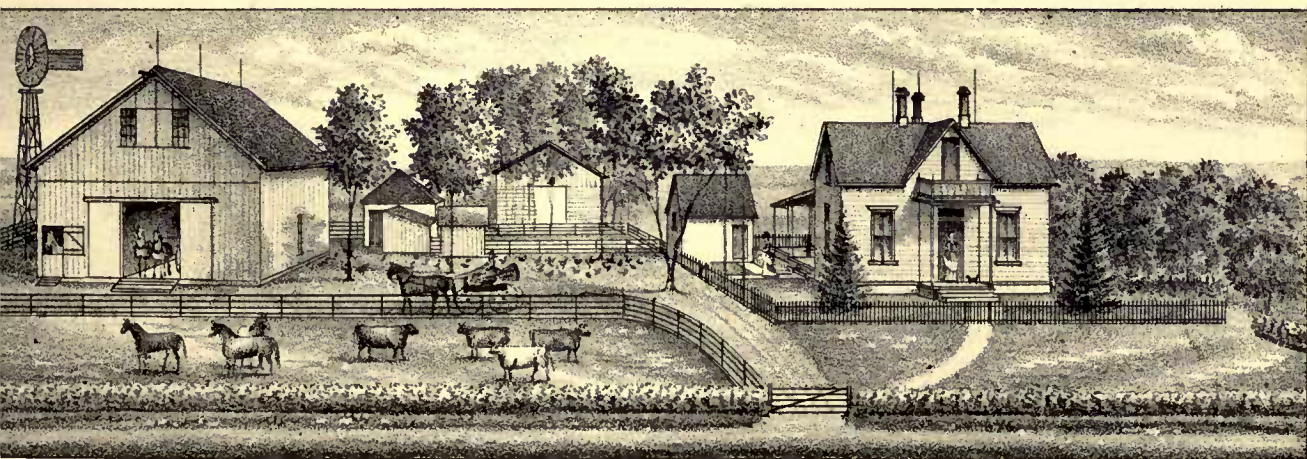
The parents of the Alexander brothers were James and Letitia (Marshall) Alexander, both born in Scotland. The father was a farmer and wheelwright, and removed to Ireland early in life. He was successful financially, and left a fine farm to his widow. She was married again, to Mr. H. Steen, a Scotchman by birth. Of her first marriage there were born five children: Mary became the wife of Michael Clarnen, and lives in Ireland; Sarah married J. M. Catchart, a Scotchman, and lives in Ayers Township; John married Miss Erkhart, a lady of Scottish birth; the brothers, William and Joseph, complete the children of James Alexander. Of the second marriage of the mother there were born Henry, Thomas, James and Eliza.



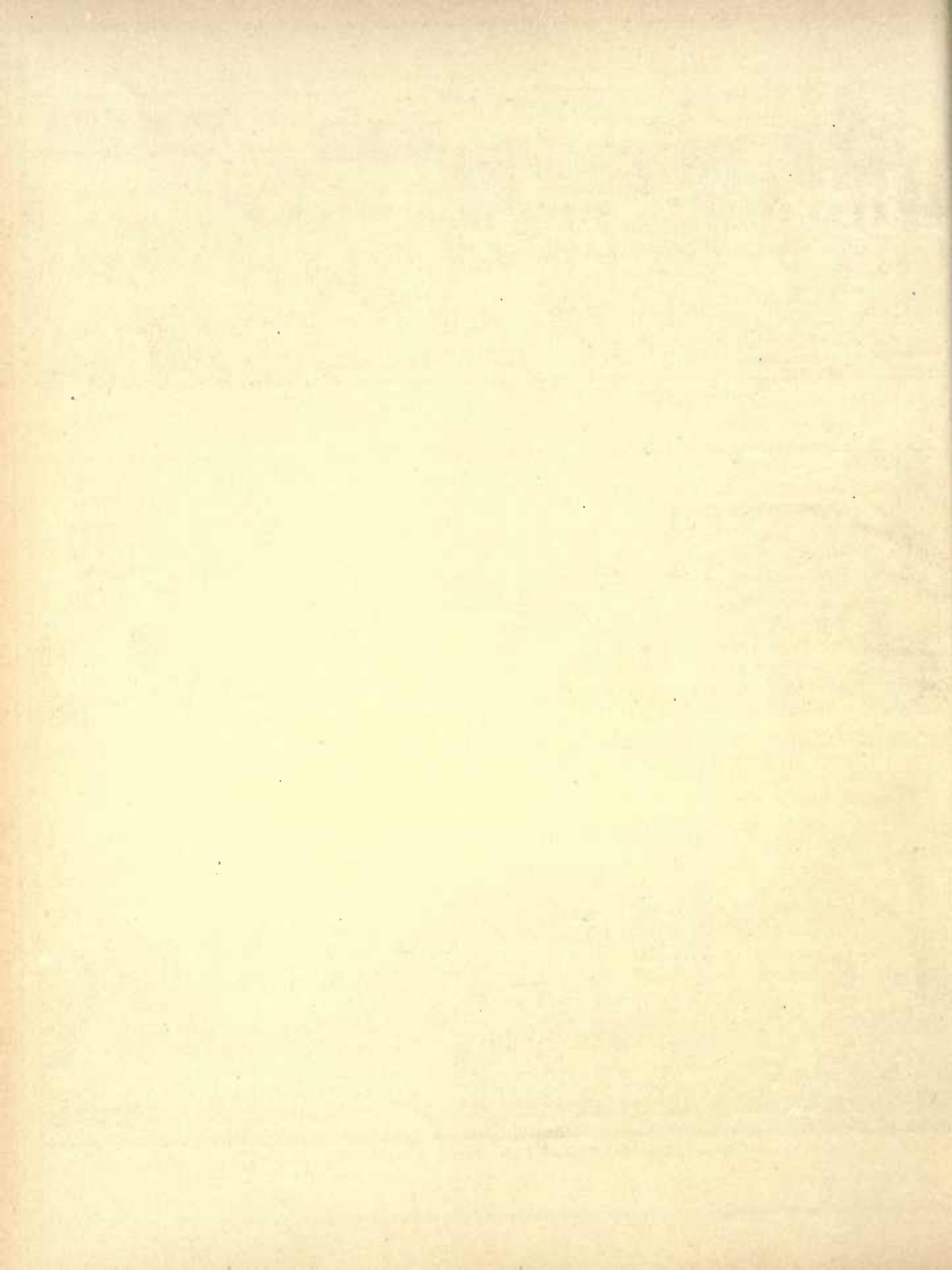
RESIDENCE OF JOHN LOCKE, SEC. 36, PHILO TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF DAVID COOTER, SEC. 13, BROWN TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF FRED PELL, SEC. 7, PHILO TOWNSHIP.



William J. Alexander was born Feb. 13, 1847. Since coming to this country he has fulfilled creditably all the duties of a citizen, with one exception, and that is that he remains a bachelor, when he might become the head of a family and increase even his present high standing in social and financial circles.

Joseph Alexander was born May 12, 1849. On the 15th of November, 1883, he married a most worthy and highly respected lady, Miss Emma B. Six. She was born in 1862, and only remained the companion of her husband a few short months, her death taking place in August, 1884. She was a lady possessed of a fine education, and had taught school for some time before her marriage. She was greatly missed in social circles, and in the Presbyterian Church, of which she had been a devoted and consistent member for several years.



M OSES C. THOMAS. The pioneer flouring-mill in the southeastern part of Champaign County, in Homer Township, was erected in about 1832 by the grandfather of the subject of this biography, which property descended to Mr. Thomas, and which he has operated since his business life began. This is located on the south fork of the Vermilion River, and is one of the old landmarks, so many of which are fast passing away and being lost, on account of the settling up of the land, and the prairie giving place to modern farms.

Moses C. Thomas was born in Old Homer, Oct. 21, 1846, and still resides near the place of his birth. His parents, John B. and Elizabeth (Lander) Thomas, were natives of Kentucky, the former born in Mason and the latter in Bourbon County. They left the Blue Grass regions in their youth, coming to Illinois before their marriage. John Thomas in 1829, and Elizabeth Lander the year following. The acquaintance soon afterward began ripened into a mutual attachment, and they were married in 1833. The father of our subject was born in 1809, and departed this life at his home in Homer Township in 1861. The mother was born in 1811, and survived her husband nine

years, dying in 1870. Of their children, seven passed away in infancy; Celia died when seven years of age, and James when a youth of nineteen years. The others were Moses C. of our sketch, Joseph, Willis, Albert, Alice and Charles.

Besides his mill property Mr. Thomas has sixty-five acres of valuable land, with a fine brick residence located in the midst of well-kept grounds, and good out-buildings in the rear, including carriage-barn and stables. He has been successful in his milling operations and owns three business houses in the village. His life has been a quiet and unostentatious one, which he has pursued worthily, enjoying the respect of his neighbors and the companionship of his family. His wife was formerly Miss Jane Insley, and their marriage took place at the home of the bride's parents in Homer, March 29, 1870. Mrs. Thomas was born in Indiana in 1848, and is the daughter of John and Margaret (Stewart) Insley, natives of the same State. They afterward became residents of Homer. Mrs. Insley is still living here; John Insley is deceased. The parental household, to which there were born seven children, was bereft of two, there being now only five living, namely, Aaron, Marion, Henry, Jane and Ellen. Of the four little ones who came to the home of our subject and his wife, three only are living, namely, Frank H., Moses E. and Jennie. Carrie E. is deceased.

Our subject and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the politics of Mr. Thomas are decidedly Republican. He also has a half interest in 100 acres of land on section 31, Homer Township, besides thirty-five acres located on another section.



J W. MYERS, who has been a resident of the Prairie State since a lad nine years of age, after the labors of a long and busy life is now living in ease and retirement in the city of Champaign, in a comfortable and handsome home, surrounded by the friends whom he has made during an honorable and upright career. He was born in Franklin County, Pa., Nov. 30, 1838, and is the son of Henry and Maria (Eshle-

man) Myers, natives of the Keystone State, where Henry Myers was engaged for many years in farming pursuits. He disposed of his interests there in 1848, and coming to this State located in Fulton County, where he engaged extensively in farming and stock-raising, and where both parents still live. The household included ten children, of whom eight are now living, as follows: John W. is a resident of Champaign City; Joseph C., of Fulton County; David N., of McDonough County; Martha, Mrs. Brown, of Henry County; Adeline, Mrs. Norton, and William, of Fulton County; Susan, Mrs. Mull, of McDonough County, and Daniel of Fulton County. Henry Myers is Republican in politics, and both parents are members of the Dunkard Church.

The subject of this biography was reared on a farm and remained with his parents until twenty-three years of age. He then purchased 160 acres of land in Farmington Township, Fulton County, which he operated from 1860 to 1876, then sold out and purchased a farm in Newcomb Township, this county. This consisted of 320 acres, where he engaged extensively in stock-raising, and to which in 1883 he added 208 acres, which constituted a magnificent body of land aggregating 528 acres. Upon this farm he erected a commodious modern dwelling with good barns and all necessary buildings for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. This beautiful country estate is one of the finest in Champaign County, and displays on every hand the cultivated tastes and ample means of its proprietor.

The marriage of J. W. Myers and Miss Helen E. Vittum took place Dec. 29, 1864, at the residence of the bride's parents in Norris. Mrs. M. was born Sept. 24, 1843, and is the daughter of Sargent and Mary A. (Weed) Vittum, who were natives of New Hampshire, and engaged in farming pursuits. They removed from the Old Granite State to Illinois in 1857, locating in Fulton County, where Mr. Vittum carried on farming for a number of years, and then with his family removed to the city of Canton, where he is now living in retirement upon a competency. Of the nine children included in the household circle, seven are now living, as follows: Harrison H. is living in retirement at Farmer City, Ill.; Homer, also retired from active labor, is a

resident of Canton; Helen, Mrs. Myers, resides with her husband in Champaign; Susan E., Mrs. McCutchen, and Edith E., Mrs. Dr. Wright, are living in Canton, Ill.; Elden S. and Alwyn are residents of Norris, Fulton County.

Mr. Vittum retired from his farm of over 500 acres in 1882, and it is now operated by tenants. It is underlaid with rich coal mines, and upon it are about forty dwellings for the miners. This, as may be supposed, yields our subject a fine income. He is one of the prominent men of Fulton County, highly esteemed as a business man and a citizen, and politically affiliates with the Democratic party.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Myers there have been born six children: Wildie H. married Miss Lou E. Bryan, and is living on the farm; F. Leonard is on the farm with his brother, Wildie; Maude O., L. May, Winnie M. and Wissie E. are at home with their parents. Leonard is a graduate of the Business College at Champaign, and the younger children are attending High School. Mr. Myers has held the offices of School Trustee and Director, and in other respects has been prominently identified with the educational and business interests of the city.

EZEKIEL COOK, who has been a resident of Tolono since 1875, is successfully carrying on a trade in hardware, and has built up a profitable patronage. He comes of substantial ancestry, and is a native of Bedford County, Pa., born July 6, 1834. His parents were Ezekiel and Elizabeth (Leader) Cook, who had a family of eleven children, of whom our subject is the youngest. He was reared on his father's farm in the Keystone State, educated in the district schools, and was employed part of the time in the blacksmith-shop of his father, where he gained a good insight into that trade. He is a natural mechanic, and with little practice can manipulate almost any tool that is manufactured. He possessed more than ordinary ability, was bright and observant of what was going on around him, and when not in school, still pursued his studies in his leisure hours, and at an early age engaged in teaching.

During the progress of the late war Mr. Cook,

in 1864, became a member of Co. K, 208th Pa. Vol. Inf., serving until the surrender of the Confederate army. After the war he returned to his native county, where he owned 120 acres of land which he cultivated until 1875. In the fall of that year he came to Illinois, and locating at Tolono established his present business. He still owns his farm in Pennsylvania, besides eighty acres of land in Tolono Township, and property in the town.

Our subject was married, in the spring of 1860, to Miss Matilda Young, a native of his own county, and they became the parents of eight children. The first-born died in childhood. Seven are now living, namely, Laura B.; Addie, Mrs. George W. Manly, of Decatur; John and Ella, twins; Mary J., Harvey E. and George H. Upon arriving at his majority, our subject commenced voting with the Republican party, whose principles he has since supported. He has held the local offices of his township, is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially, belongs to the G. A. R. and the K. of H.



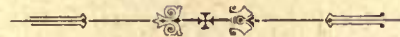
WILLIARD L. SAMSON, editor and proprietor of the *Homer Enterprise*, is a native of the Prairie State, and was born in Vermilion County, June 30, 1861. His parents, George and America (Ocheltree) Samson, were natives respectively of Canada and Ohio. The former, who was born in 1826, died in Vermilion County, Ill., in 1865. He occupied his time principally as a farmer and stock-raiser, in which he was very successful and accumulated considerable property. He supported the principles of the Republican party, and was a man useful in the community and of good standing in business circles. Religiously he was connected with the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

The mother of our subject, a native of Fayette County, Ohio, was born June 14, 1827, and is now a resident of Kansas. Her second husband was G. W. Brown, who died in 1884. Mrs. B. is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The five children of her first marriage are recorded as follows: John and Albert, the two eldest sons, died in childhood; Georgia became the wife of

Basil Brown, and died near St. John's, Kan., Nov. 9, 1886; Eleanor, now Mrs. Philip McWilliams, is a resident of Stafford County, Kan.; and Williard L., our subject.

Mr. Samson remained with his parents during his boyhood days, studying his first lessons in the district school. Upon starting out for himself in life he learned telegraphy, and in 1882 took a trip to Texas, where he remained a year thus engaged. The year following he again crossed the Mississippi, remained a short time in Arkansas, and then returned to the farm, where he resided until 1886, engaged in farming. In the spring of that year he purchased the *Homer Enterprise*. This paper was established in 1877, and now has a circulation of about 600, and under the judicious management of Mr. Samson bids fair to become indispensable to the people of Homer and vicinity. It is distinguished for its straight Republicanism, taking its complexion from the politics of its proprietor. Mr. Samson is connected with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and is a valued member of Homer Lodge No. 252, I. O. O. F.

On the 8th of January, 1885, Mr. Samson was united in marriage with Miss Kate L. Strahorn. Mrs. S. is a native of Illinois and was born Sept. 9, 1863. Her parents, Thomas and Sarah (Orr) Strahorn, were natives of Pennsylvania and Illinois respectively, and had a family of ten children, five of whom died in infancy. Those surviving are, Mrs. Samson; Mrs. Carrie McWhorter, of Homer; Mrs. Flora Hecox, of Decatur; Oliver, also of Homer, and Sarah, who resides in Wyoming Territory with her adopted parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Hopkins. Mrs. Strahorn died in 1877.



WILLIAM D. CLARK is an extensive farmer, owning 255 acres of valuable land, located on section 8, Sidney Township. His farm is highly cultivated, and all of its appointments are remarkable for order and elegance. His residence is spacious and tasteful, and the barns and out-buildings are commodious and well stocked with all the modern appliances for scientific farming. He was born in Fayette County, Pa., Dec.

21, 1832, and is the son of Thomas and Hannah (Moore) Clark.

Thomas Clark was born in Pennsylvania, Jan. 20, 1798, and died in Ohio in 1854. His wife, also a native of Pennsylvania, was born Nov. 4, 1802. Left a widow with nine children, by the death of her husband, she came to Champaign County, Ill., feeling that the West with its broad prairies and the spirit of enterprise that pervaded its atmosphere, offered more favorable inducements for the advancement of her young family. She purchased land, and with the intelligent and energetic assistance of her sons, successfully conducted the farm for many years.

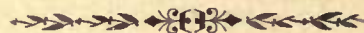
The following are the names of her children: Margaret, the wife of Robert Melick, living in Perry County, Ohio; John, who has twice been married to cousins by the name of Plank, also living in Perry County, Ohio; Mary A., formerly the wife of Isaac Francis; William D., the subject of this sketch; James P., married to a Miss Pumphrey, living in or near Lincoln, Neb.; Sarah, the wife of D. A. Spraker, living in Montana; Thomas J., who married Miss Augusta Groff, is living in Council Bluffs, Iowa; Orpha J., the wife of J. D. Thomas, living in Shenandoah, Iowa, and Hannah, deceased, formerly the wife of William Freeman.

Her two sons, Thomas and James, served honorably in the War of the Rebellion. She is now in her eighty-fifth year, and after passing through many trials, the inevitable accompaniments of pioneer life, is peacefully spending the evening of her life in the home of her son, William D. Clark.

On the 21st of October, 1873, William D. Clark was united in marriage with Miss Mary J. Huff. She is a native of Ohio, and was born Oct. 22, 1840, in Coshocton County, and is the daughter of Manquila and Elizabeth (McMorris) Huff. Her mother, who is still living, was born in Ohio, May 8, 1818. Her father was a native of Virginia, born Nov. 18, 1810, and died March 16, 1887. The following are the names of their children: Martha A., wife of Thomas Marquand, living in Kansas; Lucinda, the wife of John Marquand, also living in Kansas; George W., married to Elizabeth Stafford, living in Ohio; Sarah W., the wife of David B. Howard, living in Lincoln, Neb.; Catherine M., the

wife of P. B. Potts; Celia Z., the wife of Henry Peck; Benjamin F. married Miss Anna Horner of Iowa; James W. married Cora Pitts; Emma E., the wife of Charles Warfield, and Spencer E., married to Louie Drum. The six latter all reside in Illinois.

William D. Clark and wife have reared an interesting family of four children; their names are: Lena M., born Aug. 24, 1874; Emma A., born Jan. 27, 1876; Thomas A., born Nov. 22, 1879, and William A., born Jan. 8, 1882. Mr. Clark, who is possessed of great executive ability, and integrity of character, has satisfactorily filled several official positions in the township. He has been Collector for three terms, and has also been Assessor. Both himself and his wife are highly esteemed members of the Methodist Church. He is a most honorable and worthy citizen and in politics is a staunch supporter of the Republican party.



BERNARD GORDON, one of the large land-owners of Champaign County, and a resident of Kerr Township, is a native of Ireland, born in Wexford County, Aug. 1, 1848. He is the son of John and Mary (Whelan) Gordon, and was the second child in a family of ten. His father had been a cattle dealer in Ireland, but in 1857 came to America with the expectation of improving his circumstances. He had some capital, with which he purchased a farm and settled at Lyons, near Riverside, on the Des Plaines River, near Chicago, where he engaged to work as a quarryman. From there he went to Aurora, Ill., where he procured employment on the railroad. He remained there ten years, and then removed to Shabbona Grove, De Kalb Co., Ill., where he went to farming on rented land and remained there three years. From there he came to this county, where he purchased 200 acres of wild land, and to which he has since added, until he now owns 800 acres of finely improved land, having his residence in Comptine Township.

Bernard Gordon left home at twenty-two years of age, after having received a good common-school education, and also having been trained

to write and speak the German language fluently. During the first three years he engaged in farming on rented land, which resulted successfully. He was then, Sept. 15, 1874, married to Miss Mary C. Hennessy, the second child of John and Mary (Holland) Hennessy, natives of County Limerick, Ireland. Her birthplace was Grundy County, Ill.

They began together to build up their fortune in life, and purchased 160 acres on section 25, Kerr Township, which they commenced at once to improve and cultivate, and have never changed their residence.

Dec. 9, 1886, his beloved wife was stricken down with heart disease without any warning of her approaching end, and died in a few moments. She was an earnest, devoted Christian lady, an affectionate wife and faithful mother. Her sudden death was greatly deplored by the entire community, where she was widely known and highly respected. She left a family of six children—Mary Ann, Margaret, Catherine Agnes, John Charles, Constantia and Johanna. The family are members of the Roman Catholic Church. Mr. Gordon with his family of motherless children continues to live on the home farm. He is extensively engaged in stock-raising, giving his special attention to cattle of the Durham breed.

CALEB B. YOUNG, of Rantoul, represents the grocery, queensware and hardware trade, and has been a valued resident of the town since 1881. He is a New Englander by birth, having first opened his eyes in Grafton County, N. H., near the town of Lisbon, Nov. 13, 1836. His grandfather, David Young, was one of the first settlers in that locality, to which he removed from his native State of Massachusetts. He was of excellent Irish ancestry, and possessed in a remarkable degree the moral traits of character and fine business qualities for which his descendants have been noted.

The father of our subject, Charles P. Young, was a native of Grafton County, N. H., and bred to farming pursuits, which he followed the greater part of his life. He married in early manhood

Miss Sybil, daughter of Phineas Gordon, Esq., of Scotch origin, and settled near his birthplace, where he remained until 1856. Then, deciding to seek a home in the West, he came to La Salle County, this State, and took possession of a farm in Deer Park Township, where he successfully followed agriculture, and where he made his home until resting from his labors on the 4th of January, 1864. The mother afterward removed to Kansas and made her home with one of her children, where her death took place in November, 1872. Of the parental household, including five children, our subject was the second son and child. He received the advantages of the common school and remained with his parents, removing with them to the West and assisting on the farm until settling out to do for himself. His first move upon leaving the home roof was to purchase a farm of 160 acres in Livingston County, Ill., upon which he labored for a period of four years, and then selling out purchased 160 acres in Compromise Township, this county. Later he engaged as a grain buyer at Gifford, and in 1881 abandoned labor upon the farm, and moving into Rantoul opened an extensive meat market. Six months later he disposed of this and embarked in his present business. He has a choice and well-selected stock of groceries, and has built up a good patronage among the best people of this locality.

Our subject was married, in November, 1862, to Mrs. Iantha I., daughter of Luther Grant, of Grafton County, N. H., and widow of C. H. Young. Three of the four children born of this marriage are still living, namely, Susanna K., Charles E. and Walter E. One died in infancy unnamed. Mr. Young has occupied the various offices of his township, serving as Road Commissioner nine years and School Trustee in Compromise Township about nine years. He is a member of the City Council of Rantoul, and there are few public enterprises in this vicinity in which he has not been interested. As a man of judgment and discretion his views are frequently solicited upon matters of importance, and both as a business man and a citizen he is filling his niche in life creditably and with dignity. Mr. and Mrs. Young have been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, the former serving as Steward and Trustee, and

Superintendent of the Sabbath-school. He is held in high regard by the people who have known him so long and well, and forms one of the landmarks whose place can scarcely be supplied when he shall have gone the way of all the earth.

JAMES L. FREEMAN. One of the most active and enterprising farmers of the community, a gentleman in the prime of life, and in the enjoyment of health, friends, and a fair share of this world's goods, is comfortably located on section 17, in Ogden Township, and is successfully cultivating 120 acres of fine land. He has an excellent wife and a family of blooming children, and enjoys in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of his neighbors. He has been a resident of this county over forty-six years, having been born in Homer Township, Aug. 15, 1841, and is the son of James and Rebecca (Ogden) Freeman, natives of Virginia. The former, in early life, was a shoemaker by trade, but in later years abandoned the shop for the more congenial employment of farm life. He was a gentleman occupying a good position in his community, Republican in politics and a Christian in theology. He had represented his township in the Board of Supervisors for two years, and was a man whose opinions were generally respected, being formed with deliberation and adhered to with decision. The circumstances of his death were peculiarly sad, he having been instantly killed by a runaway team in 1868, while going from the timber to his home. The family were scattered, and there are now living four in this county, one in Kansas and two in Iowa. The mother of our subject, Mrs. Rebecca Freeman, was born Feb. 14, 1804, in Virginia, and her death occurred Oct. 5, 1854.

The youth and boyhood of James L. Freeman were spent under the parental roof, and he assisted his parents in the shop and on the farm until twenty years of age. Soon after the rebels fired upon Ft. Sumter he resolved to join his comrades who had enlisted in the service of the Union, and became a member of the 26th Illinois Infantry, which was assigned to the army of the Missouri.

He was mustered in at Springfield, Ill., after which the boys proceeded to the southwest across the Mississippi and wintered in camp near Hannibal, Mo. His first encounter with the enemy was at New Madrid the following spring, and he afterward engaged in many of the important battles of the war, being present at the siege and capture of Corinth, Atlanta and Vicksburg, besides intermediate engagements, in all numbering fifty-seven. He experienced many hairbreadth escapes, marched many thousands of miles with his knapsack on his back, and endured with his comrades bravely and patiently the vicissitudes of a soldier's life during one of the most memorable periods in the history of this country, and in which he, with thousands of others, experienced sufferings and hardships which can better be imagined than described. The experiences of those terrible years have been celebrated in song and story, but no human tongue can give an adequate idea of the life of a Northern soldier, transplanted to a Southern soil. In 1864 they joined the army of Gen. Sherman and participated in the never-to-be-forgotten march to the sea. This helped to swell the distance to nearly 7,000 miles which was traveled by our subject and his comrades, often without sufficient food or drink. Notwithstanding all he had endured, the patriotic flame still burned in his breast, and at the expiration of his first term of enlistment young Freeman was willing to again brave the hardships which he had already passed through for the sake of victory, and re-enlisted Jan. 1, 1864. Soon afterward, however, peace dawned upon the nation, and his regiment was mustered out at Scottsboro, Ala.

On the 26th of October, 1865, our subject celebrated his return to civil life by his marriage with Miss Mary F. Stearns, the wedding taking place in Homer, Ill. Mrs. Freeman was born in Vermilion County, this State, Sept. 4, 1846, and is the daughter of Chaney C. and Mary (Lee) Stearns, natives respectively of Ohio and Illinois, the mother now deceased. The father resides at Homer. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. F. first located on the old home place, whence they removed to their present farm. To the household thus established there were added in due time nine bright children, who were named respectively

Nora, Martha, Anzonettia, Lydia, Minnie, Ezra C., Iva, Gracie and Lewis S. Gracie, when nine months old, was stricken with fatal illness, and yielded up her life on the 18th of June, 1866. Mr. and Mrs. Freeman became members of the Christian Church in 1858 and 1864 respectively, and our subject politically, as soon as becoming a voter, identified himself with the Republican party.



JAMES EXTON. There was quite an influx of population into this county and especially into Ogden Township during the years 1864 to 1870. The emigrants were for the most part, enterprising men, some perhaps possessed of little means, but what they lacked in hard cash they made up in natural energy and industry. Among the most noted of these was the gentleman whose name is associated with this personal sketch. He became a resident of the State in 1864, and made his advent into this county five years later, having then by several years' labor on rented land in Vermilion County accumulated sufficient means to invest in real estate for himself; and it may here be allowable to note a fact as singular as it must be gratifying to the people of Champaign County, that the large majority of those who at that time came into this locality, when finding themselves possessed of sufficient capital, which perhaps they had accumulated elsewhere, preferred to invest it in this county.

Mr. Exton, with scores of others, discovered here the richest soil and the most desirable place for a homestead. He selected a quarter section of land in Ogden Township on section 6, which at that time was unimproved, but which under judicious cultivation soon began to respond to the hand of husbandry. As soon as convenient he had the land generously underlaid with tile, and by means of proper drainage and skillful tillage his farm has become one of the most fertile and desirable in the township. He wisely gave his first attention to his land, and afterward erected handsome and substantial frame buildings which he may be pardoned for viewing with pride and satisfaction. His live-stock

and farm machinery will compare favorably with that of his neighbors, and to him the township is indebted for a pleasing array of grain-fields and pasture lands which favorably commend it to the notice of the traveler and historian.

The birth of our subject took place on the other side of the Atlantic in Lincolnshire, England, Feb. 27, 1825, his parents being James and Ann (Burrage) Exton, natives of the same country. His mother died when he was a lad of six years old, and afterward the household was presided over by his stepmother. His brothers and sisters were named respectively, Elizabeth, John, Rebecca, William, Thomas and Mary, there being four sons and three daughters in the parental family. James remained in England until twenty-four years of age, but saw little prospect of advancement either socially or financially. Many of his countrymen were crossing the Atlantic and sent home cheerful reports of their improved condition in the New World, and he resolved to follow their example. Bidding adieu to old friends and associations, he boarded a sailing-vessel at Liverpool, and in a few hours the shores of his native England had disappeared from sight.

After a tedious voyage of sixty days our subject landed at Baltimore, whence he proceeded directly to the State of Delaware, where he secured employment, and remained a resident there for twelve years. Some of this time he was employed as a laborer at seventy-five cents per day. He gave the East a fair trial, and then resolved to seek his fortune in the West. As we have seen, his condition began to mend soon after he came into the Prairie State, which has rewarded so many pioneers with generous homes and a competency in return for their honest toil.

Mr. Exton celebrated the Christmas Day following his arrival in this country, by his marriage with Miss Eliza, daughter of James and Martha (Titsey) Burton, which took place at the home of the bride's parents in New Castle, Del. Mrs. E. was born in Liverpool, England, in 1833, and was the eldest of eight children born to the parents; the others living are George, Mary A. and Eliza. The offspring of Mr. and Mrs. Exton were thirteen in number, most of them born in Delaware. Those living are:

James B., who married Miss Ensley, and is living in Ogden Township; John R., who married Miss Chumbley; George W., who married Miss Gault; Thomas J., William T., Mary A., Ellen, Minnie and Lucy A. The younger members of the family are at home with their parents. They have been fairly educated and are favorites among their neighbors and society in general.

Mr. and Mrs. Exton are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and all the family, both old and young, take an active interest in the Sabbath-school, officiating as teachers, and working for the success of the cause. After becoming a naturalized citizen, Mr. Exton, by all fair means labored to swell the Republican majorities at the elections, and in other respects gave his support to the principles of the party which more nearly represented his views upon social and political questions. As a man of intelligence and one whose opinions are generally respected, he has had no small influence in shaping the politics of the voters in his locality, and has always gathered in a recruit whenever it was possible for him to do so.



JOHAN L. PETERSON, a resident of Kerr Township, is the son of Cornelius and Sallinda (Lane) Peterson, and was born May 18, 1828, in Deer Creek Prairie, Tippecanoe Co., Ind. He was the third in order of a family of eleven children. His father was a native of Maine, and his mother of Pennsylvania. His paternal grandparents, Abraham and Susanna Peterson, were of Swedish descent, and were both natives of Maine. His maternal grandparents, Allen and Hannah Lane, were of German and Irish extraction, and were natives of Pennsylvania. His father was one of the earliest settlers of Ohio, and resided in Athens County. Thence he moved to Indiana, where his son John, the subject of this sketch, was born. He afterward returned to Ohio, remained there a short time, and then, in 1839, came to Illinois, and located eleven miles north-

west of Danville. He invested in eighty acres of wild land, which he cultivated and improved for twenty years, when, a good opportunity offering, he sold out and moved a short distance northwest in the same county, where he remained until his death.

At the age of eighteen, John L. Peterson left his father's home to seek his own fortune, and first engaged in farming on rented land, which he continued until twenty-five years of age. Having acquired some property he then invested in a small farm, and July 20, 1854, married Miss Martha S. Phipps, the daughter of Aaron and Patsy (Dodson) Phipps. Her parents were natives of Virginia, but were reared in Kentucky.

After marriage, Mr. Peterson and his wife first settled on eighty acres of land, which he bought in Rossville Township, Vermilion County. After remaining there two years he sold out and removed to Dent County, Mo., where he had purchased 120 acres of land. Not being satisfied with this investment, he moved about seventy-five miles northwest, and bought eighty acres in Dallas County, upon which he remained one year, or until the breaking out of the Civil War. So much strife and bloodshed and border warfare existed there at that time, that he returned to Illinois to escape danger. After remaining in Vermilion County a short time, he came to Champaign, where he bought a small farm in Kerr Township, and has since bought forty acres more in Compromise Township, directly opposite his residence. Since then he has bought 120 acres more adjoining, and has 200 acres in his home farm, where he carries on stock-raising.

Mr. Peterson and his wife have had a family of seven children, four of whom are living—Cornelius A., Aaron B., John H. and Martha Emeline. Elizabeth E., Mary Jane and William, are deceased. Cornelius married Eliza J. Albert, the daughter of William A. and Albina (Plowman) Albert. The others are living at home with their parents. Mr. Peterson has been elected to the offices of School Trustee and Road Commissioner for several terms. His sympathies are with the Greenback party. He was formerly a member of the United Brethren Church, but although he has taken a letter from



John Meikle



J. C. Shrimpton

that denomination, he has not yet identified himself officially with any church. His wife is a member of the Baptist Church.



JOHAN W. MEIKLE. The late J. W. Meikle, whose death occurred in Pesotum Township, Sept. 29, 1884, was a native of Limefield, Scotland, where he was born Sept. 21, 1831. He emigrated to this country in 1856, and proceeding westward to Chicago was employed for some time as a clerk in a store. He became a resident of this county in 1857, and purchased 160 acres of land in Crittenden Township, and bought the same amount on section 15, in Pesotum. To the latter he removed his family and established a general country store, which he conducted for over twenty-five years, being one of the earliest merchants of this section of the county. His store will be remembered by the early pioneers as long as they are permitted to think of the days passed here amid the trials and vicissitudes necessary to the opening up of a new country. It was a great convenience to have a store so conveniently located and conducted by a man in whom they reposed the greatest respect.

The marriage of Mr. Meikle took place on the 23d of October, 1866, the lady of his choice being Miss Elizabeth Nelson, a native of Madison County, Ind. Mrs. Meikle is the daughter of William and Sarah (Wigner) Nelson, natives of Ohio. They came into this county in the spring of 1857, being among the first of the pioneers. Her father purchased a quarter section of land in this township, which he improved and upon which he lived until 1884. In the spring of that year he purchased a farm near Camargo, where he now resides.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of one child only, Eddie S., now a promising young man of marked ability, who manages the affairs of his widowed mother and is her chief support and comfort. Mr. Meikle was a man of known ability, and soon after coming to this township was entrusted with its various offices and served as Collector and School Treasurer for several years, besides

being appointed Postmaster at Pesotum, which position he held for fifteen years. He resigned this office in about 1882, some time before his death. Politically he was a staunch Democrat, decided in his opinions but never offensive in the expression of them. His departure from the scenes where he had labored so many years and worthily filled the various positions to which he was called, was a matter of universal regret. Mrs. Meikle was eminently fitted to be the companion and helpmeet of such a gentleman as her husband was, being a lady of excellent judgment and noblest principles. She became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1858, and has been an earnest worker in the cause of religion since that time. In presenting the portrait of Mr. Meikle, which we give on an adjoining page, we will gratify his many friends by placing his features so indelibly upon the pages of the personal history of the county he did so much for.



JOTHAM C. THOMPSON, whose portrait is presented in this connection, was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, Dec. 25, 1832. The names of his parents were Price and Hannah (Johnston) Thompson. His grandparents were Price and Mollie Thompson. They were of Scotch descent. Hannah J. Thompson was the daughter of Nicholas Johnston, and was born in America.

Jotham C. Thompson was brought up on his father's farm with no higher advantages for education than those offered by the common schools, but a natural love of study and books led him to acquire a large fund of general information. He remained at home on his father's farm until the age of twenty-four, having had the entire care of the family since his twentieth year, when his father died. He was the fourth in a family of nine children. Dec. 6, 1857, at the age of twenty-four he was united in marriage with Miss Nancy A. Jones, the youngest child in a family of nine. The names of her parents were Jonathan C. and Nancy (Cochran) Jones. Her father was of Welsh

descent although born in Ohio, and her mother, who was of Irish descent, was also a native of the Buckeye State. Her father was the son of Joseph and Mary (Covalt) Jones, natives of Wales. Her mother was the daughter of Ephraim Covalt, a native of Ireland. Mrs. Thompson on the Welsh side is a descendant of Lord Griffith, and only three generations removed.

After his marriage Jotham C. Thompson settled in Hamilton County, Ohio, with the parents of his wife, where he remained a little more than a year. Then, attracted by the superior advantages of the West, he moved to Illinois and located near Muncie, in Vermilion County, where he first commenced farming on rented land. A year had scarcely passed before he was stricken down with typhoid fever and ague, from which he suffered so severely that his constitution became almost wholly shattered. Feeling that a change was necessary for the improvement of his health he then moved to Champaign County, where he purchased 120 acres of wild land on section 29, Harwood Township. There he built himself a small but comfortable house and began to cultivate the land. At that time there were but three families in the neighborhood, the chief part of the population consisting of deer and wolves. With health still somewhat enfeebled, he battled with the primeval wilderness until his efforts were crowned with success, and he had the satisfaction of seeing the prairie grass give way to fields of golden grain.

In 1874, when the narrow-gauge railroad was built, he left his family to carry on the farm and at the same time engaged himself in the grain business in Harwood. He continued in that business during four or five years, and then, on the death of Mrs. Thompson's father, who had always made his home with them on the farm, he retired from the grain business, and once more resumed his work on the farm. His health was still very precarious, some obscure liver trouble having resulted from the illness by which he had been attacked upon his first settlement in Illinois. In 1883 it was thought advisable for him to travel for his health. He first went to Tennessee, where he remained only a short time, although he seemed apparently improved in health while there. During his trip he visited Nash-

ville, the State Prison, the adjacent Forts, the farm of Gen. Harding, which is the largest in the State, and other points. From there he went to Murfreesboro, and there visited Vanderbilt University and the battle-field of Stone River, which is more than 7,000 feet above the level of the sea. His next place of destination was Georgia. After remaining there several days he proceeded down to Huntsville, Ala., visiting Scottsboro, Sand Mountain and numerous places of interest. He next made a short run into the State of Georgia, and thence to Chattanooga, Tenn., where he went to the top of Lookout Mountain to view the famous battle-fields. He visited Cumberland Mountain, Dayton, and returned North by way of Litchville, Tenn. He remained there eight days, making various excursions through the surrounding country, where he was much interested in witnessing the weird and picturesque method of worship prevailing among the colored people. He returned home by way of Dayton and Cincinnati, stopping at his birthplace and reviewing the scenes of his childhood by visiting all the old familiar places and friends.

The journey was most enjoyable, and he returned refreshed in body and mind, with the intention of spending the ensuing winter in the county. But his plans were in vain. He was again stricken down by the deadly disease and never left his home again until he left it for that home above, not built with hands. His death occurred July 4, 1885.

Mr. Thompson was a man of great tenderness of heart and integrity of character, and a most consistent member of the Baptist Church. In his Christian life he was sincere, earnest, and unostentatious. In business affairs he was a man of great activity and energy, and, although he never sought political preferment he had frequently held important official positions in the township. He had a family of four children, three of whom are now living—Lena May, Hannah M. and Carrie A. Iona Irene married John Kinnear, a merchant, in Rantoul, and died on the 31st of May, 1886, leaving two children—Alzora A. and John T. Lena married Michael Knupp, formerly a mechanic, but now residing on a farm in Cumberland County, Ill.; she has a family of two children—Jotham T. and Myrtle May. Hannah married David W. Philips, a

farmer residing in Penfield in this county; they have one daughter, Clatie Ivaloo. The youngest daughter resides with her mother. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson adopted Charles E. and Asa B. Thompson, when one was nearly three and the other four years old. They still reside with Mrs. Thompson, who is a most estimable lady.



CAPT. DAVID J. FORD, of the firm of Ford & Rea, of Mahomet, is, with his partner, successfully engaged in merchandising. He is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Clarke County, May 15, 1833, and the son of James G. and Elizabeth P. (Hannah) Ford, the former born in New Jersey and the latter in Ohio. They located in Clarke County soon after their marriage, whence they removed to Union County, where the mother died in 1853. The father of our subject is still living, and a resident of Champaign County, Ill. Their family included nine children, of whom Capt. David J. was the third in order of birth.

Capt. Ford spent his earlier years under the home roof, receiving a common-school education and assisting in the labors on the farm. When twenty years of age he commenced cultivating a tract of land for himself in Union County, his native State, where he continued to live until 1858. He then started for the prairies of Illinois, and coming into this county rented a farm in Newcomb Township for one year. In the spring of 1860 he purchased a farm in Sangamon Township, Piatt County, upon which he operated until the outbreak of the late war. On the 13th of August, 1862, he enlisted in the 107th Illinois Infantry, in which he served one and one-half years, and was then compelled to resign on account of ill-health. In the meantime he had been honored with a Captain's commission, in which capacity he secured not only the favor of his superiors but the affection of his subordinates.

Upon his retirement from army life, Capt. Ford returned to Piatt County, took possession of his land and cultivated it until 1866, in which year he became a resident of Mahomet Township, this

county. Two years later he removed to the village, having formed a partnership with Mr. C. M. Closs, and they operated together in the mercantile business for three years following, after which Capt. Ford conducted the business alone until the spring of 1877. He then removed to Mansfield, Piatt Co., Ill., where he operated as a merchant four years, and whence he removed to Mahomet. In the fall of 1883 he became associated with his present partner, and they have conducted business together successfully since that time.

Capt. Ford was married in Union County, Ohio, Jan. 20, 1853, to Miss Anna Lane, a native of Clarke County, Ohio, and born Sept. 6, 1834. She is the daughter of John and Anna (Webb) Lane, both natives of New Jersey. Capt. and Mrs. Ford became the parents of eight children, of whom only two survive—Stella G. and Irene Lincoln. Those deceased are James W., Elizabeth, Rebecca, Hugh V., Wallace C. and Maude. James W. married Miss Ella Stymote, and was a resident of Marysville, Ohio, although his death took place in Dakota, in October, 1882.

Capt. Ford has been prominent in local affairs since coming to this vicinity; he served as Commissioner of Highways nine years, was a member of the Village Board and School Trustee for twelve years, and has uniformly been a leader among the counsels of his townsmen. Socially he is a member of Mahomet Lodge No. 220, F. & A. M., and Champaign Chapter No. 50. He also belongs to Eph. Scott Post No. 464, G. A. R. Religiously he is connected with the Methodist Church, and politically, is a reliable Republican.



G M. SWISHER, of Stanton Township, was born June 1, 1855, in Virginia, and is the son of E. W. Swisher, who has been a prominent man of Stanton Township since coming here in the fall of 1864. The latter has held the office of Justice of the Peace since 1866, is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has otherwise identified himself with the interests of the community. He occupies a good farm of 160 acres on section 35, which he has cultivated

successfully for the last twenty years, building up a good homestead with excellent farm buildings, and everything required for the creditable prosecution of agriculture.


E. W. Swisher is a native of Monongalia County, Va., and was born March 8, 1834. He passed his early days with his parents on the farm in his native county, in the meantime receiving a common-school education. Just before reaching his majority, he was married to Miss Mary J. Graham, the wedding taking place Oct. 15, 1854. His wife was the daughter of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Graham; the father was born March 3, 1800, and died Aug. 18, 1853. He was a farmer by occupation, and spent his entire life in his native county. The parents of our subject after their marriage remained in Virginia until 1861, removing thence to Henry County, Ind., and from there, in 1864, to this county. Here the father first purchased eighty acres of land in Stanton Township, which amount he afterward doubled, and which now constitutes the home of our subject, which he purchased of his father in 1883. Mr. Swisher was a prominent man in the county after coming here, serving as Justice of the Peace for a period of over twenty years, and occupying other prominent positions. He united with the Methodist Episcopal Church at an early age, and is also a member of the A. F. & A. M. Politically he affiliates with the Democratic party. After the labors of a long and busy life, he is now practically retired, and makes his home with his son, our subject.

The parental family included three children, two of whom are living: G. M. of our sketch was the eldest; Oliver R. was born in 1857, and died Dec. 27, 1865; Juliet V. was born Jan. 16, 1862; she became the wife of Thomas S. Nichols, of Sullivan, Ill., who departed this life in the fall of 1885. The mother of these children, formerly Miss Mary J. Graham, was born in Marion County, Va., Jan. 5, 1828. In the fall of 1882 she was stricken with paralysis, from which she never recovered, although it did not prove fatal at that time. On the evening of May 12, 1885, she had a second stroke, and expired in a few minutes. She was a devout Christian lady, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which she became con-

nected when thirteen years of age. Her remains were laid to rest in the Friends' burying-ground in the southeastern part of Stanton Township.

The maternal great-grandparents of our subject, Enoch and Mary Thomas, were born respectively Aug. 4, 1774, and June 22, 1760. Their family of eleven children included five sons and six daughters. They were born, reared and died in the Old Dominion. The great-great-grandfather of our subject on his father's side was David Graham, who was born Sept. 15, 1774, and was the son of John Graham, born Dec. 28, 1751. The father of the latter, David Graham, was the son of William Graham, born in 1713, in Ireland, where he spent his entire life.

The subject of this sketch passed his early days with his parents, assisting in the labors of the farm as soon as old enough, and attending the common schools, and made good progress in his studies. He has held the office of Collector in his township, and is one of those upon whom the mantle of the pioneer has fallen, and who will do honor to his early training and the example of his father before him. His farm is well stocked with good grades of cattle, and his stables contain some good horses. Since exercising the right of suffrage, he has voted the Democratic ticket. About the time of taking possession of the homestead as his own, he was united in marriage with Miss Ida F. Swisher, of Schuyler County, Ill. The little household contains two bright children—Iva Belle and Freddie Cleveland.



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN YATES located in Rantoul Township twenty years ago, and is a fine illustration of the self-made man who has accumulated a competency by the exercise of his own enterprise, and secured an enviable position among his fellow-citizens by his personal worth. He is the owner of a good farm on section 8, including 240 acres, with a convenient and substantial residence standing in the midst of handsome shade, with a background of choice fruit trees. He has been in all respects a liberal-minded citizen, contributing cheerfully to every enterprise

calculated for the advancement of morality and education, assisting in the building of school-houses and church edifices, and encouraging every enterprise set on foot for the benefit of his fellow-citizens and his community.

Mr. Yates was born in Newport, Campbell Co., Ky., March 18, 1841. His father, Elijah Yates, of Virginia, was formerly a slave-holder. The early education of the latter had been quite limited, and after reaching manhood he entered upon a course of study and fitted himself for a teacher. Three or four years after his marriage he started for the West in company with several others. Some of the party settled in Ohio, but Mr. Yates crossed the river and located in Newport, Ky., where he was employed by a large land-holder to look after his estate. Several years later he purchased a timber tract in Kenton County, eight miles from Newport, and while superintending the improvement of his land still followed the profession of a teacher. In due time he was elected County Surveyor, serving a period of eight years in this capacity and afterward was employed by private parties in surveying. In 1862 he removed to Covington, which remained his home until his decease in 1881. After reaching his majority he was married to Miss Ann D. Yates, also a native of Virginia, and who departed this life in Covington ten years before the death of her husband.

Our subject was five years old when his parents became residents of Kenton County, Ky. He attended school during his boyhood and youth, and when large enough assisted in the duties on the farm. When twenty years of age he commenced teaching, and was thus employed the greater part of his time for seven years following. He thus earned money enough to make his first purchase of land, and selected Champaign County, Ill., for his location. He bought 120 acres of raw prairie in Rantoul Township, which is now included in his present farm. It has taken the labor of years, with economy and wise judgment, to bring the land to its present condition, enclosed as it is with neat and substantial fences, and producing generously the richest crops of the Prairie State.

Mr. Yates, after having his plans perfected for the establishment of a comfortable home, found

that a wife and companion was indispensable, and having already become greatly attracted by the womanly and lovable qualities of Mrs. Jane (Fletcher) Beal, of this township, invited her to share his home and fortunes. They were united in marriage on the 22d of October, 1879, and commenced house-keeping in a small frame dwelling on the new farm. Mrs. Yates was born in Normanby, Yorkshire, England, Jan. 8, 1842, and is the daughter of Joseph and Nancy (Taylor) Fletcher. (See sketch of William Fletcher.) Her father was also a native of Yorkshire, where he was reared, married, and learned the carpenter's trade, in which he engaged and also followed farming until 1855. In the spring of that year he emigrated with his family to the United States, and entered a tract of Government land in Mason County, Ill. He was occupied in the improvement and cultivation of this until 1873, then came to this county and located in Rantoul Township, where he spent the last years of his life. The mother, also a native of Normanby, is still living, making her home with her son in Rantoul Township, and having reached the age of fourscore years and four.

The wife of our subject remained with her parents until her first marriage, March 25, 1866, to Henry Beal. Mr. B. was a native of Pennsylvania, and the son of Edmund and Lydia (Featherman) Beal, natives respectively of England and Pennsylvania. His father followed teaching and farming alternately. When Henry was about ten years old the family removed to Illinois, and located in Mason County, where he lived until the outbreak of the war. He then enlisted in Co. K, 85th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served until the preservation of the Union had become an established fact. He participated in many of the important battles, and marched with his regiment under the command of General Sherman from Chattanooga to the sea. At the end of this campaign the regiment went up through the Carolinas to Washington, D. C., and participated in the grand review, after which the soldiers were mustered out and returned to their homes. Mr. Beal then purchased the old homestead in Mason County, which he sold in 1872, and coming to this county bought a tract of wild land in Rantoul Township, where he improved a good farm, upon

which his death occurred April 13, 1874. Of this marriage there were born three children—Edmund, Willie and Jessie.

Mr. and Mrs. Yates have one child, a son, Frank. The wife of our subject is a lady greatly respected in the community, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Yates cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1864, and the second for Grant. Since that time he has voted independently, aiming to support the men whom he believes best qualified for the responsibilities of office.



ABRAM B. TITUS has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1850. He is now located on section 21, in Rantoul Township, being the proprietor of a good farm comprising 160 acres and equipped with modern buildings. He is a native of New York State, born in Camillus, Onondaga County, Nov. 8, 1828. His father, Leonard Titus, was a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., where his paternal grandfather located early in life, reared his family and died.

Leonard Titus in his youth learned the trade of a blacksmith, and after leaving Dutchess located in Onondaga County, where he followed his trade until 1834. Thence he removed with his family to Gallia County, Ohio, the journey being made by canal to Buffalo, thence by the Lakes to Toledo, from there down the Muskingum River to Marietta, and thence by the Ohio to a point near Gallipolis. There he purchased a tract of partly improved land, where he spent the remainder of his life, engaged in farming and blacksmithing. He rested from his earthly labors in 1848. The mother of our subject, who in her maidenhood was Miss Maria Becker, was also a native of the Empire State. She removed with her husband to Ohio and is now living in Gallia County, having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-two years. The parental household included five children, of whom our subject was the eldest.

Mr. Titus, of our sketch, was in the sixth year of his age when his parents removed from his na-

tive State to Ohio. There he grew to manhood, attending the common schools and assisting his father in the work on the farm. He remained on the homestead until after the death of the latter, and two years later came to Illinois, engaging for the first three years as a farm laborer. He had lived economically, saving what he could of his earnings, and in 1853 rented a tract of land in Richland County which, however, he only operated upon one year. He then purchased thirty acres in that county in the midst of a timber tract, and having already selected a companion to share his fortunes, put up a log cabin, where they commenced housekeeping in true primitive style. Mr. Titus cleared fifteen acres and occupied this property with his family until 1863. In the meantime there had been added to the household seven children, and Mr. Titus felt the necessity of making some change which would bring about a better condition financially, and secure an additional income to meet the necessities of the growing family. He accordingly disposed of the embryo farm in Richland County, and resolved to try his fortunes in the better developed and more thickly populated district within the boundaries of Champaign County. He selected forty acres on section 9, in Somer Township, which, however, he sold after a period of six years. At the expiration of that time he purchased the land upon which he now resides.

Soon after coming to this section Mr. Titus began to realize the just reward of his labors, and found himself on a firm footing. He now has a good home, a sensible and worthy wife, and a fine family of children. These, seven in number, are Leonard, Helen, Edgar, Rosecrans, Charles, Martha and Jesse. The wife of our subject, to whom he was married in Richland County, April 7, 1853, was Miss Elizabeth, the daughter of Isaac and Cynthia (Moorehouse) Chaney. Mrs. T. was born in Richland County, this State, in 1830. Her parents were natives of Tennessee and New York respectively, and removed to Illinois soon after their marriage, locating in Richland County during its early settlement. The father is deceased; the mother still survives, and lives in Richland County.

Mr. Titus has been the subject perhaps of no very thrilling experiences but has simply lived the

life of a good citizen, and performed with fidelity the duties devolving upon him as a worthy member of society and the father of a family. In politics he is independent.



JOSEPH DECKER. The gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch has seen much of life in a new country, having during his young days roamed over the States of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas, while they were untenanted save by wild animals and Indians. In the country across the Mississippi he has seen herds of deer and buffalo in their native haunts, before the firearms of the hunter had caused them to fear what seemed to be their natural enemy, man. He also remembers sleeping on the ground at night, covered with leaves, when wolves and other wild beasts were prowling near. Fear was a thing almost unknown among the brave spirits of the pioneer days, and amid those wild scenes our subject received his first lessons in self-dependence and imbibed that sturdy courage which has served him well during the difficulties he has encountered in his struggle with the world.

Mr. Decker was born in Clay County, Ind., April 29, 1843. His father, Abner Decker, of Tennessee, emigrated to Illinois when a young man, and located in Woodford County during its early settlement and while the Indians still lingered there. He soon afterward went down into Kentucky, where he was married, then returned to Illinois with his bride, and after a short time spent in Woodford County, removed to Indiana. He was of a restless disposition, fond of change, and delighted to wander over long and uninhabited stretches of country, hunting and fishing, and wherever he went always carried with him his cooking utensils, so that he could camp out wherever night overtook him. After sojourning a time in Indiana with his young wife, they returned to Woodford County, Ill., where he purchased a tract of land, and commenced its improvement.

In 1852 Mr. Decker crossed the Mississippi into Webster County, Iowa, being probably one of the first white men to venture into that wild region,

when it was inhabited solely by the Indians, wolves, buffalo and deer. The elder Decker remained there for a period of nine years, after which he returned to Illinois, whence in about 1868 he removed to Missouri, and lived in different parts of that State for a few years following. From there he went into Nebraska, remaining there a few years. These various removals were made overland with teams, usually accompanied with his family, and oftentimes they traveled days and nights without seeing the face of a white man and camped in the wilderness, which echoed with the howling of wolves, the screaming of owls and other sounds, which to denizens of the cities of to-day would be appalling. The last stopping-place of Abner Decker was in Missouri, where he yet lives.

The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Betsy Hickman, who was born in Kentucky. Of her marriage with Abner Decker there were born seven children. Our subject was nine years old when the family went into Iowa, which was then a State of six years old. Nine years later they returned to Illinois. Joseph was then eighteen years of age, and contracted to purchase his time of his father, working out by the month to earn the money for this purpose. In due time he had the desired sum, \$159, which he paid over to his parent. After this he saved his earnings until he had the snug sum of \$500, which he loaned and lost.

Amid these discouragements, however, our subject still preserved the courageous and energetic disposition that had been born within him, and worked steadily on, doing the best he could to recover his loss. He also determined to see the country west of the Mississippi, and visited parts of Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa, returning to Woodford County, Ill., in 1867. Two years later he came to East Bend Township, and having again saved some money, purchased forty acres of land for \$7.25 per acre, which is included in his present homestead. During the same year he purchased forty acres adjoining, on time, and prepared to permanently locate. He still worked by the month for three years following, in the meantime leasing his land, and in this manner paid for the balance.

Mr. Decker was married rather late in life, Dec. 18, 1880, to Miss Jennie Osborn, a native of Foun-

tain County, Ind., whose birth took place Aug. 2, 1849. Her father, Richard Osborn, was also born in Fountain County, to which his parents had moved from Kentucky, in the pioneer days. Mr. Osborn, in 1853, became a resident of Vermilion County, Ill., where his death took place three years later. The mother then returned to Indiana, and died Feb. 26, 1876. Mrs. Decker came to Illinois in 1877, and has been a resident of the State since that time. She was first married in Indiana, in 1876, to Henry Howard, by whom she became the mother of one child, Henry C. Of her union with Mr. Decker there are three children—Herschel A., Ethel and Mertle. A lithographic view of Mr. Decker's residence is presented on another page.



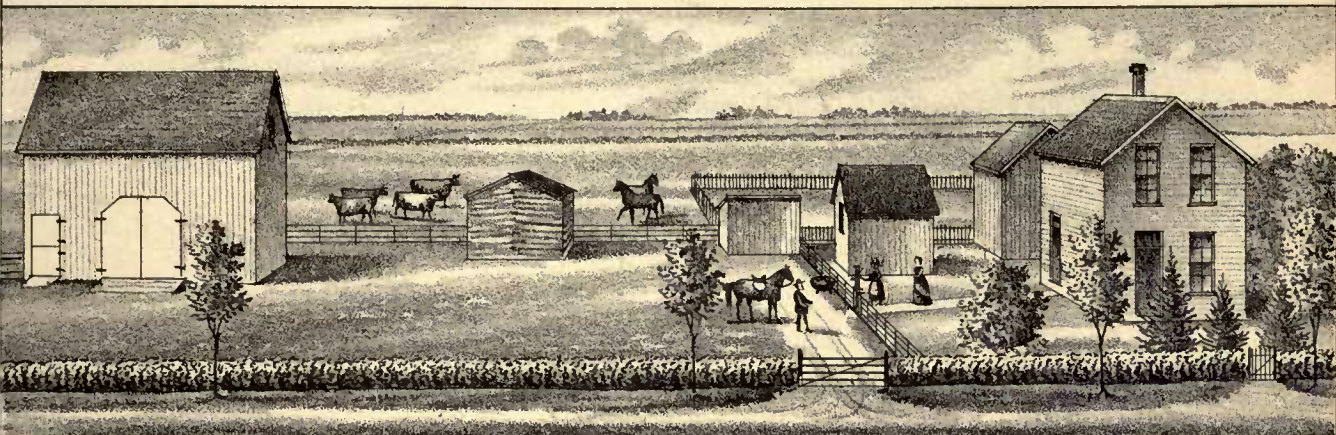
SOLOMON PLAUT, President of the First National Bank of Homer, has been a resident of this locality for twenty years, and during that time has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of the people. He traces his ancestry back a hundred years or more, and finds the record to have been eminently worthy and of importance in social and financial circles. He is descended from an old Prussian family, and was himself born in the Province of Hesse-Cassel, in that Kingdom, on the 28th of March, 1838. He is the son of Anselm and Carrie (Haas) Plaut, natives of the same Province, where they spent their entire lives, and where the father died in 1873, when about eighty-two years of age, having been born in 1791. The wife and mother lived to be sixty-five years old, her death occurring in 1865. The children of the household, eight in number, were Simon, Adeline, Emanuel, Amelia, Jeanette, Betty, Moses and Solomon.

The subject of this history was placed in school at an early age, where he obtained a good education in his native language, and when sixteen years old, in laying his plans for the future, decided to emigrate to the New World. He started on the voyage across the Atlantic alone, and six weeks later landed in New York City, the trip being made on a sailing-vessel. Two sisters had already preceded him to this country, and located at Ft.

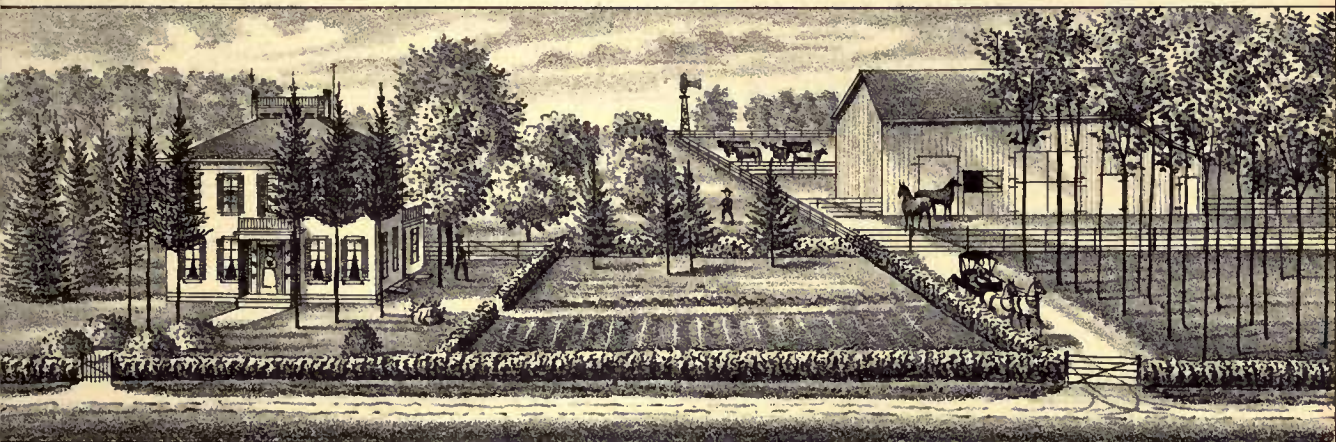
Wayne, Ind. He joined them soon afterward, and employed himself at whatever he could find to do for the five years following, in the meantime having saved of his modest earnings whatever he could. With a cash capital of about \$500 he then proceeded to Oxford, Ind., where he purchased a stock of general merchandise, and remained in trade two and one-half years. Thence he removed to Milford, Ill., and carried on the same business for three and one-half years, when he sold out and made his first trip to this county, establishing himself in the business which had formerly engaged his attention, and being thus occupied eight and one-half years. In the meantime he had built up a good trade, and by his straight business methods numbered among his patrons the best people of this vicinity. From the proceeds of his well-conducted business, and the co-operation of other responsible parties, he established a private bank, in 1875, which eight years later was incorporated as a National Bank. Of this our subject is President, and there are four Directors.

After Mr. Plaut had formed the basis of a future home and competency, and felt that he could provide suitably for the needs of a family, he selected for the sharer of his life and fortunes Miss Sarah Solomon, with whom he was united in marriage on the 18th of May, 1862. Mrs. Plant is a native of Montreal, Canada, born Jan. 10, 1842, and the daughter of Philip and Betty (Brown) Solomon, the former a native of Germany, and the latter of what is now the Province of Alsace-Lorraine. Her father was born in 1798. After emigrating to this country he located at Lafayette, Ind., where he engaged in the grocery trade, and departed this life in 1865. The wife and mother, born in 1817, is still living in Indiana. The children of the household were: Sarah, the wife of Mr. Plaut; Samuel, who married Miss Clara Slossman, of Remington, Ind.; Barbara, who died in Colorado, Feb. 3, 1886, and Moses, who married Miss Jessie Shaw, of Remington, Ind. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Plaut are Michael, Carrie, Adolph, Samuel, Mamie, Adeline, Emma and Esther. The latter died when nearly four years old, Nov. 7, 1884.

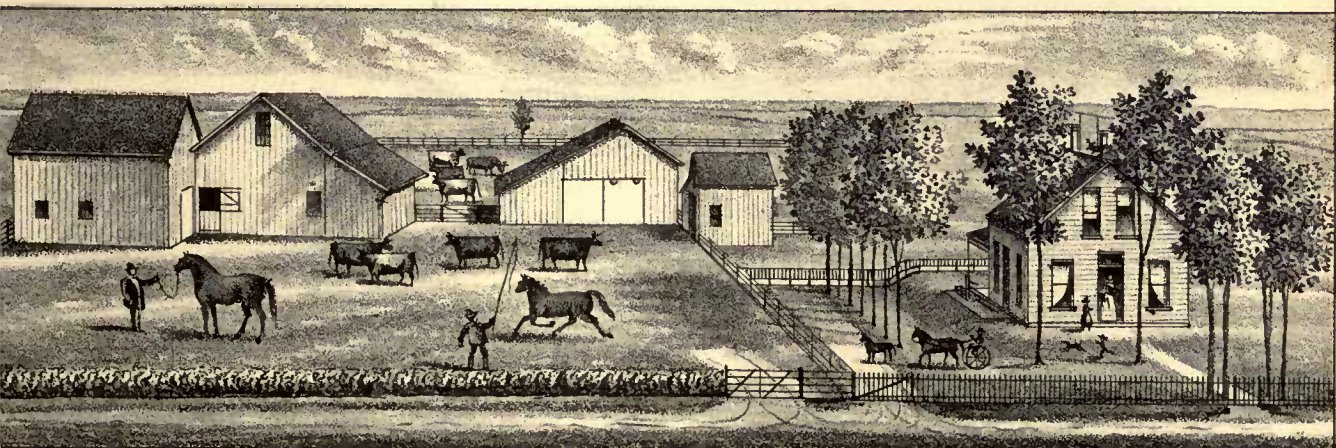
After being invested with the rights of an American citizen, Mr. Plaut identified himself with the



RESIDENCE OF W^M. H. WILLIAMS, SEC. 16, STANTON TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF J. W. HUMRICHOUSE, SEC. 29, HOMER TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF THOS. W. GIDDINGS, SEC. 10, LUDLOW TOWNSHIP.

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Republican party, the principles of which he has always heartily supported. In religious matters he adheres to the faith of his forefathers. Socially he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Milford Lodge No. 169, and having occupied all of the Chairs therein. He is also a member of the Chapter and Council of the same order. He identified himself with the I. O. O. F., and is now a member of Oxford Lodge, in Indiana.

In addition to his real-estate interests in Homer Village, Mr. Plant is proprietor of 400 acres of fine farming land, including 160 acres in Vermillion County, Ind., and two farms in Champaign County, this State. He also has city property in Danville, Ill. His fine residence in Homer forms one of the attractions of the village, and is finished and furnished in accordance with the cultivated tastes and abundant means of its proprietor. He has proved himself no unimportant factor in assisting to build up the town, his own industry and enterprise furnishing an example which others have followed with good results. He occupies a place among its leading men, to whose energy and ability the community is indebted for its present status among the prosperous towns of the county.



WILLIAM ELLIOTT, a well-known and highly esteemed resident of Homer Village, and who the greater part of his life has been engaged in farming pursuits, is now practically retired from active labor and is spending his declining years in the ease and comfort which he has justly earned by a life of industry, and a course marked by uprightness and the highest moral principles. Mr. Elliott may properly be ranked among the pioneer settlers of the Prairie State, as he came to Vermilion County with his parents when a child six years of age, in 1822. The journey was made overland with teams, and they boarded and lodged after the manner of the travelers of those days, carrying their provisions with them, cooking by the wayside, and sleeping in their wagons at night. Our subject remembers, even to this day, many interesting incidents of that time, and the contrast between the face of the country sixty years

ago and its appearance at the present. The unbroken prairie, with its waving grass, and the intermediate forests through which deer and other wild animals roamed with freedom, have now given place to cultivated fields and beautiful homesteads, and had he not seen the gradual march of progress and civilization, thus becoming accustomed to the change, the transformation would seem like a dream. In common with other honored pioneers of that period, he has watched the progress of his adopted State with the deepest interest and rejoiced at every evidence of her prosperity.

William Elliott was born in Cumberland County, Ky., July 23, 1816. His parents, Asa and Elizabeth (Simpson) Elliott, were natives of West Virginia, and of Scottish ancestry. Asa Elliott was born Feb. 27, 1791, and lived to be seventy-two years of age, departing this life on the old homestead, probably in 1863. The mother was born in 1796, and passed away the year previous to the death of her husband. Both were devout members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and held in much esteem wherever known. The father of our subject was Republican in politics and was among the first to identify himself with the Masonic fraternity, of whose principles he remained a lifelong admirer. The children of the family were named respectively, William, John, Mary, Andrew, Amanda, Elizabeth, Nancy, Joseph and Asa. Of these five are living, the youngest son being a practicing physician in Ozark County, Mo.

William Elliott accompanied his parents from his native State to Indiana in 1817, when but an infant. They located in Union County, where they lived five years, removing thence in April, 1822, to Vermilion County, this State. The father purchased Government land near Butler's Point, upon which he operated until about 1844, then removed with his family to Missouri, where the parents spent the last years of their lives. Their children were scattered in various parts of the West. William, of our sketch, crossed eastward over the Father of Waters in 1827, and located in Homer Township, of which he has since remained a resident. He was first married to Miss Margaret Lander, of Old Homer, in 1840. This lady died eight years later.

The second wife of Mr. Elliott was formerly Miss Risinger, a native of Pennsylvania, and de-

parted this life in 1863, leaving three children, all now living: Asa O. married Miss Myra Whitlock; William J. married Miss Dollie Coffeen, and Agnes B. became the wife of O. A. Tate, of Kankakee, Ill.

The third and last marriage of Mr. Elliott took place in 1870, Mrs. Susan (Daugherty) Leonard becoming his wife. Mrs. Elliott departed this life at the home of her husband in August, 1876.

William J. Elliott, the youngest son of our subject, married Miss Helen D. Coffeen, Oct. 4, 1883. This lady was born Dec. 7, 1859, in Homer, Ill., and is the daughter of Michael and Helen (Lyons) Coffeen, natives of New England and pioneers of Champaign County. Both are now deceased. They were members of the Presbyterian Church and established a good homestead in Homer Township, which became the resort of the best people of the county. Mr. and Mrs. William J. Elliott have no children. Mr. E. is a man of fine business abilities, being connected with the Coffeen Mill and Elevator Company at Homer. He is still a young man, having been born May 27, 1857, and bids fair to become one of the prominent factors of the business and industrial community.

William Elliott, following in the footsteps of his honored father, is also connected with the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Lodge No. 199, in Homer. He uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party.

JOSEPH RULON WALKER. The early home of this gentleman was near Wilmington, the county seat of Clinton County, Ohio, where he was born on his father's farm, March 13, 1830. He comes of substantial Pennsylvania stock, his grandfather, Robert Walker, having been a native of the Keystone State, where he married Miss Nancy Hultz, and reared a family of four sons and four daughters. The Hultz family was of German origin, and constituted one of the reliable branches of the ancestry in that section. Among their sons was Robert, Jr., who was born in Kentucky, to which State his parents had removed before the Indians had vacated the Blue Grass regions. There he lived until sixteen years of age,

and then removed with his parents to Clinton County, Ohio, where he grew to manhood and married Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph and Ruth (VanMeter) Rulon. The Rulons were of Scotch and German ancestry, and were among the earliest settlers of Kentucky.

After his marriage Robert Walker settled with his bride upon a small farm in Clinton County, Ohio, where they lived in a modest way until the spring of 1853. They then removed to Wells County, Ind., locating again upon a farm, where the mother died in 1859, and the father twenty years later, in 1879. Of their twelve children, ten lived to become men and women grown, and all but two were married. One son served as a soldier in the Union army, and was killed in battle.

The subject of this sketch was reared on the farm in Clinton County, Ohio, and received a common-school education. When twenty-four years of age he was married, Sept. 3, 1854, to Miss Catherine, daughter of John and Hannah Young, and a native of Clinton County. Her father was born in Delaware, in 1809, and departed this life in Clinton County, Ohio, in 1863. The mother was formerly Miss Hannah Newcomb, a native of Ohio. Mrs. Walker is the second of a family of twelve children, and remained with her parents until her marriage, becoming thoroughly acquainted with household duties, and assisting in the care of the large family. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. W. located on a farm in Wells County, Ind., where they continued until the fall of 1872, and then came to this county. Our subject rented a farm for one year, and then purchased his present homestead, which lies on section 1, St. Joseph Township, and contains 120 acres of good land. He has always followed farming, and has no desire for any other than a country life.

The six children of Mr. and Mrs. Walker include four sons and two daughters, named respectively Robert Y., John F., Ezra C., Nathan L., Hannah E., who married Robert Peters, of Vermilion County, and Mary C., the wife of Norman Hoyt, of St. Joseph Township. After becoming a resident of Indiana Mr. Walker was appointed Postmaster at Liberty Center, and also officiated as School Director and Pathmaster. Both he and his wife are mem-

bers of the Christian Church at St. Joseph. Mr. Walker cast his first presidential vote for Martin Van Buren, and is a true-blue Republican in every sense of the word.

WILLIAM H. MORGAN, one of the pioneer grain dealers of Tolono, established himself in business there twenty years ago. He is a gentleman of remarkable energy and industry, and has been an important factor in the business interests of this town since coming here. He emigrated from his native State of Kentucky in 1857, when a young man twenty-one years of age, having been born in Fleming County, Dec. 28, 1835. To his grain transactions he has also added live stock and coal, in each department of which he has been uniformly successful. To such men as Mr. Morgan is Champaign County indebted for its remarkable development and progress, and for the position which it holds in the great West, and the valley watered by the Mississippi.

Our subject is the son of Woodson and Elizabeth (Bruce) Morgan, also natives of Kentucky, who descended from excellent Scottish ancestry. The wife and mother died in her native State in 1851, leaving seven children, of whom William H. was the eldest. John, and Ellen, the wife of John F. Fleming, still remain in Kentucky; George B. when a young man located in Bradford, Pa., where he now resides; Madison died when twenty-three years of age; Anna, Mrs. A. H. Deman, is a resident of Leadville, Col., and Monroe, of Greenwood County, Kan. The father subsequently married Mrs. Amanda Dunlap. They came to Illinois in 1857, and located on a farm in Crittenden Township, this county, where they remained until the fall of 1884, in which year they took up their abode in Tolono, where they now reside, the father having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-three years. There were no children of the second marriage.

Our subject was reared to farming pursuits and received a common-school education. He came with his father to Illinois and remained with the family until reaching manhood. In 1869 he returned to his old home in Fleming County, Ky.,

and was there married to Miss Lucia P. Lowry, a native of that county, and born in 1842. Mrs. M. is the daughter of Dr. George Grant Lowry, who was a prominent physician of Fleming County. Mr. and Mrs. Morgan have one child only, a daughter, Florence. They occupy a pleasant and comfortable home in Tolono, and Mr. Morgan still retains possession of his farm in Tolono Township, which includes 200 acres, and is supplied with all needful buildings. He has had charge of the elevator at Tolono for many years and has transacted a large amount of business for outside parties. This elevator was constructed by Adams Brothers of Providence, R. I., and is owned by William Redhed, of Tolono. Mr. M's live-stock and coal trade is a private enterprise in which he alone is interested.

Mr. Morgan has always voted the Democratic ticket, and has occupied the various offices of his township and village. He has at all times taken a warm interest in the welfare of his community, and is a man whose opinions are sought and whose judgment can be relied upon.

WILLIAM J. LATEER, who chiefly controls the sale of drugs and hardware in the village of Fisher, is the offspring of an excellent Pennsylvania family, being the son of Norris C. and Cynthia A. (Jayne) Lateer, who, after a sojourn of several years in Pennsylvania after their marriage, removed first to Wisconsin and then to McLean County, this State, in 1861. They continued their residence in the latter county until February, 1883, and then came to Fisher to be near their son. The elder Lateer followed farming the greater part of his life but is now practically retired from active labor. The parental family includes two sons and two daughters now living—Edwin H., Lydia, William J. and Susan.

Our subject, the third child, was born in Wyoming County, Pa., July 15, 1855, and received a common-school education in his native township. He was six years of age when the family removed to Illinois, and after becoming old enough he engaged in farming and dealt in grain. He became

a resident of Fisher in 1877, where he established himself in his present business, which he has carried on successfully and without a competitor. Besides his stock of merchandise and village property he owns eighty acres of land in Brown Township.

On the 18th of October, 1879, Mr. Lateer began the establishment of a home by being united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Vennum, who was born in Milford, Iroquois County, Dec. 4, 1858, and was the daughter of Christopher C. and Mahala (Horn) Vennum. Mr. V. departed this life at Onarga, Ill., Sept. 11, 1866. The mother still survives, making her home with her daughter, Mrs. Lateer. The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Lateer are Lena, Norris V. and William M. Our subject and his family occupy a fine residence which was erected in 1881, and will compare favorably with anything of the kind in Champaign County. A view of it is presented in this work. Mr. and Mrs. L. are members and regular attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which our subject is Trustee and one of the chief pillars. Politically he endorses the principles of the Democratic party, and socially belongs to Fisher Lodge No. 704, I. O. O. F.



EMANUEL I. FISHER, Director and Cashier of the First National Bank, at Homer, has been associated with this institution since its first conception. He is one of the most enterprising young business men of the county, and in his present responsible position is acquitting himself with great credit. Mr. Fisher is a native of Ft. Wayne, Ind., born Sept. 1, 1854, and the son of Isaac and Betty (Plaut) Fisher, natives of Germany, who emigrated to America in 1848, while quite young, locating in Ft. Wayne, Ind., where they married and afterward resided.

Isaac Fisher was born in 1820, and died July 2, 1885. He was a capable business man, respected by his fellow-citizens, and a member of the Hebrew Order of I. O. B. B., in whose organization he assisted at the beginning. The parents were married in 1850; the mother, who was born Jan. 10, 1832, is still living in Ft. Wayne, Ind. The nine children

comprising the parental household are recorded as follows: Bertha died when two years of age; Emanuel, of our sketch, was the second child; Max B. married Miss Ada Jacobson; Samuel S. married Miss Flora Reinhart; Hannah married David Kahn, of Indianapolis; Charlie died in early life. The three younger were Carrie, Edwin J. and Moses P.

Mr. Fisher received his early education in the city schools at Ft. Wayne, Ind., and later attended Bryant & Stratton's Business College in that city. He took a thorough course in book-keeping, graduated in 1875, and four years later entered the banking-house of Solomon Plaut, with which he has been connected since that time. He was elected Cashier in 1883, when the bank was nationalized. He has already become a prominent factor in the business interests of Homer, and from his wide-awake and energetic disposition much is expected of him in the future. He has been Village Treasurer three years and is manager of the Homer Opera House Association. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party.

The lady who presides over the household affairs of Mr. Fisher and is at the same time a worthy companion and the ornament of his home, was formerly Miss Clara Bernstein, of Napoleon, Ohio, where her marriage took place Oct. 14, 1886. Mrs. Fisher is the daughter of Solomon and Fannie (Wertheimer) Bernstein, and was born Dec. 25, 1861. Her parents were natives of Germany, who emigrated to America many years ago, before their marriage. This event occurred in 1855, in Cincinnati, Ohio. They located at Napoleon, that State, and became the parents of five children, namely, Annie, Adeline, Clara, Theresa and Julius.



SAMUEL McKEE, one of the most extensive farmers and stock-raisers of Hensley Township, is finely located on section 32, where he has one of the most attractive estates in Champaign County. His land, which he has brought to a fine state of cultivation, is admirably adapted to his present business, and his stock consists mainly of high-grade Short-horns and Hereford cattle. The residence of our subject and his fam-

ily is a handsome and substantial modern structure, finely finished and furnished, and its surroundings display on every hand the cultivation and prosperity of the proprietor. A view of the residence is shown on another page.

Mr. McKee is a native of Tippecanoe County, Ind., where his birth took place Jan. 27, 1838. His father, Ely C. McKee, was a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, and his grandfather, Samuel, was born in Ireland, of excellent Scottish parentage. He emigrated to America when a young man, and is believed to have settled for a short time in Pennsylvania, whence he afterward removed to Ohio, and was one of the pioneers of Hamilton County. He purchased a tract of timber land seven miles from Cincinnati, where he cleared a farm and built a comfortable home, and there spent the remainder of his days. Among the members of his family was Ely C., the father of our subject.

Ely C. McKee was reared to manhood in his native county, and after his marriage remained there until 1833. He then removed to Indiana and located among the pioneer settlers of Tippecanoe County. He purchased a tract of timber land fourteen miles south of Lafayette, and put up a house, which he weatherboarded, giving it the appearance of a frame structure. In this dwelling the subject of our sketch was born. The father cleared from the wilderness a fine farm of 315 acres, and remained there until his death, which occurred Jan. 19, 1877. The mother of our subject, formerly Miss Nancy Griffin, was born in Kentucky, and was the daughter of Ebenezer Griffin, a native of the same State. Late in life he became a resident of Rush County, Ind. Mrs. Nancy G. McKee departed this life at the old homestead in Tippecanoe County, in August, 1876. The parental household included ten children.

Samuel McKee was the fifth child and fourth son of his parents, and passed his childhood and youth in the manner common to the sons of pioneers. He assisted his father in tilling the soil, and attended the subscription school as opportunity offered, mostly in the winter season. He remained under the home roof until his marriage, and afterward cultivated rented land until 1869, when he came to the Prairie State and purchased the farm in Hensley

Township which he now owns and occupies. At the time he took possession 100 acres were broken, and the only buildings were a small frame house and a stable with a straw roof, but he immediately set about its cultivation, and in due time the first dwelling and the excuse for a stable were replaced by modern and substantial buildings, as we have indicated.

Mr. McKee was married, Oct. 21, 1862, to Miss Alma Bush, a native of Tippecanoe County, Ind., and the daughter of Jared and Charlotte Bush. (See sketch of Jared Bush on another page of this volume.) Of this marriage there were born five children: Harry, who died in infancy; Willie E., Raymond, Ely and Lottie. Mr. McKee, politically, is a staunch Republican, and cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln.



A BRAHAM LOEB, Supervisor of Tolono Township, and President of the Village Board, was the first man to hold both offices after the organization of the township. When not employed with the duties of his offices he turns his attention to the clothing trade and gents' furnishing goods, which business he established in Tolono in May, 1877. He is an energetic business man and a fine representative of the industrious German element, which has assisted materially in the progress and development of the great West. His birth took place in the Rhine Province of Darmstadt, Aug. 1, 1840. His parents were Raphael and Rose Löeb, who had a family of ten children. Three of these died in childhood. The remaining seven emigrated to the United States, and were as follows: Leopold; Lena, now Mrs. Kuhn; Jennie, Abraham, Julius, Emil, and Louisa, Mrs. Hoffman. The father died in Germany, and the mother came to the United States with some of her children.

Abraham, of our sketch, left his native land alone when a lad nine years of age. After a brief stay in New York City he proceeded to Covington, Ind., where he had a brother, and engaged as clerk in a store. He afterward became a traveling salesman, and in this capacity visited many parts of the

United States. At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted as a Union soldier, becoming a member of Co. B, 6th Ky. Vol. Inf., and served three years and eight months. He participated in many important battles of the war, and various engagements and skirmishes, being present at the siege of Vicksburg and at Pittsburg Landing and Baton Rouge, but escaped without serious wounds or imprisonment.

After receiving his honorable discharge Mr. Loeb returned to Covington and engaged in the dry-goods and clothing trade. Two years later he returned to his native country, and for over eighteen months visited among his relatives and friends. Upon returning to the United States he came to this county, established in business in Champaign City, and from there, in 1877, removed to Tolono. His upright business methods and courteous manner to all have secured for him the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens, who have honored him with the various township offices and taken him into their councils upon every important occasion. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the I. O. O. F. and K. of H.

Mr. Loeb was married, in 1870, to Miss Matilda Wolf, a native of his own country, and they have six children—Josie, Harry, Oscar, Rachel, Blanche and Charles. The family residence is pleasantly located, and its inmates enjoy the society of the best people of Tolono.

JOHN TAYLOR, although one of the prominent and responsible men of Ayers Township, and willing to make almost any sacrifice for the good of his community, is one of the few who has steadily declined to become an office-holder, considering that his personal influence would be of as much value exercised in a more unobtrusive manner. As one of the property-holders of this section he is of due weight in the community, while his undeviating course from the path of rectitude, and his unquestioned business qualities, have established him in the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

Mr. Taylor owes his origin to another continent,

his birth having taken place in Westmoreland, England, where he was first introduced to life on the 15th of July, 1845. His parents, James and Mary (Hutchinson) Taylor, were of pure English blood, and both spent their entire lives in their native country. The mother passed from earth when fifty-five years of age. The father may be properly numbered among the patriarchs, as his years numbered fourscore and five, terminating in 1886. He was the youngest of thirteen children born to his parents, and the family lived in and around Westmoreland as far back as can be remembered.

The children of James and Mary Taylor, ten in number, were Agnes, Rebecea, Mary A., William H., James, Richard, John of our sketch, Thomas, Jane E. and Robert. They received an ordinarily good education, John attending school until fourteen years of age. He first engaged to learn gardening, but this not being quite in accordance with his tastes and capabilities, he abandoned it and became an employe of the London & Northwestern Railway as porter. From that he was promoted switchman, afterward passenger guard, and in due time became conductor, ending up with the position of Station Agent. He occupied the office at the terminus of five important roads, and superintended the operations of five clerks and twelve men on the platform. It is sufficient recommendation to state that he held this position for a period of twelve years, only leaving it from the desire to come to America.

Mr. Taylor left Liverpool on the 17th of April, 1872, landing in New York City on the 25th of the same month. He at once proceeded westward to Macon County, this State, where he engaged at farming by the month, and was thus occupied for the following five years. In 1881 he purchased 120 acres of land in Ayers Township, at \$30 per acre, which was partially improved, and was then considered a very good farm. He has greatly added to its beauty and value, and it now bears fair comparison with those of his neighbors.

Mr. Taylor was married in Macon County, this State, Feb. 24, 1875, to Miss Maggie Kirkpatrick, a native of that county, and born Sept. 5, 1857. Her father, David, and her mother, Sarah (Smith) Kirkpatrick, were natives of Scotland, the former born

April 23, 1826, and the latter, April 30, 1830. The ten children of the household were Sarah, Alexander, Maggie, Mary E., David G. (now deceased), two who died in infancy, Lydia J., Emma Z. and David. The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor are Arthur K., Mary J. E. and William H. All are at home with their parents.

Mr. Taylor since becoming an American citizen and securing the right of suffrage, has uniformly voted with the Democratic party. He is a gentleman decided in his views, but never offensive in the expression of them. He possesses the tact and good judgment which readily secure friends, and which are retained by him when they come to know his excellent personal character.

CHRISTOPHER REAGAN. The gentleman whose biography we briefly sketch below, owns a quarter section of land in Condit Township, besides forty-eight acres in Newcomb Township. His home place, which comprises the larger body, is located on section 19, where he has a fine residence and all necessary out-buildings for the convenience of a progressive modern farmer. He took possession of his farm in the spring of 1870, and has since been industriously engaged in its cultivation and improvement. Under his skillful manipulation it has become one of the most valuable homesteads in this section, and a spot which the eye delights to dwell upon.

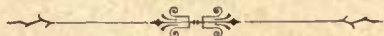
Mr. Reagan is a worthy representative of the warm-hearted Irish race, and was born in County Westmeath, in November, 1835. His parents were Patrick and Mary (McCormick) Reagan, both also natives of Ireland, where they spent their entire lives. Christopher was a little lad of only six years old when his father died, leaving a widow and three children. He remained with his mother until 1849, then, accompanied by his uncle, William McCormick, emigrated to America and located in New York City. He first found employment in William H. Disbrough's Riding Academy, corner Fourth avenue and Seventh street, where he remained three years, and then engaged on a steamer on the Hudson River, plying between New York and Albany.

After a part of two seasons thus occupied our subject began to learn the molder's trade, at which he worked one year, and then went into the employ of the Delaware and Raritan Canal Company, as a boat hand in summer, and in winter took care of the boats which were anchored at New York. In 1851-52 he chartered a boat of this company, and engaged in freighting for two seasons following. During the first he was successful, but the second year met with loss and then abandoned boating, engaging as a farm laborer during the summer seasons, and in the winter occupied himself chopping wood. Afterward he purchased a boat and for three summers followed freighting on the Erie Canal from Albany to Buffalo and New York City.

After coming into Illinois, Mr. Reagan spent the first winter in Logan County, afterward worked two summers on a farm in Polo, Ogle County, and thence changed his location to McLean County, whence he came to Mahomet Township, this county, in 1866. Three years later he purchased a part of the land which he now owns and occupies. In the meantime, however, he had returned to his old home across the sea, and visited for sixteen days among the friends of his childhood and youth, returning greatly pleased and satisfied, and ready to begin with fresh courage the establishment of a home in this county. Here he is accounted one of the most valued citizens, and by his straightforward dealings with his fellow-men has secured the confidence and esteem of all who know him. He takes a genuine interest in all matters relating to the good of the community at large, and although not connected with any religious organization has contributed generously to the support of all.

Mr. Reagan was married, in April, 1870, to Miss Dicy A. Newell, a native of New York, and the daughter of William and Patty Newell, who removed from Ohio to Condit Township in this county during its early settlement, and located upon the land which Mr. Reagan now occupies. Mrs. R. received a good education and taught the first school established in Condit Township. She departed this life on the 8th of January, 1885. Two years later Mr. Reagan was married to his present wife, who was then Mrs. Emma S., daughter of Samuel and May A. Hammel, and the widow of

Henry Lane. She was born in Clinton County, Ind., May 28, 1862, and remained with her parents until her first marriage, of which there was born one child, a daughter, Pearl. Mrs. R. is a lady greatly respected wherever known, and with her husband enjoys the society of many friends.



ELEAZER FREEMAN, one of the pioneer farmers of Ogden Township, is in possession of 400 acres on section 17, mostly in the above township. Here, since the spring of 1833, he has labored successfully to establish and improve a comfortable homestead, in which effort he has most admirably succeeded. The land is thoroughly drained, the fields neatly laid off and enclosed, and the farm buildings are a credit to the taste and enterprise of the proprietor. Mr. Freeman is a gentleman of more than ordinary ability, and besides the duties incumbent upon him as a representative farmer, ambitious to keep pace with the enterprise and prosperity about him, he has filled the office of Supervisor of his township, and School Treasurer for fifteen years. In the meantime he also served as Administrator of several estates placed in his hands by those fully aware of his capabilities and integrity. In all respects, as the head of a family and a member of the community, he has acquitted himself in a faithful and creditable manner, and no man is held in greater respect than Eleazer Freeman.

Our subject is a native of the Prairie State, born in Vermilion County, Jan. 3, 1833, and the son of James and Rebecca (Ogden) Freeman, natives of Pennsylvania, and the father of Welsh ancestry. The latter was born Jan. 26, 1801, and departed this life at his home in Homer Township in 1877. He followed both farming and shoemaking, having learned the latter trade in early manhood. He removed from his native State to Ohio before his marriage, and in 1829 emigrated overland to Illinois. Afterward, during the Black Hawk War, he served as a soldier three or four months until the troops were sent home.

When prepared to locate, James Freeman entered land on the State Road in Champaign County.

This included but forty acres, which he cultivated industriously and carefully, and by strict economy managed to accumulate quite a little fortune. Both he and the mother were members of the Christian Church. The latter was born in 1803, and in her youth was a woman of much physical strength and great courage, and worked cheerfully by her husband's side in his efforts to secure a comfortable home and a competency. She employed her time when not busy with the ordinary duties of the household, in spinning and weaving, and indeed, labored beyond her strength, so that in later years her health gave way, and she suffered greatly from a broken-down constitution. Her death took place in Homer Township on the 5th of October, 1857. The ten children of the parental household were, Thomas and Mary, twins; Edmund, Lydia A., Eleazer, Andrew, Angeline, Rebecca J. who died when one year old, James L., and Martha who died when four years of age.

The subject of this history remained a member of his father's household during his childhood and youth, and the greater part of the time until reaching his majority. Sept. 13, 1855, after he was twenty-two years of age, he began the more serious business of life by taking unto himself a wife and helpmeet, namely, Miss Keziah A. Swearingen, a native of this State, born Jan. 1, 1837; this lady was a devout member of the Christian Church, and departed this life June 25, 1856.

Mr. Freeman's second marriage was with Miss Margaret A. Loomis, and was celebrated Jan. 20, 1859. Mrs. Margaret Freeman was a native of Ohio, born July 14, 1843. She came with her parents to Illinois when a young girl twelve years of age, in 1855. In the meantime her parents had spent some years in Indiana. The latter were William M. and Albina (Yeager) Loomis, natives of Ohio. The father was a miller by trade. His birth took place Dec. 28, 1815, and his death Aug. 24, 1864. The mother was born Oct. 23, 1821. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and both parents were people of much excellence of character. The eleven children included in this family were as follows: Sarah E., who was born July 4, 1838; Joseph Y., Jan. 25, 1841; George N., March 6, 1842; Margaret A.,

July 14, 1843; John, in 1845; Rebecca A., Jan. 5, 1847; Albina L., July 26, 1848; John C., July 28, 1849; Mary E., Feb. 27, 1851; Elnora, April 29, 1852, and Laura E., April 1, 1853.

The mother of the above-named children passed from earth in the spring of 1854, and Mr. Loomis was again married, to Miss Sarah E. Hager, and of this union there were three children, namely, John N., born April 20, 1855; William H., Nov. 25, 1857, and Emma A., March 22, 1860. Mrs. Sarah E. Loomis departed this life at the homestead in Homer Township, and Mr. Loomis was married, Feb. 6, 1861, to Miss Margaret Samuels. This lady was born Sept. 9, 1836, and died in May, 1866. Her children were, Theodore, born Dec. 6, 1862, and Frank A., Feb. 17, 1864. The latter died in June of the same year. Of the sixteen children who owed their paternity to Mr. Loomis, only five are living.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Freeman, fourteen in number, were born as follows: James H., Nov. 10, 1860; George N., April 27, 1862; William L., Dec. 11, 1863; Charles Y., June 22, 1866; Joseph C., July 8, 1868; Annie, April 9, 1870; Laura B., Oct. 25, 1871; Florence M., Nov. 5, 1873; Nellie, April 6, 1875; Maude, April 16, 1877; Ida J., Feb. 8, 1879; Della, Dec. 28, 1880; Grant, March 20, 1882; Prince A., Aug. 30, 1884. The estate of Mr. Freeman embraces 400 acres of land, besides a dry-goods store, which was established in Ogden Village March 29, 1887. He is a wide-awake, enterprising business man, actively interested in the welfare of his community, and strongly opposed to the use of intoxicating liquors, being a member of the Sons of Temperance for many years. Politically he is a decided Republican.



DAVID COOTER, a resident of this county since a young man nineteen years of age, has given the greater part of his life to farming pursuits, and is now pleasantly located on section 13, in Brown Township, where he is proprietor of 193 acres of land, all of which, with the exception of forty acres, is under a good state of cultivation. The balance comprises a valuable

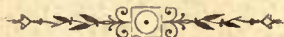
timber tract. The residence of the family is a commodious and substantial farm dwelling, and the adjacent outhouses are erected in a manner corresponding to the progressive and thorough-going character of the proprietor. A view of the place is to be seen on another page.

The parents of our subject, John and Mary (Houston) Cooter, were of Southern birth and parentage, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Kentucky. After marriage they located in Monroe County, Ind., where they resided until the fall of 1873, and thence removed to Cumberland County, this State, where they are now living. Their family consisted of five sons and two daughters, of whom our subject was the second child. His birth took place in Monroe County, Ind., Oct. 17, 1839. His youth and boyhood were passed after the manner of most farmers' sons until nineteen years of age, when he started out in life for himself. Coming into this county in 1858, he located in Brown Township, where he at once set about the establishment of a permanent home.

When the time came that he could see his way plainly to the realization of his designs, Mr. Cooter took unto himself a wife and helpmeet in the person of Miss Rebecca E. Strouss, to whom he was married Dec. 5, 1861. Mrs. Cooter is the daughter of John and Rebecca (McElhaney) Strouss, natives respectively of Beaver and Susquehanna Counties, Pa. After marriage they located first in Beaver County, whence, in 1856, they removed to Wisconsin, and from there to Brown Township, this county, in 1858. In February, 1878, they crossed the Mississippi and went into Labette County, Kan., where they now reside. The eight children of their household included five sons and three daughters, of whom the wife of our subject was the sixth in order of birth.

Mrs. C. was born in Beaver County, Pa., July 20, 1842. Six of the twelve children born to her marriage with Mr. Cooter have passed to the silent land, namely, Lucinda, John M., Charles W., Ellen I. and a babe unnamed, all of whom died in infancy. David M. was injured from a fall when eight years old, which, although not proving fatal at once, produced epilepsy, from which he was a great sufferer and lingered until nearly seventeen

years old, when he died on the 22d of July, 1885. Those surviving are Mary A., the wife of Martin D. VanHook, and a resident of Brown Township; Harry E., Irene E., Alberta H., Henrietta and Luey L., all at home with their parents. Mr. Cooter, politically, votes the Democratic ticket, and has held the office of School Director for many years in Brown Township.



JASPER N. GUNDER. One of the finest farms in the southeastern part of Champaign County is owned and occupied by the subject of this sketch, and is located on section 30, in Homer Township. Of this Mr. Gunder has been in possession since the spring of 1881. He was born and reared on the farm of his father in Madison County, Ind., first opening his eyes to the light on the 5th of November, 1854. His parents were Daniel and Elizabeth (Hughel) Gunder, natives respectively of Ohio and Indiana, the father born May 24, 1824, and the mother in 1832. They are still living, their home now being in Vermilion County, this State. Daniel Gunder is a man possessing more than ordinary ability, a thorough and skillful farmer, a Deacon in the Baptist Church, and politically a staunch Republican.

The home circle included the following-named children: Aliee, who became the wife of Joseph Howard; Susan, Mrs. Charles Baldwin, of Danville; Jasper N., of our sketch; James, a civil engineer, residing in Nebraska; Samuel, who was married to Miss Nettie Weaver, and is a druggist at Beatrice, Neb.; Jennie, Mary, Julia, Arthur and Daniel; the latter is deceased. They constitute a bright and interesting family group, received a good education, and are in all respects worthy and desirable members of society and an honor to their parents.

In 1868 Daniel Gunder and his family left Indiana, and coming over into Illinois, located in Vermilion County. Jasper N. of our sketch was then a boy of fourteen years. He continued on the farm which his father had purchased in Vanee Township, attending school in the winter seasons and making good progress, so that four years later he entered

the State University, where he took a course of two and one-half years, and was then well fitted for the ordinary pursuits of a business life in connection with farming. Daniel Gunder believed it a great mistake to suppose that farmers' sons needed little education. He claimed that the more intelligent the man, in whatever business he engaged the better results would follow. This theory has proved quite correct in the example of our subject. His first purchase when setting out for himself in life, consisted of eighty acres, of which he took good care until able to enlarge his landed area. The fine farm of which he is now the possessor includes 300 acres, and in all respects indicates the intelligence of its proprietor, both in the construction of the buildings, in his selection of the farm, animals and machinery, and the manner in which the fields are laid off, some adapted to grain and some to pasturage, and not an acre standing idle. Mr. Gunder has a fine herd of graded Short-horn cattle, which he feeds all the grain he raises from the farm, and each year ships four to five earloads of fat animals to Chicago and other Eastern markets.

Perhaps one of the most important events in the life of our subject occurred on the 15th of August, 1877, when he was united in marriage with Miss Gertrude Medearis, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride's parents, and the ceremony being performed by the Rev. J. J. Smith, of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Gunder, the daughter of John F. and Sarah (Abrams) Medearis, was born in Wayne County, Ind., Feb. 15, 1853, and lived there with her parents until her marriage. Her father was born in North Carolina, Nov. 16, 1809, and his wife, Sarah, in Indiana, May 2, 1821. They are people greatly respected wherever known; both are living and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. M. the greater part of his life has followed farming. Their home is the same that Mr. Medearis located upon in Wayne County, Ind., before his marriage. Eleven of their thirteen children lived to mature years, and the record briefly given is as follows: Mary A. became the wife of Caleb King, and died some years ago; Martha married Allin C. Cotton, and lives in this township; William A. married Miss Anna Addington; Israel married Miss Martha Curtis; Sarah is the wife of

Joseph T. Russell; Daniel married Miss Eva Kerr; Amanda became the wife of Mr. Martindale; Gertrude is the wife of our subject; John F. died in 1881; Ella, Mrs. Russell, and Elizabeth, Mrs. Jackson, are the two youngest.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Jasper N. Gunder, two in number, are Nellie and Clark Artemus. They are bright and interesting, and form the very life of the household. The farm residence is tastefully finished and furnished, and its inmates surrounded by everything to make life comfortable and desirable. Mr. G. enjoys in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of his neighbors, and has officiated as School Director in his township since 1885. Politically he votes with the Democratic party.



DR. PHILIP C. MOSIER, a retired practitioner of the Old School, but who has always been in love with agricultural pursuits and the freedom of a country life, occupies a fine homestead in Homer Township, on section 20, with numerous buildings finely adapted to the requirements of farm life. He has been a man of great energy and industry, and through the exercise of these accumulated a fortune which he is now enjoying in the wisest manner.

The history of Dr. Mosier, necessarily briefly given here, is in substance as follows; He first drew the breath of life, Dec. 31, 1827, in Harrison County, Ind. He is the son of George and Maria (Criswell) Mosier, the former a native of North Carolina and the latter of Kentucky. The paternal grandparents were Philip and Martha Mosier, natives of Pennsylvania and of Holland descent. On his mother's side his grandparents, Elijah and Elizabeth (Rice) Criswell, were natives respectively of Fauquier County, Va., and Frankfort, Ky. Mr. Criswell was of English extraction. The father of our subject was born Nov. 15, 1801, and spent his early years in his native State. He became a resident of this county in 1854, and engaged in farming in township 20, range 14, where he labored until his death, which occurred in March, 1880. His

early education had been conducted mostly in a German school, and he spoke the language fluently. When forty years of age he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, but later became connected with the Cumberland Presbyterian.

The six children of the parental household were: Elijah, who died when nineteen years of age; Elizabeth, Mrs. Pickett, deceased; Philip C. of our sketch; Martha C. married Dr. G. W. Hartman, deceased; Nancy D., who married A. J. Casteel, deceased; and Eliza Jane, the wife of George W. Cory, deceased. The day following the marriage of Nancy and Mr. Casteel, in the fall of the year 1856, they started for Boone County, Iowa, and after crossing the Mississippi and arriving at a point between Burlington and Des Moines, near Oskaloosa, the young bride and her husband were both murdered, and their bodies concealed in a corn shock, where they were found eleven days afterward. The perpetrators of this dreadful deed were John R. Thomas and an unknown associate. The crime was fastened upon him the following spring. When the people of that region became satisfied that he was the guilty man he was taken out and summarily lynched. To the question of whether he was guilty or not, he would make no reply, but there is no doubt that he was the man.

The subject of this biography passed his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, employed in farm pursuits, and receiving as good an education as the schools of those days afforded. After beginning to lay his plans for the future, during which time he believed that the practice of medicine would suit his tastes and inclinations, he began teaching in order to obtain the means to prosecute the studies necessary to become fitted for the profession. He afterward entered the office of Dr. Turner, of Jacksonville, Ind., and finally became interested in the Western Agricultural College at Annapolis, Ind., under the management of the Quakers, and attended two terms while continuing his medical studies with Drs. McKey and McNett. He was subsequently admitted to practice, and after having followed the profession for about ten years with good success, he engaged in loaning money and also in the real-estate business, which he followed successfully until his removal upon his

present farm in 1871. When the time came that he felt justified in retiring from business, he purchased his present farm property in Homer Township, to which he has since given his attention, and has obtained an enviable reputation as a skillful modern agriculturist.

When twenty-four years of age Dr. Mosier was united in marriage with Miss Dorethea J. Burton, on the 3d of April, 1851. Mrs. Mosier was born in Parke County, Ind., Oct. 6, 1831, and is the daughter of Clement N. and Ann T. (Merryweather) Burton, natives of Virginia. The father was born in 1790. He followed farming all his life, his later years being spent in Butler County, Iowa, where his death occurred in 1864. The mother was born in 1801, and departed this life at Rockville, Parke Co., Ind., Dec. 26, 1840. Both were members of the Christian Church, and Mr. Burton was an Elder and Trustee for many years. Although receiving only a common-school education he was a man who kept his eyes open to what was going on around him in the world, and obtained a good fund of general information. He endorsed the principles of the Republican party, and was in all respects a worthy and useful citizen. The eleven children born of his first marriage were named respectively, John M., William E., Mary A., Lucinda C., Eliza R., James M., Dorothea J., Hugh F. L., Lucretia C., Rachel L. and Henry H. Mary A. died in infancy. The father of Mrs. Mosier was twice married, the second time being united with Mrs. Rachel (Robey) Taylor, by whom he became the father of three children—George H., Joseph C. and Mary E.

Dr. Mosier and his wife have no children. The name originally was spelled without an "i," this being added to the name by the father of our subject. The Doctor has been prominent in local affairs since becoming a resident of Homer Township, and held the office of Supervisor four terms, his success as a farmer and his value as a citizen receiving due recognition by his fellow-townsmen. He is a strict temperance man, working as he has opportunity for the success of the cause. He affiliated with the Democratic party until 1856, in which year he cast his vote for Gen. Fremont for President, and has supported Republican candidates since that time. He is prominently connected with

the I. O. O. F., of which he became a member in 1855, and in which order he has occupied the higher offices, being a representative to the Grand Lodge on two occasions, when its sessions were held at Springfield and Chicago.

HENRY J. WIGGINS. The name of this gentleman is familiarly known throughout Champaign County as one eminently successful in the tilling of the soil and in his investments, by which means combined, he has accumulated a fine property. His real estate lies mostly on sections 16 and 17, in Homer Township, where he has an extensive farm of 306 acres, with handsome residence and grounds, good barns and other out-buildings, and all the requirements of a first-class modern agriculturist.

Mr. Wiggins is a native of Ohio, and was born Feb. 9, 1840. His parents, also natives of that State, were in possession of one of the finest farms in Hocking County, and were by name: Zedekiah D. and Lucinda (Haynes) Wiggins, of German and English ancestry. His father, who was born June 21, 1816, died in his native county in about 1877. The mother was born April 16, 1816, and passed to the other life before the death of her husband, her decease occurring in September, 1862. She was a lady of many excellent qualities, and a member of the German Reformed Church. Zedekiah D. Wiggins was a staunch Whig, politically, during his early life, but after the abandonment of the old party cast his lot with the Republicans. The parental household included twelve children, seven sons and five daughters: George W. married Miss Caroline Ebert; Julia A. is the wife of Jesse Hosler; Henry J., of our sketch, was the third child; Jacob H. died when five years of age; Margaret E. married Mr. F. W. Haynes; Ferdelia married Elijah De Long; Minerva became the wife of W. S. Koch; Susan is unmarried; Obed N. married Miss Laura Van Dyke; Dumah died when twenty-four years old; Edmund S. is married; Jerome died when three years of age. These were the children of the first wife. After her death Mr. Wiggins was married to Miss Mary L. Sherrick, and of this marriage

there were born three children: Mary, now the wife of Lewis Drum; Thomas, who married Miss Martha Murlett, and Christopher H., unmarried.

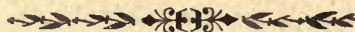
Henry J. Wiggins came to Illinois in 1878, and at once located in Homer Township, this county, where he purchased 240 acres of land. He immediately began making improvements, among which was the erection of his fine brick dwelling which was put up in 1879. This comprises two stories and a basement, is 40x40 feet in area, and furnished with all modern conveniences. Mr. Wiggins was recognized as a valuable addition to the intelligence and thrift of this region, and two years after his arrival here was elected to represent his township on the Board of Supervisors, which office he held for five years continuously, and was re-elected in the spring of 1886 and 1887. The duties of this office he has discharged to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. He has always taken an active interest in the enterprises set on foot to promote the general welfare, and has been the leader in many important measures. He is one of the Directors of the First National Bank in Homer, and also serving as Vice President. This institution was established on the 12th of May, 1883, with a capital of \$150,000, and its reputation to-day is largely due to the good judgment and wise counsel of Mr. Wiggins in the conduct of its affairs, and the caution with which its management has been distinguished.

After the outbreak of the Rebellion Mr. Wiggins enlisted in the 12th Ohio Cavalry in 1863, his regiment being assigned to the 13th Army Corps, but he was subsequently transferred as Second Lieutenant to the 14th United States Infantry, a regiment of colored troops stationed around Richmond and Petersburg. In the engagement at Mt. Sterling Lient. Wiggins was wounded in the neck, although not seriously, and continued in the service until after the close of the war, being mustered out Oct. 13, 1866, as First Lieutenant and Adjutant, at Ringgold Barracks in Texas. After retiring from the army he returned to his native State and engaged in farming, removing thence in 1878.

While in Ohio Mr. Wiggins was united in marriage with Miss Rosalie L. Eggleston, their wedding taking place Dec. 31, 1867. Mrs. W. was

born in Vinton County, Ohio, May 21, 1847, and is the daughter of Seth C. and Lucinda (Cornwell) Eggleston, the former a native of New York and the latter of Canada. Seth Eggleston was born in 1816, and is still living, being a resident of Vinton County, Ohio. He has followed farming and mercantile business all his life, and is a highly respected citizen, Republican in politics, and a member of the Presbyterian Church, having held the office of Deacon for many years. The mother, born in 1819, died in Ohio in 1849. The parental household included four children, three now living: George B., who married Miss Amanda Stoughton; Lovina is single, and Rosalie L. the wife of our subject; the other child died in infancy. After the death of his first wife Mr. Eggleston was married to Miss Susan Haynes, and of this union there were born two children, Watson and Julia. This lady died after a few years, and Mr. Eggleston contracted a third marriage, with Miss Jane Fry. Of this union there were born three children, viz., Jeremiah, Clara and James G. Mr. and Mrs. W. became the parents of four children, three now living—Pearl E., Charles B. and Nellie L. Henry died when six months old.

The homestead of our subject and his family is viewed with admiration by the passing traveler. The hand of taste is visible on every side in the vicinity of the residence, and the broad, smiling fields which stretch away in rich grain and pasture during the summer season are a sight extremely pleasant to the eye. When leaving his farm to exercise the right of a free-born American citizen at the polls, Mr. Wiggins usually supports the Republican candidate, and in religious matters holds to the doctrines of the Methodist Church, in which he has held the office of Trustee.



ZIMRI B. WILLIAMS, one of the most highly respected farmers of Homer Township, is a foreible illustration of the self-made man thrown upon his own resources early in life, and who, battling against many difficulties, finally succeeded and now, as a well-to-do farmer and stock breeder in the midst of peace and plenty, is enjoying the fruits of his early labors. He is a native of

Pike County, Ohio, his birth occurring May 5, 1820, and he was left an orphan at the early age of three years. His subsequent life was passed among strangers who illy supplied the place of father and mother. He received but a limited education and less training in those habits of life which are so advantageous to the young man starting out to carve his own fortune. His parents, Nathan and Mary (Loney) Williams, were natives of North Carolina; the former, born in 1785, died in his native State in 1824. The mother, born in 1789, died in Ohio in 1862. The parents were married in 1811, and of their union there were born eight children, namely, Sarah, John, Walter, Minerva, Ira, George H., Zimri and Eli.

The youth and boyhood of Zimri B. Williams were passed mostly on a farm in Ohio, where he received small wages and a limited amount of clothing, and at the time of his marriage was engaged in that vocation. This event occurred on the 12th of February, 1846, his chosen bride being Miss Mary Pinkerton, who was born in Ross County, Ohio, Feb. 1, 1825. Mrs. W. is the daughter of Richard and Sarah (Hall) Pinkerton, the former a native of South Carolina and the latter of Pennsylvania. Their family consisted of five daughters and one son, and they looked their last upon the scenes of earth many years ago. Their children were Ellen, Harriett, James, Mary, Clarissa and Jane.

Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Williams, the record is as follows: The first born, a son, died in infancy unnamed; Myron N., born in 1860, died in 1861; Cyrus married Miss Mary Clark, and is living in Manitou, Ill.; Elizabeth, born in 1851, became the wife of Samuel Porterfield, and died at the home of her husband in Sidney Township, leaving four children—Eddie, an infant now deceased, Robert Z. and Nellie; Clara married Rev. N. E. Parsons, a Presiding Elder of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and now stationed in Oregon; John T. married Miss Ella Reynolds; Mary E. was born March 9, 1865, and is still at home with her parents.

Mr. Williams removed from Ohio in 1861, to Parke County, Ind., accompanied by his family. He engaged in farming in Wabash Township five years and then, coming to this county, purchased

160 acres of land in Homer Township, which he afterward disposed of and has now but eighty acres, which, however, is very valuable, having been brought to a fine state of cultivation and provided with good buildings. Mr. Williams has made great improvements since taking possession of this, each year adding something to its beauty and value. His life has been quiet and unobtrusive but he has fulfilled its several duties to the best of his ability, exerting a good influence on those around him, and as he has had opportunity contributing to the enterprises calculated to benefit his township and community. He identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1866, being now a Trustee and considered one of its most prominent members. He has the co-operation of his family in his religious duties, all with one exception being members of the same church. His son, John, belongs to the Christian Church in Homer, Ill., being a Trustee and one of its most valued members. Mr. Williams politically casts his vote with the Republican party.

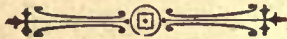
ARTHUR PRICE, well known among the livery interests of Champaign City, has a good stable and excellent outfit, located on Neal street, where he has been engaged since the spring of 1886, having removed from his first location where he established himself in 1881. He has about a dozen horses and carriages which he keeps in first-class condition, and is quite popular with the pleasure-loving public.

Mr. Price is a native of England, born in Hampshire, in 1846, and is the son of Thomas and Annie (May) Price, natives of the same country. Thomas Price emigrated to the United States in 1856, and the following year sent for his family. After reaching American shores, he proceeded directly westward, and purchasing 640 acres of land in Somer Township, this county, engaged extensively in farming two years, and then removed to Hensley Township, where he was occupied as before, until his death, which took place in 1862. Of the nine children born to the parents, eight are now living, namely, Francis, Walter, Arthur, Fred, Kate; Jessie, Benjamin and Isabel. Alice is deceased. The

father of our subject was Republican in politics, and belonged to the Masonic fraternity. He was a good man in every respect, and universally respected by all who knew him. The mother is now living with her son Arthur in Champaign City.

The subject of this history received his education in England, and after coming to America worked with his father on the farm until the death of the latter, and was then similarly engaged elsewhere until January, 1864. The late war being then in progress, he enlisted in Co. I, 2d Ill. Vol. Cav., serving until the close. He then returned to Champaign County, where he was employed in Urbana Township and elsewhere in the county until 1881, in which year he established his present business, on Market street in this city.

Mr. Price was married, in 1875, to Miss Nellie, the daughter of James Darling, of New York, and they have one child, a daughter, Nellie, now eleven years of age. Their snug and comfortable residence is pleasantly located on Washington street, and they enjoy the society of many warm friends and acquaintances. Mr. Price is Republican in politics, and as a thorough-going business man, is contributing his full share toward the business interests of the city.



GEORGE AND HENRY SKINNER, well known in Ayers Township as fine representatives of its substantial farming element, have a fine estate on section 4, of which 200 acres descended to them from their father. They subsequently added 180 acres to it, and through their excellent management it has developed into one of the finest farms in this part of Champaign County. The land is thoroughly drained with eleven and one-half miles of tiling, from three to twelve inches in diameter, and the present year (1887) they have 210 acres of corn. This cereal gains its richest growth on this particular soil. The corn fields of Illinois have long been the admiration of travelers from the East, and the Skinner Brothers have aided materially in sustaining the reputation of this section and this cereal as grown here.

The birth of these gentlemen took place in

Somersetshire, England, that of George, Jan. 29, 1850, and that of Henry, Oct. 4, 1853. Their parents were Robert and Anna (Rich) Skinner, who came with their children to Illinois in 1854, and at once located in this State, stopping first in Chicago, of which they were residents ten years, and thence removed to Shelby County, and finally to Coles County. The last removal was to Champaign County, where the elder Skinner purchased 200 acres of land and engaged in farming. He was born in Somersetshire, England, May 7, 1801, and the mother July 14, 1814. The latter was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and they both died on the old homestead in 1883.

Robert Skinner after coming to this country and acquainting himself with its laws and the manner of its Government, identified himself with the Republican party. Of his first marriage there were born six children, all now living: Mary J. became the wife of Mr. Moore, and is living in England; Sarah A. married Mr. Cureton, of England; William married Miss Julia Higgins, of Maine; Anna became the wife of Thomas Vellum; James married Miss Ann Cheney; Elizabeth became the wife of George Sylvester, of Chicago. The children of the second wife were: Amelia, who married William Hatfield; Rhoda, the widow of John Junkins, who died in 1875, and has one child; George and Henry of our sketch.

George Skinner is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is Trustee and Steward. The services of this society are held at Ames' Chapel. George is a School Trustee, Henry a Director, and both are Republican in politics.



FCHARLES GEHRIG, one of the enterprising German farmers of Scott Township, came to this county in the spring of 1869, and took possession of his present property. This consisted of eighty acres of land, pleasantly located on section 10, and to which he has since added, so that he is now the possessor of 120 acres, all improved and with a substantial and convenient set of farm buildings. His agricultural operations have been conducted in an intelligent and skillful

manner, and his upright business methods have gained him the respect of all who know him.

The subject of this sketch is the son of F. Charles, Sr., and Mary Gehrig, who were born in Germany and passed their entire lives in their native land. There also our subject first opened his eyes to the light, on the 23d of February, 1832. He remained with his parents in the Fatherland until twenty-one years of age, and then set sail for the United States. After landing in New York City and remaining a short time, he secured employment in an iron foundry at Elizabethport, N. J., where he remained until 1855, and then started for the West. Reaching Chicago he worked as a carpenter for two years, and from there proceeded to Pent Water, Mich., where he was employed for twelve years following by one man, Charles Mayers, a millwright and repairer of machinery. In the spring of 1869 he came to this county and at once located in Scott Township, where he has since remained.

While in Chicago Mr. Gehrig was united in marriage with Miss Johanna Mangel, June 8, 1856. Her parents were Conrad and Sophia Mangel, of Germany, where Mrs. G. was also born, in about 1836. Our subject and his wife became the parents of five children: Charles M. was born Oct. 26, 1857; Lydia M., Sept. 20, 1862; Frank T., Feb. 12, 1865; Clara J., Dec. 20, 1867; Anna M., March 25, 1871. Clara died when five years of age; Charles married Miss Carrie Flower, and is farming in Scott Township; Lydia became the wife of George Collins, and also lives in Scott Township; Frank T. and Anna M. are at home.

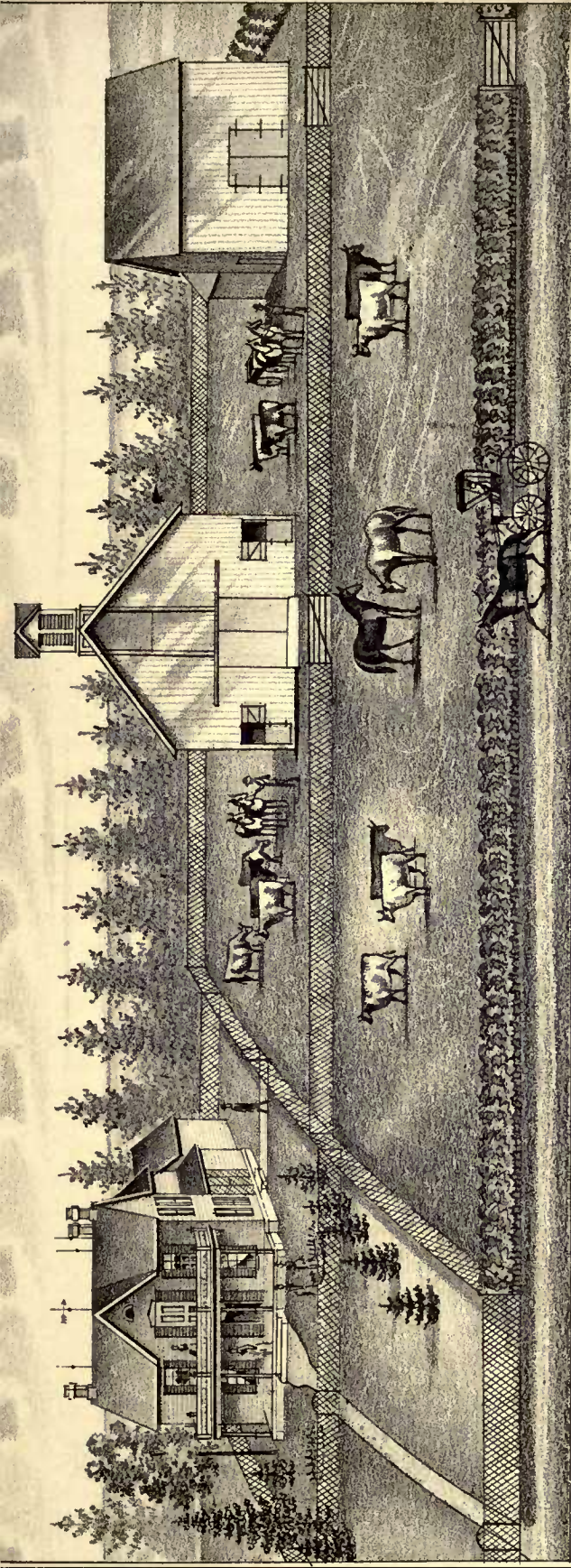
Our subject is Republican politically, and religiously a firm adherent of the Catholic faith. Besides his farm property Mr. G. is the owner of a good house and several lots in the village of Seymour, Ill.

ANDREW J. ROCK, son of one of the earliest pioneers of Champaign County, was born in Wabash County, Ind., March 21, 1832. He was the fourth child of William and Nancy (Beavers) Rock, who were natives of Maryland, but removed in about 1831 to Indiana,

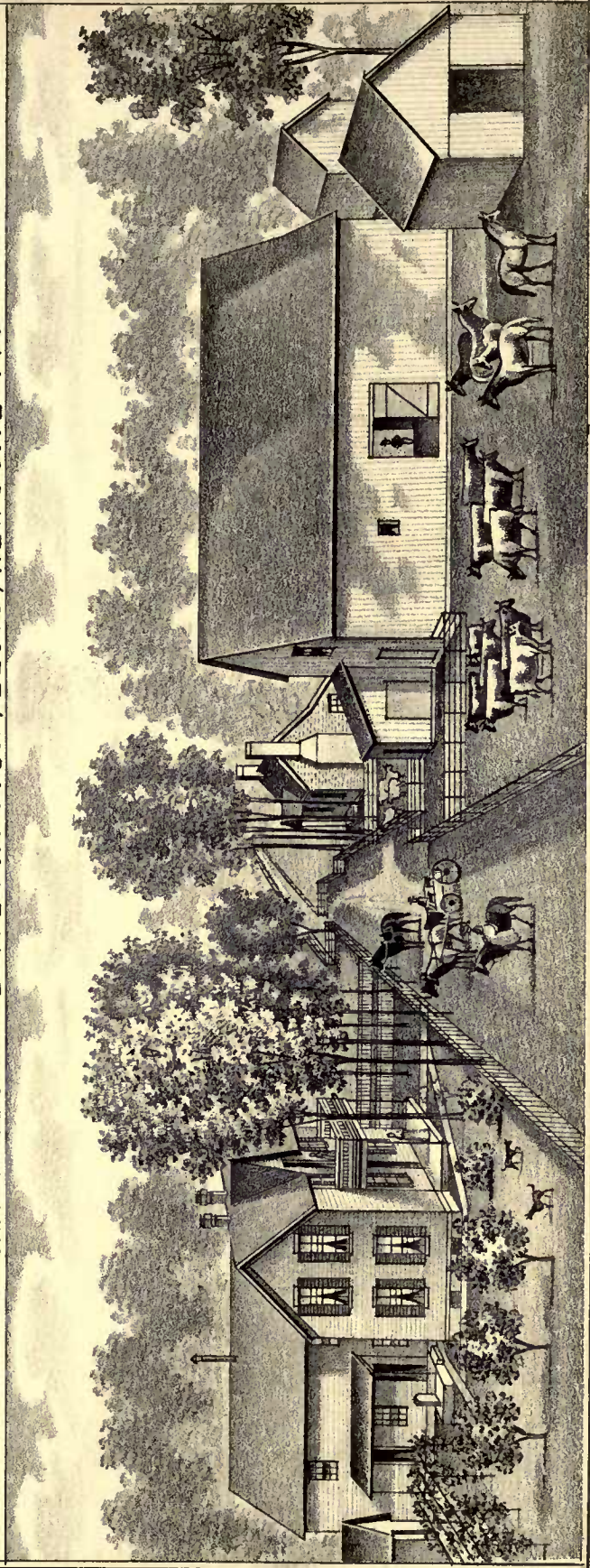
where they lived until March, 1835. William Rock then took up a claim of forty acres in what is now Sadorus Township, where he built his first house, which was constructed of poles. He lived for a period of over forty years in that township. Our subject distinctly recollects the journey to Chicago with teams, for the purpose of hauling lumber, shingles, etc., for the brick house erected later, and which when completed was considered an unusually fine structure. There were no hotels along the route, and the young teamster with his companions took their meals by the wayside, and slept in their wagon at night.

The subject of our sketch passed his boyhood and youth on his father's farm in Illinois, and when nineteen years old left home to look around over the country. He halted in McLean County for a time and in the spring of 1852 returned home, for the purpose of securing one of his early playmates for his wife. This was Miss Mercy Peabody, the eldest of a family of three children born to Cornelius and Mercy (Bryant) Peabody, of Ohio. The young people remained on the father's homestead two years, and then our subject purchased ninety acres of land, where the following spring he put up a house and which he occupied until the spring of 1859. Andrew then sold this property to his father and, crossing the Mississippi, purchased 200 acres of land in Jasper County, Mo., upon which the plowshare had never turned a furrow. At the same time he located on a rented farm in the vicinity, designing to improve his own land as opportunity afforded, while he raised regular crops on the improved land. Not long afterward, however, he was driven out by the rebels, who were overrunning the State, seeking to introduce their own peculiar institutions, among them that of slavery.

After leaving Missouri in August, 1861, Mr. Rock moved to Ft. Scott, Kan., where he left his family, and enlisting in the 6th Kansas Cavalry, entered upon the duties of a Union soldier. He remained with his regiment until spring, when he was detailed as a Government scout in the State of Kansas, where his knowledge of the country proved of invaluable service to the Union, and where he remained until the winter of 1864. His term of enlistment then having expired, he was mustered



RESIDENCE OF D.F.D. HINTON, SEC. 9, NEWCOMB TP.



RESIDENCE OF A. J. ROCK, SEC. 24, SADORUS TP.

IN THE
YEAR 1881

out, and returned to his home and family. Here, however, there was a vacant chair, his estimable wife having passed away, her death taking place Oct. 6, 1861, soon after his enlistment. She left two children—Franklin and Nancy. The former is now operating a cattle ranch near Leadville, Col., where he went when seventeen years of age. Nancy is the wife of John Mattox, who occupies a farm adjoining that of our subject.

After his return from the army Mr. Rock was united in marriage with Mrs. Martha (Merrick) Quick, fourth child of Charles and Lucinda Merrick, natives of New York State. The second wife of our subject was born in New York, and spent her childhood and youth in Missouri, where she was married to Mr. Quick. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. R. set out for his old home in Illinois, where they spent the winter of 1864, and during the following fall built a residence across the road from his father's on section 24, Sadorus Township, where he now resides. Three years later, however, our subject went back to Kansas, and purchased a quarter section of improved land in Cherokee County, where he followed farming and stock-raising for six years. His wife, in the spring of 1863, was seized with fatal illness, and on the 4th of April yielded up her life, leaving her husband with two little daughters—Harriet and Ida. The former is now the wife of Orny Flat, a farmer of Sadorus Township; Ida is still at home.

The third wife of our subject, to whom he was married Aug. 15, 1870, was formerly Miss Elizabeth, only child of John and Elizabeth Burkhart, of Kansas. They remained in that State until the summer of 1874, and then our subject returned with his family to Illinois, and moved into the house which he had left a few years before. He has been uniformly prosperous and is now the owner of 460 acres of fertile land, and prides himself upon the quality of his crops and live-stock. He has good grades of horses and cattle, although not devoting much time to fancy breeds.

Mrs. Elizabeth (Burkhart) Rock, after remaining the companion of her husband a few brief years, and becoming the mother of four children, departed this life in the spring of 1879. The offspring of this union were Bertie, John H., Lulu

and Maude, all of whom are at home with their father.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in the fall of 1883, was formerly Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. Nathan and Rebecca Griffen, of Sadorus. Mrs. R. was born in LaFayette County, Mo., in 1848. Our subject is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, but does not meddle with politics otherwise than to cast his vote at the elections. He has filled the offices of his township and is a man whose judgment is regarded with great deference. Nothing pleases him better than to observe the welfare and progress of his community morally, intellectually and financially. Mrs. Rock is a member of the Baptist Church, and a most estimable lady. The homestead is one of the attractive spots in Sadorus Township, a pleasant sight to the eye of the traveler, and a hospitable resort for the friends of the family, and we are pleased to present a lithographic view of it in this work.

DARIUS F. D. HINTON. For a period of over thirty-three years the subject of the following history has been a resident of Newcomb Township, having come here in the spring of 1854. He is the owner of 243 acres of choice land which he has cultivated with marked success, and has brought about the improvements required by the first-class agriculturist. He has a fine dwelling, a good barn and all necessary out-buildings, and in his operations as a grain and stock-raiser, ranks among the best farmers of this county. He comes of an excellent family, being the son of Michael and Rachel (Poffinbarger) Hinton, the former a native of Kentucky, of Scotch-Irish descent, the latter of Pennsylvania, and a descendant of substantial German ancestry. After marriage the parents of our subject located at Circleville, Ohio, whence they removed to Clinton County, Ind., and there spent the remainder of their days. Michael Hinton was a farmer by occupation and the parental household included six children.

Our subject was the third son and fourth child of his parents, and was born near Circleville, Pickaway Co., Ohio, June 22, 1831. He was about two years

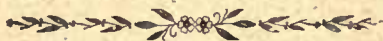


old when his parents removed to Indiana. He was reared on the farm and received a limited education in the public schools. He was trained to habits of industry, laid his plans early in life, and determined to secure for himself a comfortable home and a competency. In this he has succeeded, and his efforts have been conducted in that honest, upright way that has secured for him the confidence and respect of all who know him.

The marriage of Mr. Hinton took place in Clinton County, Ind., Oct. 22, 1851. The maiden of his choice was Miss Fannie, daughter of Samuel and Sarah (McNulty) Rowe, who were both natives of Ohio. The father died in Clinton County, Ind., in October, 1848, and the mother in Newcomb Township, this county, in December, 1863. Of their eight children six were daughters. Mrs. Hinton was the eldest daughter and third child, and was born in Ross County, Ohio, Jan. 22, 1833.

Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hinton, fourteen in number, nine lived to mature years, namely, Michael L., William A., Jordan F., Winfield S., Jeanette, Rosa B., Minerva, Charles W. and Thomas A. Michael married Miss Nancy Luster and resides in Newcomb Township; William, also a resident of Newcomb Township, married Miss Rosa Shoppell; Jordan married Miss Josie Parrett and lives in Newcomb Township. Our subject has been prominent in the affairs of his township, holding its minor offices, and politically is an uncompromising Democrat.

In presenting in the pictorial department of this ALBUM views of farm homesteads, it has been the object to select those of a representative character. Among these may be found a view of the residence and surroundings of Mr. Hinton.



WILLIAM WARTERS, who for the space of twenty-two years has occupied the pulpit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was also ordained Deacon in 1873, in addition to his ministerial duties, has still found time to engage in the occupation which he has always loved, namely, agriculture. One of the best regulated farms in Ayers Township belongs to him,

and consists of 160 acres on section 21. Here for thirteen years past he has watched the seasons come and go, and has taken satisfaction in tilling the soil and viewing the result of his labors. Of late years he has been giving much attention to sheep-growing, an industry which is too apt to be neglected in this State. Having a good understanding of the care and treatment of this particular stock, he has succeeded admirably, and is in possession of a very fine flock of high-grade Shropshire, to which each year is added a score or more, and from whose fleece he realizes a handsome sum annually.

The boyhood and youth of Mr. Warters were spent principally in Yorkshire, England, where his birth took place Dec. 2, 1823. His parents, Joseph and Jane (Robson) Warters, were natives of the same country. His father was born in 1793, was a farmer by occupation, and died in his native shire in 1864. The mother, born in 1803, died in Auburn, Ill., in December, 1866. Joseph Warters was a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and the mother of the primitive Methodist Episcopal Church. The household circle included fourteen children, of whom five came to America. While a resident of England, our subject was married to Miss Hannah Cooper (who was born there) March 16, 1850. Mrs. W. is the daughter of John and Ann (Cundill) Cooper, both now deceased. Her father, who was born in 1785, attained the patriarchal age of ninety-three years. The mother, born in 1800, died in 1843. The children of this household were Ann, Mary and Mason (twins), Baker, Hannah, Walker, Richard, William, Grace, Harriett, William M. and Jane.

After their marriage our subject and his wife first located in Morgan County, Ill., and in 1874 took possession of their present homestead. The household circle has been completed by the birth of eleven children, of whom the record is as follows: Jane A., the eldest daughter, married John Hodgson, of Morgan County, Ill.; Mary became the wife of William D. Darley; Joseph married Miss Sarah E. Hudson; Maria H. is unmarried, and at home with her parents; John C. married Miss Annie Miller; James H. remains under the parental roof; Sarah H. married William Hodgson; Grace R. died

when four years of age; William M., Thomas B. and Mathew. The latter died in infancy.

Mr. Warters has been prospered in his farming operations, while devoting a large share of his time to his pious offices. He has performed the marriage ceremony for quite a number of persons, and officiates as teacher in the Sunday-school whenever his services are required. He is of that temperament which appreciates everything good in nature and mankind, and is consequently taking much enjoyment in life while striving to fulfill its duties in a faithful and worthy manner.



HAMILTON WOODARD, a resident of the Prairie State since 1875, owns 200 acres of land located on sections 19 and 30, Homer Township, the major portion of which is under an advanced state of cultivation and where he is principally engaged in stock-growing. He is a native of Putnam County, Ind., born Feb. 6, 1829, and the son of James and Annie (Wells) Woodard, natives of Kentucky. The father, born in 1785, engaged in farming pursuits the greater part of his life and died in 1840, when fifty-five years of age. He served as a soldier in the War of 1812, being in the army six months, and escaped unharmed. He lived the life of a quiet and unobtrusive citizen, identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was always spoken of as a man enjoying the confidence and esteem of those who knew him. The mother of our subject, who was born in 1793, survived her husband thirty-four years, and departed this life in Vermillion County, Ind., in 1874. She never married after the death of Mr. Woodard. She also was a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and trained up her family in the moral and religious doctrines to which she had been reared. There were eight children in the parental household, four sons and four daughters: Mary A. married D. Loy; William married Miss Isabella Thompson; Enoch married Miss Sarah Hillits; Lucinda, Mrs. Prnett, lives in Indiana; Malinda became the wife of William Thomas; James H. married Miss Barbara Har-

land; Annie M. married Joseph McCrary; Hamilton of our sketch was the youngest child.

Our subject spent his early years on the farm of his parents and during a few winter seasons attended the pioneer schools. After reaching his majority he engaged in farming on his own account, remaining in his native county until 1875, and then coming into Homer Township, this county, purchased a tract of land which is now included in his present homestead. His estate now consists of 200 acres, furnished with good buildings, ample farm machinery and choice grades of cattle and horses. His possessions are the result of his own industry and perseverance, as he started out in life with little capital, save his willing hands and resolute spirit. Notwithstanding his business cares he has always found sufficient time to look after the interests of his township and community, and has always been the encourager and supporter of every worthy enterprise. He identified himself with the United Brethren Church early in life, but afterward united with the Methodists, and rendered material aid in the erection of their building at Lost Grove, of which he is one of the Trustees, and which was built at a cost of \$2,000. He is a strong temperance man and Republican in politics.

One of the events which had much to do with shaping the future course of Mr. Woodard was his marriage, when twenty years of age, with Miss Nancy Bagwell, which took place on the 11th of December, 1849, at the home of the bride's parents in Parke County, Ind., Rev. Low of the Methodist Episcopal Church officiating. Mrs. W. is a native of Parke County, Ind., born Aug. 14, 1831, and the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Martin) Bagwell, natives of South Carolina. They removed to Indiana soon after their marriage, in the pioneer days.

William Bagwell was born in 1796, followed the occupation of a farmer, and died in Parke County, Ind., March 6, 1873. His wife, Elizabeth, who was born in 1798, survived her husband seven years, her decease taking place on the old homestead in Parke County, June 9, 1880. Both parents were of German ancestry, and the mother a devout member of the United Brethren Church. The thirteen children of the parental household were named re-

spectively, Rebecca A., Matilda J., John M., Nancy, Minerva, Euphemia, Vira E., Mary A., Sarah, Lovina F., Rivanah, Margaret who died in childhood, and James when sixteen years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Woodard have nine children living, namely, John M., James W., Anna E., Harvey H., Lucinda L., Charles N., Martha E., Barbara A. and Cora F. Those deceased are Christopher C., who departed this life July 6, 1876; Nancy J., Aug. 31, 1873, and Mary A., Dec. 1, 1866. The children are mostly settled in homes of their own not far from the farm of their father. They have been carefully trained and are well educated, presenting a group of which the parents may be pardoned in taking much pride.



GEORGE EDWARDS, a leading farmer and stock-raiser of Philo Township, is a native of Shropshire, England, and was born April 6, 1833. His father, George, and his grandfather, John Edwards, were both born and reared in Shropshire, where the latter died when ninety years of age. His wife was formerly Miss Sarah Williams. George Edwards, Sr., married Miss Anna Hollis, of his native shire, who was also of English birth and parentage. They became the parents of seven children, and came to the United States in about 1842. They located in Van Buren County, Iowa, where three years later the mother died. A son and daughter had been born in Iowa. The father is yet living, and a resident of Peoria County, Ill., being seventy-eight years of age. Mr. Edwards' grandparents on his mother's side were Joseph and Hannah Hollis.

After the death of his mother, young Edwards made his home with a family by the name of Slaughter, with whom he remained until sixteen years of age, and then set out to seek his fortune. Coming to this State he engaged as a farm laborer and saved what he could of his earnings. His industry and honesty secured for him warm friends on every side, and in 1854 he felt justified in taking to himself a wife and helpmeet. This was Miss Susie Endres, and their wedding took place on the 2d of May, 1854. Mrs. Edwards was born in Bal-

timore, Md., May 27, 1836, and is the youngest child of John and Elizabeth (Deem) Endres. Her mother was first married to a Mr. Myers who, like herself, was a native of Baden, Germany. Mr. Endres in his youth learned the trade of a shoemaker, and came to the United States early in 1833, locating in Baltimore, where he established in business and built up a good trade, employing finally as many as sixteen journeymen.

The Endres family removed from Maryland to Illinois in 1841, locating in Brimfield, Peoria County, when it was but a hamlet. Mr. Endres was the pioneer shoemaker of the town. Later he removed to Kickapoo Township, where he purchased a farm which he operated in connection with his trade, and died there when forty-seven years of age, on the 14th of February, 1853. Mrs. Endres survived her husband for a period of twenty-six years, dying in the fall of 1879, when seventy-six years of age. She was connected with the Lutheran Church, while the father was a Catholic.

Mrs. Edwards remained under the home roof until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there have been born ten children, of whom the record is as follows: Annie E. is at home with her parents; John A. married Miss Cordelia Derrough, and is a successful farmer of Philo Township; Ruth is the wife of Orville B. Lindley, and lives in Philo Township; Frank C., who married Laura B. Wingfield, lives in Philo; Nellie B., with her husband, John B. Elliott, resides in Elmwood, Cass Co., Neb., where Mr. E. is carrying on a trade in agricultural implements; James L., Minnie M., Albert H. and Edward W. are at home; George William is deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwards after their marriage lived in Rosefield Township, Peoria Co., Ill., until 1865. He then sold his farm there and purchased eighty acres on section 18, in Philo Township, this county. To this he added a like amount and has now a fine farm in a good state of cultivation. This was originally railroad land and had never been cultivated when Mr. Edwards took possession of it. Its present fine improvements are the result of his own industry and energy. He is highly respected by his fellow-townsmen, and has occupied the various offices within their gift. Politically, he affiliates with the

Democratic party, and religiously, with his excellent wife, is a member in good standing of the Episcopal Church.

A lithographic view of Mr. Edwards' residence is shown on another page.

JAMES UMBENHOWER, the "village blacksmith" of Homer, is a natural mechanic of more than ordinary ability, and unquestionably an expert in his chosen calling. Early in life he engaged in farming pursuits, but became considerably discouraged on account of having his crops cut off by the big frost of 1863, at which time he lost much of his year's labor. The following spring he abandoned the farm and moved into Homer, where he has since resided. He is noted among his neighbors for his industry, and has a snug little property consisting of a handsome residence and two lots, besides the property connected with his business.

The subject of this sketch is a native of Homer Township, and was born July 24, 1837. He is the son of James and Elizabeth (Safely) Umbenhower, who were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and of substantial German ancestry. James Umbenhower was born in 1810, followed farming as an occupation, and died upon the homestead where he had labored many years, in 1861. His wife, Elizabeth, was born in 1812, and is still living, being about seventy-five years of age. She has remained a widow since the death of her husband. Mr. U. was a man of much force of character, fairly successful in a business point of view, and took a genuine interest in State and National affairs, giving his support to the Democratic party. Eight of the ten children comprising the parental household were named respectively Mary J., James W., Margaret A., Elizabeth, Francis M., Eleanora, Newton and John V. Two died unnamed in infancy.

James Umbenhower remained under the parental roof until reaching manhood, learning his trade early in life, and two years after reaching his majority was married to Miss Nancy I. Foreman, their wedding occurring on the 23d of February, 1860. The wife of our subject was born in 1841,

and is the daughter of Thomas and Mississippi (Casterline) Foreman, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Illinois. The father died many years ago. The mother is still living, making her home in Homer Township on her farm of ninety-eight acres. The brothers and sisters of Mrs. Umbenhower were Margaret, Benjamin C., John, Sarah A., Susan, Elizabeth, Matilda, Naney, Deliverance, Martha, Amos and Flora. Sarah, Elizabeth and Matilda are deceased; Amos lives in Kansas; Deliverance in California, and others in Illinois. Our subject and his wife united with the Christian Church in 1878, and politically Mr. U. is decidedly Democratic.

JESSE FLEMING, senior member of the firm of Fleming & Conant, is, with his partner, carrying on a profitable hardware trade in Champaign City, of which he has been a resident for a period of thirty years. During this length of time the excellent traits of his character have become thoroughly known to his fellow-citizens, by whom he is held in universal esteem. Our subject is a native of Loudoun County, Va., born Aug. 24, 1824, and is the son of Joseph and Jane E. (Middleton) Fleming, both also natives of the Old Dominion. Joseph Fleming was a stonemason by trade, and was never absent from his native State for more than one year, during which time he was a resident of Ohio. He was a man of much force of character, possessed of strong views, and fearless in the expression of them. He took pride in the fact that he was a genuine Jackson Democrat, and after a goodly and upright life closed his eyes finally at the home of a daughter in Ohio. The mother afterward came to Illinois, and from 1863 until her death, twelve years later, resided with her son, our subject.

Jesse Fleming was reared on a farm, and when seventeen years old commenced to learn the carpenter's trade, in Ohio, to which State he had removed with his parents when a lad eight years of age. He continued in the Buckeye State, following his trade, for ten or twelve years, and in 1856 came to this county, where he engaged as a con-

tractor and builder until 1884. He then invested his capital in a stock of hardware, in the trade of which he has been occupied since that time. He has watched with interest the progress and development of his adopted county, and taken a genuine interest in everything pertaining to its prosperity.

Mr. Fleming was married, in Effingham County, this State, in 1865, to Mrs. Matilda (Havens) Maxwell. Of this union there have been born three children—Clara J., Edith A. and Olive. The family residence is located at No. 13 University avenue. Mr. F. and his excellent lady during their long residence have gathered around them a large circle of warm friends, who comprise the best people of the city and county. Our subject is Republican in politics and a Spiritualist in faith.

ARMSTRONG B. SMITH, is one of the successful and progressive farmers and stock-growers of Urbana Township. He is the third son of Jacob and Margaret (Beattie) Smith, and was born in Urbana Township, March 7, 1848. His parents were both natives of Kentucky, but removed to Champaign County in about 1840, and located on a farm near Urbana, where their son Armstrong was born and reared. When seven years of age, Armstrong was orphaned by the death of his father and consequently started out early in life to care for himself. He attended the district school, and later continued his education at the College of St. Joseph in Missouri. Returning home he engaged in farming for himself, and in 1877 was married to Miss Mary E. Fitch, the daughter of Theodore Fitch, residing in this county, but formerly of Indiana, where Mrs. Smith was born.

After his marriage Mr. Smith settled on the Jane F. Roe farm, which he conducted successfully. Remaining there until 1883, he removed to his present farm, located on section 11, Urbana Township. This place contains 106 acres, which, together with another purchase, makes in all 300 acres of choice land. He raises the finest breeds of cattle, horses and hogs. Every year he sells some fifty head of cattle. He keeps most of his stock on the Roe

farm, which is well watered and in every respect adapted for the purpose. He devotes about sixty acres to raising wheat. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have two children living, Ralph and Charlie, and one died in infancy. Mr. Smith is active and energetic, and interested in all the public affairs of the county.

PHILIP CARPER, who was reared on a farm in Holmes County, Ohio, became a resident of the Prairie State in 1858. He came to Scott Township in December, 1883, where he has since lived, and is now the owner of 377 acres of valuable land on section 17. His farm lies near the limits of Seymour, and invariably attracts attention by its fine buildings and general air of thrift and prosperity. Mr. C. has been uniformly successful in his undertakings in life, owing to his enterprise, industry and good judgment, and is one of the influential and highly respected citizens of this county.

Mr. Carper was born Sept. 9, 1834, and is the son of Adam and Ann E. (Cobler) Carper, natives of Pennsylvania. The parents were married in Holmes County, Ohio, where they remained a few years, and whence they went into De Kalb County, Ind., where they located and spent the remainder of their days. Their family consisted of ten children. Philip, of our sketch, remained in his native State until ten years of age, then went with his parents to De Kalb County, Ind., remaining there until he was twenty-two years old. He received a practical school education, and engaged alternately in farming and teaching for about sixteen years after becoming of age. Upon leaving Indiana he came into De Witt County, this State, where he farmed on rented land for a period of six years, and finally purchased 168 acres in Colfax Township, this county, of which he took possession in February, 1869. He occupied this until December, 1883, when he became a resident of Scott Township.

Mr. Carper was married, in De Witt County, this State, Aug. 7, 1862, to Miss Harriet R., daughter of Eusebins and Hannah S. (Martin) Cresap. The parents of Mrs. Carper, who were natives of Mary-

land, after their marriage removed to Wyandot County, Ohio, and thence, in 1850, to De Witt County, Ill., where the mother died in about 1861. Her father afterward became a resident of Scott Township, this county, where his decease occurred at his home in 1877. Mrs. C. was the fourth of six children born to her parents, and is a native of Wyandot County, Ohio, her birth taking place Oct. 24, 1840.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of twelve children, as follows: Daniel W., Ida V., Eusebius F., Elizabeth A., Cleora, George W., Phillip M., Eugene G., Ulysses S., Lovona C., Guy E. and Homer V. Daniel and Ida are engaged in teaching. Mrs. Carper is a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject politically is a staunch supporter of Republican principles.

ISAAC H. ABRAMS, who has been a resident of Champaign County since the spring of 1862, is now comfortably located on section 10, Scott Township, where he owns eighty acres of choice land and a tasteful and substantial set of farm buildings. He has also around him an interesting family and is surrounded by the comforts of life, the result of his own energy and industry. Our subject is the son of James and Hannah (Hartpence) Abrams, natives of New Jersey, who located in Hamilton County, Ohio, after their marriage. In 1829 they removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind., where they spent the remainder of their days. James Abrams followed farming all his life.

The parental household included six children, three boys and three girls. Of these, Isaac, of our sketch, was the fifth in order of birth. He was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., March 11, 1832, and spent his childhood and youth upon the farm. Upon coming to this county in 1862, when thirty years of age, he settled first in Mahomet Township, where he operated on rented land for two years and at the expiration of that time took possession of his present property in Scott Township.

Mr. Abrams was married in Christian County, Ind., in 1857, to Miss Martha McKee, a native of

Ohio, and they became the parents of seven children, named, John C., James O., Lenora H., Samuel H., Charles E. and Sarah J. Joseph M. died when about sixteen years old. John married Miss Viola Jacobs, and is farming in Scott Township. Our subject politically, is a decided Republican and has held the office of School Director besides being otherwise connected with local affairs. Both he and his excellent wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

LORING H. PORTER, with his wife and family of nine children, constitute an interesting group, occupying a pleasant little homestead on section 8, Somer Township. This embraces eighty acres of good land, supplied with neat and substantial buildings, moderately stocked with good grades of animals, the land all neatly fenced and at present being still further improved with tile drainage. In addition to mixed husbandry Mr. Porter has gained quite an enviable reputation as a stock-breeder, operating mostly in horses and cattle.

Mr. Porter is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Gallia County, Nov. 5, 1845, and is the son of John D. and Mary A. (Hanger) Porter, also natives of Ohio, the father born Oct. 6, 1819, and still living, his home being in Clarks, Neb. The marriage of the parents took place in 1843. Two of their nine children are deceased, namely, Luther and Eddie. Those surviving are George P., Laura E., Charles S., William F., Emily S., Edith A., and Loring H. of our sketch. The latter passed his boyhood and youth upon the farm, attending the district school in the winter season. While a resident of his native State, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary M. Philbrook, their wedding taking place at the home of the bride's parents on the 6th of April, 1871. Mrs. Porter is a native of the same State as her husband, and was born April 29, 1849. Her parents, Barnabas and Mary (Smith) Philbrook, natives of Ohio, in about 1869 removed from that State to Illinois and are now residents of Champaign County. The six living children of the household were named respectively Mary M., James B., Cyrus W., Annie M., John C. and Al-

bery. One died in infancy unnamed. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Porter are Mary E., Edwin P., Robert L., Bertha E., Cora L., Luther A., Arthur C., Annie L. and Fred G.

Mr. Porter came to this State with his parents in 1859, and in 1865 located near where he now lives. He took possession of his present home in 1872. During a period of nearly thirty years our subject has watched with interest the rapid growth of the Prairie State, and although not the hero perhaps of any remarkable events, has pursued the even tenor of his way as an honest man and a good citizen, performing as he had opportunity those duties tending to the encouragement of morality and religion. Both our subject and his wife are connected with the Baptist Church, and Mr. P. has served as School Director and Postmaster, casting his political influence with the Republican party.

THOMAS HARMESON. The subject of this biography, a representative farmer of Ogden Township, has a fine estate of 360 acres of land, with a handsome residence and other suitable buildings on section 21, besides seventeen acres of timber. The balance is laid out in pasture and grain fields which, under the careful supervision of the proprietor, who superintends their care and cultivation, present a beautiful picture during the summer season of peaceful country life, where plenty reigns and where thrift and intelligence are the distinctive features.

Mr. Harmeson became a resident of the Prairie State in 1852, locating at once upon the land included in his present homestead. He is a native of Marion County, Ohio, born April 10, 1829, and the son of William and Elizabeth (Farnsworth) Harmeson, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Ohio. William Harmeson was born in 1802, and followed farming as an occupation, and during the latter years of his life made his home in Homer Township, this county, where he rested from his earthly labors in 1876. He was Democratic in politics, and religiously a hard-shell Baptist. The mother was born in 1811, and died twenty years before the death of her husband, in 1856. She was

a member of the German-Baptist Church, and a lady of strong character, who impressed upon her children the strictest moral principles, and a rigid honesty and integrity, which formed the basis of their character in after life. The household was completed by the birth of twelve children, all, with one exception, living to mature years. They were named respectively, Isaiah, John, Thomas, Robert, William, Nancy, Elizabeth, Sarah J., Esther A., Alvira, Washington M., and one who died in infancy.

The life of young Harmeson began on the farm, and he has continued in the midst of rural scenes since his first introduction to the busy world. He remained under the home roof until after reaching his majority, occupied with his father and brothers in sowing and reaping, and the varied employments incident to life upon the farm. On the 10th of April, 1851, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Perkins, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride's parents, in Madison County, Ind., where Mrs. H. was born Oct. 21, 1832. She was the daughter of George and Agnes (Allen) Perkins, who spent the greater part of their lives in Indiana. The mother died in 1885, in Clark County, Ill., where the father is still living, being seventy-nine years of age, and making his home with his son Henry. The brothers and sisters of Mrs. Harmeson, twelve in number, were Melissa, Matilda, Sarah Ann, Jane, John, Burke, Henry, Frank, Lucinda, Lydia, Susan and Adam.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Harmeson went to housekeeping on a farm in Indiana, where our subject attended to the outdoor work, and the wife faithfully performed her share inside. In due time there came a third member into the family, who was followed by twelve more, and to whom were given the names of William P., Albert F., George W., John A., Agnes S., Charles C., Robert L., Cynthia A., Celia A., Mary E., Fannie, Noah and Lydia. Agnes S., Charles C. and Mary E. are deceased. The eldest son, William, is married and has three children; his wife was formerly Miss Mary Shreeves; Albert married Miss Mary E. Gordon, and they became the parents of one child, who died young; George W. married Miss Effie R. Biggs.

In addition to the ordinary employments of mixed husbandry Mr. Harmeson has of late years

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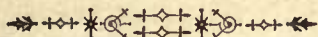


W. W. May



Mr C Starnes

given considerable attention to the raising of fine stock. Politically he affiliates with the Democratic party, and in his religious tendencies adheres to the German-Baptist doctrines. Mrs. Harmeson died of quick consumption on the 30th of August, 1886. She was a lady of much personal worth, and had been connected with the German-Baptist Church for a period of sixteen years.



MATHEW E. STAMEY. In Hensley Township, located on section 36, the farm of our subject invariably attracts the attention of the passer-by as the home of peace and plenty, whose foundations were laid in the pioneer days, and whose inmates are now surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of modern life. The subject of this history learned in early years those habits of industry and economy which have proved the success of his later life. He commenced in a modest way to do for himself, and after years of persevering labor, now finds himself the owner of 825 acres of valuable land, furnished with a handsome and substantial set of farm buildings, and all the appliances required by the intelligent and progressive modern agriculturist. This, of course, has involved an outlay of thousands of dollars, but the result has fully justified the expenditure. The farm of Mr. Stamey is acknowledged by all to be one of the most attractive spots in this section, and its proprietor is held in the highest respect for his excellent qualities as a citizen and a business man. To such men as he is this county indebted for the position which she now holds in one of the wealthiest States in the Union. He has, by his own enterprise and energy, encouraged those elements in others, and the whole working together, have brought about the result which we see all over this beautiful stretch of country.

Mr. Stamey was born in what is now Somer Township, this county, Nov. 16, 1835. His father, Elias Stamey, a native of North Carolina, was of German and Irish ancestry. The latter grew to manhood in his native State, of which he remained a resident until 1832. In that year, while still a

single man, he started for the West overland on horseback, and landed in this county. Liking the outlook, which gave evidence of good things for the future if the soil were properly cultivated and the country settled up by a good class of people, he concluded to tarry. Not long afterward he was united in marriage with Miss Drusilla, daughter of Mathew E. Busey, also one of the pioneers of the county. The young couple lived for a time in Somer Township, whence they removed to Urbana Township, settling upon a tract of land which the father of Mrs. Stamey had given them, and where the death of Elias Stamey occurred, in 1845. His family included four children, namely, Mathew E. of our sketch; Daniel W., who is now a resident of Rantoul Township; James W., on the old homestead, and John C. in Rantoul. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Stamey kept her family together until they were old enough to provide for themselves. She still resides at the old homestead, respected by all who know her.

The subject of our sketch was three years old when his parents became residents of Urbana Township. His early education was conducted in the pioneer log school-house, with its puncheon floor and slabs for seats and writing-desks, with its huge fireplace, mud and stick chimney, and the excuse for a window, which was formed by cutting out one log. This building stood on the land of Grandfather Busey, and the system of education was conducted by a teacher who corresponded with all the other appliances, in point of erudition at least. Afterward our subject attended school a part of the time at Urbana, and being ambitious to learn, secured a very good education for those days. He made his home with his mother until his marriage. After reaching his majority, she presented him with a tract of land in Hensley Township, which he cultivated and improved, and which constitutes a part of his present homestead. After his marriage he located on this place, which he has now brought to a fine state of cultivation, and raises the best crops in this section. His stock is all of good breeds, and the farm machinery is of the most modern and improved style.

The marriage of Mr. Stamey took place in the spring of 1865, the lady of his choice being Miss

Ida O. Gray, who was born in Pennsylvania. Of this union there was one child, a son, named William. Mrs. Ida O. Stamey departed this life at the home of her husband in January, 1872. Mr. Stamey was the second time married, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary, the daughter of Levi and Jane Broshair, born in Indiana Oct. 26, 1851. Of this union there have been born three children—Frank, Belle and Daisy.

Formerly Mr. Stamey voted with the Democratic party, but considers that he has had reason to change his views, and is now a stanch adherent of Republicanism. Mrs. Stamey is a lady who is greatly respected in her community, and a worthy member of the Congregational Church. In addition to his property interests in this State, Mr. Stamey owns 4,500 acres of land in Louisiana and 280 acres in Florida.

The portrait of Mr. Stamey, given on a contiguous page, occupies its rightful place among the pictured lineaments of the honored men by whose labors the wilderness has been made to blossom as the rose, and under whose management a once wild stretch of prairie has been transformed into the "Garden State."

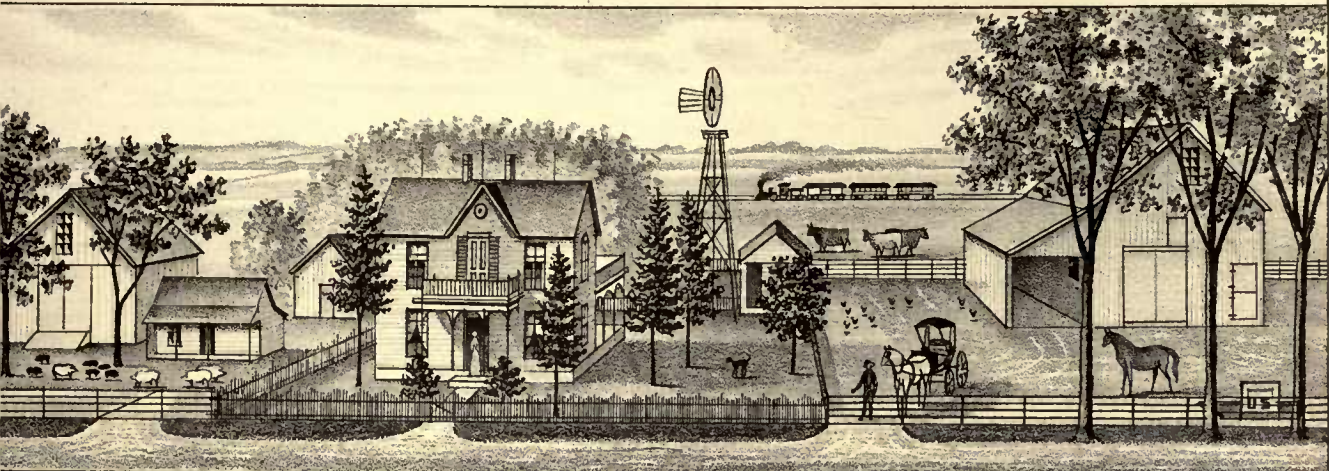


WILLIAM M. WAY, retired capitalist, has been a resident of this county since 1861, and has assisted materially in building up its agricultural and industrial interests. His life has been one of great activity, and as the result of many years energetically engaged in agricultural and mercantile pursuits, he has become the possessor of a handsome competency. At the same time, by his conscientious and upright methods, he has won for himself the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

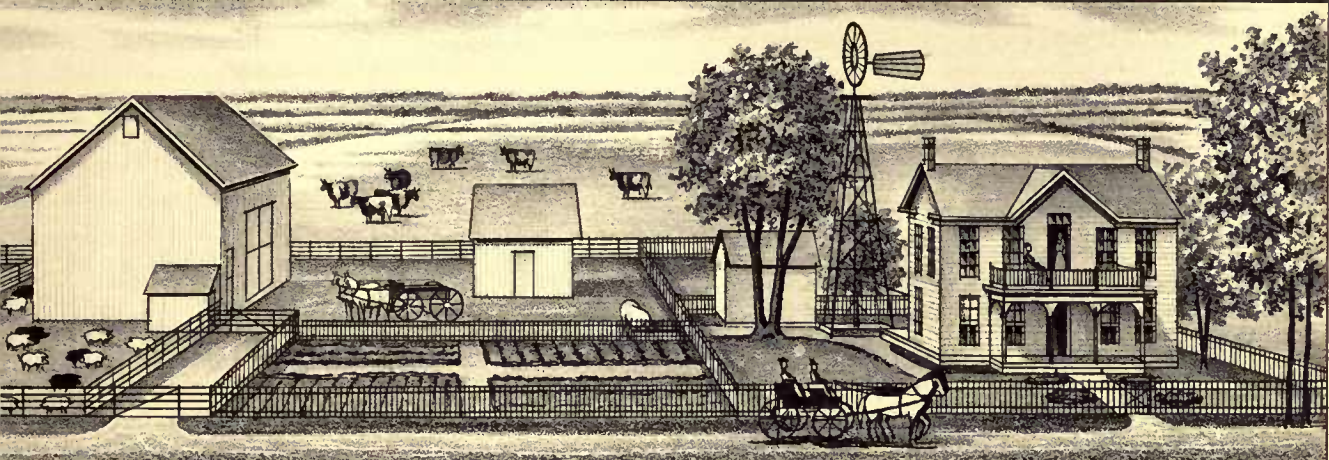
Mr. Way is a native of South Carolina, and was born in Marlboro County, Jan. 18, 1810. He is the son of Paul W. and Achsah (Moorman) Way, who were natives of that State. In 1815 Paul Way secured a tract of land on White River, Ind., which lay in what was called the Twelve-Mile Purchase, where he erected a log cabin, and in

1816 removed there with his family. The trip was made overland, and occupied three months. Their outfit consisted of a large Virginia wagon and three span of horses. They saw plenty of Indians along the route, a part of which lay through the towns scattered along the White River. Mr. Way was a man of great energy and business ability, and his talents were at once recognized by the pioneer settlers. He had been fairly educated, and was often employed as a surveyor in the new country, among his labors being the survey of the first State road which ran from Greenfield, Ohio, to Indianapolis, Ind., and which was the second laid off by the State. His land, which was 320 acres in extent, was mostly heavy timber. Of this he cleared eighty acres, and lived there until his removal to Winchester, Ind., where he spent the remaining years of his life. In this latter place he was employed as one of the County Agents for surveying, laying out lots and making deeds. He also held the offices of Postmaster, and Justice of the Peace for many years. The parental household included four children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the only survivor.

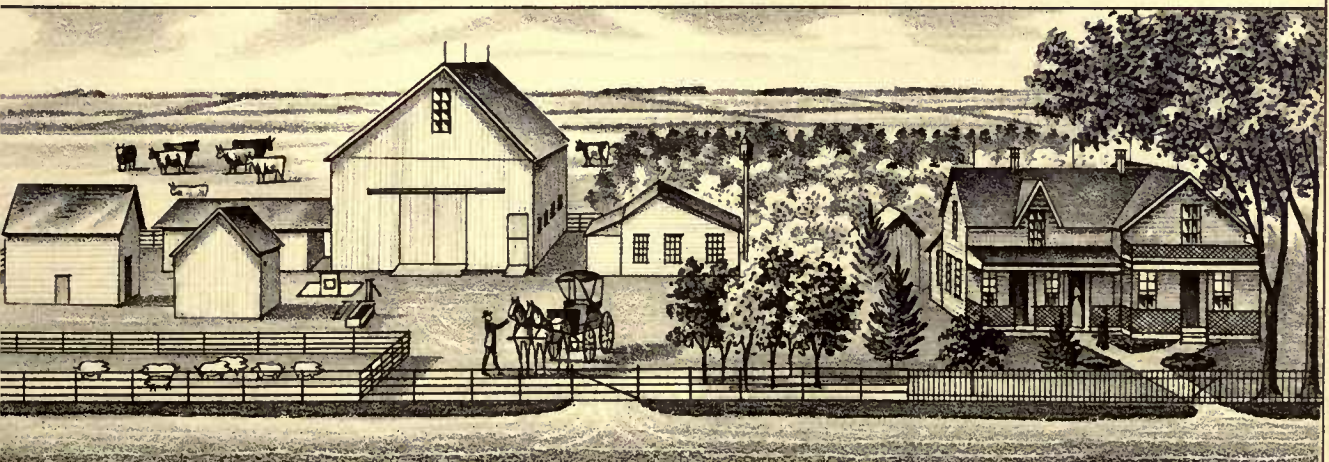
Young Way began life for himself, first as clerk in a store at Winchester, and remained a resident of that vicinity until the spring of 1861. He inherited, in a marked degree, the business talents of his father, and through his own exertions had obtained a useful fund of information in regard to general business matters. He began the accumulation of land, and as years passed on, dealt largely in live-stock. In 1847 he was appointed by the State Legislature, Director, Solicitor and Collector of the building of the Indianapolis Railroad, which ran from that city to Bellefontaine, Ohio. Prior to becoming a resident of this county he had purchased 268 acres of land in Homer Township. This he afterward traded for a farm of 217½ acres in Vermilion County. He also bought other lands, and in 1853 was the owner of 2,000 acres near Des Moines, Iowa. He also interested himself in city property, and many of the buildings of Champaign, with other improvements which he brought about, stand as silent witnesses of his enterprise and generosity. He was one of the original stockholders and organizers of the First National Bank of Cham-



RESIDENCE OF A .W. STRONG ,SEC.17. ST. JOSEPH TP.



RESIDENCE OF E.S. FISHER ,SEC.17,(T-19-N.). OGDEN TP.



RESIDENCE OF J.J. MUMM ,SEC. 20 ,SIDNEY TP.

paign, and there are few worthy enterprises which he has not encouraged by his means and influence.

The marriage of William M. Way and Miss Phebe Wright was celebrated in Winchester, Ind., in 1830. Mrs. W. was the daughter of Hon. J. B. and Elizabeth (Stephens) Wright, natives respectively of Virginia and Pennsylvania. In 1816 they removed to Indiana and purchased a tract of land, a part of which is now occupied by the little city of Winchester. Of this Mr. Wright contributed fifty acres for the purpose of securing Winchester as the county seat of Randolph County. He also opened up a fine farm, and became a citizen of note in that locality. He was the first Representative of Randolph County to the State Legislature, in which he served three terms, and was afterward elected County Treasurer. He removed from Indiana to Illinois in 1830, first locating in Vermilion County, whence he afterward came to this county, and died in 1869. Of their nine children four are now living, namely, Mrs. William Way, Hon. James S., Rebecca, Mrs. Butler, and Mrs. Swearingen.

Mr. Way uniformly casts his vote in support of Republican principles. The residence of our subject and his amiable wife is pleasantly located on East Clark street, Champaign, and they enjoy the society of the best people of the city.

A fine lithographic portrait of Mr. Way is presented as a proper accompaniment of this brief outline of his life.

JAMES KARR, Jr., is prosperously engaged with his partner, Robert Johnston, in the grain and stock business at Seymour, which they established in 1882. He has been a resident of Champaign County since two years of age, where he pursued his primary studies, which were completed in the University at Valparaiso, Ind. He was attentive to his books, and after completing his university course employed his evenings in study, and afterward taught school seven years in Ford and Champaign Counties.

Our subject is the son of James and Esther Karr. His mother was formerly the widow of George Johnston, and both parents were born in

Ireland, where their marriage also took place. They soon afterward emigrated to America, and the mother died near Mahomet, this county, in about 1863. James Karr, Sr., is still living, and a resident of Colfax Township.

James Karr, Jr., was married at Bondville, Ill., July 22, 1885, to Miss Laura Cade, a native of Illinois, and the daughter of Simon and Sarah A. (Ashcroft) Cade, the former a native of England, and the latter of America. Their family consisted of seven children—Ezra, Albert, Ella, Laura, Frank, Charles and Ida. Mr. and Mrs. Karr have but one child, Ella. Our subject affiliates with the Republican party, and socially is a member of Lodge No. 597, I. O. O. F.



MILES SUNDERLAND. The subject of the following biography is one of the finest representatives of a class of foreign-born citizens, who, in years gone by, brought the thrift and energy, which was their only heritage in their native land, to this country with its great possibilities, and have accomplished the best results in their application under the influence of American institutions. Mr. Sunderland is a native of Wexford County, Ireland, born in 1837, and spent his early years in the land which gave him birth. His father died when he was a lad six years old, and with the exception of the limited time spent in school, he was principally engaged in assisting his widowed mother on their farm.

There were six children in the parental family, namely, John, Margaret, Ann, Miles, Thomas and James. When our subject became of age, being deeply desirous of bettering his condition, and as a possible result, being of some service to his mother's family, he left them in charge of an elder brother, and setting sail at Liverpool started for the land which promised so much to the enterprising emigrant. The voyage was made in a sailing-vessel, and after nine weeks spent on the ocean, he landed in New York City on the 4th of April, 1856. From there he proceeded directly westward to Aurora, Ill., and after arriving found he had a cash capital of \$5 with which to commence life in the

New World. His frank, open countenance, and his evident energy and industry soon procured him a situation, and he engaged with the C., B. & Q. R. R. Co. After a short time, however, he left the railroad for a farm, where he received \$20 per month during the harvest season.

In September, 1860, Mr. Sunderland went to New Orleans, where he engaged as a contractor, building levees, and remained there until the September following, when he was driven out by the rebels because he would not join them. He being at that time a British subject, they could not press him into service. He went to Chicago, thence to Aurora, Ill., and after being variously employed for years, and by the strictest economy having secured a little capital, he commenced dealing in stock, buying and selling and increasing his transactions gradually, until he had built up quite a good business in this line. His operations were principally carried on in Kane County, where he continued until the spring of 1868, and then decided to change his location and business.

Our subject accordingly came into this county, arriving in Rantoul on the 17th of May, and purchased 160 acres of land in Compromise Township. He at once broke sixty acres of this, upon which he sowed wheat, and after its harvest in the fall, there being a good opportunity to sell, he availed himself of it and moved upon a tract of land which he entered the following year. In the fall of 1869 he purchased 160 acres in the same township, which he occupied five years, then sold and purchased a like amount. This he cultivated for three years following, then sold this also, renting the succeeding two years, and in the fall of 1880 purchased his present farm. This contains 240 acres on section 6, of some of the choicest land in Compromise Township. It is finely improved, thoroughly drained with tile, and supplied with a good set of modern farm buildings.

Having no one to look after but himself, Mr. Sunderland, after occupying his farm a year and getting it into good running condition, placed it in the hands of a tenant and retired from active labor. He is now taking life easy, boarding at the Central House at Clifford, and takes his exercise nearly every day in the shape of a walk to his farm.

He is continually making improvements, and watches with an observant eye everything about the place, insisting upon having all kept in first-class condition. He is of that genial temperament which has secured him hosts of friends, and is a general favorite with all classes. In religious faith he adheres to the belief of his parents, and is a member of Penfield Catholic Church. He votes with the Democratic party. The only member of his father's family in this country is a brother who lives in Kerr Township, this county.

The parents of our subject were Patrick and Catherine (Durrrix) Sunderland. The mother followed her husband to her long home in 1875, having passed her entire life in her native land. In 1876 Mr. Sunderland made a trip to his native land, where he spent one year, visiting old friends and the scenes of his childhood. By his industry and energy, he has accumulated a property valued at about \$20,000.

EDWARD FRY, who is pleasantly located on section 24, Scott Township, is the son of Theodore and Lucy A. (Dryer) Fry, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. He was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., Oct. 14, 1848, spent his childhood and youth on his father's farm, and received a fair education in the common schools. When seventeen years of age he visited Champaign County, and three years later took possession of eighty acres in Scott Township, which has remained his homestead since that time. His land is finely improved and yields in abundance the rich crops of the Prairie State. He has a fine dwelling and all other necessary buildings for the carrying on of the farm in a first-class manner.

Mr. Fry was married in Champaign Township Sept. 1, 1869, to Miss Charlotte A. Crosier, who was born in Clermont County, Ohio, May 11, 1850, and is the daughter of Nicholas and Eliza (Bog-gess) Crosier, natives of New Jersey and Ohio respectively. Her parents after their marriage settled in Clermont County, Ohio, where the father died in 1875. The mother is in Hodgeman County, Kan. Mr. and Mrs. Fry became the parents of

four children—H. B., Fannie B., Lucy M. and Effie A. The latter died Sept. 8, 1885, when two years of age.

Our subject and his wife are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the support of which they contribute liberally and cheerfully, and politically Mr. F. votes the Republican ticket. He has served as School Director in his township, and been the encourager and supporter of every object calculated to increase the prosperity and welfare of his community.



ALBERT R. PRATT. The subject of the following sketch occupies a prominent position in the farming community of Champaign Township, where he has a snug homestead located on section 9, a view of which will be found on another page. He is a native of the Old Granite State, and was born in Nashua, Hillsboro County, Sept. 19, 1842. His parents were Dura D. and Mary (Raymond) Pratt, the former a native of Marlboro, Vt., and the latter of Mt. Vernon, N. H.

Dura D. Pratt was reared on a farm in his native county, but when a young man learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner. Beyond serving his apprenticeship, however, he did nothing at his trade. He was of a deeply religious turn of mind and had become a member of the Baptist Church in his youth. While working as a carpenter he employed his leisure time in the study of theology, and when twenty-six years of age commenced preaching at Nashua, where he was soon installed as pastor of the Baptist Church, remaining thus for a period of about twenty-three years and until his death, which occurred in 1855. The mother is still living, and resides with her daughter, Harriett S., in Chicago. Of the four children comprising the parental family, Albert R. was the eldest; Mary became the wife of George C. Urann, and lives in Penacook, N. H.; George D. died in Burlington, Vt., when twenty-one years of age; Harriett S. is unmarried, and lives in Chicago.

Albert R. Pratt was but thirteen years old when his father died. He was educated in the district

school and lived in the town of Nashua until 1868. While not in school he was engaged in agricultural pursuits on the farm which his mother had purchased after becoming a widow. In 1868 he came to Champaign County, and purchased 120 acres of land near Mahomet, which he occupied three years. Subsequently he purchased 160 acres in Colfax Township, upon which he removed and lived until 1881, when he purchased the farm in Champaign Township which he now owns and occupies. His land is in a good state of cultivation and supplied with a handsome and substantial set of frame buildings. Everything about the homestead is kept in first-class order and evinces on all hands the thrift and intelligence of the proprietor.

The marriage of our subject occurred on the 31st of May, 1870, the lady of his choice being Miss Rose Barber, who was born in England, Nov. 15, 1849. Her parents, Benjamin and Eliza (Bower) Barber, both natives of England, came to America in 1852, when the wife of our subject was a child but three years old. They located first in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, near the city of Cleveland, where Mr. B. was first employed on a farm, but soon afterward rented a tract of land, the cultivation of which he carried on until 1858. In the spring of that year he came to this county, settling first in Champaign Township. Afterward he purchased a farm in Mahomet Township, where he remained a resident for nearly twenty years, and thence removed to Scott Township in about 1876, where he still resides. He is the owner of 212 acres of improved land and is numbered among the first-class citizens of that locality.

Mrs. Eliza Barber was born in England in about 1823 and lived with her parents until about twenty years of age, when she became the wife of Benjamin Barber. Of their union there were born eleven children, eight now living, as follows: Thirza E., Alfred C., Rosanna, Sarah, Samuel, William M., Frederick J. and Mary. Thirza is the wife of Freeman Adams, of Nashua, N. H.; Alfred C. married Miss Louisa Peters, and is farming in Colfax Township, this county; Rosanna became the wife of our subject, and resides in Champaign Township; Sarah, Mrs. Samuel Fox, lives with her husband in Kansas; William M. married Miss Hattie Kemp,

and is a resident of Kansas; Frederick married Miss Ella Wright, and they occupy a farm in Mahomet Township; Mary, Mrs. Asa Franklin, is a resident of Sherman County, Kan. Mr. and Mrs. Barber are consistent members of the Baptist Church, and Mr. B. is Democratic in politics. Both are living at present in Bondville, this county.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Pratt there have been born four children—Josephine R., George W., Minnie C. and Frank H. Our subject and his wife are prominently connected with the Baptist Church at Bondville, and politically Mr. P. is a firm adherent of the Republican party.



WILLIAM NEU. This gentleman, who occupies a prominent position among the business interests of Tolono, deals in agricultural implements, in Norman and Percheron horses, and also carries on a thriving livery. He is a wide-awake, energetic member of the community, just such a man as is needed in every department of business to insure that competition which is the life of trade. He was born in Peru, this State, on the 7th of June, 1857, and is the son of John and Christina Neu, natives of Prussia. The birth of the father took place Oct. 18, 1822, and he is the son of Anthony and Christina Neu, who became the parents of ten children, six of whom grew to mature years, and three emigrated to the United States. Of the latter, Theodore remained here about two years, then returned to Germany and died there in about 1873; Joseph is a resident of Peru, La Salle County, this State, and John lives in the city of Champaign.

Our subject remained with his parents in his native town until twelve years of age, when the family came to this county and located on a farm in Colfax Township. After four years they took up their abode in Tolono, where William completed his education at the High School in 1878. Then, in company with his father he engaged in the agricultural implement trade until 1884, when the latter removed to Indianapolis, leaving the son in charge of the business. Previous to this, however, the elder Neu had become proprietor of a livery

stable at Tolono, which our subject also conducted after his father had removed. John Neu returned to this county in 1887, and is now a resident of Champaign City. He is a man of fine business capacity. Upon coming to La Salle he was not only without any property, but was \$23 in debt. He carried on a furniture business until 1869, and from the first was successful in his operations. He still owns the farm in Colfax Township, and the livery business at Tolono, including a number of fine horses. On coming to this country, he made the ocean trip in a sailing-vessel, the voyage occupying thirty-two days.

John Neu was married, in 1856, to Miss Christina Miebach. She was also born in Prussia, and came to the United States with her parents when a young woman, in 1854. The paternal family consisted of five children, of whom Joseph died in 1882, when twenty-two years old. Those surviving are, William of our sketch, Louise, Emma and John. The family are loyal adherents of the Catholic faith, and politically the sons affiliate with the Democratic party.



ZACHARIAH HENNESS, of Scott Township, is the owner of a snug homestead located on section 16, comprising eighty acres of improved land and a good set of farm buildings, of which he has been in possession for the last twenty years. He is a native of Ross County, Ohio, born Jan. 5, 1817, and the son of William and Nancy (Hendrick) Henness, natives of the Old Dominion. They removed from Virginia to Ohio in early life, and passed the remainder of their days in the Buckeye State. Their family included six sons and four daughters, all of whom were trained to habits of industry and principles of honor, and most of whom became occupied in farm pursuits.

Our subject remained in Ross County, Ohio, some years after his marriage, this event taking place on the 27th of May, 1841. The maiden of his choice, Miss Sally A. McCoy, was a native of his own county, and born April 15, 1819. They became the parents of nine children—John M., William B., James A., Margaret K., Martha J.,

Sarah A., Edmund, David W. and Charles S. The children, who are all living, have become highly respected residents of this State, several of them being located in this county, and the names of some will be found elsewhere in this work. Mr. Henness has always cast his influence on the side of honesty and justice, and politically labors in support of Republican principles.

MALCOLM KOCH. Among the pleasant homesteads in Stanton Township, the 240 acres belonging to this gentleman occupy a conspicuous position and are distinguished for first-class improvements, and what is best of all, the property is unencumbered, the proprietor, like Longfellow's Village Blacksmith, being able to "look the whole world in the face, for he owes not any man." One of the most attractive features of the farm is a stable of fine horses, among them being three imported English Clydes in which Mr. K. has a half interest, and which are magnificent specimens of the noblest animal in the world. To this department of agriculture our subject has given particular attention and seems peculiarly adapted to it, as he has been remarkably successful in his operations.

Mr. Koch is a native of Berks County, Pa., born near Reading, July 5, 1837. He is the son of Adam and Mary A. (Gicker) Koch, the former born in 1785 and the latter in 1805. They were married in about 1833, and the father all his life was engaged in farming pursuits. Adam Koch remained a member of the parental household until the death of his father, when he was placed at the head of affairs, settled up the estate, bought a snug home for his mother and sisters near Reading, and provided for their future comfort and welfare. The death of the father took place in October, 1841, when he was fifty-six years of age. The mother survived her husband thirty-four years and died at the advanced age of seventy years in Fairfield County, Ohio. The maternal grandparents of our subject were of German origin and they also passed their last days in Berks County, near Reading.

Adam Koch and family moved to Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1839. Their family consisted of

six sons and one daughter: Edwin was drowned when eighteen months old; R. C. married Miss Amanda C. Dresback, of Fairfield County, Ohio, and afterward removed to Champaign County, Ill., his death occurred in this county in March, 1876; and his widow is living at St. Joseph. Malcolm of this sketch was the third child. Adam, who was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, enlisted as a Union soldier in the 21st Ohio Infantry; he was captured by the rebels at Chickamauga and confined in both Libby and Andersonville for several months, and died in the latter prison a few days before the surrender of the Confederate army. Alfred entered the army in 1861, having enlisted in an Ohio regiment, and at the battle of Pittsburg Landing was wounded and sent to the hospital. As soon as able to travel he was sent home on a furlough of thirty days, after which he returned to his regiment. He was then attacked with serious illness and confined in the hospital at Memphis, Tenn., for ten or eleven months. When partially recovered he was appointed Ward Master in the hospital, and while in the discharge of his duties was taken with small-pox and soon afterward died; his decease occurred in the fall of 1863. Ann N. became the wife of Robert Hudson of this county on the 1st of January, 1865, and died in February, 1866; Jonah married Miss Susan Foor, of Fairfield County, Ohio, and they are now living in St. Joseph Township, this county.

Our subject, after leaving his native State, sojourned for a time in Ohio, coming to this State in 1864. Before he had perfected his arrangements for establishing himself in the West, he provided himself with a companion, namely, Miss Mercella E. Peer, to whom he was married in Franklin County, Ohio, Sept. 29, 1859. Of this union there were born four children, three dying in infancy; Mary, after reaching years of womanhood, passed away on the 5th of December, 1880. The wife and mother departed this life in Franklin County, Ohio, Jan. 6, 1864. She was the daughter of William and Sarah Peer. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married April 7, 1864, was Miss Mary E. Thrush, a native of Hancock County, Ohio, born in 1834, and the daughter of Jacob and Olivia (Spurgeon) Thrush, also natives of the Buckeye State. The mother died young, being only twenty-

five years of age. Jacob Thrush is still living and a resident of Cornell, Livingston County, this State, being sixty-nine years of age. The children of this marriage, five in number, are recorded as follows: Olivia J., is the wife of James White, a prosperous farmer of Stanton Township; Medelphia A., Lloyd M., George L. and Cora A. are at home with their parents.

Mr. Koch sold out his interests in Franklin County, Ohio, in October, 1864, and coming to this State, located first in St. Joseph Township. He purchased his present farm in Stanton Township on the 10th of April, 1866. It included eighty acres of uncultivated prairie, for which he paid \$6.87½ per acre. His first business was to commence the erection of the dwelling which, however, cost more than he anticipated, and the finances running low it was not completed for some time afterward. He had no money to buy shingles and windows, but the family took possession of it and managed to live quite comfortably during the summer season and in the meantime he worked at it by degrees, laying aside a dollar for the purpose of buying what was needed until it was finally finished. That time was quite in contrast with the present, as he now has a fine house, a large barn, and everything required for the comfort and convenience of the modern farmer. His persevering industry and excellent judgment served him well and a few years brought a great change in his financial condition. He added to his purchase as time progressed and now, in viewing the result of his labors and realizing the comforts and luxuries of his home, feels amply repaid for the difficulties and anxieties through which he passed in the earlier years. He and his family are connected with the Friends' Church, and at the polls he assists to the best of his ability in the election of Democratic candidates.

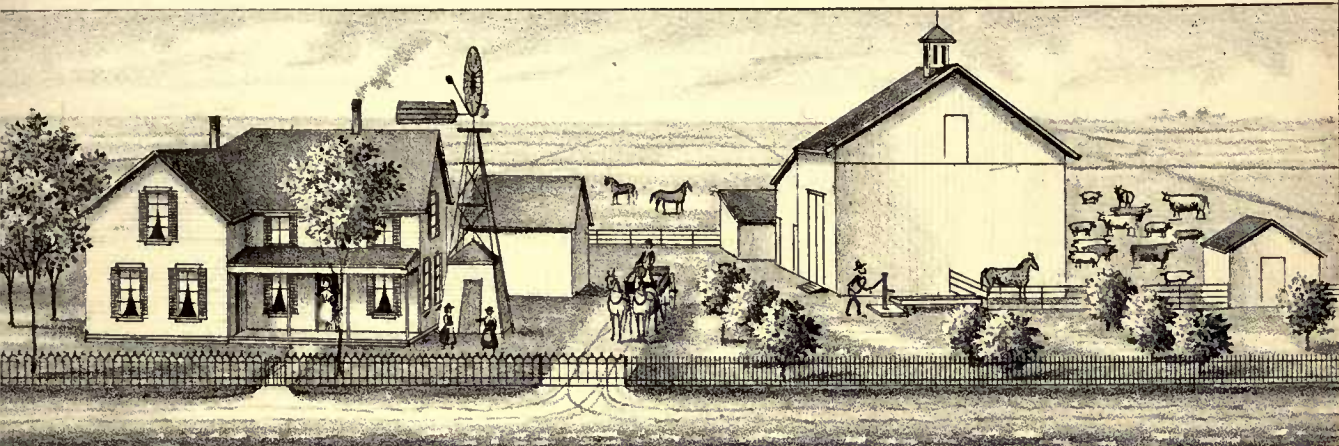


TRUMAN COVERT, a well-to-do resident of East Bend Township, owns a farm of eighty acres on section 30. He is a native of the Empire State, born in the town of Greece, Monroe County, Aug. 8, 1838. His father, Mathias, and his grandfather, Bunn Covert, were natives of New

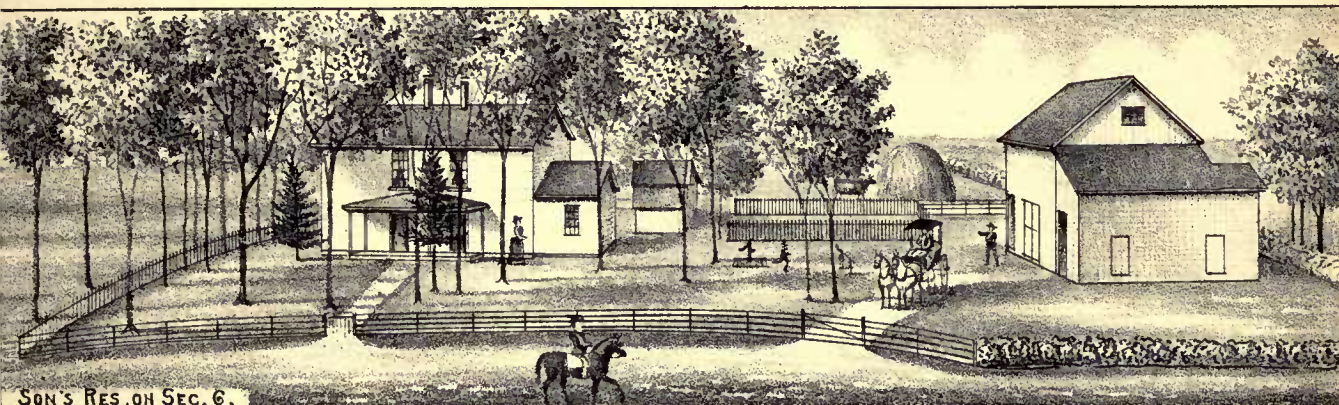
Jersey. It is supposed that the family originated in Holland. Its first representative in America located first on Manhattan Island and became possessor of a large tract of land which is now included in New York City. The grandfather of our subject, who was a farmer by occupation, removed from New Jersey to Seneca County, N. Y., when a young man, and there spent his last days. His son, Mathias, remained on the farm until eighteen years old and then learned the carpenter's trade. When ready to establish a home for himself he purchased a small tract of land near the town of Greece, but devoted the greater part of his time to his trade. In 1842 he traded his land for a farm in Wilson, Niagara County, which he occupied until 1870. He then sold out and came to this county, locating in Rantoul, where he lived retired from active business, until departing this life on the 6th of October, 1886, having reached the advanced age of eighty-five years. He had married in early manhood Miss Jemima Duckworth, a native of his own State. This lady died in Niagara County, N. Y., in 1857.

Of this marriage there were born eleven children, of whom nine grew to mature years and are still living. The record is as follows: Elvira, now Mrs. Cushing, lives in Wilson, Niagara Co., N. Y.; Lovina Tabor is a resident of Stevensville, Wis.; Alvin, of Rantoul, this county; Albert lives in Ingham County, Mich.; Melissa, Mrs. Stone, died in Wilson, N. Y.; Truman, of our sketch, was the sixth child; May J. McKee lives in Rantoul, this county, and William in East Bend Township, which is also the residence of Bertha, Dillman and Frederick. Mathias Covert, for his second wife, married Mrs. Martha Jenny, in April, 1859. She departed this life July 5, 1886.

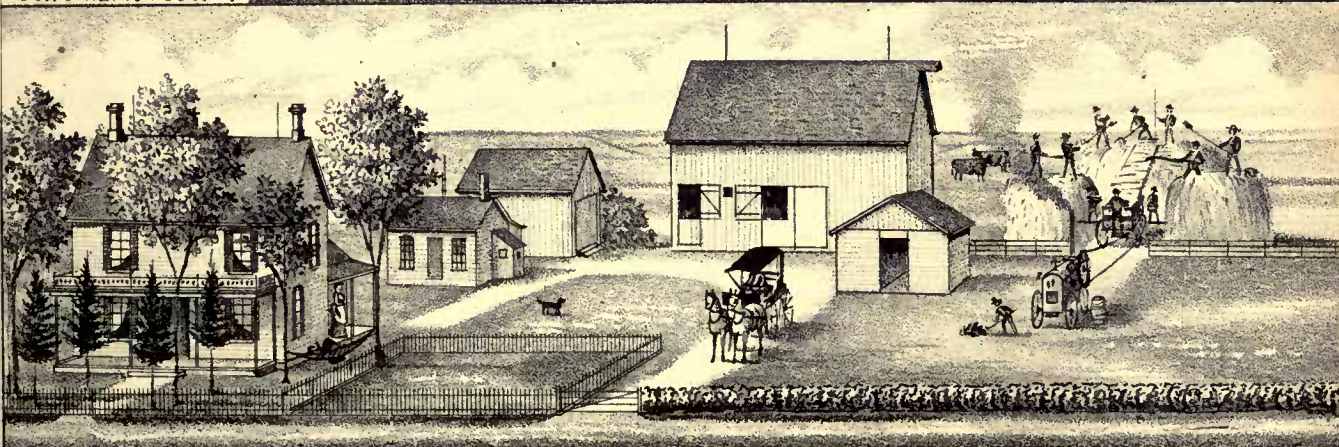
Truman Covert, of our sketch, was reared on the home farm in Niagara County, N. Y., received his education in the district school, and remained a resident of his native county until 1860. He then located on a farm of his cousin in Ingham County, Mich., until enlisting in the army in December, 1863. He served as a soldier in the 1st Michigan Light Artillery until after the close of the war, being under command of Gen. Sherman, at Chattanooga, marching from Atlanta to the sea, and participating in many of the important battles of



RES. OF TRUMAN COVERT, SEC. 30, EAST BEND TOWNSHIP.



SON'S RES. ON SEC. 6.



RES. AND FARM PROPERTY OF SILAS PETTIT, SECS 6 & 8, CRITTENDEN TOWNSHIP.

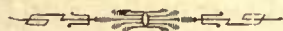
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that campaign. He was taken seriously ill at Goldsboro, N. C., whence he was sent to Beaufort and from there to New York City, and was mustered out at Ft. Schnyler in June following. Himself and twenty-six of his comrades enlisted at Leslie, Mich., and of these thirteen died in the service.

Our subject after leaving the army was unable to do manual labor, and returning to his native town served as Constable and Collector until 1870, when the family came to this State and located on the farm which he now owns. The land at the time they took possession of it, was uncultivated prairie, and the nearest market was Rantoul, ten miles distant. The face of the country has been greatly changed since that time. The prairie has been transformed into cultivated fields, enclosed with neat hedges and substantial fences, and a good residence affords a pleasant home for our subject and his household. Adjacent to it are all the necessary out-buildings required for the proper shelter of stock and the other products of the farm.

Mr. Covert was married in Niagara County, N. Y., Nov. 24, 1859, to Miss Jane Robbins, and they had five interesting children—Maude, Ida and Charles, living, and two, Tacey and Jennie, deceased. Mrs. Covert was born in Lockport, N. Y., May 11, 1842. Her father, Cephas Robbins, of Vermont, became a resident of the Empire State when a young man, and was there married to Miss Drusella Finch. Mr. Covert is a member of the G. A. R., and is a staunch Republican in politics.

The thrift and industry which have characterized the life of Mr. Covert are perhaps illustrated in the most forcible manner by the homestead which he has built up from the wild prairie, and a view of which has been faithfully lithographed on an adjacent page. It forms a picture which his children will be proud to cherish in future years.



SILAS PETTIT, a native of Greene County, Pa., came to Illinois in the spring of 1864, soon after his marriage, locating first in Warren County. Thence he removed to Putnam County, and afterward lived in Marshall County, whence in December, 1868, he came into

Crittenden Township, this county, and purchased eighty acres of land which is now included in his present homestead on section 8. To this he afterward added and redeemed the whole from its unimproved condition. He now has a valuable homestead of 257 acres, thoroughly cultivated and improved, supplied with all necessary buildings, and, with his family, is surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

The birth of our subject took place on the 19th of September, 1834. His father, John, and his mother, Helena (Sherman) Pettit, were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Maryland. John Pettit when a young man served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and after the close of this struggle settled down to farming pursuits in Greene County, Pa., where he departed this life in about 1848. His first wife was Miss Mary Warford, who became the mother of eight children. Of these Jesse, William, Lila and Nancy are deceased. Rachel became the wife of John Roach; Martha married Joseph Hartley, and Mary married James Kughn; Sarah is deceased. Of the second marriage there were born Lydia, Mrs. Spragg; Helena, the wife of John White, and Silas, of our sketch.

The subject of this biography was the only son and eldest child of the second marriage of his father. He grew to manhood in his native State, received a common-school education, and engaged in labor on the farm until reaching his majority. He was then united in marriage with Miss Elmira Driver, a native of West Virginia, and the daughter of Gideon and Leah (Deval) Driver. Mrs. P. was born March 19, 1835. They remained in Pennsylvania until the spring of 1864, and then started for the West. In the meantime they had become the parents of four children. William died of spotted fever in this county. Those living are John, Emma and Charles W. Our subject is Democratic in politics, but has been too busy with his farming affairs to devote any time to office-seeking. He and his family are regular attendants of the Baptist Church, of which he has been an active member since 1866. He is a skillful agriculturist and thorough business man, and ranks among the representative citizens of Crittenden Township.

It is quite natural, in reflecting upon the life

and character of a man who has lived worthily and presented an example of thrift and industry worthy of imitation, to picture in the mind's eye his probable surroundings, and in order that our readers shall not be obliged to draw too much upon the imagination we present, as near as possible, a truthful picture of the place which Mr. Pettit now calls home, and which in all its appointments is one in which he may justly take pride.



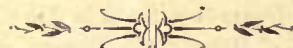
JOHN W. LAWRENCE was born July 10, 1846, in Beaver County, Pa., and was the youngest of eight children, the offspring of John and Mary (Calvin) Lawrence, natives of the same State, where the father was engaged in farming pursuits. In about 1855, John Lawrence removed with his family to Hardin County, Ohio, where he purchased a farm of forty acres which he lived upon for eleven years following. He then sold out, and coming to this State purchased 100 acres of wild land on section 34, in Harwood Township, and occupied it until the time of his death, which occurred Jan. 9, 1887. The mother departed this life on the 1st of December, 1885. Our subject and his brother Samuel now operate the home farm, and are rated among the peaceful and law-abiding citizens of their community, fulfilling in a praiseworthy manner all their obligations as honest men and good citizens.

The outbreak of the late war took place before the removal of the Lawrence family from Ohio. John W., although at that time but eighteen years of age, enlisted in Co. F, 196th Ohio Vol. Inf., under command of Capt. Z. C. Andrews. The Colonel of the regiment was Robert P. Canady. This regiment was organized and drilled at Camp Chase, Ohio, and when ready for service was sent through by rail to Harper's Ferry, whence they marched to Winchester. From there they went to Federal Hill near Baltimore, by way of Sandy Hook. A few days later they were sent down the coast to Ft. Delaware, of which they remained in charge three months, and were then returned to Camp Chase where they were discharged, after having

been in service seven months, and without engaging in any fight. In the meantime the parents of our subject had removed to Illinois, and after being mustered out he joined them there.

He worked on his father's farm until 1884, and on the 1st of November, that year, took his first step toward the establishment of domestic ties of his own. He was married to Miss Mattie J. Wood, fourth child of Noah and Sarah (Julick) Wood, natives of Ohio, where the father followed farming until their removal to this State in 1856. The parents of Mrs. Lawrence are still living, making their home in Rantoul, and retired from the active labors of life. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence have had two children; the eldest, an infant daughter, is deceased, and the only son, Charles W. Lawrence, was born Dec. 15, 1886.

Our subject and his wife, after their marriage located on his father's farm, of which they assumed the management, and where they still live. The only sister of our subject now living, is the wife of Charles Runsur, a farmer, and the County Commissioner of Hardin County, Ohio. The other members of the family have passed to their long home.

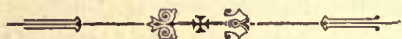


JOHN L. KELLER, a prosperous German farmer of Scott Township, is the owner of 200 acres of finely improved land, located on section 34. He has been a resident of Champaign County since the fall of 1868, when he purchased 120 acres of land which is now included in his present homestead. He commenced life at the foot of the ladder and has accumulated a competency through the exercise of his natural industry and good judgment. He was born in Germany, May 6, 1835, and was brought to America when about one and one-half years old by his parents, George A. and Catherine Keller. They emigrated from the Fatherland in 1837, settling first in Hoeking County, Ohio, where the father died in February, 1883. The mother still survives. Their family included five sons and four daughters, of whom John L. was the third in order of birth.

John L. Keller was reared to farming pursuits

and remained with his parents until twenty-two years of age, when he purchased a farm in Hocking County, which he occupied until selling out preparatory to starting for the West. Before leaving, however, he was married in Hocking County on the 15th of April, 1858, to Miss Louisa Stoker, who was a native of that county, and born Nov. 26, 1839. Her parents were John G. and Henrietta (Rohberg) Stoker, who emigrated from their native Germany and located first in Muskingum County, Ohio, whence they afterward removed to Hocking County, where they passed the remainder of their days. Their family included eight children, six sons and two daughters.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Keller resulted in the birth of eight children, namely, George A., John W., Peter, Charles J., Ely M., Lewis B. and Henry C. Ely M. and a child unnamed died in infancy. George married Miss Estella Cobb, and is a resident of Piatt County, this State; John, who married Miss Catherine Hensley, is farming in Scott Township. Mr. and Mrs. Keller belong to the Lutheran Church, and politically our subject casts his vote with the Democratic party. He has held some of the minor offices of his township and is regarded by his fellow-citizens as a reliable man and a useful member of the community.



EDWIN C. SALE, Supervisor of East Bend Township, is a resident of Dewey, where he carries on a lucrative trade in grain, lumber, coal and agricultural implements. He has been a resident of the Prairie State, and of this county, since the fall of 1853. His father, F. B. Sale, during his early years assisted on the farm, and has the greater part of his life been engaged in agricultural pursuits, although since 1857 he has been greatly interested in religious matters, and officiated as a preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was ordained Deacon at Bloomington in 1866, and during that same year labored as an agent for the American Bible Society, traveling through the district composed of the counties of Champaign, Iroquois, Piatt and Macon. In 1871 he was ordained

by Bishop Scott as Elder at Jacksonville, where he served the interests of his church faithfully and with satisfaction to all. His record as a business man and member of society is equally worthy of imitation.

Edwin Sale was born in Xenia, Greene Co., Ohio, May 22, 1847, and is the son of Capt. F. B. Sale, a resident of Condit Township. The latter was also born in that county and State, June 9, 1822. The grandfather of our subject, John Sale, was the son of Anthony Sale, and was a native of Virginia, and a preacher in the Methodist Church. He removed to Ohio in early life, and took an active part in spreading the Gospel truths, and in the organization of Methodist societies in the pioneer days of the Buckeye State. He finally located near Pickaway, in Miami County, where he was Presiding Elder, and where his death occurred Jan. 9, 1827. In early manhood he was united in marriage with Miss Naney Bonner, who died in Greene County, Ohio, Feb. 5, 1865. Her father was Frederiek Bonner, also born in Virginia, whence he emigrated to Ohio in 1802. He also was a devoted Methodist, and induced many of his brethren to emigrate to the new country. He became the proprietor of about 2,000 acres of land in the Military Tract, and greatly assisted in the development of the country. There also he reared a family. His death took place on the homestead which he had established, and where he spent so many years enjoying the respect and association of the best residents of that section.

Capt. F. B. Sale, the father of our subject, pursued his early studies in the pioneer schools, and assisted in the labors of the homestead until 1853, when he decided to seek his fortunes in the West. During the progress of the late war, he, in 1862, enlisted in the 125th Illinois Infantry, under the command of Col. Harmon. He was mustered in at Danville, on the 3d of September, and determined to follow the fortunes of his comrades until the preservation of the Union was secured. He was a brave and resolute soldier, and in due time was elected Captain of his company, which he commanded with ability, and was the favorite alike of his superior officers as well as the soldiers under him. The long marches, with the hardships and privations incident to a soldier's life, undermined

his health, and although greatly regretting the necessity, he was compelled to resign. He did what he could, however, to save his country at home, encouraging and sustaining the Union spirit, and obtaining recruits for the service.

The marriage of Capt. F. B. Sale took place in Greene County, Ohio, in 1844, the maiden of his choice being Miss Maria Cramer, a native of the same county, and the daughter of Solomon and Kettich Cramer, and they became the parents of eight children, namely: Willis George, a resident of Indianapolis; Edwin C., of our sketch; Charles E., now living in East Bend; John A., of Rantoul; S. B., a merchant of Fisher; Frank C., a resident of Huron, Dak.; James P. and Fannie.

The subject of this biography was a lad of seven years old when he came to this county with his parents. His early studies were conducted in the district schools and at Urbana, after which he attended a term of college at the seminary in Onarga. When twenty years of age he commenced teaching, which he followed during the winter seasons ten successive terms, and during the summer engaged in farming. The first year after his marriage he rented land in Newcomb Township, and the year following in Hensley. In 1871 he purchased eighty acres of wild prairie on section 26, of East Bend Township, entering at once upon its improvement and cultivation. He occupied this until the fall of 1877, then decided to abandon farming. Taking up his abode in Dewey he engaged in the grain business, and for five years operated for Mr. Hall, of Paxton. For the last four years he has been associated with Mr. Ricketts, of Fisher. He has operated as a lumber dealer for the past four years, and built up a good trade in coal and agricultural implements. As a business man and citizen, he is prompt and reliable, and in all respects a worthy representative of the business community.

The marriage of Edwin C. Sale and Miss Mary Ferris took place in January, 1869, at the home of the bride's parents in Condit Township. Mrs. Sale was born in Franklin County, Ohio, Nov. 19, 1847, and is the daughter of John M. and Lucretia (Case) Ferris. Their five children are Minnie, Leslie, Walter, Eva and Russell. Our subject, politically, is a decided Republican, and with his wife has been

connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church since 1870. He was elected Supervisor in the spring of 1876, and has served as such seven years in succession, and as School Trustee eight terms. He takes a genuine interest in the intellectual and moral growth of his community, and has been the encourager of every enterprise tending to its advancement.



HENRY WILLEY RENNER. In perusing a biography, whether in book form to be handed down to future generations, or in the newspaper, which is usually thrown away and forgotten, the natural question of the mind of the reader concerning the subject treated of, is as to where he drew his origin, and what were the characteristics of his family. Especially is this the case when the person we read of is prominent in business and social circles, and when by his marked traits of character he has distinguished himself as possessing more than ordinary ability as a financier and a citizen. Of this latter class our subject may be included as a member worthy of admiration and respect. We at once turn back to the few pages whereon has been briefly traced the record of his fathers before him, which, as near as we can learn, is as follows: The parents of our subject, Henry and Mary M. (Willey) Renner, were natives respectively of Frederick and Shenandoah Counties, Va., the former born May 6, 1796, and the latter, June 29, 1800.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Isaac Renner, was of stanch old Pennsylvania stock, and his grandfather on his mother's side, whose name was Hetzel, was a Huguenot. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Willey, came to America from Switzerland as a missionary of the German Reformed Presbyterian Church. He possessed in a marked degree the stern and resolute character of that people, who endured with cheerful courage the loss of home, friends and country for the sake of their religion. The parents of our subject were married April 18, 1826, and located on a farm in Frederick County, Va., where they remained until

1840. That year they removed to Woodstock, the county seat of Shenandoah County, Va., where they resided twelve years, and thence removed to Ohio, taking up their abode in Licking County. In 1869 they disposed of their farm property in that section, and coming to Illinois located in Rantoul, this county, where the mother departed this life Dec. 26, 1870. Mrs. Renner was frail in body but strong in mind and character, and possessed of all womanly and Christian virtues. She looked well to the ways of her household, and trained her children in those principles which have made them noble in their minds and character, with the steady purpose in view to emulate her and her beautiful and upright life. Her name is held by them in tender remembrance, as being one of those spoken of in the Scriptures whose children "rise up and call her blessed." Henry Renner survived his beloved partner for a period of twelve years, and then joined her in the land of the hereafter, his death taking place Jan. 21, 1882, when he was nearly eighty-six years old.

Henry Willey Renner was born fifty miles south of Harper's Ferry, in Shenandoah County, Va., March 5, 1830. He remained with his parents during his boyhood and youth, and after his marriage, in 1857, came from Ohio to this State. He was married in Licking County, Ohio, to Miss Phebe A., daughter of Hon. E. O. Williams. The bride and groom soon afterward packed their effects into a wagon and started westward. After a drive of two weeks they arrived upon the present site of Newcomb, now in Condit Township, on the 25th of May, 1857, when our subject purchased a tract of land on section 4. They set up housekeeping in the one building located upon this land, and occupied the property for eight years afterward. In 1865 Mr. Renner purchased the present homestead, in Rantoul Township, where his family yet reside. Mrs. Renner was the eldest child of her father's family and became motherless when a young girl thirteen years old. Her childhood pleasures were limited by cares which naturally devolve upon older persons, and she filled a mother's place to her younger brothers and sisters. She was thoughtful and serious beyond her years, and at an early period in life gave evidence of the spirit of piety

which afterward influenced her. She became a member of the Presbyterian Church while in Jersey Township, Ohio, and continued an active worker in the cause of Christ since that time. A large share of her time was given to the Sunday-school, and she had the peculiar and happy faculty of interesting the young in religious subjects.

To Mr. Renner and his first wife there were born five children, namely: Enos Henry; Anna Lucinda, wife of William A. Rusk; Sylvester Willey, Mary C. and Libby S. The sons are now dealers in coal and agricultural implements, and operate a livery stable in Champaign. The mother of these children departed this life at the home of her husband in Rantoul Township, Nov. 26, 1873.

The mother of Mrs. Phebe A. Renner, who before her marriage was Miss Emeline Smith, was born in Waterford, Erie Co., Pa., May 1, 1819. Her parents, William and Elizabeth Smith, were natives of the North of Ireland, and emigrating to America before their marriage located in Erie County, where they afterward became acquainted, and where their hands and fortunes were united. After marriage they located in another part of Erie County, where they spent the remainder of their lives, the grandmother living to the advanced age of ninety-nine years.

The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married Sept. 28, 1876, was Miss Julia, eldest daughter of James D. Smith, Esq., of Wayne, Pa. Mrs. Julia Renner was born Dec. 7, 1840, and commenced her education by attendance at the common schools in her native town. Later she entered the High School at Waterford, and finally graduating, studied and taught thereafter until 1863. Being desirous of still further adding to her store of knowledge, she entered upon a course of study in Western Female Seminary, at Oxford, Ohio, from which she graduated in 1865. She then commenced teaching in the Seminary, and pursued a profession both pleasant and profitable to her until admonished by failing health that she must abandon it. She then returned to her parents in Pennsylvania, where she remained for a time, teaching in Erie and Crawford Counties until her marriage with our subject. The one child of this union, Charles Ashley, born Oct. 4, 1881, died on the 5th of April, 1882.

James D. Smith, the father of Mrs. Julia Renner, was born in Erie County, Pa., Sept. 29, 1817, and was the son of Samuel Smith, who traced his ancestry directly to Scotland, whence they removed to the North of Ireland. Directly after the marriage of Samuel Smith he emigrated to America and settled in Wayne Township, Erie Co., Pa., at an early period in the history of that section. He purchased a tract of timber land, cleared a farm from the wilderness, and resided there until going the way of all the earth. His son, the father of Mrs. Renner, has spent his life so far in his native township, and is prosperous as a business man, besides being greatly respected as a citizen. His property, consisting of a fine farm thirty-one miles southeast of the city of Erie, and seven miles northwest of Corry, includes a valuable mill.

Mr. Renner, when but a youth, became a member of the Presbyterian Church in Woodstock, and assisted in conducting the Sunday-school, remaining a zealous worker there. He was one of the original members of the Jersey Presbyterian Church in Condit Township, holding the positions of Trustee, Secretary and Ruling Elder. In the First Congregational Church of Rantoul he was Trustee, Secretary and Senior Deacon, and a member of the Official Board, also of the committee on Church Extension and Church Records, and District Steward in the Methodist Episcopal Church at Rantoul. He is also a life member of the County Bible Society, and became President of the Rantoul Sunday-School Association in 1867, which position he still holds. In 1872 he was elected a member of the County Sunday-School Executive Committee, of which he was President four years later.

Until 1873, in which year the Grange movement began in the agricultural districts, Mr. Renner had voted the Democratic ticket. During the time of the agitation mentioned, however, he considered himself justified in changing his views, and since then identified himself with the Greenback party, and until the Prohibition movement originated, when he was elected President of the Prohibition Club at Rantoul, and at the last election was a candidate for County Judge on that ticket. In addition to the multiplicity of other public duties which his townsmen have called on him to per-

form, he has served as Township Trustee, Commissioner of Highways, Assessor and Justice of the Peace. In 1862 he was elected a member of the Board of Supervisors from Condit Township.

Mr. Renner was trained by excellent parents to habits of industry, and when setting out in life learned the blacksmith's trade in Woodstock, under his father, and being a natural mechanic, this further acquaintance with the use of tools has proved of great value, and the saving of hundreds of dollars on the farm. His energy is proverbial, and he has an honest contempt for people who consider themselves too nice to be of any practical use in the world. He began teaching at the age of twenty-one, in Virginia, taught one year there, five years in Ohio, and one year in Illinois. He has taken a genuine delight in conducting the operations of the farm, being fond of domestic animals, and has surrounded himself with herds of fine cattle, besides having stables tenanted by thoroughbred horses; among these latter is a Norman stallion imported from France, a creature of magnificent proportions and of great value. His herd of cattle includes three full-blooded Short-horns. He also breeds the Poland-China hogs and full-blooded Brahma poultry.

GILBERT L. TAYLOR is an honored representative of the pioneer farmers of Champaign County, and one of the self-made men of Illinois. He was born Sept. 28, 1841, in this county, and just south of the town of Mahomet. His parents were William and Harriet (Leland) Taylor. The father was a native of Scotland, and on coming to America he first made his way to Ohio and thence to Illinois, settling in Champaign County, where he subsequently married Miss Leland. Her family were among the early settlers of the county. When their son Gilbert was about five years of age, his mother was taken from her home and family by death.

Desirous of making a change after the death of his wife, Mr. Taylor sold his farm at Mahomet and went to Texas, where he invested in a large tract of land with the intention of engaging extensively

in stock-raising. He was a clear-headed, energetic, active man, and carried on a large trade in cattle, selling his stock to drovers. Some business affairs requiring his presence, he came to Champaign County, and while here, was stricken down by severe illness, and died in March, 1855, leaving his son Gilbert an orphan, at the age of fourteen. Their other children having died in infancy, Gilbert was the sole survivor of the family. After the death of his father, he bravely started out to fight his way in the world.

When the Civil War broke out, Gilbert L. Taylor enlisted in Co. I, 10th Ill. Cav., and was sent to the division of the army west of the Mississippi. He remained in the service until the close of the war, having passed through its dangers and vicissitudes without being wounded, and in 1865 was mustered out at Springfield, Ill. After having been honorably discharged he returned to Champaign County, and engaged in cultivating a rented farm, at which business he continued for a period of fifteen years, when, having acquired some capital, he purchased his present property, located on section 28, which contains 400 acres of valuable land, and is known as the George Burton Farm. He has been very successful in conducting this farm, and has given special attention to stock-raising.

On the 9th of December, 1866, Mr. Taylor was married to Miss Frances Adkins, daughter of John and Eliza Adkins, of Champaign County, where she was born and reared. They have had seven children, six of whom are living. Mr. Taylor and his wife are both members of the Methodist Church, of which he is also one of the Trustees. He is a Republican in politics, and socially belongs to the I. O. O. F., holding fellowship with Lodge No. 333, of Champaign.

EDGAR G. CONKLING, Postmaster of Seymour, also conducts a store of general merchandise, and occupies a prominent place in the affairs of his town, both in social and financial circles. He is a native of Hudson, McLean Co., Ill., born Nov. 16, 1854, and the son of Dr. Henry and Eliza Conkling, the former a native

of New Jersey, and the latter of Ohio. Mrs. C. before her marriage to the father of our subject was the widow of L. A. Sampson. The parental family included five children—Henry O., Edgar G. of our sketch, Frank W., William A. and Belinda C.

The subject of this history spent his childhood and youth in his native village, pursuing his studies in the common schools, and afterward attended Wesleyan University at Bloomington. When his school days were over he learned to operate the telegraph and obtained a position with the I. B. & W. R. R. Co., at Hallsville, in De Witt County, where he was employed several months. He came to Seymour in June, 1876, and entered the employ of the I. B. & W. R. R. Co., as operator and agent, in which position he continued for four or five years, when he embarked in mercantile business which he has since followed. He carries a complete stock of general merchandise and has built up a good patronage. He was appointed Postmaster during the administration of President Arthur and has held the office since that time.

Mr. Conkling was married in Scott Township, this county, Oct. 17, 1878, to Miss O. J. Koogler, who is a native of this township, born Oct. 30, 1859. Her parents were Samuel and Lucy A. Koogler, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. C. have two children—Frank and Helen. Our subject is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, and politically casts his vote with the Republican party.

WILLIS STONE, residing on his fine farm inside the village limits of Tolono, and a native of Gibson County, Ind., was born on the 9th of March, 1831. His father, Samuel M. Stone, whose birth took place in 1810, in Lincoln County, Ky., was but a year old when his father's family removed to Gibson County, Ind., where he was reared to manhood. The grandparents of our subject were Thomas and Doreas Stone. The father of our subject departed this life upon the homestead which he had established in Gibson County, at the age of seventy-two years. The mother is

still living, and is now seventy-four years old.

After arriving at years of manhood Samuel M. Stone was married to Miss Lucy W. Maddox, and they became the parents of twelve children, all living in Gibson County, with the exception of Newton, Willis, of our sketch, and Thomas. The latter is a resident of this county. Sept. 26, 1882, the parents with their twelve children were photographed in one group, and make a picture which will be preserved by their descendants probably for generations to come. Of this family, Willis, of our sketch, is the oldest. The others are Mary J., the wife of James Crow; Margaret, who married Rev. William Clark; Henry; Nancy, Mrs. James Spore; Thomas; Ellen, Mrs. James Burke; Elizabeth, the wife of James Pruitt; Newton; Martha, Mrs. William Gordon; Dorcas, Mrs. Thomas Spore, and George C. Newton resides in Southern Illinois, and Henry in Posey County, Ind.

Willis Stone spent his childhood and youth on his father's farm and pursued his studies in the common schools. After reaching manhood, in 1852, he came to Illinois and purchased a tract of land in Menard County, which he cultivated until 1865. During that year he became a resident of Champaign County, and purchased eighty-one acres of land which now lies within the village limits of Tolono. He has proved himself a valuable addition to his community and enjoys the confidence of his fellow-citizens. He has been entrusted with various offices in the township, serving as Assessor one term and Town Trustee for a period of nine years. He has always been greatly interested in the establishment and maintenance of schools and taken pleasure in noting the advancement morally and intellectually of his county and township. Although a supporter of Democratic principles, in casting his vote he does not confine himself to party candidates but aims to assist in placing in office the men best qualified to serve the interests of the community. The temperance movement has in him a firm advocate and friend, and in religious matters he leans to the doctrines of the Baptist denomination.

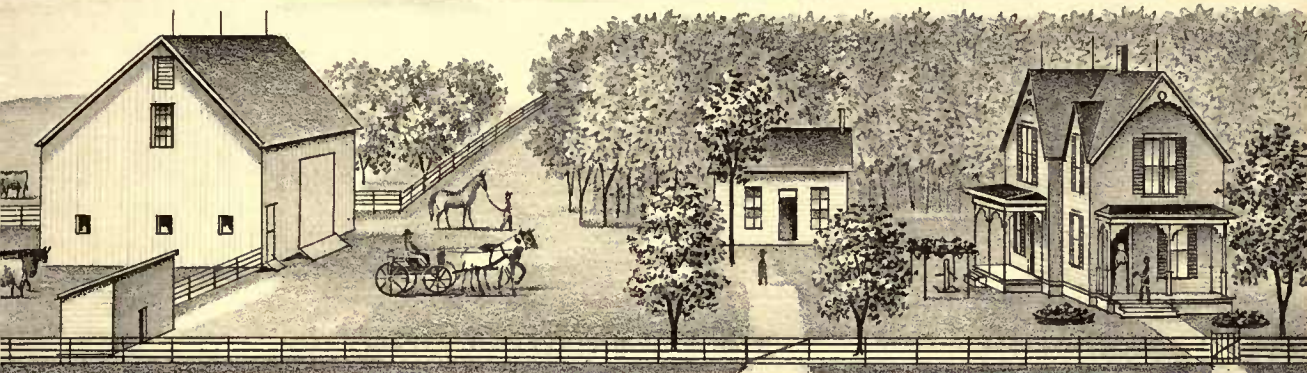
During his residence in Menard County Mr. Stone became acquainted with his future wife, Miss Margaret Baker, a native of Scott County, Ind., to

whom he was married in 1854, at the residence of her parents in Menard County. Mrs. Stone is the daughter of John and Martha (Estill) Baker, and was born Sept. 30, 1831. Her parents were natives of Kentucky and removed from the Blue Grass regions to Menard County, Ill., in the pioneer days. There they spent the remainder of their lives and closed their eyes finally upon the scenes of earth. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Stone resulted in the birth of five children—John B.; Eva, the wife of Charles D. Merry; Mary; Lucy, Mrs. John Pettit; Anna and Edith. The family residence is pleasantly located in the village of Tolono, and its inmates enjoy the society of the best people in that locality.

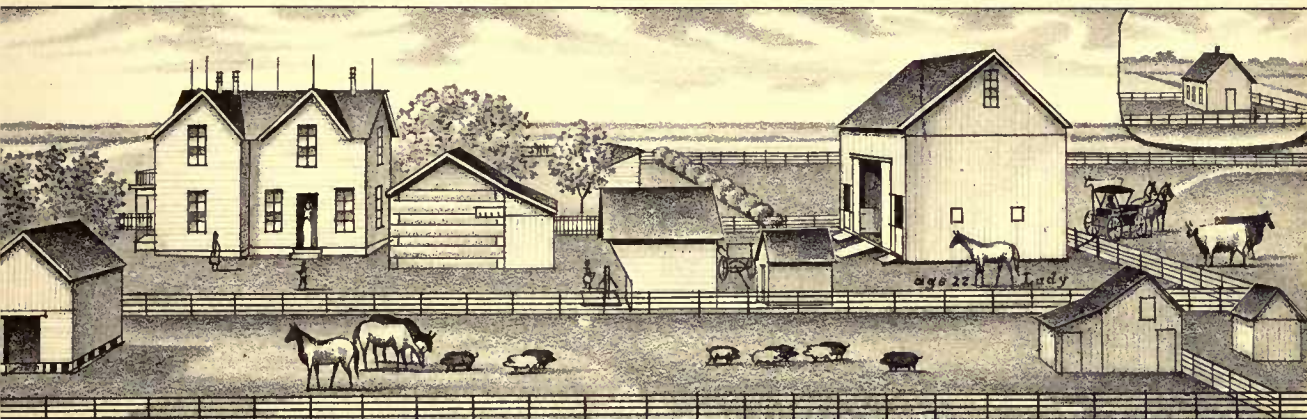


WILLIAM R. HAVARD, a worthy representative of the farming interests of Homer Township, cultivates 170 acres of land on section 32, which is finely stocked with graded Short-horn cattle, Norman and Clyde horses, and large numbers of Poland-China hogs. He has a fine farm residence which, with the substantial barn and adjacent out-buildings, is located on a gentle rise of ground, and forms a handsome picture with its background of grain fields and pasture lands.

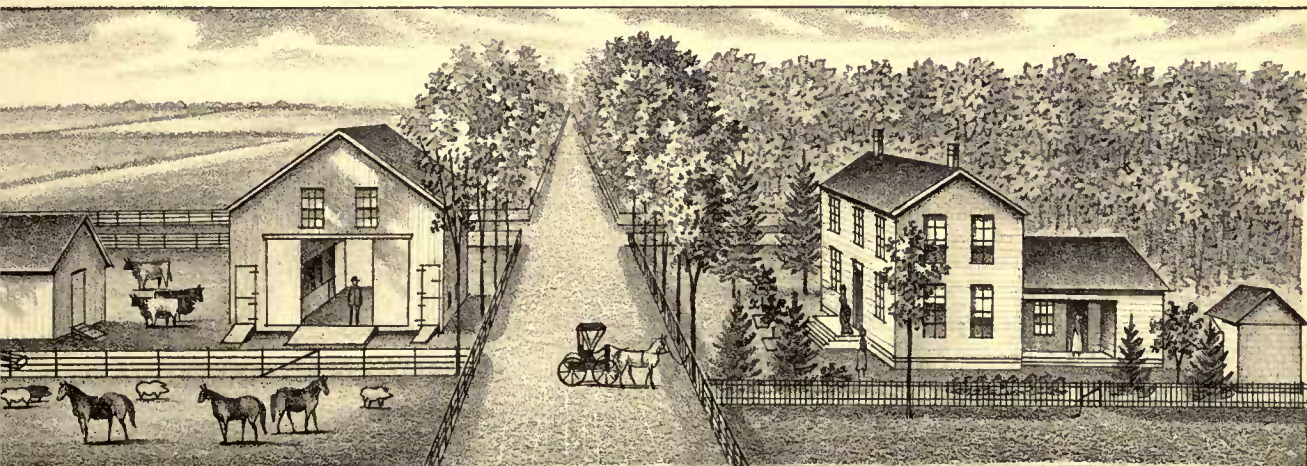
The birth of our subject took place on the other side of the Atlantic, in the southern part of Wales, March 25, 1829. At an early age he left his father's farm, and for three years was employed in a coal office not far away. He subsequently, however, returned to the homestead, and in 1856 set sail for America. In the meantime he had been married, and was accompanied to the New World by his wife. Upon landing in New York he had but \$100 in cash, and proceeding directly westward located on a tract of land in Vermilion County, Ill. His industry soon gained him the respect of his neighbors, and in due time he found himself on the road to prosperity, and was enabled to become the possessor of real estate, his first purchase consisting of eighty acres on section 32, Homer Township. He has steadily advanced financially and in the esteem of his fellow-citizens, becoming prominently identified with local affairs. He held the office of Township Commissioner for six years,



RESIDENCE OF A. G. PORTERFIELD, SEC. 9, RAYMOND TP.



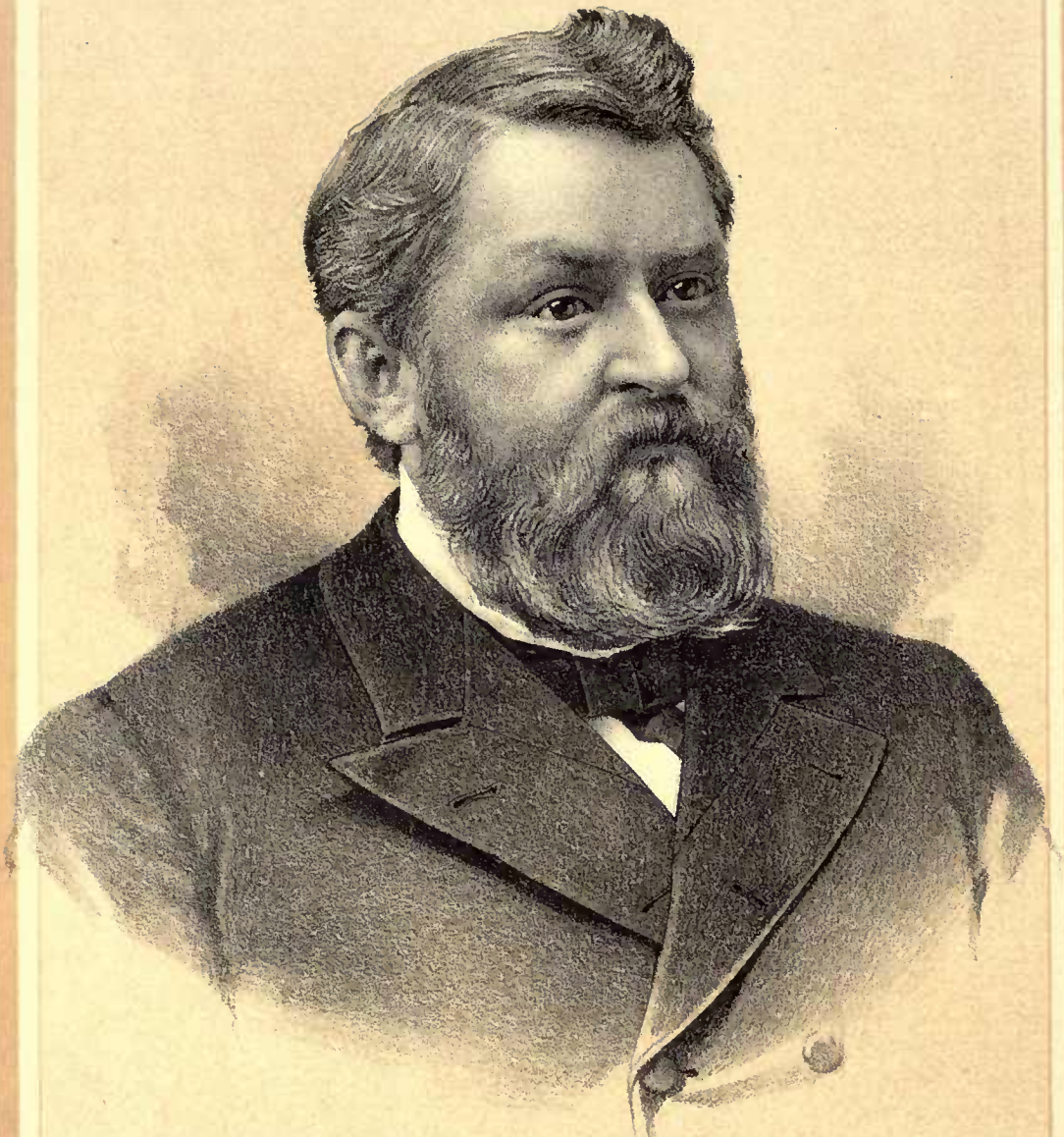
RESIDENCE OF WM. WHITE, SEC. 31, ST. JOSEPH TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF AQUILLA PALMER, SECS. 18 & 19, (R-14-W), HOMER TP.

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W. W. Mathews

and has been School Director several terms. Both he and Mrs. H. are members of the Christian Church, with which they became connected in 1863.

After becoming a naturalized citizen Mr. Havard identified himself with the Republican party, of which he has remained a loyal adherent since that time. Mrs. Havard, formerly Miss Rachel Jones, was born in Monmouthshire, Wales, July 27, 1828. She is the daughter of Seth Jones, who spent his entire life in his native Wales. The mother died of heart disease many years ago, leaving five children, viz., Mary, John, Rachel, Sarah and Seth. Enos died in Vermilion County many years ago. Miss Jones became the wife of our subject April 27, 1856, their marriage taking place in Monmouthshire, Wales. The union of Mr and Mrs. Havard resulted in the birth of eight children, namely, John, who died at Pike's Peak in 1881; Sarah A., the wife of M. F. Colwell; Seth, deceased; Mary, Elon, Albert, Jennie and Oliver.



CL. KUDER was born Feb. 3, 1861, in Kerr Township, this county, in the house where his father still resides. He was the eighth in order of birth in a family of nine children. (See sketch of Lewis Kuder.) Our subject remained at home acquiring all the experience and advantages for education which the country schools afforded, until the age of twenty-two.

March 8, 1883, Mr. Kuder married Miss Julia J. Hagerman, the daughter of Samuel and Sarah S. (Maloney) Hagerman. She was the fourth in a family of eight children. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania, and the son of Samuel Hagerman, Sr. Her mother was a native of Ohio, the daughter of Whiting and Sarah Maloney. Mrs. Kuder was born Feb. 22, 1861, in Logan County, Ill. Her father had removed to Illinois at a very early day and settled in Tazewell County, where he lived until his marriage, when he removed to Logan County. He now resides in St. John, Stafford Co., Kan.

Mr. Kuder is the owner of 120 acres of improved land on section 32, Kerr Township, where he is extensively engaged in farming and stock-

raising. He gives special attention to graded cattle and Chester-White hogs. Mr. Kuder and wife are the parents of two children—Mande R. and Lulu Pearl. He is a Republican, and has been Town Clerk for three years, but his own business affairs occupy his attention so exclusively that he has not taken an active interest in politics.



MW. MATHEWS. The journalistic profession is of such a peculiar nature, so complicated in its literary and business channels, and withal one of the most difficult in which to acquire success, that but few attain any eminence in it. Our State has developed some, however, who have acquired distinction in this line, and prominent among the number is M. W. Mathews, editor and proprietor of the *Champaign County Herald*. He came to Urbana in 1867 and for years took a prominent position in the legal, political and business circles of the county. In 1879 he purchased the *Herald*, which had only been called into existence two years previously. He had won distinction at the bar and on the stump and consequently much was expected of him in his new role as a journalist. His career has justified the expectations of his friends, for it has been a distinguished one, proving him to be a forcible and able writer and a business manager of rare ability.

Mr. Mathews was born in Clark County, Ill., March 1, 1846, and is the son of John R. and Mary (McNeil) Mathews, natives of Coshocton County, Ohio. John R. Mathews was born in 1820, and was the son of Alexander and Prudence (Laughlin) Mathews, who were descended from excellent Irish ancestry. He was reared to farming pursuits and served an apprenticeship at the blacksmith's trade, which he followed in this State until 1852. He then took a trip across the plains to California, and remained two years employed in mining and blacksmithing. In the meantime, on the 12th of August, 1854, the wife and mother died. Five years later the father of our subject removed to Wayne County, Ind., where he followed blacksmithing until 1861. In August of that year, the Rebellion hav-

ing assumed alarming proportions, he responded to the call for volunteers and enlisted as a private in Co. F, 36th Ind. Vol. Inf. He was only permitted to serve one year, however, being discharged on account of disability. Upon returning home he received a commission from Gov. Morton as recruiting officer, but we soon find him again going to the front. This time he enlisted in an Indiana battery with which he went to Harper's Ferry. Here he was discharged a second time on account of ill-health. He returned to Indiana, remaining a resident there until 1864, when he came to this county and located upon a farm, engaging in agricultural pursuits, which he prosecuted until his death, which occurred Oct. 13, 1884. The parental family included four children, one of whom is now deceased. Samuel A., the eldest, remained upon the farm until 1861, and at the age of seventeen years enlisted as a soldier in the 36th Indiana Infantry. He was promoted for bravery at the battle of Stone River. He died July 9, 1863, in the Field Hospital, in Tennessee, of disease contracted during his service. M. W. of our sketch was the second son; William E., a stationary engineer, is a resident of Kuttawa, Ky.; Louise H., Mrs. J. S. Little, is in Hillsboro County, Fla.

The subject of this biography remained on the until 1860, and during the years following, when the country was in the throes of Civil War, he worked on a farm and attended school alternately. He completed his studies under the tutelage of Prof. John Cooper at the Dublin Academy. In this institution he afterward became assistant teacher. The day following the assassination of President Lincoln young Mathews started for Illinois, and taking up his abode in Philo, this county, commenced teaching near what was known as Yankee Ridge. While teaching he had improved his leisure moments in the study of law, and two years later, when he came to Urbana, he gave to it his more serious attention under the instruction of G. W. Gere, and was admitted to practice in August, 1867. Shortly afterward he became the partner of Mr. Gere, and they operated together for two years, after which Mr. Mathews continued alone. In 1873 he was appointed Master in Chancery, which position he held for nine years, when he re-

signed. He was elected States Attorney in 1876, and served with ability for eight years. Since becoming a resident of this county he has been closely identified with its business interests. He is a stockholder and Director in the First National Bank of Urbana, and owns the Herald Block, in which the bank and post-office are located. The establishment of the Loan and Building Association was largely due to his enterprise and encouragement, and he is now its President. Politically Mr. Mathews affiliates with the Republican party, the principles of which he most sincerely and honestly upholds. Socially he is a member of the I. O. O. F. and of the Independent Order of Mutual Aid, of Illinois.

The marriage of M. W. Mathews and Miss Julia Foote took place in 1869 at the residence of the bride's parents in Urbana. Mrs. M. is a native of Ohio, and the daughter of William J. and Lucy M. (Alcott) Foote. Of this union there have been born two children—Mae and Clyde. The residence of our subject is pleasantly located on Elm street, and Mr. Mathews and his family enjoy the friendship and confidence of the best people of this locality.

We take pleasure in presenting the portrait of Milton W. Mathews in this volume, as not only one of the representative citizens of the county, but as that of a leading and prominent journalist of the State.



ROBERT JOHNSTON, of the firm of Johnston & Karr; dealers in grain and stock, and located at Seymour, Ill., is a native of Ireland, whence he emigrated with his parents to the United States when a boy. They first located in Canada, where they remained five years and became residents of Champaign County in about 1859. Mr. J. is the son of George and Esther (Ervin) Johnston, natives of Ireland, where the father died. The mother afterward emigrated to America with her family, and departed this life four miles north of Seymour, this county, in about the year 1863.

Our subject, during his earlier years worked on a farm in this county, and in about 1871 settled in what is now the village of Seymour, where he

has since lived. Later he engaged in the grain and stock business, and in July, 1882, formed a partnership with James Karr, with whom he has since conducted business profitably, and with a steadily increasing trade. They handle most of the grain which is brought to the market in Seymour. Mr. J. owns eighty acres of improved land, besides his village property.

Mr. Johnston was married, in Mahomet, Ill., to Miss Rachel A. Hume, who was born in Shelby County, Ohio, Feb. 28, 1858. She is the daughter of John and Martha (Reed) Hume, the former of whom died in Juniata, Neb., while there on business. The mother still survives, and is a resident of Mahomet. There were seven children in the household, Mrs. J. being the fourth in order of birth. Her parents removed to Mahomet when she was quite young, where she was reared and educated. Mr. and Mrs. J. have five children—Nina, Maude, Jessie, Winnie and Robert H. Our subject was Postmaster at Seymour for several years. Politically he is a Republican, and religiously a member in good standing of the Methodist Church.

FRANCIS M. YOUNG, of Scott Township, owns and occupies a good homestead on section 28. This comprises 240 acres of improved land, with a substantial set of frame buildings. Our subject came to this vicinity in the winter of 1867, and soon afterward located in Scott Township, of which he has been a resident for nearly twenty years. He is a native of Davis County, Ind., born Jan. 28, 1840, and the eighth child of Larkin and Elizabeth (Haun) Young. Larkin Young was born in Tennessee, and his wife, Elizabeth, in Kentucky. After their marriage they located on Kane Creek, at the head of the Blue Grass region, where they remained several years, then removed to Davis County, and afterward to Greene County, Ind., where the father died. Mrs. Young departed this life in Henderson County, Ill. The family circle included eleven children, six sons and five daughters.

The subject of our sketch remained on the farm with his parents until twenty years of age. He then

took a trip to the Northwestern Territory, Washington, Idaho and Oregon, and in the latter State was engaged in mining, farming and freighting. He staid in that region six years, and then returning to Illinois located in Henderson County, whence he removed soon afterward to this county, where he has since lived.

The marriage of Francis M. Young and Miss Sarah A. Perkins, of Indiana, took place in Davis County, that State, on the 3d of November, 1870. Of this union there were born seven children—Eugene, Theodore; Norah E., Etta, Jesse R., Della A. and Grover C. Mr. Young is independent in politics, and has served in his township as School Director and Road Commissioner.



WILLIAM HAWKER, a prosperous farmer of Urbana Township, was born near Dayton, Greene Co., Ohio, Jan. 12, 1837. His parents were David and Sarah (Odaffer) Hawker, one a native of Pennsylvania and the other of Maryland. In 1826 they removed to Ohio, which was at that time considered the far West, where they settled in Greene County, and engaged extensively in farming, cultivating about 500 acres. His father died there in 1865, and his mother, who survived him for some time, died in her eighty-third year. She had a family of nine children, three boys and six girls. The record is as follows: Catherine married Abram Darst, and is now deceased; John T. lives in Ohio; Mary A. married Jonas Lesher, a resident of Ohio; Elizabeth married Abram Darst, husband of Catherine; Sarah J. married E. Burrows; William is our subject; David is a resident of Dayton, Ohio; Martha married Clay Kyler, and they live in Dayton; Harriet married J. F. Levy, and they live in Urbana.

William Hawker, in his early boyhood, attended the district school, but later had the advantage of pursuing his limited education in the graded schools. He remained with his parents until he had attained to manhood, when, in 1867, he came West and located on section 28, Urbana Township, purchasing 240 acres of land, which he cultivated and improved until 1878, when he sold off 160

acres, reserving eighty acres for his own farm residence, where he is engaged in stock-raising, giving his attention chiefly to the best breed of hogs.

On Dec. 24, 1868, Mr. Hawker was married to Miss Martha Allen, daughter of Stephen and Elizabeth Allen. Her mother's name before marriage was Jackson, and her family were formerly from Kentucky, where her father died in 1856. After his death her family moved to Champaign County.

Mr. and Mrs. Hawker have a family of six children—Charles T., David W., Franklin A., Stephen A., Lillie Pearl and Otho W. Mr. Hawker is interested in the public affairs of the county, and has held the office of School Director for several years. Himself, his wife and four of their children are members of the First Baptist Church, in which society they are regarded with much esteem. Politically Mr. Hawker is a Jeffersonian Democrat.



MRS. CASANDRA MARRIOTT, who has been a resident of Somer Township since 1856, was born in Anne Arundel County, Md., June 17, 1820, and is the daughter of Joseph and Keturah Sim. She removed with her parents to Knox County, Ohio, and was there married to Richard Marriott, Feb. 4, 1840. Mr. M. was born Aug. 6, 1818, in Baltimore County, Md., whence his father emigrated to Ohio and settled in Knox County in 1831, the same year in which the parents of his wife located there. Richard Marriott was a farmer by occupation, and after his marriage with our subject removed to Illinois and purchased the farm which is now owned by Louie Birely, and on which he erected a brick residence, one of the first in Champaign County. Here Mrs. M. and her husband made their home until his death, which occurred in February, 1870. After the death of her husband Mrs. M. removed to Urbana and lived with a daughter until the death of the latter. Since that time she has lived with her son-in-law, C. C. Wilson, in Somer Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Marriott became the parents of six children, three boys and three girls, of whom the record is as follows: Cordelia became the wife of

L. R. Birely; Franklin married Miss Lydia Yearsly; Mary is the wife of Cassius C. Wilson, and lives in Champaign County; Oscar T. married Miss Retta Hill; Joseph died when twenty-four years of age; Jessie E. became the wife of Homer Prather, and died in 1883, leaving two children, a son and daughter—Benjamin Paul and Carolina Maude.

Mr. Marriott in early days was a Whig, politically, but upon the abandonment of the old party became a staunch Republican. Mrs. M. is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and now, although sixty-seven years of age, is a strong, healthy and happy old lady, beloved by her family and neighbors, and an honor to her children.



JAMES H. HUNT, of Stanton Township, and who spent his boyhood on a farm in Erie County, N. Y., came to the West to seek his fortunes when a young man of sixteen years, and in the fall of 1857 landed in Champaign County. He arrived here with high hopes and expectations, and probably can truthfully say that he has been in nowise disappointed with the results of his venture. His early years were spent in honorable labor, but he did not consider that any misfortune or disgrace. The prairies of the West, at the time of his coming, were waiting for just such industrious hands and were ready to reward them with homes and a competency whenever there was an effort put forth with this end in view. Young Hunt entered heartily into this arrangement and the result has fully equaled, if not exceeded, his expectations. He commenced without means, having only his strong hands and willing disposition, and now after the lapse of thirty years looks around him upon a comfortable homestead where peace and plenty reign, and with barn and cellar overflowing with good things for man and beast. His property is located on the southwest quarter of section 33, in Stanton Township, where he has walked in and out among the people worthily for over a quarter of a century and enjoys in a marked degree their confidence and esteem.

The family history of Mr. Hunt will be perused with interest by those who have watched his later

career, and we present it as follows: The great-grandfather of our subject, Jonathan Hunt, was a native of New Jersey, born in 1766, and died in September, 1819. He married Miss Rebecca Eddy, who was born on Long Island, N. Y., and died during the year 1818. They raised a fine family of children, their son Noah being the grandfather of our subject. He was born Oct. 29, 1790, in Sussex County, N. J., and afterward removed to Erie County, N. Y., where his death took place on the 1st of December, 1869. He married Miss Sallie Hunt, who was born in New Jersey, July 12, 1792, and died at the homestead in Erie County, N. Y., Sept. 13, 1879, ten years after the decease of her husband. The marriage of the grandparents took place in Byron Township, Sussex Co., N. J., May 1, 1812. Their son Jonathan, the father of our subject, was born Feb. 16, 1813, in the township where his parents were married. They left New Jersey when he was six years of age and located in Erie County, N. Y., where he remained with them until twenty-one years of age. Upon starting out on his own account he first purchased a tract of land near the homestead, which he occupied until 1858, and when not actively engaged in farm work, followed surveying, for which he had been well fitted by a good education and more than ordinary natural ability. He was married in the town of Brant, Erie Co., N. Y., Jan. 29, 1837, to Miss Caroline West. The mother of our subject was born in Erie County, N. Y., Feb. 27, 1815. The parental household included eight children, of whom one died in infancy. The others are still living. They are named James H., Fillmore, Augustus, Leroy, Carrie A., Mary L. and Alfred.

The subject of this biography was born Aug. 4, 1839, in Eden, Erie Co., N. Y., where he remained with his father's family until eighteen years of age. Early in life he began to lay his plans for the future, and at this time having heard much of the far West, started out, accompanied by a friend, to seek a location. They proceeded on their journey until reaching Toledo, Ohio, where they looked around considerably, but not finding anything to suit their fancy, pushed on to Chicago. The city thirty years ago presented a vastly different appearance from that of to-day, and gave little indication

of its future importance. They saw no reason for locating there and concluded to move on. Young Hunt happened to get hold of an Illinois Central time table in which was depicted in glowing terms the prospect held out to the enterprising emigrant to Champaign County, and to that point they at once proceeded. He first procured work on the railroad, having landed in this locality without means and being compelled to accept the first thing offered. Three weeks later the "boss" left for parts unknown, "forgetting" in his haste to pay his men. Young Hunt was without money, having nothing to even pay his board, and his "chum" was in the same condition. They managed however, to secure enough eatables to keep soul and body together, and going into the country, Mr. H. worked a few days which brought in a few dollars. He was afterward employed by Gardener Mott in Urbana Township, to whom, however, he did not become very warmly attached, and left him to engage with a neighbor. His partner in the meantime located in Urbana Township, and he made his home with him until the outbreak of the Civil War.

The Rebellion furnished employment to hundreds of idle men, too many of whom perhaps enlisted with more regard for the \$13 per month than for the preservation of the Union. This, however, was not the case with young Hunt, for he had laid his plans and had no doubt that in time he would succeed in building up a home in the West and securing a competency. These plans, however, he was willing to lay aside, and with the true spirit of patriotism and a desire to be of service in the pressing conflict, enlisted in Co. A, 20th Ill. Vol. Inf., taking his place in the ranks April 22, 1861. One of his first encounters with the enemy was at Ft. Donelson, and he afterward participated in the siege and capture of Vicksburg, the battle of Pittsburg Landing, and many other important engagements of the war. For three years following he experienced all the vicissitudes of a soldier's life, the weary marches, the "hard tack" fare, the harrassing skirmishes and more serious encounters with the rebels. After building up a good record as a soldier he received his honorable discharge at the close of his term of enlistment and was mustered out at Chattanooga, July 16, 1864.

After becoming a civilian once more, Mr. Hunt returned to Champaign County and farmed on a tract of rented land for a few years, living economically and laying aside a small sum annually. In January, 1867, he purchased eighty acres of his present farm, which he improved and cultivated with success and some years later doubled the amount of his landed estate. The quarter section which he now possesses constitutes a fine and fertile farm, conveniently laid off into pasture lands and grain fields, supplied with good buildings and machinery, and is in all respects the model homestead of a progressive decade. After the purchase of his first land he began to prepare for the maintenance of a family, putting up a frame house and adding other necessary buildings. On the 24th of December, 1868, he was made the husband of Miss Katie Feely, who was the daughter of John and Anna Feely, of New York City, the wedding taking place in St. Joseph Township. To the home thus established, in due time there came a family of six children, who were named respectively, Guy T., Gertie M., Tessie, S. Maude, W. Fay and Minnie Opal. Mrs. Hunt is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject socially belongs to St. Joseph Post No. 129, G. A. R. He cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln and since that time has remained a decided Republican.



DAVID MEAD. The fine farm of this gentleman, located on section 29, in Homer Township, of late years has chiefly been devoted to stock-raising and the grain consumed by the stock. He has 160 acres of land, with handsome and conveniently arranged buildings, and in his operations has evinced the skill and good judgment of the intelligent and progressive agriculturist. The birthplace of Mr. Mead was on Mill Creek, in Franklin County, Ohio, near where the main part of the city of Cincinnati now stands, and the date thereof Aug. 24, 1824.

The parents of our subject, Nathaniel and Maria (Crane) Mead, were natives respectively of New York and Indiana; the former was born in 1801

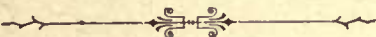
and is still living. He engaged in farming pursuits nearly all his life and is now a resident of Vermilion County, Ill. The mother, born the same year as her husband, died at their home in Vermilion County in 1862. Both parents in early life united with the Methodist Episcopal Church. The household included seven children: Sarah A., Mrs. Coddington, lives in Indiana; William, a farmer of Vermilion County, married Miss Margaret Turner; David, of our sketch, was the third child; George married Miss Tanner, and is now residing in Vermilion County; James married Miss Huldah Coffin; Mary J., Mrs. Cromwell, lives in Vermilion County; Anna M. married John Bales. After the death of the mother of these children, Nathaniel Mead married Mrs. Mary Bogoot, who was a native of New Hampshire, born in 1800, and died in 1868.

David Mead was reared by his parents, remaining with them during his boyhood and youth. After coming to Vermilion County, this State, he worked on the farm and attended the common school, and after reaching his majority made his first purchase of land in Vermilion County. He had already married, and with his young wife went to housekeeping on his new purchase. This lady, formerly Miss Mary Freeman, to whom he was married Oct. 25, 1846, was a native of Ohio, her birth taking place April 1, 1826. She became the mother of seven children, and died at the homestead in Homer Township, on the 1st of August, 1874, leaving a large circle of friends to mourn their loss. She was a lady highly respected, and a consistent member of the Christian Church. The record of her children is as follows: Thomas married Miss Clementine McKnight, and is engaged in farming in Ogden Township; Matilda married Isaac Ogden, of Ogden Township; Lydia died Sept. 5, 1878; Ruth J. is the wife of John McCullum, of Ogden Township; Freeman married Miss E. Johnson, and they are living in Homer Township; James L. married Miss Mary Judd, of Homer Township; Martha is the wife of Christian S. Parrett, of Ogden Township.

In 1875 Mr. Mead was united in marriage with Miss Jemima McKnight, who only lived six months afterward. She also was a member of the Christian Church. The present wife of our subject, for-

merly Mrs. Malinda (Bruce) Drake, was born in the State of New York in 1822, and was married to our subject June 20, 1878. Her first husband, Allen Drake, also a native of the Empire State, was born in 1816, and they were married on the 7th of August, 1841. Mr. Drake departed this life in 1859. Of this union there were born two children—Elizabeth and Captain F.

The latter, Captain F., enlisted in the 107th Illinois Infantry, and died of typhoid fever in 1863, when but nineteen years of age. At the time Southern Ohio was raided by Gen. Morgan, the young Captain was taken prisoner at Elizabethtown, Ky., during his illness, and while his mother was attending at his bedside. She was also taken with her son and held for twenty-four hours, after which he was paroled and they returned to her home in Illinois, where his death took place. The widowed mother, after the death of her son, drew a pension until her subsequent marriage with our subject. Mr. Mead at one time was the owner of 500 acres of land in Homer Township, a good share of which he divided up among his children, reserving but a quarter section for his own use.

CHARLES W. PECK, a prosperous farmer of Stanton Township, is located on section 26, where, with his wife and seven children, he lives in the enjoyment of a home of more than ordinary comfort and surrounded by the good things of life. He has been a resident of this vicinity since 1849, in which year his parents removed by wagon from Terre Haute, Ind., to Somer Township, this county. Our subject was born in the first mentioned place March 16, 1845, and is the son of Charles and Margaret Peck. The mother only lived nine years after the removal, and the father with his family afterward moved into Warren County, Ill., occupying a farm there four years. In 1863 they came back to this county and located in Homer, where they remained until the spring of 1866. The father then took up his abode in Vermilion County, where his death occurred six months later. He was a native of New York State and all his life engaged in farming pursuits. The children of

the parental family are recorded as follows: Marie, the eldest daughter, became the wife of James Julick, and is a resident of Urbana; Elizabeth, the wife of Peter Richter, lives in Urbana; William married Miss Mary Weaver, and they became the parents of two children, and they and their children have all passed to their long home; John married Miss Ann Kirby, and is a resident of Adair County, Iowa; Ann, the wife of William Richter, is now deceased; Sarah married Daniel Aholtz; both are deceased, but their one child is living; Charles W., of our sketch, is the youngest of the family.

When our subject first ventured out from under the home roof he did so for the purpose of enlisting as a soldier in the Union army. He was then but seventeen years and six months old, but was filled with patriotism, and nothing could prevent his entering the ranks. He enlisted in Co. G, 84th Ill. Vol. Inf., was enrolled on the 16th of July, 1862, and after a creditable record received his honorable discharge on the 8th of June, 1865, when the war was practically ended. He had been promoted Corporal and was in a large number of the important battles of the war, including that of Stone River, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, the siege of Atlanta, and in various other minor engagements, of which he has preserved a long list and the dates thereof. He was remarkably fortunate, and although experiencing many hairbreadth escapes, was never wounded and never in the hospital. His regiment belonged to the 4th Corps of the 3d Brigade, and his company went out of service with only thirty of the original number enrolled.

After retiring from the army Mr. Peck returned to Homer, Ill., and on the 25th of December following, fulfilled the pledges which he had made Miss Elizabeth E. Noyes, of Indiana, by making her his wedded wife. In less than two short years she passed from the scenes of earth, her death taking place Dec. 4, 1867.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Nov. 8, 1870, was formerly Mrs. Mary A. McKinney, daughter of Simon and Sarah Helton, formerly of Bath County, Ky., and widow of M. W. McKinney. This marriage took place in Champaign County, where they located and have since lived. The farm includes 120 acres of land and is

supplied with good buildings and everything necessary for conducting its operations in the most approved manner. The father of Mrs. Peck departed this life Dec. 23, 1872, when fifty-seven years of age, and the mother four years later, on the 10th of July, 1876, aged fifty-four. Mr. and Mrs. P. are members in good standing of the Christian Church, and politically our subject is identified with the Republican party. The seven children of the household, four sons and three daughters, are all living and named as follows: Lizzie, Willie, Frank, Lillie, Albert and Charlie (twins) and Ivy.

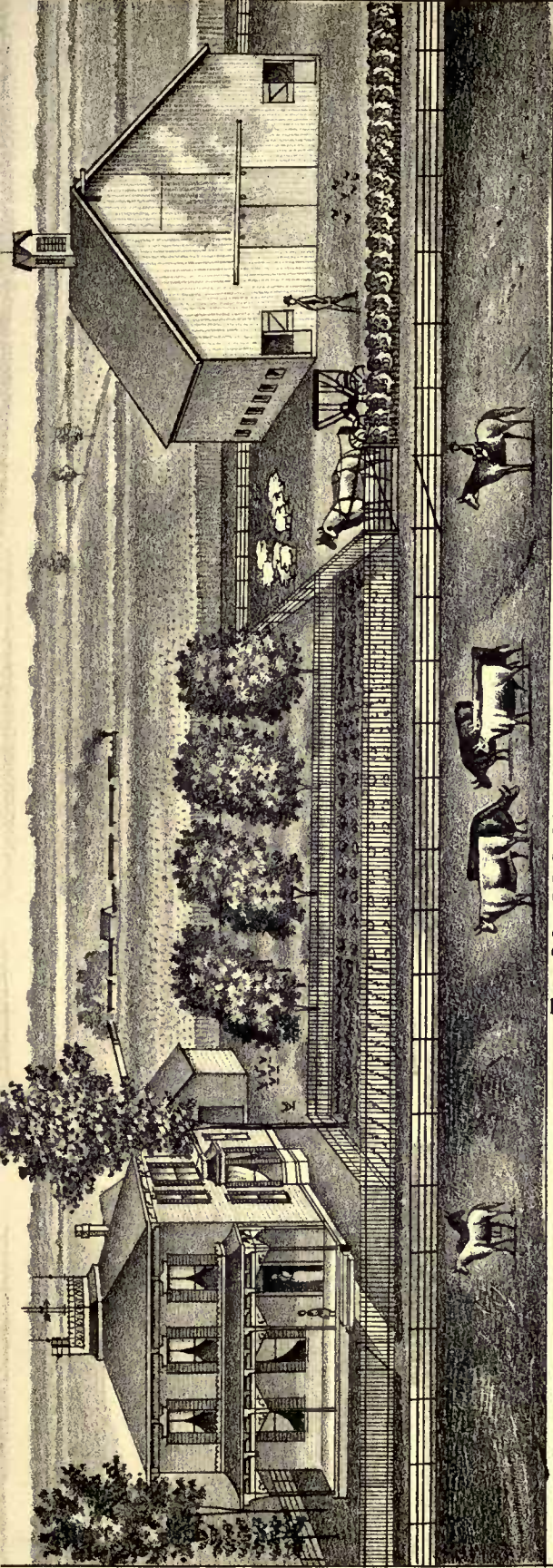


WILLIAM WOOD, a successful young farmer of Philo Township, owns and operates a fine country estate of eighty acres with an abundance of choice fruits and the various other luxuries and improvements of a first-class modern farm. He comes from an excellent family, being the son of Oliver and Mary (Winn) Wood, and was born in Edgar County, this State, May 25, 1857. His parents became residents of Edgar County, in the pioneer days, and until our subject was eighteen years of age, the time of his father was about equally divided between Edgar and Champaign Counties.

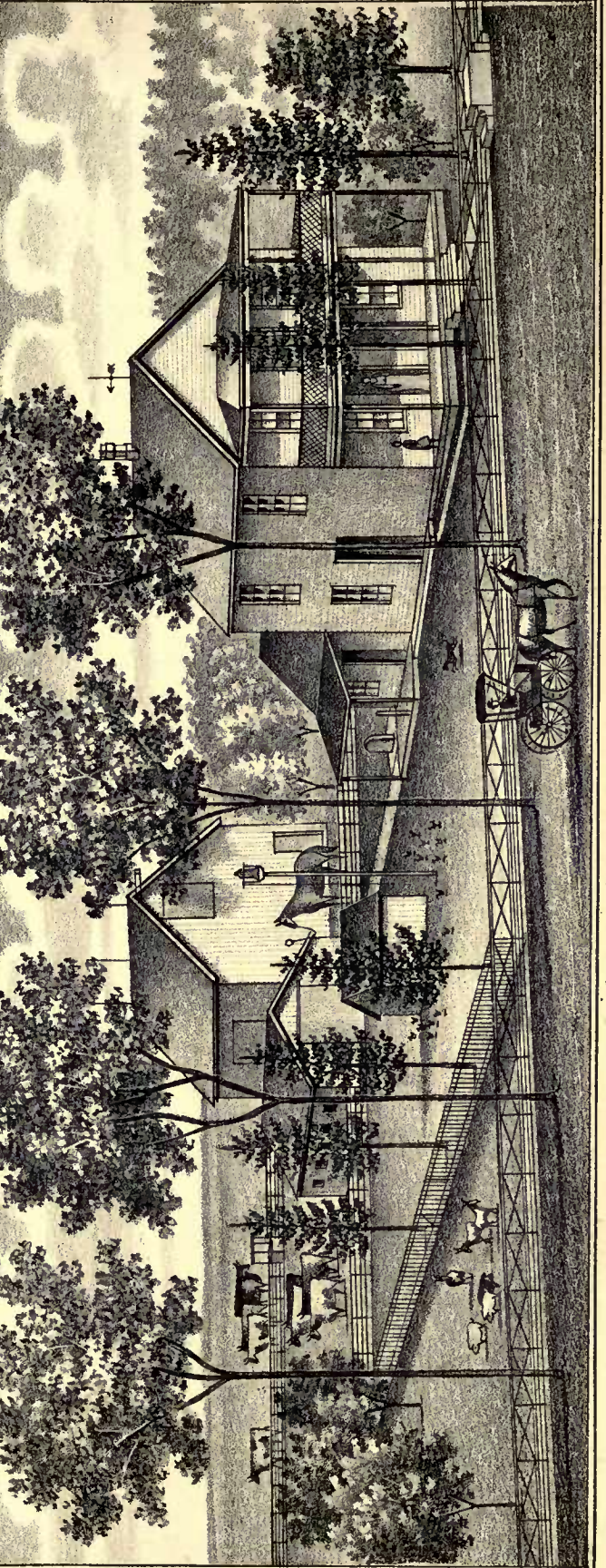
Oliver Wood was trained to habits of industry by his excellent parents, and being naturally bright and ambitious, attained to more than the average in mental capacity and business ability. His first visit to this county occurred while the now flourishing cities of Champaign and Urbana were mere hamlets. Before he was twenty years old he was attacked by the California gold fever, and in company with a boy friend, Mr. Abe Ordell, of whom a sketch appears in another part of this work, joined a party en route for the Pacific slope. Upon reaching St. Joseph, Mo., they became involved in a dispute with one of the leaders of the company and they both returned to Champaign County. Oliver Wood for some time afterward was employed in a brickyard but never abandoned his idea of visiting California. In about 1852, he set out a second time and succeeded in reaching his destination. He entered the mines as a laborer, and soon afterward

met with a terrible affliction by the premature explosion of a blast, which destroyed his eyes. Of the man who operated this there was not even found a bone.

Mr. Wood at this time had accumulated about \$800 worth of gold dust which he intrusted with a friend during his confinement of six weeks in the hospital. As soon as able he set out on his return home alone, with his gold and other baggage, via the water route. They had not proceeded far on the voyage when the ship was disabled and pronounced in sinking condition. Mr. Wood lashed himself to his trunk, and with his gold firmly secured around his body, leaped into the water and swam around until the vessel had been righted and was deemed safe enough to proceed with. Some of the crew then picked Mr. Wood out of the water, together with his effects, when he was entirely exhausted and nearly ready to sink. He returned to Edgar County, Ill., where he engaged in merchandising, and a little later was married to the noble-hearted woman who was willing to take him with his affliction. This lady, Mrs. Mary (Winn) Hubbell, was born, reared and first married in Greenville, Ind. Mr. Hubbell died in Edgar County of cholera, together with four of their six children. After the marriage of Mr. Wood with Mrs. Hubbell they united their efforts in the establishment of a home, in which they met with success and remained residents of Edgar County until 1867. In that year, with their new-born son, our subject, and the two children of Mrs. Wood by her former husband, they came to Philo Village, where Mr. Wood engaged in merchandising as before, and with the assistance of his family built up a good trade, although never recovering the loss of his sight. In due time he purchased a tract of land on section 27, in Philo Township, which became his permanent home, and upon which he brought about many improvements, including a comfortable dwelling and all necessary out-buildings. Here his death occurred April 18, 1884, when he was fifty-two years old. Notwithstanding his affliction he was quite skillful in the use of tools, possessing more than ordinary mechanical genius. His kindness of heart secured for him a large circle of friends and acquaintances, by whom he was universally regretted when called from earth.



RESIDENCE OF E. M. McKEE, SEC. 33, BROWN TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF WM. WOOD, SEC. 27, PHILO TOWNSHIP.

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He accepted cheerfully the final summons in the hope of a better life beyond the tomb. He died a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which he had united in about 1884. Mrs. Wood survived her husband only about one year, dying of consumption May 12, 1885. She performed her duties nobly as a wife and mother, and her name is held in affectionate remembrance by all who knew her.

William, the only son of Oliver and Mary W. Wood, and the subject of this history, was born in Edgar County, this State, May 25, 1857, and was ten years old when his parents became residents of Philo Township. He received his education in the common schools and never left his blind father while the latter was living. Like him he is possessed of that social and genial temperament which renders him a favorite among his friends and acquaintances, and in his business dealings he is the soul of honor. Besides property in Urbana he owns the homestead, which at one time included the largest apple orchard in this county.

Mr. Wood was married at his home in Philo Township to Miss Isabelle Roe, June 13, 1880, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Mr. Orr, of Philo. Mrs. Wood is a native of Missouri, and was born Feb. 3, 1859. She came when a child with her parents to Illinois. They located in Douglas County, where her father, Hugh D. Roe, died in 1871. He was born and reared in Bath County, Ky., and there met and married Miss Ann E. Hopkins, a native of his own county. They removed to Missouri soon afterward, whence they emigrated to Douglas County, Ill., and where the mother is still living, having married again. Mrs. Wood after the death of her father, who was a farmer by occupation, earned her own living and was a young lady greatly respected wherever known. By her marriage with our subject she became the mother of three children—Mary E., Ethel, and one who died in infancy. Mr. Wood, like his father before him, is a firm adherent of the Democratic party. Mrs. W. is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. A view of the old Wood homestead is quite essential in completing the review of the pioneers of Philo Township, and it will accordingly be found on another page. Its honored

founder has passed to his reward, but his son William will not suffer it to lose any of its intrinsic value, either for its connection with the past, or as the abiding-place of a modern and progressive citizen.



ENES M. McKEE, a prominent and highly respected resident of Brown Township, became a resident of this county in 1868. He had, however, in 1855, purchased a tract of land in Newcomb Township, and began its improvement in 1861. He occupied this until 1869, then sold out and removed to Champaign, of which he was a resident a year and a half. At the expiration of this time he purchased a part of his present homestead on section 33, where, about four years ago, he put up a fine residence which is said to be the best in the township, and of whose merits our readers can partially judge from the fine lithographic view presented on another page in connection with this sketch, and is now the owner of 460 acres of land. This is thoroughly drained with upward of 3,000 rods of tile, is all enclosed, and under a good state of cultivation. The farm in all its appointments presents a picture of the model country estate, superintended by a man of more than ordinary ability and of ample means.

Our subject was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, Oct. 16, 1830. He is the son of Ely C. and Nancy H. (Griffin) McKee, the former a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, and the latter of Rush County, Ind. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Samuel McKee, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and served for a time under the command of Gen. Anthony Wayne. He was Scotch-Irish by birth, and came to America with his brother prior to the Revolutionary War. At its close he settled on a farm within six miles of Cincinnati, and which he owned and occupied until his death. The parents of our subject located in Indiana after their marriage, and thence returned southeastward to Cincinnati, Ohio. Ely McKee was a blacksmith by trade, which he pursued in the Queen City for a number of years, and then removing to Tippecanoe County, Ind., with his wife, there spent the re-

mainder of his days. The household circle included ten children, five boys and five girls.

Our subject, in common with his brothers and sisters, was educated in the public schools and reared to farming pursuits. After reaching manhood, he engaged as a stock-dealer, buying and shipping with considerable success. He was married, in Tippecanoe County, Ind., Feb. 22, 1868, to Miss Sarah M. Hiatt, who was born in Vigo County, Ind., March 27, 1839, and is the daughter of Josiah and Mary J. (Shaffer) Hiatt. Josiah Hiatt was a native of North Carolina, of Welsh ancestry, and the mother, who was born in Ohio, was of German and French descent. They lived in different States, finally settling in Tippecanoe County, Ind., where Mr. Hiatt died in 1843. The mother, who was born May 18, 1815, still survives, and is now making her home with her daughter, Mrs. McKee. Their family consisted of three girls and one boy, of whom Mrs. McKee of our sketch was the eldest. She was first married in Greene County, Ind., to Paul Harney, a native of Indiana and of German descent. Of that marriage there was born one child, a daughter, Maude, who is now the wife of George W. Halleck, of Brown Township, this county. Mr. Harney died in Missouri.

Mr. and Mrs. McKee became the parents of five children, of whom only two are now living—Thomas C. and Grace P. Those deceased are, Minnie W., Nancy H. and Gertrude B. Mr. McKee has been Commissioner of Highways, and has held various other offices in this township. He is Republican in politics, and a member of the Masonic fraternity. His worthy wife is connected with the Christian Church.

ABEL S. SCOTT, who is comfortably located on section 8, Scott Township, has been a resident there since the spring of 1867.

He is the owner of 500 acres of choice land, all improved and under a good state of cultivation. He has erected good buildings on his farm, has choice grades of stock, valuable farm machinery, and in all respects is fully equipped as a first-class progressive agriculturist.

Our subject was born in Hardy County, W. Va., Aug. 31, 1839, and is the son of Alexander and Mary (Seymour) Scott, natives of the same State and county, where they were married and spent their entire lives. Their family consisted of three children, one son and two daughters. Abel S. remained at home until the beginning of the war, receiving a common-school education and attending the Military Institute in Lexington, for a period of four years. Here he was under the tutelage of Stonewall Jackson, and graduated in 1860. He then enlisted in the 13th Virginia Infantry, C. S. A., in which he served until the close of the war. During the latter year of the conflict he was taken prisoner but held, however, only a short time. After his return to civil life he proceeded to Ross County, Ohio, on a visit, and from there went to Louisiana, where he engaged one year in raising cotton. In 1867 he came to this county, which has since been his home.

Mr. Scott was married in this county, April 30, 1872, to Miss Sallie J., daughter of Abel R. and Jane (Dill) Seymour, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Scott was born in Ross County, Ohio, Feb. 25, 1846, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of four children—Anna, Robert S., William R. and a babe unnamed. Mr. Scott, politically, affiliates with the Democratic party. He has held the offices of School Director and Road Commissioner, and socially is a worthy member of the Masonic fraternity.

JW. AND R. A. PARRETT, familiarly known as Parrett Bros., and prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Ogden Township, are located on section 30, where they have charge of 285 acres of their father's land and are principally engaged in stock-raising. These gentlemen are the sons of John and Sophia (Cochran) Parrett, natives of Ohio. Their father was born in 1827, and the mother in 1831. John Parrett is also engaged in farming, occupying with his excellent and worthy wife, a good homestead in Ross County, Ohio. They are people highly respected wherever known, and members in good

standing of the Presbyterian Church. The father of John Parrett, Frederick A. by name, who was born in Ohio, came to Illinois in the pioneer days, and took up the land now owned by his descendants, and where his death occurred in 1865. His wife had died many years before. The children of John and Sophia Parrett were named respectively, Wallace, Florence, William A., Robert A., Elizabeth, Mary B., Arthur, M. C. and Estella M.

The marriage of J. W. Parrett and Miss Susan Peters took place on the 30th of December, 1885. Mrs. Parrett was born July 18, 1862, and is the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Swearingen) Peters, the father a native of Illinois, and the mother of Ohio. Both are living and residing in St. Joseph Township.

Mr. Parrett came to Illinois in 1880, and in company with his brother, who came in 1882, has followed farming since that time. They are enterprising and energetic young men, and valued factors in the farming interests of this section. Their stock consists principally of fine hogs and cows. Mr. Parrett takes a genuine interest in local affairs, and votes the Republican ticket. He is still a member of the Presbyterian Church in Ohio, and socially belongs to Lodge No. 252, I. O. O. F., at Homer, with which he became connected four years ago. Mrs. Parrett belongs to the Christian Church. They have one child, a daughter, Florence, born Nov. 22, 1886.

WILLIAM H. OWENS, of Urbana, is senior member of the firm of Owens & Shriver, which is engaged in the agricultural implement trade on Market street. He has been a resident of Urbana since the spring of 1856, commencing his mercantile experience as a clerk for Mr. Halberstadt. After an experience of fifteen years he set up in business for himself, in which he continued until March, 1887, then sold out and became a member of the present firm. He possesses excellent business capacity, and has been uniformly successful in his efforts to obtain a good position among his fellow-citizens, both socially and financially.

Mr. Owens was born in Baltimore County, Md.,

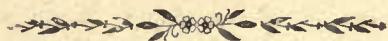
Dec. 22, 1833, and is the son of Samuel and Eliza (Brooks) Owens, both natives of Maryland. His father was engaged as a merchant in his native State the greater part of his life, and died there Jan. 21, 1849. After his decease his widow continued the business until her death, which took place on the 12th of December, 1872. The parental household included four children: Joshua, of Baltimore, Md.; William H., of our sketch; Sarah A., Mrs. Hoover, of Baltimore, Md., and Samuel W., of Catonsville, Md.

Our subject was reared to mercantile business, receiving a practical education, and remained at home until twenty-two years of age. He then emigrated to Ohio, and locating in Miami County, was engaged in railroading and butchering. His subsequent course, until 1873, we have already detailed. That year he purchased 120 acres of land in Mahomet Township, which is now operated by a tenant. Upon his farm he has a fine assortment of live-stock, and in the city of Urbana he has a stable of Norman, Morgan and Sprague horses. His Norman stallion is an imported animal, valued at \$2,500, and the Morgan is valued at \$1,000. Mr. Owens carries on the operations of his farm with the same good judgment which he exercises in his mercantile business, and has upon it the various improvements indispensable to the modern country estate.

Mr. Owens was married in 1858, to Miss Sarah A. Wolfe, who is a native of Knox County, Ohio, and daughter of Rev. Joseph and Harriet (Doan) Wolfe. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, and the father a minister of the Methodist Church. Of this union there have been born five children: Joseph D. is Agent for the United States and Pacific Express Company at Urbana; Bessie W., in 1885, graduated from the Illinois State University; Lucy D., Katie and Daisy are at home with their parents. The handsome and substantial family residence is pleasantly located, and its inmates enjoy the society and esteem of the best people of the city.

Mr. Owens has always been greatly interested in the establishment and maintenance of educational and religious institutions, and with his wife and children, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In this he has served as Class-Leader for

a period of thirty-one years, and is a regular attendant of the Sabbath-school. He assisted in the first organization of the society, and in the erection of the church building, and has contributed regularly and cheerfully of his means to the support of every measure calculated to increase the welfare of his township and county.

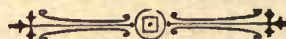


ELISHA CORRAY, favorably known as a worthy resident of Somer Township, is a native of Pike County, Ohio, born Feb. 27, 1822. His father, Isaiah Corray, a native of Bedford, Pa., was born in about 1785, and removed when a young man to Pike County, Ohio, in 1810. He was there married to Miss Elizabeth Leeth, and they became the parents of twelve children, nine of whom survived to become men and women. These were John, Rachel, Elizabeth, Elisha, Mary, Eliza, Jane, Nancy and Isaiah. Of those now living Jane is a resident of Iowa; Mary, of St. Joseph Township, this county, and Elisha, of Somer Township.

Our subject remained under the home roof until he had arrived at years of manhood, and was then united in marriage with Miss Susannah Clements, their wedding taking place July 1, 1847. Of this union there were born twelve children, of whom nine are still living. One died in infancy; Elizabeth, who became the wife of Richard Dilman, died Feb. 20, 1877; Lucinda, who married James M. Johnston, died June 6, 1883. Those surviving are Melinda, the wife of William Stephens; George; Rachel, Mrs. William Florence; James A., a resident of Zodiac Springs, Mo.; Etta D. and Hettie B. (twins); Luetta, the wife of James Berry, who resides on the old homestead, and Carrie, the youngest. Howard Dilman, the grandson of our subject, was taken into the family after the death of his father, and is as near to his grandparents as one of their own children.

Mr. Corray came to the West a poor man, but is now in possession of a fine homestead of 240 acres finely located on section 25. He has managed his business and farming operations with rare judgment and forethought, and at an early day was

recognized by his fellow-townsmen as a man of more than ordinary ability and one eminently able to become a leader in his community. He is a firm adherent of the Democratic party, has been School Director and Trustee in his township, and was Assessor for a number of years. During the war his sympathies were entirely with the Union, and although not engaging in active service, he was instrumental in raising recruits, and encouraged by his voice and means the success of the Union army. He has been engaged of late years in the raising of fine stock, including cattle, horses and swine. He is now sixty-five years old, but hale and hearty, and bids fair to continue the industrious citizen which he has been, for many years to come.



WILLIAM SKINNER. The subject of the following biography, who is a native of the Buckeye State, owns and occupies a good farm of 130 acres on section 35, Tolono Township. His residence, however, is within the town limits. He is a native of Warren County, Ohio, born March 3, 1842, and the son of Thomas and Lucinda (Miller) Skinner. The former was a native of Warren County, Ohio, and the latter of Hamilton County, that State.

After their marriage the parents located upon a farm. The father, who in early life had learned the trades of a shoemaker and carpenter, worked at these, in connection with his farming, as opportunity afforded, and the parents occupied the homestead on which they first settled until their decease, in 1863, the father dying February 10, and the mother two days afterward. Their family consisted of six children, one of whom died in infancy and one at the age of sixteen years. The latter's death occurred three days after the mother, Feb. 15, 1863. Four lived to attain their majority. Daniel is a plasterer by trade and resides in his native county, in Ohio; Abraham D. is farming in Tolono Township; William is the subject of this sketch; Thomas N., the youngest, is unmarried and a resident of Kansas.

William Skinner was reared to farming pursuits

and received his education in the common schools of the Buckeye State. He remained with his parents as long as they lived, and in 1868 was united in marriage with Miss Martha Rich, who was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, Aug. 30, 1847, and is the daughter of John and Mary Rich. The following spring he came with his bride to Illinois, and in company with his brother, Abraham, purchased 160 acres of land in Tolono Township, which they cultivated together for five years following. Our subject then disposed of his interest in the property and purchased of a younger brother eighty acres in the same township, which he cultivated also five years. He then sold out and removed into town. He always believed, however, that real estate was a good investment, and soon afterward purchased 210 acres lying on section 35, in Tolono Township. In June, 1884, he traded eighty acres of said land for his present commodious and conveniently arranged residence in the village. He still owns 130 acres, the cultivation of which he superintends and which embraces a fine fertile tract of land, prolific of the various choice crops indigenous to the soil of Illinois.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of three children, of whom one died in infancy. Those surviving are Cortland and Pearl. Mr. S. is Republican in politics, a member in good standing of the I. O. O. F., and with his family, is a regular attendant of the Presbyterian Church.



DAVID MICHENER. That which forms the chief object of attraction in passing through the Prairie State is the evident wealth and prosperity of a large proportion of the farming community. There is no fairer picture in the world during the summer season than the broad stretches of cultivated prairie which beautify the landscape of Central Illinois, and which is divided between grain fields and pasture lands, the yellow corn embellishing the one and the fine cattle roaming in contentment over the other.

Looking upon what has been accomplished during the last twenty-five years the mind naturally

reverts to those who have been instrumental in redeeming the soil from its original condition. The courage and perseverance with which they labored can scarcely be realized except by themselves, and no more enduring monument can be reared to their worth as citizens and as agriculturists than the written biography which may be perused by their descendants and others who shall come after them. Among those who have been esteemed worthy of especial notice in the ALBUM, whose facts and figures have been gathered after great labor and forethought, David Michener, of Homer Township, should occupy no unimportant place. He comes of good parentage, but when starting out for himself in life, possessed no means, except his two hands and indomitable courage.

The parents of our subject, Benjamin and Abigail (Staton) Michener, at the time of his birth were living on a farm in Jefferson County, Ohio, David being added to the household on the 15th day of March, 1818. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and his mother of North Carolina. The former, who was born in 1781, spent the early years of his life in Philadelphia, where, after becoming of suitable age he learned the trade of a hatter, which, however, he finally abandoned for the more congenial pursuits of farm life. He selected for the scene of his future operations a tract of land in Jefferson County, Ohio, where he removed in 1804, and four years later was married to the mother of our subject. This excellent lady was born in 1787, of parents who descended from the English, and after performing well her part in life as wife, mother, sister and friend, rested from her earthly labors in 1840, aged fifty-three years. Her husband survived her until in March, 1854, and then he, too, closed his eyes upon the scenes of earth. They were members of the Society of Friends, in which denomination the father of our subject was one of the select ministers and Elders for many years, and the mother was especially active in advocating the doctrines of her faith and using her influence in gathering the young into the fold. The ten children of this congenial union were named respectively Levi, Susanna, John, Lydia, Henry, David, Isaac, Edwin, Martha and Elma.

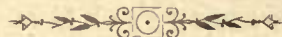
Our subject during his boyhood and youth,

which was interspersed with attendance at the common schools in the winter seasons, labored contentedly with his father and brothers on their farm in the Buckeye State until after reaching his majority. When laying his plans for the future he included in them the establishment of a home and the maintenance of a family, and on the 2d of October, 1842, was united in marriage with Miss Lisetta Smith, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride's parents in Zanesfield, Ohio. Mrs. M. is a native of Logan County, Ohio, and the daughter of Benjamin and Cynthia Netta (Garwood) Smith. Her birth took place in 1824. Her father was a native of Ohio, and a tanner and currier by trade, to which he also added the business of a merchant, and was in fact interested in various projects, being wide-awake, enterprising and prosperous. The parents are now deceased. The children of the parental household were named respectively Lisetta, Eliza, Amanda, Sarah A., Samuel B., Mary, John C., Cynthia Netta, Franklin and Eudora; a daughter died in infancy unnamed.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Michener remained in Ohio until 1864, where their eight children were born. Of these the record is as follows: Edwin R. married Miss Catherine Johnson, of Homer Township, Feb. 4, 1886; Abigail became the wife of Nathan W. Coekayne; Minnie married Nathan Smoot, of Vermilion County; Earl S. married Miss Caroline Beals, who only lived a short time; his second wife was Miss Amy Griffith. William H. is deceased; Ava is at home with her parents; Benjamin Dell married Miss Margaret Eglestein; Lulu is Mrs. Frank Toney.

Upon coming to this State our subject at once located in Homer Township, Champaign County, purchasing 242 acres of land, upon which he has since labored, improving and beautifying the farm and making it one of the most valuable in this locality. The fine residence, erected in 1884, is the admiration of the passer-by, and all its surroundings indicate plenty, with a near approach to luxury. Mr. Michener is highly esteemed as a citizen, and each year at the general elections drives to town and deposits his ballot in support of Republican candidates willing to serve as office holders and otherwise in conducting the affairs of government.

His family is one eminently to be proud of, the sons being industrious and enterprising, and engaged, like their father, in farming pursuits. Edwin R., the eldest, owns 160 acres, and Earl S. owns 140 acres, both farms lying in Vermilion County.



WILLIAM S. VANCE, a worthy member of the farming community of Brown Township, occupies 374 acres on sections 3, 10 and 11, and is pursuing his chosen calling in an intelligent and effective manner. He is also engaged in stock-raising. Mr. Vance is a native of Pendleton County, W. Va., born Oct. 12, 1844, and the son of Wilson and Mary (Parker) Vance, natives of the Old Dominion, where they were reared, married and settled. In about 1850 they came to Illinois, locating in Empire Township, McLean County, where they still reside. Of their children, nine in number, seven still survive.

William S., of our sketch, was the eldest of the family, and was about twelve years old when they came to the Prairie State. He received a fair education in the common schools, and remained under the home roof until twenty-five years of age. After leaving home he lived one year in De Witt County, and in the spring of 1869 took up his abode in Brown Township, this county, where he has since remained, engaged in farming pursuits. His broad acres are all finely adapted to the raising of grain and other products of the Mississippi Valley, while his residence and farm buildings compare favorably with any in this part of the county, and are among the best in the township, as will be seen by examining the view of them which is to be seen in this work.

While a resident of De Witt County our subject was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Helmick, their wedding taking place on the 16th of September, 1867. Mrs. Vance was the daughter of Elisha and Mary Helmick, and was born Oct. 19, 1848, in De Witt County, where her parents now reside. Of this union there were born four children—Willis F., Fannie E., Clara O. and Walter E. The wife and mother departed this life at the home of her husband in Brown Township, Sept. 28, 1884. She was

a worthy Christian lady, a consistent member of the United Brethren Church, and greatly respected by her friends and acquaintances. The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in this county, June 22, 1886, was formerly Miss Alice Bland, a native of Ohio, born Nov. 23, 1860, and the daughter of Amos and Mary (Heavner) Bland.

Both our subject and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church, and when called upon to cast his ballot Mr. V. gives his support to Democratic candidates. The products of his farm add materially to the annual report of the grain producing section of the State, and as a member of the business community no man stands higher. He started in life with nothing but a determined will and strong arms, and while reviewing the result of his labors may justly feel pride in his possessions and the means by which he has obtained them.

ELI BARRETT, an intelligent and well-educated citizen of Brown Township, owns a good farm of 160 acres on section 22, a view of which is presented in this work. The land is highly cultivated, and the buildings valuable and attractive, including a handsome residence, which our subject occupies with his wife and six children, and in the adornment of which he has taken great pleasure and pride. Mr. Barrett began the struggle of life without means or influential friends, and his present unincumbered property is the result of his own industry and perseverance. His high moral principles, together with his uniform kindness of heart, have won for him the profound respect and esteem of all who know him.

Our subject is the son of Edward and Eliza (Ensor) Barrett, natives of Maryland, and the parents of four children, Eli being the third. He also is a native of the same State, born in Baltimore County, March 7, 1826. When nine years of age, after the death of his father, he went to live with an uncle in Fairfield County, Ohio, with whom he remained until reaching his majority in the spring of 1847. He then returned to his old home in Maryland, where he remained until the fall of 1860, when, accompanied by his wife and four children, he emi-

grated to Logan County, Ill., and engaged in farming for a period of twelve years. From there he removed, in 1872, to this county, locating in Brown Township upon the land which constitutes his present farm. This he has vastly improved since taking possession of it, it having then received but little attention at the hands of the agriculturist. He is also engaged in the breeding of high-grade Short-horns.

The marriage of Mr. Barrett took place in Fairfield County, Ohio, Oct. 7, 1852, the lady of his choice being Miss Amanda Miller, a native of West Virginia. She was the daughter of William and Lucinda (Woods) Miller, natives of Virginia. After their marriage they moved to Ohio, Mrs. Barrett being then about three years of age. The children of our subject and wife are: Marion W., who lives in Nuckolls County, Neb.; Emma L.; Frank M. married Louisa Schenck, and they live in Audubon County, Iowa; Addie E. is the wife of Samuel H. Taylor, and they live in Brown Township; Amanda E. and Myrtie.

Mr. Barrett has been prominent in the affairs of his township since becoming a resident of it, holding the offices of Assessor, Collector and School Director, and otherwise being called to officiate in matters of importance. Politically he is an uncompromising Democrat.

EDMUND FREEMAN, a highly respected farmer, and one of the pioneers of Ogden Township, where he now lives, came to Illinois in 1830. His birth took place in Belmont County, Ohio, on the 3d of May, 1828, and his parents were James and Rebecca (Ogden) Freeman, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ohio. James Freeman was born Jan. 24, 1801, followed farming the greater part of his life and was essentially a self-made man, who from an humble position in life, made his way upward, secured by his own efforts a good education and had the honor of conducting the first school taught in Champaign County, for the purpose of which he devoted a corner of his own dwelling. He himself had been educated principally by his father, Thomas Freeman,

who also was a self-made man and who accumulated a fine property, which he left to his family at his death. He was Constable four years in Ogden Township, and with his wife, Rebecca, a member of the Christian Church. James Freeman departed this life in Ogden Township in 1867. The mother of our subject, who was born in 1804, had passed away previous to the death of her husband, her decease occurring in 1854. The household included ten children, who were named as follows: Thomas and Mary (twins), Edmund, Lydia A., Eleazer, Andrew J., Rebecca, who died in infancy, Angeline, Martha, who died in infancy, and James L.

The boyhood days of Mr. Freeman were passed on the farm in Ohio, whence he removed with his parents to Illinois. Soon after reaching his majority he was married in Vermilion County, to Miss Jemima Rush, their wedding taking place in the spring of 1853. Mrs. F. was born April 20, 1834, and after remaining the companion of her husband for a period of thirty-three years, departed this life at the homestead in Ogden Township in January, 1886. She was the daughter of Samuel and Catherine (Wright) Rush, who were excellent people and members in good standing of the Baptist Church. They are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Freeman became the parents of eleven children; Elizabeth was born July 31, 1854; Thomas M., Dec. 23, 1855; Elias, who was born June 22, 1857, married Miss Nancy J. Fisher; Reuben was born Feb. 16, 1859; Levi, born Sept. 27, 1860, married Miss Susan E. Harmison; Nancy E., born July 5, 1862, died July 12, 1863; James was born April 27, 1864; Jessie, born Oct. 1, 1866, died when seven years of age, in 1873; John M. was born March 12, 1868; George W., born July 4, 1875, died the following day; Cora May was born July 31, 1879.

Mr. Freeman made his first purchase of land in about 1850, entering it from the Government. This was unimproved, and the few years afterward were employed in the careful cultivation of the soil and planting the crops it was the most likely to produce. He gained a little better foothold each year, and as his means accumulated added to his real estate so that he is now the possessor of 438 broad acres, part of it devoted to pasturage and the balance producing the richest crops of the Prairie State.

In 1877 Mr. Freeman erected the fine frame dwelling now occupied by the family, which is flanked by substantial barns and other necessary farm buildings and is kept in good repair, while the implements of husbandry and the entire machinery of the farm, of first-class description and kept in fine order, give evidence of the enterprising character of the proprietor. He labored with willing hands and cheerful heart during his early manhood and is now reaping the rightful reward of his industry. He delights in noting the march of progress and prosperity in his township, and has been no unimportant factor in establishing its present position among the surrounding communities. Since exercising the rights of an American born citizen he has cast his influence in support of Republican principles.



JAMES W. CHAMP, of Condit Township, was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, on the 22d of February, 1822, and is the son of John William and Mary (Shanton) Champ, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Kentucky. The paternal grandfather of our subject, William Champ, removed from the Old Dominion to Ohio at an early day, settling first in Pickaway County, whence he removed to Ross County, and there spent the remainder of his life. His son John, the father of our subject, removed with the family to Ohio, where he married, became the father of nine children, and in the midst of an interesting family was cut down in the prime of life, dying in Pickaway County in 1832. The mother was thus left a widow with young children and a farm of 125 acres somewhat encumbered. With heroic resolution she kept her family together until they were old enough to provide for themselves, they in the meanwhile assisting her in the improvement and cultivation of the homestead. This she occupied until the close of her life in 1867.

Mr. Champ was the sixth child of his parents and lived with his mother until nineteen years old. He then went out to work by the day or month as he could secure employment, and was thus occupied five years following. At the expiration of this time, with the small sum he had saved by the

closest economy, he took unto himself a companion and helpmeet, and renting a farm in Ross County, Ohio, resided there until 1855. In the spring of that year he came to Illinois, locating first in Logan County, where he operated on rented land until 1870. He was successful in his labors, and then coming into this county purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. It was a wild, uncultivated tract of prairie, and its present finely improved condition is the result of his uninterrupted labor since that time. It is now enclosed, all under the plow, and supplied with handsome and substantial frame buildings, as will be seen by a glance at the view presented on another page.

The marriage of Mr. Champ and Miss Sarah A. Hobbs took place on the 23d of May, 1847. Mrs. Champ is a native of Ross County, Ohio, born Oct. 28, 1826, and the daughter of Ephraim and Sarah (Chasteen) Hobbs. Her parents were born in Virginia, whence they removed to Ross County, Ohio, at an early period in the settlement of that State. The seven children born of this marriage are recorded as follows: Zachariah T. and Francis Marion are residents of Gage County, Neb.; Mary, the wife of H. H. Woods, lives on the home farm; Abraham, in Elk County, Kan.; Sarah Ann, Mrs. A. C. Hatch, in Gage County, Neb.; Maria, Mrs. John Parnell, in Newton Township, this county, and John A. on the homestead.

Our subject is Republican in politics, and with his excellent wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. During the long period in which they have moved in and out among the people of Condit Township, few have "named them but to praise."



DANIEL NISEWANDER, one of the honored pioneers of Illinois, came to Champaign County in 1850, and was among the earliest settlers of Mahomet Township, whence he afterward removed to Hensley, where he has since resided. He owns and occupies a fine estate consisting of 401 acres of land, a handsome and substantial set of frame buildings, and all the appliances of a first-class agriculturist. He has

witnessed with satisfaction the growth and development of his adopted State, and has contributed in no small degree to the present prosperity of Champaign County. He has for many years been closely identified with its agricultural and business interests, and has contributed liberally and cheerfully of his time and means for the encouragement of every worthy project.

Our subject was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, Oct. 18, 1819. His father, Joseph Nisewander, was a native of Washington County, Md., and his grandfather was born in Switzerland. The latter emigrated to the United States when a young man, settling in Washington County, Md., where he spent the remainder of his life. There his son Joseph, the father of our subject, grew to manhood and was united in marriage with Miss Lydia Avey. She was born in Maryland, of German parentage. After their marriage the young people removed to Ohio, and settled on a part of the present site of the Queen City. It was at that time but a small village. Joseph Nisewander bought eighty acres of land which now lies in the heart of the city. Disposing of this in 1821 he removed to Montgomery County, of which he remained a resident seven years, then, emigrating to Indiana located in Tippecanoe County, and was among the earliest settlers of that section. He purchased a tract of timber land, a portion of which he cleared and to which he added later a small area of prairie. He remained a native of that county until his death in 1859. The wife and mother survived but a few years, then joined her husband on the other shore, her death also taking place on the homestead which they had unitedly established.

Of the nine children comprising the parental family Daniel was the fourth. He was but two years old when his parents removed to Cincinnati, and nine years old when they left the Buckeye State for Indiana. He remained under the parental roof until 1850, then came to this county during the early settlement of Mahomet Township. The greater part of the prairie around was untenanted save by wild animals, and deer roamed at will over the long grass. The nearest markets were the towns on the Illinois and Wabash Rivers.

Our subject was variously engaged for nine

years following his arrival in Mahomet Township, during which time he had saved what he could of his limited earnings, and in 1859 purchased a part of the land which constitutes his present homestead. It is hardly necessary to say that the years since that time have been industriously employed in the cultivation and improvement of the homestead, which now in all respects indicates the supervision of the progressive and intelligent farmer and business man. The course of Mr. Nisewander has been uniformly upright and praiseworthy, and he enjoys in a marked degree the confidence and respect of his fellow-townsmen.

The marriage of our subject and Miss Sarah Breace took place in Lafayette, Ind., in 1849. Mrs. N. was born in Ohio, and departed this life at the home of her husband in Hensley Township, Feb. 12, 1873. The children of this union were: Sarah, now the wife of George Lutz, of Champaign; William, who lives in Hensley Township, and one deceased.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married June 12, 1875, was formerly Miss Alice Morris, who was born in Brown County, Ohio, Jan. 12, 1859. Of this marriage there have been born Edgar, Jennie, Merritt and Ira. Our subject is Democratic in politics, a man of decided views and opinions and fearless in the expression of his sentiments.

The home of Mr. Nisewander makes a pleasant picture in the landscape of Hensley Township, and the view is reproduced on another page of this work.



WE. HANDY, Agent of the Western Union Telegraph Company, at Tolono. He located in this place on the 10th of May, 1872. He is an expert operator, and commenced to learn the business in 1878, at Perry Springs, Pike County, this State. He is a native of Cameron, Mo., and was born Sept. 2, 1860. He is the son of John W. and Hepsy R. (High) Handy, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Ohio. The parents soon after marriage located in Cameron, Mo., where the father died in 1861. The year following the mother with her only son removed

to Illinois and located at Chambersburg, in Pike County, where she still resides. She was married the second time, in September, 1880, to Mr. J. W. Smith, a prominent and successful fruit-grower of that section.

Our subject began his education in the common schools of his native county and completed it in Wesleyan University at Bloomington. He commenced to learn the art of telegraphy in 1878, as we have stated, and has operated successfully since that time. He was married in January, 1880, to Jennie M., daughter of O. E. and Jane B. Culbertson, of Tolono. Mrs. Handy was born in Tolono in 1861, and by her marriage with our subject has become the mother of two children—Charles E. and Alice.

Mr. H., politically, affiliates with the Democratic party, and has been quite prominent in local politics, serving as Chairman of the Township Central Committee. He has also been Village Clerk. Socially he is a member of Tolono Lodge No. 391, A. F. & A. M., in which he has been Master for three years. He also belongs to the Chapter at Champaign, and Commandery No. 16, at Urbana, and is a most exemplary young man, gifted with excellent business judgment, and an affable disposition.



JOHAN T. MILLER. Among the pleasant homesteads in Ludlow Township, that of our subject invariably attracts the attention of the passing traveler. It is located one and one-half miles from the flourishing city of Rantoul, which furnishes a convenient market and a point easily accessible for trading purposes. The farm comprises 160 acres of land finely located, and enclosed and improved with a convenient and tasteful residence, a good barn, and all other buildings required by the modern and progressive agriculturist. Our subject has been a resident of this county since 1880, in which year he took possession of his farm. He is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Clarke County, June 28, 1841. His father, Daniel, and his grandfather, Frederick Miller, were both natives of Virginia, and the latter of German ancestry. He occupied himself in farm-

ing the greater part of his life, remaining a resident of the Old Dominion until 1818, and then emigrated to Ohio. He purchased a tract of timber land, opened up a good farm from the wilderness, and on the homestead thus established by the labor and industry of years, passed his last days in the enjoyment of an honest competency.

The father of our subject was a lad of fourteen years when his parents removed to Ohio. The journey was made overland with teams, and they carried their provisions, cooking by the wayside and sleeping in their wagons at night. Daniel assisted his father in clearing the farm, and learned the trade of a blacksmith. Upon reaching manhood, he purchased five acres and put up a house and shop, of logs. At that time Cincinnati was but an embryo village, about eighty miles distant, and the nearest depot for supplies. During the winter season young Miller used to take a load of flour and whisky to Cincinnati, and return with iron, salt and other necessary articles. After a few years, during which he had accumulated a little means, he purchased 160 acres of timber land six miles west of Springfield, which he commenced to clear, in the meantime carrying on his trade as opportunity afforded. After a time he abandoned the latter and gave his entire attention to the cultivation of his land. He added to his real estate until he became possessed of 277 acres, and before his death had placed it nearly all under a good state of cultivation. He erected a substantial brick house and frame barn, planted orchards, and had all the comforts and conveniences of an Eastern home. He died there in 1878. He had married, in early manhood, Miss Elizabeth Neff, who was born in Virginia, and became the true companion and sympathizer of her husband in all his undertakings. Her death occurred on the old homestead in 1870.

They had a family of eleven children: Mary, the eldest daughter, became the wife of George Gordon and died in Clarke County, Ohio, at the age of twenty-two years; Sarah died in early childhood, when nine years old; Delilah, Mrs. James, is a resident of McLean County, this State; Leah, Mrs. Pursell, is a resident of Clarke County, Ohio; Benjamin lives in Shelby County, Ill.; Emeline, Mrs.

Hughel, died in Anderson, Ind.; Willis H., during the late war became a soldier in the 44th Ohio Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Beverly, W. Va.; Henrietta, Mrs. Collins, lives in Harrison County, Mo.; our subject was the next child; Eliza, Mrs. Ellis, lives at Yellow Springs, and Clara, Mrs. Detrick, in Clarke County, Ohio.

Our subject was the youngest son of the family, and remained at home attending the district school and assisting his parents until the opening of the war. In September, 1861, he enlisted in Co. F. 44th Ohio Vol. Inf., serving until the expiration of his term of enlistment, and veteranizing in January, 1863, followed the fortunes of his comrades in arms until the close of the war. He was present at many of its important battles, including that of Lewisburg, W. Va., and Knoxville, Tenn., and joined the command of Gen. Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley campaign. There were skirmishes and other encounters with the enemy too numerous to mention. His company was afterward transferred to the 8th Ohio Cavalry, and was mustered out at Clarkesburg, W. Va., in August, 1865. Upon his return home Mr. Miller engaged in farming with his father on the old homestead for fifteen years following, then came to this State and purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1868, was Miss Ella, daughter of Smith and Sarah (Stephens) Wallace. She has borne our subject five children—John W., Frank A., Calvin P., Jessie May, and Thomas S., who died in his thirteenth year. Mr. Miller is Republican in politics, and with his wife is connected with the Baptist Church.



MRS. NARCISSA HOLADAY. Standing back from the road leading to the little city of St. Joseph, from which it is two and one-half miles distant, is a handsome and commodious residence, set in the midst of beautiful grounds surrounded by choice shade trees and shrubbery, with a fine lawn and numerous winding walks, and which is the admiration of every passer-by. Adjacent and in the rear of the dwelling is a

large barn, including the stables and carriage house which, in construction and size, correspond with the residence, and are flanked by the smaller buildings necessary to the well-regulated country estate. The fields belonging to this homestead stretch away over 240 acres, the greater part of which is finely cultivated land and yields in abundance the richest harvests of the Prairie State. This beautiful home has been occupied by the lady above named for a period of fourteen years, with the exception of eight years spent in Vermilion Grove for the purpose of educating her children.

The subject of this biography is the daughter of I. T. and Rebecca (Commons) Lewis, late of Stanton Township, and the widow of J. P. Holaday, who departed this life April 2, 1872. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. H., Caleb Lewis and his wife, were natives of North Carolina. After marriage they removed from their native State to Ohio, where they reared their family and passed the remainder of their lives. Their son I. T. was born in North Carolina, Dec. 19, 1804, and was a boy of eight years when his parents became residents of the Buckeye State. He remained with them until his marriage with Miss Rachael Waldrip, who was a native of Tippecanoe County, Ind., and born March 20, 1809. They became husband and wife on the 30th of August, 1827. Eighteen years later, after becoming the mother of six children, the wife died, on the 14th of February, 1845.

The father of Mrs. Holaday, after the death of his first wife, was married to Miss Rebecca Commons, in Wayne County, Ind., May 11, 1846. This lady was the daughter of William and Sarah Commons, of English descent, and of their union there were born seven children, four sons and three daughters, all of whom grew to become men and women: Perry is managing the farm of his sister, Mrs. Holaday; Oliver married Miss Sue Ellis of Vermilion. The father of these children died in Vermilion County, Ill., in about 1885.

Mr. Holaday was the first son of William and E. J. Holaday, and remained with his parents until reaching his majority. When first coming to Stanton Township he purchased 160 acres of railroad land on section 34, for which he paid \$15 per acre. It had never been cultivated, and his first business

was to break the sod and fence the fields, at which he labored industriously until he had brought it to a good state of cultivation. He added to his real estate as time progressed and accumulated a handsome property. He had been raised in the Quaker faith, and to this he loyally adhered during his life. Politically he voted with the Republican party. Mr. and Mrs. H. became the parents of two children, namely, Olive M. and Oren P.

A few months after the death of her husband Mrs. Holaday removed to Vermilion Grove, remaining there with her children until they had completed their education. She returned to the farm in the spring of 1886, and began to carry out the projects of her husband in regard to the further improvement of their property. The fine residence which forms an attractive feature of the estate was built under her supervision, and she has in other respects added to the beauty and value of the property. She is living comfortably, in the enjoyment of all the conveniences and many of the luxuries of modern life, having her two children with her, and visited by the best people of the community, who appreciate her intelligence and ability and within whose hospitable doors they always find a pleasant welcome.



WILLIAM B. BRODRICK. This gentleman, who is comfortably located on a good farm in Newcomb Township, is a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, born May 10, 1815, and is the son of Anthony and Rachel (Doan) Brodrick, natives of New York. The parental household included one son and six daughters.

William B. Brodrick remained in his native county until he was fourteen years old, and then set out to do for himself. He first went to Dearborn County, Ind., where he lived four years, and from there proceeded to Tippecanoe County, and there resided until the spring of 1853, when he took up his abode in Newcomb Tp., this county, which has since been his home. He has always been engaged in farming pursuits, and at present is the owner of 185 acres of good land. Upon this he has erected a tasteful and convenient dwelling which,

together with his barn and other necessary out-buildings, forms a comfortable homestead.

Mr. Brodrick was married in Tippecanoe County, Ind., April 13, 1839, to Miss Phebe Keeler, a native of Indiana. The record of the children of this union, seven in number, is as follows: Hester A. became the wife of Hiram Peabody, and met her death by being poisoned, in 1885; William B., Jr., during the late war was a member of Co. A, 20th Ill. Vol. Inf., and was killed by a shell at the battle of Champion Hills, Miss.; John F. at the same time was a member of Co. B, 51st Ill. Vol. Inf., and died in the hospital at Jackson, Tenn.; Charles W. is married, and a resident of Nebraska; Allen W. is an artist; Amanda M. became the wife of James M. Mitchell, a resident of Gibson, Ill., and died while on a visit to her parents in Newcomb Township, this county; Phebe K., Mrs. D. H. Lester, resides with her husband on a farm in Newcomb Township. The wife of our subject, who was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a lady highly esteemed in the community, departed this life at her home in Newcomb Township, Jan. 15, 1855. Mr. Brodrick is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically is a staunch Democrat and Prohibitionist.



JOHNSON OBRYANT, deceased. The quarter section of land which in 1851 became the property of the subject of this sketch, forms a part of section 27, in Sadorus Township, where he labored for a period of fourteen years, and built up a good homestead for his family. The people of that community among whom he went in and out, honestly and conscientiously, bear testimony to the excellence of his character and the correctness of his quiet and unassuming life. Although, perhaps, not the hero of many great events, he discharged his duty to the best of his ability, and was accounted a good and useful member of the community.

The birth of Mr. Obryant took place in Pike County, Ohio, Nov. 16, 1812. He was the second child of James and Sarah (Powleson) Obryant,

also natives of the Buckeye State, where the father's death took place. In 1846 the mother came to Illinois, and spent the remainder of her days on a farm with her son James, in Douglas County.

Johnson Obryant, when fourteen years of age, left home and went into Bainbridge, Ross County, to learn the tanner's trade, at which he served an apprenticeship of nearly six years. A little before his twentieth year he was married, Oct. 22, 1840, to Miss Jane McUmn, daughter of William and Nancy McUmn. The young people at once proceeded westward, and crossing the Mississippi, settled near St. Joseph, Mo., where our subject was employed at his trade, and where for a brief time they enjoyed the comforts of a modest home. A year later his young wife died, leaving him with one child, a boy, Austin M., who was afterward cared for by his grandmother. He spent his boyhood and youth in this county, and although not strong physically was bright and intelligent, and when grown to manhood became Collector for Sadorus Township. While holding this office he mysteriously disappeared, and no trace was afterward found of him. It is generally believed that he was murdered for his money, as he was a young man of sterling integrity and excellent habits, and his honesty was never questioned.

Mr. Obryant followed farming in Missouri a little more than two years, and after the death of his wife came to Illinois, to the home of his mother and brother in Douglas County. He rented land near the farm of the latter, and remained there five years. In January, 1847, he was married to Miss Catharine, the second child of William and Nancy (Beavers) Rouck. Mr. Obryant remained in Douglas County four years after this event, and then came to Champaign County, where he spent the remainder of his days, departing this life Feb. 28, 1868.

Mrs. Obryant, after the death of her husband remained on the farm with her children until the spring of 1887, when she moved north and settled on section 14, taking possession of 200 acres, which came to her from her father's estate, and where she now lives near a married daughter. Of her union with our subject there were born six children—Rebecca H., Mary P. and Lemuel R., born in Dou-

las County, and Isabell, Josephine and Emma, natives of Champaign. The eldest daughter, Rebecca, became the wife of John Fulkerson, a farmer of Pesotum Township, and died Oct. 27, 1868, leaving one child, a daughter, Minnie B., who followed her mother on the 18th of November, not quite a month later; Mary P. married Robert C. Benton, a farmer of Sadorus Township, and departed this life Feb. 13, 1879, leaving one child, a son, Hugh J., who is now with his father in Missouri; Lemuel R., unmarried, is at home with his mother; Isabell became the second wife of her brother-in-law, R. C. Benton, and died Feb. 16, 1882, leaving a child, Harry, who joined the mother in the other life, on the 13th of October following; Josephine is the wife of James Chapman, a harness-maker of Whiting, Jackson Co., Kan., where he conducts a harness-shop, and owns a farm near by, which is operated by a tenant; this daughter became the mother of four children—John Lemuel (deceased), Ralph B., Emma W. and Iva G. The youngest daughter is married to William Price, who is carrying on their forty-acre farm, and at the same time is also managing the farm property belonging to her mother. He is an active and enterprising young farmer, fully deserving of the confidence reposed in him. Mr. and Mrs. Price have two children—Catharien A. and Parker J. Mr. Obryant was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for a quarter of a century, and Mrs. Obryant is a member of the same denomination.

HENRY KURTZ, well and favorably known throughout Brown Township, is a native of Stark County, Ohio, his birth taking place Jan. 18, 1844. He is the son of Henry and Anna (Eschliman) Kurtz, the former a native of Ohio, and the latter of Pennsylvania. Both were reared in the Buckeye State, where they married, and located in Stark County, and there the father died in the fall of 1843. Mrs. Kurtz survived her husband over forty years, her death taking place in 1885, in Piatt County, this State. Their family consisted of three children, two sons and a daughter, of whom our subject was the youngest.

Henry Kurtz was reared on his father's farm, and during the winter season attended the district school, remaining a resident of his native county until 1872, when he was twenty-eight years of age. He then decided to seek a locality farther west. For two years before leaving Stark County, he had been engaged in the lumber business and obtained some knowledge of the methods of dealing in stock and grain. His tastes inclining to this latter branch of business, after locating in Piatt County, this State, he engaged in buying and shipping stock for six years, and for two years afterward followed milling.

Mr. Kurtz came to Brown Township in the spring of 1881, and is now the owner of 360 acres of improved land, which he largely devotes to stock-growing, keeping about thirty head of cattle and 150 hogs, and has fed large numbers of sheep. He takes pride in having all his operations carried on systematically and in good order, and is always full of business, possessing the energy required for the proper supervision of his extensive interests. The residence is a tasteful and convenient structure, and the barn exceeds anything of the kind in that section. The homestead in all its appointments forms a model country estate, which its proprietor may be pardoned for viewing with pride and satisfaction.

The marriage of Mr. Kurtz took place in Wayne County, Ohio, Feb. 7, 1867, his chosen bride being Miss Barbara A. Nisewanger, who was the youngest daughter of Emanuel and Barbara Nisewanger, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Pennsylvania. To the parents of Mrs. Kurtz there were born thirteen children, seven sons and six daughters. Her father is deceased, but her mother is still living.

The wife of our subject was born in Wayne County, Ohio, Sept. 23, 1848, and remained with her parents until her marriage, receiving careful home training and instruction in all housewifely duties. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Kurtz, ten in number, were named respectively, Leo G., Samuel E., Orlando N., Willis L., Henry H., Jessie M., Sylvia A., Ralph E., Barbara M. and Raymond W.

Our subject has been Supervisor of Brown Township, besides holding some of the minor offices.

Mr. and Mrs. Kurtz are connected with the German Baptist Church, and politically Mr. Kurtz votes with the Republican party.

The homestead of Mr. Kurtz invariably attracts the attention and admiration of the passing traveler, and we have selected it to assist in embellishing this work, as will be seen by referring to another page.

MRS. ELIZABETH O. MYERS, who occupies a worthy position in the society of Homer Village, is the widow of John L. Myers, and daughter of John and Eleanor (Wilson) Ochiltree. She was born in Greenbrier County, W. Va., July 6, 1810, and remained a resident of the Old Dominion until 1817. Her father, John Ochiltree, was born in 1777, and died in Fayette County, Ohio, in 1833, he having become a resident of the latter State in the spring of 1817. The mother, also a native of Virginia, was born in 1787, and after the death of her husband moved further westward, to Illinois, locating near the home of Mrs. Myers in this county, and departed this life in 1857. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and during the years of their active life engaged in farming pursuits. Their nine children were named respectively, Martha, Elizabeth, Mary, Eleanor, John R., Jane, Amanda, Malinda and America. With the exception of our subject, John R. and America, all these children have departed to the silent land.

Mrs. Myers remained under the home roof receiving careful training from her excellent parents, being instructed in all womanly and housewifely duties, and obtaining a fair education. When twenty-three years of age she was married, first, Sept. 12, 1833, to Jacob M. Custer. Mr. C., also a native of the Old Dominion, was born in 1806, followed farming the greater part of his life and rested from his earthly labors on the 17th of September, 1865. Fifteen years after marriage Mr. and Mrs. Custer came to Illinois, locating on a farm three miles from the present village of Homer. In 1854 Mr. C. built the Homer House in the village, which he occupied about four years, acting in

the meantime as "mine host," and afterward took a smaller residence half a mile east, where he resided with his family until his death.

Mr. Custer was a good man in the broadest meaning of the word, fulfilling creditably all his duties toward his family and his neighbors, and was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for over twenty years. He was an earnest advocate of the temperance movement and greatly missed by the society with which he had labored for a number of years in building up the sentiment against the use of intoxicating drinks. He was noted for his honesty and uprightness, and during the later years of his life was quite extensively engaged as a stock dealer.

The children of this marriage, nine in number, are recorded as follows: Margaret died in infancy; Martha E. became the wife of Aaron Dolby; Mary E. married James Hays; William married Miss Marie Noble; John married Miss Dove Noble; James enlisted in the Union army during the late war and died in the service in 1862; George died in infancy; Jacob A. married Mrs. Jennie Haysley, and Benjamin married Miss Carrie Radabaugh.

After the death of Mr. Custer his wife remained at Homer and was married to John L. Myers, in June, 1874. Mr. M., a native of Ohio, was born in 1803, where he remained during the early years of his manhood. He was a gentleman of fine abilities and good education, and in 1874 was elected to represent his native county in the General Assembly. He was frequently called to other responsible positions and possessed the clear head and temperate judgment which could be relied upon at all times. His mind inclined, however, to farming pursuits, and for many years he was engaged as a dealer in cattle and hogs, of which he made a success. He was greatly interested in current events and as a politician exercised much influence in the movements of the Republican party of his district. He removed to this State in 1875, but died in Ohio while on a visit among his old friends and acquaintances, in 1883. Religiously he had been identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mrs. Myers has eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She came to Illinois in 1848, and has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal

Church for over forty years. During the late war her two sons, William C. and John M. Custer, served three years in the Union army. Besides the handsome village property Mrs. Myers has ninety acres of choice land which is managed by her son. Although nearly seventy-seven years of age she retains her bright mental faculties to a remarkable degree, and is the favorite companion of both young and old, who delight in hearing her relate incidents of the early days and the manner of living before the thousand modern conveniences of the present time had found their way across the borders of what was then considered the wild West, and which included the Prairie State. After a worthy and conscientious life she is nearing the sunset slope, surrounded by the comforts which rightfully belong to her as one having performed faithfully the duties of daughter, wife, mother and friend.



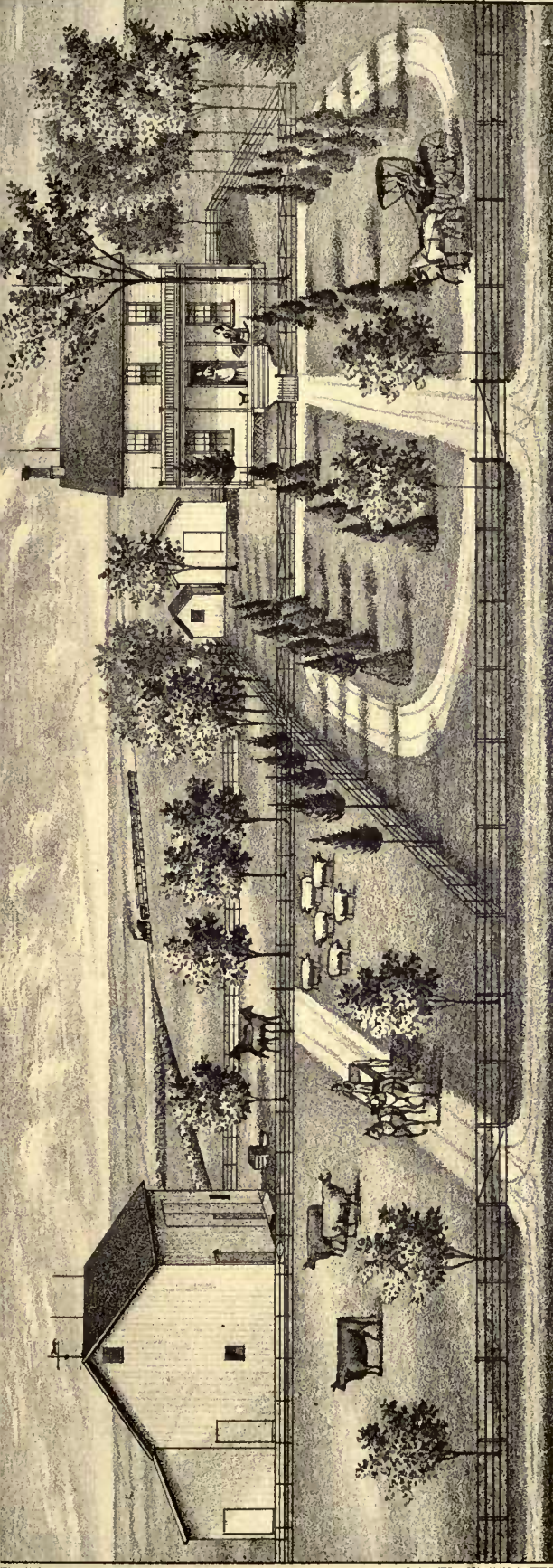
JAMES W. HENDERSON. The record of this sterling and energetic citizen of Sadorus Township is as follows: He was born in Bourbon County, Ky., May 8, 1837, and was the first child of Samuel G. and Eliza A. (Henderson) Henderson, natives of the same State, who followed farming and remained there all their lives.

Our subject, in 1862, when a young man of twenty-five years, believing that he could better his condition in one of the Western States, proceeded northward, and coming into this county purchased eighty acres of land in Sadorus Township, and prepared to establish a permanent home. He has adhered closely to his first resolution, having now his first purchase and fifty-four acres which he subsequently added. This lies on section 2, and in point of cultivation and improvement bears fair comparison with the farms around it. Mr. Henderson labored industriously on his homestead until the outbreak of the late war, and then, laying aside his personal interests, joined a Kentucky regiment, the 15th Infantry, commanded by Gen. Pope. He was rejected however, at the medical examination, and compelled to resume the peaceful vocation of a farmer. In October, 1863, desiring a companion who should direct the affairs of his household and

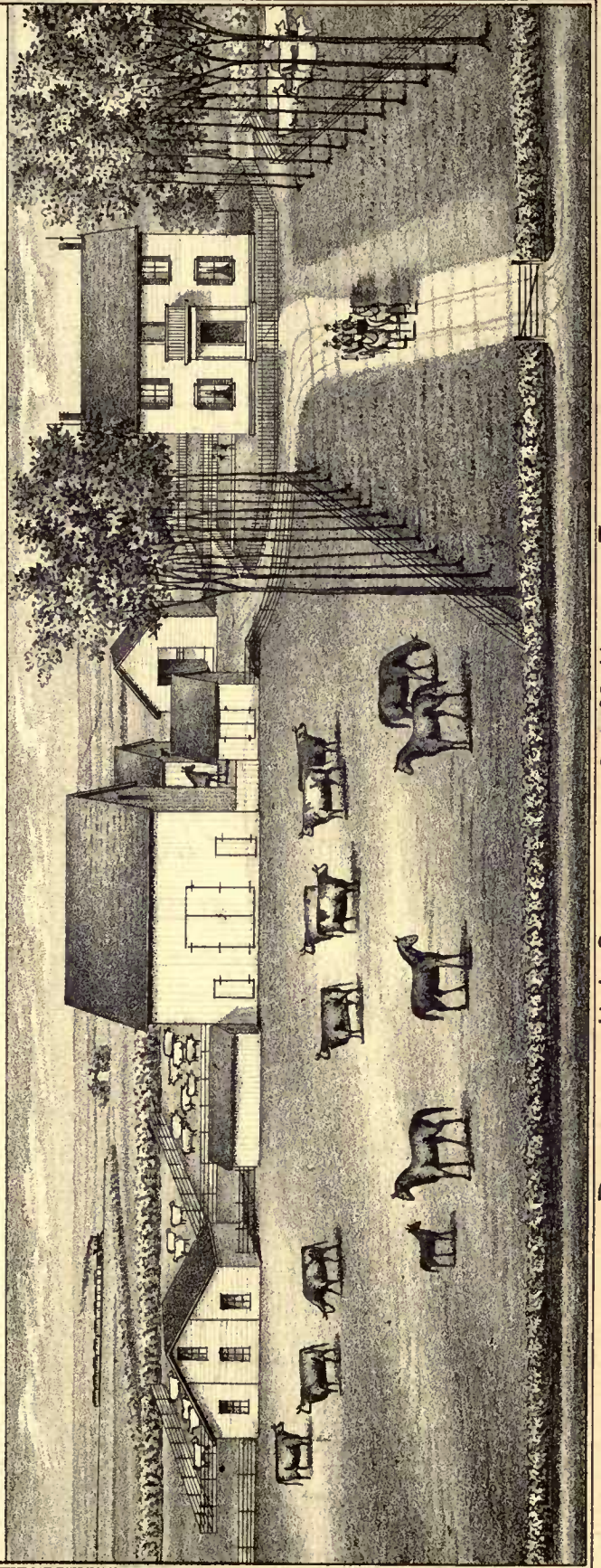
sympathize with him in his struggles for a competency, he became the husband of Miss Sophia W. Jones, a native of Jefferson County, Ky., born in 1844. Mrs. H. is the daughter of Carter T. and Eliza A. (Roberts) Jones, natives of Kentucky. The young people at first boarded with Mr. Swope, and the second year Mr. Henderson put up a plain but modest dwelling for his family. This still remains their residence, although having been renovated, improved, and fitted with the more modern appliances. Mr. Henderson devotes the larger part of his time to grain-raising and keeps a herd of good cattle which consume most of this product. He takes pride in his animals and has attained quite a reputation as a stock-raiser. While engaged in his farming pursuits he has not lost sight of the welfare of his township, and as opportunity permitted, has given his time and influence to the establishment and maintenance of schools and other worthy enterprises. He uniformly votes the Democratic ticket and has been Tax Collector for three years. Both he and his wife are active members of the Baptist Church. Mr. Henderson frequently recalls many interesting incidents of his boyhood and recollects hearing his parents relate how the manufacture of the genuine and far-famed Old Bourbon whisky was carried on in his native county. This industry was long since abolished there, Bourbon County now priding itself on the fact that not even a saloon exists within its borders. Those who examine the accompanying view of the homestead of Mr. Henderson will acknowledge that it is a fine subject for the pencil of the artist, as it is also the admiration of the traveler passing through that section of country.



HOWARD I. CLEVINGER, an extensive farmer and stock-raiser of Hensley Township, is finely situated on section 33, his farm being formerly the homestead of his father. It is a beautiful and well-conducted country estate, supplied with modern improvements in the way of farm buildings and machinery, and as a home and farm combined, is scarcely excelled in this county, as may be supposed by those who will



RESIDENCE OF J. W. HENDERSON, SEC. 2., SADORUS TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF H. I. CLEVINGER, SEC. 33, HENSLEY TOWNSHIP.

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notice the carefully executed lithographic view on an adjacent page. Our subject is a native of Upper Freehold Township, Monmouth Co., N. J., and was born Sept. 18, 1839. He is the son of Joshua and Edith (Larrisen) Clevenger, both natives of the same State and county as their son. They became the parents of eleven children and were in quite limited circumstances.

The father of our subject when fifteen years of age was bound out, but his master dying three years later, he purchased his time of the widow, paying her \$50 in money, which he afterward earned, working at \$6 per month. So he started out when eighteen years of age \$50 in debt. He had, however, inherited the patient perseverance of his parents, and at once proceeded to pay it off. In due time this was accomplished, and he then considered himself his own man. When twenty-one years of age he was married, and commenced his career as a farmer like his father before him. He first operated on rented land, and after a few years was enabled to purchase 160 acres in his native township. After a further residence of eighteen years, he sold out and purchased a farm in Burlington County, the same State, which he occupied until 1869. In the meantime he had visited Illinois and Champaign County, and purchased 390 acres of land on sections 33 and 34 of Hensley Township. He then rented his farm in New Jersey, and in the year named returned to this county and commenced the cultivation of his new purchase, which was already improved. He put up a good set of frame buildings, and lived here with his family until 1882. He then removed to Everest, Brown Co., Kan., where he bought village property, and engaged in banking, which he still continues.

The subject of this history was the second child of the family. He was reared in his native county, educated in the public schools, and when twenty-two years old commenced teaching. He made his home with his parents until 1867, and then began farming on his own account. He was still unmarried, and employed his sister to keep house for him. He came to Champaign with his father in 1869, remaining under the home roof until his marriage, which took place March 28, 1871, the

maiden of his choice being Miss Laura A. Frazier. Mrs. Clevenger is a native of Miami County, Ohio, and the daughter of George and Elizabeth (Haney) Frazier, natives respectively of New Jersey and Ohio. After marriage the young people settled upon a tract of land in Scott Township, where they resided, with the exception of one year, until 1883. Mr. Clevenger then removed his family to Champaign where they lived two years, and thence to the old homestead which he now owns and occupies. Their four children are, Lizzie, George G., Melissa May and Ethel. Our subject is Democratic in politics, and is highly esteemed both as a business man and a citizen. His straightforward methods of dealing with his fellow-men, and his skill in all the departments of agriculture, have placed him in the front ranks among those to whom Central Illinois is indebted for its rapid growth and development.

EDWARD B. CHAPIN, publisher and proprietor of the *Tolono Herald*, is a native of Clyde, N. Y., and came with his parents to this State in 1858, when a child two years of age. His birth occurred on the 7th of May, 1856, and he is the son of Edward J. Chapin, a native of Chickopee Falls, Mass., who followed the trade of a watchmaker for many years in his native State. He is now a resident of Indianapolis, Ind., engaged in manufacturing blacksmiths' and gasfitters' tools. The mother of our subject, Mrs. Rosetta (Smith) Chapin, was born at Patchogue, L. I., and is still living. The eight children of the household consisted of four sons and four daughters.

Edward B. Chapin was the third son in the family and completed his education in the High Schools at Ottawa and Ashley, this State. Upon becoming of suitable age he commenced to learn watch-making under the instruction of his father. This, however, was not entirely congenial to his tastes, and in 1872 he entered upon his career as a journalist, by becoming a correspondent for various papers throughout the State. Mr. Chapin is the founder of the *Tolono Herald*, which he established in 1875, and has conducted since that time. It is a six-column

quarto sheet, issued weekly, and Republican in politics. It is ably edited, and its business department managed skillfully and successfully. Its circulation is steadily increasing, and as a newspaper it is becoming indispensable to the people of this section.

The marriage of Edward B. Chapin and Miss Lucy Pierce was celebrated in Tolono on the 7th of October, 1877. Mrs. C. is the daughter of James and Louise (Smith) Pierce, who became residents of Champaign County during its early settlement. Mrs. Chapin was born in Brown County, Ohio, but was only an infant when her parents came to Illinois. The household includes five children—Edward P., Arlo, George, Lucy and May.

Mr. Chapin was appointed Postmaster at Tolono in December, 1880, and held the office until September, 1885. Both he and his amiable and accomplished wife are members of the Presbyterian Church and enjoy the society of the cultured people of Tolono. Socially both are members of the K. and L. of H., Mr. C. being at the head of the order in this place for several years after its organization. He was also one of the organizers and is a life member of the Grand Lodge of said order, and belongs to the Modern Woodmen.

ISAAC FIELDING, of the firm of Smyser, Powers & Fielding, is, with his partners, successfully engaged in the publication of the *Champaign Times*, the only Democratic paper in this county. He is a native of Westport, Conn., born Feb. 16, 1857, and the son of William and Esther (Nuttell) Fielding, natives of England. They emigrated to America early in life, and settled in Westport, Conn., where William Fielding engaged in the manufacture of cotton goods. He was thus occupied until after the close of the war, and then coming to Illinois, located in Shelby County and engaged in farming. After three years he sold out and removed to Sullivan, Moultrie County, where his death took place in 1883.

The parental household included six children, of whom only four are now living, namely, Elizabeth A., Mrs. William Shaffer; Mary E., Mrs. Danheiser;

Isaac and Alice. The subject of this biography served an apprenticeship in a woolen factory in the West, at which he worked until 1869, and then took up the printer's trade in Sullivan, where he continued for ten years following. At the expiration of that time he became associated with Messrs. Smyser & Powers, and they have operated together successfully since.

Mr. Fielding was married in Champaign, in 1884, to Miss Alice B. Yates, who is a native of Champaign County, and the daughter of A. J. Yates. It is hardly necessary to say that Mr. Fielding is Democratic in politics. He and his accomplished wife are both members of the Episcopal Church. They number among their friends and associates the best citizens of Champaign.

JOSHUA R. McCLELLAND. The homestead of this esteemed gentleman, a lithographic view of which appears on another page, lies on the road leading west to the village of Foosland, and is one of the finest country estates in Brown Township. It consists of 480 broad acres, with a fine residence in the midst of handsome grounds, shapely and substantial barns and stables, and all the appurtenances of a modern country home. Of this property the subject of our sketch took possession in 1874, and since that time has devoted his energies to the cultivation of the fields and the beautifying of the immediate surroundings of the family. One of the attractive features of the farm is the fine stock, including Norman horses, Short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs. Mr. McClelland has been eminently successful in tilling the soil, judicious in his disbursement of funds, and is ranked among the representative farmers and business men of Champaign County.

Mr. McClelland comes of substantial Pennsylvania stock, his parents, James and Nancy (Flannigan) McClelland, having been natives of the Keystone State, the former a native of Allegheny County, and the latter of Washington County. After uniting their fortunes they located first in the former county, but in 1839 removed to Guernsey County, Ohio, where they carried on farming un-

til the death of the father, a period of nearly thirty years. His decease occurred Nov. 6, 1868. The mother, after the death of her husband, continued on the homestead in Guernsey County, but her death occurred in Muskingum County Feb. 28, 1887, while on a visit to her son residing there. She was a true pioneer wife and mother, looking well to the ways of her household and the training of her family, and lived to an advanced age, respected by all who knew her. Twelve children gathered around the home hearth, ten living to become men and women.

The subject of this history, the fifth child of his parents, was born in Allegheny County, Pa., Nov. 15, 1830. He was nine years of age when his parents removed to the Buckeye State, and he remained with them until reaching his majority, attending school in winter and being employed on the farm the balance of the year. After reaching his majority he engaged in farming on his own account in Guernsey and Muskingum Counties until the spring of 1854. That year he removed to Licking County, near the city of Newark, continuing there until August, 1866. In the meantime he had come into possession of a wife and family, and soon after the date mentioned, accompanied by them, started for the Prairie State. First taking up his abode in Shirley, McLean County, he engaged in milling there until the winter of 1874, becoming then a resident of Brown Township, where he has since remained.

The marriage of Joshua R. McClelland and Miss Eliza J. Foster was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Guernsey County, Ohio, Feb. 8, 1854. Mrs. McC. is the daughter of John and Celia A. (Ballou) Foster, the latter a relative of the late President Garfield. Her father was born in New Hampshire, and the mother in Ohio. They, too, emigrated from Guernsey County, Ohio, to McLean County, Ill., settling in Shirley in 1865, where they still live. When a lad nine years of age Mr. Foster walked barefooted from Massachusetts to Indiana, and this circumstance, perhaps, indicates sufficiently the character of this gentleman. The Foster family included five children, three of whom lived to adult years, Mrs. McC. being next to the eldest. She was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, Feb. 4, 1836. She was trained to habits of industry

by her excellent mother and became mistress of the housewifely arts necessary to a well regulated home. Four children now call her mother, namely, Ella O., Aurelia F., Alice G. and Carroll L. The eldest, a daughter, Ella, became the wife of George A. Fisher, in May, 1882, and is now the mother of two children—Lorin V. and Robert F.; they live near the town of Fisher.

The fellow-townsmen of Mr. McClelland in looking about for a worthy representative of their interests elected him Commissioner of Highways in 1882, and have always assigned to him a prominent place in matters relating to the general welfare of the community. Both he and his wife are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, Mr. McC. especially taking a warm interest in leading the young into the fold. He has been President of the Brown Township Sunday-School Association since its organization. Socially he belongs to the A. F. & A. M., Gibson Lodge No. 783, at Gibson, and Evergreen Lodge, I. O. O. F., at Bloomington. In politics Mr. McClelland is a staunch Republican.



GEORGE W. M. PARKER, Instructor in Wood Work, and Foreman in this department in the University of Illinois, is a native of Worcester, Mass. He was born Aug. 19, 1841, and is the son of Charles A. and Sylvia A. (Moore) Parker, who were natives of the Bay State. The father of our subject was employed as a furniture manufacturer, and departed this life in 1854. His grandfather, Ebenezer W., also a native of Massachusetts, was of English ancestry. The parents of our subject had a family of seven children, five now living—Lucy, Mrs. Howe; Sarah A., Mrs. Howe; Emma F., William D., and George W. M. of our sketch.

The subject of this history was reared in the town of Princeton, Mass., and when quite young commenced to work in his father's furniture house, remaining at home until fifteen years old. He then went to learn the carpenter's trade, at which he served four years in Sterling, Mass. At the out-

break of the Civil War, he enlisted in Co. K, 53d Mass. Vol. Inf., for a term of nine months. At the expiration of this time he went to Chicago, where he remained one year, and then, on account of ill-health, took a trip to New Orleans, and for three years afterward was a resident of the Crescent City, and Alexandria, La., engaged in contracting for the United States and State Government.

In 1868 Mr. Parker came to this county, and engaged as foreman in the planing-mill of Messrs. Chaddon & Hesse, which position he occupied for six years. He then leased the works and employed his former employers for three years following, when the mill was destroyed by fire. For a short time afterward he was engaged as contractor and builder. In 1882 he was appointed to take charge of the University Carpenter Shops, where he has since remained.

Prof. Parker was married, Dec. 16, 1866, to Miss Laura D. Hamilton, a native of Louisiana. Of this union there have been born six children—Henry E., Nettie F., Carrie E., George A., Calton W. and Walter G. The family reside in Champaign. Politically our subject is a warm advocate of Republican principles.



JAMES M. MOORE. The gentleman whose name heads this biography was born and reared among the hills of Harrison County, Ohio, where he remained until nineteen years of age. He then started for the farther West, first crossing the Mississippi into Iowa, and thence returning to this State, located in Champaign County in 1875. Not long afterward he purchased eighty acres of land, to the improvement of which he has since devoted the greater portion of his time. He is now in possession of a good homestead in Brown Township, with excellent frame buildings and pleasant surroundings, and is enjoying all the comforts of life. This, by all who know him, is acknowledged to be the just reward of his industry and perseverance; to these alone is he in-

debted for his present condition, both socially and financially.

The parents of our subject, James M., Sr., and Ellen (Black) Moore, were natives respectively of Harrison County, Ohio, and Pittsburgh, Pa. After marriage, they located in the Smoky City, where the elder Moore followed his trade as a tailor and clothier, and where he remained until having accumulated sufficient capital to establish in business for himself. He then removed with his family to Harrison County, Ohio, locating in Hopedale, where he established a good trade, and with the mother of his children spent the remainder of his life. Their family consisted of two sons and two daughters, of whom our subject was the second child.

His birth took place in Harrison County, Ohio, June 16, 1837. His early studies were conducted in the common schools, and later he attended Hopedale Normal School, after which he worked as a tailor in the shop of his father. His mind, however, always inclined to agricultural pursuits, and, as we have stated, when nineteen years of age he started out on the search for a suitable location and his future farm. In the meantime, however, he was induced by Moses Hanley, of Ohio, to join him in the livery business, and when starting for the West, they took with them ten buggies and six horses. After reaching Des Moines, they sold out their stock and abandoned their project. Mr. Moore remained there two years afterward, dealing in horses, then recrossing the Father of Waters, came into McLean County, this State, and for two years following dealt in horses at Le Roy. Afterward he rented a farm in that locality, upon which he operated until 1875, then coming to this county took possession of the land which constitutes his present farm.

After having been a resident of McLean County for thirteen years, Mr. Moore met and married Mrs. Frankie Blakeman, of Le Roy, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride's parents, Sept. 9, 1866. Mrs. Moore is the daughter of James and Esther (Fain) Taylor, and was first married to Gabriel Blakeman, who died in Kentucky, Jan. 28, 1862. The only child born of that marriage was a son who died in infancy. Mrs. Moore is a native of Jessamine County, Ky., born May 6,

1844. Of the three children resulting from her union with our subject, one only is living, a son, William M. Rebecca A. died when about five years of age, and John died in infancy. Mr. Moore and his wife are members and regular attendants of the United Brethren Church at Fisher, and our subject, politically, affiliates with the Democratic party. He has officiated as Road Commissioner for several years, and was Collector in Brown Township in 1882.

The lithographic view of the handsome residence and surroundings are sufficient indication of the cultivated tastes and the enterprise of Mr. Moore, whose home forms one of the pleasantest spots in this section of country.

BYRON BURNS, of the firm of Lamb & Burns, druggists and grocers at Tolono, came to this county in the spring of 1872. He first established a jewelry store which he conducted for seventeen years, and at the end of this time became the partner of Dr. L. K. Lamb, and in connection with the jewelry business added a stock of drugs and groceries. Both partners are possessed of good business capacities and are building up a fine patronage.

Mr. Burns was born in Rushville, Ind., Feb. 6, 1854. He is the son of Calvin C. and Eliza E. (Pumphrey) Burns, the former a native of New York and the latter of Indiana. The family resided in Johnson County, the latter State, from 1854 to 1869, then removed to this State and located in Homer, where the father established a jewelry business, which he conducted for a period of eight years. Thence they removed to Macon and later to Pana, where they now reside. The household included eight children, five now living. Byron, of our sketch, was the eldest of the family, and was but an infant when his parents removed from the Empire State to Johnson County, Ind. He was reared under the parental roof and received a good education in the common schools, afterward learning the trade of a jeweler under the instruction of his father, and which he followed for several years afterward. He came with the family to

Illinois, and afterward was employed at his trade in various towns in this State and Indiana. In 1877 he located in Sidney, this county, whence in the spring of 1880 he removed to Tolono. Here he followed his trade one year, then purchased a stock of jewelry and conducted business until July, 1886, when he became the partner of Mr. Lamb.

Mr. Burns was married on the 22d of February, 1881, to Miss Lulu, daughter of George W. and Ella Hartman. Mrs. B. was born in Sidney, Ill., where she resided until after her marriage. They have one daughter, Mabel E., born March 8, 1884. Mrs. Burns is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and a lady greatly respected for her kindness of heart and social qualities. Our subject politically is a stanch Republican, and has frequently been sent as a delegate to the county and district conventions. Socially he is a Knight Templar and a member of both Subordinate and Encampment Lodges of the I. O. O. F. in Tolono. He has made a good beginning, both as a citizen and business man, and enjoys in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens.

GEORGE G. WEBBER, a well-known and highly respected farmer of Urbana Township, first opened his eyes to the light of day in Shelby County, Ky., on the 3d of September, 1830. He is the son of William T. and Nancy (Basket) Webber, natives of Virginia, born east of the Blue Ridge. His grandfather, Rev. Philip Webber, was also a native of the Old Dominion, and a clergyman of the Baptist Church. He removed to Kentucky with his family at an early day, where he continued his labors as pastor and preacher until the close of his life. His family consisted of six children, of whom William T. was the fourth. His birth took place Aug. 11, 1785, and he was married to Miss Nancy Baskett, Oct. 30, 1806. He was reared on the farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1833. He became the father of thirteen children, all born in Kentucky, and all living when the family left that State, in 1833. During that year William T. Webber came into Champaign County and purchased 640

acres of land, some of it school land, and the balance he purchased direct from the Government, paying \$1.25 per acre. His land was located in Urbana Township, and he had but just commenced its improvement when he was stricken down by the hand of death, on the 9th of September, 1838. The mother survived her husband over twenty years, departing this life Sept. 14, 1860. The only children now living are John W., William H., George G. of our sketch, Sarah, Mrs. Romine, and Nancy, Mrs. Munhall. William T. Webber was prominent in the affairs of Urbana Township after locating here, and served as Justice of the Peace for several years. During the War of 1812 he furnished a substitute.

The subject of this biography was reared on the farm, and remained a member of the household until twenty years of age. He then crossed the Mississippi into Des Moines County, Iowa, and the year following engaged in teaching school. Subsequently he returned to this county, and not long afterward purchased the farm which he now owns and which consists of 160 acres adjoining the city of Urbana. He has brought his land to a fine state of cultivation, and it is well supplied with good grades of the domestic animals, the latest improved machinery, and all necessary buildings. Of late years he has given considerable attention to the breeding of fine stock. Besides his farm property, he owns several houses and lots in Urbana, from which he derives a handsome income. He has been prominently connected with local affairs, holding the office of Assessor and serving as a member of the School Board.

The marriage of George G. Webber and Miss Martha McFarland, was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents, June 4, 1852. Mrs. Webber is a native of Providence, R. I., and the daughter of Thomas and Martha (Corey) McFarland, natives respectively of Scotland and Newport, R. I. Mr. McFarland came to Illinois about 1838, settling upon a farm in McLean County, and following agricultural pursuits until within a few years of his death. He finally retired to Atlanta, Logan County, where he died in 1868. The family of himself and his excellent wife included eight children, of whom six are now living—Daniel, Thomas, Robert;

Martha, Mrs. Webber; Sarah, Mrs. Cnihfield, and Cyrus, living in Essex, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Webber have six children: Flora M. is the eldest; Fannie, Mrs. Thorpe, lives with her husband in Urbana, and has one son, Charles; Laura B. is at home; Frank B., a resident of Urbana, married Miss Maggie McConnell, and they have two children—Benjamin and Annie; Harry E., who resides in Lima, Ohio, married Miss Nellie Boysel, and they have one child, Fay; Frederick is the youngest and is at home.

Our subject is Democratic in politics, a member in good standing of the A. F. & A. M., and with his wife coincides with the doctrines of the Universalist Church. He is a strict temperance man, interested in the prohibition movement, and as a financier and citizen, ranks among the foremost in one of the best counties in the State.

WILLIAM L. BRADEN, who became a resident of Ludlow Township in 1866, and has firmly established himself in the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens, is a native of Decatur County, Ind., and was born March 1, 1844. He is the son of John H. Braden, whose parents emigrated from the North of Ireland in about 1790, soon after their marriage. Their (then) only child died while on the voyage, and its body was preserved to be buried on land. The last dollar which the parents possessed was required to pay the funeral expenses, leaving them penniless in a strange country. They made their way to Greensburg, Pa., where the father succeeded in obtaining employment and prospered, while a considerable family grew up around them. When Kentucky was being colonized they pushed on and settled among the pioneers in the new State.

Observing the many evils attendant upon the system of slavery as practiced there, they resolved to leave that locality, and accordingly removed to Indiana in 1820, six months after the birth of their eleventh and youngest child, John H. They located in what is now Greensburg. After the death of her husband, William Braden, in 1825, the mother lived happily with her children until her death, which took place in 1866, at the age of

ninety-six years. John H. Braden, the father of our subject, made his home with his brother-in-law, Luther A. Donnell, until marriage. This event took place Sept. 3, 1840, the lady of his choice being Miss Eliza Reeder, of Rush County, Ind. She was the youngest child of her parents, who were of Welsh and German descent. Her grandfather, who emigrated from Wales, was murdered by the Indians about the beginning of the present century, on what is now the site of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Shortly after their marriage Mr. Braden and his young wife set up housekeeping in a log cabin in the midst of a tract of timber land, eighty acres of which he had purchased, and upon which no improvements whatever had been made. Their first dwelling was constructed by his own hands. Soon afterward he began to clear and cultivate his land, and in due time the country around him slowly settled up. When the government of the township came under discussion Mr. B. distinguished himself as a staunch Whig and a radical temperance advocate. Their oldest child, Margaret J., now resides near Gilman, Ill., and is the wife of Simeon Collier, who served as a soldier in the Union army during the late war. John H. Braden served in the late war as a volunteer. He was chosen First Lieutenant of the company to which he belonged, the 76th Indiana Infantry.

Our subject was the eldest son of his parents, and in his boyhood and youth was made fully acquainted with the experiences of life in a new country. In 1852 his father traded the farm, which now consisted of 209 acres of improved land, for a more valuable homestead in the same vicinity. In 1853 he exchanged this for a stock of general merchandise and a fine residence in the village of Milford, Ind. Here his son enjoyed better facilities for schooling, and at thirteen years of age became serviceable in his father's store. During the war, when at the age of eighteen, on account of slender growth he was considered unfit for military duty and rejected. In March, 1864, when twenty years of age, he was stricken down with spotted fever, which left him with a shattered nervous system, from which misfortune he has never fully recovered. In the fall of that year his parents, with their family of six boys and two girls, removed to State Line

City, between Indiana and Illinois, six miles east of Danville. They remained there, however, but a few months, coming thence to this county.

Notwithstanding his constant ill-health, unwilling to be idle, our subject opened a general store in the village of what was then Pera, but is now Ludlow, in partnership with Daniel Allhand. The latter-named gentleman, after disposing of his interests to R. J. Braden, the brother of our subject, died about 1872. Our subject, by his straightforward method of doing business and promptness in meeting his obligations, in time built up a good trade and made many friends. In 1867 he was elected Clerk of Ludlow Township and re-elected in 1868 and 1869, and in 1870 was chosen Township Collector. The duties of these positions he fulfilled with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. He served as School Treasurer for a period of eleven years, holding it until his business affairs, in 1880, induced him to resign. He is at present engaged in the grain trade with William C. Holmes. The father of our subject now resides in Milford, Ill., and in company with his two sons, Richard F. and John H., Jr., is conducting a large dry-goods store at Watseka, Iroquois County, where they enjoy an extensive patronage.

William L. Braden, on account of his sad affliction, has never fully developed the social side of his nature, but so far as he is able is an earnest worker in the temperance and other good causes, and is the encourager of all enterprises tending to the moral and intellectual welfare of his community. He is a consistent member of the Christian Church, in which he has filled the office of Clerk for fourteen years. He supports the principles of the Republican party, but takes no active part in politics, preferring his business to any political emoluments.



JOHN LEONARD. The subject of the following sketch is a forcible illustration of the self-made man, who began life at the foot of the ladder, and by his own earnest efforts has climbed up to a good position, socially and financially, among his fellow-men. He is one of the most substantial farmers of Condit Township, and

the owner of 720 broad acres which he has redeemed from wild prairie, and transformed into a valuable country estate. He took possession of a part of this in 1870, since which time he has added to his first purchase as time passed on and his means accumulated. He has a handsome and substantial dwelling, as will be noted by a glance at the lithographic view presented on another page in this work, and which is surrounded by fruit, shade and ornamental trees, besides a good barn and all other needful buildings. He has been successfully engaged in the raising of grain and stock, and has carried on his operations in that systematic and intelligent manner which is the sure guarantee of prosperity.

Mr. Leonard was born in County Carlow, Ireland, in 1834, and is the son of James and Cecelia (Cockram) Leonard, natives respectively of Carlow and Wexford. James Leonard was a tenant farmer and operated on leased land all his life. Our subject assisted him in his labors until seventeen years of age, then, not being satisfied with his condition and prospects in his native country, he emigrated to the United States, stopping first at Northfield, Vt., where he landed with about \$20 in his pocket. He had a good stock of resolution, however, and his strong hands to work with. With this capital he occupied himself as hostler and porter in a hotel for four years and then decided to seek his fortune in the West. Going to Chicago, Ill., he secured a position as watchman in the Tremont House, where he remained one year, then entered the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad as a track layer. He was afterward promoted section boss at Patoka, Marion County, and at the expiration of four years, having saved what he could of his earnings, found himself with sufficient means to start in business for himself. He purchased forty acres of wild land in Menard County, which he cultivated two years, then sold, and purchased 120 acres in Logan County, to which he afterward added forty acres, and occupied until 1870. He then came to this county and took possession of the prairie land which he has since lived upon and which is now one of the finest farms in this section.

Mr. Leonard was married in 1857, to Miss Elizabeth Kissner, a native of Ross County, Ohio,

whose birth occurred Sept. 16, 1843. The parents of Mrs. L. were George and Nancy H. Kissner, the former of whom died when his daughter was a young child. The mother was afterward married to Samuel Phelps, and in 1850 they came to this State and located on a farm in Moultrie County. They afterward removed to Marion County, where the death of the mother occurred in about 1880. Our subject and his wife became the parents of nine children—James, Celia, Edward, Annie, Johanna, Thomas, John, Mary and Charles. The eldest of these are mostly residents of the Prairie State, and the youngest remain at home with their parents.



HA. HALEY, M. D., of Champaign, founder of the Medical Institute for the treatment of acute and chronic diseases, is one of the most skillful practitioners in the medical fraternity of this section. He is a native of Hampden, Mass., and was born on the 10th of April, 1830. His parents were Tucker and Hannah (Watson) Haley, natives of Rhode Island, where they engaged in the dairy business in the earlier years of their wedded life. They afterward removed to Illinois, and located in Somer Township, this county, where the mother died in 1863, and the father in 1864. The record of their three children is as follows: Elizabeth, Mrs. Waters, is a resident of Stanton Township, this county; Jennie A. and our subject were twins; the former is now Mrs. Waters, and lives in New York City.

H. A. Haley, of our sketch, spent his childhood and youth on the farm, and when fifteen years old commenced attending the Westfield University in his native county. After two terms he took up the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. J. B. Gifford, with whom he remained three years, and commenced the practice of his profession in Blandford, Hampden Co., Mass. In 1857 he emigrated west to this State, and on account of failing health abandoned professional life for a season and purchased a large farm, which he operated successfully for ten years with excellent results, both physically and financially. Then, deciding to resume his practice, and for the purpose of fitting himself more

thoroughly for the work before him, he attended a course of lectures at the Hahnemann College, Chicago, and the Chicago Homeopathic College, from the latter of which he graduated in 1882. The following year he came to this county and opened the institute which he has conducted creditably and successfully since that time. In connection with the Institute are all conveniences for giving Electro-Thermal, Russian, Turkish, Ocean Brine, Sulphur, Medicated and Shower baths, also Compound Oxygen and Rarified and Condensed Air treatment.

Dr. Haley was united in marriage with Miss Annette G. Fenn, of Otis, Mass., in 1853. Mrs. H. is the daughter of Isaac S. and Annie Fenn, both natives of Connecticut. Of this union there is one child, a son, Arthur F. The handsome residence of the family is located at the corner of Park and Church streets, Champaign, where the Doctor and his wife enjoy the society of the most refined people of the city. He is Republican in politics and belongs to the Chicago Homeopathic Medical Association. Dr. H. enjoys an extensive practice, has shown himself skillful as a physician, and as a citizen is generally respected. His industry and energy are proverbial and have been fully illustrated in the improvement of one of the largest and finest farms in the county, which he still owns and the proceeds of which yield a handsome income.



MORRIS JONES. Upon section 29, in Condit Township, resides the subject of the following biography, who is one of the representative agriculturists of Champaign County and favorably known throughout this section. He was born and reared on the other side of the Atlantic in Carnarvon County, Wales, his birth occurring Dec. 29, 1828. His parents, John and Alice (Evans) Jones, were natives of the same country as their son, where they spent their entire lives and where their remains were laid to rest. John Jones was a farmer by occupation and our subject was bred to agricultural pursuits until sixteen years of age. He then commenced working in the slate mines of his native county, where he continued for five years and until 1851. On the

2d of April, that year, he set sail for the United States, and after a safe voyage landed in New York City on the 17th of May following. From there he proceeded to Fair Haven, Vt., where he arrived with but a few pennies in his pocket.

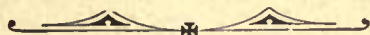
Mr. Jones had been reared to habits of industry, however, and soon procured employment in a slate quarry there, remaining for a period of nearly four years. Thence he went to Granville, Washington Co., N. Y., and was similarly employed for two and a half or three years, after which he started for the West. Going up into Wisconsin he engaged in the lead mines at Hazel Green five months, and thence came to this State and opened a stone quarry at Big Rock in Kane County. This, however, he soon afterward sold, and with the desire to see once more the faces of his parents and his old associates, embarked on a voyage to his native Wales. His father in the meantime had died, and our subject for nine years afterward remained with his mother on the homestead looking after the property and conducting the farming operations. In the meantime he had been married, in 1860, on the 7th of April, to Miss Margaret Williams, a native of his own county, and the daughter of David and Phebe (Jones) Williams, also natives of Wales, where they spent their entire lives.

To our subject and his wife there were born eight children, namely, John, William, Phebe, Morris, Daniel, Phebe (2d), Alice and Maggie. Of these only John, William, Morris and Phebe are living, four being deceased. The two elder sons were born in Wales. After nine years spent there our subject returned to America with his wife and children, and coming to this county, purchased eighty acres of land in East Bend Township, at \$9 per acre. It was wholly without improvements, and his first business was to put up a habitation for his family. This he soon effected and the following spring planted his first corn. He continued the cultivation of his land intelligently and successfully, and added to his estate, as time passed on, by the purchase of a quarter section half a mile from the main farm. This he afterward took possession of and built upon it a good residence and added other improvements, occupying it until 1883. He then sold out and removed to Condit Township, pur-

chasing his present farm. This comprises 254 acres in a fine state of cultivation with grain producing fields and handsome stretches of pasture. It is enclosed with good fencing, and with its excellent buildings forms one of the pleasantest homesteads in the township.

Mr. Jones has been remarkably fortunate in his choice of a life companion. The lady who bears his name has assisted him in his undertakings and is honored as a wife and mother as well as a neighbor and friend. Their blooming family of children have been well reared and educated and will follow in the footsteps of their parents as worthy representatives of an intelligent and prosperous community.

It is gratifying to be able to present a view of the home and surroundings of this estimable gentleman who has so materially assisted in developing the soil of Central Illinois. Another page illustrates the style of the buildings, which in their substantial character closely resemble the personal traits of the proprietor.

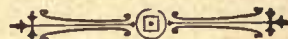


HENRY M. TYLER, a farmer and stock-grower, living on section 6, Sidney Township, is the son of Nathan W. and Lucy S. (Dean) Tyler, born in Geauga County, Ohio, Oct. 27, 1844. His father was a native of New York and his mother of Vermont. In 1852 they removed from Ohio to Michigan, and remained there until 1856, when they again changed their place of residence to Edgar County, Ill. They remained there until the death of Mr. Tyler, which occurred Feb. 6, 1870. Mrs. Tyler then moved with her family to Sidney Township, where she died in 1887. Mr. Tyler had spent most of his life as a successful teacher. His family consisted of five children, of whom but one survives—Henry M. Mary A. died aged fourteen years, and William when two years old; the others died in infancy.

On the 16th of February, 1872, our subject was married to Miss Morgan, daughter of Elmos Morgan, born March 4, 1856. There were five children in her father's family. The names of her

brothers and sisters are, Martha, William, Catherine and Wilson. Mr. and Mrs. Tyler have become the parents of three children: Elsie is deceased; the others are Ida E. and William.

Mr. Tyler owns forty-two acres of highly improved land with excellent buildings. Himself and wife are both highly respected members of the Christian Church. Politically he is a good Republican.

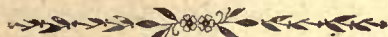


ENOS JAMES, of Newcomb Township, has been a resident of Champaign County since the spring of 1877. He has a fine farm of 320 acres on section 19, and in his agricultural operations has been uniformly successful. His land is all improved, supplied with a first-class set of buildings, and on all sides indicates the supervision of the thrifty and prosperous farmer. Our subject is a native of Morgan County, Ohio, and was born Feb. 24, 1821. He is the son of Isaac and Mary (Stover) James, the former of English and the latter of German ancestry. After marriage the parents first settled in Morgan County, whence they removed to Muskingum County, Ohio, where both died, the mother in about 1828, and the father in March, 1874.

Enos James was the second of a family of five children. He remained a resident of the Buckeye State until the spring of 1852, when he emigrated to Iowa, and for seventeen years following was a resident of Lucas County. At the expiration of this time he returned to Ohio, where he lived until the spring of 1877, and then came to this county. For the last nine years he has industriously applied himself to increasing the value and beauty of his property, and by his business talent and forethought has secured a good position among his fellow-citizens.

Mr. James was married in Iowa, in April, 1855, to Miss Sarah F. Bundy, and of this union there were born five children, of whom only two survive—Isaac and Charles. Those deceased are Amanda, Lilly and Maggie. Mrs. Sarah James departed this life in Iowa, Jan. 30, 1867. The second marriage of our subject took place Oct. 7, 1869, in Muskingum County, Ohio. His present wife was formerly

Miss Lucy J. Baughman, a native of the above mentioned county, and born May 21, 1841. Their nine children were Moses B. J., Lucy C., an infant who died unnamed, John W., Mary E., Bes-sie E., Anna R., George E. G. and Clara I. John W. died when nine months old. Maggie died in Iowa when an infant. Amanda died in Muskingum County, Ohio, when about nine years of age. Lilly also died in that county, Nov. 27, 1886, when twenty-three years old. She was the wife of Augustus Cherry. Our subject is Republican in politics, and has been School Director in his town-ship. Mrs. James is a member of the Lutheran Church.



FRANCIS M. WRIGHT, attorney at law at Urbana, has been a resident of this city since December, 1868, and during the period of twenty years has built up for himself a fine practice, and become intimately identified with the business and social interests of this section. He is a native of Adams County, Ohio, born Aug. 5, 1844. His parents were James and Elizabeth (Copple) Wright, natives of Pennsylvania. His grandfather, Stephen Wright, a native of Scotland, emigrated to the United States, settling first in Maryland, and thence removed to Ohio with his family in the pioneer days. He set up a blacksmith-shop, and rendered good service in his line to the people of his community the remainder of his days. Of his three sons none are now living.

James, the father of our subject, during the earlier years of his life, engaged in blacksmithing, but later abandoned the shop in town for the farm, although he afterward established a shop there, in which he carried on the repairing necessary in connection with farm machinery. He made his home in Liberty Township until his death, which occurred Dec. 31, 1854. He was a stern opponent of the manufacture of ardent spirits. Both parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which James Wright was Class-Leader and Superintendent of the Sabbath-school for many years before his death. The mother was well calculated to be the companion and helpmeet of her husband, being earnest in religion and temperance,

and performing the part of a most amiable and affectionate wife and mother. Her death took place at Bentonville, Ohio, March 23, 1887; she was seventy-eight years of age. The parental household included six children, only three of whom are now living: John C. is engaged in farming in Adams County, Ohio; Francis M., of our sketch, is the next eldest; Nathan P. is blacksmithing in Bentonville, Ohio.

The first recollections of Francis M. Wright were of the time when he pursued his studies in the Brier Ridge log school-house, when a little lad of six years. The temple of learning was widely different from the school edifices of the present day, and the system of teaching likewise. He pursued his studies there under the instruction of a male teacher until 1859, and until large enough to be of service on the farm, after which he could only be spared during the winter season. In 1860 he entered the Ohio Valley Academy at Decatur, Brown County, where he pursued a thorough course of study for several months, and became fitted for a teacher, which profession he followed in that vicinity until the breaking out of the late war. He was then only seventeen years of age, but enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. I, 39th Ohio Vol. Inf., entering as a private and being promoted, first a Corporal and afterward First Sergeant, and Second Lieutenant of Company C, under which last commission he served until the close of the war, being mustered out in July, 1865. During his army experience he was present at the battles of New Madrid, Island No. 10, Farmington, Corinth and Iuka, Miss., besides various other engagements, including the siege and capture of Atlanta, and marched with Sherman and his army to the sea. During this time he never lost a ration, a march or a battle, only receiving a flesh wound on the 22d of July, at Atlanta. After the war he returned to Ohio, engaged in reading law with Col. London, of Georgetown, and was admitted to the bar in April, 1867, at Cincinnati. He afterward attended the Law School in that city, from which he received the degree of B. L. L. He commenced practice in Brown County, Ohio, where he continued until December, 1868, then came to Urbana and has built up in this place a profitable patronage. He

was elected City Attorney in 1870, the duties of which position he filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned.

The marriage of Francis M. Wright and Miss Elizabeth West, of Decatur, Ohio, was celebrated in July, 1868. Of this union there have been born four children—Royal, Marion, Edith and Lora. The residence of our subject and his attractive little family is pleasantly located at No. 44 Green street, and indicative of refined and cultivated tastes. Mr. Wright is Republican in politics, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the G. A. R.

WILLIAM L. SMITH is the owner of eighty acres of valuable land located on section 25, Sidney Township, where he carries on an extensive farming and stock-raising business. He has brought his land to a high state of cultivation, and his residence and the grounds surrounding it are tasteful and elegant. His farm buildings are commodious and kept in excellent order. Like many others among the best residents of the county, he is a native of Ohio, where he was born Aug. 3, 1841. He is the son of Milam L. and Mahala (Armstrong) Smith, natives respectively of Old Virginia and Ohio. There were seven children in his parents' family. The record of the others is as follows: John M. married Sophronia Bloomer, and is living in Ohio; Sarah J., the wife of Ely Gordon, is living in Fayette County, Ohio; Joseph H. married Carrie McLinn; Able A. married Elizabeth Caleb; Harriet is the wife of James B. Conner; all these are living in Ohio; Mary is deceased. His mother died at the old homestead in Ohio, in July, 1885, where his father is still living. Since his son William made his residence here his father has several times visited Illinois.

On the 30th of November, 1871, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Sarah C. Faneher, the daughter of Hiram and Martha (Dickson) Fancher. Her mother is still living at the old homestead in this township, where her father died in 1868. Their native State was Indiana, and Mrs. Smith was born in Boone County, in that State, June 3, 1850. There were two other children in their family;

William F., who married Zilia Cash, and is living in Sidney Township, and Nancy J., the wife of Granville Thompson, a resident of Clarke County, Kan.

Mr. Smith and his wife have an interesting family of six children: Carrie E., born Sept. 27, 1873; Mertie, April 10, 1876; Hiram O., June 21, 1879; Milam O., June 21, 1879; Dasie E., Oct. 6, 1880; William E., Dec. 18, 1885. Of these the eldest was born in Ohio, the others in Illinois.

Mr. Smith enlisted in the 168th Ohio National Guards, and did some gallant fighting in the Civil War. He served eight months, and participated in the engagements against Gen. Morgan. His wife is a member of the United Brethren Church. In politics he is a Republican.

HENRY W. HUNSLEY, proprietor of the Prairie Farm, which is well known as one of the handsomest bodies of land in Condit Township, was born on the other side of the Atlantic, in England, Aug. 30, 1852. His father, Henry Hunsley, was also born in that country, and lived there until 1853, when he emigrated with his family to the United States. His household included his wife and eight children. They landed first at Quebec and proceeded from there to Oxford County, Province of Ontario, where they settled at an early period in its history. The father located in a timber tract from which he cleared a good farm, and there his death occurred in October, 1862. The mother, who before her marriage was Miss Frances Burton, still resides on the old homestead. One child was added to the household after their arrival in America, and the names of the nine are as follows: Charles; Sarah, now Mrs. Butler; Martha Boyer, Mary A. McConnell, Elizabeth Sitts, Emma Smart, George, Henry, of our sketch, and Joseph. All are living with the exception of Martha and Elizabeth, and are residents of Oxford County.

Our subject was but an infant when his parents set out on their ocean voyage to the New World. He remained in the Province of Ontario during his childhood and youth, attending the pioneer schools,

and when large enough assisted in the cultivation of the farm. He remained on the homestead until after his marriage, which occurred Jan. 15, 1880, and the following year he came to Illinois and located in this county. He first lived on eighty acres of land in Hensley Township, upon which he labored one year, then traded it for his present farm. This included 160 acres under a good state of cultivation, and supplied with excellent frame buildings.

Mr. Hunsley was married in Allegan, Mich., to Miss Emma, daughter of Robert and Mary A. Little. She was born in Dereham, Canada, Feb. 25, 1855. Of her union with our subject there are two children—Nellie, born in 1882, and Clara in 1884. The father of Mrs. Hunsley was a native of Lincolnshire, England, born in 1819, and the son of Thomas and Mary (Bulivant) Little. He was reared on a farm in his native shire, and there married Miss Mary A. Spensley, a native of the same country. Robert Little learned the trade of a miller when young, which he followed until after his marriage and until 1844. In the spring of that year he set sail for the New World, landing after a voyage of thirty-six days, in New York City. From there he proceeded directly to Canada, and located four miles from Hamilton, on a farm which he occupied one summer. He then returned to his trade and afterward operated a flouring-mill in Wilmot Township, Waterloo County. In 1848 he returned to England for his family, coming back with them in August following. He purchased a tract of timber land in Oxford County, Ontario, from which he constructed a good farm. At the time of locating there his cash capital was \$300. The first dwelling of the family was a log house, in which Mrs. Hunsley, the wife of our subject, was born. In due time the father cleared, principally with his own hands, eighty-five acres, and occupied his land there until 1856. He then sold out and removed to Yates County, N. Y., where he purchased a farm and lived until 1873. That year he sold this also, removing thence to Allegan, Mich., of which he remained a resident until 1881, in the meantime engaging in farming as before. Subsequently he came to Hensley Township, this county, purchasing a farm on section 22, but disposed of it three

years later to take possession of the one he now owns and occupies on section 14. Since taking possession of this he has greatly improved it in many respects, and is valued as an upright and worthy citizen.



JACOB McCLOSKEY, one of the pioneer farmers of Urbana Township, was born in Centre County, Pa., near the town of Howard, Jan. 17, 1848. His grandfather, David McCloskey, was a native of Ireland and emigrated to America in the year 1700. Our subject's father, whose name was Joseph McCloskey, was born in Northumberland County, Pa., and married Miss Mary Wagner, of Centre County, that State, where after his marriage they located, and where their children were born and reared. Mr. McCloskey died there on the old homestead Aug. 5, 1875, and his widow still makes her home in that county. Two of their nine children died in infancy, the others—seven sons—are still living in Pennsylvania with the exception of two, Jacob, and his brother William, who resides with him. Two nephews, Nathan and Matthias, also make their home with our subject.

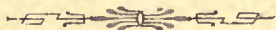
The Wagner family was originally from Germany and emigrated to America in the year 1700. The mother of Jacob McCloskey, the subject of this sketch, was a native of Centre County, Pa., born Feb. 14, 1814. His maternal grandfather, Matthias Wagner, was one of the early settlers of Centre County, where his death occurred at the advanced age of eighty-six years. In the family of his grandparents there were seven children, who all attained to the age of maturity, married and had families.

Jacob McCloskey, a bright, intelligent boy, attended the district school, where he acquired such education as its advantages afforded. He lived at home with his parents until he was twenty-four years of age, when, seeking a new range of experience, he drifted westward. The State of Illinois was at that time the "Meecca" to which so many in the East were turning, and young McCloskey made his first settlement in Kendall County. There he afterward

married Miss Lizzie, the daughter of Thomas and Mary J. (Stephenson) Penman, residents of that county. Her parents were from Scotland. Mrs. McC. was born in Kendall County, Ill.

After his marriage Mr. McCloskey returned to Pennsylvania, where he remained for a time, but not feeling satisfied with his prospects there, he again sought the West. On this occasion he engaged in farming in Champaign County, where he remained for a time. After having made about three removes he finally took up his permanent residence on his present farm, located on section 35, which contains 120 acres of valuable land. This place was known for many years as the Clayton farm, and Mr. McC. has devoted the land largely to the raising of grain and stock.

Of the seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. McCloskey, but four are now living—Edna, Thomas P., Emma and John G. In politics our subject is a Democrat of the Jeffersonian School. His excellent business methods and his skill as an agriculturist long ago received ample recognition, and are perhaps, nowhere better evidenced than in his home surroundings—the residence and its adjacent buildings—which our artist has carefully reproduced on another page.



R C. WRIGHT, Prosecuting Attorney of Urbana, occupies a good position among the intelligent men of the legal profession in Champaign County. He was chosen to his present office in 1884, after having been elected to the Lower House of the Legislature, and having served as Sheriff. The positions in which he has been placed since becoming a resident of the State give ample evidence of the esteem in which he is held, and indicate him to be a man of more than ordinary ability.

Our subject was born in Winchester, Randolph Co., Ind., Nov. 3, 1829, and is the son of Jesse B. and Mary (Draper) Wright, natives respectively of Ohio and Virginia. The grandfather of our subject, John B. Wright, also a native of the Old Dominion, descended from excellent German and

Irish ancestry, and spent his last days in this county. Of his seven children three only are now living—James S.; Rebecca, Mrs. Butler; and Sydney, Mrs. Swearingen. The grandfather of our subject became a man of note in his State, where he married early in life and settled near Winchester. He engaged in farming, and after a comparatively brief residence in Indiana was elected to the Legislature, where he served two terms. In the fall of 1830 he removed to this State and located on a farm in Vermilion County. His first wife had died in Indiana, and he was married the second time, to Miss Annie Stanfield, of the last named county. Their one child was a daughter named Catherine, who married James Sirepless, of Vermilion County. Both are now deceased.

The father of our subject, who was the oldest child of John B. Wright, removed from Indiana to Illinois with his father in 1830. He enlisted as a soldier in the Black Hawk War, and died of cholera in the service, at Rock Island, three months later, leaving a wife and two children: R. C., of our sketch, and Eliza A., who married Alvah Hubble of Decatur, Ill. The mother died in the fall of 1882, surviving her husband for a period of over fifty years. Their son, R. C., of our sketch, was reared on a farm in the western borders of Vermilion County, and received a fair education in the district school, pursuing his studies until he was eighteen years old. At this period he returned to Winchester, Ind., and made his home with an uncle, William M. Way, in the meantime attending Randolph County Seminary for two years and fitting himself for a teacher. He followed this calling in Vermilion and Champaign Counties four years, then engaged as clerk in a store at Homer, and two years after was elected Justice of the Peace, in which position he served six years and distinguished himself as the possessor of fine ability both in a business and judicial capacity. He retired from this office to enter upon other duties, being appointed Deputy County Surveyor. After having filled this office acceptably twelve years, he was called to the still higher one of Representative in 1870, and was associated with such men as J. C. Sheldon and James W. Langley, by whose assistance he secured the appropriation of \$125,000 for the establishment

of the Agricultural College, which is now called the Illinois University, at Champaign.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Jane Moore, of New York City, was celebrated in Homer, this county, in 1853. Mrs. W. is the daughter of Enoch Moore, of New York, and by her marriage with our subject has become the mother of six children—Mary A., Charles B., Maude A., Annie B., Edwin R. and Jessie C. They occupy a handsome home on University avenue, Urbana, and have gathered around them a large circle of warm friends. Mr. Wright is Republican in politics, and a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His business office is located in the Busey Block on Main street.



CHARLES N. ANDERSON, formerly engaged in agricultural pursuits in this county, is now retired from active labor, and, surrounded by the comforts of life, is living in a pleasant home in Champaign City. He has been a resident of this county since 1857, in which year he purchased a farm of 200 acres in Champaign Township. This he operated until 1885, with the exception of a brief time spent in Kentucky, in the meantime having made of it a beautiful country estate, supplied with handsome and substantial buildings and all other modern improvements. In the year mentioned he purchased his present residence on Church street, where he has since lived.

Mr. Anderson was born in Mt. Sterling, Ky., Dec. 18, 1823, and is the son of James and Lucinda Anderson, natives of Montgomery County, Ky., where the father followed blacksmithing all his life, and died on the 17th of June, 1829. The grandfather of our subject, Abihu Anderson, and his great-grandfather, Nicholas Anderson, were both natives of Virginia, and engaged in farming pursuits. The latter removed to Kentucky with his family, locating at Boonesboro, where he was among the earliest settlers, and became acquainted with Daniel Boone, the famous pioneer and Indian fighter. Abihu Anderson removed to Indiana in about 1825, where he spent the last years of his life. His

son James, the father of our subject, after reaching manhood was married, and became the father of seven children, of whom only two are now living—Nancy N., Mrs. Morris, and C. N. of our sketch.

The subject of this history remained on the farm of his father in his native town until about fifteen years old, and was then apprenticed to learn the trade of a cabinet-maker, at which he served four years, and afterward worked three years as a journeyman. Then, wishing to still further perfect himself in his studies, he entered Franklin College, about five miles east of Nashville, Tenn., where for four years he thoroughly applied himself to his books, in the meantime defraying his expenses by working at his trade as opportunity afforded. He began college life with his books and \$7 in cash, and graduated on the 18th of October, 1848, without any assistance from outside parties.

After leaving school Mr. Anderson started on horseback for the purpose of securing employment as a teacher. He rode three days and could only secure an offer of \$30 per month and board himself. He declined this and returned to Nashville, where he worked in a cabinet-shop for three months and then engaged to teach a subscription school near Lexington. After eighteen months' experience, during which time he gained the approval of the Trustees, he was elected Principal of a graded school in the same city, which position he held for the following five years, and until coming to this county. After purchasing his farm in Champaign Township he was re-elected Principal of the school at Lexington, which position he accepted. About this time, however, the war excitement became so great that the schools closed and Mr. Anderson returned to his farm. His subsequent course we have already indicated.

The marriage of C. N. Anderson and Miss Ann J. Noble took place in Lexington, Ky., Feb. 1, 1849. Mrs. A. is a native of Harrodsburg, Ky., and the daughter of James and Mary (Baxter) Noble, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Virginia. Of the seven children born to them, four are now living, namely: Lucy; Laura M., Mrs. Greenhalgh, of Champaign City; William N., a merchant of Chicago, and Ida V., at home. Those deceased are Mary F. and Charles E., both

of whom died in infancy. Ella J. died when an interesting young lady of nineteen years old. She was a student at the University of Illinois, greatly admired and beloved by all her associates, and her death was a sore affliction to her fond parents and many friends.

Mr. Anderson is Democratic in politics, and with his wife and daughters is a member and regular attendant of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has long been widely and favorably known in Champaign County as a representative man and useful citizen.

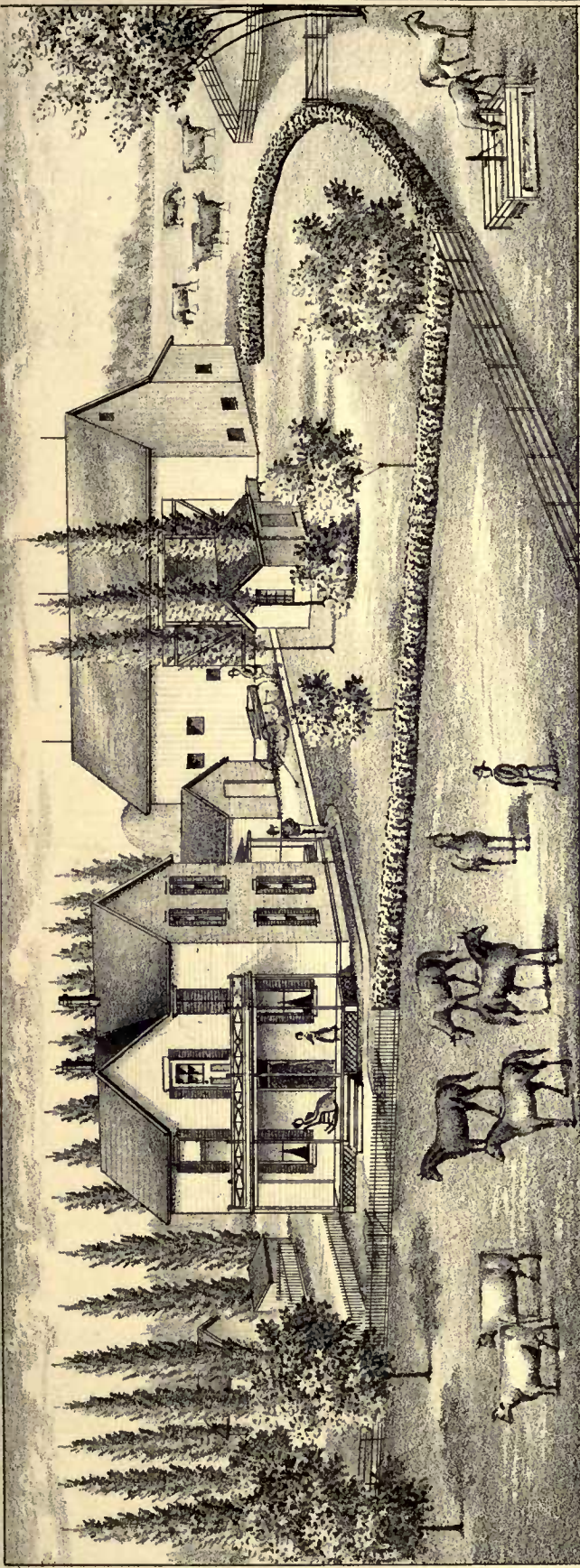
GEORGE W. GILMORE, pleasantly located on section 10, Newcomb Township, and a view of whose homestead is given in this connection, is a native of Preston County, W. Va., and was born July 4, 1830. He is the son of Peter and Sarah (Wiles) Gilmore, who were natives of the same county, where the mother died when her son George was an infant. The father afterward removed to Monongalia County, W. Va., and died there in about 1877. He was a farmer by occupation, and descended from English ancestry. The mother was of German birth and parentage. Their children, four in number, were Maria, Susanna, William J. and George W.

Our subject, the youngest of his father's family, remained in his native county until he was thirty years of age. In 1860 he went to Ohio and purchased a farm in Licking County, upon which he lived for a period of sixteen years. Eight months after taking up his abode there he was drafted into the army, and assigned to Co. C, 76th Ohio Vol. Inf. He served about eleven months, taking part in the siege of Vicksburg and the battle of Arkansas Post. While with his regiment in Mississippi he received a sunstroke, from which he has never fully recovered. After his discharge he returned to Licking County, Ohio, where he continued to reside until the spring of 1876, when he became a resident of this county, locating in Newcomb Township. Here he has 200 acres of good land, a handsome and substantial dwelling, a good barn, farm machinery, stock, and all the appliances of the prosperous modern agriculturist.

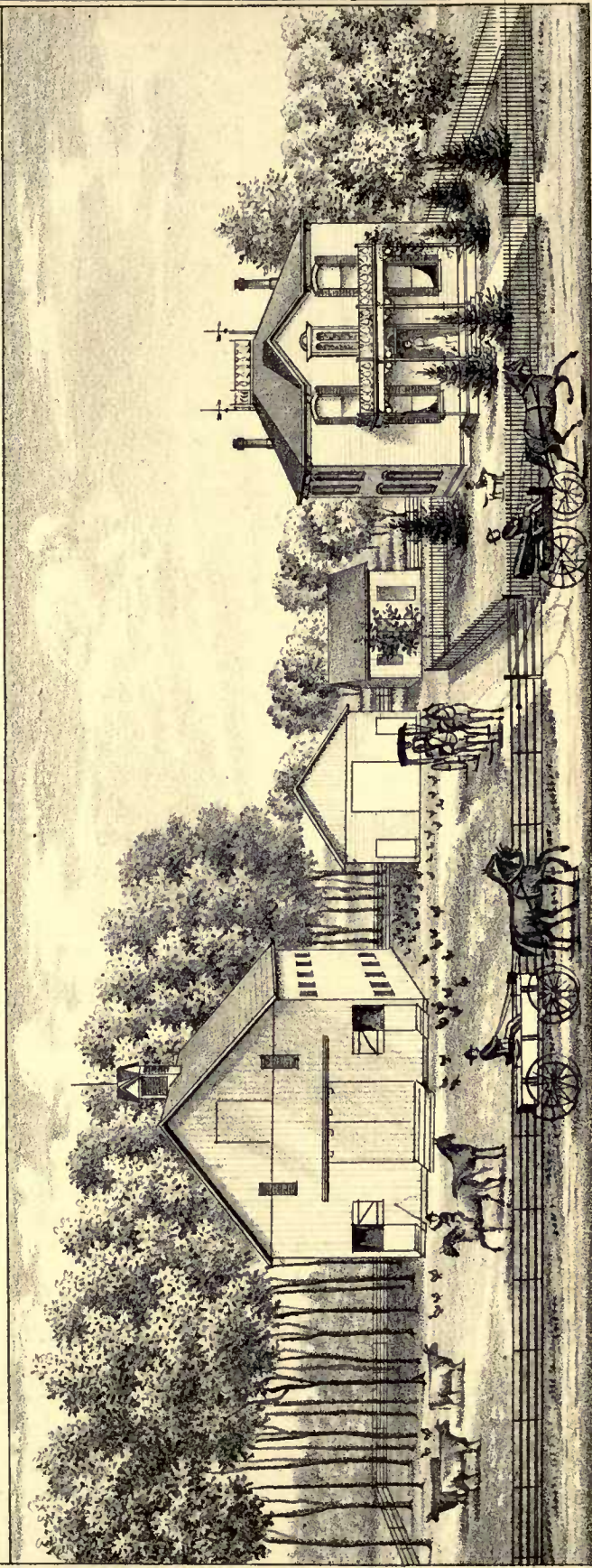
The marriage of George W. Gilmore and Miss Hannah J. Holland took place in Monongalia County, W. Va, Oct. 8, 1861. Mrs. Gilmore is the daughter of Reason and Leah (Way) Holland, who settled in Virginia after their marriage, whence they removed to Pennsylvania, from there to Licking County, Ohio, and finally to Williamson County, Ill., where Mr. Holland died in December, 1876. He volunteered in Co. I, 14th W. Va. Vol. Inf., and served in the Union army three years. He was seriously wounded at the fight which took place between Winchester and Martinsburg. Of the eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Holland only four grew to mature years, namely—Hannah J., William J., George W. and Anna S. The wife of our subject was born in Monongalia County, W. Va., Aug. 22, 1843.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilmore became the parents of six children—William J., Enezela, Anna B., Frank W., Charles H. and Ora L. Enezela is the wife of Dennis D. Hinton, a farmer, and resident of Newcomb; Anna B., Mrs. Robert J. Myers, is a resident of Newcomb; the others are at home. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Church, and politically Mr. G. votes with the Democratic party. He has held the various offices of his township, including those of School Trustee, Collector and Director, and is regarded by all who know him as a man of excellent business judgment.

JOHAN COMER. This worthy representative of the farming community of Crittenden Township, is a native of the Buckeye State, and was born in Jefferson Township, Jackson County, Dec. 17, 1832. His parents, William and Elizabeth (Harmon) Comer, were natives of Virginia. His grandfathers both served in the Revolutionary War, and his two uncles, Emanuel and George Comer, enlisted in the War of 1812. The service of the former, however, was exceedingly brief, as peace was declared soon after his enlistment, which occurred when he was but eighteen years of age. The parents of our subject, soon after their marriage, removed from the Old Dominion to Ohio, and were among the earliest pio-



RESIDENCE OF JOHN COMER, SEC. 8, CRITTENDEN TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF G.W. GILMORE, SEC. 10., NEWCOMB TOWNSHIP.

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neers of Jackson County. There they became the parents of eight children, seven of whom were reared to become men and women. Upon the homestead established in the wilderness they spent the remainder of their days, the father dying at the advanced age of nearly eighty-seven years. The mother died in 1845, when our subject was but thirteen years of age. One daughter of the household died in childhood, and another, Elizabeth, died when about twenty-two years old. Of those living the record is as follows: George is a resident of Gallia County, Ohio; Catherine became the wife of Samuel Davis, and resides in Jackson County, Ohio; Lewis served through the War of the Rebellion, having first enlisted in the three months' service, and after the expiration of that term he re-enlisted, in the 56th Ohio Infantry, and served until nearly the close of the struggle, when he was discharged on account of disability, but his patriotism would not permit him to seek safety at home, and he followed his regiment until the final downfall of the Confederacy; he is now living in Scioto County, Ohio. Mary, the wife of George A. Cook, and Susan, Mrs. Stephen Arthur, all reside in Scioto County, Ohio; John, of our sketch, was the youngest son and next to the youngest child in the family.

Mr. Comer grew to manhood in his native county, and assisted his father and brothers in the cultivation of the farm. In 1846 he went into the employ of Campbell, Peters & Co., and commenced hauling iron ore, coal, etc., from Olive Furnace to Wheelersburg Landing with ox-teams, and pursued this monotonous occupation for seventeen years. In 1863 he resolved to change his vocation and try his fortunes in the more western country. After coming into this State he located upon a tract of rented land in Crittenden Township, which he cultivated until 1867. He then purchased eighty acres of his present farm, which was then mostly in a wild condition. By years of unwearying industry he brought this to a good state of cultivation, and added 100 acres, the whole of which is now finely improved and well drained, and which he has principally devoted to grain-raising. He has also erected a good set of farm buildings, and has all the appliances necessary for keeping up a valuable es-

tate, after the most approved methods of the day. As one of the representative farm homes of the county, we present a view of his place in this ALBUM.

Mr. Comer was married, in Gallia County, his native State, on the 4th of May, 1856, to Miss Emily Miller, who was born in that county, and daughter of F. J. and Sarah (Cheeseman) Miller. Of this union there were born fourteen children, eight of whom died in early childhood, and one son, Thomas, died of measles when nineteen years old. Those living are William, Charles, F. J., Martha E. and James.

The father of Mr. Comer was a Whig politically. Our subject, since the organization of the Republican party, has been a warm supporter of its principles, but has had no time to give to any office, being wholly absorbed in his business and farm affairs. He is reckoned among the reliable citizens of his township, and is universally esteemed by all who know him.



JOHIN FAULKNER, an exceedingly energetic, and consequently successful farmer of Kerr Township, was born April 2, 1834, in Cheshire, England. He is the son of Thomas and Ann (Potts) Faulkner, natives of the same place. His paternal grandfather, Thomas Faulkner, was also a native of Cheshire.

The father of our subject became much interested in the land advantages of America, and resolved to gain an inheritance for his family in the New World. In about the year 1846 he left England with the intention of sending for his family, when he should have become sufficiently established in this country. But the hopes and plans of men are in the hands of a higher power. He embarked on board the *Rio Sovereign*, bound from Liverpool to New York, and when the vessel had about reached mid-ocean, he accidentally fell overboard and was drowned. Four or five years later his son and daughter carried out his resolution of coming to America, and the rest of the family soon followed.

John Faulkner was but fifteen years of age when


he landed at Portsmouth, N. H. He obtained work in a cotton factory at that place, where he remained for seven or eight years. There being no opportunity in New Hampshire to follow the brick and tile making trade, to which he had been brought up, he finally resolved to go further West. Following up this resolution we next hear of him in Minnesota, where he undertook brick-making, but this business not proving successful he returned two years later to New Hampshire and resumed his work in the cotton factory until the spring of 1865. He then turned westward again and located in Kendall County, Ill., where he remained three years engaged in farming.

Mr. Faulkner was married, Dec. 14, 1861, to Miss Sarah Arendale, the daughter of Robert and Eliza (Roberts) Arendale, natives of England. She was born in Cheshire, England, and her marriage with Mr. Faulkner took place in Lawrence, Mass. From Kendall County Mr. Faulkner and his wife came to this county, arriving about the time of the great fire in Chicago, in 1871. They settled on section 31, Kerr Township, and purchased forty acres of wild land in Compromise Township, and soon afterward bought eighty acres where he now resides.

In 1883 his beloved wife, the mother of six children, was removed by death. The names of their children are as follows: Eliza A., Joseph, Thomas, Albert, Lizzie and Minnie. Of these Albert and Lizzie are deceased. Eliza married Mr. Isaac Carter, and lives in this county, where her husband owns and cultivates a fine farm in Rantoul Township.

Mr. Faulkner was the second time married, Feb. 24, 1886, to Mrs. Julia Booth, of Portsmouth, N. H., a lady whom he had known during his residence there. She is a native of Portsmouth, and the daughter of Albion and Maria (Denet) Wilson, of that State. The first Governor of Maine was her mother's uncle. Mr. Faulkner resides on his farm, where he is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He does not aspire to political preferment, and has never taken an active part in politics, but votes with the Democratic party. He has been for a number of years agent for Mr. W. S. Prentice, of Springfield, Ill., a large land-owner in this town-

ship. Both Mr. and Mrs. Faulkner were formerly members of the Episcopal Church, and are now regular attendants and supporters of the Methodist Episcopal Church, although not officially connected with that religious denomination.

 DAVID SILVER, deceased, formerly numbered among the successful farmers and one of the old settlers of Urbana Township, was born in Salem County, N. J., Feb. 15, 1798, and was the son of Joseph and Patience (Ferguson) Silver. They had a family of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, and all of these, with one exception, grew to maturity. The paternal grandparents were Aaron and Ann (Hall) Silver. The family was originally from Wales, from which its first representatives to this country emigrated in the sixteenth century. The parents of our subject removed from New Jersey to Ohio in 1801, where they were engaged in farming in Warren County. Their young David grew to manhood and married Miss Eliza, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth Munger.

The Munger family was of English extraction, and the great-grandfather, Reuben Munger, was kidnapped in London and held for some time a prisoner, and then sold for his passage to this country. On his arrival in America he settled in Connecticut. His mother was the youngest daughter of the Earl of Dudley. The grandfather, Jonathan Munger, was born in Guilford, Conn., in November, 1755. He married Miss Elizabeth Lawrence, and they had a family of five children, one son and four daughters, all of whom grew to maturity.

David Silver, after marriage, settled on a farm in Warren County, Ohio, where he remained until the fall of 1854, when he moved with his family to Champaign County. In the following year he purchased 160 acres of land of the Illinois Central Railroad, and to this he subsequently added eighty acres. When a youth of eighteen years he had determined to study law, but finding himself unfitted by nature for the successful practice of that profession, he wisely returned to farming. He possessed

great energy and strength of character and applied himself successfully to agricultural pursuits, bringing his land to a high state of cultivation and making good improvements. In 1855 he built a fine brick residence, which was the first erected in the township, and in 1857 added a large barn. He was especially successful in stock-raising, including choice breeds of cattle and hogs. He returned on a visit to Ohio in 1867. After an active and useful life he died on the old homestead, Nov. 10, 1875, at the age of seventy-seven years. His wife, who was born Jan. 2, 1802, in Montgomery County, Ohio, died in 1863. They had a family of five children: William M., who is now in Dakota; John L.; Wallace, a resident of this county; Myra, and Perry, who died in December, 1885. The latter served as a Union soldier in the Civil War three years, being a member of Co. G, 76th Ill. Vol. Inf. Myra, the only daughter and owner of the farm, was born in Ohio, educated in the public schools of that State, and possesses much practical sense and business capacity. The old homestead, on which she resides, is a fine estate comprising 240 acres.



JOSEPH M. BESORE, widely and favorably known throughout Stanton Township, is a native of Pennsylvania, born near Chambersburg in Franklin County, Sept. 14, 1836. His father, John Besore, was born near Waynesburg, Franklin County, and married Miss Mary Mound of the same county. They settled on a farm in that county and became the parents of a fine family, including seven sons and three daughters, all of whom are living and now residents of Champaign County, Ill., having added greatly to the intelligence of its population and to its credit as a farming and business community. The family is of French descent, the first representatives in this country locating in and adjacent to the State of Pennsylvania. The grandfather, John Besore, Sr., was one of the pioneers of Franklin County, Pa., and after locating there made it his home during the balance of his days.

The subject of this history was the third son of his father's family and passed his boyhood and

youth in his native county, after the manner of most farmers' boys. He received a common-school education and remained with his father until the death of the latter, which occurred in 1855. Afterward he assisted his mother in conducting the affairs of the homestead until he was no longer needed. Joseph Besore came West to this State in 1865, locating in Vermilion County, where he resided for one year and became a resident of this county in 1866. He first rented a farm three years in Stanton Township and then purchased 160 acres, which, after occupying four years alone, he abandoned for a brief season while he returned to his native State for the purpose of securing a nearer friend and companion than any which he had found in this locality, and was united in marriage with Miss Barbara F. Heneberger.

Mr. Besore at once returned with his bride to his new farm on the prairie, where they set up house-keeping in an economic and primitive style and worked in unison to establish a home. At the time of taking possession of his farm, there was but a small frame house and stable upon it, which have long since given place to first-class modern improvements. The handsome residence and farm buildings were planned mostly by the present proprietor. He superintended their construction, and the result is one of the finest sets of farm buildings in the county. Mr. Besore was obliged to incur an indebtedness of \$800 at the start, but this was in due time liquidated and he then had his spare cash to devote to improvements. He was engaged largely in the raising of grain and hogs, from which he has derived the larger portion of his income. In addition to the putting up of buildings, fencing his fields and purchasing the necessary farm machinery, there were also the needs of a growing family to provide for, and taken altogether, his success has been truly phenomenal.

In due time there came to the household of our subject and wife a family of six children, four sons and two daughters, whom the parents named Charles E., Montie C., Isaac H., Warren C., Elsie Ray and Norah May. They are all living and reside mostly with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. B. identified themselves with the German Reform Church, of which they have remained active and consistent

members, contributing of their means to the support of this as well as to every other worthy cause and enterprise in their adopted county. When our subject became a voter he adopted politics of the Democratic party, and has found no reason to consider himself mistaken in his first views in regard to local and National government.

THOMAS JEFFERSON BEVERLIN. One of the most valuable farms in Stanton Township is located on section 34, and comprises 280 acres, well improved and in a high state of cultivation. On the choicest point of ground on this place prominently appear the handsome farm buildings, well constructed, neat and substantial, sheltered here and there by fruit and choice shade trees, with good fences, and everything around indicating cultivated tastes and ample means. Mr. Beverlin began life in a modest manner, his first purchase being eighty acres of unimproved prairie, upon which he located, and removed his family into the dwelling which stood upon it, and which was much inferior to that which they at present occupy. He possessed more than ordinary business ability, was industrious and economical in the extreme, and soon began to realize the reward of his labors. He added to his real estate by degrees, and as his means accumulated substituted new buildings for old ones, and now little remains to be seen of the place as it was in its original condition. His qualities as a leader in the community soon received due recognition, and he was called to the various offices of trust in the township, serving as Road Commissioner and Trustee, and there were few enterprises set on foot in which his aid or his opinions were not solicited. To these calls he always responded generously, and fully identified himself with the welfare of the people around him.

Mr. Beverlin was born in Wabash County, this State, Oct. 6, 1840. His father and grandfather, both named William, were born in Wayne County, Ind. The Beverlin family is of English extraction. William, Jr., grew to manhood in his native county, and there married Miss Rebecca Commons. After marriage they removed to Wabash County, Ill.,

locating on a farm, where the father died in 1842. The mother subsequently returned to her native county in Indiana, taking her children with her, and there Thomas J. of our sketch spent his boyhood. He was but two years of age at the time of his father's death. His mother was afterward married to Isaac Lewis, and removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind. Thence the family came into Vermilion County, this State, and some years later to this county.

Thomas J. Beverlin after coming to this State went to live with Levi Lewis, with whom he remained until fifteen years of age. He then took up his abode with his stepfather, with whom he remained until the breaking out of the late war, and notwithstanding he was but seventeen years of age he determined to do what he could in assisting to preserve the Union. He accordingly enlisted in Co. K, 37th Ill. Vol. Inf., serving faithfully three years and four months, and taking part in the battles at Pea Ridge, Lexington, and New Orleans. From the Crescent City his regiment was detailed to go to the Brazos River in Texas, at which time the war was nearing its close. Soon afterward came the news of the surrender, and the troops were ordered to Washington for the grand review. Those years were filled with a rich experience, and afforded to young Beverlin, with thousands of others, a knowledge of the South, the face of the country, and its people and their manner of living, which perhaps they would have gained in no other way. After receiving his honorable discharge he returned to Vermilion County, where he engaged in farming until the fall of 1866. He was then attracted to the unusual fertility of this section, and selected a tract of eighty acres of prairie land in Stanton Township, where began the successes of his later life which we have already indicated.

Soon after his return from the army Mr. Beverlin fulfilled his engagement of marriage with Miss Elizabeth Stephenson, of Edgar County, their wedding taking place in Paris, in the fall of 1865. This union resulted in the birth of eight children, of whom seven are still living, and form a bright and intelligent family, of which the parents may be pardoned for regarding with extreme pride. They were named respectively Lilly, Archie, Omer,

Earnest, Lora, Osa and William. Adella is deceased. Both Mr. and Mrs. Beverlin are members of the Friends' Church. Mr. Beverlin is a Republican in politics.

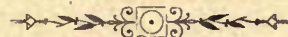


CHARLES BABB. One of the pleasantest homes in Rantoul Township is located on section 7 (east), and is owned by the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch. He has 123 acres of land, tile-drained and finely improved with neat fences and good buildings, and everything about him is calculated to make life a comfort and a pleasure. The farm is well stocked with graded animals, including one full-blood Short-horn and several head which are nearly full-bloods. The property of Mr. Babb is free from incumbrance and he has acquired it solely by his own honest labor and good management. He commenced in life at the foot of the ladder without means, but with the resolution to become the possessor of a good home and occupy a worthy position in his community. His present surroundings fully indicate the degree to which his resolution has been carried out.

The early home of our subject was on the other side of the Atlantic in Staffordshire, England, where he was born under his father's roof Dec. 18, 1841. His parents, John and Margaret (White) Babb, after their marriage, located upon the farm in Staffordshire, which had been in possession of the family since its purchase by the grandfather of our subject, when he was a young man. John Babb died on the old homestead in 1849, where he was born and where he spent his entire life, and his good wife, the mother of our subject, still resides in Staffordshire. She was of Scottish parentage, and a lady of strong character and high principles, universally respected wherever known. The parental household consisted of five children, as follows: John is single and divides his time between England, America and Scotland; Ann, the widow of Henry Bunting, lives in Uttoxeter, Staffordshire; Charles, of our sketch, was the third child; Thomas died in Australia; Margaret married Edward Wood, of Derbyshire.

Charles Babb during his boyhood and youth attended school in his native shire, and assisted his parents in the duties around the farm. He remained under the home roof until reaching his majority, and being soon afterward married then located on leased land in Staffordshire, where, together with farming, he carried on stock-raising for a period of four years, but on account of a cattle disease which broke out, lost money, not being able to sell his stock. In 1870 he decided to seek his fortunes in the United States. After reaching American shores he proceeded directly westward to this State and county and located in Hensley Township, where he worked by the day trimming hedge, and being an expert at this, he earned good wages. He lived economically, saving what he could, and in 1883 had sufficient means to purchase 123½ acres of good land now included in his present farm. He has an excellent business capacity and has carried on his farming operations with marked success. Mr. Babb is esteemed as a good citizen and valued member of the community; a man honest in all his transactions and one whose word is as good as his bond.

Charles Babb was married in December, 1849, to Miss Eleanor Bunting, a native of Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, England. The four bright children which came to their home have now reached years of discretion and are a quartette of which the parents may well be proud. Arthur is farming in Condit Township; Jessie became the wife of Samuel Little, and lives in Armstrong, Vermilion Co., Ill.; Maggie, Mrs. Charles Merchant, is a resident of Rantoul Township; Annie is at home with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. B. were reared in the Episcopal faith but at present are not connected with any church denomination. In politics he is a Republican.



WILLIAM DAILEY, a farmer of Kerr Township, and a gentleman who has followed that vocation since large enough to hold the handles of a plow, is the son of James and Mary (Moxan) Dailey, natives of Ireland, and was born June 20, 1856, in Morris, Grundy Co., Ill. His grandfathers were Joseph Moxan and William

Dailey, both natives of Ireland, neither of whom ever came to this country. Our subject's father came to the United States in 1850, bringing with him his wife and two children. They settled in Grundy County, where he died in 1861, and two years later his mother also died, leaving the family to the care of relatives.

William Dailey, the subject of our sketch, was brought up in the family of his uncle, John Moxan, in Morris, where he had the advantages of an excellent common school. At the age of fifteen he left home to do for himself, and during three years worked at different places in the surrounding country. He then moved to Champaign County, Ill., where he engaged in farming on rented land. Feb. 9, 1880, he was married to Miss Anna Hannigan, the fourth child, and one of twins, born to Felix and Helen (McCormick) Hannigan, the former of whom was one of the early settlers and an extensive land-owner in Grundy County. The town of Felix in that county was built on his property, and named in his honor. His daughters were all educated for teachers and are well known in the profession in this county.

Mrs. Dailey was a highly accomplished lady, receiving her education at the State Normal School, Bloomington. Her reputation as a teacher was well known in this part of the State, where she was considered one of the best educators in the ungraded schools of the county. But death loves a shining mark, and this accomplished wife and well-beloved mother was stricken down with disease and died Aug. 17, 1886, leaving four children—James, John, William and Margaret, all of whom are living. Mrs. Dailey was a consistent and devoted member of the Catholic Church, in which society she was prominent in good works. She was a lady of much refinement and strength of character, and her influence was felt throughout the entire community in which she lived. Her death occurred while living on their own farm in Compromise Township, the home which her husband had purchased after their marriage.

Mr. Dailey is the owner of ninety acres of land on section 30, Kerr Township; both of his farms are now rented, and with his children he resides on section 30, but is not engaged in carrying on the

farm himself. He is at present Assessor of the township, to which office he was elected on the People's ticket. He is a Republican, but takes no active interest in politics; religiously he is a member of the Roman Catholic Church. His brother, Mr. John J. Dailey, resides in Utah, near Park City, and is the owner of the celebrated Dailey mines, valued at \$2,000,000. He superintends the mines himself, and single-handed and alone, has worked his way to the uppermost round of the ladder of fortune, and to-day the name of John J. Dailey is considered good for a round million of dollars.


GEORGE A. WALKER, a successful and enterprising farmer of Urbana Township, is of Scotch extraction, and was born in the State of New Hampshire, Dec. 17, 1832. His great-grandfather, Andrew Walker, was a native of Ireland, but his grandfather, Robert Walker, was born in New Hampshire, as likewise was the father of our subject, who was also named Robert. The father's business was that of a machinist, at which employment he was very skillful. He married Miss Nancy Gordon, the daughter of Nathaniel Gordon. The Gordon family were of Scotch and Irish extraction. They had settled in the northern part of Ireland during the dissensions that disturbed the reigns of William of Orange and Charles II.

In 1836 Robert Walker removed with his family from New Hampshire to Tazewell County, Ill., and located near Pekin, where he spent the remainder of his life. His death occurred in March, 1839. His widow and four children were left to struggle alone in the wilderness on the Illinois frontier, in Tazewell County, until 1870, when they removed to Champaign. George A. Walker became the protector of his mother, with whom she lived until her death, which occurred Feb. 24, 1887, in her eighty-eighth year. She was born in 1799.

On the 1st of January, 1868, Mr. Walker was married to Miss Perie Drake, the daughter of Randolph Drake. She was born in New Jersey, and after marriage settled with her husband in Tazewell County, whence they removed to this county. She died July 19, 1884, leaving no children.

Mr. Walker's present farm, containing 160 acres of valuable land, is located on section 29, Urbana Township. Mr. Walker began his career in life hampered by many disadvantages, and with but little capital save his good common sense and energy. He has by his excellent business qualifications acquired a fine landed property, all of which is well cultivated and improved. He is to some extent interested in stock-raising.

Mr. Walker possesses sterling qualities of mind and heart. In all social questions he is found on the side of law and order. He has served as School Trustee, and is now Supervisor of Urbana Township. He is one of the Deacons of the Baptist Church, and is a consistent Christian in all the relations of life. In politics he is a strong Republican, and is also a strict temperance man.


PROF. STEPHEN A. FORBES, Ph. D., State Entomologist and Director of the State Laboratory of Natural History, is connected with the Department of Natural History of the University of Illinois, at Urbana, which embraces courses in Botany, Vegetable Physiology, Microscopy, Anatomy, Zoology, Geology, etc. The course in Botany is illustrated by a collection of over 1,000 indigenous Illinois plants, and the department constitutes a museum well worth the examination of the student and visitor.

Prof. Forbes is eminently qualified for the position which he holds in this department, both by nature and education. He is a native of Stephenson County, this State, born near Freeport, Ill., May 29, 1844. His parents, Isaac S. and Agnes (Van-Hosen) Forbes, were natives respectively of Vermont and New York. The father followed the occupation of a farmer. They emigrated to the Prairie State in 1836, and took up a claim of Government land four miles from what is now the thriving city of Freeport. This was before the organization of Stephenson County, in which work Isaac Forbes was prominent, and became Postmaster at Silver Creek, occupying the position for a number of years. He belonged to the old Whig party.

The parental family included seven children, of whom only four are now living: Mrs. F. A. Bliss; Col. H. C. Forbes; Prof. Stephen A. and Mrs. N. F. Snyder. Isaac Forbes, after building for himself a good record as a business man and citizen, departed this life at his home in Stephenson County, in 1854. The mother survived her husband for a period of eighteen years, and closed her eyes to the scenes of earth in 1872.

The subject of this biography remained at home on the farm and attended school until fourteen years old. He then went to Beloit, Wis., and entered the academy there, which he attended for one year. Returning home he pursued his studies under the instruction of an older brother, until 1861, at which time there was a call for soldiers to assist in the preservation of the Union. Young Forbes enlisted in Co. B, 7th Ill. Vol. Cav., and served four and one-half years, participating in many of the important battles of the war. He was captured at the evacuation of Corinth in 1862, and confined for a period of five months in the prisons of Mobile, Macon and Richmond. He entered the service as private and was mustered out as Captain. After receiving his honorable discharge he returned home and began the study of medicine, also taking a course of lectures at Rush Medical College, Chicago. Afterward he took up the study of botany and zoology.

In 1868 Prof. Forbes commenced teaching in the public schools of Franklin and Jefferson Counties, being thus occupied for three years following, and in the meantime devoting his leisure hours to the study of botany. He taught school during the winter season and spent his summers in the fields of Southern Illinois, among the curious plants and shrubs indigenous to that part of the State. In 1872 he was appointed Curator of the State Museum at the Normal University in McLean County, and soon after made Professor, where he remained until 1884. In the meantime he had been appointed State Entomologist by Gov. Cullom, in 1882. In 1884 he was called to his present position by the Trustees of the University, and the duties of which he has fulfilled in a manner satisfactory to all concerned.

Prof. Forbes was married in 1872, to Miss Clara

S. Gaston. Mrs. F. is a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, and the daughter of John R. and Frances (Shaw) Gaston, of Normal, Ill. Of this union there have been born five children—Bertha, Ernest B., Winifred, Ethel C. and Richard E. The family occupy a pleasant residence near the University, and number among their friends and associates the refined and cultured people of Urbana. The Professor is Republican in politics, and takes a genuine interest in all matters pertaining to the advancement of morality and education.



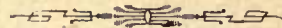
MARK JEAKINS, deceased, who was of English birth and parentage, emigrated to this country in the spring of 1851, and a few years later became a resident of the Prairie State. He first located in Peoria County, afterward sojourned for a time in Vermilion County, and in 1867 settled in the southeastern part of Compromise Township, this county, on section 33. He purchased eighty acres of land, but slightly improved, and at once set himself to work to establish a home and secure a competency. - How well he succeeded in this determination is indicated by the fine estate which he left at his death. This includes 200 acres of land, with a fine set of farm buildings and other improvements necessary for the completion of a modern farm homestead. In his course as a husband, father and citizen Mr. Jeakins set an example that is worthy of imitation. He was honorable and upright in his transactions, prompt to meet his obligations, and left the heritage of a worthy name to his descendants.

The boyhood and youth of Mr. Jeakins were spent in Lincolnshire, England, where he was born Sept. 2, 1828. His parents, John and Elizabeth Jeakins, had a family of nine children, of whom six, James, John, Mathew, Charles, Sarah and Mark, accompanied their parents to the United States. Emma, William and Ann are in England. John Jeakins departed this life in Delaware in about 1858. The mother died in Ohio. Our subject remained in his native country until attaining his majority, being bred to farm life. In 1851, ac-

companied by his brother James, he emigrated from his native land, arriving in the city of Philadelphia in May of that year. He took up his abode in the Quaker City, whence two years later he removed to Ohio, and from there came to the Prairie State. His death occurred Aug. 24, 1885, on the homestead which he had labored so many years to build up and beautify.

Mr. Jeakins was twice married, first in Philadelphia, Pa., in September, 1851, and his wife died while on the journey from Philadelphia to Ohio. After coming to this State Mr. Jeakins, on the 1st of January, 1867, was married to Mrs. Phébe Ann (Barton) Gear. Mrs. J. was born in Parke County, Ind., March 28, 1835, and is the daughter of John and Martha Barton, natives of Kentucky. She was reared in Indiana, and was first married Oct. 16, 1864, to Rev. Alexander Gear, a native of Ohio, and a minister of the United Brethren Church. Mr. Gear was always interested in agricultural pursuits and followed farming in connection with his ministerial duties. They resided in Indiana a year after their marriage, then removed to Vermilion County, this State, where Mr. Gear departed this life Dec. 25, 1865. Of this marriage there were no children.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Jeakins there were born three children—John S., Harvey J. and Lillie M. Religiously Mr. J. belonged to the United Brethren Church, of which Mrs. J. is still a member. The latter since the death of her husband has, with the assistance of her children, managed the farm in a creditable and judicious manner, and is a lady greatly respected by all who know her.



WENDEL REINHART has been identified with the farming interests and the local affairs of Pesotum Township since the spring of 1867, when he came to this county and purchased eighty acres of land lying near the line between Crittenden and Pesotum Townships. Since that time he has added gradually to his possessions until he now has a fine farm of 320 acres lying partly in each of the townships named. As one of the most



William Reichart



William Colley

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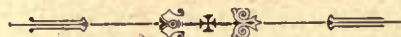
prosperous and enterprising of Champaign County's foreign-born citizens, who have contributed so greatly to the development of the Prairie State, we present in connection with this brief outline of his life the likeness of a face familiar in the useful walks of life and of one who has built up a record enduring and valuable, and which will be looked upon by his descendants years hence with pride and satisfaction.

Soon after coming to this section the intelligence of Mr. Rinehart and his value as a man and citizen made itself apparent to his fellow-townsmen, who entrusted him with the various offices within their gift, and the duties of which he discharged in a manner highly satisfactory to them and creditable to himself. Being loyal to the customs of his native country, Germany, he is a believer in compulsory education, and has always been interested in the establishment and maintenance of schools, doing everything in his power to encourage and promote the cause of education in this section. He served six years as School Director, has been Commissioner of Highways nine years, and Justice of the Peace six years. There have been but few enterprises having for their object the public good, which he has not encouraged and supported, holding very properly to the theory that whatever benefits one citizen is of benefit to all.

The subject of this history spent his childhood in the Province of Alsace-Lorraine, now in Germany, where he was born on the 5th of February, 1832. When a youth of fifteen years he emigrated to the United States with his parents, Nicholas and Catherine (Pantler) Reinhart, who, in 1847, came to this State and located in Peoria County, of which their son was a resident for twenty years thereafter. There, as here, he became prominent among the men of his township, which he represented in the Board of Supervisors, and was otherwise connected with its local affairs. He was united in the holy bonds of matrimony, Jan. 8, 1860, to Mary, daughter of Valentine and Mary (Eberle) Sehlink, of Peoria, Ill. Of this union there were born three children, two only now living—Mary and George. Peter died when five months old; Mary is the wife of George Gillis, who is proprietor of a farm of eighty acres in Crittenden Township; George married Miss

Mary Summers, and also follows farming in Crittenden Township. The mother of these children departed this life at the home of her husband in Peoria County, on the 28th of March, 1864. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married Jan. 16, 1866, was Miss Eva Meister, of Woodford County, this State. Of the nine children born of this marriage, two sons, Louis and Frank, died when five years old. The children surviving are Theresa, John W., Joseph, Lizzie, Henry, Charles and Peter E., all at home with their parents. The boys assist their father in the cultivation of the farm, which of late years has been devoted chiefly to the breeding of cattle and horses.

Mrs. Mary Reinhart was a devoted member of the German Catholic Church, with which also our subject and his present wife have been connected many years.



WILLIAM COLLEY is of English descent, and owns eighty acres of well-improved land on section 33, Ayers Township. He was born in Yorkshire, England, Oct. 10, 1846, and is the son of Robert and Ann (Wardell) Colley. When at the tender age of two years he had the misfortune to lose his mother by death. He was then taken to the home of his maternal grandfather, where he grew to boyhood. He attended school in his native land, and at the age of seventeen years was bound out to learn the carpenter's trade, serving as an apprentice for four years. He applied himself with diligence and energy to his work and became very skillful, and was employed in the construction of several large and costly edifices. He spent six years working at his trade, and then becoming interested in the advantages offered the emigrant by this country, he yielded to the desire dear to the heart of every Englishman, of becoming a land-owner, and in 1870 sought the shores of the New World with this end in view. After landing at New York he came at once to Morgan County, Ill., where he remained through the winter. Afterward for two years he was employed to work by the month.

In 1872 Mr. Colley was married to Miss Ellen

Swan, who was also of English descent. She was born in Illinois, Oct. 18, 1847. They have two interesting children living, and two are deceased. The names of the children are as follows: Thomas W.; John H., deceased; Eddie S., and another, who died in infancy. The household includes a cousin, Clara Swain, who has made her home at Mr. Colley's since her father's death.

The energy of Mr. Colley displayed in his profession has been amply rewarded. His land is under good cultivation and he has a tasteful farm residence and the grounds are well cared for. He owns some fine Hereford stock, good farm machinery, and all the appointments of his place are well suited to the home of an English country gentleman.

Mr. Colley established his home in this county in 1877, and although comparatively a recent resident, has become largely identified with the interests of the community. He is a member and one of the Trustees of the Methodist Church, and also Superintendent of the Sunday-school. He has never taken out his naturalization papers, but regards himself as a citizen of the United States, and in politics his sympathies are with the Republican party.

The lithographic portrait of Mr. Colley, as shown on another page, will be recognized as that of one of the most useful members of the farming community of this locality, and one who has contributed his full quota in enhancing the beauty of the landscape and the value of the soil in Ayers Township.

WILLIAM BROWN, a well-known resident of the city of Champaign, and formerly one of the most prosperous farmers of this county, is now living in ease and retirement at his fine residence, No. 502 University avenue. He has been a resident of the Prairie State since 1869, when he came to this county and purchased 140 acres of land in Somer Township, which he improved and cultivated until the fall of 1885. He then purchased the handsome property which he now owns in this city, and where, surrounded by the friends who have known him for so many years,

he is passing down the sunset hill of life in the midst of comfort and luxury, the reward of an active and energetic business life.

Mr. Brown is a native of Virginia, born in Preston County, Oct. 25, 1815. His parents were Windell and Amelia (Moore) Brown, natives of Pennsylvania, whence they removed after their marriage to Virginia, and were engaged there in farming pursuits. In the year 1837 they removed to Union County, Ohio, where Mr. Brown purchased a heavily timbered tract of 400 acres, and where he established a comfortable homestead upon which he passed the remainder of his life, his decease occurring in 1851. The mother died two years later, in 1853. Of their nine children three only are now living—Aaron, William and Amelia.

The subject of this history was reared to farming pursuits, and remained under the home roof until his parents closed their eyes upon the scenes of earth. He afterward occupied the old homestead until 1869, when he sold out and came to this State. He is what may be properly called a self-made man. He was reared to habits of industry and economy, and in his younger days learned to live within his income. He began early in life to accumulate money, and many a day engaged in mowing hay at twenty-five cents per acre, often cutting the grass from four acres in one day. He was also an expert at splitting rails, and would often turn out 200 of these in half a day, after they had been cut from the timber. He was strong, physically, and no one in his county could lay him on the ground. His early education was conducted in the pioneer log school-house. Those early experiences contributed to his independence of character, and laid the foundations for his future success in life.

Since coming to this locality Mr. Brown has been prominently connected with the affairs of the county, and has contributed in no small degree in bringing it to its present position as one of the most prosperous sections of the State. He is Democratic in politics, and has held the offices of School Director and Path Master, besides filling other important positions, and taking a prominent part in the counsels of his fellow-townsmen. Both he and his excellent wife early in life became connected

with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which they are still worthy and consistent members. Mr. Brown has always been interested in the success of the temperance movement, lending his influence and lifting his voice as opportunity occurred, against the crying evil.

The marriage of William Brown and Miss Keziah C. Ford, was celebrated in Union County, Ohio, in 1853. Mrs. Brown is a native of Clarke County, and the daughter of James and Elizabeth (Hanna) Ford, natives respectively of New Jersey and Ohio. Our subject and wife have become the parents of five children, only three of whom are living: Clark married Miss Sarah Fuller, and they have two children—Charlie A. and Helen E.; they live in Phelps County, Neb. Ray and William A. are living on the home farm.

Mr. Ford, the father of Mrs. Brown, during his earlier years engaged in farming in the Buckeye State, but about 1871 removed to this State, where he is still living. His wife, the mother of Mrs. Brown, died in Union County, Ohio, in 1854. Eight of the nine children born to them are now living and named as follows: Nancy V., William J., David J., Keziah, John W., Mattie, Ruey and Isabella. Mr. Ford was Justice of the Peace some years in the Buckeye State, and Chaplain of the temperance society there.

JAMES W. STAMEY, an active and prosperous farmer of Urbana Township, was born Feb. 1, 1842, on the homestead where he now resides. His father, Elias Stamey, was the son of Daniel Stamey and came to Champaign County with his mother's uncle, Charles Busey, where he married Miss Nancy D. Busey, and afterward settled on the farm now occupied by his son, the subject of this sketch.

The estate of our subject includes 150 acres, located on section 6. During a very unhealthy season about ten years after his marriage, Elias Stamey died, after which his wife very successfully conducted the farm, in the meantime educating her four sons—Matthew E., Daniel W., James W. and John C. James W. remained on the farm with his

mother until he was twenty-one years of age, and completed his education at the public school in Urbana. When the estate was divided, the homestead became his portion, and his mother has since resided with him. She is now in her seventy-second year.

James Stamey in 1868 was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Somers, the daughter of James L. Somers, who came from North Carolina and was among the earliest settlers of the county. Mrs. Stamey died Oct. 28, 1886.

Mr. Stamey has been engaged principally in general farming, and raises cattle and hogs, which he sells on the farm and ships to market. His land is well tiled and enclosed with wire fencing. He has a fine residence and good farm buildings.

To Mr. and Mrs. Stamey there were born three children—John, Jennie and Frank. Mr. Stamey is an energetic, active man, interested in public affairs, and has filled some of the official positions of the township.

HENRY McBRIDE, formerly one of the most prosperous farmers of Scott Township, in 1886 retired to the village of Bondville, where he is enjoying the rest and comfort to which the industry and economy of former years have fully entitled him. He became a resident of Illinois in the spring of 1867, locating first in Fulton County, where he farmed on rented land, and whence he afterward removed to Piatt County of which he was a resident for twelve years. He removed to Bondville in the spring of 1886, where he has become one of its most highly respected citizens. He is a native of Frederick County, Md., born Sept. 6, 1832, and the son of George and Sophia McBride. They also were born in Maryland, where they were reared and married, and where the mother died in about 1836. In the fall of 1853 George McBride removed to Ohio, where he resided one year, and then came to Fulton County, this State. From there he removed to Piatt County, where his death took place Sept. 6, 1884. The three children of the parental household all grew to mature years.

When Henry McBride was sixteen years of age,

he became a resident of the Buckeye State, and there lived until the spring of 1867. He was bred to farming pursuits, which he followed in Ohio and after coming to this State. Before leaving Ohio, our subject was married, in Preble County, Oct. 25, 1855, to Miss Rebecca M., daughter of William and Mary A. (Martin) Kelley. Mr. and Mrs. Kelley were natives of Virginia, whence they removed to Ohio in about 1814. The wife of our subject was born Jan. 14, 1831, and their marriage resulted in the birth of eight children, of whom Viola C. died when two years old; Luella S., the wife of Thomas Stephenson, is a resident of Piatt County, this State; Mary A. is at home with her parents; Jacob E. married Miss Clara Connor, and is a resident of Piatt County; Laura A., Mrs. Charles Ruhl, resides in this county; William H., Cora O. and Arthur K. remain on the homestead. Mr. and Mrs. McBride are members in good standing of the Methodist Church, and our subject, politically, casts his vote in support of Republican principles.



MILO THAYER. The subject of this sketch came to Champaign County in 1871, and purchased eighty acres of wild prairie land on section 6, in Rantoul Township. Of this thirty acres had been broken, and upon it there stood a small house in whose erection neither taste, solidity, nor skill had been employed. With some repairs, however, it served as a temporary home for Mr. T. and his family until he was enabled to put up a better one. Since coming here his time has been fully employed in the improvement and cultivation of his land, which has now become valuable property, and in the erection of the buildings, in which he may justly feel a large degree of satisfaction. The grounds around the residence have been embellished with fruit trees of the finer order and handsome shade trees. The home of Mr. Thayer compares well with that of the prosperous neighbors around him, by whom he is respected as a skillful and intelligent farmer and a valued member of the community.

Our subject, in establishing his home in the

Prairie State, traveled many miles from the place of his birth, which took place in Vermont, Feb. 28, 1831. He is the son of Gardener Thayer, also a native of the Green Mountain State, who during the year following the birth of his son Milo, removed with his family to New York State, settling in Allegany County. The journey was made via Lake Champlain and Champlain to Troy, thence by the Erie Canal to Rochester, and from there to Allegany County. He secured a tract of timber land from the Holland Purchase, and clearing a farm from the wilderness, lived there the balance of his days. He had been married in his native State to Miss Saloma Smith, who journeyed with her husband from Vermont to Allegany County, N. Y., carrying her little son, our subject, much of the way in her arms. She became the mother of ten children, of whom five died when young, and five grew to become men and women: Alonzo is still a resident of Allegany County, N. Y.; Saloma, who married Charles Carpenter, died there; Carlton, when a young man removed to Dakota and is still living there in Day County; Milo of our sketch was the fourth child.

The subject of this biography, when of suitable years, commenced assisting his father in clearing the farm in Allegany County, N. Y., and pursued his early studies in the pioneer schools. When twenty-one years of age, desirous of seeing something of the world, he started for the Pacific slope. The first part of the journey was made via the railroad, lakes and rivers to Independence, Mo., where he joined a company equipped with ox-teams, and set out to complete the journey to California. After traveling 117 days they reached Hangtown, or Placerville, where our subject entered the gold mines and remained the greater part of the time for four years. In 1856 he returned via the Isthmus and New York to the old homestead in Allegany County. Three years later he took up his location in Canada Township, Allegany County, where he resided until 1871, on a farm which he had purchased. In the spring of that year he sold out and made his way to this county, of which he has since been a resident.

Two years after returning from California, Mr. Thayer was married in Allegany County, N. Y.,

Dec. 27, 1858, to Miss Mary Wright. Mrs. Thayer was born in Hume, N. Y., March 4, 1838, and is the daughter of Miles and Matilda (Odle) Wright, natives respectively of Vermont and Utica, N. Y. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wright located first in Allegany County, whence they removed to the village of Hume, where they remained the rest of their lives, the father dying in 1867, and the mother in 1873.

Mr. and Mrs. Thayer became the parents of eight children, of whom the record is as follows: Sina, who became the wife of Robert Dickey, died in Rantoul in 1883, aged twenty-four years; Julia, Mrs. Reynolds, lives in Rantoul; Grace, Mrs. George Fletcher, in Condit Township; Matie, Elizabeth, Alonzo, Charlie and Edith are at home with their parents. In politics Mr. Thayer is a Republican.



JOHAN McMULLEN, a highly respected farmer, and the efficient Supervisor of Scott Township, is pleasantly located on section 10, where he has a good homestead with all modern improvements. He became a resident of the Prairie State in the spring of 1868, and for a period of twelve years lived in Seymour, this county. Since coming to the State he has been continuously engaged in farming pursuits. His homestead includes eighty acres, which produces in abundance the choicest crops, and upon which he has a good set of farm buildings, conveniently arranged for the requirements of a modern agriculturist.

Our subject, who was born in Indiana County, Pa., Feb. 2, 1822, is the son of Alexander and Catherine (McKinney) McMullen, natives of Franklin County, Pa. After marriage they settled in Indiana County, where Alexander McMullen followed farming the balance of his life. In the meantime he served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and was a strong Abolitionist, despising and condemning the system of slavery. The seven children of the parental household included three boys and four girls, of whom four survive. John was the third child. He received a common-school educa-

tion and remained at home until twenty years of age. He then served an apprenticeship of two and one-half years at the carpenter's trade, which he followed in his native county until 1868, when he came to this State. John McMullen was married in his native county, Nov. 14, 1850, to Miss Elizabeth Dickie, also a native of Indiana County, Pa., and born June 23, 1830. Her parents were William H. and Jane (Allison) Dickie, natives of the Keystone State, born in Westmoreland and Indiana Counties respectively. Mr. D. carried on farming in Indiana County, where he and his wife settled soon after marriage and became the parents of five sons and seven daughters.

To our subject and his wife there have been born six children, three only of whom survive—William H., George D. and Frank H. Those deceased are Thomas B., Catherine J., and an infant unnamed. William married Miss Carrie A. Collins, and resides on a farm in Kansas; George is teaching in Colorado; Frank is at home with his parents. Mr. McMullen was elected Supervisor of Scott Township in the spring of 1887. He has held the minor offices of his township, is Republican in politics, and religiously, with his amiable and excellent partner, is connected with the Presbyterian Church.



JAMES PARSLEY, deceased, was formerly one of the most enterprising and highly esteemed citizens of Urbana Township. He was a native of Russell County, Va., and was born Jan. 1, 1817. His death occurred July 1, 1880. His father, James Parsley, was of German descent, and was also a native of Virginia, and his mother, Rhoda Crabtree, was a native of the same State.

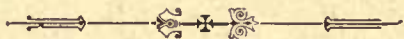
When about fourteen years of age, James Parsley moved with his parents to Greene County, Ind., where they settled and the father engaged in farming. A few years later they again changed their home, moving to Marion County, the same State, where they passed the remainder of their days. James grew to manhood in that county and was much attached to the old homestead, continuing to reside upon it until his removal to Champaign

County, in August, 1863. He first purchased forty acres of land which was partly improved. To this he subsequently added until the present farm contains 150 acres. It is located on section 25, Urbana Township, and the residence, barns, and most of the improvements were put upon the place by himself. His land was brought to a high state of cultivation and he was regarded as one of the most successful stock-raisers in the county.

In December, 1856, Mr. Parsley was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Arlington, daughter of Samuel and Matilda (McDuffie) Arlington. The McDuffies were of Scotch and Irish origin, and natives of the State of North Carolina. When Mrs. Parsley was eighteen months old her parents removed to Indiana, where she grew to womanhood. They subsequently moved to Champaign County, where both are now living, in St. Joseph Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Parsley became the parents of four children, three sons and one daughter, all of whom are living at home. Their names are Edward S., Daniel L., Lee W. and Minnie.

During Mr. Parsley's early life in Indiana he was a member of the Lutheran Church, but on settling here, there being no organization of that denomination in the vicinity, he became a member of the Methodist Church, and was one of its Trustees. Mrs. Parsley is a member of the same church. She occupies the old homestead, and with the assistance of her sons manages the farm very successfully.



ROBERT LESLIE, Agent of the Wabash Railroad and also of the Pacific Express Company, has been a resident of Tolono since the fall of 1875. He is a native of the Shetland Islands (belonging to Scotland), and was born June 10, 1850. He is the son of Robert and Ann Leslie, the former of whom came to his death by drowning, in about 1858. The mother afterward emigrated to the United States, and died at the home of her son at Tolono about three months after her arrival. The parental family included nine children, four now deceased. Ann is a resident of Tolono; John of Savoy; Robert is the

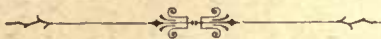
third eldest; Christina is a resident of Tolono, and Margaret, the wife of John Eunson, resides on her native island, Shetland.

The early years of our subject were spent with his parents on a small farm, where he followed fishing as an occupation, and received but a limited education. After attaining his majority, however, he felt the necessity of more book learning and through his own efforts mastered the common branches. In 1873 he set sail for the United States, landing in New York City in the month of April. From there he proceeded westward, arriving in Chicago on the 12th of that month. The following week he obtained a situation as watchman on one of the Hyde Park trains of the Illinois Central Railroad, which he abandoned, however, on the 10th of June, to work in the car shops of the same company, where he remained one year. He was then detailed to watch and keep in repair the cars received by the Wabash Railroad Company at Tolono.

In the fall of 1876 Mr. Leslie took advantage of the reduced rates offered on account of the Centennial Exposition, and started for his native island. Upon the route he visited Niagara Falls and the Centennial Exposition, and then set sail for Liverpool. He remained in the Queen's dominions until the following March, then returned to the United States, and reached Tolono on the 14th of April, 1877. He had left his position with leave of absence, and in the meantime the station had been abandoned, so that upon his return he found himself without a job. He then engaged to work for a farmer at a salary of \$14 for two months, but later received \$16 per month. During that year he returned to Chicago and entered the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad as car repairer. After six weeks he was sent by the company to Madison, Ill., but in the spring of 1878 returned to the Wabash at Tolono, in whose employ he remained as repairer and inspector until this station was consolidated with the Illinois Central. He was then tendered the position of Baggage-master, and was thus occupied until Sept. 1, 1881, when he was promoted to Assistant Station Agent of the W., St. L. & P. R. R. In February, 1883, he was tendered his present position. His successive promo-

tions have been ample evidence of his fidelity in the discharge of his duties, while as a citizen he is highly esteemed by the people of Tolono. He casts his vote with the Republican party, and religiously is a member in good standing of the Baptist Church.

Mr. Leslie was married in 1879 to Miss Mary, daughter of Archibald B. and Christiana (Stewart) Campbell. She is a native of Scotland and born in 1861. They became the parents of three children, of whom one daughter died at the age of five years. Those surviving are Anna J. and William R.



LABAN C. BURR represents the furniture and undertaking business at Tolono. He is a native of the Prairie State, and was born in Charleston, Coles County, Oct. 1, 1831. His father, Samuel P. Burr, a native of New Hampshire, was born Sept. 8, 1809, and was the son of Laban and Prudence (Cushing) Burr, the latter a descendant of Caleb Cushing, the eminent jurist. The Burr family are of English extraction and can be traced back to Rev. Jonathan Burr, who was born in 1604 in Redgrove, Suffolk, England, and came to the United States in 1639, settling in Dorchester, N. H. He had four children. His sons were Jonathan, John and Simon. From John, Aaron Burr descended; from Simon, our subject descended. John, the son of Simon, married Mary Warren; Jonathan, the son of John, married Mary Lincoln; John, his son, married a Miss Cushing, of Hingham, a descendant of Matthew Cushing, one of the first settlers of New England, and this brings us to the great-grandfather of our subject. His sons were Samnel, Cushing, Levi, Perey, Theophilus, Robert and Laban. He had one daughter, Emma.

In 1820 Laban Burr emigrated with his family to Illinois, settling near Paris, Edgar County, among the pioneers. There the father of our subject grew to manhood, and entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he continued during the remainder of his life. He was a man singularly retiring in disposition, never seeking to promote himself, and at one time declined a desirable charge in Chicago to accept one in the little

town of Wilmington, Ill. He married Miss Margery A. Modrell, who was born in Kentucky, and came with her parents to Illinois when a young child. She departed this life in about 1834, leaving three children—George W. and Laban C. (twins), and a daughter, Julia A., now deceased. In due time the father was married the second time, Miss Almira J. Evans becoming his wife. Of this union there were five children—Louisa, Mary, Charles, Jessie and Mande.

The subject of our sketch was but three years old when his mother died and his father entered the ministry. Until the second marriage the children were boarded among the membership of the church. Laban C. received a common-school education, and when fifteen years of age became an apprentice to learn the trade of a cabinet-maker in Wilmington, Ill. Subsequently he attended two years at the Paris Academy. In the spring of 1853 he started overland for California, and remained on the Pacific slope until the fall of 1856. After being successfully engaged in mining and at his trade, he returned via the Isthmus of Panama and New York. He had quite a little capital upon returning to Illinois, a part of which, however, he expended in payment of money which he had borrowed to cross the plains. He loaned the balance of the money which he had saved, and engaged as clerk in a store.

In the spring of 1858 Mr. Burr married Miss Rebecca Thrasher, and purchased 120 acres of prairie land in Charleston, Coles County, besides twenty-six acres of timber. He followed farming about five years and then, on account of the disturbances arising from the Rebellion, which was then in progress, he sold out and removed to Tolono, of which he has since been a resident. After coming here he engaged as a contractor and builder for three years, and then resumed cabinet-making. In due time he purchased a stock of furniture, and established one of the pioneer stores of the kind in Champaign County.

Upon reaching his majority Mr. Burr became a member of the old Whig party, and cast his first presidential vote for Gen. Winfield Scott. In the summer of 1856 he was selected as a delegate to the first Republican State Convention of California, at

the time when the old party was about to be abandoned in consequence of the organization of the Republican. Upon his return from the Pacific slope and at the next presidential election, our subject voted for John C. Fremont, and has since been a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He always took a lively interest in State and National affairs, and while a resident of Coles County was frequently sent as a delegate to political conventions. Since coming to Champaign County he has held nearly all the local offices and served for six years as Supervisor of Tolono Township. Religiously he has been an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since early manhood, occupying important offices therein and serving as Superintendent of the Sabbath-school, besides working in other directions for the success of the Gospel generally. He has also been a delegate to the Conference, and at Danville was elected Presiding Officer of the lay delegates.

Mrs. Burr was born in Coles County, this State, and was the daughter of Robert and Margaret (Sousley) Thrasher, natives of Kentucky. Of her union with our subject there were born four children: Luella, the wife of Charles Trimble; Laban A., a practicing physician of White Oak, Ill.; Kent, who died in infancy, and Cushing L., who is now a student in the Wesleyan University at Bloomington. Mr. Burr was a second time married, May 21, 1874, to Miss Hannah Smith, of Tolono. By this union there is no issue. Mr. Burr has been uniformly successful in his business operations since becoming a resident of Tolono Township, and besides his ample stock of goods, owns the store, his pleasant and commodious residence and other village property. He also has an interest in Nebraska lands.

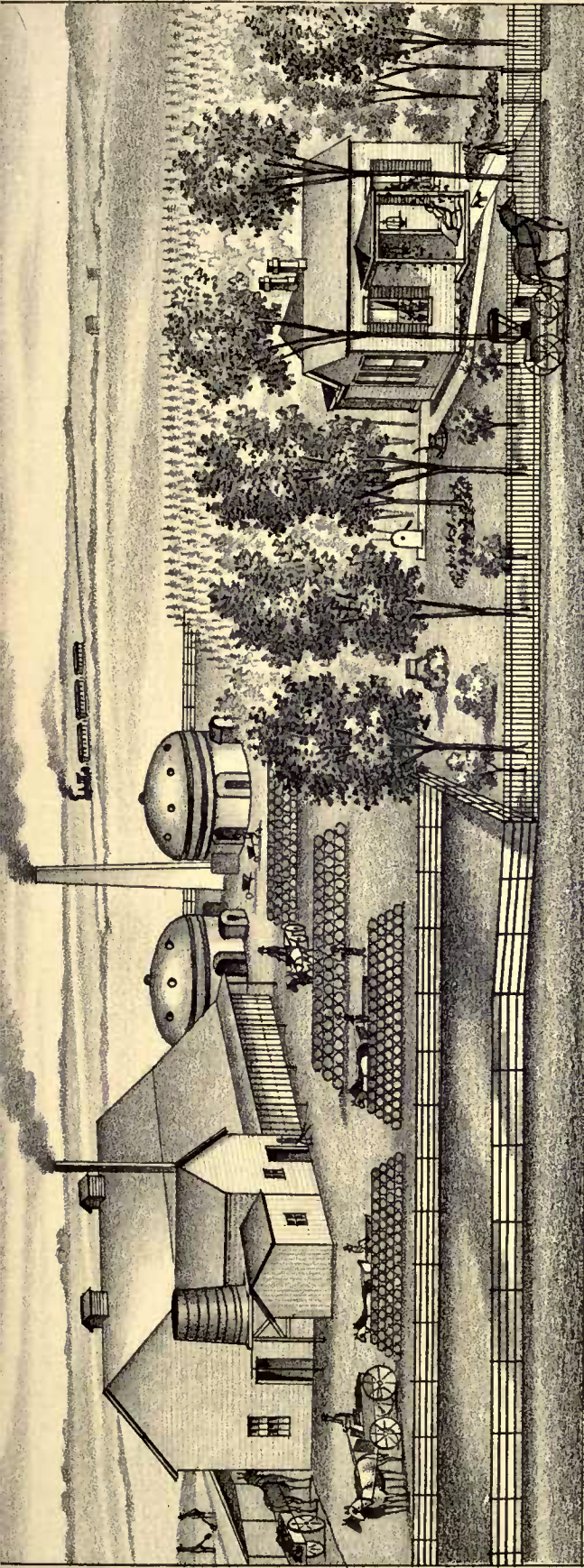


BERNARD YOUNGMAN, one of the first projectors of the manufacture of tile in this State, is still a young man, but possesses the energy and good judgment of one having acquaintance with a greater number of years. Since 1884 he has been a resident of Pesotum, where he has successfully carried on the tile factory which he purchased, and which he has equipped with new

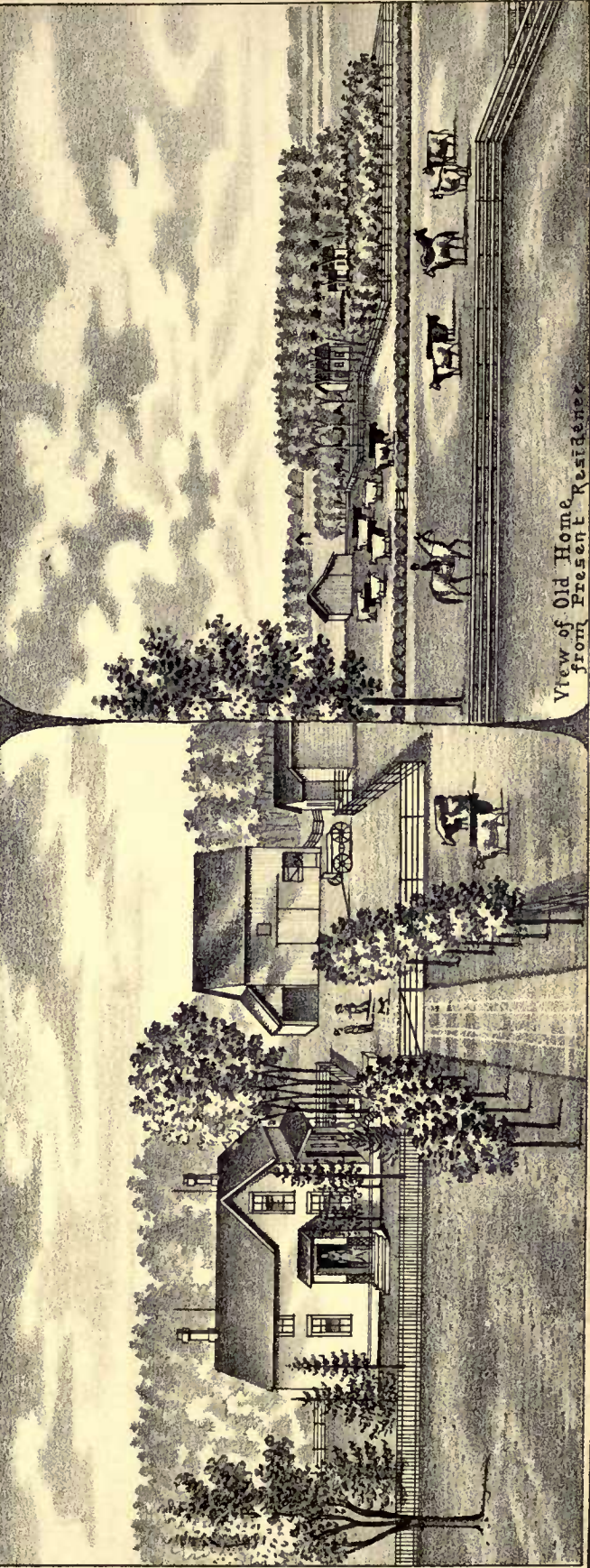
machinery and enlarged its capacity so that he can fill a large order expeditiously and with the best goods. This important industry has been no small factor in the business interests of Pesotum, and is fully appreciated by the surrounding farmers, many of whom possess a large area which would be practically worthless were it not for thorough drainage.

The subject of this history drew his first breath on the other side of the Atlantic, in the little Kingdom of Bavaria, on the 9th of November, 1848. His parents, Michael and Margaret (Peisch) Youngman, were natives of the same country, and the former served as a soldier in the standing army of the Empire of Germany, for a period of sixteen years. Afterward he engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1853, when he sold out his interest in the land of his nativity and set sail for America. After landing in New Orleans he followed the river up to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he met friends who accompanied him with his family into the country. He chose for his location a tract of eighty acres in Ripley County, Ind., where he established a comfortable home for his family, and carried on the improvement and cultivation of this until the death of the wife and mother, in 1865. Afterward he left his farm in charge of his son Jacob, and has since spent his time among his children.

Bernard Youngman remained under the parental roof until the death of his mother, when he began the battle of life alone and among strangers in another locality. He operated a farm one season, and then going into Decatur County, Ind., engaged in a tile factory near the town of Greensburg, and which was the second institution of the kind in the State. Tile drainage was then in its infancy, and the machinery used in its manufacture was considerably behind that of the present time. His brother, Fred Youngman, turned out the first tile made in the State of Indiana. Our subject remained an employe at this place for a period of six years, during which time he gave the manufacture of tile his strict attention, and became a thorough master of the art. Removing to Indianapolis he followed his trade in that city until about 1873, when he came to Peoria County, this State, where



RESIDENCE & TILE FACTORY OF BERNARD YOUNGMAN, PESOTUM, ILLINOIS.



View of Old Home, from Present Residence

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OF THE
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While having extensive business interests to engage his attention Mr. Youngman yet felt that his life was incomplete, and that his partners in business did not fully supply what was requisite for his entire comfort. It is probable that this matter had already been under consideration between himself and the lady whom he had selected as the nearer companion of his life. In 1885 he went to Cleveland, Ohio, and brought back with him Miss Lena M. Henry, to whom he was married in Indianapolis, on the 15th of November. They at once set up housekeeping in Pesotum, where Mr. Youngman, with commendable forethought, had purchased the

The residence of Mr. Youngman and the tile factory are objects of great interest to the people of Pesotum, as evincing the energy and industry of one of its most important citizens, and we have taken pleasure in reproducing the picture they form as a fitting tribute to manly enterprise, and as serving to assist in illustrating the attractive features of Pesotum and vicinity.



SAMUEL VAN BRUNT. This honored citizen of Philo Township owns and occupies a fine homestead, including 280 acres of land on section 12, and which from its character and surroundings has been deemed as especially desirable for illustration by the artist's pencil, as will be seen by examination of another page. Mr. Van Brunt, besides the home farm, also has eighty acres on section 1, and has been a resident of this locality since 1869. He came to this county in 1855, and for a number of years carried on farming in Sidney Township. He was accompanied to this locality by his father, who purchased 160 acres in Sidney Township, where he carried on farming for a period of five years. This gentleman, Samuel Van Brunt, Sr., was of German ancestry, but born in New Jersey. His father, Hendrick Van Brunt, was from Holland, whence he emigrated to the United States when a young man, settling in New Jersey, and afterward becoming a soldier of the Revolutionary War. He remained with the army until the independence of the Colonies was established and afterward engaged in farming, which he

followed as long as able to labor, and died at the advanced age of eighty-four years. He had, in the meantime, removed from New Jersey to Tippecanoe County, Ind., in 1839, where his death occurred in 1854.

The grandmother of our subject was a New England lady of Scottish and French ancestry. She lived to remove with her husband to Indiana, and died upon the homestead there four days after his decease. They were people highly esteemed wherever known, and possessed those traits of character which constituted them valued members of the community. The grandfather during his early life was employed as a ship carpenter. Their son Samuel, the father of our subject, grew to manhood in New Jersey, and afterward went to Ohio, where he located on a farm in Darke County. There his father joined him a few years later. He also in that county met and married the mother of our subject, who in her girlhood was Miss Melvina Brown. It is supposed that she was born in Darke County, Ohio, where she was reared and married. The parents of our subject afterward removed to Clinton County, Ind., and later to Tippecanoe County, where the mother died in 1850, and was buried in the old battle-field graveyard at Tippecanoe, as were also her father and mother-in-law.

After the death of his wife Samuel Van Brunt, Sr., in 1855 came to this county and located in Sidney Township, where he lived five years. He then sold out and removed to Warren County, Iowa, where his death occurred in 1860, when he was fifty-nine years old. He was a man of strong views and much force of character, and after the time that he first exercised the right of suffrage, voted the straight Democratic ticket. He was a member of the Christian Church for many years. The mother died in the faith of the United Brethren.

The subject of our sketch was born in Darke County, Ohio, Sept. 1, 1841. He was the fifth child of the household circle, of whom there were four sons and four daughters. Two of the sons and three of the daughters are yet living. Maj. Hendrick Van Brunt served as a soldier in the late war, and at the battle of Lookout Mountain was wounded and captured, and after experiencing all the horrors of Libby Prison, yielded up his life

within its confines. He enlisted as a private in the 10th Iowa Infantry, and endured with his comrades, bravely and faithfully, all the vicissitudes of war, leaving behind him a good record as a faithful observer of his duties both as a man and a soldier.

Samuel Van Brunt of our sketch spent his childhood and youth in Darke County, Ohio, and came to Illinois with his parents. Upon the first call for 500,000 men he enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. I, 10th Ill. Vol. Cav., under Capt. Butterfield and Col. D. Wickersham, his regiment being assigned to the Army of the Southwest. He participated with his comrades in the battles of Prairie Grove, Ark., Little Rock, Bull's Bayou, and various minor engagements and skirmishes. He was detailed as commander of a foraging squad many times during the service. In 1863, at Brownsville, Ark., he was promoted Quartermaster Sergeant, and remained with his regiment until the close of the war, receiving his final discharge at San Antonio, Tex. After his retirement from the army he returned to his home in Sidney Township, this county, and began farming on his own account. Three years later he removed to his present farm in Philo Township, and since that time has been actively engaged in its cultivation and improvement. He has a fine selection of Short-horn cattle, and has been very successful in the breeding of Poland-China swine. The residence and out-buildings are shapely and substantial structures, the farm machinery of first-class description, and everything about the premises indicates the industry and enterprise of its proprietor.

The marriage of Samuel Van Brunt and Miss Rachael B. Samson was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Sidney Township, this county, March 19, 1866. Mrs. Van B. was born in Marshall, near Plymouth, Ind., Feb. 14, 1847. She is the daughter of Willard and Margaret (Crandel) Samson, the former a native of New York State, and the latter of Canada. They were married in the Dominion and later came to the United States, locating first in Indiana, and thence removed to Sidney Township, this county, where the father died in 1876. The mother is yet living and sixty-seven years of age. The wife of our subject was reared by her parents and remained a member of

the household circle until her marriage. Of their union there were eight children, of whom one, Marcus C., met his death by accident at Lexington, Mo., on the 18th of April, 1887. While in the employ of the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company, as brakeman, and passing under an elevated wagon bridge, he was struck in the back of the head and instantly killed. He was a young man of great promise and excellent character, and greatly esteemed by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. He was buried with railroad honors, and the rich floral offerings, together with the large attendance, attested the affection and respect in which he was held by his friends and by his employers. The surviving children of our subject and his wife are, Raymond B., Gertrude R., Earl E., Eddie, Murton S., Chester S. and Clyde. Mr. and Mrs. Van B. are active members of the Christian Church, and our subject politically is a warm supporter of the Republican party. He has held the offices of Road Commissioner and School Director, and in all respects is worthy to be classed as a valued and useful member of the community. Mrs. Van B. also, is a highly esteemed lady.



h C. HOWARD, M. D., one of the oldest physicians of Champaign County, and who has been remarkably skillful and successful in his calling, came to this vicinity in the spring of 1854, and for a period of over thirty years has been an admired and respected citizen who, by his uprightness of character and enterprising business talent, has fully identified himself with the interests of the county. Dr. Howard was born in the Empire State, on the 12th of July, 1829, while his parents were residents of Monroe County. He is the son of Eleazer and Matilda (Wood) Howard, who were born in Tolland County, Conn., the former in Union and the latter in Ashland Township.

Eleazer Howard at an early day removed from his native State, and located on a farm near the city of Rochester, N. Y., where he lived sixteen years. Subsequently he became a resident of the town of Yates, where he engaged in farming and hotel-

keeping for another sixteen years, and from there removed to Franklin County, Ohio, where for ten years he was occupied in farming and milling. In 1851 he resolved to push on further westward, and came to Illinois, locating in McLean County, where he made his home until his death, which occurred after he had arrived at the advanced age of eighty-two years. The parental household included six children, one of whom died in infancy. Four are now living, namely, George M., Dan O., John W. and our subject.

Dr. Howard was reared on the farm, and remained with his parents until seventeen years of age, in the meantime receiving a practical education. He then went to Columbus, Ohio, and entered upon the study of medicine under the instruction of Profs. Hamilton & Butterfield, and was admitted to practice in 1851, commencing in a New York hospital, which was the refuge for emigrants and those unfortunates who were partly the objects of charity. He remained there two years, then came to McLean County, this State, and located in Le Roy for one year, whence he removed to this county and has since remained. He was admitted to the State Medical Society of Ohio in 1851, and is a member of the State, District and County Societies. He is Republican in politics, and socially belongs to the I. O. O. F. and A. F. & A. M.

Aside from his practice Dr. Howard has been engaged in developing mines in Colorado for the last six years, and patented several claims the past year. He has also been occupied in buying and selling Florida orange lands, having a town laid out on his own estate there, which is called Aubendale. He donated eighty acres of land to secure the South Florida Railroad through that town. He has heretofore been quite prominently identified with railroad interests, having been President of the Gainesville, Ocala & Charlotte Harbor Railroad in Florida. It will thus be seen that his life has been full of activity, and it is certain that he enjoys himself in no other way so well. His busy brain is ever devising some new plan for the development of some new section of country or some new and worthy enterprise. Were it not for such men America might have remained in its original condition, without railroads or manufactories, and

the thousand other things which now make life a pleasure and satisfaction.

Dr. Howard was married, in 1857, to Miss Miranda Monroe, who was a native of Rochester, N. Y., and the daughter of John and Catherine (Ayers) Monroe, natives of New York and New Jersey respectively. Of this union there were born five children: Edwin M. married Miss Belle Brooks, of Florida, where he is now engaged in the loan, land and fruit business; Mary M.; John H. was killed in a railroad collision in Colorado; Charles P., and Harta C., Jr., are living with their parents in Champaign. The family residence is located upon the corner of Church and Randolph streets, and the Doctor's office is at the corner of Main and Neal streets.



STEPHEN G. WILLIAMS is a successful farmer residing in Urbana Township on section 11. He is a native of the State of Indiana, and was born in Madison County, Nov. 16, 1836. The great-great-grandfather of our subject was Richard Williams, and the family came to America about the time of William Penn. They were of Welsh extraction. His great-grandfather was Silas Williams, the grandfather was William Williams, and our subject's father was Caleb Williams.

The paternal grandfather of Stephen G. Williams was born in Grayson County, Va., Oct. 4, 1805. In 1811 he came North, and first located in Ohio; afterward, when his son Caleb was about sixteen years of age, he changed his residence to Indiana, becoming one of the first settlers in Madison County. Here also he established the first nursery in the State. Caleb remained with his father until he reached years of maturity, when he married Miss Hannah Gregg. Her family were originally Virginians, but she was born in Ohio. Caleb Williams settled in Madison County, Ind., and remained there until the spring of 1865, when he removed with his family to this county, locating on the farm now owned and occupied by his son, Stephen G. He was a surveyor in Indiana, as was his grandfather in Virginia.

Of the family of William Williams, Caleb and one sister are the only members now living. The sister is a resident of Madison County, Ind. The children of Caleb Williams, five in number, included three boys and two girls, all of whom are now living and have families, and whose homes are scattered throughout the different States. The record is as follows: Milton resides in Thomas County, Kan.; Stephen G. is the subject of this sketch; Silas resides in Madison County, Ind.; Lydia is married to James Kinworthy, of Washington Territory; Elizabeth is the wife of James Smith. The mother of these children died June 6, 1855. Caleb Williams is still living, a hale and hearty man, although he is now eighty-two years of age. He is actively interested in politics, and always votes the Republican ticket. He is a member of the Friends' Church.

Stephen G. Williams was reared on his father's farm in Madison County, Ind., and learned to read his primer in the log school-house in the neighborhood. Possessing a naturally quick, intelligent mind, he acquired a good knowledge of the common branches of study. He resided with his parents until reaching manhood, and in March, 1862, was married to Miss Massey W., daughter of John G. and Anna (Warner) Oldham. Mr. and Mrs. Williams became the parents of five children, three of whom are living—Miriam, Jason and Olive.

After his marriage he continued to reside at the home farm until the spring of 1865, when he moved with his family to this county, and commenced farming on a 100-acre tract of land. To this he has since added until he now has 200 acres, comprising some of the finest land in the county. The soil is excellent, and well adapted to the production of all kinds of grain. The property is well fenced and tiled, and Mr. Williams carries on general farming. He raises the choice breeds of hogs and cattle, and has now about thirty-two head of fine steers. From a sixty-acre field he has harvested 1,600 bushels of the choicest quality of wheat.

Mr. Williams is considerably interested in the public affairs of the county, and has served three years as Road Commissioner, and for seven years filled the position of Supervisor. While holding

the latter office, he was Chairman of the committee on public grounds and buildings, and also served on the committee on poor-house and farm, and likewise on the committee on fees and salaries for one year. Religiously himself and wife are members of the Society of Friends.

S W. M. CONANT, junior member of the firm of Fleming & Conant, hardware merchants of Champaign, is, with his partner, carrying on a profitable trade at No. 69 Neal street, which was established in 1884. Our subject is a native of Shelbyville, this State, and was born March 12, 1856. His parents were Samuel D. and Mary E. (Stratton) Conant, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of New York. Samuel Conant, who was engaged as a boot and shoe merchant in his native State, emigrated to Illinois in 1850, while still a young man, settling first in Springfield. After a year's residence in the capital city he removed to Winchester, Scott County, where he established in his former business, which he carried on three years. Thence he removed to Shelbyville, and from there in 1857 returned to the Bay State, where he spent two years. At the expiration of this time he came back to Shelbyville, which remained his residence until after the close of the war. After a residence in Winchester of nine months he removed to Urbana, where he remained until 1868, then came to Champaign, which remained his home until his death, in 1885. The mother is still living, making her home with her son, our subject. Of the three children comprising the parental family only two are now living—Josie E., Mrs. House of Chicago, and S. W. M., of our sketch. Samuel Conant was a staunch adherent of the Republican party, also a Mason and an Odd Fellow, and was a member in good standing of the Baptist Church for about eighteen years. The mother still belongs to that church.

Young Conant attended school during his childhood, and in 1868 commenced working on a farm. Three years later he began serving an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, which he followed until 1883. Toward the latter part of that year, in

company with his present partner, he purchased the hardware stock of B. F. Harrison, and has been connected with it since that time. In addition to the store, which contains a well-selected assortment of articles pertaining to this branch of trade, they carry on a tinshop and usually give employment to three men. Mr. C. is a wide-awake young business man, having decided ideas upon matters of general interest, and politically casts his vote with the Republican party. He was united in marriage with Miss Julia B. Jenkins, July 13, 1887, at Amboy, Ill.

C ASPER C. BENJAMIN. The name of this gentleman is well known throughout Compromise Township. He is a genuine representative of the thrift and enterprise which have been the means of developing the resources of Champaign County, and which have assisted in giving to it the best class of people. Mr. Benjamin spent the first four years of his life near the town of Fredonia, Licking Co., Ohio, where he was born March 3, 1850, and whence his parents removed in 1854 to this State. They located first in Randolph, McLean County, where they staid the following twenty-one years, and where our subject was reared to manhood, and married. He was but twenty years of age at the time of this interesting event, and soon afterward established his bride in a modest home on a tract of land which he had rented and where he carried on farming two years. Afterward he purchased eighty acres of unimproved land, which he sold a year later and then practically became a real-estate dealer, buying and selling with fair results until the spring of 1875.

In the year last mentioned Mr. Benjamin came into this county, and in company with his father purchased 400 acres of improved land. The panic of 1876 disorganized the plans of many men, and our subject suffered in common with the others, although perhaps in a different manner. On account of illness in his family, he was finally compelled to sell his interests in the property aforesaid to his father, and was variously occupied until the spring of 1878. He then purchased 120 acres, mostly wild land, at \$16.50 per acre. From this he slowly but

surely built up a homestead, laid off the fields and fenced them, drained the land with tile, and sold it at an advance of \$21 per acre. In 1885 he purchased another tract of eighty acres in Harwood Township, where he proceeded the same as before.

In the meantime, in connection with his farming Mr. Benjamin had established a furniture and undertaking business at Gifford, which he conducted successfully for three years. He then sold out, and in company with Edward West purchased a few choice imported Norman horses, in which they operated successfully for a number of years. After closing out this business Mr. Benjamin invested in a stock of general merchandise in which he built up a good trade, and sold out profitably in the spring of 1887. Since that time he has been dealing in buggies, carriages and wagons. Besides his farm property Mr. Benjamin now has a fine residence in the village of Gifford and is ranked among its most valued citizens. In a pleasant home, surrounded by his family and friends, he is largely enjoying the good things of this life and it has never been said that he secured his property otherwise than by fair and honest dealing.

The marriage of Mr. Benjamin took place on the 20th of March, 1870, he choosing from among the maidens of McLean County Miss Mary L., daughter of Philander and Samantha Pierce, and who was born Sept. 18, 1852, at Athens, Menard County, this State. The parents of Mrs. Benjamin are natives of New York, whence they removed to McLean County, Ill., in 1869. They located upon a farm and are still living, being prominent people in that section and universally esteemed. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin are: Alcie, Lillie, Lon P., Floyd, Carrol, Fern and Fannie. Carrol and Floyd died young. Mrs. Benjamin presides over the home of her husband with dignity and grace and is a member in good standing of the Christian Church. Our subject is Republican in politics, and besides being prominent generally in the affairs of his township, represented it in the Board of Supervisors two years.

The father of our subject, William J. Benjamin, a native of Ohio, was born July 8, 1826. He was distinguished as a thorough business man and a good financier. He commenced life on his own

account at an early age, becoming a stock dealer when eighteen years old, buying and shipping to Wheeling and other Eastern markets. When twenty-two years of age he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Myers, of Licking County, Ohio, the wedding taking place Feb. 2, 1848. Of this union there were born seven children, five sons and two daughters. The subject of this sketch and his brother George W. were born in Ohio, and the others in McLean County, Ill. A few years after his marriage William J. Benjamin, accompanied by his wife and family and a colony of neighbors, started overland for McLean County, Ill. He possessed a sum of money, and after arriving at his destination selected the land upon which he wished to locate and went to Danville to enter and pay for the same. Upon arriving there he found that his money was "wild-cat" and was not receivable for land. He turned homeward, much disappointed of course, but succeeded in exchanging his "paper" for a pair of small ponies. A year later he had obtained sufficient "legal tender" to purchase eighty acres of land near Bloomington, which he disposed of afterward at a good profit, and has been dealing in real estate considerably since that time. A few years ago he began the importation and breeding of Norman horses. In 1883 he removed from Champaign to Iroquois County, where he now resides and is the proprietor of a fine stock farm.

The grandfather of our subject, Christopher Benjamin, was a native of Virginia, born in 1803. He emigrated to Ohio at an early period in the history of that State and located in Licking County, where he lived until 1852, and then came to Peoria County, Ill., making the trip overland by team. Here he purchased a tract of land and spent his time in farming pursuits until retiring from active labor. His death took place in 1880. He was seventy-seven years of age. His wife, formerly Miss Mary Ingraham, was a native of Ohio, and they had a family of eight children, namely, William J., Joab, Elizabeth A., Marion, Wilson S., Abraham, Marion and Melvina. The two latter died when about twenty and twenty-five years of age respectively.

The maternal grandfather of our subject was Rev. John Myers, a native of Pennsylvania, who was

born in 1800, and died in Illinois in 1869. His wife, formerly Miss Jane Gosnell, was also a native of the Keystone State, and their marriage took place in 1822. Grandmother Myers survived her husband until the following year, and the remains of both were laid to rest in Bloomington Cemetery. They also were settlers of Licking County, Ohio, whence they emigrated to McLean County, this State, in 1854.

GEORGE W. WILSON, a successful farmer and stock-grower, is located on section 30, Sidney Township. He was born in the North of Ireland, County Tyrone, Feb. 14, 1834, and is the son of Andrew and Jane (Ray) Wilson. His father, being dissatisfied with the unfavorable conditions existing in his native country for securing a competency, emigrated to America in 1848. After remaining a few months in New York City he came directly to Champaign County, Ill., locating in Old Homer, where he lived until his death, which occurred Feb. 27, 1871. With the courage and enterprise which characterize the Irish race he struggled successfully with the difficulties of pioneer life, preparing the way for the future prosperity of his children. His wife is still living, and resides in the village of Philo. There were nine children in their family, viz., George, the subject of this sketch; James, Margaret, Andrew, Thomas, Caroline E., Thomas, Jane and John. Of these the last three are deceased.

On the 27th of November, 1862, Mr. George Wilson was married to Miss Amanda Leasure, daughter of Henry and Rebecca (Wood) Leasure. She was born in Fayette County, Ohio, Nov. 23, 1841, and had but one brother, James P. Leasure. Her parents came from Ohio to Champaign County in 1851. Her mother died Nov. 1, 1867, and her father Oct. 19, 1880.

Mr. Wilson and his wife became the parents of fifteen children, whose names and dates of birth are as follows: James A., born Nov. 1, 1863, died Jan. 4, 1864; Henry L., born Sept. 29, 1864, died Sept. 4, 1865; Freddie C., born Dec. 14, 1865, died the

same day; Charles M. was born Jan. 29, 1867; Rebecca J., Aug. 21, 1868; Thomas, born March 3, 1870, died the same day; Martin G. was born Jan. 17, 1871; Celia A., Nov. 21, 1872; William and Mary (twins), born Aug. 6, 1874, died August 18, of the same year; Maggie B. was born Aug. 24, 1875; Royal P., March 15, 1879; Oral B., Feb. 18, 1880; Charlotte, born July 5, 1881, died Nov. 4, 1882, and Elma I. was born May 28, 1882.

Mr. Wilson is a man whose uprightness of character and business energy have won the regard of all who know him. He owns 120 acres of well improved land, and takes a deep interest in public affairs. With his wife and four of his children he is an influential member of the Methodist Church. In politics he belongs to the Democratic party.

THOMAS WRIGHT, proprietor of the Enterprise Foundry and Machine Shops at Urbana, is a native of Staffordshire, England, and was born Aug. 8, 1828. He is the son of William and Mary (Pool) Wright, natives of the same country, where the former was engaged in the boot and shoe business until his death. He carried on quite an extensive manufactory and gave employment to a number of men. The mother died in England in 1850. Her father, Thomas Pool, also a native of England, was of Welsh ancestry and engaged in the iron works in Dudley Port, Staffordshire.

Of the thirteen children of William and Mary Wright, Thomas, of our sketch, was the eldest but one. He attended school during his childhood days and at an early period in his life commenced working in a foundry and became very skillful. He is also a man of more than ordinary intelligence and although leaving school at an early age, has gained by his own efforts a large amount of useful knowledge and ranks among the well-informed citizens of his community. He left his native country April 24, 1854, and started for America, taking passage on the steamer Black Hawk, which was wrecked in mid-ocean, the cargo and passengers being picked up by the ship Dirigo, a Scotch merchantman. During this time our subject assisted at

the pumps and for four days had not a dry thread of clothing on him. He survived, however, without serious injury, and after landing on American shores engaged first in a foundry in New York and Brooklyn. He then went south to Charleston, S. C., on the steamship James Adger, afterward to Atlanta, Ga., and during the winter following worked at his trade. He then returned North, and going into New Albany, Ind., was similarly occupied for two years, after which he returned to Atlanta, where he remained during the war, having charge of Winship's Foundry, which he operated for the Government. During the bombardment of the city shells came through the walls above him and he assisted in putting out the fires.

Becoming tired of shot and shell and the general confusion of war, our subject was taken back to Indianapolis by the Government, and until 1865 was engaged there in the foundry and machine shops. In the meantime, as he had property in Atlanta, he returned to the South at the expense of Uncle Sam, only to find, however, that his residence had been destroyed by the rebels. He remained South until a position was offered him by A. Snedeker, of Urbana, and he then returned North and to this county, taking charge of the foundry and machine shops of this establishment until 1871, being foreman four years. Afterward, in connection with the University Machine Shops, he established a foundry which he operated eight years. He then built the Champaign Foundry, where he remained three years, afterward purchasing the machine shops and foundry of Mr. Snedeker, in Urbana, of which he has since been the proprietor, and operated it in connection with his sons.

Our subject was married in 1850, to Miss Harriet While, a native of England, and daughter of William and Mary A. While. Of this union there have been born ten children, eight of whom are living: Anna, Mrs. George Bryant, is the mother of four children, and a resident of Atlanta, Ga., as also is Annie G., Mrs. Saddler, and Emma, Mrs. Tarflinger; Henry F. married Miss Jolly, of Champaign; Charles married Miss Sophia Smith. Those at home are John P., Joseph E. and Arthur D.

Mr. Wright is independent in politics, and socially a member of the I. O. O. F. Both he and his ex-

cellent wife are connected with the Protestant Episcopal Church. Mr. W. as a business man and citizen takes an active interest in the welfare of his county and community, and is contributing his quota toward building up their industries.

JOHAN COOK, who represents the agricultural implement trade at Tolono, is a native of Bedford County, Pa., and was born March 8, 1826. He is the son of Ezekiel Cook, a native of Maryland and of Scotch descent. The mother, formerly Miss Elizabeth Leader, was a native of Bedford County, Pa., and the daughter of a German farmer, who carried on his occupation in the Keystone State for many years. Ezekiel Cook died in Bedford County, aged eighty-four years and eleven months. The mother of our subject also lived to an advanced age, being eighty-four years old at the time of her death. The children of Ezekiel and Elizabeth Cook, eleven in number, were all born in Pennsylvania. Of these, three died in childhood. The balance lived to become men and women and were as follows: Sarah, Mrs. Ritchey; Catherine, Mrs. W. F. Woy; Eliza and Henry, deceased; Lucinda, Mrs. Ritchey; Rebecca, Mrs. Samuel Maxwell; Ezekiel, and John, of our sketch.

Our subject remained with his parents on the farm, receiving a limited education, his longest term in one year being forty-eight days. He did not attend school until thirteen years of age, at which time free schools were first established in that section, but had received the rudiments of his education at home. His father in addition to the labors of the farm, carried on a blacksmith-shop, and our subject, as soon as large enough, commenced to operate the bellows, and gradually gained a good knowledge of the trade. He was a bright boy, and after learning to read, pursued his studies as opportunity afforded and became master, not only of the common branches, but the higher mathematics. When twenty-one years of age he was well fitted for teaching, at which he employed himself during the four winters following, working on the farm and in the shop during the summer seasons.

In 1851 the marriage of John Cook and Miss

Barbara Lee took place in Bedford County. The father of our subject presented him with a farm of 125 acres, which he cultivated, and also worked at his trade. After the breaking out of the Civil War he, in 1864, enlisted in the 99th Pennsylvania Infantry and served until the close, being present at the surrender of Lee's army. After he had received his honorable discharge he returned to his farm in Bedford County, Pa., and soon afterward, in the fall of 1865, visited the Prairie State and Missouri. The year following he removed his family to this State and locating in Tolono, engaged first in the lumber trade. A few years later he added agricultural implements and now successfully carries on the two branches, and has become one of the solid men in the community. He sold his land in Pennsylvania after coming to this State, and invested in good property in Tolono.

Mr. and Mrs. Cook became the parents of six children, of whom the record is as follows: Mary became the wife of Benson Jordan, who is engaged in farming in Tolono Township; Ann, the wife of Z. T. Young, is a resident of Carroll County, Iowa; Francis resides in Woonsocket, Dak.; William F., who engaged as a merchant in Champaign City, died in 1885, aged twenty-five years; Emma Jane is the wife of H. M. Gilmore, of Delavan, Ill.; Andrew Curtin lives in Champaign City. Our subject politically usually supports the candidates of the Republican party. Religiously he is a believer in the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church, and socially belongs to the G. A. R.



ALLEN W. COTTON, of Homer Township, first opened his eyes to the light west of the Mississippi, in Platte County, Mo., on the 11th of August, 1840. His parents, Isaac N. and Jane (King) Cotton, were natives of Kentucky. The former was born June 15, 1805, and when a young man emigrated overland to the Pacific coast during the early settlement of California, and was killed there by Spaniards four years later, in 1852. He had followed farming the greater part of his life and was one of the first to become a member of the Masonic fraternity in his native

State. He was esteemed by all who knew him as a good man in every sense of the word, being a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he was Class-Leader for many years, and adorning his profession by a goodly life. He left a large property in California, but owing to various complications his family were not permitted to enjoy it, the estate having never been settled.

The parents of our subject were married in Indiana, whence they removed to Missouri, remaining for a period of several years. The birth of the mother took place Oct. 10, 1805. She united with the Methodist Episcopal Church at an early age and is now eighty-two years old. She makes her home among her children. These, eight in number, are recorded as follows: Rebecca A. was born Sept. 30, 1830; Elisha, Sept. 1, 1832; Robert, May 20, 1834; Louisa J., May 1, 1836; Sanford, now deceased, March 13, 1838; Isaac N., born Nov. 5, 1843, died in 1874; Elisha died Dec. 25, 1835; William R., born April 10, 1842, died Aug. 30, 1843; Allen W. is our subject.

Mr. Cotton, of our sketch, was but a child when his father left Missouri for California. He afterward remained with his mother at the homestead in Indiana until twenty-two years of age, and in 1862, became a resident of this State. The Civil War being then in progress he soon afterward enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. D, 125th Ill. Vol. Inf., under the command of Col. Harmon, of Danville. His regiment was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, and he participated with his comrades in all the engagements of that division, including the fight at Peach-tree Creek, where his gun was shot out of his hands, and at Jonesboro, where he was wounded in the head and his name placed in the list as "killed." The life, however, had not left him and he was picked up and conveyed to the hospital where, after suffering three months, he at last recovered sufficiently to return to his regiment. The boys were then stationed at Savannah, Ga., and he remained with them until the close of the war, receiving his honorable discharge in the summer of 1865. He now draws from the Government a pension of \$4 per month.

After retiring from the army Mr. Cotton returned to this State, and in 1872 purchased a part

of his present farm on section 8. He now has 188 acres of finely cultivated and fertile land, where he has carried on farming successfully for fifteen years, and of late has been giving much attention to the breeding of fine stock, including horses, cattle and hogs. The family residence, a handsome frame structure, commodious and convenient, is finely located, with trees and shrubbery surrounding, and the barn and out-buildings in all respects are amply fitted for the requirements of the first-class agriculturist. Here Mr. Cotton, with his wife and a fine family of children, is enjoying all the comforts of life and many of its luxuries. The eldest daughter, Ida A., born Jan. 12, 1867, became the wife of Lincoln White, and is a resident of Sidney Township; Otie C. was born Oct. 6, 1868; Israel A., Oct. 17, 1871; John F., Sept. 17, 1874, and Estella M., Aug. 4, 1878. These are at home with their parents. Mr. Cotton endorses the principles of the Republican party, but gives no further attention to politics, other than to exercise the right of an American citizen in casting his ballot at the time of important elections.



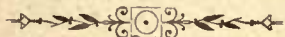
J G. MILLER, dealer in harness, saddlery, buggies, trunks, valises and other leather goods, in Champaign, is located at No. 31 Main street, where he is carrying on a profitable and steadily increasing trade. Our subject is one of the substantial and reliable German citizens of this section, and was born in the Fatherland, Aug. 15, 1841. His parents were George and Margaret (Coeller) Miller, also natives of Germany, where the mother died in 1847. George Miller three years later left his native land, and with his family of six children sailed for the United States. Of these, five are now living: Margaret, Mrs. Hanser; George; Emma, Mrs. Gores; J. G., our subject, and Mary, Mrs. Coch. After reaching American shores the father of our subject proceeded to Fremont, Ohio, where he engaged as a cabinet manufacturer, and where he spent the remainder of his days, his death occurring in 1884. He was a warm supporter of Republican principles, and both parents belonged to the Roman Catholic Church.

After coming to this country young Miller was placed on a farm, where he remained until sixteen years of age. He then went to Fremont, and served three years and three months at the saddlery trade, and after that continued as a journeyman until the breaking out of the late war. He then enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. G, 8th Ohio Inf., in which he was promoted Sergeant, and thereafter engaged in sixty battles and skirmishes. He was in the fight at Romney, Va., Winchester, Chickamauga, Antietam, Leesburg, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, besides many other important battles of the war. At Gettysburg he was shot in the neck, and at Antietam received a slight wound in the head. He captured two rebel flags, that of the 34th North Carolina and the 38th Virginia, during the battle of Gettysburg, and for these acts and other services rendered, received a gold medal from Congress. After receiving his honorable discharge from the army, Mr. Miller retired to Tennessee, and was in the employment of the Government for six months. At the expiration of that time he returned to his old home in Ohio, and resumed his former occupation as a saddler until 1867.

In the year last named Mr. Miller started for the West, and selecting Champaign City for his place of abode, worked as a "jour" saddler until 1871, when he opened up business for himself on Walnut street, from which he removed to his present location in 1885. He has conducted his business carefully and economically, meeting with success from the start. He now gives employment to six men in the city, and has other traveling salesmen outside. He is the patentee of three separate attachments for harness, and besides his saddlery trade is doing an extensive business in buggies and carriages, perhaps the largest of any man in the county.

Mr. Miller was married, in Fremont, Ohio, in 1865, to Miss Mary Walter, of that city, a native of Ohio, and daughter of Frank Walter, who was born in France, emigrated to this country early in life, and engaged as a manufacturer of carriages. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have nine children—Mary, John F., Charles E., Clara L., Rudolph, Laura, George, William and Maude. The pleasant family residence

is located on North Neal street. Mr. and Mrs. M. are members of the Catholic Church. Our subject is Republican in politics, and a member in good standing of the G. A. R.



HENRY HAWBAKER, pleasantly located on section 31, in Newcomb Township, became a resident of this county in 1871. He is the owner of 200 acres in this county, 160 in Piatt County and 320 in Nebraska. The extent of his possessions indicates his qualities as a business man, and as an agriculturist the fine homestead which he occupies is a silent but forcible witness of his thrift and skill. A view of the residence and farm buildings appears in connection with this sketch.

Our subject is a native of Franklin County, Pa., and was born Aug. 4, 1845. He is the son of John and Elizabeth (Eyler) Hawbaker, the father a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of Maryland. After marriage they located in Franklin County, Pa., where they became the parents of ten children, and spent the remainder of their lives. Our subject was the ninth child, and remained under the parental roof during his childhood and youth, receiving careful home training and a common-school education. He was married in his native county, Oct. 19, 1875, to Miss Catherine Jacobs, who was born in that county Nov. 25, 1847. She was the daughter of Daniel and Susan (Shank) Jacobs, also natives of the Keystone State, and became the mother of four children—Eliphalet H., Elam J., Julia and Anna M. After coming into Illinois our subject first located in Fulton County, where he worked out by the month for six years. It will thus be seen that he commenced life in a modest manner, and saved what he could of his earnings. His present position financially, and his standing in the community, are due solely to the exercise of his industry and good judgment. He has served as School Director and Road Commissioner in Newcomb Township, and is a member in good standing of Mansfield Lodge No. 773, A. F. & A. M., and Mansfield Brothers' Lodge No. 589, I. O. O. F. Of the latter he is Past Grand. Politically

he is a warm supporter of Republican principles.

During the progress of the late war Mr. Hawbaker, in 1862, enlisted in the 158th Pennsylvania Infantry, where he served nine months, and being detailed as a scout about the time of the battle of Gettysburg, was thrown from a horse and severely injured. He narrowly escaped capture by the rebels at the same time.

The first three months of his farm labor in Illinois our subject received \$15 per month, and for five years thereafter he was employed by one man. For the first year he received \$350, which was reduced the last year to \$300. His first purchase in Blue Ridge Township, Piatt County, was eighty acres at \$15 per acre, and for the next eighty acres he paid \$32 per acre. He gave ground for the building of the Dunkard Church, and also assisted in the purchase of land for a cemetery, the land being a part of one of his farms. He also donated \$40 toward the purchase of the cemetery by reducing the price that much.



JC. KIRKPATRICK, retired farmer, is a highly respected resident of Champaign City, his home being at the intersection of East White and Third streets. Mr. Kirkpatrick has been a resident of this county for a period of over thirty-five years, and is a representative of its solid and substantial element. He was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, Oct. 5, 1825, and is the son of James and Jane (Porter) Kirkpatrick, who were natives of the same State, where the father engaged extensively as a farmer, stock-broker and drover.

The family removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind., in 1843, where James Kirkpatrick purchased a tract of land and continued the business in which he had been formerly engaged. He departed this life in St. Joseph, Champaign County, in January, 1872. The mother had died in 1848. The grandfather of our subject, Benjamin Kirkpatrick, was a native of Pennsylvania, and one of the early pioneers of Ohio, to which State he removed, and locating upon a tract of timber land, established a

home in the wilderness, and reared a family of six children, among whom was James, the father of our subject. The children of the latter, ten in number, were Samuel, Margaret A., John C., James W., Maria J., Austin W., and four others deceased. James Kirkpatrick, politically, was a Henry Clay Whig, and a Major in the State Militia. Both parents were members of the Methodist Church.

The subject of this biography was reared on a farm, and his primary studies conducted in the pioneer schools, the nearest of which was two miles from his father's farm, and located in the timber. Our subject remained at home until twenty-four years old. He took up his abode in Urbana Township, where he engaged in breaking prairie and farming, and in 1850 purchased a tract of land two miles north of the city of Champaign. This consisted of 200 acres, of which he took possession in 1855, but which he only occupied for two years. He then took up his residence in Champaign City, in the meantime, however, adding to his landed possessions. He soon afterward purchased 320 acres in St. Joseph Township, and is now the owner of 1,000 acres, which includes 270 acres in Stanton Township. He finally removed to his farm in St. Joseph Township, which he occupied for a period of twenty years. All his farms are well stocked with fine cattle and horses, and supplied with good buildings. He has been remarkably successful in his farming operations, and has been an important factor in building up the agricultural interests of this section of the country.

Mr. Kirkpatrick was married, in 1849, to Miss Mary C. Busey, whose father, Col. M. W. Busey, is widely and favorably known as one of the pioneer settlers of Champaign County. Of this union there were born nine children, eight now living: Marion F. married Cenia Somers, and they have two children—Gertrude and Charles A.; he is Postmaster and Station Agent at Mayview. Albert J., of Stanton Township, married Miss Alice Barricklow, and they have two children—Mertie and Earl; Elizabeth, Mrs. Dilling, is a resident of St. Joseph Township; Hattie, Mrs. Barricklow, of Urbana, has two children—Clinton and Ross; Samuel married Miss Ella Day, and they have one child—Glenn; Charles, a physician of Pensfeld, married

Miss Gertrude Wilson, and they have two children—John and Ruby; Jessie and Fannie are at home.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick has been greatly interested in temperance work, and was President of the W. C. T. U. in 1875 and 1876, which position she resigned upon moving to Champaign. She is still, however, Vice President of the society, and an efficient worker in the church, having charge of the fund which keeps the parsonage in repair, and provides other necessities important to the success and maintenance of the society and its buildings.

Mr. Kirkpatrick, with his wife and eight children, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically, he is decidedly Republican in his views, and in all respects is one of the reliable and representative citizens, who have assisted in building up the county and gaining for it its present position as one of the wealthiest sections of the Prairie State.



WILLIAM H. JAKUES, the pioneer hardware merchant of Champaign County, established his business at Tolono in 1866. He is essentially a self-made man, who commenced life in a modest manner, having nothing to depend upon but his own resources. His natural habits of industry and energy contributed to insure his success, and after obtaining his first start in life by the work of his own hands, he steadily advanced until he now holds an enviable position as a business man and a citizen, and enjoys the respect of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. He has contributed his full quota to the business and industrial interests of this section, and has watched with pleasure the growth of his adopted township and county.

Mr. Jaques was born in Munson, Geauga Co., Ohio, Feb. 8, 1820. He is the son of Henry Jaques, who was of French parentage and born in the city of New York. The grandfather of our subject emigrated from France in his youth and located in Connecticut, where he served an apprenticeship of seven years at the shoemaker's trade. He was married in the city of Hartford to Miss Elizabeth Porter, the daughter of Nathan and Tabitha Por-

ter, and they became the parents of three sons and four daughters, all of whom lived to a good old age.

Soon after marriage the father of our subject removed to New York and located in the central part of the State, where he occupied himself at his trade until 1819. Then, removing with his family to the wilds of Geauga County, Ohio, he erected a log cabin and was one of the earliest settlers of that part of the Buckeye State. There he cleared a farm from the dense forests, through which the wild turkey, elk and deer roamed in large numbers and were often killed a few feet from the doorsteps. He lived to establish a comfortable home in that county, and there died in the winter of 1829. The wife and mother survived him over fifty years and departed this life at the advanced age of eighty-five. Their youngest son was accidentally killed when eleven years of age. Another, Robert J., became a sailor on Lake Erie and lost his life by the wrecking of his vessel. Francis E. learned the printer's trade and was for some time in the employ of Horace Greeley on the *New York Tribune*. He afterward became editor of a paper in Connecticut, whence he removed to Ohio, and died in 1852. The four living are, Mary A., Mrs. Keefer of Beaver Dam, Wis.; Ebenezer P., of Geauga County, Ohio; William H. of our sketch, and George W., a resident of Burton, Ohio.

Our subject was but nine years of age when his father died. The family was large and possessed but limited means, and he went to live with an uncle in Ashtabula County, with whom he remained until sixteen years of age. He was then apprenticed to learn the tinner's trade at Painesville, Ohio, and served until reaching his majority. Afterward he worked as a journeyman at various points in the Buckeye State, and in 1845 removed from that locality to Buffalo, N. Y., where he engaged to go to Joliet, Ill., and followed his occupation there until 1850. In the spring of that year he started to cross the plains, and after arriving in California, followed his trade in connection with mining. Two years later he returned to his native State, via the Isthmus and New York City. From there he came to Illinois, and locating in Urbana, engaged in the manufacture of tinware and purchased a stock of

stores, which were shipped to him from Albany, via the Erie Canal and Lake Erie and the Wabash Canal to Covington, Ind., whence they were conveyed by teams to their destination. He was the first man to manufacture tinware or sell stoves in Champaign County and exhibited the product of his manufacture at the first fair held within its limits.

Mr. Jaques continued business at Urbana about five years, then sold out and finally returned to Ohio. In the meantime the outbreak of the Rebellion had called for volunteers to assist in preserving the Union, and in 1862 he enlisted in Co. K, 103d Ohio Vol. Inf., in which he served until the close of the war. With the exception of a month confined in a hospital with typhoid fever, he never missed the roll call, and participated with his comrades in the battle at Buzzard's Roost, the sieges of Knoxville and Atlanta, and various minor engagements and skirmishes. At the close of the war he returned to Ohio, and after regaining his health and strength started for the West. In November, 1866, he established his present business at Tolono, opening up the first house of the kind in the town. From a modest beginning he has built up an extensive patronage, and carries a well-selected stock of goods which will bear comparison with anything of the kind in Champaign County. In 1870 he took his son John H. into partnership, and they now operate under the firm style of Jaques & Son.

Mr. Jaques was first married at Joliet, Ill., in the spring of 1846, to Miss Eliza P. Dunham, a native of New York State. She only remained the companion of her husband for six short years, departing this life in May, 1852, and leaving one son, John H., already spoken of. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married at Watertown, N. Y., in 1854, was Miss Sarah A. Whipple, who died three years later, on the 1st of May, 1857. Of this union there was born one son, Willie W., who died when six years of age. Our subject, politically, is a staunch Republican, "dyed in the wool," and became a member of the party upon its organization, in 1856; formerly he had been a Whig. Socially, he belongs to Lodge No. 391, A. F. & A. M., at Tolono. As a business man and a citizen his word is considered as good as his bond.

He is quiet and unobtrusive in manner, charitable to the faults of his fellows, and his success in life has only been the reward that he deserves. He has accumulated a competency for his declining years, and enjoys the confidence and affection of hosts of friends.



ISAAC S. PETERS, an important factor in the business community of St. Joseph, has for several years been busily engaged as a dealer in grain and coal, in which he has built up a good trade, and by his straightforward method of doing business has established himself in the confidence of his fellow-townsmen.

Mr. Peters, who is a native of this county, may be properly styled a young man still, his birth having taken place July 18, 1853. He first drew breath on the farm of his father, in St. Joseph Township, and is the eldest son and second child of Robert and Mary E. Peters, who were among the first settlers of Champaign County. He was reared upon the old homestead, and completed his education in the town of old St. Joseph. He continued with his parents until twenty-eight years of age, with the exception of two years, during which time he went West through the States and Territories, traveling about for some months, and returning home well satisfied with what he had seen and learned.

In March, 1882, determining to settle down in a home of his own, he took the first important step by his marriage with Miss Molly, daughter of Cyrus and Tabitha McCullom, who were among the oldest residents of the county. After marriage the young couple commenced housekeeping in a modest little home of their own, and in due time were blest by the advent of two children, both daughters, whom they named Cloa D. and Florence Mae. In 1885, in company with his present partner, they purchased the business of J. W. Sommers, and since that time they have carried on an extensive and lucrative trade. Their elevator has a capacity of 12,000 bushels, and is conveniently located on the I., B. & W. R. R.

Mr. Peters, several years ago, most wisely invested his spare capital in ninety-five acres of land,

beautifully located just outside the town, and runs it in connection with his business. He gives some attention to stock-raising, including horses, cattle and hogs, in which he has been uniformly successful. The latter-named animals, especially, have received his close attention, and it is conceded by all that in this department he is the champion of his township, his sales sometimes aggregating a little short of \$1,000 per annum. He is well versed in agriculture, and delights in everything appertaining to the farm and country life. Politically he is a staunch supporter of Republican principles, but has steadily declined to be an aspirant for office, although frequently contributing generously his time and means to secure the election of his friends. Religiously he is liberal in his views, possessing the broad and catholic spirit which is willing that each man should be governed by the dictates of his own conscience, upon the condition always that he has a proper amount of responsibility and manhood.



WILLIAM E. DAWLEY, a native of Coventry, R. I., came to the Prairie State in 1856, when about sixteen years of age, and with the exception of the time spent in the army, has since been a resident of Champaign County. He was born on the 5th of May, 1840, and is the son of William F. and Lydia F. (Greene) Dawley, natives of New England. After marriage they settled in Rhode Island, where they lived until the winter of 1856, and thence removed to Illinois, becoming residents of this county and Scott Township, where the father died in August following. The mother is still living, and resides in Seward County, Neb. Their seven children consisted of four sons and three daughters, of whom our subject was the fifth in order of birth.

Young Dawley attended school in his native town during his childhood and youth, and after coming to Illinois continued to live with his parents until the outbreak of the late war. In July, 1862, he enlisted in the 71st Illinois Infantry, serving, however, but a short time on account of ill-health. He continued farming as an occupation,

and was married in this county, April 19, 1866, to Miss Rebecca J. Littler, a native of Clarke County, Ohio, and the daughter of Thomas and Mary F. (Ridgeway) Littler. Mrs. D. was born Aug. 2, 1834. Of her union with our subject there were born four children—Mary J., Alicia T. and Alice L. (twins), and William W. The latter died in infancy.

Mr. Dawley has held the offices of Constable, Township Clerk, Assessor and Collector of Scott Township, and politically uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party. Socially he is a member of Champaign Post No. 140, G. A. R., also of Mahomet Lodge No. 220, F. & A. M.



PROF. THOMAS J. BURRILL, A. M., Ph. D., Professor of Botany and Horticulture, and Vice President of the Illinois State University, is well known throughout this county as a fine representative of its educational element. He is a native of Pittsfield, Mass., born April 25, 1839, and is the son of John and Mary (Francis) Burrill. John Burrill was born near Carlisle, England, Feb. 9, 1809, and the mother of our subject was a native of the North of Ireland. Thomas Burrill, the grandfather of our subject, was a weaver and dresser of cloth in his native England, where he was born in 1776, and emigrated to the United States in company with his son John and two daughters in 1817. He located at Pawtucket, R. I., where he followed his former occupation a few years and died in 1840. His son John, the father of our subject, engaged exclusively in the manufacture of cotton goods, first in Rhode Island and afterward in Pittsfield, Mass., until 1848. In 1846, however, he took a trip to Illinois and became infatuated with the wide prairies and the fine climate. He purchased 200 acres of land on Rock Run in Stephenson County, and returned East for his family, settling on his land in Stephenson County in 1848. This he had purchased from the Government at \$1.25 per acre, and put up the first frame dwelling in the neighborhood. He was industriously employed for several years in the

improvement and cultivation of his land, and in due time had one of the finest farms in that section. He continued to live there until 1867, then sold out and removed to Lincoln, where he lived in retirement two years. Afterward he purchased a farm seven miles northeast of Urbana, which included 160 acres, and the house and lot within the city which he now occupies. In former years he identified himself with the Democratic party, but upon the organization of the Republican he cast his ballot for John C. Fremont, and ever since his influence has been in support of their principles. Both he and his excellent wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They became the parents of ten children, six of whom are now living and recorded as follows: Edward is a hardware merchant of Shelby, Neb.; Thomas J. is a resident of Urbana; Robert F. is a builder and contractor in Thomasboro; Rev. Sanford W. is a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Adams, Oregon; Dr. Charles W. is practicing medicine in Kansas City; Mrs. L. J. Sims is residing in Lincoln, Ill.

The subject of this history was a boy of nine years when his parents came to the Prairie State. He first attended a school taught by a farmer in his own house, and remained a member of his father's household until eighteen years of age, after which he completed the course of study in the Rockford High Schools. His first experience as a teacher was among the Dunkards in Stephenson County. One day he was waited upon by one of the Trustees, a Dunkard, who said to him, "You had better not talk or teach the children that the earth is round." Not wishing to enter into any controversy with his Dunkard patrons he discreetly avoided the topic under consideration.

In 1862, Prof. Burrill, wishing to perfect himself still further in his studies, entered the Normal University at Bloomington and took a three years' course, graduating in 1865. Soon afterward he was chosen Principal of the Urbana public schools, which position he occupied for three years following. During this time, in 1867, he accompanied Major Powell as Botanist on his scientific exploration to the Rocky Mountains, and furnished a report which was published by the Government with the

reports of others in that party. He afterward, in 1868, became Assistant Professor of Natural History in the Illinois Industrial University, under Prof. J. W. Powell. The latter, however, never materialized, and our subject had the entire charge of the supposed duties of the two. In 1870 he was elected to the Chair of Botany and Horticulture, and nine years later was chosen Vice President of the University. In 1879 he visited Honduras and Central America on a botanical trip. His chief specialty is Cryptogamic Botany, and it is related of him that he would rather discover a new fungoid than a gold mine, while he is known to have an intimate acquaintance with all the bacteria in the country of any standing whatever. He is a member of the American Microscopic Association and ranks among the first scientists of this State and nation.

Prof. Burrill was married, in 1868, to Miss Sarah H., daughter of Ephraim Alexander, and a native of Seneca Falls, N. Y. Mrs. Burrill is a lady of fine literary attainments and the earnest sympathizer of her husband in his tastes and labors. They occupy a handsome residence adjoining the University grounds, which the Professor erected in 1872. He has expended much time and money in beautifying his home, which has become one of the most attractive spots in the city. He is a warm adherent of the Republican party, and with his excellent and accomplished wife, is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

N CLIFFORD RICKER, Professor of Architecture in the University of Illinois, and Dean of the College of Engineering, at Urbana, is a fine example of the value of technical training, natural talents and a studious mind. He was born on a farm in the town of Acton, Me., July 24, 1843, and is the son of Hon. Ebenezer and Mary (Stacy) Ricker, natives of the same State, and of English descent. The first representatives of the family in this country came across the water in 1660, and settled at Dover, N. H.

The father of our subject while in his native State engaged in farming and milling. He finally moved

to Spottsylvania County, Va., in 1866, and afterward engaged in farming. He was a well-read and intelligent man, and represented his native county in the State Legislature, in 1855. He was Democratic in politics, and was Major General in the State Militia until 1861. The parental household included six children, namely, N. Clifford, of our sketch; Almeda, Mrs. Childs; Marcus M.; Silas W.; Mary S., Mrs. Murphy, and Ella V., a teacher in the State Normal School, at Baltimore, Md., all but the first now residing in Virginia.

Young Ricker until nineteen years of age attended school and assisted his father in winter in the mill. From nineteen to twenty-one he worked at home, spending his leisure time in private study, preparing for college. He then left home and engaged with a piano manufacturer, where he was employed two and one-half years. In 1867 he emigrated to Illinois, locating at La Harpe, Hancock County. In 1868 he purchased an interest in a wagon-shop, which he sold the following year. In the meantime he had made good use of his leisure moments, his love of learning inducing him to pursue his studies as he had opportunity. In January, 1870, he entered the State University, where he took a three years' course, and after graduating studied six months in Berlin. While pursuing his studies in the University he acted as foreman of the architectural shops, was afterward employed as draughtsman in a Chicago office; subsequently he acted as instructor in the University, during the last year of his course of study. After his return from Europe he was Instructor in Architecture, from 1873 to 1875, and in 1875 was elected Professor of Architecture, three years later becoming Dean of the College of Engineering. The department over which our subject presides has an interesting museum, including a valuable collection of models, some made by the students themselves, and others purchased abroad; also drawings, samples of wood and other materials, and a multitude of other interesting things. The Professor takes a genuine delight and pride in his work as an instructor, and no one in this country probably occupies a higher position in the profession. He published a work on Trussed Roofs in 1885, and has written considerably for architectural journals.

The marriage of Prof. Ricker and Miss Mary C. Steele took place in 1875. She is a native of Galesburg, this State, and is also a graduate of the same University. Of this union there has been born one child, Ethel. The Professor and his wife are both members in good standing of the Congregational Church. Politically he is a Republican, and socially a member of the Masonic fraternity.

AUGUSTUS G. RUHL, a retired farmer of Scott Township, is now a resident of Bondville, where he is passing his later days in the enjoyment of the competency which he secured by years of industrious and honest toil. He is of German birth and parentage, and the son of John and Elizabeth (Cook) Ruhl, also natives of the Fatherland, who emigrated to America in about 1833. They first settled in Maryland, and afterward removed to Union County, Ohio, where John Ruhl departed this life, at peace with all men, in the year 1880.

The parental household included nine children, of whom Augustus G. was next to the eldest. His birth took place on the 3d of September, 1830, and he was only about three years old when his parents set sail for the United States. His early education was quite limited, but he possessed much natural intelligence, and made the most of his opportunities. He gained a good insight into business matters while still a youth, and possessed those qualities which made him many friends. When twenty-one years of age he left the parental roof and engaged in farming and teaming alternately until 1853. He was then married and located on a farm in Union County, Ohio, which he occupied three years, and then removed to Winnebago County, this State. In the fall of 1856 he came into this county and took up his abode in Hensley Township, where he lived four years. In 1860 he became a resident of Scott Township, where he has since remained. Besides his improved farm of 160 acres, he owns property in the village of Bondville, to which he retired from the farm in 1885.

Mr. Ruhl was married, in Union County, Ohio,

March 15, 1853, to Miss Barbara Vanderau, a native of his own country, and born Dec. 4, 1828. They became the parents of eleven children, as follows: William A., Mary C., Sarah E., Emily F. (deceased), Carrie F., Charles S., John H., Mattie A., Lulu A., Lizzie C. (now deceased) and Mande F. The eldest son, William, married Miss Mary Carpenter, of Cloverdale, Kan., and resides in that State; Mary C. met with a great affliction when about eleven years of age by the loss of her sight, which was the result of spinal meningitis; Sarah, Mrs. David Coffman, resides on a farm in Condit Township; Carrie is the wife of A. N. Taylor, of Bondville; Charles married Miss Laura McBride, and is farming in Scott Township; John married Miss Lizzie Miller, and resides in Mahomet Township; Mattie is the wife of Charles W. Pfeister, of Mahomet Township. Our subject and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the support of which they contribute liberally and cheerfully. Mr. Ruhl casts his influence in support of the Republican party.

JAMES WATSON. The subject of this sketch owns and occupies 440 acres of land in Ludlow Township, which constitutes one of the finest farms in this part of Champaign County. His career has been one eminently worthy of record as illustrating in a forcible manner the results of steady perseverance and unremitting industry. He commenced life in a modest manner with only such means as he had himself accumulated, and upon first coming to Ludlow Township, purchased eighty acres of unimproved land. It is probable that he himself did not anticipate the entire results of his native energy of character, or that he would become one of the most extensive farmers in a community occupying one of the richest sections of the Prairie State. He is now the proprietor of 440 acres, all improved and enclosed with neat and substantial fencing, a good set of farm buildings, and a fine grove which forms a most attractive feature of the property. He has planted mile upon mile of hedge and his broad pasture

lands and cornfields are a constant delight to the eye from spring until late in the autumn.

Mr. Watson is a native of the Buckeye State, and was born near the city of Chillicothe, Sept. 19, 1837. His native town, as may be supposed, was then little more than a hamlet. His father, William N. Watson, a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, grew to manhood and was married in his native county, and in 1832 emigrated to America, settling near Pittsburgh, Pa. Shortly afterward, however, he removed to Gallia County, Ohio, and thence to Chillicothe. He purchased land four miles from the city, settling upon it in 1838, and clearing the timber, made it his home for twelve years. He subsequently disposed of this property and two miles further from the city purchased a farm which he still occupies, and although arrived at the advanced age of eighty-seven years, is in the enjoyment of good health and preserves his old habits of industry. He married Miss Ellen Patriek, a native of his own county in Ireland, who accompanied him to the United States and remained his faithful companion until the close of her life, in 1885. Their nine children grew to become men and women, and were named, Samuel, William, Joseph, John, Nelson, James, Jane, Robert and Ellen.

The first school which Mr. Watson attended was conducted in a log house, wherein the benches were made of slabs set upon wooden legs and placed around the sides of the building for writing-desks. Light was admitted after the primitive fashion of those days, through a square place cut in the logs. When not in school James assisted his father in clearing the farm and tilling the soil, and remained a member of the parental household until twenty-two years old. In 1861 he came to this county, in what is now Harwood Township, and farmed on rented land until 1868. During that year he purchased his present homestead. It had been partially improved, and its present condition has been brought about through his own enterprise and good judgment.

Our subject was married in 1865, to Miss Mary E. Huffman, a native of Harrison County, Ky., and the daughter of William H. and Rachel Minerva (King) Huffman, of Harrison County, Ky. Of

this union there have been born two sons, William A. and John C., both residing at home with their parents. Mr. Watson is Democratic in politics, and keeps himself well posted upon all matters of general interest. Mrs. W. is a member of the Christian Church.



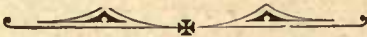
MICHAEL RASSLER, a highly respected and thrifty farmer of Harwood Township, spent his youth and early manhood among the mountainous districts of the little Kingdom of Saxony, forming a part of the Northern portion of the German Empire. There he first drew breath on the 18th of September, 1836, and was the youngest of a family of ten children belonging to Michael and Eva (Gabler) Rassler, natives of the same section of country. The mother of our subject died when he was but eighteen months old, and he was reared by his stepmother, Anna (Galert) Rassler, who performed toward him the part of a kind and careful guardian. He remained a member of the household until about twenty-six years of age, and after serving a thorough apprenticeship as a brick and stone mason, worked as a journeyman three years, and then began preparations for establishing a home of his own.

Mr. Rassler completed said arrangement by his marriage with Miss Henrietta, youngest child of Jacob and Elizabeth Staudé, whose family included eight children. Her parents spent their entire lives in their native Germany, her father dying before Mrs. Rassler and her husband came to the United States. The death of the mother occurred some years afterward, under the following circumstances: While walking along the road to visit a daughter not far from her home, she was stricken with paralysis and sank down to rise no more, her breath having departed when she was found.

Our subject after his marriage continued working seven years at his trade, but seeing little prospect of improving his condition financially, resolved to emigrate to a land which promised advancement to all those inclined to energy and industry. Accordingly, getting together his family

and household goods, he set sail from the port of Bremen, Oct. 23, 1869, on the "Donan." After a pleasant voyage of thirteen days they landed at Castle Garden, in New York, and two days later started for the Prairie State. They passed the first four years in Marshall County, and thence removed into Peoria County. Mr. Rassler after coming West abandoned his trade and took up farming, in which he became moderately successful. After three years spent in Peoria County he found himself possessed of sufficient means to purchase eighty acres of unimproved land in Harwood Township, this county, where he at once put up a small house into which he removed his family, and then turned his attention to the cultivation of the soil. In the spring of 1879 a great cloud came over their happiness in the death of the affectionate wife and mother, who passed from earth on the 23d of April. Mrs. Rassler was a lady of high moral character, greatly beloved by her family and friends, who cherish her name in tender remembrance as one who left behind her a record of kindly deeds and womanly virtues. She had for many years been an active and consistent member of the Lutheran Church, and seemed ever looking about her for the performance of a kindly act to some creature. She had been a great sufferer for many years from a tumor, but bore her affliction with patient resignation, and presented a sweetness of character and amiability which endeared her to all around her. The place made vacant by her death could never be filled, and the father and children have since remained devoted to each other. They were named Herman, Henrietta Alvina, and Franz, who died in infancy. The youngest died with his mother who passed away soon after his birth. Mr. Rassler is also connected with the Lutheran Church, and bears the reputation of a high-minded Christian gentleman, living his life worthily and unobtrusively, preferring to give his strict attention to his farming affairs, and abstaining from politics with the exception of casting his vote in support of Republicanism at the time of general elections. He has some fine stock on his farm, including several head of horses from the noted draft animal "Romeo," which was burned to death in the fire in Gilford last fall. His cattle are of the Durham blood, and his hogs are the Poland-

China. He displays excellent judgment in the management of his farm affairs, and no man is more highly respected in the community than Michael Rassler.

JAMES S. KILBURY, a prominent and wealthy farmer of Somer Township, is one of the most wide-awake and enterprising men of that section, possessing more than ordinary ability, the evidences of which may be seen on all sides around the homestead which he has built and beautified, and is adding each season to its attractions and its value. His land is finely located on section 7, and embraces 130 acres under a high state of cultivation. In Ogden Township he has 260 acres, which, together with the handsome and substantial farm buildings, forms one of the prettiest spots in the landscape of the township. Mr. Kilbury possesses uncommon natural ingenuity, having become a self-trained carpenter and joiner, which is as much a source of pleasure as profit to him, and by which he adds much to the beauty and convenience of his premises, and saves annually probably hundreds of dollars. Even if not wishing to perform the labor himself with the saw and plane, he is entirely capable of superintending the work of another, and whatever he undertakes in this line either himself or "by proxy," is sure to be turned off in the best style of the art.

Mr. Kilbury is a native of Madison County, Ohio, born May 7, 1839, and is the son of Asa and Ruth (Clark) Kilbury, natives of the Green Mountain State and Ohio respectively. Asa Kilbury was born June 24, 1806, and departed this life in Union County, Ohio, Jan. 5, 1884. He was the greater part of his life engaged in farming and stock-raising, a man highly respected wherever known, and prominently connected with the New-Light Church. The mother of our subject was born Feb. 27, 1815, and died in 1885. The funeral sermons of both parents were preached by the same minister. The children of the parental household are recorded as follows: Rachel, the eldest daughter, died in 1855; Emily and Amanda died in childhood, the latter when about three

years old; Robert is now a resident of Plain City, Madison Co., Ohio; Erastus is deceased; Mortimer is residing in St. Joseph, this county; Dunbar C. lives in Delaware County, Ohio; Solomon H. occupies the old homestead in Union County, that State. The living members of the parental family are all connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Kilbury spent his youth and the early years of his manhood in his native State, and was there united in marriage with Miss Hannah E. Beard, a native of Union County, Ohio, and born in 1842. The young people, deciding to make their home in the West, came to this State soon afterward, locating in Ogden Township, this county. His lands are now supplied with all necessary farm buildings, good fences, machinery and stock. He has been very successful in the breeding of Poland-China swine, raising and selling large numbers each year, and obtaining more than the average market price.

Notwithstanding the many and urgent cares devolving upon him in looking after his property, and doing the work which no one can do so well as himself, he has still found time to interest himself in local affairs, officiating as Justice of the Peace, School Treasurer, and occupying other township offices. His political sympathies are decidedly with the Republican party, and he exerts much influence in his county, being sent in 1866, as a delegate to the County Convention, and to the State Convention at Springfield. In a word, he may be considered as one of the "wheel horses" of the party in Somer Township. Both Mr. and Mrs. Kilbury have been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church since uniting their hands and fortunes, and our subject has held the office of Steward, besides being otherwise prominent in church affairs. The only child living of Mr. and Mrs. Kilbury is a daughter, Harriet R., born Jan. 5, 1878, and now an interesting girl of about ten years. The first born died in 1873.

The parents of Mrs. Kilbury were William and Harriet Beard. The father died July 16, 1850, and his wife Harriet, July 27, 1887, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Kilbury. Her paternal great-grandfather, Col. James Curry, was a Revolutionary soldier of prominence, and a Colonel in the

War of 1812; he died Jan. 10, 1826. Many tributes of respect were paid the illustrious dead at the time. Mrs. Kilbury's brothers and sisters are recorded as follows: Nancy, born Feb. 14, 1839, is now living in Ogden Township; Forester, born in March, 1844, lives in Union County, Ohio; Gilbert, born Dec. 18, 1846, lives in Ogden Township, and Margaret J., born Feb. 2, 1848, lives in Union County, Ohio.



JOHN T. MALLORY. The subject of this biography owns and occupies a fine farm of 300 acres on section 7, in Scott Township. Forty acres of this is in timber and the balance under a good state of cultivation. He has a tasteful and substantial set of farm buildings, and the place in all respects corresponds with the property of the enterprising and prosperous men about him on all sides; men who have assisted in the development and building up of this section and who made it one of the most desirable in the Prairie State.

Our subject came to this county in 1847, and since that time has been one of the most valued residents. He was born at Harper's Ferry, Va., Sept. 16, 1811, and is the son of George and Elizabeth (Hendricks) Mallory, also natives of the Old Dominion. The parents first settled at Harper's Ferry and thence removed to Pickaway County, Ohio, whence, in 1837, they emigrated to this State, and located in what was then Macon, but is now Piatt County, and where the father died, about 1845. The mother afterward removed to Nebraska, where her death took place about 1863. The household circle included eleven children, three boys and eight girls.

Our subject remained a resident of his native county until 1839, when he visited this county and located a tract of 300 acres, after which he returned to Harper's Ferry and remained until 1848. He was there employed in the armory, which he had entered when a boy ten years of age.

John T. Mallory was married in 1834, in Virginia, and in the fall of 1847 started with his wife and three children overland for this State. Their

outfit consisted of a wagon and two horses, and after a journey of thirty-one days they reached Piatt County, where they located and lived for the following eight and one-half years. Mr. Mallory then removed to Scott Township, of which he has been a resident since that time.

The marriage of our subject took place at Charleston, Va., the maiden of his choice being Miss Mary, daughter of Alexander and Margaret (Spielman) Taylor, natives of Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor located at Harper's Ferry after their marriage, and there Mr. T. held the position of Inspector of the Armory. His family consisted of two sons and four daughters, and both heads of the family died at Harper's Ferry, the former about 1817, and the latter about 1820.

Mrs. Mallory was the fourth child of her parents, and was born at Harper's Ferry, Va., May 12, 1810. The offspring of her union with our subject is recorded as follows: Emma F. became the wife of David Slider, and died at her father's house in Scott Township, in February, 1877; George married Miss Mary Candy, and is farming in Scott Township, and Anna M. died when about eleven years old. Mr. Mallory officiated as Postmaster at North Bend, Piatt County, for about two years. He has held the office of Supervisor two terms, and been otherwise identified with the local affairs of this section. Politically he is a member of the Republican party. He is probably the oldest Odd Fellow in the county, and in early manhood became a member of the first lodge established in his native State.



MRS. MARY J. NICEWANDER. One of the most attractive homesteads in Rantoul Township is located on section 30, and occupied by the lady whose name stands at the head of this sketch. She possesses great energy of character, and fine business capacity, and the present condition of the homestead is due in a large measure to her good judgment and forethought. Since becoming a widow she has managed the farm in an admirable manner, served as administrator of her husband's estate, and purchased the interest of the elder children in the property. She has had

the land thoroughly drained, erected a windmill, caused the thorough renovation and repair of the farm buildings, had them all tastefully painted, and may be pardoned if she views with just pride the result of her labors.

Mrs. N. was born six miles east of Columbus in Franklin County, Ohio, Jan. 22, 1842. Her father, John Kerr, was born and reared on a farm in Pennsylvania, and removed from his native State to Ohio when a young man. He located in Franklin County, where he married, and purchased a farm upon which was a saw and grist mill. He carried on farming and operated the mills until 1850; he then sold out and, accompanied by his wife and seven children, started overland to Illinois. Their outfit consisted of eight horses and two large covered wagons, and they fared after the manner of the emigrants of those days, cooking and camping by the wayside, and sleeping in their wagons at night. Mr. Kerr first rented a farm in De Witt County, together with a saw and grist mill, each of which he carried on two years, and then purchased a tract of timber land five miles from Clinton. He cleared a farm and in the meantime furnished timber for the first railroad ever built in De Witt County. A few years later he sold this property also, lived afterward for a time in the city of De Witt, and then purchased a farm east of the town, where he resided until 1865. Then, crossing the Father of Waters, he took up his abode in Jasper County, Mo., this being his last removal until he was conveyed to his final resting-place. His wife was formerly Miss Susan Sims, a lady of Scottish birth and parentage, who died in De Witt County, Ill., May 12, 1851.

Mrs. Nicewander was but eight years old when she came to Illinois with her parents, and only nine when her mother died. Soon afterward she became a member of the family of Mr. Williams in De Witt County, where she lived two and one-half years, and then returning to her father kept house for him until he was married again. She then learned millinery and dressmaking at Clinton, at which she was occupied until seventeen years of age. Afterward she came to Champaign County, and in 1862 was married to Jacob Nicewander. Mr. N. was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., June 8, 1843,

and was the son of David and Millie (Stringley) Nicewander. He was reared by his paternal grandparents (see sketch of D. Nicewander). After marriage Mr. and Mrs. N. lived west of Champaign two and one-half years, and subsequently rented land two years in Rantoul Township. They afterward purchased forty acres upon which Mr. N. labored until his death, which occurred May 7, 1882. He had in the meantime purchased eighty acres additional, so that the farm now embraces 120 acres, free of incumbrance, finely improved and provided with comfortable buildings. The four children of this family are Henry W.; Alice B., the wife of Samuel Watson, who is farming in Ludlow Township; Oscar and Nannie D. The two latter are at home with their mother.



WILLIAM H. TOWNSEND is one of the most highly respected residents of Rantoul Township. His vocation is that of a farmer, and his homestead is pleasantly located on section 18. For a period of sixteen years Mr. Townsend has walked in and out among the people, who have learned to look upon him as a man fully worthy of their confidence, and one who has contributed materially to the business and agricultural interests of his section.

William H. Townsend was born in Putnam County, N. Y., March 28, 1822, and is the son of James and Polly (Baldwin) Townsend, also natives of the Empire State. Charles Townsend, our subject's grandfather, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and was with Gen. Washington at Valley Forge. For his bravery and fidelity he was tendered a Captain's commission and placed in command of a company. After the independence of the Colonies had been established he located in Putnam County, N. Y., and spent the last years of his life engaged in the peaceful occupation of a farmer. On account of his military services his widow drew a pension during the last years of her life. Their children were reared on a farm, and the son James, father of Mr. Townsend of this notice, after reaching manhood became a resident of Warren County, this State, spending his last days

in the little town of Cold Brook, and his wife also died in Warren County.

Of his parents' nine children William H., of our sketch, was the fourth child and second son. He spent his boyhood and youth in the manner common to most farmers' boys, attending school during the winter seasons and working on the farm summers. After reaching his majority he learned the trade of a stonemason, and for a period of twelve years afterward was occupied chiefly in building stone fences. Later he resumed farming, renting land in Warren County until 1869. In the spring of that year he came to this county and purchased the place which he now owns and occupies. A few acres of the sod were broken, and upon the place was a building sixteen feet square, which he at first utilized as a dwelling for himself and family. Afterward he erected a good set of frame buildings, planted fruit and shade trees, and otherwise embellished the home, which he has now occupied for over eighteen years. The home place comprises 120 acres, and our subject is devoting a goodly part of his time to the breeding of Short-horns, in addition to the cultivation of his land.

Mr. Townsend was married in his native county in the Empire State, Dec. 22, 1848, to Miss Mary S. Warren, also a native of that county, and born Oct. 22, 1828. She is the daughter of John N. and Rachel (Davenport) Warren, natives of New York State. Her grandfather, John Warren, Sr., was of English birth and parentage, and emigrated to this country during the progress of the Revolutionary War, and when a young man seventeen years of age. He was a blacksmith by trade and settled in Putnam County, N. Y., and was among the earliest pioneers of that section. He followed his trade until after his marriage, but subsequently engaged in farming. His son, John N. Warren, also learned the blacksmith's trade, which he also followed until his death in Putnam County in 1840. His wife subsequently came to this State, and departed this life at her home in Earlville, La Salle County, in April, 1869, aged seventy-four years.

Our subject and his wife have three children: Warren; Melissa, the wife of Alexander Penn, a farmer of Rantoul Township, and Cora, at home

with her parents. Mr. Townsend is independent in politics and liberal in matters of religion. He is rated as a reliable citizen in all respects and keeps well posted upon the events of the day, viewing with pleasure and satisfaction the march of progress, and especially the building up of his own county and community.

ALVAREZE B. COGGSHALL. Among the attractive features on the farm of this gentleman are the fine draft horses with which his stables are tenanted and in the breeding of which he has secured an enviable reputation in Stanton Township and vicinity. He is in possession of eighty acres of choice land on section 28, to which he removed in 1882, from Indiana, where he was born Jan. 13, 1848. He is the son of Joab and Judiah (Merine) Coggsall, the former a native of North Carolina and the latter of South Carolina. Joab Coggsall died at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. He was a miller by occupation, a worthy and industrious man, enjoying the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. The mother is still living in Indiana, making her home with her children. By a previous marriage Joab Coggsall became the father of three children, viz: Louis, now living in Ft. Scott, Kan.; Edward, and Rebecca, the wife of Jesse Kate, of Wayne County, Ind. Of the second marriage there were born four sons and seven daughters. Mahala lives with her mother in Indiana; Irene C. became the wife of Paul Frazer, now deceased; Sarah Ann C. married Milton Craner; Abel B. married Olive Mendenhall, and lives in Vermilion County, this State; Martha J. is the wife of George Burnsworth, of Whitney County, Ind.; Catherine is the wife of Franklin Williams, of Portland, Ind.; Lafayette married Miss Mary Ann Ballinger, of Wayne County, Ind.; Melvin married Miss Sallie Jessop, and they live in Wayne County; Eveline became the wife of Edwin Conkle, of Denver, Col.; Adaline, Mrs. Nathan Baldwin, lives with her husband in Wayne County, Ind.

Our subject remained with his parents until sixteen years of age and then ran away from home to enlist in the army, joining Co. D, 57th Ind. Vol.

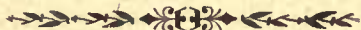
Inf., in which he served twenty-two months, his regiment becoming a part of the 4th Army Corps, which was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. He participated in the encounter with the enemy at Buzzard's Roost, Ga., and afterward joined the command of Gen. Sherman, meeting the enemy at Resaca, Ga., at Kennesaw Mountain, and at the siege of Atlanta. During the latter he was taken ill and sent to the hospital at Chattanooga. After five weeks he ran away and, joining his regiment, had the satisfaction of assisting in the final capture of Atlanta. He marched out of that place with the troops of Gen. Thomas, and afterward going into Tennessee, was in the engagements at Franklin and Nashville, and from there followed the rebel General, Hood, into Alabama. After a short sojourn in East Tennessee, during which time had occurred the surrender of the Confederate army, they repaired to Nashville and were paid off.

Young Coggsall now proceeded across the Mississippi into Texas, and after wandering around along the Gulf of Mexico, was finally mustered out, and in due time returned home to be received with open arms, notwithstanding his disobedience in entering the army against the wishes of the family. In the meantime he had been promoted Corporal and made a good record generally as a soldier.

Mr. Coggsall after his return from the army spent one month in his native county with his old friends and associates, and then coming into Vermilion County, this State, was employed on a farm until 1870. Some of the time he rented land and cultivated the soil on his own account. In 1826 he was appointed Superintendent of the Poor Farm at Danville, where he remained a year, and in the meantime was married to Miss Mary Humrichhouse, the wedding taking place Aug. 24, 1870. Mrs. C. is the daughter of George and Lydia (Grace) Humrichhouse, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Indiana. After marriage they located in Vermilion County, where most of their eight children were born. These consisted of four boys and four girls: John W. married Miss Rachel Brokaw, and James W. married Miss Priscilla Grace; both are farming in this county; Mary, the wife of our subject, was the third child and eldest daughter; Amanda is the wife

of Charles Hopkins, of Edgar County; George R. married Miss Edna Arnold; Sarah is living with her parents; Margaret A. is the wife of Samuel Aeklin; Jasper, the youngest, is at home. Mr. Humrichhouse was a blacksmith by trade, and both parents were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Our subject and his wife, after leaving Danville, came to Stanton Township and located on a rented farm, where they remained two years, when the father of Mr. C. sent for him to come home and take charge of the old place in Wayne County, Ind. While there he secured his present farm of eighty acres, of which he took possession in 1882. His household now includes three boys and one girl, namely, James M., Edwin D., McPherson and Zuella. Grace died when thirteen months old. Mr. and Mrs. C. are members of the Friends' Church. The former belongs to St. Joseph Post No. 220, G. A. R., and is also a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity. He has been Road Commissioner three years and is now serving his fourth. In casting his vote he aims to uphold the principles of the Democratic party.



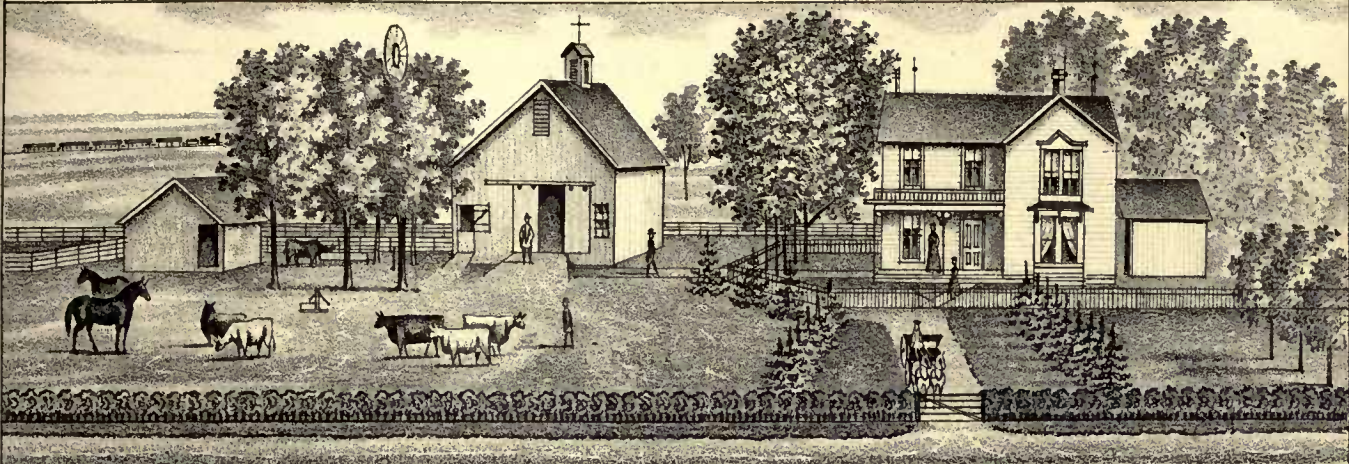
DR. JOSEPH T. MILLER, who is widely and favorably known as a skillful physician and surgeon, has been a resident of Urbana since April 15, 1853. He is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Butler County, in 1832, and the son of Israel and Mary A. (Mahan) Miller. Israel was a native of Fayette County, Pa., his wife of Warren County, Ohio, whence they removed to where they were married. Israel Miller left his native State with his parents in 1815. He was the son of Nicholas and Margaret (Hostetler) Miller, who were natives of Switzerland and emigrated to America in 1790, settling in Fayette County, Pa., where the father engaged in farming, which occupation he followed all his life. After the removal to Ohio he operated in connection with his sons, and lived, honored and respected by all, to the advanced age of eighty-four years. The mother died when seventy-six years old. Of their nine children only one is now living, a daughter,

Eliza, Mrs. Griffiths, who is seventy-eight years old, and is still living in Butler County, Ohio.

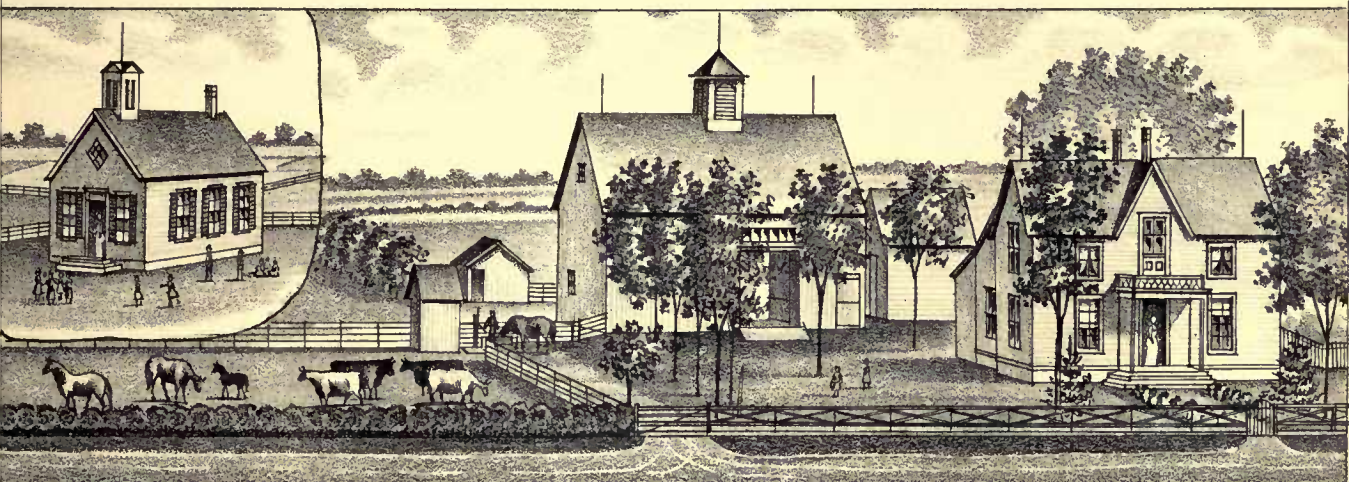
Israel Miller was reared on a farm and lived at home until twenty-seven years old. His birth took place in 1804, and he was married in 1831. After this latter event he located upon a tract of land comprising 320 acres, which he occupied for seven years, then sold out and purchased 640 acres in Fountain County, Ind. There he became widely known as one of the most extensive and successful farmers of that region, where he remained until his death, in 1880, when seventy-six years old. The mother, who was born in 1810, still resides in Indiana on the old homestead. Their eight children are all living. Dr. Joseph, of our sketch, is the eldest; Margaret, Mrs. Haas, is a resident of Fountain County, Ind.; Philoma, Mrs. Beadle, of Montgomery, Ind.; Eliza, Mrs. Tanner, of Vermilion County, Ill.; Lewis, William H. and James P., of Fountain County, Ind., and Emeline, Mrs. McClure, lives in Clinton County, Ind.

The subject of our sketch remained on his father's farm until eighteen years old, in the meantime pursuing his studies in the common schools. He then took a course at Wabash College and afterward commenced teaching, which he pursued most of the time for three years following. In the meantime he occupied his leisure moments in reading medicine, and in the winter of 1852-53 entered Rush Medical College, Chicago, where he took a thorough course, and after graduating commenced practice at Urbana, where he has since resided and fully established himself as one of the skillful practitioners of this county. He was Mayor of Urbana for two years and Postmaster during the Grant administration, seven years. He has been warmly interested in the growth and progress of this section of country, and has been identified with many of its leading enterprises.

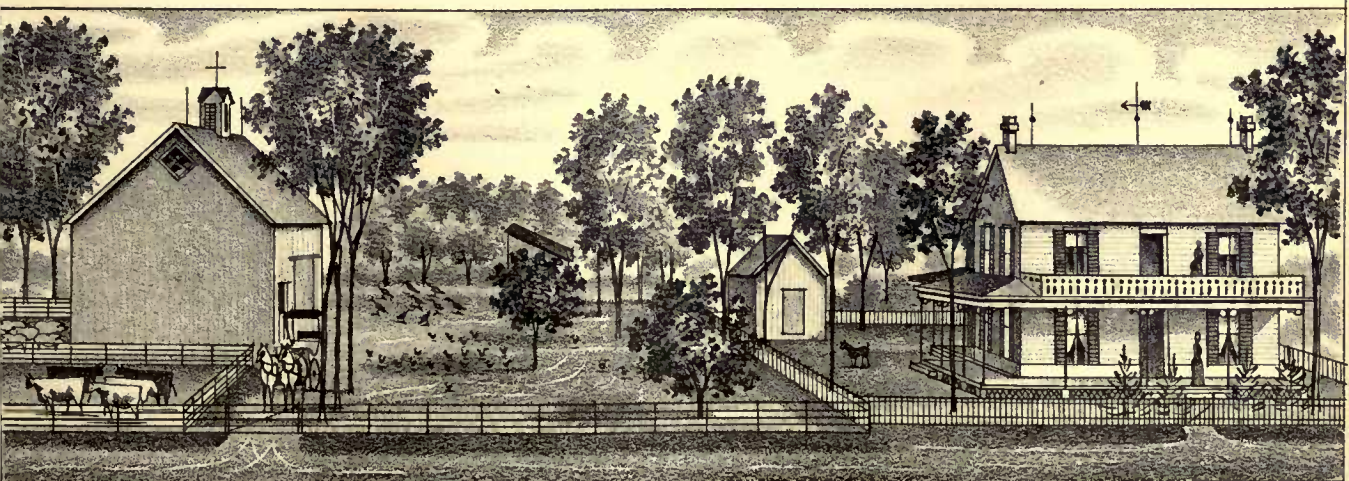
Dr. Miller was married, April 2, 1862, to Miss Lotta V. Radebaugh, of Bedford County, Pa., and daughter of Peter and Eliza (Walters) Radebaugh, also natives of the Keystone State. They came to Illinois in 1861 and settled at Urbana. Mr. R. was formerly in the mercantile business. Of this marriage there have been born two children: William H., who is now in the jewelry business at Elgin,



RESIDENCE OF SAMUEL M. KEE, SEC. 32, HENSLEY TP.



RESIDENCE OF ALBERT R. PRATT, SEC. 9, CHAMPAIGN TP.



RESIDENCE OF JAMES M. MOORE, SEC. 22, BROWN TP.

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and Horace W., a student in the Medical University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Miller is a man of large liberality, and the oldest practitioner in the county. In social life he is courteous and entertaining, and is the friend of all the young, with whose pleasures he sympathizes always, and the old, who have learned to respect him for his excellent traits of character. Politically he is a non-partisan, casting his vote for the men whom he considers the best qualified for office. During the war he received a commission from Gov. Yates as Surgeon for the 60th Illinois Infantry, and was with his regiment for nine months and until overwork and exposure began to undermine his health. After returning from the army he was appointed by the President, Surgeon of the Board of Enrollment, Seventh District of Illinois, which position he held until the close of the war. During that period he traveled quite extensively through the States of Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama. He has also been and now is Examining Physician and Surgeon for several State insurance companies.



MRS. VALERIA LILLY, of Champaign, and widow of the Rev. R. H. Lilly, is the daughter of John and Susan (McCulloch) Gordon, who were natives of Vermont. Her father was a farmer by occupation, and after his marriage located on a tract of land in Genesee County, N. Y., whence he removed to Illinois in 1849. He first located in Coles County, where he remained until 1870, then removed to Missouri and was a resident of Phelps County, where he carried on farming until his death, which took place Oct. 6, 1873. His wife afterward returned to Illinois and lived with her daughter Valeria in Champaign until her decease, which occurred Feb. 23, 1883. Of the parental household, which included seven children, four only are now living: Mrs. T. R. Leal, of Urbana; Mrs. Lilly, of this history; Mrs. Sue Barnett, of Aspen, Col., and John, of Lutesville, Mo.

Mrs. Lilly was born in the city of Oswego, N. Y., April 29, 1834. She received careful home training and a good education and before her marriage engaged in teaching in Charleston, this State. Her

union with Rev. R. H. Lilly took place on the 10th of August, 1857. Mr. L. was the son of Amiger and Catherine (McCutchen) Lilly, natives of Virginia, the father born in 1763, and the mother in 1775.

Rev. R. H. Lilly was the third child of his parents and his birth took place in Bourbon County, Ky., May 11, 1804. Mr. Lilly was educated at Paris in his native county and pursued his theological studies at Princeton College, N. J. He was ordained as a Presbyterian minister at an early age, his first charge being in Livingston and Caldwell Counties Ky. He was strongly opposed to the institution of slavery and upon that account left his native State in 1844, and coming to Illinois, located in Urbana, where he officiated as a missionary of the Palestine Presbytery until June, 1851. In December of that year he was appointed the supply of Urbana and also Monticello Church in Piatt County. He came to Champaign in 1857, which remained his home until his death, on the 14th of January, 1874. Rev. Lilly was a gentleman of fine capacities, both in a business sense and intellectually. He became a large land-owner in this State and disbursed with a generous hand of his means to benevolent and Christian purposes. This, united with his uniform kindness of heart and courteous treatment of all with whom he was connected, served to make him universally beloved and respected wherever known. The good influence which he exerted over all with whom he came in contact will live long after the friends whom he knew in his lifetime have passed away.

Mr. and Mrs. Lilly became the parents of eight children, three now deceased: Charles H. married Miss Julia Putnam, and is now a merchant of Thomasboro, Ill.; they have one child, a son, Henry W.; James E., Fanny, Susie R. and John C. are living at Champaign with their mother; Mary C., who became the wife of Wiley Buckles, of this county, died when twenty years of age, in 1878, leaving one child, a daughter, Lillie; Clara died when eleven years old, and William G. at the age of two and one-half years. Mrs. Lilly occupies a beautiful home in Champaign and is surrounded by scores of affectionate friends, who, during her long residence here, have learned to value her at her true

worth. She is a lady of rare intelligence, an ornament to society, and numbers her friends and associates among the best people of the city.



LINUS G. HUBBARD is a farmer and grower of small fruits, residing in Urbana Township. Mr. Hubbard is a native of Vermont, and was born Jan. 24, 1844, near the village of Wilmington, Windham County. Chester Hubbard, his great-grandfather, was born in 1770 in the same State, and our subject's father, whose name was George Crocker Hubbard, was also born in Vermont, in 1815. The family had been Green Mountain farmers for many years, and George Hubbard owned a fine farm of 400 acres in that State. He married Miss Salome Green, the daughter of Clark and Submit (Hastings) Green, who was born in Amherst, Mass., in 1815, and there reared to womanhood. After his marriage George C. Hubbard settled on the farm where he still lives, near Wilmington, Vt. There they reared a fine family of six children, four of whom were boys and two girls. Their names were as follows: Lizzie J., Linus G., Clara Bird, Porter G., Fred B. and Chester C.

Linus G. Hubbard, the eldest son, but second in order of birth, passed his youth among the Green Mountains of his native State, acquiring such education as he could from the limited advantages of the district school. He was a patriotic, high-spirited boy, and at the age of eighteen, in the year 1862, enlisted in Co. F, 16th Vt. Vol. Inf., as private, and served his country gallantly until Aug. 13, 1863. He was detailed on garrison duty at Washington, and participated in the battle of Gettysburg. After being mustered out of the service at Brattleboro, Vt., and honorably discharged, he returned to his home and engaged in farming.

At about the age of twenty-three, Linus Hubbard came west to Wisconsin, spending eighteen months in that State. In 1869 he came to Champaign County and purchased eighty acres of land in Tolono Township. He remained there three years, cultivating and improving his land, and in the meantime was united in marriage with Miss Helen Stanard. She was the daughter of

David and Hannah (Haskins) Stanard, and was born in Bureau County, Ill. Her father was a native of the State of New York and her mother of Vermont. After our subject's marriage they lived on the farm in Tolono Township for two years, and then moved to their present home in Urbana Township. Their farm contains eighty acres of valuable, well-improved land, located on section 29. For the last eight years Mr. Hubbard has been very successful in raising small fruits, and runs a truck wagon to Urbana where he disposes of his products. There were no improvements on his land when he purchased it; now he has a pleasant residence with good farm buildings.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard have a family of six children: George D., Charles L., Clara May, Fred C., Nellie M. and Minnie S. Mr. Hubbard is a member of the G. A. R. Himself and wife, with four of their children, are members of the Baptist Church, in which they take an active interest.



CHRISTOPHER BURNETT, a well-known farmer and resident of Urbana Township, is a native of Yorkshire, England, where he was born June 17, 1840. His parents, Thomas and Elizabeth (Kirby) Burnett, came to America when Christopher was but thirteen years of age. Arriving at the city of Philadelphia, they first proceeded to Belmont County, Ohio, where they remained for about four months. Thinking to improve their circumstances by pushing further westward, they next came to Illinois, and settled in Vermilion County, where the father engaged in farming. In 1855 they changed their residence to Champaign County and settled in the village of Urbana, which at that time was little more than a hamlet. Mr. B. followed his trade, that of a brick and stone mason, in the little village as long as his health would permit, but soon succumbed to the disease from which he had for some time suffered, and died in 1864. His wife, who survived him until 1877, was the mother of eleven children, all of whom lived to maturity, and eight yet survive.

Christopher Burnett received a good education in the common schools in England, and resided with

his parents until their death. He then began his career as a farmer, having had some experience therein when a boy, and operated on rented land, until he had saved sufficient capital to purchase a farm. After buying and selling twice, he, in company with his brother William, purchased a quarter of section 21, in Urbana Township, to which after a time they added eighty acres more. He now has a shapely and substantial residence, with good barns and other out-buildings, and has been very successful in raising the cereals. On the 25th of December, 1879, Mr. Burnett was married to Miss Mary H. Jordan, daughter of Isaac and Mary (Albright) Jordan. Her parents were formerly from Ohio, but are now residents of Farmer City, De Witt County, Ill. Of this union there were born two children, a son and daughter—William and Mary E. Mr. Burnett is one of the School Directors of District No. 11, and is interested in the general welfare of his county, as becomes a worthy and useful citizen. Politically he is a staunch Republican. Mrs. Burnett is a lovely Christian lady and a member of the Methodist Church.



BC. BEACH, Mayor of Champaign, has been a resident of the Prairie State for the past twenty-five years. He was born in Tompkins County, N. Y., Nov. 22, 1835, and is the son of Rev. Edwards A. and Rhoda (Churchill) Beach, natives respectively of Vermont and New York. The grandfather of our subject, David Beach, was a millwright and mill builder by trade. He removed from the Bay State to Guernsey County, Ohio, about 1813, and thence went to Licking County, where he died in March, 1851. The parental household included four sons and three daughters, all of whom, with the exception of one daughter, Mrs. Spooner, of Cumberland, Guernsey Co., Ohio, are deceased.

The father of our subject was reared to manhood on his uncle's farm, near New Lebanon, N. Y. He was of a thoughtful and studious disposition, and determined to secure a better education than had as yet been afforded him. In this he succeeded after

persistent effort. He entered Amherst College, Mass., from which he was graduated in 1826, and also took a course at Williams College, Mass. Afterward he attended Auburn Theological Seminary, and made such proficiency that he was graduated, in 1829, in less than a year after becoming a student there. He paid the expenses of his education by teaching and giving lessons in vocal music. Soon after completing his studies he entered upon his ministerial labors in the Presbyterian Church at Stephentown, N. Y., and continued in the Empire State until 1840. After removing to Ohio he was in ill-health for three years following and had no regular charge. In 1843 he removed with his family from Guernsey to Licking County, where he entered the ministry again and continued uninterruptedly for a period of seventeen years. In 1878 he removed to Illinois and settled in this county, which remained his home until his death, in May, 1881, after he had arrived at the advanced age of eighty-five years. The mother died Aug. 11, 1887, aged eighty-one years. Six of the seven children who comprised the parental household still survive: David E. is Professor in Marietta College, Ohio; Beman C.; Chandler B., connected with a book publishing house in Chicago, and Marianne. This sister went as a missionary to Turkey, in about 1865, remaining there five years, then, on account of failing health returned to the United States, and is now a resident of Chicago; Dwight P., a resident of New York City, is manager of the N. D. Thompson Book Publishing Company, of St. Louis; Alice, Mrs. Bourquin, is a resident of New Albany, Ind.

The subject of this history remained at home until twenty years of age. Then, his time being given him, and wishing to still further perfect himself in his studies, he attended Central College and Denison University two years. Afterward he took a trip into Iowa, where he spent one year engaged in teaching, then returned to Ohio and followed the same occupation for several years. In 1859 he again turned his steps westward, and came to this county. He had been married that same year to Miss Hettie Condit, who was a native of Licking County, Ohio, and after coming into this county he engaged in farming pursuits for six years following. In February, 1866, Mr. Beach abandoned farm

occupations, and removing with his family to the city of Champaign, began dealing in grain, coal and machinery, which he has followed successfully since that time. He has been prominent in local affairs since coming here, and served as Alderman of the Fifth Ward for six years. In 1880 he was elected Mayor, served one term and was re-elected in 1885. He is a Republican in politics, and with his estimable wife a member in good standing of the Congregational Church, of which he was Superintendent in the Sunday-school for about twelve years.

The family of our subject and wife included eight children, namely, Bayard E., a resident of Dakota; Clara, Mrs. Magoon, of Champaign; James C., Chandler C., Jessie L., Mabel H., Josephine H. and Paul M. Mr. and Mrs. B., with their children at home, occupy a handsome residence on West Church street, and are surrounded by hosts of friends. As a citizen and business man, our subject represents the best element of his community, and in his official capacity displays the wisdom and forethought essential to a man intrusted with large interests, and the welfare of a rapidly growing city.



A P. CUNNINGHAM, dealer in drugs, books and stationery, is located at No. 25 Main street, Champaign, where he is carrying on a profitable business and maintains a good position in social and financial circles. He is a native of Lancaster, Erie Co., N. Y., born Aug. 11, 1833, and the son of Hiram W. and Eunice (Brown) Cunningham, natives respectively of Unadilla, Otsego Co., N. Y., and Bennington, Vt. The family came to Huron County, Ohio, in 1833. Hiram Cunningham was a carpenter by trade, but after moving to Ohio, engaged in farming. The family included ten children, of whom five are now living, namely, J. C. Sheldon, a half brother; J. O., ex-Judge of Champaign County; Albert P. of our sketch; Olive, Mrs. Fisher, of Emporia, Kan., and Edwin W., a resident of the same place. The parents were devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which the father was a Class-Leader for a period of forty years. He departed

this life at his home in Clarksfield, Ohio, July 11, 1866. The mother, surviving less than three years, died March 9, 1869. Mr. C. was Postmaster at East Clarksfield, Huron Co., Ohio, for many years.

The subject of this biography remained on his father's farm until twenty years of age, in the meantime receiving a common-school education and completing his studies in Oberlin College. He possessed considerable literary talent and was a frequent contributor to various daily and weekly papers as well as being the author of interesting articles in the druggists' magazines. He was the first editor of the *Champaign County Herald*, and from the first has been acknowledged as an interesting writer upon various subjects. He came West in 1853, and for three months occupied himself as clerk in a dry-goods store. That same year he came to Urbana, and not long afterward was given the position of Assistant Cashier in the Grand Prairie Bank, which position he occupied until 1862. The late war being then in progress, he enlisted in Co. G, 76th Ill. Vol. Inf., as a private, being afterward promoted Second Lieutenant. After two years of service he was obliged to resign on account of ill-health. He was present at some of the most important engagements of the war, among them the siege and capture of Vicksburg, and participated in various skirmishes, besides enduring the hardships and severity of long and forced marches. After receiving his honorable discharge, he returned to Urbana, engaging in the drug trade, and followed the same until 1880. He then sold out and embarked in the same business in Champaign. He now gives employment to four clerks and an assistant, and may be properly considered one of the prosperous business men of a thriving city.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Ophelia J. Seger, of Clarksfield, Ohio, took place in 1855. Mrs. C. is the daughter of A. W. Seger, a native of Connecticut, and engaged in the stove and foundry business. Their family included six children, of whom the wife of our subject was the eldest. Of this union there have been born four children—Elmer and George, now employed in their father's store, Clara and Ralph at home. George is a student in the Illinois University.

Mr. Cunningham is a warm supporter of the Republican party. He served three years as Mayor of Urbana, represented his Ward as Alderman for several years and was also upon the School Board. He became a member of the Illinois Pharmaceutical Association in 1881, was Treasurer one year and elected President in 1885. Both he and his amiable wife are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church. Socially our subject belongs to the Masonic fraternity, is a Knight Templar, and a member of the G. A. R. The family residence is pleasantly located on Church and State streets, and is surrounded by the evidences of cultivated tastes and ample means.



SAMUEL KOOGLER, one of the large land-owners of Scott Township, and a successful agriculturist, was reared to the vocation which he has followed thus far in life. His fine farm in Scott Township comprises 900 acres of improved land, located on sections 7, 8, 17 and 18. He keeps about 150 head of cattle on his place, and his crops consist largely of hay and grain. He has erected a fine residence, and made other valuable improvements since taking possession of his land, so that it is now one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of Champaign County. His possessions are mainly the result of his own industry, and he has contributed in no small degree to the development and prosperity of this section of the country.

Our subject is the youngest of six children born to Jacob and Catherine (Bates) Koogler, natives respectively of Ohio and Pennsylvania. After marriage the parents settled in Greene County, Ohio, where they carried on farming and remained the balance of their lives.

Samuel Koogler was born Feb. 14, 1825. His parents died in 1832, when he was but seven years of age, and he was brought up by the husband of an elder sister. He remained a resident of his native county until nineteen years of age, and then going to the town of Greenville, Ohio, engaged there in the grocery and drug business for about eight years. He then sold out, and in September,

1852, came to this State and located first in Le Roy, McLean County. He spent one winter there, and the following spring rented a farm in Scott Township, this county, which he occupied four years, paying a cash rent of \$600 per year. He was prospered in his farming and business operations, and in the meantime purchased a quarter section of railroad land, upon which he settled in 1856, and which constitutes a part of his present homestead. To this he added as time passed on and his means permitted, until now he has one of the finest farms in this locality, embracing a large body of tillable land.

Mr. Koogler was first married, at Greenville, Ohio, to Miss Lucy Vantilburg, a native of that State. Of their four children the record is as follows: Helen B. became the wife of Edgar Plummer, and resides in Heyworth, McLean County; Lizzie married Frank Jones, and resides in London, Ohio; Ellen, the wife of Edward Conkling, is a resident of Seymour, in this county; William died in infancy. Mrs. Lucy Koogler departed this life at the home of her husband in Scott Township, in 1865. In 1866 Mr. Koogler formed a second matrimonial alliance, in this county, Miss Sallie Andams, a native of Ohio, born about 1834, being the other contracting party. They became the parents of one child—Lucy, who died when about four years old—and the mother departed this life in Scott Township, about 1867. Mr. K. was again married, in McLean County, to Miss Jennie Plummer, of Ohio, and they have one child, a son, Frank S. Mr. K. is a member of the Methodist Church, and in politics a decided Republican. He has been Road Commissioner, Supervisor of Scott Township, and otherwise identified with local affairs. Socially he belongs to the Masonic fraternity.



WILLIAM G. CLARK came to Illinois in 1840, when a young man, laying his first plans for the establishment of a future home. He had no possessions but his strong hands and willing heart, and at that time the face of the country in this section was widely different from the appearance which it presents to-day. Acres

upon acres of what have since proved the best farming lands of the Prairie State, were then practically unopened to the settler. Young Clark engaged first at whatever his hands could find to do, working by the day or month, and a year later returned to his native State of Ohio, where there was a maiden waiting to join her fortunes with his. Soon after the wedding ceremony he started westward with his bride, and it is probable that had he known all which was to follow, stout as his heart was, it would have shrunk from the undertaking. He maintains now that he has seen the "white elephant" in all its phases. Upon the return trip to the Prairie State, having lost one horse, he was compelled to assist the other animal himself, which he did by carrying one end of the neck yoke, and in this way traveled over a distance of a great many miles, his wife sometimes by his side, sometimes in the wagon. After arriving at their journey's end, they located upon a small tract of land in Homer Township, and set up housekeeping in the most primitive style. Not living in a fashionable community their necessities were comparatively few, and perhaps they did not so much realize the discomfort then, while passing through it, as they have since, when comparing it with their later life, and its attendant comforts.

Mr. Clark, a native of Ohio, was born among the hills of Clarke County, on the 12th of August, 1819. His parents, William and Catherine (Zeigler) Clark, natives of Pennsylvania, removed to the Buckeye State soon after their marriage, during its early settlement. The father of our subject was born Aug. 25, 1771, worked as a farmer, brick-mason and shoemaker, and rounded up a busy life at the age of nearly seventy-nine years, in the county where he had first located, his death occurring in 1850. He was one of the first to identify himself with the Masonic fraternity, of whose principles he was a great admirer, and in politics was a Whig. The wife and mother was born Sept. 4, 1785, and departed this life on the old homestead in Clarke County, Ohio, in 1871, when about eighty-six years old. She was a worthy and excellent lady, and a devoted member of the Baptist Church. The marriage of the parents took place on the 28th of December, 1807. Their nine chil-

dren were born as follows: Samuel, Oct. 2, 1808; Elizabeth, Sept. 3, 1810; George Z., Sept. 2, 1812; Lydia, Nov. 19, 1814; Michael, April 30, 1817; Mary, Dec. 10, 1821; John F., May 4, 1825; Julia A., July 19, 1828; the birth of our subject has already been noted.

The boyhood days of William G. Clark were spent under the parental roof, where he was variously employed, assisting in cultivating the soil and working at intervals with his father at his two trades. He received but a limited education, and early in life began to lay his plans for the future. The lady whom he married after his first visit to Illinois, was Miss Julia A. Robinson, who was born in Virginia on the 4th of November, 1822. She became the wife of our subject in Clarke County, Ohio, July 8, 1841. The family removed from the Old Dominion to the Buckeye State when she was a young girl nine years of age. Her parents, Leonard and Mary A. (Foley) Robinson, were also natives of Virginia, and the father was engaged in farming pursuits all his life. The parental family included four children, namely, Sarah A., John F., James H. and Thomas J. Mrs. Mary A. Robinson departed this life in 1830, and Mr. Robinson was married to Miss Mahala Burkly, of which union there was born one child, a daughter, Rovilla. After the decease of this lady, he was married to Miss Eliza Athey, who became the mother of a son, Charles D., and also yielded up her life a short time afterward. The fourth wife of Mr. Robinson was Miss Mahala Jones, who became the mother of three children—Mary, Elizabeth and Eliza.

A fine family grew up in the household of our subject and his wife, the record of his eleven children being as follows: Frances, the eldest child and daughter, after reaching years of womanhood, became the wife of John M. Swearingen, her wedding occurring on the 27th of March, 1862; after becoming the mother of five children, she departed this life at her home in St. Joseph Township, May 13, 1875. Walter married Miss Mary Price, and is residing in Kansas; Fulton died when one year old, and Helen L. when twenty-three years of age, on the 10th of April, 1872; Fidelia only lived to be a few months old; Cornelia became the wife of Joseph Sanders, and lives in Ogden Township;

Harvey married Miss Eliza Price, and is farming in Kansas; Thornton married Miss Mary Correy, and they are residents of Piatt County, Ill.; Louisa, the wife of C. Coble, resides with her husband in Kansas; Isabelle married John Gibson, of Ogden Township; George married Miss Louie Whetstone, and is farming in Ogden Township.

It is hardly necessary to say, considering his present position, socially and financially, that the life of Mr. Clark discloses an exceptionally worthy and busy career. He labored industriously to redeem his land from its primitive condition, and the results have exceeded even his expectations. Besides having a fine property remaining, he has given each of his children \$1,600 worth of land. His farm has proved exceedingly fertile, and some years he has gathered thousands of bushels of corn. He has always taken an active interest in local matters, contributing his means and influence to the support of worthy enterprises, always voted the straight Republican ticket, and religiously conforms to the doctrines of the Christian Church. His son, Thornton, is a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is a young man of great promise. Walter has started out similarly, being a supply of the same church, in which he has officiated at intervals for fifteen years. Both sons possess considerable musical talents, being fine performers on the violin.

Rev. Thornton Clark was born April 12, 1856, and from his earliest childhood evinced more than ordinary aptitude, taking up his studies readily and completing them when eighteen years old. He then crossed the Mississippi into Kansas, and for several years, in partnership with his brother Harvey, engaged in the stock business and dealt in lands. He was married, Jan. 6, 1876, to Miss Mollie Correy, in Mayview, this county, and they became the parents of two sons—Vincent A. and Clinton. The first born died June 14, 1879.

Mr. Clark returned to Champaign County the 1st of October, 1880, and began farming one and one-half miles east of St. Joseph, where he remained two years, and thence removed to Mayview. He continued farming there for about three years, and under the ministrations of Rev. Allen McLeary, of Urbana, was awakened and converted, and soon afterward united with the Methodist Episcopal

Church. He became an earnest Sunday-school worker, deeply interested in the cause of religion, and was licensed to preach June 6, 1885. He became one of the most valued laborers in the vineyard of the Master in that section, and for a year filled the pulpit at intervals. In September, 1886, he joined the Illinois Conference at Urbana. During his first appointment, at Mansfield, he conducted a sweeping revival, and his subsequent course has been one of gradual advancement, until he is now numbered among the most valued members of the ministry in Central Illinois, although not yet thirty-two years of age.



JAMES HARMISON. The subject of the following sketch has been a resident of the Prairie State for over thirty-five years. Arriving in this State from Ohio, the place of his nativity, he settled first in Danvers, McLean County, where he built a hotel and officiated as "mine host" for one year. He next bought a farm near Bloomington, which he sold, and then purchased a half section of land near Saybrook, and made that his home until coming to this county. Mr. Harmison became a resident of this county in 1873, locating in Urbana. There he purchased ten lots, upon which he put up seven houses, and from the income thus received has lived comfortably since that time. His present residence is on the corner of Lincoln and Clark streets.

Our subject is a native of Muskingum County, Ohio, born in 1818, and the son of Matthew and Fannie (Whitelock) Harmison, both natives of Virginia. They went into Ohio in 1827, and located upon a tract of land in Muskingum County, which they occupied however but a short time, and becoming homesick returned to their native State, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Of their seven children, James of our sketch is the only one living. He remained at home in Ohio until nine years old, at which time the death of his mother occurred. Young Harmison was then bound out to a farmer, Mr. H. Harris, with whom he lived until twenty-one, receiving only his board and clothing, and worked so hard for his master in a coal

bank that he became a cripple. After a day's work in the mine he was obliged to walk half a mile and feed twenty-five to thirty head of cattle, fifty sheep, and six to eight head of horses. He would often return to the house with his shoes and stockings frozen on his feet, and his other clothing consisted only of a pair of linsey pants, a vest and a shirt. After serving out his time he engaged in peddling for a year and then hired out on a farm one year for \$15 per month and board.

Mr. Harmison was married in 1841, to Miss Sophia Will, of Licking County, Ohio, and the daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Gable) Will, natives of Pennsylvania. They removed from their native State at an early day, and locating upon a farm within four miles of Zanesville, there spent the remainder of their lives. They had a family of eight children, seven now living, namely, Lewis, Samuel, George, Alfred, Abraham, William, and Sophia, Mrs. Harmison.

Our subject and his wife have three children: Samuel married Miss Rebecca Krist, and they have ten children—Nettie, Hattie, William, Eugene, James, May, Frank, John, Elmer and Grace; they are living in Kansas. George married Miss Ellen Dunlap, and they have five children—Parkhurst, Charles, Lincoln, May, and an infant unnamed; they are living in Dakota. Rosetta became the wife of Alfred Coverdale, and they have three children—Allie B., Grace and James—and live in Mt. Carmel, Ill.

Our subject has always voted the Republican ticket, and with his wife has been a member of the Baptist Church since 1843. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and held the office of Supervisor while a resident of McLean County.

HENRY PIPER. The State of Illinois has been for more than two decades the cynosure of many eyes as one of the most desirable localities in the West for the establishment of a permanent home; and its fame is not confined to American shores, as the tide of immigration from the Old World has fully indicated during the period spoken of. These ideas in-

fluenced the father of our subject when, in 1842, he set sail with his family from his native land. They first located in Canada, where the father died a few years later, and his son Henry then commenced the stern struggle of life.

The birth of Henry Piper took place near Winchester, England, on the 6th of February, 1836. He is the son of James and Keziah (Crops) Piper, and his two grandmothers were both named Mary. By some unexplained circumstance the names of the grandfathers were omitted from the record our subject possesses. It is unquestioned, however, that they were natives of England and performed their mission in life worthily in the modest station to which Providence had assigned them.

When Henry Piper was eleven years of age he was deprived by death of a father's care and turned out into the world to do for himself, his mother possessing limited means and not being able to provide for him. He engaged to learn the tailor's trade, but his constitution rebelled against the confinement of the shop, and after three years he abandoned it for good. He then engaged to work on a farm for his board, and after two years rejoiced in the possession of restored health, with a clear mind and good muscles. His next employment was in a sawmill, where he remained until twenty years of age, and then resolved to make a decided change. Coming West his first halt was in Pesotum Township, this county, where he engaged as a farm laborer, and made it his residence for two years. Afterward he went over into Douglas County, where he commenced farming on shares, and was so successful that two years afterward he was enabled to become the proud possessor of eighty acres of improved land. The war was then in progress, but not having become a naturalized citizen he took no part in the great conflict, but remained continuously on his farm until the spring of 1881. Then, being seized with a desire to cross the Mississippi, he rented his farm, and with his family journeyed into Washington Territory, locating near Walla Walla, with the intention of remaining there. The attractions there, however, were not such as he expected, so a year later he retraced his steps, and regaining possession of

his farm settled himself contentedly with his family, and since that time has been engaged in general agriculture and stock-raising, making a specialty of Poland-China hogs, and of late effecting arrangements for the breeding of Norman horses.

The lady who shared the vicissitudes of twenty-four years with our subject was formerly Miss Rebecca, fifth child of James and Rachel Young. Her father was a Kentuckian by birth and a farmer by occupation, and the mother a native of Indiana. Mr. Young in earlier days was quite prominent as a county official, being a well-read man, and possessed of a clear and accurate judgment. The parents of Mrs. Piper are now deceased.

Our subject and his wife began the journey of life together on their Douglas County farm, where they remained for three years. Mr. Piper then sold out, and coming into Harwood Township, this county, purchased 200 acres on section 34. It was not inhabitable at the time, but the following spring Mr. Piper put up a house, into which as soon possible he removed his family, and began to till the soil around it. In looking upon his present condition and surroundings it is hardly necessary to say that he has been prospered in a marked degree. His tastes have been in accordance with his means, and although the homestead is, perhaps, not as pretentious as that of some of his neighbors, yet the air of comfort which surrounds it is pleasant to contemplate. The farm stock is well fed and sheltered, and the family of our subject are surrounded by everything necessary for their comfort and happiness.

The four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Piper are all living. The eldest son, John C., in February, 1887, was married to Miss Emma Steward, of Harwood Township, and is farming on a section adjoining the property of his father; the other children—William H., Jennie and Carrie Elizabeth—are at home with their father. The affectionate wife and mother, on the 19th of February, 1886, passed away forever from earthly care and suffering, having been a victim of that dread disease, consumption. The two daughters now preside over the household. Mrs. Piper was a lady greatly beloved by her family and friends, distinguished for

excellent judgment and kindness of heart, and in early life became a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Later she connected herself with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which she was a valued member at the time of her death.

Mr. Piper politically is an active supporter of the Republican party. He has no desire for office but contents himself by casting his vote and exerting his influence in support of the principles which he believes a safe guide to the prosperity and happiness of the people.



MORTIMER KILBURY, a well-known and highly esteemed resident of St. Joseph Township, traces his earliest recollections back to the Buckeye State, where he first opened his eyes near Pleasant Valley, in Madison County, on the 1st of June, 1852. He is the son of Asa and Ruth H. (Clark) Kilbury, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Ohio. Asa Kilbury removed from the Green Mountain to the Buckeye State with his parents when a boy, first locating at Cleveland. Later he learned the blacksmith trade but afterward engaged in farming and stock-raising, which he carried on in Madison County for a number of years, operating extensively, becoming very successful and accumulating a fine property, including a farm of 600 acres near Pleasant Valley in Madison and Union Counties. Finally, however, determined to see something of the more western country, he came to this county and purchased 1,100 acres lying partly in Ogden and partly in Somer Township. Here he established the business afterward carried on by his sons, J. S. and Mortimer, who came here in 1873.

The subject of this sketch passed his early years in Union and Madison Counties, Ohio, after the manner of most farmers' sons, attending first the district schools of his native township, and later, the High School in Pleasant Valley. After coming to this county he began farming on his own account, making his home with his brother until his marriage, which took place Sept. 22, 1877. The lady chosen to be the sharer of his home and fortunes was Miss Mary L., second daughter of R. A. and Per-

melia (Auhands) Friedrich, of Vermilion County, Ill. After their union the young people located on the land in Ogden Township, where they lived until 1884, and then our subject, retiring from active labor, took up his abode in St. Joseph. He, however, was not content to be idle, but invested a portion of his capital in lumber and farm implements, in the trade of which he continued two years, then becoming homesick for country life again, took up his abode on some land belonging to him just outside the city limits, which will probably be his permanent home. Here he carries on, in an easy manner, general farming and stock-raising, in the latter branch of which he is making preparations to engage quite extensively, and which will include the breeding of horses. Here he has 100 acres on section 11, in St. Joseph Township, besides the farm in Ogden Township, which contains 258 acres. The Somer Township farm embraces 130 acres, and the whole landed property of our subject includes about 500 in all.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Mortimer Kilbury consisted of two sons only—Asa and Frederick, bright and promising boys who are developing into a manhood of which the parents will doubtless have reason to be proud. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church at St. Joseph, Mr. K. being a Trustee and a man whose counsels are often sought both by his fellow-members in the church and by his townsmen generally. He is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and a man in whom his friends have placed a confidence which has never been betrayed.

Asa Kilbury, the father of our subject, departed this life at the homestead in Union County, Ohio, on the 5th of January, 1884, and the mother followed Sept. 20, 1885. The parental household included nine children, of whom five are living, two in Champaign County and the balance in Madison, Delaware and Union Counties, Ohio.

Mrs. Mary L. Kilbury was born in Oakwood Township, Vermilion Co., Ill., Feb. 11, 1857. Her father, R. A. Friedrich, a native of Prussia, was born in the little village of Dankerode, on the Hartz Mountains, Aug. 15, 1830, and was the son of Lophus Friedrich. The latter was born in the

town of Stolberg, Prussia, March 6, 1796, and emigrated to the United States, dying in Prince William County, Va., March 30, 1851. His wife was the daughter of a dry-goods merchant by the name of Lippert, who carried on business in the city of Leipsic. She was born April 8, 1800, and died in Dankerode, Nov. 2, 1848. Mrs. Permelia (Auhands) Friedrich was born in Montgomery County, Ind., Nov. 6, 1835, and removed with her father, Andrew Auhands, to Vermilion County, Ill., when about six years of age, her mother, Mrs. Margaret Auhands, having died about two years before. Mr. Friedrich emigrated to America in the fall of 1848 and is still living, a gentleman of kindly Christian character, and enjoying the respect of many friends and acquaintances.

LEWIS L. HICKS, an extensive and prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Rantoul Township, is the owner of 1,900 acres of land in this county, and represents the bulk of the grain interests of this section, being a member of the firm of Tomlinson & Hicks, operating a grain elevator in the northeast part of town, connected with the milling interests of Rantoul, and handling probably 400,000 bushels of grain annually. In view of these facts it is hardly necessary to state that the name of this gentleman is familiar to many of the business men of Champaign County, and that he has contributed his full quota toward the advancement of its agricultural interests. He possesses excellent judgment, more than ordinary executive ability, and is of the persistent quality of character which seldom gives up a project when he has once determined upon its accomplishment.

Mr. Hicks is a native of Indiana, born near Perryville, Vermillion County, Oct. 29, 1825. His father, George Hicks, a native of Massachusetts, engaged in agriculture the greater part of his life and trained his son carefully to habits of industry, noting with pleasure the evidences of the inheritance of his own rare business qualities and assisting to develop these by every means in his power.

George Hicks left his native State early in life, and taking up his abode in Eastern New York engaged

there in farming until his marriage. Soon afterward, with his young wife, he journeyed to Indiana, which at that time was a vast wilderness, with Indians much more plentiful than white men. They located in the midst of the timber tract, from which the father of our subject opened up a good farm and where he passed the remainder of his days. His family included four sons and four daughters, of whom six are yet living.

The subject of this history, in common with his brothers and sisters, passed his early years on the farm in Indiana, and was carefully instructed during his childhood by a private teacher. Later he entered Asbury University at Greencastle, Ind., and after completing his studies, entered a store in Perryville, where he held the position of an efficient clerk for several years, and enjoyed in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of his employers.

In 1853 Mr. Hicks, desiring to see something of the country further west, came to this county and prepared to establish himself as a permanent resident. He purchased a tract of land north of the present site of Rantoul, where he opened up a farm, brought it to a good state of cultivation, and traded some in live-stock. His first purchase consisted of 620 acres which he secured direct from the Government. This he occupied until after the close of the war, and in 1866 took up his residence in Rantoul, where he became engaged extensively in dealing in lumber, coal and grain, subsequently adding agricultural implements. In the latter department he was the pioneer in this county and is still connected with the business. His first partner was Peter Myers, with whom he operated two years; the latter then withdrawing, his place was supplied by the admittance of Sheldon Tomlinson to the firm. With this latter gentleman Mr. H. has operated for the past eighteen years, and in point of business ability, integrity and good judgment the partners are well matched. Mr. Hicks, besides his interest in the elevator, grain and coal business, superintends the operation of six farms comprising his own land, which, through the good judgment exercised in tilling the soil, have become among the most valuable of any in the county. They are well stocked with fine grades of cattle and horses, and the people who cultivate them form a colony by themselves. In

addition to his fine cattle and horses Mr. Hicks has made a specialty of Poland-China hogs, fattening large numbers annually and shipping by the earload to Eastern markets. The elevator operated by the firm is the largest in the town of Rantoul, substantially constructed with a first-class engine and dump, and furnished with all modern improvements for handling grain.

The marriage of our subject and Miss Emily Burton took place in Rantoul, Ill., in 1870. The two living children are daughters—Estella and Bertha A. Their only son, Louis L., died in February, 1887, when seventeen years of age. This bereavement was a sad blow to Mr. Hicks, in which he had the sympathies of all who knew them. Mrs. Hicks died in 1878, since which time Mr. H.'s daughters have been presiding over the household.

No man in Rantoul Township has done more to advance its farming interests than Mr. Hicks, and the history of his life, his industry, his perseverance and his successes should be handed down to future generations as a career which they should emulate, and for the encouragement of those who are ambitious to be something and to accomplish something in the world. The fact that he began with a small amount of capital is by no means to his discredit, for those who make a good use of capital, and like the character in the Scriptures, increase it tenfold, are comparatively rare. The contrary is usually the rule, and vast fortunes have been sunk through incompetence and prodigality. Due credit should therefore be given to the man whose judgment and manner of living have enabled him to make a success of his life whether it began with little or large means. In politics Mr. Hicks is a Republican.

D H. LLOYDE, of the firm of D. H. Lloyd & Son, dealers in school books, music, wall paper, stationery, pianos, organs, sewing-machines, etc., is located at No. 9 Main street, where he established business in 1874. He is a clear-headed and thorough-going citizen, and by his energy and industry has contributed his full share in building up the business interests of the city.

Our subject is a native of Springfield, Mass, and

was born June 11, 1835. He is the son of Capt. David and Eliza (Seaver) Lloyd, natives respectively of Springfield and Somerset, Mass. David Lloyd, Jr., when a young man engaged in farming pursuits, but later developed as a contractor and builder. He removed to Illinois with his family in 1838, settling in Clarion Township, Bureau County, and continuing there until after the outbreak of the Rebellion. He then organized Co. K, 93d Ill. Vol. Inf., of which he was commissioned Captain and became an efficient officer, always being found at his post. During the battle at Vicksburg, on the 16th of May, 1862, he was shot through the heart, dying instantly on the battle-field. He left a wife and five children to mourn an irreparable loss. The children were: D. H., of our sketch; Jennie, Mrs. Lee, of Attica, Kan.; James, a merchant and station agent at Milo, on the Missouri & Pacific Railroad; Lucy, Mrs. Herrick, of Princeton, Ill., and George O., a builder and contractor of Bloomington.

The father of our subject was a prominent man in his community, occupying the offices of Supervisor and Justice of the Peace for a number of years. He was well educated, and taught school in the village of Lamoille, after coming into this State, and took great interest in the establishment of schools, of which he located several in Bureau County. He kept the first hotel at Lamoille, at which the stages of those days put up, and he assisted in building the court house, jail, and other prominent structures in and around Princeton. He gave employment to a large force of mechanics, and as a builder and contractor was not excelled by any man in that section. The aged mother still survives, being seventy-seven years old, and remains on the old homestead in Clarion Township.

The subject of this biography was three years old when his father came to Illinois, and early in life learned the use of tools, having inherited in a marked degree the genius of his father in this respect. He commenced his education in the district schools, and afterward attended Judson College in La Salle County, and Berean College of Jacksonville. He remained an inmate of the household circle until twenty-one years of age, and then engaged as a builder and contractor. In the

meantime he, like his father, had also been greatly interested in the establishment and maintenance of Sunday-schools, and has traveled from place to place, holding musical and Sunday-school conventions in different States. While in Bureau County he officiated as School Director, and was Commissioner of Highways. After coming to Champaign he was employed as a teacher of vocal music in the University, and in 1875 established his present business, which he has conducted since that time. He is a Republican in politics, a strong temperance advocate, and with his wife belongs to the Baptist Church, of which he was Chorister, Deacon and Trustee for a period of nine years.

The marriage of D. H. Lloyd and Miss Ellen P. Angier was celebrated in Lamoille, Feb. 25, 1857. Mrs. L. is a native of Vermont, and the daughter of Rev. Aaron and Eliza (Luther) Angier, the former a minister of the Baptist Church. They came to Illinois in about 1855, settling in Lamoille, Bureau County, where the father died that same year. Mrs. Angier survived her husband eight years, dying in 1863.

Mr. and Mrs. L. have a family of three sons: Frank H., a graduate of the University, in the class of 1878, was married in 1879, to Miss Fanny Core, and is the partner of his father in business; Clarence is a graduate of engineering in the Mechanical Department of Illinois University, with the degree of B. S., and is now engaged with the United States Electric Lighting Company of Chicago; Clifford L. is pursuing his studies in the High School on the West Side. The family residence, a handsome and substantial structure, is located on West Clark street.

HENRY J. LEIDENDEKER. The subject of the following history, who is widely and favorably known in Hensley Township, as one of its representative men and valued citizens is a fine specimen of the substantial German element which has assisted so materially in developing the resources of the great West, and bringing it to its present proud position in the Union. Our subject was born near Hereford in the Province of Westphalia, Prussia, Dec. 27, 1840.

His father, Albert Leidendeker, a native of the same Province, was there reared to farming pursuits, and upon arriving at years of manhood was married to Miss Grêthen Snueke, a native of his own town. While a single man he served in the army under Napoleon and later under King William. He was with the former during the disastrous campaign of Moscow and suffered all the hardships of the retreating army. During the forced march, becoming exhausted he lay down in the snow, caring little whether he recovered or not. He was soon discovered by some of his comrades, and they compelled him to proceed, thus saving his life. After his marriage he engaged in agricultural pursuits, and also as an auctioneer and collector.

In 1856 Albert Leidendeker partially effected his arrangements for emigrating to America, but was taken ill and died in the fall of that year. His wife, the mother of our subject, remained in her native country and died there in 1883. The six children of the household were: Mary, Eliza; Henry J., of our sketch; Louisa, Katie and Ame. Eliza came to America, married F. A. Lange, and died in Hensley Township, this county, in 1876. This sister and our subject were the only members of the family who came to the United States.

Henry Leidendeker received a good education in his native land, and when not in school assisted his father on the farm. He was not, however, satisfied with his condition or his prospects in the Fatherland, and on the 11th of April, 1857, set sail from Bremen for America, landing in New York City on the 16th of June. He left the Empire State in a short time, however, and proceeding to Ohio engaged there on a farm until the spring of 1858. In March of that year he started for the farther West, and coming into this county commenced, although but a boy of seventeen, to lay his plans for the future. He was a stranger in a strange land, but there is almost always work for willing hands to do, and he soon found employment at \$14 per month. This he considered a great improvement upon Ohio prices, as labor in the Buckeye State at that time only commanded about half the price. Henry saved his earnings and the following year found himself with means to purchase an outfit and engage in farming on his own

account. He rented land for four years following, and then purchased eighty acres on section 22, in Hensley Township. Upon this, however, there were no buildings, so he continued to cultivate rented land, and in 1865 sold out and purchased the homestead he now occupies. But a few acres of this were broken and there were no buildings. Under his care and industry, however, the originally wild land has been transformed into a fine modern homestead, where our subject and his family enjoy all the comforts of life. Here he has erected a fine set of frame buildings, and planted fruit and shade trees, besides making other valuable improvements. To his first purchase he also added until he has now 320 acres in one body, and 160 acres in Sargent Township, Mower Co., Minn.

Mr. Leidendeker was married on the 3th of September, 1872, to Miss Rebecca Epperson, a native of Crawfordsville, Ind., and the daughter of Richard and Ellen Epperson, natives of Virginia. This lady died on the 6th of February, 1881, after having become the mother of two children—Albert R. and Mary G. The second marriage of our subject occurred Feb. 10, 1886, Miss Amelia Harris, who was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, and the daughter of Lazerus and Julia Harris, also natives of that State, becoming his wife. Of this marriage there has been born one child, Frank E. Mr. L. is Republican in politics, and with his wife is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow-townsmen in a marked degree, and has held various offices of trust in his township. He served as a member of the Board of Supervisors four terms, and in all respects is a man whose opinion is consulted upon important matters, and whose judgment it is safe to follow.

ERLEY A. RUSK is the son of one of the earliest pioneers of Morgan County, Ohio, who afterward became a resident of this State. He is pleasantly located on section 12, Rantoul Township, where he has eighty acres of improved land and a good set of farm buildings. Mr. Rusk was born on the 11th of March, 1837, at

the parental homestead in Ohio, and came to this State in 1868.

Humphrey Rusk, father of our subject, was a native of Virginia. He grew to manhood in the Old Dominion, and soon after his marriage started overland with teams for the Buckeye State. A part of his road lay through the wilderness and often he was obliged to cut his way through with his ax. After reaching Morgan County he purchased a tract of timber land and erected a log house, in which the family took up their abode as soon as it was covered by a roof. He cleared the greater part of his purchase, then sold out and bought land in another township of that county. After a few years he sold this also but remained a resident of the county as long as he lived. While on a visit to his son in this county he was seized with fatal illness, and died here in the fall of 1860. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Margaret McDonald, was born in Virginia, and followed the varied fortunes of her husband until his death. She afterward came to this county and made her home with our subject. While on a visit to Indiana, in May, 1882, her life suddenly terminated at the home of her daughter, Eliza Jane Baldrige.

Perley A. Rusk was next to the youngest of ten children comprising the parental household. He pursued his early studies in the district schools with commendable interest, and when eighteen years of age entered the Ohio University at Athens and applied himself to study for two years afterward. He then engaged as a teacher during the winter seasons and in the summer was employed in farm pursuits. He remained a resident of his native State until 1859. In March of that year he came to this State, locating in De Witt County, and farmed and taught school alternately for ten years following and until becoming a resident of Champaign County. In the fall of 1868 he visited the county and bought 160 acres of unimproved land in Compromise Township, of which he took possession the following year. He worked diligently for nine years following, cultivating the soil and erecting an inexpensive residence and barn, and in the meantime he also taught school eight or nine terms. In 1878 he rented a tract of land, upon which he operated two years with fair success, and then pur-

chased the place where he now resides. This embraces eighty acres well drained and fenced, and productive of the rich crops of the Prairie State.

The wife of our subject, formerly Miss Martha Buchanan, to whom he was married Sept. 10, 1857, in Morgan County, Ohio, was born in Harrison County, that State, and is the daughter of William Buchanan. Her parents are now deceased. The children of our subject and his wife, ten in number, are William H., Carrie, David, Volney, Frank, Albert, John, Mattie, Minnie and Ella. Mr. and Mrs. R. were Presbyterians, joining in 1852, but united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1886, by letter. Our subject politically is a Prohibitionist.

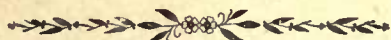


JAMES N. SMITH, a prominent farmer of Urbana Township, is the oldest son of Jacob and Margaret Smith, and was born in Champaign County, Nov. 20, 1836. He received a common-school education, and at the same time a thorough and practical training in all the details of farming. His father was one of the pioneers of Champaign County, and at that time farm hands were scarce and very difficult to obtain, consequently the boys were required to work early and late. In those days school facilities were of secondary importance and the advantages for book-learning were at best very limited. But the discipline of hard work and systematic application to business is an excellent educator, and made of our subject a self-reliant man.

James N. Smith remained with his parents on the farm until the age of manhood, when he married Miss Lizzie, daughter of Caleb Williams, and began farming for himself until the war broke out. In 1862 he enlisted in Co. B, 76th Ill. Vol. Inf., and took part in the siege of Vicksburg, the battles of Jackson, Miss., Ft. Blakely and many other engagements. On one occasion he received a severe shock from the explosion of a shell, which rendered him unconscious for several hours. In July, 1865, he was honorably discharged from the service. On his return from the army he settled on his present farm, which is one of the finest in the township. It

contains 240 acres with a fine, handsome residence and substantial farm buildings. Mr. Smith is an enterprising, energetic man, and is quite extensively engaged in stock-raising, giving his attention specially to the best breeds of cattle and hogs.

The four children of the household are Ellis, Eva, Bertie and Mervin. Jacob Smith, the father of our subject, was born in Shelby County, Ky., in March, 1805, and was the eldest of ten children, the offspring of Nicholas and Elizabeth (Potter) Smith, natives of Germany. He was married in 1833 to Miss Margaret J., daughter of James and Hester (Fulton) Beattie. Her paternal grandfather was a native of Scotland and emigrated to America before the Revolutionary War. The parents of Mrs. Smith died in Boone County, Mo. Of their family of ten children, but four lived to maturity. After Jacob Smith came to Champaign County, he settled on the land which is now included in the homestead, and where his widow resides. His death occurred in 1854. The Fulton branch of Mrs. Smith's family was of English origin and settled in Washington County, Va., where she was born in 1814. She is now in the seventy-third year of her age, is quite active in mind and body, and is held in high esteem by all who know her.



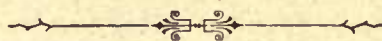
WILLIAM T. MILLER, the proprietor of a good farm on section 9, Scott Township, and a gentleman who thoroughly understands the vocation in which he is engaged, came to this county in the spring of 1866. His real estate consisted of 293 acres of valuable land, furnished with a good set of farm buildings, and stocked with graded animals. Everything about the premises is kept in good order, and the homestead on every hand gives evidence of the supervision of an intelligent and progressive farmer.

Our subject is a native of Ross County, Ohio, and was born near Chillicothe, Dec. 25, 1844. He is the son of William R. and Elizabeth (Streevy) Miller, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Ohio. After marriage the parents located in the latter State, in the vicinity of Chillicothe, where they spent the remainder of their lives. The

family consisted of two children, of whom our subject was the youngest.

Young Miller attended the district schools in his childhood and remained under the home roof until fifteen years old. He then went to work on a farm and remained a resident of his native county until coming to Illinois. During the progress of the late war, he became a member of the 18th Ohio Infantry, serving from Feb. 22, 1864, until the success of the Union army was assured. After receiving his honorable discharge, he returned to Ross County, Ohio, and from there, in the spring of 1866, proceeded to the Prairie State, and this county, of which he has since been a resident.

Mr. Miller was married in Piatt County, Ill., Sept. 27, 1870, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas A. and Elizabeth (Robinson) Branch. The father of Mrs. Miller was born in Virginia, and her mother in Tennessee. After marriage, Thomas Branch and family located in Virginia, where they lived about two years, and then removed to Sangamon County, Ill., subsequently to Piatt County, and later to Champaign County. Their last days were spent at Seymour, and their remains are buried at Monticello, Piatt County, Ill. Of their twelve children, Mrs. Miller was next to the youngest. She was born in Piatt County, this State, April 28, 1848. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Miller, five in number, were Minnie F., Frank W., Fannie, Chester B. and Goldie M. Frank W. died when three and one-half years old. Mr. Miller is a staunch supporter of Republican principles, has served as School Trustee, and has been otherwise identified with local affairs. Mrs. Miller, a lady highly respected in her community, is a member in good standing of the Christian Church.



ALEXANDER WHITE McCULLOUGH, of Urbana Township, is a pioneer of this county, and one of her most respected and honored citizens. He was born on the 19th of February, 1810, in Franklin County, Pa. The family are of Scotch and Irish extraction, and Mr. McCullough's grandfather, John McCullough, was born in New Castle County, Del. When a child

eight years of age, John McCullough was captured by the Delaware Indians. His parents were at that time living near Upton, in Franklin County, Pa., and young McCullough was held a prisoner by the Indians for eight years and four months in Ohio and Western Pennsylvania. He was a brave, high-spirited boy, and was treated so kindly by his dusky captors, that after his return home he ran away and rejoined them.

Our subject's father, James McCullough, married Miss Margaret White, the daughter of Alexander White, and about the year 1822 they removed to Delaware County, Ohio. Their family consisted of six children, only two of whom are living at the present time.

Alexander W. McCullough was married in 1842, to Miss Elizabeth Syler, the daughter of Frederick and Sarah (Robinson) Syler. She was a native of Pennsylvania, and was born July 9, 1824. After his marriage Mr. McCullough and his wife continued to live in Franklin County until 1854, when they removed to this county and located in Urbana Township, where they have since permanently resided. He first invested in timbered land, which he cleared and cultivated, and in the meantime brought up and educated a family of eight children, whose names are as follows: James; Adeline; the wife of Nelson Raney, residing in Sumner County, Kan.; Anna E., the wife of John Bond, residing near Tolono; Frederick, a resident of California; Margaret, the wife of Samuel Burwash, residing in Philo Township; Benjamin, a resident of California; Albert, a resident of this county, and John, who lives on the homestead.

Mr. McCullough is highly esteemed by his community, and formerly served as School Director for about ten years. His family are all members of the Methodist Church, in which they take an active interest. In his early life he was a Jacksonian Democrat, later he became an old-line Whig and has since become a stanch Republican. His son James served in the Civil War, and was so severely wounded at the storming of Ft. Blakely that he was obliged to lose his left arm. Mr. McCullough is now seventy-eight years of age, and his wife is sixty-three. They have passed nearly half a century of happy married life, during which time

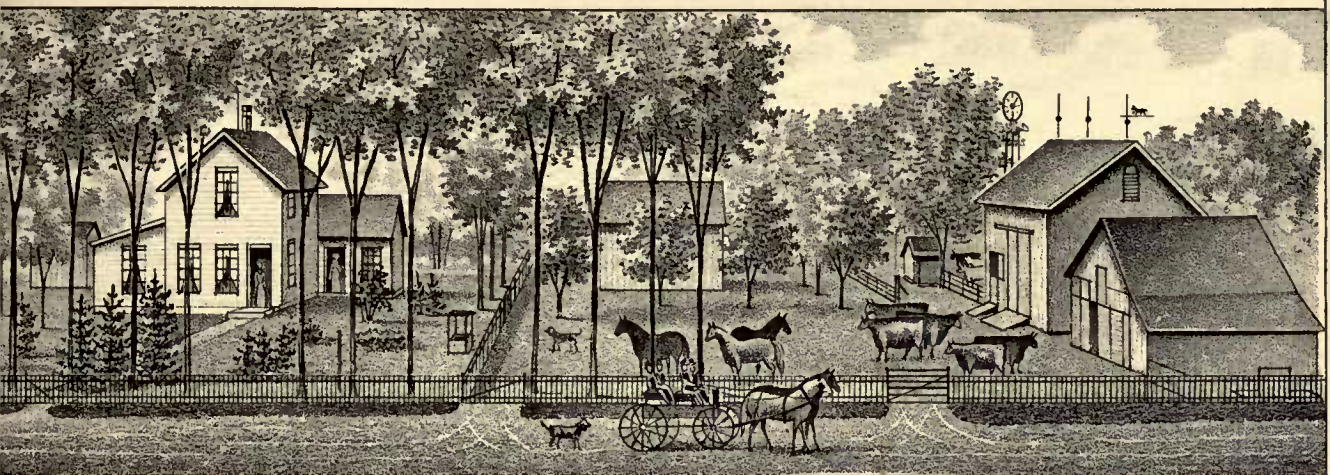
they have encountered and overcome many difficulties, and their declining days are crowned with repose and comfort.



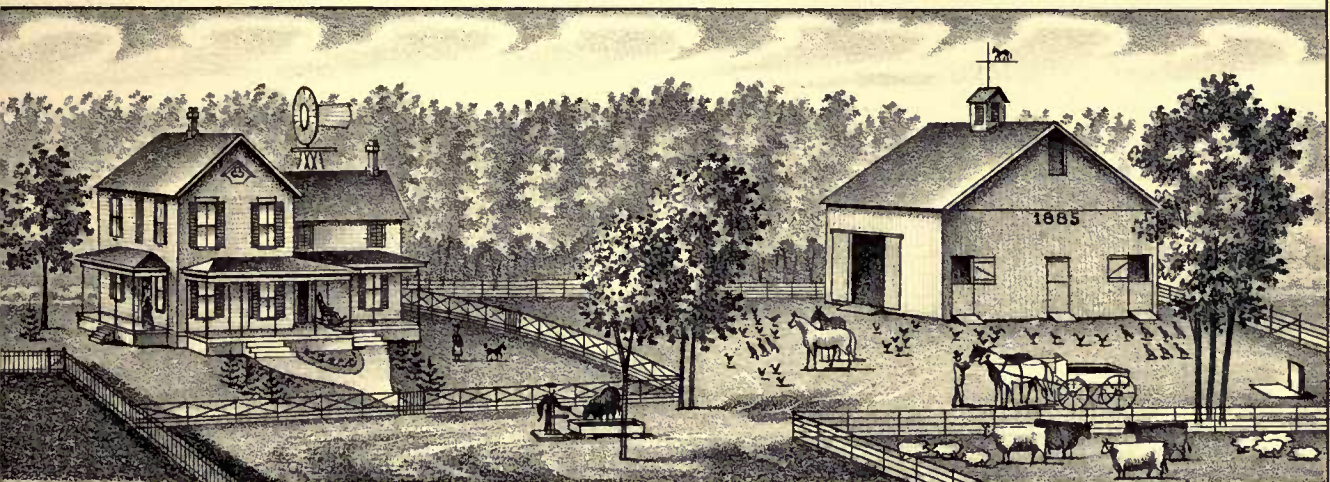
ISAIAH ESTEP, a reliable business man of Rantoul, has there built up a successful trade in agricultural implements, in which he has dealt since 1870. He began life in the town of Wellsville, Columbiana Co., Ohio, on the 24th of August, 1816, and is the son of Henry and Abigail (Anderson) Estep, the former a native of Maryland, and who, after locating in Wellsville, changed his occupation from that of a ship carpenter to a farmer. Afterward he removed to Kirkersville, where he engaged in mercantile business, and later went to Delphi, Ind., and occupied himself in a drug-store until his death, in 1868. The mother of our subject was the daughter of Benjamin Anderson, and was of Scotch-Irish origin. He was prominent as a seceder and a man of much force of character, having a good head for business affairs and obtaining much influence in his locality. The marriage of Henry and Abigail Estep was productive of twelve children, of whom six are still living. The mother died at Danville, Ill., and was buried in Delphi.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, James Estep, served seven years in the Revolutionary War, and at the close of that struggle took up his abode in the then young State of Ohio, locating in the forest, on the banks of Mahoning Creek. He there lived after the pioneer fashion, reared his family, and pursued the life of a peaceable citizen, respected by his neighbors and beloved by his family. Late in life he left Columbiana for Stark County, where he spent his last days. One daughter of this family is still living, being now an aged lady of eighty years and making her home in Leavittsburg, Ohio. The Estep family is of English origin, possessing all the substantial traits of their ancestors, persistent in their business, faithful in their friendship, and difficult to be moved aside from their opinions and the line of strict morality.

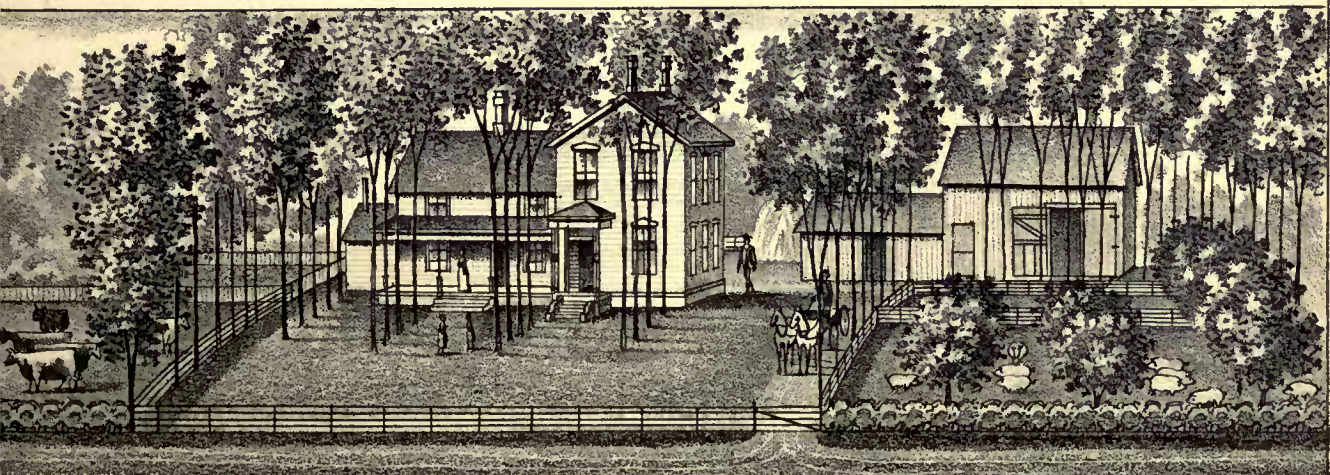
Isaiah Estep, the eldest of his father's family, passed his boyhood in his native county, and was



RESIDENCE OF CYRUS ARNOLD, SEC 35, PHILO TP.



RESIDENCE OF WM S. VANCE, SEC.3, BROWN TP.



RESIDENCE OF A.J. REED, SEC.25, PHILO TP.

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fifteen years of age when the family removed to Stark County. There he grew to manhood and selected for his wife Miss Savilla Smith. Her parents were formerly from Bedford County, Pa., and became residents of Stark County, Ohio, when Mrs. Estep was sixteen years of age. After marriage the young people located near the town of Canton, where Mr. E. engaged in wagon-making and general blacksmithing, and it is maintained that he manufactured some of the best road vehicles in that part of the State. His first removal was to this county, in the spring of 1857, when he settled on a farm in Ludlow Township, where he engaged in agriculture until the spring of 1870. He then established a shop in Rantoul, where he carried on general blacksmithing and in due time began to handle farm implements. Later he abandoned blacksmithing and gave his entire attention to building up his trade. He was one of the first to engage in this business here and controls a patronage extending over a large territory. His stock includes all kinds of farm machinery and his establishment is the leading one of the kind in this section. His methods of doing business have established him in the confidence of the people of Rantoul and vicinity, and he is ranked among its representative citizens and business men.

Of the ten children who came to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Estep, nine are still living. The record is as follows: Edwin W., soon after the outbreak of the Rebellion, and under the first call for 75,000 troops, enlisted in the 4th Ohio Infantry, and was wounded at the first battle of Chancellorsville, but recovered and lived to come home with his comrades; he is now engaged with a firm at Akron, Ohio. Ephraim J. is farming near Puget Sound, Wash. Ter.; William H. served as cavalry soldier in the late war; Arthur, also in the Union army, died at Helena, Ark., in 1862; Charles is engaged in blacksmithing at Rosedale, Kan.; Ezra, a carpenter and pattern-maker, resides at Plano, Ill.; Harry C. is acting as civil engineer, having graduated at the State University; May, who became the wife of Daniel Tuite, is now a widow and resides with her parents; Jessie is also at home; Ida M. died Jan. 25, 1887. Mr. Estep was School Trustee in Ludlow Township for ten years, and was other-

wise connected with its various interests, moral, educational and industrial. Formerly he was an old-line Whig, but on the abandonment of that party gave his support to Republican principles, with which party he claims a charter membership.

PATRICK GREEN, a worthy member of the farming community of Colfax Township, is pleasantly located on section 20, where he took possession of 160 acres of land in 1869. His present fine farm was then an unimproved tract of prairie, which he has transformed into a fertile and valuable estate. It is all neatly enclosed with good fences, thoroughly drained with tile, and embellished with one of the finest sets of buildings in Champaign County. The possessions of our subject have been obtained by the toil of his own honest hands, and now that he has secured valuable possessions he knows full well how to take care of them.

Mr. Green is a native of County Roscommon, Ireland, born Nov. 7, 1842, and is the son of James and Marcella (Green) Green, natives of the same country. When our subject was a little lad of three years old, the parents with their two children, set sail for America. Only a part of the little family, however, was permitted to reach the land of promise. The father and one child were taken violently ill, and died on the ship in mid-ocean. The bereaved mother and her son, our subject, landed at Montreal, Canada, where they remained for two years following. They then came to the States and sought the prairies of Illinois, settling in the city of La Salle, where the mother is still living and has attained the age of seventy-two years. She was married the second time, to William Maloney.

Our subject resided with his mother until reaching manhood, employing his time in honest labor at whatever he could find to do. In due time he had accumulated sufficient of his earnings to purchase a team, and followed teaming at La Salle successfully for a number of years, earning in the meantime the money with which he purchased his present home.

Mr. Green was married on the 9th of January, 1871, to Miss Maria Hopkins, a native of his own

county. Their wedding took place in the city of La Salle, Ill. Mrs. G. is the daughter of John and Bridget (Feeney) Hopkins, natives of Ireland, and now residents of Syracuse, N. Y. Our subject and his wife have become the parents of six children—James, Frank, May, Marcella, George and Bessie. The parents and their children are regular attendants of the Roman Catholic Church, and the family enjoys the entire respect of the community and the society of many friends. Mr. Green is an advocate of the principles of the Democratic party.



SAMUEL FOX, of St. Joseph, is well and favorably known in his community as a straightforward and thorough-going business gentleman, and one whose word is a sufficient guarantee for the fulfillment of his promises. The early home of Mr. Fox was near Salem, Columbiana Co., Ohio, where his birth took place Oct. 21, 1841. His parents, John and Nancy (Bender) Fox, were natives of Pennsylvania and of German ancestry. The grandfather of our subject, Christopher Fox, was a soldier in the War of 1812, in which he yielded up his life in battle. He had married and become the father of a family, his wife being formerly Miss Bicker. Among their sons was John, the father of our subject, who was also born in the Keystone State, and emigrated to Ohio when a single man. He was there married and located with his bride in Columbiana County, where he lived for many years, and thence removed to Stark County, locating on a farm, where his death took place in the spring of 1866. The wife and mother survived her husband several years, dying in Stark County, Ohio, in 1876. The parental family consisted of four sons and seven daughters, all of whom lived to mature years, and with one exception are now living.

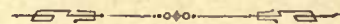
The subject of this history was the sixth child of his parents, and grew to manhood in Stark County, Ohio, receiving a fair education in the district school. In laying his plans for the future he resolved to learn the blacksmith's trade, and going to Canton, commenced at this and followed it until the outbreak of the late war. Then, being twenty

years of age, he enlisted as a Union soldier and served three years, being connected mostly with the United States Signal Service. During that time his duties called him into fourteen different States, and gave him a fine opportunity of viewing the country located mostly south of Mason and Dixon's line. After the surrender of the confederate army he, with his comrades, received his honorable discharge and was mustered out in June, 1865.

Mr. Fox upon retiring from the army, after a brief visit to the home of his youth, proceeded to La Fayette, Ind., where he engaged with a company who were carrying on the manufacture of Buckeye Mowers, and continued with them until taking up his residence in this county. He first worked in Champaign two years, becoming a partner of J. W. Spalding, a wagon manufacturer. Upon coming to St. Joseph, in 1874, he opened up a blacksmith-shop, and subsequently formed a partnership with S. Irons, in the sale of agricultural implements. They continued together two years, and Mr. Fox then disposed of a half interest in the blacksmith and repair shop to Mr. E. A. Birdzell.

The marriage of Samuel C. Fox and Miss Maria Bowshier, of La Fayette, Ind., took place at the home of the bride's parents, in the spring of 1868. Eight years later this lady died, leaving one son, named Guy. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1880, was Mrs. Maria Platt, of La Fayette, Ind., daughter of Alexander Julien, and widow of Benjamin C. Platt.

Since coming to this county Mr. Fox has been identified considerably in township affairs, serving as President and member of the School Board, and socially is Commander of Post No. 220, G. A. R. He cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and has always been a staunch supporter of the Republican party.



JOHNN CONNOR, retired from the active labors of life, and enjoying the comforts of a home and competency earned by honest toil, is one of the most highly esteemed residents of Rantoul. He started out for himself when a youth eighteen years of age, determining to seek his fortunes in the Prairie State. His parents occu-

pied a medium position in life, lived comfortably, but were not able to provide their son with other resources than a fair education and the upright and straightforward principles which had in them the basis of their own course of action. They had trained him to habits of industry, and he was willing to earn an honest living at whatever he could find to do. He first engaged as a laborer on the C., B. & Q. R. R. during its grading and laying of ties, and after the rolling stock was set in motion he was promoted brakeman. He was an apt scholar and watched with an attentive eye the workings of the locomotive machinery, and soon announced his belief in his ability to manage the engine. Time proved that he had not overrated his capacities, and in his subsequent position as engineer he acquitted himself creditably and with satisfaction to all concerned. In 1857, desiring to see his parents and the faces of his old friends, he returned to his native State of New York, and remained until 1859. In the spring of that year he started for the West again, and coming into this county, purchased a tract of wild land in Rantoul Township, on section 14. Farming in the West proved far more satisfactory than the same occupation in the East, and he accordingly settled down contentedly upon his purchase, improving his land, setting out trees and erecting buildings, and established a good homestead, where he remained for a period of nearly twenty years.

In 1886, having accumulated a handsome property and a competency, Mr. Connor decided to retire from active labor, and accordingly purchasing the property which he now occupies in Rantoul, removed to the city, where he proposes spending the remaining years of his life. This latter property occupies four lots, with a spacious lawn and yard, ornamented with choice shrubs and shade trees. The dwelling is a handsome and commodious structure with a carriage barn and other necessary buildings in the rear, and everything arranged for the comfort and pleasure of the family.

The birth of Mr. Connor took place in Troy, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., April 9, 1837. His father, Martin Connor, a native of County Limerick, Ireland, grew to manhood on his native Isle and was there married. Soon afterward he emigrated to the

United States, settling first in Troy, N. Y., whence he removed within a year to Stephenson and afterward to New Lebanon Springs. Near this latter place he purchased a farm which he operated for a number of years, and then leaving it in the hands of a tenant, purchased a home in New Lebanon Springs, to which he repaired, and spent the remainder of his life retired from active labor. His decease occurred in June, 1880. The mother, formerly Miss Bridget Costello, was a native of the same county as her husband, and by her marriage with Martin Connor became the mother of six children, namely, Mary, John, Michael, Thomas, James and Martin. She departed this life at the home farm at New Lebanon Springs in about 1851.

While a resident of his native county, John Connor, in his boyhood, made the acquaintance of Miss Mary Murphy, which, as years passed on, ripened into a mutual affection which was not forgotten after he left his old home for the West, consequently, in 1858, he returned to his native county and there married the maiden of his choice. Mrs. C. is the daughter of Patrick and Bridget (Lynch) Murphy, natives of County Limerick, Ireland. They emigrated to the United States about 1837 or 1838, and reared a fine family of sons and daughters in Rensselaer County, N. Y., where the wife of our subject was born. The seven children of Mr. and Mrs. John Connor are Charles; Carrie, the wife of Morgan O'Brien of Tolono; Willie, Hattie, Frank; Walter and Earle at home. The family are all members of the Catholic Church, and in politics Mr. Connor is a Democrat.



JAMES BARTLEY, who bears the honor and distinction of being one of the oldest settlers of St. Joseph Township now living, is a native of the Buckeye State, his birth taking place in Pickaway County, on the 2d of June, 1817. His ancestors originated in Germany, where his maternal grandfather, George West, was born, and married a lady of his own country. The father of our subject, Jacob Bartley, was born in Virginia, where his parents had settled after their marriage, locating near Fredericksburg, in Albe-

marle County. The father was a shoemaker by trade, which occupation he followed during life. He went to Ohio while a young man unmarried, and there formed the acquaintance of Miss Sarah West, who became his wife in about 1816. The young people located in Pickaway County, occupying a farm until the fall of 1830, thence removing to Vermilion County, this State. They stopped there, however, only about eighteen months, then came to Champaign County about the time of its annexation to Vermilion, and when Danville, the new trading-post, was first established.

Upon coming to this county Jacob Bartley entered 160 acres of timber land on section 23, St. Joseph Township, and afterward entered eighty acres of prairie land. His first business was to put up a small log cabin, into which they moved before it had a chimney, a fireplace or a floor. The family thus passed one summer very comfortably, but before winter approached were obliged to make different arrangements. Jacob Bartley entered upon the improvement and cultivation of his land, and employed his spare time at shoemaking. He was thus employed until resting from his earthly labors in the spring of 1836. There were left without support the mother and ten children, the record of the latter being as follows: George, the eldest, is deceased; Mary became the wife of Michael Lepner, and is deceased; Joseph died in California, where he had gone during the gold excitement of 1849; John is living near Lafayette, Ind.; Elizabeth married William Stewart, of this county; James, of our sketch, was the next in order of birth; Jacob died near Urbana; William removed to Kansas, where his death took place about 1875; Sarah is the wife of D. B. Slayton, of St. Joseph Township, and Henry, the youngest, died on the old homestead.

The boyhood and youth of James Bartley were spent on his father's farm, where he remained after the death of the latter until he reached his majority. He then commenced life on his own account, and for four years following worked by the month as a farm laborer. The young men of those days usually early in life established themselves in a little place which they could call their own home, and our subject being no exception, was married

in 1841, and then felt that he had commenced life in earnest. The sharer of his home and fortunes was formerly Mrs. Mary M. (Swearingen) Given, and soon afterward they settled on the old farm, which had been opened up from the uncultivated prairie by the father of our subject, and which his son leased until the estate was finally settled. When the apportionment was effected James bought out the interest of the other heirs, and has continued to reside there until the present. It now embraces 145 acres under a good state of cultivation, and Mr. B. has of late years turned his attention principally to the raising of stock.

In due time there came into the household of our subject and his wife six children, the family finally including three sons and three daughters. Of these William H. died when an interesting youth of eighteen years; Mary became the wife of George W. Doyle, a practicing physician of Pike County; John married Miss Amanda Hanley; Sarah is the wife of O. A. Seaton, of Jewel City, Kan.; James M., a machinist, is a resident of Indianapolis, Ind.; Amanda is the wife of S. H. Thompson, of Kansas.

Mr. Bartley cast his first presidential vote for President Harrison, and since the abandonment of the Whig party has cordially endorsed the principles of the Republicans. He is passing down the hill of life surrounded by the friends whom he has known for so many years, and whose respect and esteem he has enjoyed to a marked degree, for he has lived honestly and uprightly, and in all respects fulfilled the obligations of a good citizen.



JOHN FOWLER. Among the attractive prairie homes of Compromise Township, none is more pleasant to look upon than that of our subject, which is finely located on section 17, and presents a series of cultivated fields and pasture lands, not excelled by any in this part of Champaign County. In the midst of these, and on a gentle rise of ground, stands the substantial family residence with its shapely and well-kept out-buildings, with here and there groups of shade trees and other adornments, which consti-

tute altogether the home of refinement and prosperity. Mr. Fowler, a native of the wealthy and populous State of Ohio, was born Sept. 6, 1831, on his father's farm among the hills of Marion County. His parents, Willy and Cynthia (Perkins) Fowler, began life together as husband and wife in Muskingum County, Ohio, a few years after its first settlement began.

The father of our subject, a native of Lincolnshire, England, was born in 1798, remaining in his native shire until reaching manhood. Then, accompanied by two brothers, Robert and Richard, he crossed the Atlantic, and soon after landing, located in Muskingum County, Ohio. After his marriage he continued to reside in that county a few years, then removed to Sandusky and engaged in agricultural pursuits, and was thus occupied during the remainder of his life, resting from his earthly labors in 1855. The mother is still living, and is now in the eighty-sixth year of her age, having been born in 1801. Of their thirteen children, seven lived to attain their majority. These were, Alvira, now the wife of Ira Faurot; Willy; Richard, now deceased; John; Asenath, the wife of Ballard Shutts; Princess, Mrs. Franklin Ellis, and Cynthia, the wife of Charles Damide.

The subject of our sketch was reared on the farm, and educated in the common schools. He was married in Hardin County, Ohio, Sept. 4, 1853, to Miss Amelia Cross. She was born in Parkman, Ohio, Oct. 27, 1835, and is the daughter of Abram and Priscilla (VanScoy) Cross, now deceased. After his marriage, Mr. Fowler purchased a tract of land in Marion County, consisting of 220 acres, and which he occupied and cultivated until February, 1865. Selling out, he came to this State, and located in Vermilion County, near the line of Champaign. Some years later he removed to a farm near Homer, known as the Ray farm, comprising 640 acres of land, and which he rented until his removal to near Danville. From there he came to this county, and locating near Penfield, for three years operated 3,000 acres known as the Corbley land.

In 1881 Mr. Fowler took possession of his present property. This comprises 240 acres which would sell readily at \$50 per acre, and is chiefly

devoted to the raising of grain and stock. Mr. Fowler is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and although not repairing to the field during the late Rebellion, aided by his means and influence in upholding the Union sentiments. He has never been an office-seeker, preferring to give his time and attention to his private interests, although while in his native State he served as Assessor. Mrs. Fowler is a lady highly respected in the community, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The record of the nine children who were given to this household is as follows: Ella, Mrs. Craig, is a resident of Vermilion County, Ill.; Arthur, when twenty-four years of age, was accidentally drowned while bathing in the river near Red Oak, Iowa; Finley is Superintendent of the large farm of "Long" John Wentworth, near Summit, in Cook County; Clara Belle died at the age of seventeen months; Vannella, John W., Grace, Bertha and Daisy are at home with their parents.



JOHAN SNIDER, a highly respected farmer of Scott Township, and a gentleman perfectly familiar with the vocation in which he is engaged, owns 160 acres on section 24. All his land is in a tillable condition, and a dwelling with other necessary farm buildings has been constructed with an eye to comfort and convenience. Our subject is the son of Jacob and Jane (Bodine) Snider, natives respectively of Orange and Ulster Counties, N. Y. Prior to their marriage, they removed to Hamilton County, Ohio, where they became man and wife, and spent the remainder of their lives. The father died in December, 1872, and the mother in December, 1876. The parental household included seven children, four sons and three daughters, all of whom lived to become men and women.

The subject of this biography, who was the fifth child of his parents, was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, March 20, 1834. He received a common-school education, and remained under the home roof until twenty-four years of age. He was then

married, and continued a resident of Hamilton County a year afterward. In 1859 he came to this State, and purchasing eighty acres of land in La Salle County, made that his home until 1872. He then sold out, and purchased 160 acres in Scott Township, this county, where he has since resided. He has been uniformly successful in his farming operations, and is counted among the thrifty and enterprising citizens of this section.

The marriage of Mr. Snider took place in Hamilton County, Ohio, on the 25th of March, 1868. The lady of his choice was Miss Catherine L. Sutton, the eldest child of Reader E. and Mary (Thompson) Sutton. They were natives respectively of Hamilton and Warren Counties, Ohio, and after their marriage remained residents of the latter county for some time, removing afterward to Hamilton County, where the mother died May 9, 1883. Mr. Sutton is a carpenter by trade, but has also been engaged considerably in farming. They were the parents of seven children, three sons and four daughters.

Mrs. Snider was born in Deerfield, Warren Co., Ohio, March 5, 1837. Our subject and his wife became the parents of five children—Daniel, Olive, Arthur L., Lellus, who died in Scott Township, Jan. 22, 1883, and Eveline. Mr. Snider politically, affiliates with the Democratic party, and has held the office of School Director in his township for twelve consecutive years.



GEORGE W. HARWOOD, insurance and loan agent, at Champaign, a gentleman in the prime of life and possessed of fine business capacities, has been a resident of this State since 1866, when he purchased a tract of land in Newcomb Township. After farming for a period of five years, he removed to the city and, in partnership with Mr. J. A. Shafer, engaged in the sale of agricultural implements, under the firm name of Shafer & Harwood. This partnership continued until August, 1873, when our subject sold out his interest in the business and for three years afterward was employed as clerk for George F. Beardsley. At the expiration of this time he joined Mr.

B. in the real-estate and loan business, which they operated jointly for seven years, then divided up the profits, our subject taking the insurance and part of the loans, and Mr. B. part of the loans and the real-estate department. Although their business is separate, they still occupy the same office in the Metropolitan Block, and keep up their friendly relations as of old.

The subject of our sketch was born in North Brookfield, Worcester Co., Mass., Sept. 18, 1841, and is the son of George and Angeline (Allen) Harwood, natives of the same county as their son. The father of our subject engaged in agricultural pursuits upon the farm where his father, George W., and his grandfather, Peter Harwood, had lived. The latter was a Major in the Revolutionary War. The grandfather of our subject, George W., married, and reared a family of nine children, all excepting two living to mature years. Of these the father of our subject was the fourth child. He was reared on his father's farm, and during his early life engaged in stock-raising. About that time he was appointed by Gov. Andrews, Justice of the Peace, which office he has since held. He has also been Assessor of his native town two terms and is one of the Directors of the Savings Bank there. Politically he is a warm supporter of the Republican party. His family included four children, the mother of whom died in 1867. The eldest was Anna M., Mrs. F. R. Doane, of North Brookfield, who died in 1867, and left a family of three children—George R., Eden F. and Albion H.; George W. of our sketch was the second child; Ethan A. is farming on the old homestead, is married and has one child, Anna M.; Frances A. married H. E. Cummings, a merchant of North Brookfield.

The subject of this notice was reared on his father's farm and pursued his primary studies in the district schools, traveling a distance of one and one-half miles daily for the purpose, until he was fourteen years old. After this he became a student in the High School of the village, where he remained two years, and for a like period following was employed in a boot and shoe factory. Thereafter he worked on a farm until in August, 1862. The Civil War being then in progress, he enlisted

in Co. E, 36th Mass. Vol. Inf., and remained in the service until peace was declared. He entered as a private, was first promoted Second Sergeant, and afterward First Lieutenant. He was present at the battles of Fredericksburg, Vicksburg, Miss., and Knoxville, Tenn., and in the engagements at Spottsylvania Court House, Campbell Station, Cold Harbor, Jackson, Miss., and Pegrem Farm, taking part in seventeen regular battles besides many skirmishes. He received a flesh wound in the right leg at Jackson, Miss., and was wounded in the neck at Campbell Station, Tenn. His regiment was present at many of the important battles of the war, where our subject stood bravely by his comrades, sharing their duties and privations.

After retiring from the army, Mr. Harwood resumed his employment one year in the boot and shoe factory. In 1866 he came to Illinois and after his location at Newcomb, and while carrying on farming, served as Town Clerk and Supervisor, and was interested generally in public affairs. His subsequent course we have already indicated.

Mr. Harwood was married, Nov. 27, 1866, to Miss Mary N., daughter of Abel and Mary D. Harwood, of North Brookfield, Mass. Mrs. H. was born in Kentucky, and removed with her parents to this State when a young girl. Our subject and his wife occupy a pleasant residence at the corner of Linn street and University avenue, where they are surrounded by all the evidences of refinement and cultivated tastes. Mr. H. is Republican in politics and belongs to the G. A. R. He also, with his excellent lady, is prominently connected with the Presbyterian Church, of which he has been an Elder several years. He is a wide-awake, clear-headed business man, and is rated accordingly among the friends and associates of over twenty years.



JOHAN H. WYNE, who resides on section 20, Harwood Township, is the eldest child of William and Margaret (Rutledge) Wyne, and was born in Jefferson County, Ind., Feb. 24, 1842. His father is a native of Virginia, and the son of Edward Wyne, and the family are probably of German extraction. Our subject's mother

was a native of North Carolina, and the daughter of Henry and Betsy Rutledge, natives of North Carolina. William Wyne followed the occupation of farming throughout his entire life. In his childhood he was taken from Virginia to Kentucky, and when grown to manhood moved to Indiana, and became one of the pioneer settlers of that State. He is of a reserved and retiring disposition, taking no active part in politics, and giving his attention more exclusively to his own family affairs.

John H. Wyne, our subject, remained at home until he was eighteen years of age, acquiring such education as could be obtained at the district school. He then removed to the village of Volga, Ind., where he successfully engaged in the business of harness-making, and continued at his trade as a journeyman for nine years. On the 2d of February, 1871, Mr. Wyne was united in marriage with Miss Mary J. Thompson, the youngest child of Price and Hannah (Johnston) Thompson. Her father was born in Ohio, but his parents were natives of the State of New Jersey, the father being a farmer. Price Thompson died Feb. 5, 1855, and his widow was again married, to George W. Bowman, of Ohio. In October, 1873, Mr. Bowman died. She then came to live with her daughter, Mrs. Wyne, where she spent the last fourteen years of her life. She was a consistent Christian lady, a member of the Baptist Church, much beloved by her family, and held in very high esteem through the entire community.

In the March following their marriage, John H. Wyne and wife left Indiana for this county, where he first rented land, and for five years successfully conducted a farm. When, by economy and industry, he had acquired sufficient capital, he purchased forty acres of partly improved land located on section 20, Harwood Township, where he now resides. He gives his attention especially to raising grain.

While the Civil War was in progress in 1863 Mr. Wyne enlisted in the 82d Indiana Infantry, but on account of ill-health remained only three months in the service. Shortly after his discharge and return he was drafted for the service, but again rejected on account of disability. In politics Mr. W. is not restricted by party spirit, but always casts

his vote for the men whom he considers best fitted for the position. While he has inherited something of his father's reserved disposition he is to some extent interested in public affairs, and has frequently been elected Road Commissioner in the district. Himself and his wife are both members of the Baptist Church. They have but one child—Miles Earl.

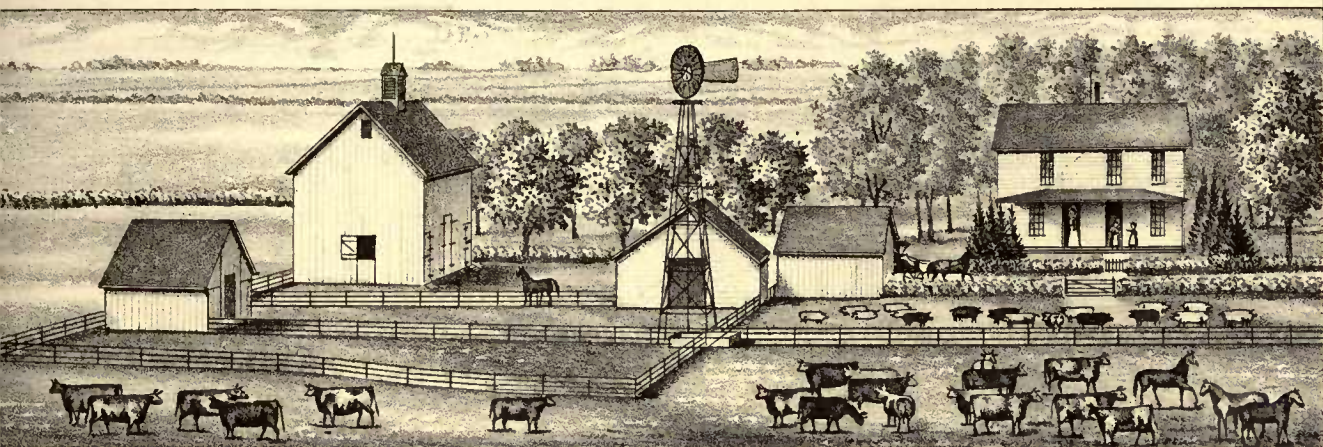
THEOPHILUS P. BARNES, one of the self-made men of Champaign County, who came to the West in his young manhood, and assisted in the development of Central Illinois, is now in the enjoyment of a fine homestead and a competency, and for the last twenty-two years has been located on section 10, Compromise Township. His possessions are the result of his own persevering industry, as he laid the first foundations and has been the main builder. His boyhood days were passed a thousand miles eastward, near Phillipsburg, Warren Co., N. J., where he was born Aug. 7, 1816. His parents were Gresham and Mary (Miller) Barnes, who taught him his first lessons of industry, while at the same time he studied his books in the subscription schools during the winter season, and assisted his mother around the homestead in the summer. His father, being a carpenter, was mostly absent from home, and the family possessed modest means, having little beyond what they labored for.

When fourteen years of age our subject went out to work on a farm, and was thus occupied during the summer season until eighteen years of age, in the meantime pursuing his studies in the winter. He had inherited much of the mechanical skill of his father, and at the age mentioned began work as a carpenter, for which, although never having served a regular apprenticeship, he received wages at first. Following the fashion of most of the young men of those days, he married young, before he was twenty years old, but continued with his parents until the fall of 1837. Then, accompanied by his young wife and child, he left his native State, and started by teams for Marion County, Ohio, which was the home of his father-in-law, Paul Cyphers. The journey occupied over three weeks,

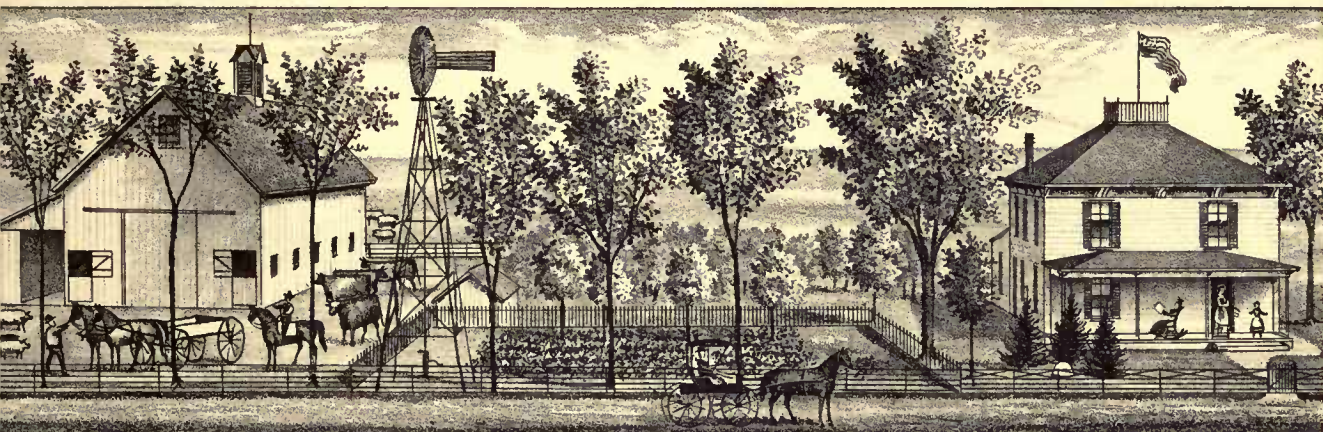
and they traveled after the manner of those days, carrying their provisions with them, cooking by the wayside and sleeping in their wagons at night. Soon afterward he rented a house, and worked at his trade one year, then rented a tract of land and followed farming in the Buckeye State until the fall of 1853.

During the latter year, our subject, hearing of the glowing reports which came from the rapidly growing State of Illinois, was induced to set out once more on a long and tedious journey, and with his family he traveled all the way by team from Ohio to Spring Grove Township, Warren County, this State. He rented land there which he operated upon for a year, and then purchased 160 acres of uncultivated prairie, improved eighty acres, built a house, and remained there eleven years. In the spring of 1865 he sold out at a good price, and purchased 240 acres in Compromise Township, this county, where he was joined by his family the following year, and which has been his home since that time. He has proved himself entirely worthy of a prominent place among the intelligent and enterprising farmers of this section. His land is in a good state of cultivation, and prolific of the choicest crops of the Prairie State. The farm buildings are convenient and well constructed, and the whole presents a picture which is delightful to the eye of the passer-by. She who began with him in his first effort for the establishment of a home, passed from the scenes of earth on the 16th of March, 1883, after having been his faithful and sympathizing companion for over a quarter of a century.

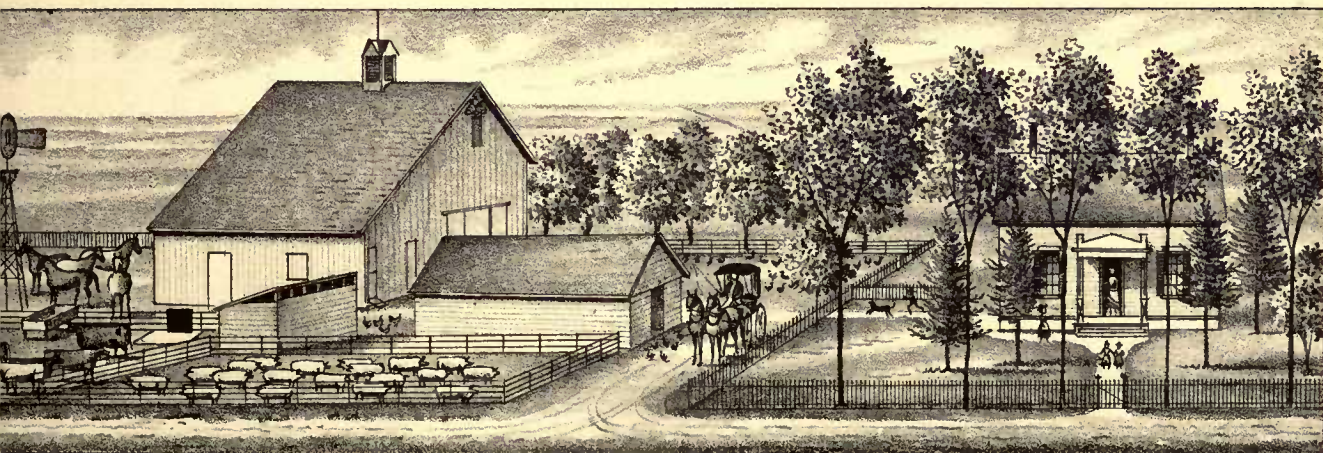
The wife of our subject in her girlhood was Miss Nancy Cyphers, and their marriage took place in the spring of 1835, in Warren County, N. J. Mrs. Barnes was the daughter of Paul and Hannah (Campbell) Cyphers, and was born in Warren County, N. J., in 1813. Of her union with our subject there were born eleven children: Christian P., the eldest, is living on a part of the homestead; Paul C. when twenty-two years of age, enlisted in the 1st Illinois Infantry, and served six months, after which he returned home and died at his father's house in 1867; Gresham served sixteen months in the 13th Illinois Cavalry; John M.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN LEONARD , SEC. 23., CONDIT TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF J. R. Mc GLELLAND , SEC. 16., BROWN TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF HENRY HAWBAKER, SEC. 31., NEWCOMB TOWNSHIP.

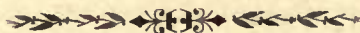
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served one year; S. C. and William D., with Hannah A., live on the homestead with their father; Reuben died when young; Mary is the wife of Hiram Lennox, of Harwood Township; Frank P. died when twenty-one years of age, and James, the youngest, is also on the homestead.

Gresham Barnes, the father of our subject, was born at Phillipsburg, Warren Co., N. J. His father died when he was seven years old, and he then went to live with his grandfather, remaining until the death of the latter. Afterward he was taken to the home of his uncle, and engaged in farming pursuits until nineteen years old. Subsequently he took up the carpenter's trade, and after serving a thorough apprenticeship, was married to Miss Mary Miller, and continued to reside in his native county, working at his trade, until the fall of 1838. He then started overland for Marion County, Ohio, accompanied by his family, including his invalid wife who had not walked for a period of thirteen years. After reaching Ohio, he purchased forty acres of land, and followed agriculture in that State until 1853, when he repeated his former experiment and started overland for the western part of this State. After arriving in Warren County, he worked at his trade four years, and then removed by team to Kansas. Four months of life in that State satisfied him, and he then retraced his steps, and located once more in Warren County, Ill., where his death took place in October, 1857. The mother of our subject had passed from earth and the scenes of her sufferings while the family was in Ohio, her death taking place in July, 1839. Her remains were laid to rest in the cemetery at Mt. Gilead, and her children will reverence her memory as long as life endures. The parental family included four children: Sallie A. is now living with her brother, the subject of this sketch; the latter was the second child; Elizabeth died in Ohio in 1840, and Reuben served as a Union soldier during the late war.

The paternal grandparents of our subject, Gresham and Margaret (Phillips) Barnes, were both natives of Warren County, N. J., where they were reared, married, and spent their entire lives. Their five children were Elizabeth, Gresham, Stephen, Mary and Elsie. The great-grandparents of our

subject on his father's side were Gresham and Elsie (Mackey) Barnes, natives of Virginia and New Jersey respectively. The former was a weaver by occupation, and left the Old Dominion at an early day, settling at Phillipsburg, N. J., where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. The family was widely and favorably known throughout that section, assisting greatly in shaping its society and its politics, and furnishing by their thrift and integrity, an admirable example of true worth. In politics, our subject has always been a staunch Democrat.



MARTIN BROWNFIELD, who is pleasantly located on a good farm in Somer Township, is a native of this county, and born Dec. 21, 1849. His father, Robert Brownfield, was a native of Harrison County, Ky., born April 29, 1818. The latter removed with his father's family from his native State to Illinois in 1832, making the journey overland in wagons, cooking and camping by the wayside. He was then a lad about fifteen years old. He grew to manhood in Champaign County and here married Miss Nancy Clements. They became the parents of nine children, six of whom are now living, five daughters and one son: Mary Ann became the wife of J. D. Corray, and is a resident of Perry, Dallas Co., Iowa; Eliza first married Isam Biggs who, during the late war, enlisted in the 76th Illinois Infantry and was discharged in July, 1864, on account of sickness. He died about two months before his regiment was mustered out, and was buried by his comrades with military honors in Somer Cemetery. Mrs. Biggs was then married to Richard McCormick, and they reside on a farm in Stanton Township, this county. Mr. McCormick also served as a soldier in the Union army. He enlisted in the 25th Illinois Infantry as a private, and was promoted First Lieutenant for bravery on the field of battle. At the expiration of his three years' service, he veteranized and remained in the ranks until the close of the war. Arwilda first became the wife of James McGill, and after his death married Amos Dale; she is now living on section 26, Somer Township.

Lucretia Jane became the wife of Marion Taylor, and is living with her husband on the old homestead; Viola, Mrs. Epperson, is a resident of Urbana Township; Martin is our subject.

The mother of these children was a native of Kentucky, born Sept. 22, 1821. Her parents emigrated to Indiana at an early day and from there to Somer Township, this county, where she was married and still resides with her daughter, Lucretia, on the old homestead. She is now sixty-six years of age and a lady highly respected by all who know her. Robert Brownfield departed this life July 15, 1878. He had received but limited educational advantages in his youth, but was a man of sound judgment, more than ordinary intelligence, and was popular in his community. He was appointed administrator of several estates and the guardian of minor heirs. He was the owner of a fine farm of 250 acres, which he left to his widow during her lifetime, and which is afterward to be divided up in equal shares among his children. He also was a member of Mt. Zion Christian Church, to the support of which he contributed liberally and cheerfully, and was noted for his hospitality and as being the friend of the needy and distressed. No one went away hungry from his door, and many a stranger remembers the kindly words with which he greeted them while passing through the prairie country.

Martin Brownfield was born and grew to manhood on the land which his grandfather entered when first arriving in this State. This was located on sections 34 and 35, in Somer Township, and had never been turned by the plowshare when James Brownfield took possession of it. The family lived in their wagon during the erection of their log cabin, which was roofed with shaved clapboards and floored with puncheon. The window panes were brought from Kentucky. The first crop was raised on land cleared from the wilderness. Upon the homestead thus established the grandfather spent the remainder of his life, dying in about 1835.

Martin Brownfield remained under the home roof until he reached years of manhood, and was then united in marriage with Miss Nancy Jane Taylor, Aug. 12, 1871. The young people lived on the old homestead the first year, and then removed to

section 25, which was entered by Robert Brownfield, the father of our subject, and which has continued the residence of Martin Brownfield to this date. Mr. and Mrs. B. became the parents of nine children, namely, Nancy Rozella; Mary Cornelia, who died in her fifth year; Robert William, Charles Edward; Viola Cordelia, who died when fourteen days old; Sarah Rebecca, Orelia Lucretia, Marion Martin and Paul Riley.

The homestead of our subject consists of eighty acres of good land, upon which is a substantial and convenient set of frame buildings, and ample conveniences for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. Mr. B. is greatly respected in his community, is a Democrat in politics, and Deacon of Mt. Zion Christian Church. He officiates as minister of this church, receiving his license from the Central Illinois Christian Conference. He has been School Director in this township two years. His early education was conducted in the common schools and he afterward attended the Seminary at Urbana for a brief season, being obliged to abandon his studies on account of ill-health.



MAHLON GLASCOCK. The farm of 500 acres which occupies the greater part of section 24, in St. Joseph Township, invariably attracts the attention of the passing traveler on account of the evident skill and good judgment with which it has been managed, its general appearance of thrift and prosperity, and the industry without which it never could have been brought to its present beautiful and desirable condition. The history of the proprietor, whose name stands at the head of this sketch, is substantially as follows.

Mr. Glascock was born in Virginia, near the line of Fauquier and Loudoun Counties, on the 28th of December, 1815. He remembers his grandfather as George Glascock, who by his first wife became the father of one child, who lived to manhood. His second wife was Miss Hannah Rector, who became the mother of five sons and three daughters. The Glascock family was originally from Scotland,

Among the sons of George Glascock was Moses, who became the father of our subject. He was born in Virginia in 1770, and early in life married Miss Rebecca Bishop. They removed from the Old Dominion to Ohio in 1828, settling in Ross County, where he remained as a moderate farmer until his death, in 1829. The mother survived her husband for more than forty years, her death taking place in Ross County, Ohio, in 1870, when about eighty-five years of age, she having been born in 1785.

The parental family consisted of ten children, six sons and four daughters, of whom eight are still living, namely, Solomon, Betsy, Ann; Catherine, the wife of William Van Bleck; Mahlon, of our sketch, John R., Hamilton J. and James H.

The subject of this history was reared to manhood in Ohio, and there, in the spring of 1845, was united in marriage with Miss Hester A., daughter of Alex and Sarah (Pointer) Jester, of Delaware. He located with his bride on a farm in Ross County, where he remained until the fall of 1854. Then, desiring to locate in the further West he came to this county and took possession of a part of the land which constitutes his present farm. It is hardly necessary to say that during a period of thirty years he has brought about a great improvement, taking advantage of all the modern implements, machinery, and information of which he could avail himself, and with a result in which he may be pardoned for feeling great pride and satisfaction. He has given much attention to stock-raising, making a specialty of Poland-China hogs, and in this department taking the lead in St. Joseph Township. He eliminated his fine farm from the raw prairie, and has fully experienced the difficulties and hardships of life in a new country.

Our subject was one of the early residents of this county, and as a man of more than ordinary ability, was soon called upon to assist in its government. He helped to organize the county into townships, and was Supervisor of St. Joseph during the war. He was always liberal-minded and large-hearted, willing to contribute of his time and means toward the advancement of the community and of those about him. He met with a severe affliction in the loss of his wife, Mrs. Hester Glascock, who departed this life in 1858.

In the spring of 1865 our subject was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary Rankin, daughter of Ambrose and Mary (Springer) Strong, and widow of Samuel S. Rankin, of St. Joseph Township, this county. The children born of both unions of our subject are recorded as follows: Alex B., Aquilla, Frank, Jesse, Lyda B. and Addie A. are still living, most of them at home with their parents. Albert William and Hanson are deceased. Mr. G. became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at St. Joseph, in 1854, while his estimable wife is a member and regular attendant of the New-Light Church. Our subject early in life belonged to the old Whig party, but upon its abandonment cordially endorsed the principles of the Republicans, with whom he has since voted. He assisted in making William H. Harrison President of the United States, and has due affection for the old times and customs.



JAMES J. BOIS, the oldest Station Agent on the Illinois Central Railroad, which is a far better recommendation than all the encomiums a biographical writer can offer, was placed in his present position in the spring of 1857, and has since that time continued in the faithful discharge of his duties. He is a native of New York, born near Buffalo, Erie County, Sept. 22, 1824, and is the son of Warren and Mary (Patterson) Bois, natives of Berkshire County, Mass. Warren Bois followed farming all his life; locating after his marriage in his native county, and going from there to Erie County, N. Y., he pursued the quiet and unostentatious life of an honest citizen, and rested from his labors in 1837. The mother of our subject was the daughter of Ebenezer and Betsey (Gibbs) Patterson. The children of Warren and Mary (Patterson) Bois, seven in number, included three sons and four daughters, all of whom grew to mature years, but only four are now living, the three sisters and our subject.

Our subject's paternal grandfather, Joel Bois, was a native of the Bay State, born in Worcester. He married Miss Betsey Blair of the same State, and they reared a family of seven sons and two daughters, who, with one exception, lived to mature years.

Joel Bois served in the Revolutionary War, and conducted himself with notable bravery.

James J. Bois, who was the youngest son of his parents' children, spent his childhood and youth in his native county, being fairly educated in the public schools and assisting in the labors of the farm. His father died when he was but thirteen years old and the mother nineteen years later. James began life on his own account as operator of a threshing-machine, and later peddled maps, books and pictures during the summers. In the spring of 1857 he drifted westward and coming to this county was at once placed in charge of the Illinois Central station at Rantoul, where, for a period of thirty years he has distinguished himself as a trusted agent and employe, in the meantime securing the confidence and esteem of the people around him.

While a resident of Aurora, N. Y., Mr. Bois took to his heart and home Miss Lucy Stockwell, who was a native of Highgate, Vt., and the daughter of Benjah and Lucy (Joslin) Stockwell. Of this marriage there were born two daughters: Mary is the wife of F. E. Pinkerton, of Rantoul, and Lucy S. is at home with her parents. Mrs. Bois is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially Mr. Bois was one of the earliest Masons of Ludlow; he is also connected with the I. O. O. F.

HENRY C. BEAR, of the well-known and responsible firm of Bear & Obenchain, grain dealers at Penfield, is a native of Cumberland County, Pa., born in the town of Mount Rock, Dec. 7, 1838. His father, David Bear, was a native of the same town, born in February, 1809, on his father's farm, where he remained until twenty-eight years of age. He was then united in marriage with Miss Maria Yoter, a native of Maryland, born in 1811. The young people settled down and remained residents of their native county until 1853, when they set their faces toward the West. Coming into this State, David Bear purchased about thirty acres of land near Oakley, in Macon County, where he engaged in the manufacture of brick until retiring from active business pursuits, in 1857. His death occurred

nine years later, in 1866. The wife and mother had preceded him to the other life in 1863. Of their nine children, our subject, Henry C., was the oldest born; Benjamin F. died when eighteen years old; William W., during the late war, enlisted in Co. A, 116th Ill. Vol. Inf., and now fills a soldier's grave at Young's Point, in Louisiana, where his death occurred in 1863; Mary became the wife of W. McArty, who is occupied in farming near Cisco, Ill.; Anna E. married Joseph Miller, and is now deceased. The other children died in childhood.

The education of Henry Bear was conducted in the common schools, and he was fifteen years of age when the family came to this State. He remained under the parental roof and followed farming until August, 1862. During the progress of the late war, he enlisted in Co. A, 116th Ill. Vol. Inf., and was mustered into service at Camp Macon. Thence he went with his regiment to Memphis, Tenn., and first met the enemy at Chickasaw Bayou, and was in all the engagements which followed until the siege of Vicksburg. His company at the outset of that encounter lost half its members, and during which our subject received a gunshot wound in the chest and still carries the ball. This disabled him from further service. He was confined in the hospital until the 1st of June, 1863, and then received his honorable discharge at Keokuk, Iowa. As soon as able he resumed farming in Macon County, Ill., which he followed until 1865, and then purchased eighty acres of unimproved land in Compromise Township, where he operated until the fall of 1885. He had been fairly successful, and desirous of changing his occupation removed to the village of Penfield and engaged in the grain trade, in which he has met with moderate success.

Mr. Bear, before the outbreak of the war, was married, Nov. 17, 1858, to Miss Lucetta J. Likins, of Bucyrus, Ohio, where she was born Dec. 31, 1842. Mrs. B. is the daughter of John S. and Sarah A. (Cole) Likins. The father is deceased, and the mother is a resident of Macon County, Ill. Of the union of our subject and wife there have been born four children; Minerva May, who died when eleven months old, in 1861; Eugenia, the wife of

D. P. Cox, of Compromise Township; Mary M., at home with her parents, and Dora, who died when four years of age.

Mr. Bear from the time he became a voter until 1878, was identified with the Republican party. Afterward his sympathies were extended to the Greenbackers, and he is now a stanch Prohibitionist, greatly interested in the success of the temperance movement. He is a man of broad and liberal views, is no intermeddler with the private affairs of his neighbors, and believes in extracting from life all the enjoyment consistent with honesty and honor. He represented Compromise Township on the Board of Supervisors for a period of five years, and is now Justice of the Peace.



OTHO E. CULBERTSON. One of the most genial and kindly natured men it has been the fortune of the biographer to meet, is a resident of Tolono, and State Agent and Adjuster for the Aetna Fire Insurance Company of Hartford, with which he has been connected for a period of over twenty years. He is a native of Flemingsburg, Ky., and was born Nov. 18, 1816. His father, James Culbertson, was born in Dublin, Ireland, and emigrated to the United States when a young man, settling in Mason County, Ky. He departed this life in Rush County, Ind., in 1836, aged about sixty years. He was married early in life to Miss Sarah Weaver, a native of Kentucky, and they became the parents of three children, who are all living, namely, William G., a farmer of Edgar County, this State; Otho E., of our sketch, and Amanda N., the wife of John U. Grace, of Vermilion County. After the death of her first husband Mrs. Culbertson was married to William Raney, with whom she located in Edgar County, Ill., and became the mother of three children, only one of whom is now living, Sarah, the wife of Theodore Matkin, a resident of Vermilion County, where the mother died in 1852. She was a lady greatly beloved and respected, and left behind her a record of womanly virtues and kindly deeds.

Our subject, when a small boy, went to Roseville, Parke Co., Ind., where he became employed

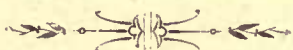
as clerk in a store and remained until 1843. In that year he came over into Illinois, and thereafter lived in various places in the State for a couple of years. In 1846, the Mexican War being in progress, he enlisted as a soldier in the 4th Illinois Infantry, under Col. Baker, Brig. Gen. Shields and Maj. Gen. Taylor. Not long afterward he was discharged for disability. In 1847, setting out on horseback, he traveled over the States of Missouri, Iowa and Illinois.

Mr. Culbertson now began to feel that he had wandered over the country long enough, and determined to establish home and domestic ties. He had formed the acquaintance of a most lovable young lady, Miss Jane Cox, and made her his wife on the 28th of March, 1848. He located with his bride in Georgetown, this State, and became interested in the plow and wagon manufactory at that point. Subsequently he began dealing in hardware in Indianola, whence, in 1858, he removed to Tolono. Here for a few months he was engaged as a contractor and builder, and secured the contract for furnishing the Illinois Central Railroad with timber, ties, etc. He also supplied other roads in Illinois and Missouri with building material. In consequence of the labor involved in looking after his various interests, his health began to fail, and he was obliged to suspend operations for a brief time.

In 1866 our subject entered the employ of the Aetna Insurance Company as special agent, and developed from the first rare qualifications for this department of business. He rose rapidly in the esteem and confidence of the company, who, appreciating his intelligence and fidelity, soon entrusted him with more important interests, and he in due time became Adjuster of Claims in the Northwest, having under his supervision especially their transaction in Illinois. During the long period with which he has been connected with the old Aetna, he has not taken a vacation and has not lost a day's salary. A singular feature about the contract was, that the question of salary was never mentioned, Mr. C. trusting to the company to bestow upon him full value for his services, and the latter proved worthy of the trust, and have bestowed upon him liberal wages from the first. During the

first day in which he entered their employ he was crippled by a railroad train, and laid up for some time, but as soon as able got about on crutches and attended to business as well as he could. His salary in the meantime went on, and the company, in addition, paid his expenses. With this record little further need be said in regard to his standing with one of the oldest and most popular insurance companies of the United States.

The household circle of our subject and his wife was completed by the birth of four children: Sarah N. became the wife of F. E. C. Hartman, and they reside at Peoria; Candace A. is at home with her parents; Jennie married Mr. W. E. Handy, of Tolono; J. W., the youngest, is attending school in Valparaiso, Ind. The family residence is pleasantly located, and its inmates are surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. They are highly respected in the community, and number among their friends and associates the most cultured people of Tolono. Mr. Culbertson, although over seventy years old, does not look over fifty or fifty-five. He has an open countenance, a bright, intelligent eye, and is a man with whom it is a pleasure to converse. He is well informed upon matters in general, and takes an intelligent interest in the progress of the world, both morally and intellectually.



S B. RADEBAUGH, Postmaster of Urbana, has been a resident of the city since 1861. He is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Bedford County, Jan. 11, 1838, and is the son of Peter and Eliza (Waters) Radebaugh, natives of the same State and county as their son. His father, who followed mercantile pursuits for a period of thirty-five years, in the town of Bedford, removed from that town to Fayette County in 1856. There he prosecuted his former business until 1861, and then with his family and household goods came to the Prairie State, settling at Urbana. Here he also established a dry-goods trade, which he conducted for two years, and then selling out purchased 136 acres of land in Homer Township,

to which he removed and spent the remainder of his days, his decease occurring in 1882. The mother is still living at Urbana. Of the thirteen children who comprised the parental household, ten are now living, and the record is as follows: Mary A., Mrs. Reimund, is a resident of Nebraska; Lottie became the wife of Dr. Miller, of Urbana; William lives in Maryland; S. B., our subject, is the next in order of birth; Eliza, Mrs. Manspeaker, lives in Nebraska; Reuben W., in Iowa; Nora, Mrs. Whitney, in Troy, Ill.; Harry C., in Mason City; Carrie, Mrs. Custer, in Homer, Ill., and Millard F., in Mansfield. Both parents early in life became members of the Lutheran Church. The father of our subject was Republican in politics, a strong Union man, and during the late war recruited and nearly raised the entire 51st Illinois Regiment. He was a man of more than ordinary ability, and took an active interest in public matters, being especially interested in the establishment of church and schools.

The subject of this sketch during his early life received a good education, and spent much of his time in his father's store, gaining an insight into business matters in general. When twenty-four years of age he began reading law with Judge Somers, of Urbana, in whose office he remained from 1862 until the latter part of 1865. In the fall of that year he was admitted to practice, and has followed his profession since that time. He was appointed Postmaster by President Cleveland, in August, 1885, and is conducting the affairs of the office with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. Mr. Radebaugh has taken a prominent part in the councils of his townsmen for many years, and served as City Attorney four terms. He is wide-awake, energetic and industrious, clear-headed, and possessed of remarkably good judgment.

Mr. S. B. Radebaugh and Miss Olive L. Gere were married in Urbana, in 1868. Mrs. R. was born in the latter-named place, and is the daughter of James and Elizabeth (Biddelcome) Gere, natives respectively of New York and Pennsylvania. Of this marriage there have been born seven children—Otis B., Grace E., Olive L., Clarence G., Earl (deceased), Addie M. and Fred M. Our sub-

ject is Democratic in politics, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity. The pleasant and attractive family residence is situated at the corner of Broad and High streets, and bears within and without all the evidences of cultivated tastes and ample means.



ELISHA J. HILL. This gentleman, whose early ancestors originated from among the Highlands of Scotland, and whose maternal grandparents, Nathaniel and Flora (Bloss) Taylor, were born there, first opened his eyes to light in Susquehanna County, Pa., May 16, 1827. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Joseph and Naoma (Bingham) Hill, the former an Englishman by birth and the eldest of a family of six sons. Naoma's twin sister, Ruth, married Joseph Lummis, a prominent officer in the War of 1812, and who commanded a vessel on Lake Ontario, which vessel was called the "Growler," and was captured with its crew after a fearful struggle, and Mr. Lummis was taken prisoner, but not until after losing a foot and having three bullets put into his body. He was taken to Montreal and held as one of seven officers who were to be executed. Admiral Perry, learning the designs of the British, sent them word that he would retaliate by executing two British officers for every American they put to death. This had the desired effect, and they were paroled and subsequently exchanged.

The parents of our subject were David and Sarah (Taylor) Hill, the former of whom when three years of age became a resident of Goshen, Vt., where he carried on farming for a few years and thence removed to Pennsylvania, remaining there until 1856. In that year he came to the West and took up his abode with his son, our subject, who had located here the year previously.

Elisha J. Hill upon coming to Illinois took up a tract of 160 acres of wild land in Douglas County, which he occupied for ten years, and then sold out and purchased eighty acres on section 30, in Harwood Township. This was partially improved when he took possession of it, and he has since been industriously engaged in adding to its beauty and value.

The family residence is a tasteful structure, situated in the midst of well-kept grounds, and the adjacent buildings are in keeping with the good taste of the proprietor. In addition to the careful cultivation of the soil he raises Poland-China hogs, Short-horn cattle and fine horses, mostly roadsters. His land is chiefly devoted to grain and pasturage.

Our subject before starting for the West celebrated his marriage with Miss Hettie Wiser, the ceremony occurring on the 24th of July, 1855. Mrs. Hill is the seventh child of Henry and Elizabeth (Rinehart) Wiser, who were among the most respected residents of the agricultural districts of Western Pennsylvania. Of this union were four children, of whom one son, David Henry, is now deceased; Charles W. married Miss Julia Griswold, and is engaged as a butcher at Rantoul; they have one daughter—Fay; Lois E. is the wife of Charles Bear, who is running a large cattle ranch near Delta, Col.; Jennie E. remains at home with her parents. Although having no political aspirations, Mr. Hill has frequently served his township in various capacities, being always willing to contribute his time and influence to the best good of the people around him. In casting his vote he usually supports the Democratic candidate.



ADONIJAH J. BOWERS. The subject of the following history is in many respects a remarkable man, more than ordinarily intelligent, liberal-minded, public-spirited, and in fact, a model member of society and of his farming community, with which latter pursuit he has been in harmony since old enough to have a mind of his own. He owns a fine estate in St. Joseph Township, in the cultivation and embellishment of which he has been engaged since the spring of 1873, and has built up a homestead which in all respects comprises one of the most attractive features in the landscape of this county. His biography, necessarily brief in a work of this kind, is substantially as follows:

Mr. Bowers was born on the farm of his grand-

father, near Clark's Hill, Tippecanoe Co., Ind., Feb. 9, 1837. He traces his ancestry back to good old Virginia stock, his grandfather, Abraham Bowers, having been born in that State near Petersburg, Hardy County, about the year 1790, and to which section of country his father had removed while the Indian War was in progress, and while the settlers were experiencing all the hardships and privations of life in a new country and surrounded by an implacable foe.

One of the uncles of Abraham Bowers was captured by the Indians, carried to Ohio and held five years, when he made his escape, crossed the Ohio River by swimming, and suddenly appeared one day before his friends at his childhood's home, very much to their astonishment and greatly to their delight. Abraham Bowers after reaching manhood married Miss Elizabeth Bryant, a native of his own State. They crossed the Alleghany Mountains and after passing the line into the Buckeye State, the young pioneer and his wife located in Ross County, and in due time became the parents of ten children. Thence, in 1829, they removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind., where they spent the remainder of their lives. Among their sons was Abner, the father of our subject, who was born in Ross County, Ohio, in June, 1812, and removed with his parents to Indiana, assisting in the labors on the farm, and remaining under the home roof until his marriage. The lady destined to become the sharer of his home and fortunes was Miss Charlotta Hoffman. She was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., and was the daughter of Jonas and Sophia Hoffman, her mother being of French extraction and her father a native of Virginia.

After the marriage of Abner Bowers he became a resident of Tippecanoe County, Ind., and subsequently Montgomery County, that State. His good wife died in 1842, leaving four children, two sons and two daughters, namely, Christena, Esther, Abraham, and A. J. of our sketch. After the death of the mother the father was again married, to a lady of Tippecanoe County, Miss Elizabeth Baer. Of this union there were born five children, named respectively William N., Jesse, Silas, Austin and Charlotte.

The subject of this history spent his boyhood

and youth in Montgomery County, Ind., receiving a fair education in the common schools. He completed his studies in the High School in Boone, and afterward employed himself several winters as a teacher. He was married when twenty-two years of age, to Miss Ruth Raper, a native of Montgomery County, and daughter of Henry and Elma (Bufkin) Raper. The wedding took place in the winter of 1859, and the young people remained residents of Montgomery County until 1873. The first labors of Mr. B. upon starting out in life for himself consisted in battling with the heavy timber of a tract of land which he had leased, where he slowly and laboriously succeeded in laying the foundations for his future prosperity. Then, thinking that he would like to locate in Central Illinois, he purchased his present farm on section 2, St. Joseph Township, the homestead being familiarly known as the Benjamin Argo place, upon which that pioneer settled in 1835. It comprises 200 acres of some of the finest farming land in this section, and through the manipulation of its present proprietor has produced wonders in the quality and quantity of its crops. The residence is a neat and substantial building, put up in 1881, and occupies a rise of ground commanding a fine view of the surrounding country. In the rear is a good orchard and out-buildings, and all other appliances of a first-class country estate. The farm operations have been conducted with ability and good judgment, and the soil has yielded to the hand of the proprietor annually a handsome income.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Bowers, of whom one is deceased, are recorded as follows: Ella G. became the wife of Frank Yomans, and lives in St. Joseph Township; Charlotta is the wife of Francis M. Hoss; Prince A. is deceased; Frank C., Abraham, Martha, Mary, Adonijah R., Abner, Lueretia and Garfield are at home. Mr. Bowers has always exerted himself to promote the welfare of the people around him, serving as School Trustee, and being generally interested in the enterprises set on foot for the benefit of the people. Both he and his estimable wife are members of the German Baptist Church, in which Mr. B. has officiated as a minister since 1882. He is Republican in politics, and is in all respects a fine illustration of the self-

made man, who began in life at the foot of the ladder, and through his own unaided efforts has attained to a good position socially and financially.



LOUIS VAUTRIN. The biography of this representative citizen of Harwood Township is in the main as follows: He was born in the old French Province of Lorraine previous to the Franco-Prussian War, on the 25th. of October, 1841, and was the youngest in a family of four children, the offspring of Francis and Elizabeth (Pombrie) Vautrin, natives of the same Province. The former was one of the soldiers of the first Napoleon, engaging with the great commander in his last disastrous campaign.

The father of our subject occupied the post of Sergeant Major in the Imperial Guard, being chief of the band of musicians, and followed the fortunes of Bonaparte for a period of sixteen years. He was in many of the hardest fought battles, namely, that of Pesth and on the bloody field of Toulon, where Bonaparte gave the first decided proofs of his military genius. This city was also made further memorable as the port from which Napoleon embarked previous to his memorable campaign in Egypt. Francis Vautrin left the service only when his leader was taken prisoner at the battle of Waterloo, where Napoleon was completely overthrown. He then, with the balance of his comrades, returned home. He was at this time thirty years of age, having entered the service when fourteen years old. After the surrender of Napoleon the Prussians and Russians invaded the Province of Lorraine many times, destroying everything that lay before them and desolating the country. With others the father of our subject was obliged to submit to the grossest outrages, but such was his affection for the region of his birth that he remained there through it all until his death, which took place in 1875.

The subject of this sketch, in 1857, bidding adieu to the friends and associations of his childhood, embarked on a sailing-vessel at Havre bound for America, and after a voyage of forty-two days, landed in New York City. A few days later he set

out for the West. After a brief time spent in Chicago he went to Peoria, and from there to a point near Fremont, in Tazewell County, where he rented a tract of land and commenced farming. He met with fair success in his struggle with an alien soil, and continued thus employed until the outbreak of the late Civil War. He had sufficiently acquainted himself with American institutions to determine at once upon which side his sympathies lay, and accordingly, after the call for three-months' men, enlisted in the ranks. His services, however, were not required in the field, and after his honorable discharge he returned to his farm. The conflict, however, did not end here, and the following year our subject re-enlisted in Co. A, 108th Ill. Vol. Inf., under command of Col. John Warren. The latter was succeeded by Col. Turner, of Pekin, and under command of the latter our subject, with his comrades, in October left Peoria for Covington, Ky., where they were re-organized and equipped for duty.

From Covington the 108th proceeded down the river to Memphis, where they joined the army of Gen. Sherman, took part in the first battle of Vicksburg, and were among the last to leave the field, having guarded the rear of the retreating army. Thence they drifted down the Yazoo River to its confluence with the Mississippi, and proceeding northward stormed and captured Arkansas Post. Here Mr. Vautrin witnessed the killing and wounding of many of his comrades but himself escaped, although by a hairsbreadth. Afterward the regiment withdrew to Young's Point, La., opposite Vicksburg, where they went into winter quarters and employed themselves working on the canal which was to be used to convey the fleet down the river. In the spring of 1863 the regiment was detailed to the command of Gen. Grant, and participated with him through his campaign against Vicksburg, remaining with him until after the battle of Ft. Gibson. Our subject and a number of his comrades were then sent to Memphis with a lot of prisoners secured there, after which they were returned to Young's Point and detailed to guard that vicinity, which was one of the strongholds of the enemy. During this campaign sixteen of the gunboats ran the blockade at Vicksburg. During

the run, which the rebels had anticipated, the bank of the river for miles was a line of living flame, proceeding from barrels of lighted tar and oil, and the cannonading shook the ground for miles on every side. With one exception all the vessels passed through in safety. This was disabled and sunk, though nearly all the crew were saved.

After the surrender of Vicksburg the 108th Illinois, or what was left of it, was again sent up to Memphis. Mr. Vautrin at that point was seized with typhoid fever, from which he did not recover until after his regiment had left. Upon becoming convalescent he was sent up to St. Louis, placed in the Veteran Reserve Corps, and did detective duty in the North from that time until his discharge. He was occupied a large portion of the time in hunting "bounty-jumpers" in Michigan and Canada. They captured 400 of these, whom they delivered in Washington City to be disposed of by the general Government. Upon one trip the train was wrecked, and the car containing the "jumpers" thrown over an embankment and lodged on a rail fence. The hot stove set the car on fire, and its inmates barely escaped by dashing through the windows and crawling out from underneath. They were picked up, placed in another coach and taken to their destination. This is but one of the many thrilling scenes through which our subject passed while making war upon the enemies of his country, but with the exception of impaired health he escaped unharmed and was permitted to return to the scenes of a more peaceful time.

After receiving his honorable discharge from the military service Mr. Vautrin traced his steps to the city of Detroit, where he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Louisa Condo, in the fall of 1865. The young people located first on a farm in Tazewell County, this State, which Mr. V. had purchased, and which embraced forty acres of land. After a residence there of six years he sold out and purchased eighty acres of wild land within seven miles of Paxton, which he occupied seven years, then sold this also and purchased eighty acres in Harwood Township, this county, where he now resides. Upon this he has effected great improvements, bringing the land to a good state of cultivation, putting up substantial buildings, and enhancing its beauty and

value as time and opportunity afforded. He has been closely occupied with his own concerns and in the fulfilling of his obligations as a trusted citizen. He meddles with politics no further than to cast his vote in support of Republican principles. He has been a School Director in his district for the past six years, and, with his estimable wife, is a member in good standing of the Christian Church, with which they became connected over twenty years ago.

The seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Vautrin were named respectively. Eunice, Elizabeth, Florence, Frank, Rosa, Louie and Myrtle. Of these the eldest and youngest, Eunice and Myrtle, are the only ones living, and are residing at home. They have been well educated and carefully trained, and form the comfort and support of their parents.



THOMAS W. A. WILSON, proprietor of one of the finest farms in Central Illinois, is located in Somer Township, on section 12, and has been in possession of his present homestead since 1865. Our subject comes from excellent and substantial stock, and was born in Richland Township, Fairfield Co., Ohio, Dec. 16, 1821. His father, Isaac Wilson, a native of Bedford County, Pa., was born in December, 1791, and his grandfather, William Wilson, supposed to have been a native of the same State, farmed there until 1798. Thence he emigrated with his family to that part of the Northwest Territory now included in the State of Ohio. This was before even the day of wagon roads, and the removal was made with pack horses. From Wheeling, W. Va., to what is now Fairfield County, Ohio, they followed a trail marked by blazed trees. The land then was not even surveyed, and William Wilson made a "squatter's" claim and built a log cabin, into which he removed with his family. A few years later, when the land was put upon the market he entered 160 acres, cleared a farm from the wilderness, and remained there until his death.

His son Isaac, the father of our subject, was a lad of six years old when his parents removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio. After they had selected their location they found themselves sixty miles

from the nearest mill on the Kinnikiunnick. During the first winter they lived mostly on wild game and corn bread. The father manufactured a rude well-sweep, and the mortar in which they converted their corn into meal consisted of a log hollowed out for the purpose. An iron wedge was inserted in the end of a pole, and the latter attached to the end of the sweep, which in turn was worked from the ground by means of a rope. This constituted a primitive labor-saving machine, and was effectual in reducing the corn to meal and hominy. It was also considered a great improvement upon traveling through the wilderness sixty miles to mill, with the danger of being scalped by the Indians or devoured by wild beasts.

Amid these wild scenes the father of our subject grew to manhood, receiving, as it may be supposed, extremely limited educational opportunities. He was nearly grown to manhood before there were people enough to establish a school. He was possessed, however, of natural abilities above the common order, and became successful as a farmer and business man. After his marriage his father presented him with 110 acres of timber land, which he cleared and sold at a good profit, bought again, and became quite an extensive dealer in real estate, owning at the time of his death 900 acres in Fairfield County. He departed this life Dec. 2, 1864. His wife, the mother of our subject, was formerly Miss Jane Paten. She was born in York County, Pa., in 1794, and died in Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1867.

The parental household included seven children, four of whom grew to mature years, namely: Thomas W. A., of our sketch; Harvey, who died in Missouri; John, who occupies the old homestead in Fairfield County, Ohio, and Priscilla, who became the wife of A. B. Gillett, and died in Fairfield County in about 1862. The mother was a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church. She looked well to the ways of her household, and was beloved and respected by a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

The subject of our sketch during his childhood and youth attended both the public and subscription schools during the winter, and assisted in the improvement and cultivation of the farm during the

summer season, remaining at home until after his marriage. This event occurred June 9, 1845, the maiden of his choice being Miss Rachel Wimp, a native of his own county, and the daughter of James and Caroline Wimp, the father a native of Kentucky and the mother of Ohio. Of this union there were born eight children, of whom the record is as follows: Flora became the wife of John Donovan, and lives in Aurora, this State; Henry C. is a resident of Stanton Township, this county; Marian C. married David Friesner, of Chicago; Thomas lives in Elgin, Ill., and Isaac in Stanton Township, this county; Kate, who married L. Osgood, died at the home of her parents, Oct. 30, 1877, aged nineteen years; Ella, the wife of Charles Nelson, lives on the homestead with her father; Frank is a resident of Aurora. The wife and mother departed this life on the 8th of May, 1885, deeply lamented by her family and a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

The homestead of Mr. Wilson in all its appointments indicates the supervision of the intelligent and progressive modern farmer. It is provided with a substantial set of farm buildings, including a fine residence and good barns, and the stock and machinery are of first-class description and well cared for. The hand of industry and taste is apparent on every side, and the attention of the passing traveler is invariably attracted to this as one of the finest country estates ever built upon the uncultivated prairie.

CHARLES H. CONNOR, of the firm of Connor, Patton & Co., proprietors of the Rantoul Tile Works, established business with his partners in March, 1882. The works were first located in the southeastern part of town, and have the latest and most improved machinery adapted to this industry. This includes a thirty-horse-power engine, and the stack pipe is sixty-five feet in height. Three good kilns assist in turning out the best quality of tile in this part of the county, and the capacity is 25,000 weekly. The dry-house performs its operations thoroughly with the aid of 4,400 feet of steam pipe, and the annual product of

the establishment is about 1,000,000 per year. Transportation is effected by means of the Illinois Central Railroad, and the company receive orders from all parts of this, and adjacent States.

Mr. Connor was born in Columbia County, N. Y., Feb. 10, 1859. His father, John Connor, a native of the same State, followed farming the greater part of his life, first in New York, and then in this State. He first purchased a farm in Knox County, Ill., after coming to the West, whence he removed to this county and established himself on a farm two and one-half miles east of Rantoul. The mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Mary Murphy, was a native of the same State as her husband and son. The family came to Illinois in 1867.

Mr. Connor early in life formed an intimate acquaintance with the labors of the farm, and completed his education in the schools of Rantoul Township. He remained under the home roof until reaching his majority, and then starting out for himself secured a part ownership in a steam thrasher, of which he made a fine success. After operating this four years he sold his machine to good advantage and embarked in his present business, of which, with the aid of his efficient partners, he has made a fine success, and by his sterling integrity and courteous treatment of those with whom he deals, has laid the foundation of a handsome income and a later competency.



THOMAS FREEMAN, residing on section 19, Ogden Township, became a resident of this locality during the pioneer days. His residence is a fine brick structure, built in 1877, at a cost of \$2,600. Our subject is a native of Ohio, and was born in Belmont County, April 11, 1826. His father, James Freeman, a native of Pennsylvania, was born in 1801, and departed this life Nov. 4, 1867. The mother of our subject, who in her girlhood was Miss Rebecca Ogden, was born on St. Valentine's Day, 1804.

The marriage of the parents took place on the 5th of May, 1825, and of this union there were born ten children, eight of whom lived to maturity.

The mother departed this life Oct. 5, 1854. Both parents were exemplary in their lives, and worthy members of the Christian Church. The family removed from Ohio to Illinois in the spring of 1830, locating first in Vermilion County. Two years later they changed their place of abode to a point on the Salt Fork of the Vermilion River, in this county, where the father of our subject purchased 1,100 acres of land, upon which he continued to live the remainder of his life.

James Freeman commenced life without a cent in his pocket, and at its close had accumulated a large competency. He was a man of much force of character, and one whose judgment was held in high regard. He occupied the minor offices of his township, and was Captain in a company of the State Militia for several years. The first children of the household were Thomas, of our sketch, and Mary (twins). The latter became the wife of David Mead, and died Oct. 25, 1876. The remaining children were Edmund, Lydia A., Angeline, Yates, Eleazer, Andrew, Rebecca who died when three months old, and Martha when four years old.

Thomas Freeman, on the 16th of August, 1849, was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Redman, who was born in Monroe County, Ohio, in the same year as himself, and on the 16th of the month following that of his own birth. Her parents were John and Elizabeth (Wright) Redman, natives of Virginia, the former born in 1792, and the latter Dec. 18, 1799. They passed to their long home years ago. The children of the parents of Mrs. Freeman were born as follows: Reuben, Feb. 10, 1820; Mary, Sept. 11, 1821; Sarah, Nov. 15, 1822; Hettie, Dec. 28, 1824; Nancy, March 16, 1826; Rachel and Ruth (twins), Nov. 27, 1828; John, Feb. 10, 1831; Martha, March 4, 1833; Elias, April 21, 1835; Isaac, now deceased, July 22, 1837; Rebecca, July 4, 1840, and Clarinda, Jan. 4, 1844.

The children of Thomas Freeman and his wife are recorded as follows: Mary M. was born July 16, 1850; Edmund R., March 15, 1852; John T., July 25, 1854; James J., May 27, 1858; William H., May 22, 1861, Martha, Aug. 25, 1862. Mr. F. has held the office of School Director, and is at present Township Trustee. In politics he is a Republican. He and his excellent wife are members

of the Christian Church. Their children have been carefully trained and well educated, and are following in the footsteps of their honored parents, being useful in the community, and filling their various stations in life with credit and honor. Their names will be found elsewhere in this work.



EVERARD FOULKE, the descendant of a long line of honorable ancestry, is a retired farmer, residing on section 34, Sidney Township. He is the son of Edward and Ann D. (Haven) Foulke, and was born in Pennsylvania, July 21, 1800. The family is of Welsh extraction, though all of its members since 1698 have been born in America. His father, the youngest of nine children, was born on the 8th of September, 1755, and died on the 5th of the same month in the year 1827. The following are the names of his brothers and sisters: Abigail, born May 18, 1799, and died Jan. 1, 1852; Elenor, born July 18, 1781, died on the 28th of April, 1815; Caleb, born on the 29th of August, 1783, died on the 22d of February, 1852; Samuel, born on the 28th of March, 1786, died on the 2d of February, 1872; Thomas D., born on the 13th of April, 1789, died on the 17th of November, 1831; Susanna, born on the 18th of September, 1791, died on the 17th of April, 1883; Ann, born on the 13th of May, 1794, died on the 16th of September, 1820, and Margaret, born on the 25th of December, 1796, died on the 25th of March, 1878. His mother, Ann D. (Haven) Foulke, was born on the 17th of June, 1757, and died on the 13th of March, 1827.

Our subject's grandparents were Thomas and Jane (Roberts) Foulke, the former born on the 1st of March, 1724, and the latter on the 3d of November, 1732. Their children were Everard, born on the 8th of September, 1755; Edward, born on the 17th of December, 1756; Samuel, born on the 3d of January, 1761; Abigail, born on the 6th of December, 1763; Susanna, born on the 5th of November, 1766, and Samuel, born on the 19th of November, 1769. There were two children called Samuel, the elder one bearing the name having died. His great-grandfather, Hugh Foulke, was

born on the 6th of July, 1685, and died on the 21st of May, 1760. His wife, Ann Williams, was born on the 8th of November, 1693, and died on the 10th of September, 1773. The following are the names and dates of birth of their children: Mary, born Sept. 25, 1714; Martha, Sept. 24, 1716; Samuel, Dec. 5, 1718; Ellen, Jan. 19, 1720; John, Dec. 21, 1722; Thomas, Jan. 15, 1724; Theophilus, Dec. 21, 1726; William, Dec. 10, 1728; Edward, Oct. 19, 1730; Ann, Jan. 1, 1732, and Jane, Jan. 3, 1734.

We will now return to the subject of our sketch, Mr. Everard Foulke, whose lineage has been traced through several generations. Mr. Foulke was united in marriage with Miss Fannie Watson, on the 11th of May, 1825. She was the daughter of John and Euphemia (Ingham) Watson. Her father was born on the 25th of August, 1774, and her mother in 1773. Their marriage took place on the 20th of June, 1795. The names of their children and the dates of their birth are as follows: Fannie, born May 24, 1796; Jonathan I., Nov. 10, 1797; Joseph, Dec. 17, 1799; Isaiah, Aug. 29, 1801; Hannah, April 26, 1803; John H., Dec. 30, 1804; Euphemia, Sept. 28, 1806; Anthony H., April 28, 1808, and Samuel I., April 22, 1816. The mother of these children died on the 6th of May, 1816. On the 31st of December, 1817, Mr. Watson formed a second matrimonial alliance, with Martha Duncan. By this marriage he had two children; Richard, born Feb. 3, 1823, and Martha I., born Feb. 15, 1825. The mother of these children is dead.

Our subject and wife have become the parents of six children: Watson, born Sept. 10, 1826, is living in Kansas; W. D., born June 5, 1828, is living in Rossville, Vermilion Co., Ill.; Jonathan I., born March 20, 1830, died Oct. 9, 1858; Thomas D., born July 27, 1833, is an invalid; Euphemia A., born Sept. 11, 1834, died July 7, 1835; Lester E., born Oct. 16, 1837, is living on his father's farm. His two sons, Watson and Thomas, did honorable service in the War of the Rebellion.

Although Mr. Foulke's early educational advantages were limited he nevertheless succeeded in acquiring a good English education. From boyhood, both from inclination and circumstances, his life has been associated with farming. He resided in

Pennsylvania until the spring of 1845, when he removed to Clarke County, Ohio, and remained there until 1857, with his wife and two children. He then came to Sidney Township, where he has since continued to reside. He is the owner of 160 acres of well-improved land, known as the Arthur Springs farm. Although he is in his eighty-seventh year, he possesses all the faculties, both mental and physical, of a man of sixty. He has in his possession some interesting family relics; among them is a brass clock which belonged to his father, and has been in the family for more than 100 year; it is in running order and keeps good time; an old docket of his father's, when Justice of the Peace, dated 1795, and an ancient chair, made by Hugh Foulke, his great-grandfather. He is a Quaker in religious belief, and his political sympathies are with the Republican party.



BARTLET L. ELLROD, deceased, was one of the pioneers of Champaign County, and a resident of Urbana Township. His parents, John and Sarah (Collyer) Ellrod, were among the early settlers of Ohio, and natives of Pennsylvania. Bartlet Ellrod was a native of the State of Ohio, and came to Illinois when a young man, settling on the Sangamon River. After having purchased and improved a farm, he married Miss Elizabeth Busey, who died two years after their marriage. Dissatisfied with his now desolate home, he sold his farm and removed to Urbana Township, where he married Miss Matilda Brookshier, the daughter of Joel and Sarah Brookshier. Her family were of English descent, and were natives of Randolph County, N. C., and when she was about two years of age they moved from North Carolina to Montgomery County, Ind. They had a family of eleven children, all of whom grew to maturity, and all married with the exception of one, who died at the age of twenty-three.

After his second marriage, Mr. Ellrod purchased and made his home on the farm where his widow now resides. It is located on section 1, Urbana Township, and contains 260 acres of choice, well-

improved land. Bartlet Ellrod was an enterprising farmer, and at the same time was very successful in stock-raising. While not actively interested in public affairs, he was a man of good business qualifications, and in every respect was highly esteemed in the community. He died at his home, March 18, 1856, leaving his widow and two children, a son and daughter, to mourn their loss. The children are Isaac and Elizabeth, and the latter is the wife of Thomas Kerr, a resident of this county. Mrs. Ellrod and her son conduct the farm. They are now engaged in raising horses, fine cattle and a high grade of hogs.



CHARLES S. HUNT, a young and enterprising farmer of Harwood Township, was born in Union County, Ind., May 9, 1854, and was the youngest child of Aaron and Jane (Brown) Hunt. His father was a native of Ohio, born near Cincinnati, and was the son of Charles and Mary Hunt.

Aaron Hunt was one of the early settlers of Montgomery County, Ind. His wife was a native of Union County, Ind., and was the daughter of William and Mary Brown, who were also among the earliest pioneers of that State. In 1860 Aaron Hunt came to Illinois, locating in Champaign County, where he remained for about twenty years. Having suffered an irreparable loss in the death of his beloved wife, and feeling unsettled in his home, he changed his residence to Dakota. He now makes his home in the family of his married daughter.

Charles S. Hunt left home to seek his own fortune in the world at the age of sixteen, with only the meager educational advantages of the district school to aid his clear head, brave heart and strong hands in fighting the battle of life. He first worked on a farm for two years, gaining something in experience, if but little in capital. His next venture was to engage in farming for himself on rented land, which he continued to do for about five years. His prospects having materially improved, his next venture was matrimonial. Feb. 5, 1877, he married Miss Annie Stewart, the second child

of Charles and Mary (Shank) Stewart, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania respectively.

Mr. Hunt first settled near the home of his wife's mother, where he engaged in farming for one season. He then conducted a farm eighteen months, for Mr. Breiner, and when his engagement with that gentleman terminated, he moved to section 30, Harwood Township, where he has remained for the past seven years. He is an active, energetic man, and is quite extensively engaged in raising the finest breeds of stock—Short-horn cattle, Norman horses, Poland-China hogs and Southdown sheep. He always votes with the Republican party, and has been elected Collector two years successively on that ticket.

and is Secretary of the Champaign County Grain-Dealers' Association, which is a branch of the State Grain-Dealers' Association.



WILLIAM D. EARL, a highly respected farmer of Scott Township, and comfortably located on section 16, is a native of Ross County, Ohio, and was born Dec. 11, 1847. His parents were Thomas and Elizabeth (Augustus) Earl, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Ohio. After marriage they located in Ross County, the latter State, where Thomas Earl the remainder of his life followed farming pursuits, and where both parents closed their eyes upon the scenes of earth. Their family of eleven children consisted of four girls and seven boys, of whom our subject was the tenth in order of birth.

William D. Earl was bred to farming pursuits, and was fairly educated in the common schools. He remained in his native county until the winter of 1870, being then a young man twenty-two years old. He then started for the prairies of Illinois, and coming into this county located in Scott Township, where he was variously employed until the spring of 1875. He then purchased 160 acres of land, where he established his present comfortable and valuable homestead. The soil has been finely developed and cultivated, and yields in abundance the rich products of the Prairie State. He has been successful as a business man and a farmer, and uniformly pursued the course in life which has won for him the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

The marriage of our subject took place in Scott Township on the 29th of December, 1870, the maiden of his choice being Miss Margaret K., daughter of Zachariah and Sally A. (McCoy) Henness. The parents of Mrs. Earl were natives of Ross County, Ohio, where they were reared and married, and lived for some time afterward. In 1868 they came to this county, taking up their abode in Scott Township, where they now reside. Of their nine children, three daughters and six sons, Mrs. Earl was the fourth. Her birth took

ROBERT B. MORRIS is an extensive grain-dealer at Myra Station, and one of the young and rising men of the State. He is the second son of James H. and Mary A. Morris, and was born near Rushville, the county seat of Rush County, Ind., Nov. 2, 1859.

Robert Morris received a good practical education in the public schools, and afterward attended Bryant & Stratton's Commercial College in Chicago, when, having acquired some knowledge of business, he was employed as book-keeper by the firm of Burley & Tyrrell, of that city. He next went to Elgin and engaged in book-keeping there, making that his residence for some time. In the fall of 1884 Mr. Morris began dealing in grain at Myra Station on the Wabash Road, where he engaged in the shipping of all kinds of grain, and is now extensively carrying on that business. He annually ships about 150,000 bushels of grain, and besides this business he is also engaged in agricultural pursuits. His fine and productive farm, known as "Sycamore Home," is located on section 15, Urbana Township, and a view of the same is given elsewhere in this work.

Mr. Morris is an active, energetic business man, alive to all the interests of the county and the State. He is School Director in District No. 4; is a member of the order of the Knights of Pythias,

place in Ross County, Ohio, Oct. 10, 1847. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Earl has been blest by the birth of three children—David, Howard and Louisa.

Our subject, politically, is a warm supporter of Republican principles, and has been prominent in the affairs of his township, always interested in its welfare and prosperity. He has held the office of School Director, and in every station to which he has been called has fulfilled his duties in a faithful and creditable manner.

JOHAN B. WEEKS, one of the honored pioneers of Champaign County, for the past four years has been foreman of the Hamilton lumber-yard in Champaign, and by his practical business talent has made himself almost indispensable to the company which he partially represents. Mr. Weeks was born in New York City, Sept. 6, 1839. His parents, Reuben C. and Rebecca (Thomas) Weeks, were natives respectively of New York and Massachusetts. The former was a resident of New York City for a period of forty years, where he engaged in the real-estate and stock business. In 1856 he emigrated to Illinois, and carried on farming in Grundy County for two years. In the meantime he had visited Champaign and purchased 160 acres of land in Scott Township, this county, upon which he farmed two years, then removed to the city of Champaign, and retired from active labor. He lived there until 1885, then removed to Chicago, where his death took place June 7, 1886. The mother had died in Champaign three years before. Reuben Weeks had been reared in the Society of Friends, but later in life united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which his wife was also a member. Five of their six children are now living: George D., a resident of McCune, Kan.; Mary S., Mrs. A. Bennett, of Chicago; John B., of our sketch; William E., of New York City, and Millie, Mrs. Obenshain, of Chicago.

The subject of this biography remained under the home roof until eighteen years of age, since

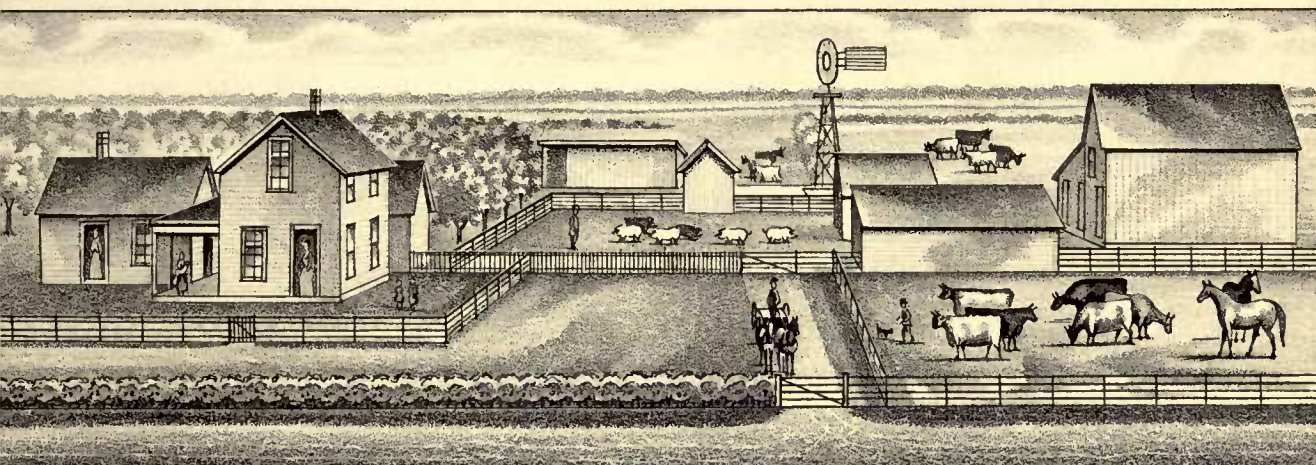
which time his residence has been mostly in Champaign. Twenty years of this time he was engaged in the draying business, employing two men and three teams. Afterward he became manager of the business of Messrs. Trevett & Green for two years. After dissolving his connection with this firm he became foreman of the Hamilton lumber-yards, which position he has since retained.

During the late war, Mr. Weeks, in 1862, enlisted in Co. G., 72d Ill. Vol. Inf., serving a term of three years as a soldier of the Union. He was at the siege and capture of Vicksburg, and engaged in many skirmishes, and for twelve months had charge of the Government stables at Ft. Wood, New York Harbor. He was married, in 1860, to Miss Josephine Hasbrouck, who was a native of New York State, and the daughter of Dr. Jacob Hasbrouck, a practicing physician of Seneca, N. Y. Of this union there were born three children—Frank R., Eva A. and John H. The pleasant family residence is located on Vine street, and our subject, with his family, enjoys the society of hosts of friends.

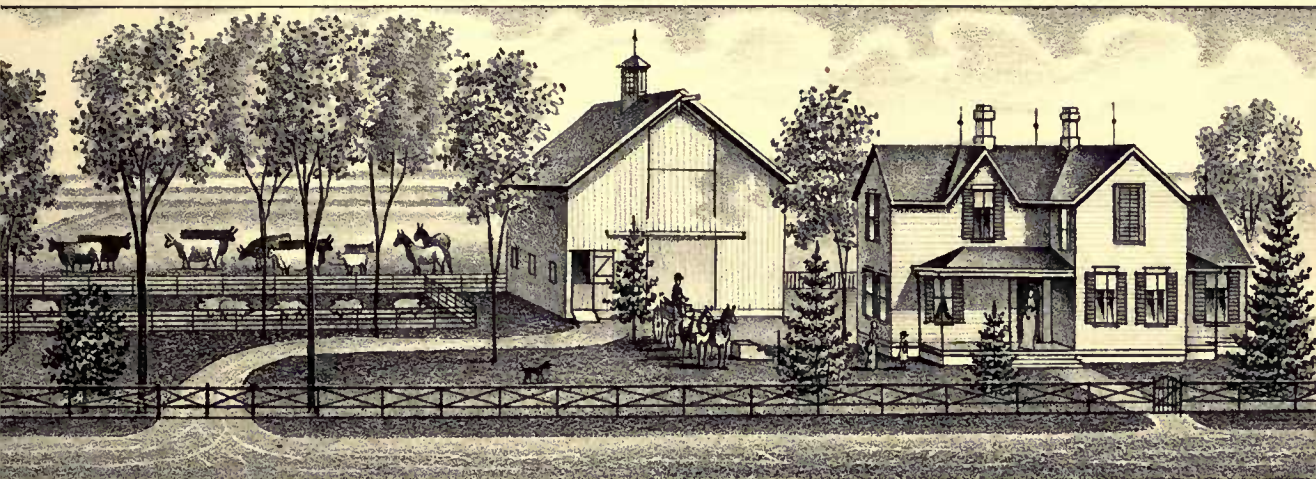
Mr. Weeks is Republican in politics, and belongs to the Knights Templar and the G. A. R. He is Alderman of the Fourth Ward, which office he has occupied in all four years. Our subject and his wife are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. W. was formerly Trustee and Assistant Superintendent of the Sabbath-school; he is now Recording Steward and Superintendent of the latter.

WILLIAM P. FANCHER, a shining example of integrity, energy and perseverance, who conquered the disadvantages of his early circumstances, is a farmer and stock-grower, located on section 36, Sidney Township. He is the son of Hiram and Martha (Dixon) Fancher, and was born in Rush County, Ind., Jan. 18, 1846.

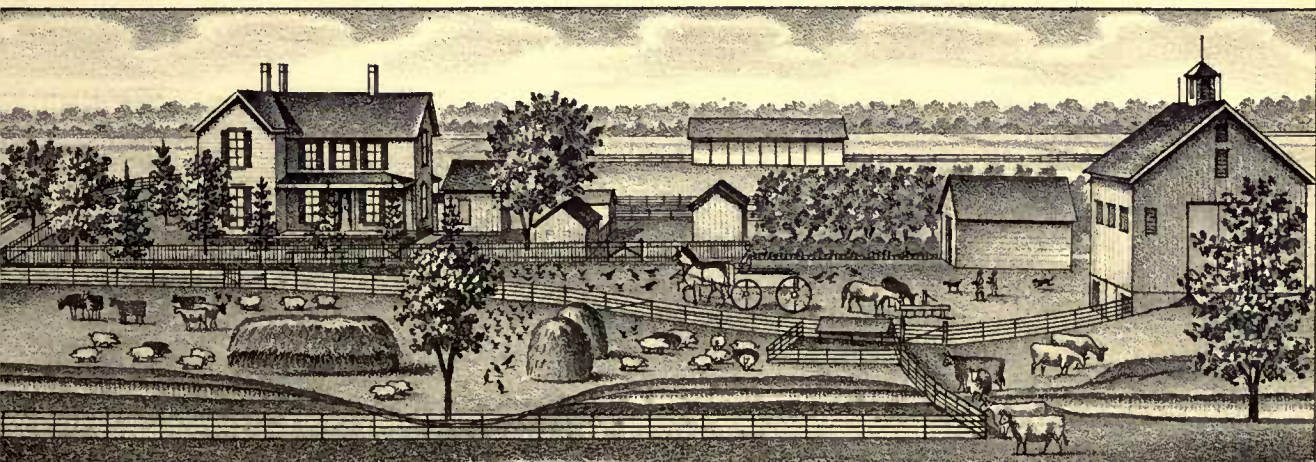
The father of our subject was a native of Indiana, but removed from that State to Illinois in 1867, where he carried on the vocation of farming during his life and died here in 1869. His wife is still living, and spends the latter days of her life at



RESIDENCE OF WM SWAYZIE, SEC. 8, EAST BEND TP.



RESIDENCE OF J. M. CRAIG, SEC. 23, CHAMPAIGN TP.



RESIDENCE OF J. H. HEDRICK, SEC. 1, NEWCOMB TP.

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the home of her son William. There were but three children in the parental family: William P.; Sarah, the wife of W. L. Smith, living in Sidney Township, and Nancy J., the wife of Granville Thompson, living in the southwestern part of the State of Kansas.

The boyhood of William P. Fancher was passed on a farm and he acquired such education as he could gather from the meager advantages afforded him during the early days in the old log school-house in the neighborhood, in the intervals of leisure afforded him by his duties. He was a faithful and affectionate son, assisting his parents in bearing the burdens and overcoming the difficulties of pioneer life, until about thirty-three years of age, when he left home, and went to Kansas, where for about eight years and six months he was successfully engaged in farming and raising cattle. His wife is the daughter of John and Celia (Gibson) Cash, and her parents are living in Sidney Township.

Mr. Fancher is the owner of eighty acres of valuable land, which, through his careful supervision and cultivation has reached a high degree of improvement. His residence is comfortable and commodious, and all the farm buildings are in excellent order. He is a Republican in politics.



DR. JAMES CORE, a pioneer physician of Homer, prominent in his profession as a reliable practitioner, and one of the representative men of Champaign County, was born in Ross County, Ohio, Dec. 19, 1820. He is the son of Henry and Effie (McDonald) Core, natives respectively of Maryland and Ross County, Ohio. Henry Core was born June 20, 1792, and died at Homer, Ill., in April, 1862. The mother of our subject was born Jan. 15, 1801, and became the wife of Henry Core Nov. 11, 1817. She preceded him to the silent land, passing away on the 30th of August, 1859. She came from an excellent Scotch family, her father having been John McDonald, who was born Jan. 28, 1775, and died in Ohio in 1841. The maternal great-grandparents of Dr. Core came directly from the Highlands of

Scotland, and settled in Ross County, Ohio, where the death of the great-grandfather occurred in 1823, when he was seventy-eight years of age. The father of the latter, the great-great-grandfather of our subject, also died in Ross County, Ohio, in the one-hundredth year of his age, having been born in 1723, and passing away in 1822. His wife was formerly Miss Elizabeth Douglas, of the house of the Campbells of Scotland.

The parents of our subject reared a family of three sons and three daughters, namely, James, John, Catherine, Elizabeth, Ann M. and Charles L. Charles L. died in 1864, and Catherine in 1855. James, of our sketch, the eldest son and child, received his early education in the common schools of his native county, and when twenty-two years of age commenced the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. E. Martin, a prominent physician of the Buckeye State. Entering the Medical College at Cincinnati, he graduated and continued the practice of his profession in Homer, until he decided to seek a permanent location in the West. In 1853 he came to this county, and in this and Vermilion Counties built up an extensive and lucrative practice. He has always taken an active interest in local affairs, both social and political, and in the fall of 1878 was elected to represent his county in the General Assembly of the State. He served two years in the Legislature, and since then has occupied many of the local offices with ability and success. He has also extended his field of labor, and officiated as a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church at intervals during the last eighteen years. Added to this, his operations as an agriculturist have been quite extensive, and it would seem that the measure of a busy life had been thoroughly filled. Besides valuable town property he has 300 acres of choice farming land, the cultivation of which he superintends, and from which he realizes annually a comfortable income.

Dr. Core assisted in the organization of the Republican party in this county, being a delegate from his township to the first convention of the kind held in this section. In the various positions to which he has been called, his talents have received a ready recognition, and notwithstanding

he has lived more than threescore years, he possesses more energy than many men one-half his age.

In early manhood Dr. Core was united in marriage with Miss Isabelle Gosslee, their union taking place in Madison County, Ohio, Oct. 31, 1854. This lady was born Jan. 25, 1825, and became the mother of four children. After a brief illness she died at the home of her husband in Homer, Ill., Dec. 19, 1863, deeply lamented by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. She had been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for twenty-four years, and adorned her Christian profession in her daily life. Her son, Charles F., was born in 1856, and is living in Homer, Ill.; Effie O. was born March 1, 1862, and became the wife of C. H. Wallace, of Homer, and two children died in infancy.

The second wife of Dr. Core was formerly Miss Matilda Riley, a native of Hartford County, Conn., born Oct. 16, 1836. She is the daughter of Jonathan and Pamela (Weldon) Riley. Her father was born in March, 1795, and died Sept. 26, 1856. Her mother, who was of English ancestry, was born Sept. 9, 1803, and passed away on the 9th of July, 1850. Their children were named, Ruel, Ralph, Pamela, Abbie, Laura, Matilda, Royal, Elvira, Roland and Eleanor M. Those deceased are Ruel, Abbie, Eleanor and Ralph. Of the second marriage of our subject there was born one child, a son, James R., who died May 21, 1872, when less than one year old.

ISAAC M. WALLACE, a prominent farmer and stock-grower of Urbana Township, was born in the town of Greenwich, Conn., Oct. 24, 1843. His parents, William and Elizabeth (Finnston) Wallace, were natives of England, both of whom came to this country at an early age. His father was a stone and brick mason by trade, but had also some experience in farming. Their means were limited, and they were obliged to encounter many struggles with adverse circumstances in bringing up their family of six children. The father died at the age of seventy; the mother is still living.

Isaac M. Wallace was educated in Greenwich,

Conn. After attaining to the age of manhood, he engaged in the railroad business on the Hartford & New Haven Railroad, where he was first engaged as brakeman, then became baggagemaster, and was afterward made conductor. He occupied this position for eight years, and then came West, as contractor for the I., D. & S. R. R., and afterward was employed on the I., B. & W. as conductor. He held this position until 1885, when, desiring a more quiet life, he retired from the railroad business and bought the property where he now resides, located on section 19. His farm contains 160 acres of valuable land, and is in an excellent state of cultivation.

On the 19th of February, 1887, Mr. Wallace was united in marriage with Miss Mary E., who is the daughter of Frank and Sarah (Baldwin) Baird. Her family were formerly residents of Ohio, but have for some time made their home in Champaign County. Mr. Wallace has erected a fine residence, large and commodious barns, and other farm buildings on his premises. There were none of any kind on the place when he purchased it. He has attained his present prosperity by his native energy, good judgment and executive ability.

CAPT. B. F. CRESAP, of Scott Township, was born and reared on a farm in Pickaway County, Ohio, where he first opened his eyes to the light Nov. 17, 1830. His parents were Daniel and Margaret (Hume) Cresap, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Virginia. The Cresap family was of English origin, and the Humes came originally from Ireland. After their marriage Daniel Cresap and his wife located in Pickaway County, Ohio, where they carried on farming until 1855. He then came to this State, locating first in Piatt County, where he remained two years, and then removing to Champaign County took possession of a farm in Scott Township, where the parents remained until they ceased from their earthly labors. Their five children were, Hamilton, Benjamin F. of our sketch, Mary, Daniel and John W.

Our subject removed from his native State to

Illinois with his father's family, and has been a resident of Scott Township, this county, since 1857. Like his father before him he took up the business of farming, which he has followed with marked success. He is now the owner of nearly 900 acres of land, most of which is in a tillable condition. His residence is a fine modern structure, and the out-buildings are conveniently arranged for the use of the modern and progressive agriculturist. He fattens annually about 100 head of cattle, the proceeds of which yield him a fine income. Everything about the premises is kept in first-class order, and indicates the intelligence and enterprise of the proprietor.

Capt. Cresap was married, at Hyde Park, Ill., June 16, 1868, to Miss Sarah A., daughter of E. G. and Catherine M. (Jones) Vincent, who were natives of Delaware. The parental family included seven children, three only of whom lived to mature years, namely, Sarah A., Olivia and Mary F. Mrs. Cresap was born in Delaware, July 30, 1847. The household of our subject includes five children—Nellie, Clara, Josephine, William H. and Benj. F.

During the progress of the late war our subject entered the army, in August, 1862, being commissioned First Lieutenant of Co. C, 107th Ill. Vol. Inf. At the battle of Knoxville, Tenn., he was promoted Captain, with which rank he served until the close of the war. At the battle of Resaca, Ga., one of his men was killed by his side, and a portion of the unfortunate man's skull penetrated the body of Capt. Cresap, causing a painful wound. He went through the Atlanta campaign with Gen. Sherman, and after the war was over returned to Scott Township, and resumed the peaceful vocation of a farmer. Politically he is a staunch Republican, and religiously is connected with the Methodist Church.



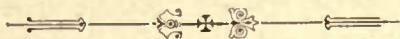
JAMES S. FREEMAN, a hero of two wars, is one of the well-known and respected citizens of Sidney, where he is living in retirement from the active labors of a farm life. He is the son of William and Eliza (Boher) Freeman, and was born in Allegheny County, Pa.,

March 4, 1824. His father was a native of Maryland, and his mother of Pennsylvania. In 1828 the parents moved from Pennsylvania to Pickaway County, Ohio, where the father was engaged in farming until 1842. That year he removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind., and there lived until the death of Mrs. Freeman, which occurred in 1850. He then moved to Jasper County, Ind., where he died in 1872.

In 1849 our subject was united in marriage with Miss A. E. Frankinberger, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Phillips) Frankinberger. The union of our subject with Miss Frankinberger has been blest by the birth of seven children—Sarah, William, Charles J., Ida M., and three who died in infancy. Charles J. resides in Sidney; Ida M. married Andrew Dempsey, and lives in Terre Haute, Ind.

In 1846 Mr. Freeman enlisted in the first regiment of Mounted Riflemen, the U. S. A., and served honorably in the Mexican War until Jan. 13, 1848. On the 13th of September, 1847, he was wounded at the battle of Chapultepec, and at the close of the war received an honorable discharge at the city of Mexico. In recognition of his services during that campaign, he now draws a pension of \$12 per month. After the close of the Mexican War he returned home, and engaged in the peaceful occupation of farming until Sept. 23, 1861. The echoes of the rebel guns had scarcely died away at the dastardly assault made on Maj. Anderson and his little band of heroes at Ft. Sumter, when Mr. Freeman received the commission of First Lieutenant, in the 10th Illinois Volunteer Cavalry. He served eleven months and then being disabled for active service, was obliged to resign at Springfield, Mo., in June, 1863. Once again he returned from military pursuits to his home in this county, where he has since resided, and engaged in agricultural pursuits until his retirement. He owns fourteen valuable town lots in Sidney, and his own elegant residence is supplied with all the modern improvements. He was the first Supervisor-elect and held that position for nine successive years. Since his residence here he has filled at different times most of the minor official positions of the town. He is a member of the G. A. R., and was the first commander of Post 317.

His political sympathies were formerly with the Republicans, but he is at present a member of the Greenback party. Although threescore years and more of his life have passed, Mr. Freeman can look back over a spotless record and one sparkling with deeds of heroism for his beloved country.



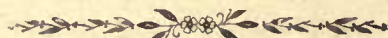
WILLIAM A. VADEN, an attorney, engaged in the practice of law in Sidney, was born in South Carolina, Sept. 26, 1837. He is the son of John W. and Rebecca (Richison) Vaden, who were both natives of South Carolina. He had the misfortune to lose his mother by death when but eight years of age. His father was a civil engineer, and also a slave-owner, holding twenty-two slaves as his property when the war broke out. In 1866 his son, William A. Vaden, went to Ohio, where he lived four years. He then moved again, going to Kansas, but not being pleased with the country, remained there only a few weeks, when he returned to Sidney, where he has since resided.

Our subject enlisted in the 1st Regiment, C. S. A., Jan. 5, 1861, and remained with that command until the battle of Antietam, Sept. 16, 1862, when he was taken prisoner by the Union forces and conveyed to Harrisburg, and thence to Ft. Delaware. After having been held a prisoner for two weeks, he was exchanged and then joined the 23d Virginia Cavalry, with which regiment he remained until the fall of 1864. He was then at Cumberland, where he crossed the lines, took the oath of allegiance, and went from there to Pittsburgh, where he enlisted in the 4th Pennsylvania Cavalry. He remained with that command until July 15, 1865, when he was discharged, having been wounded at the second battle of Bull Run.

After the close of the war Mr. Vaden was married to Miss Sarah E. Hughes, Aug. 6, 1865, in Rushville, Va. She is the daughter of Nathaniel and Mary (Holmes) Hughes, and was born in Rockingham County, Va., Dec. 23, 1843. Her father's business was farming. Both her parents were natives of Virginia. They are now deceased. Our subject and wife have reared a family of three

interesting children: Laura, born May 2, 1866, was educated for a teacher in the public schools; Mary, born July 12, 1868, is also engaged in the vocation of teaching; the youngest, Bertha, was born April 10, 1880.

Mr. Vaden has honorably held several official positions in Sidney. He was elected Justice of the Peace for three terms, Police Magistrate, and Supervisor of the town for one term each. He has twice been elected on the Town Board and served one term as its President. His political inclinations are strongly Republican.



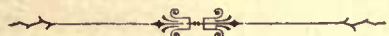
JAMES WILSON, a brave Union soldier in the Civil War, and at present a respected and honored citizen of Sidney Township, located on section 30, was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, in January, 1837. For a biographical notice of Mr. Wilson's parents the reader is referred to the sketch of George W. Wilson, elsewhere in this work.

James Wilson left his native country in 1850, and after landing at New York came directly to Champaign County, Ill. His time, thus far in life, has been devoted to agricultural pursuits, in which he has met with that success which is the reward of energetic effort. By his gallant service in the Civil War he proved himself an honorable and patriotic citizen of his adopted country. In the softened light of retrospect few perhaps can truly imagine or appreciate the sufferings and trials of war; the weary marches and counter marches; the dangers and treacheries encountered on the field, in the camp and the prison; the tears and anguish and blood that mark its way.

In 1861 Mr. Wilson enlisted in Co. F, 26th Ill. Vol. Inf., serving under Col. Loomis, Capt. John H. Folke. He fought bravely at the battles of New Madrid, Island No. 10, the memorable siege of Vicksburg, the battle of Shiloh, Mission Ridge, and faced fearlessly the frowning guns and leaden hail at the siege of Atlanta. He was with Sherman on his triumphant march to the sea, and thence to Richmond and Washington, where he witnessed the

grand review of the armies of Grant and Sherman. In 1864 he was mustered out at Springfield, Ill., and wearied with strife and carnage, his sword changed to the implements of husbandry, he returned to his home and engaged in the peaceful occupation of farming.

Our subject, Mr. Wilson, was married to Miss Henrietta Brown, who was born in Vermilion County, State of Illinois, and is the daughter of Isaac and Amanda Brown. Mr. Wilson and his wife have a family of four children: Bertha, born March 24, 1874, died Nov. 18, 1874; George P., born Jan. 31, 1875; Blanche C., born March 13, 1877, and Henry, who died in infancy. Himself and wife are members of high standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics Mr. W. is a Democrat, but his career in the Civil War indicates that his principles are allied to those existing in the brave days of old, "when none were for party but all for the State."



WILLIAM HARVEY, one of the earliest settlers of Champaign County, is widely and favorably known as one of the most valuable residents of this section, to whose development and growth he has materially contributed during the period of forty-eight years in which he has lived here. He first settled in the embryo village of Urbana, where he engaged as a contractor and builder. Afterward he purchased a farm of 250 acres, part of which, in 1870, he laid off as an addition to Urbana, the lots being readily taken up by those desirous of establishing a permanent home in that locality. This was called the Harvey addition, and now forms an important part of the city.

Mr. Harvey was born in Berks County, Pa., Aug. 23, 1814. His parents were Job and Mary (Fix) Harvey, who were also natives of the Keystone State, descending on the father's side from English ancestry, and on the mother's from the German. Job Harvey, in 1818, when our subject was a small boy four years of age, emigrated to Stark County, Ohio, and engaged in farming. Thence in 1839 he came to Illinois, settling near the Sangamon River on the western line of Champaign County.

There the mother died in 1862 and the father followed four years later. During the period of his residence in Pennsylvania Job Harvey served as a soldier for a short time in the War of 1812. The parental household included eleven children, of whom five are now living, namely, Mary, William, Samuel, Moses and John S.

William Harvey was reared on the farm with his brothers and sisters, and received a limited education in the pioneer school. He remained a member of the family household until twenty-one years of age, and afterward served an apprenticeship of three years at the cabinet-maker's trade. In the meantime he pursued his studies as opportunity permitted, and taught school two winters after learning his trade. The present possessions of our subject are the result of his own industry, economy and good judgment. He had no resources to begin with aside from his resolute will and industrious hands, but he seldom speaks of the difficulties which he encountered while forming a substantial basis for the property he now possesses and enjoys.

In 1869 he erected the substantial brick dwelling on his farm in Urbana Township, and the following year built the house which he occupies in the village. Both his farms and village property are well cared for, the buildings kept in good repair, and everything about them denoting the wisdom and forethought of their proprietor. Mr. Harvey has served as Justice of the Peace, Street Commissioner, City Marshal of Urbana and Deputy Sheriff of the county. He has represented his ward in the City Council for a period of six years. He was at one time owner of the carding-mill at Urbana, and has been interested in many of the enterprises leading to the advancement of its industrial interests. He is a stanch Democrat politically, and upholds the principles of his party by his vote and influence as opportunity affords.

The marriage of William Harvey and Miss Harriett Hutchinson took place in Stark County, Ohio, in 1837. Mrs. H. is the daughter of Alexander and Martha (Curry) Hutchinson, natives of Ireland. Her father came to America early in life, and located in Lancaster County, Pa. Of the children of the parental household, eleven in number, only Mrs. Harvey survives. By her union with

our subject she has become the mother of the following three children: Athalia became the wife of H. H. Harris, and has three children—William R., John H. and Charles H. Emily, Mrs. Johnson, of Urbana, has two children—William and Teddie; Jane, Mrs. Hoffman, has three children—Robert, Myrta and Frank.



DANIEL E. BIRDZELL, a native of this county, is comfortably located on section 19, in St. Joseph Township, of which he has been a resident since the spring of 1857. Here he has 128 acres of well-cultivated land, supplied with good buildings, and has employed his time in the peaceful pursuits of farm life, contented with his lot and enjoying the esteem of his fellow-citizens.

Our subject was born on his father's farm in St. Joseph Township, Aug. 21, 1857. His parents, John P. and Catherine L. (Hudson) Birdzell, were natives of Indiana. The former was born April 18, 1820, and departed this life at his home in St. Joseph Township, March 15, 1880. His wife, Catherine, was the daughter of John H. and Lydia Hudson, and still survives, making her home in St. Joseph. The parents after their marriage located near Terre Haute, Ind., where John Birdzell engaged in various occupations and continued to reside until 1855. He then removed with his family to this county, and located upon the farm now occupied by his son, Daniel E., of our sketch. It originally contained 320 acres, which the father of our subject brought to a good state of cultivation and which presented under his excellent management one of the neatest and most desirable homesteads in St. Joseph Township. The parental family included the following children, viz., Joshua S., deceased; Allen; Daniel E., of our sketch; David E.; Laura A., the wife of Joseph H. Stayton; Lydia A., Mrs. David B. Stayton, Jr., and Walter W., now deceased. The mother is still living, making her home among her children.

Mr. Birdzell attended the district school during his boyhood and youth, and when twenty-three years

of age was married, in April, 1880, to Miss Addie M., daughter of William H. and Tryphena Albaugh. Mrs. B. is a native of this county, born in 1860. Her parents were natives of Maryland and West Virginia, respectively; the mother resides in Moberly, Mo., and the father is deceased. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Birdzell took a trip to Portland, Ore., and upon their return located on the old homestead, where they still remain. In addition to the ordinary labors of the farm Mr. Birdzell has of late years been engaged quite extensively as a dealer in fine horses and cattle, in which he has displayed excellent judgment with good results. The household includes three children: Lucretia P., Paul F. and Cecil Blanche. Our subject is Democratic in politics, and his estimable lady has been a member of the New-Light Church at Prairie Hope since 1876.



HAMILTON JEFFERSON, who has been a resident of the Prairie State for thirty-five years, is now living in retirement in Champaign, and with his family occupies one of the most handsome and substantial residences. His has been a busy life, in which for years he was actively engaged in farming, but afterward went into the livery business, and followed it successfully in Champaign from 1860 until 1880. Since becoming a resident of this county he has taken a genuine interest in its welfare and progress and has contributed his full share toward bringing it to its present condition. He has now arrived at the advanced age of seventy-nine years, during which time he has built up for himself a record as an honest man and a good citizen, and has fully established himself in the esteem and confidence of all who know him.

Mr. Jefferson was born in Frederick County, Md., Jan. 23, 1808, and is the son of Leonard and Barbara (Nichols) Jefferson, natives of the same State as their son, and descended from excellent English and German ancestry. The father of our subject, who was a tanner by trade, removed from Maryland with his wife and son Hamilton, to Ohio, in 1812. They located in Chillicothe, Ross County, but soon afterward rented a hotel and farm about four miles

from the city, where they remained eight years. Mr. Jefferson then purchased 300 acres of land in Fayette County, which was unimproved and consisted mostly of timber. This he improved and lived upon the remainder of his days, his death occurring in 1852. The mother had died some years before. Of the six children comprising the parental household, three are now living: Hamilton of our sketch; Elizabeth, Mrs. Fisher, of London, Madison Co., Ohio, and John, who is engaged in farming in Fayette County.

The primary studies of Hamilton Jefferson were conducted in the pioneer log school-house among the Buckeye hills. This was furnished with the puncheon floor of those days, and light was admitted through greased paper in place of window-panes. The teacher used a birch gad freely, and in other respects the system of education was widely different from that of the present day. Young Jefferson remained at home until reaching his majority, then farmed on rented land in his own county for five years. During this time he had saved sufficient means to purchase 150 acres of land in Madison County, upon which he took up his abode until 1851, in the meantime having added 200 acres to his first possession. He was now desirous of seeing something of the great West, and coming to Illinois purchased 1,050 acres of land in Vermilion County where he farmed extensively for three years. At the expiration of this time he purchased five acres in the city of Champaign, upon which he removed and which he has since occupied.

After abandoning the farm Mr. Jefferson engaged in mercantile pursuits for two years, then returned to his former occupation, to which he added the buying and selling of land, and also engaged in the livery business. He has assisted materially in the building up of Champaign, which at the time of his locating there consisted of only two stores and about a dozen houses. He assisted in the organization of the First National Bank of the city, being one of the first stockholders, and there are few enterprises to which he has not contributed by his means and influence.

The marriage of Mr. Jefferson took place in Fayette County, Ohio, in 1829, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Allen, a native of that county.

Of this union there were born six children, three now living. Their eldest son, James Willis, married Miss Armilda Landers, and they have four children—Sophia, James, Thomas and George. Elizabeth J., who became the wife of Jackson Thompson, is a resident of Champaign, and has three children—Martha, Ellen and Clara. William I. married Miss Lydia Patten, and they have three children—William, Mabel and Earnest. Mrs. Mary Jefferson departed this life in Denver, Col., in 1880.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1882, was Miss Susan Staley, who was born in Virginia and was the daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Hizy) Staley, natives of West Virginia, where Mr. S. was engaged in farming, and whence he removed, in 1854, to Illinois, and located in this county, on land between the cities of Champaign and Urbana. Mr. Staley was born in 1802, and departed this life May 20, 1863. His wife is still living and a resident of Champaign. Their family of eight children were, Susan, Mrs. Jefferson; Mary, Mrs. Nelson; Louisa, Mrs. Gough; Henrietta, Mrs. Gay; George A., Calvin C., Ella, Mrs. Keither, and Peter B. Mr. Jefferson is Republican in politics and has always fearlessly advocated the principles of his party. As a citizen and business man he has been an important factor in the interests of his section and is valued accordingly.

FREDERICK DEMLO. Among the self-made men of this county who were born on foreign soil and commenced life humbly and with little means, the subject of this history deserves more than a passing notice. He was born in the town of Bowersdorf, Province of Pomerania, Prussia, Oct. 2, 1834. His parents were Jacob and Fredricka Demlo, natives of the same country. In 1863 they emigrated with their family to the United States, and at once sought the prairies of Illinois. Mr. D. located in Champaign County and made it his home until his death, which occurred in 1876. The mother is still living in Champaign, and is now seventy-nine years old. Their seven children were Christ, John, Frederick, Fredricka, Sophia, Dora and Mary, all of whom came

with their parents to Champaign. All are now married and reside in this county.

The subject of this sketch was the third child of the family, and in accordance with the laws and customs of his native country, was placed in school at an early age and continued his studies until fourteen years old. At that age also he was confirmed in the Lutheran Church. He soon afterward left home and commenced working on a farm, receiving for his services about \$20 per year, and a certain amount of linen and woolen cloth, which his mother manufactured into wearing apparel.

After arriving at years of manhood our subject was married in his native town to Miss Fredricka Oheinky, who was also born there and baptized in the same church as her husband. Two years later they set sail from Hamburg for the New World, embarking on the 1st of June and landing in New York City in July, after a voyage of six weeks. From there they proceeded directly Westward, locating at once in Champaign County. They were comparatively among strangers, and Mr. D. was in debt. He did not lose any time, however, deploring his difficulties, but immediately began to search for employment, in which he was successful. He engaged at farm work for four years following, by the day or month, saving in the meantime as much of his earnings as possible. At the expiration of this time he purchased a team and engaged to work on the Wabash Railroad, which was then being built from Decatur to Champaign. After several months' labor without recompense, the contractors ran away and cheated him out of his hard earnings.

During the time, however, in which Mr. Demlo had been a resident of this locality he had by honesty and industry secured for himself substantial friends who were ready to do for him all that he was disposed to ask of them. He located upon a tract of rented land, which he cultivated one year successfully, and then purchased sixty-eight acres in Tolono Township. This he occupied four years, then sold out and purchased eighty acres in Scott Township, where he lived until 1881. In that year he sold this also, and secured possession of the farm which he now owns and occupies. Upon this he has brought about great improvements and has

more than doubled its value. He has a shapely and substantial set of frame buildings, and his stock, machinery and other farm appurtenances are well cared for and kept in first-class condition. The premises in all respects indicate the industry and energy of the proprietor.

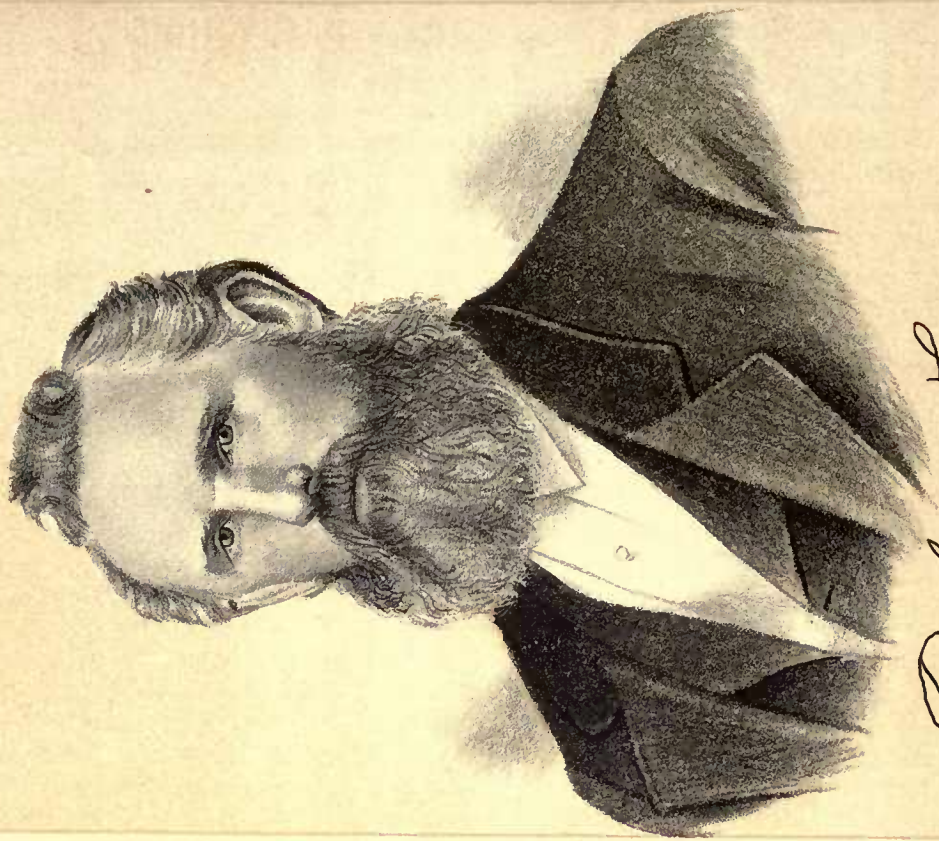
Mr. and Mrs. Demlo became the parents of six children, as follows: John, who lives at home; Annie, the wife of John Grierr, of Champaign; Sophia, William, Phenie and Charles, at home. Our subject is Republican in politics, and both he and his wife soon after coming to this county became members of the Presbyterian Church, to the support of which they have contributed liberally and cheerfully, and by the various members of which they are held in high esteem. Our subject on starting out in life was particularly fortunate in his choice of a companion, Mrs. D. having been the true helpmeet of her husband in all his undertakings, and materially assisted him in the establishment of the homestead and obtaining the competency which they now enjoy.

AMUEL D. JONES has during the last ten years held the position of Superintendent of the Champaign County Poor House, and has proved himself exceedingly efficient as a county officer. Mr. Jones is a native of England, and was born in the city of Liverpool, July 10, 1816. His parents were David and Elizabeth Jones, natives of Wales.

David Jones was a prominent physician in Liverpool. He was educated in Manchester, England, and continued the practice of medicine until his death, which occurred in Wales, where he had retired on a small farm. His wife died in 1848; she was the mother of three sons: John, who emigrated to America and settled in Campbell, Me.; David T., who now occupies the old homestead in Wales, and is the youngest of the family, and an eminent physician, and Samuel D.

The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in Wales, remaining with his parents until he had attained the age of manhood. Feb. 22, 1847, he married Miss Catherine Morris, daughter of

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David W. W. W.

John M. and Alice Morris. In the month of April, 1850, he started for America with his family, and after landing at the city of New York, May 16, first proceeded to Vermont, where he was employed as quarryman in the State slate works, which position he retained four years. He then came West to Chicago, but finding no opening there for business, he only remained four months, and then went to Kane County, Ill. He remained there for four years, and in the fall of 1859 came to Champaign County, where he bought a tract of 160 acres of land in East Bend Township, to which he soon after removed his family. After cultivating and improving his farm for eight years he sold it, and purchased another in the vicinity, containing eighty acres. Upon his appointment as Superintendent of the County Poor House in 1877, he rented this farm. He has since bought another small farm in East Bend Township, containing forty acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones have had two children—Carrie, who is the wife of W. Howard, residing in East Bend Township, and Lizzie, who died at the age of seven, in Vermont. Mr. Jones furnishes all the teams required for the business of the county farm, and also four cows. He receives a salary of \$600 per annum. He is faithful in the discharge of the public duties of his position, and is a highly esteemed member of the community. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are both members of the Baptist Church in Urbana.

DAVID WOLF. The birthplace of this gentleman, who is well known as one of the most worthy citizens of Hensley Township, and whose portrait is presented in connection with this sketch, was Fayette County, Ohio, and the date thereof Dec. 2, 1822. He is the son of Charles Wolf, who, with his father, David Wolf, was a native of Virginia. The great-grandfather was born in France, whence he emigrated when a young man, and settling in the Old Dominion, there married and reared a family. David Wolf, one of the sons, spent his childhood and youth in Virginia, whence he afterward emigrated to Ohio and was one of the earliest settlers of

Fayette County. He took up a tract of Government land at a time when Indians and wild animals were plenty and very troublesome. The former finally became so hostile that the grandfather of our subject was obliged to leave that section. He went over into Kentucky and spent two years, then returned to the land which he had located, which, however, he was only permitted to occupy but a few years, as he was cut down in the prime of life and ceased from his earthly labors. He had in the meantime been married in Virginia, and among his children was Charles, the father of our subject, who was a small boy when the family moved to Ohio.

Charles Wolf grew to manhood in the Buckeye State, remaining a resident there until 1829. That year he came West to Indiana, and settled in Tippecanoe County at an early period in its history. He first rented a farm two miles from the embryo city of Lafayette, and afterward purchased land in Perry Township, Clinton County. Indians at that time roamed unrestrained over the country, one of their chief towns being located six miles distant. His land consisted mostly of timber and in the midst of it he built a log cabin. Shortly afterward he purchased a tract of prairie in the same township which he improved, put up more modern buildings, and occupied until his death. In early manhood he had married Miss Sarah Emrich, who was born in Virginia, of German parentage. She died in Tippecanoe County, Ind., in 1820.

David Wolf was a lad of seven years when his parents removed from Ohio to Indiana, and one year later his mother died. There were no free schools in those days, and his father was unable to give him any opportunities for education. Two years after the death of his mother, his father was married to Miss Phebe Leach, who proved a kind stepmother to the lonely boy. He remained under the home roof and assisted in clearing the farm, being put to work as soon as large enough to lift an ax. When twenty-two years of age he started out for himself, receiving for his first labors but \$8 per month. Soon afterward he was employed to take a drove of cattle to Detroit, the round trip occupying six weeks. After returning home he resumed his labors by the month, and in due time, by the closest economy, saved money enough to

buy a horse. He secured a mate to this, on time, and then rented a tract of land which he cultivated until 1854. He was, however, dissatisfied with his prospects and the result of his labors, and in the fall of that year started on horseback for Illinois. Coming to this county he bargained for ninety acres of land which is now included in his present farm. He had but \$100 in cash, and with this made a first payment on his land and went in debt for the rest.

In the meantime our subject had been married, and the following year brought his family. There was no house on his little farm and he had no money with which to build, but he managed to put up a small structure of one room, and then commenced in earnest the cultivation of his land and the improvement of a homestead. In 1857 he met with a sore affliction in the death of his wife, and feeling lonely and discouraged returned to the home of his father in Indiana. After two years spent there he returned to his farm with the resolution to clear himself from debt. His efforts were soon crowned with success. He relieved himself from embarrassment, proceeded with the cultivation of his land, and after the lapse of a few years put up a good set of farm buildings, including a shapely and convenient dwelling, and commodious frame barns for the shelter of stock and the storage of grain. He also added to his first purchase, and is now the owner of 237 acres of as good land as the sun shines upon, besides a fine assortment of high-grade stock, including cattle, horses and hogs.

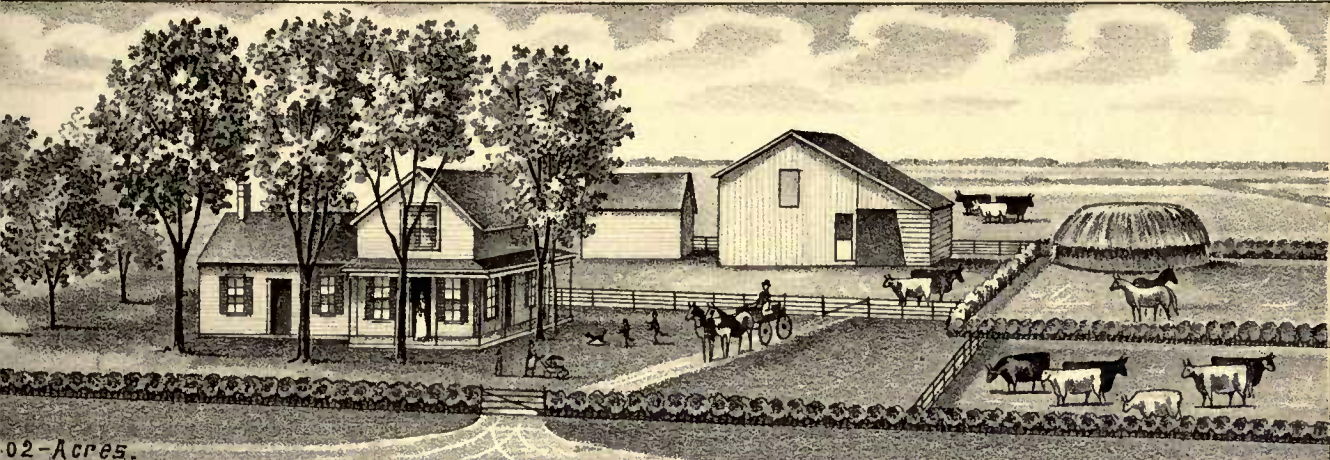
The first wife of our subject was formerly Miss Sarah J. Trotter, who was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., and was the daughter of Matthew Trotter. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1858, was Mrs. Emeline Trotter, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Ezekiel McFarland, and widow of Matthew Trotter. This lady departed this life in 1867 at the home of her husband in Champaign Township. The maiden name of his present wife was Miss Maria Holloway, and they were married in 1867. Mrs. Wolf was born in Montgomery County, Ind., and is the daughter of Isaiah Holloway, who is now a resident of Farmer City, Ill. Of the first marriage of our subject there were born two children—Jasper N. and

Thomas N.; of the second there was one child—Charles G. The children of his present marriage are, Frank, Louie, Anna and J. Alpheus. Mr. and Mrs. W. are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject, politically, is an uncompromising Democrat.

RICHARD TOWNER. Emerson says all history is only biography. So we find this strikingly exemplified in the community with which the gentleman of whom we now write is identified. Its history is only the biography of the lives of a few men, chiefly among whom is himself. He is a farmer and stock-grower living on section 23, Sidney Township. He was born in Vigo County, Ind., Oct. 31, 1822, and is the son of Elijah and Phoebe (Hicks) Towner. His father was a native of New York, and his mother of Pennsylvania. In about the year 1819 the parents removed from New York to Indiana, where he engaged in farming. They passed the remainder of their lives in that State. The father's death occurred about the year 1830, and the mother's about 1835.

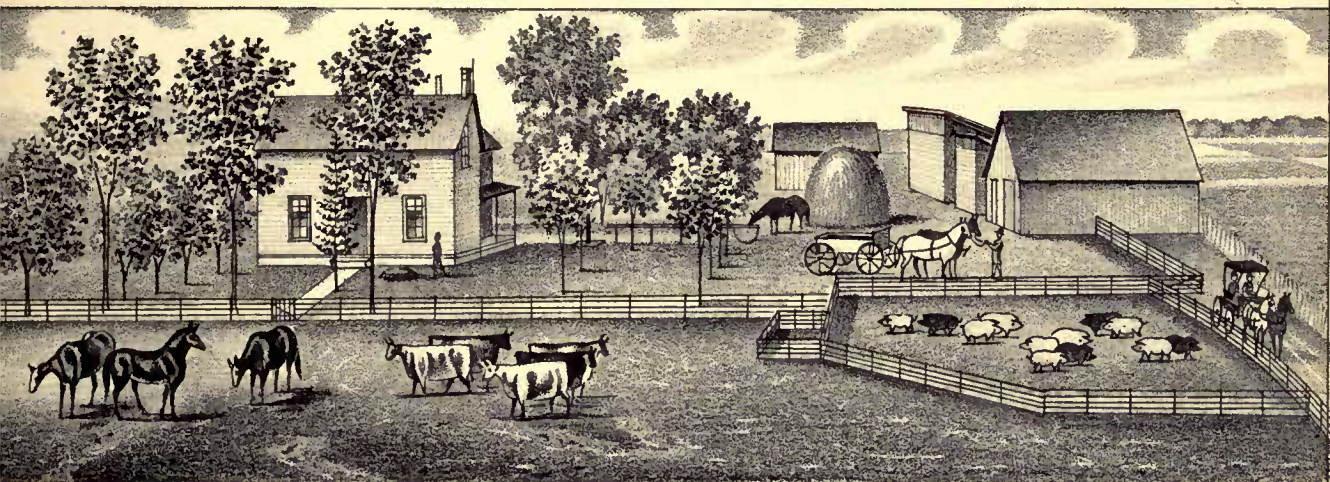
Richard Towner began to earn his own living at nine years of age, and during his life has passed through many vicissitudes. He started out by doing general farm work while a boy, which he continued until about eighteen years of age. In 1837 he was employed in Danville, Ill., and in 1838 in Champaign County, which has been his home with the exception of four years spent in McLean County. At the age of eighteen he obtained a situation as driver on a stage line between Danville and Peoria, belonging to J. E. McClun, since Judge McClun, of Bloomington, Ill. During the last year of his experience in stage-driving, he was married, March 27, 1845, to Miss Joanna Blunt, the daughter of Henry and Sarah Blunt, of this State. She became the mother of nine children—Helen A., Sarah F., Madora F., Earnest M., Izoria P., Claudius M., Fannie, Dolly and Duleena J.

In April, 1866, Mr. Towner had the misfortune to lose his wife by death. In November, 1867, he contracted another marriage, with Mrs. Sarah Tay-

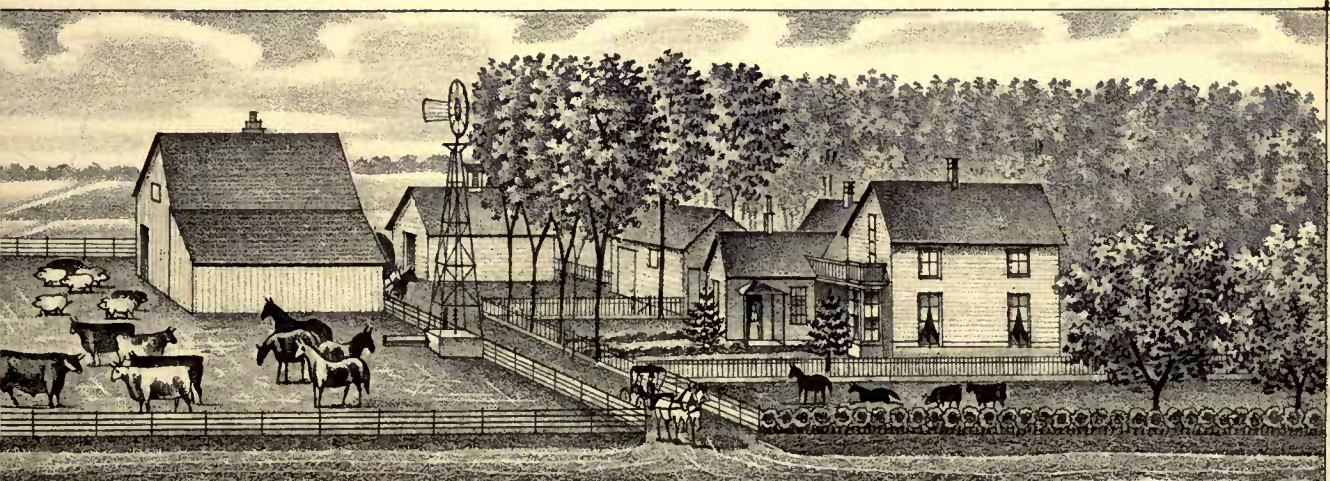


02-Acres.

RESIDENCE OF DANIEL NISEWANDER, SEC'S 28 & 33, HENSLEY TP.



RESIDENCE OF J. W. CHAMP, SEC. 15, CONDIT TP.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN CLARK, SEC. 6, (R. 14. W.), COMPROMISE TP.

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lor, the widow of Isaac Taylor. She was born in Vigo County, Ind., in the year 1841, and was the daughter of James and Matilda Siner. By her first husband, Mr. Taylor, she had two children—Matilda E. and James F. Of her union with our subject she became the mother of four children—Lilliance A., Ida A. and Ada O., twins, and Mary B.

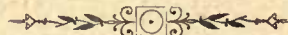
During the four years that Mr. Towner spent in McLean County, Ill., he acquired enough capital, by industry and economy, to purchase eighty acres of prairie on section 23, adjoining the place where he now resides, and ten acres of timbered land on section 21, Sidney Township. He also owned a phaeton and farm wagon worth about \$150. In 1852 he packed his wagon with such household goods as he could conveniently carry, and with \$250 in ready money, invested in an old log cabin belonging to John Patterson, of Hickory Grove, St. Joseph Township. His neighbors kindly volunteered their assistance in hauling it out and setting it up. As soon as he became settled in this primitive abode, he commenced to break and improve his land.

Mr. Towner was the first settler south of Salt Fork, on the prairie in Vermilion County, and spent five years in cultivating his land in that place, then, in partnership with his brother, B. H. Towner, he bought out the stock of goods belonging to D. J. and A. Rankin, and engaged in the business of general merchandising in Old Homer, now Homer Township. By trading in Iowa lands they cleared over \$1,960. They continued in business until the year 1863, when our subject enlisted, December 29, in Co. B, 10th Ill. Vol. Cav. He served valiantly until Aug. 9, 1865, when on account of disability contracted while in the service, he was mustered out at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis. At that time the credit system flourished, and through the depression caused by the war, he was unable to meet his liabilities, and lost \$20,000, which left him in an embarrassed condition financially, but he has since been able to recuperate and make up his losses.

Mr. Towner owns eighty acres of excellent land in a fine state of cultivation, which he obtained of the Government when it was bare, unimproved prairie, in the year 1862. He is now in comfort-

able circumstances, and the enjoyment of a pleasant home in which to pass his declining years. Himself and wife are both members of the United Brethren Church. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M. In politics he is a Republican.

The portrait of Mr. Towner, on an accompanying page, forms a fitting adjunct to this sketch of his worthy and useful life.



JUDGE J. O. CUNNINGHAM, who presided over the County Court for several years, is one of the best-known residents of Urbana and vicinity, of which he has been a resident since the pioneer days. His birth took place in Erie County, N. Y., Dec. 12, 1830. His parents, Hiram W. and Eunice (Brown) Cunningham, were natives respectively of New York and Vermont, and after their marriage, which took place in 1830, in Erie County, N. Y., removed in 1833, to Huron County, Ohio. Hiram W. Cunningham was a carpenter by trade, and while in Ohio carried on farming. The parental family included ten children, of whom but four are now living besides our subject. The eldest, a half-brother, J. C. Sheldon, is a resident of Urbana; Albert P. is a druggist in Champaign; Olive, Mrs. Fisher, resides at Emporia, Kan., which place is also the residence of Edwin W.

The Cunningham family is of lowland Scottish descent, and the first representatives who came to this country settled in New England and engaged in agricultural pursuits. The grandfather of our subject, Layton Cunningham, was a native of Connecticut, where he married. Soon after he became a pioneer in Western New York, and there raised a family and spent his last days. The father of our subject, with his estimable wife, was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he officiated as Class-Leader for a period of forty years. He was noted for his active interest in educational and temperance matters, and frequently held official positions in the county. His death took place in Clarksfield, Ohio, July 11, 1866. The mother survived her husband nearly three years, dying March 9, 1869, at the same place.

The subject of this sketch was trained to farm

pursuits, and commenced his education in a log school-house, where he attended during the winter season until eighteen years of age. He afterward took a course in Baldwin Institute and Oberlin College, and occupied his vacations as a teacher. After leaving Ohio he resided and taught in Vermillion County, Ind., one year, and took up his abode in Urbana, this county, in June, 1853. Soon afterward he purchased the *Urbana Union*, which he continued to publish until 1858, and which was made notable by its active support of Gen. Fremont for the Presidency. At the close of this campaign Mr. Cunningham sold out his paper and resolved to take up the study of law. He returned East to Cleveland, Ohio, and after attending the law school there and supplementing his studies by private reading, was admitted to practice before the close of that year. He opened his first law office in Urbana May 1, 1859, and soon afterward became the partner of Judge Sim, with whom he continued six years. From 1865 to 1869 he practiced alone, and in the year last named associated himself with William B. Webber, with whom he remained in partnership for seven years following. Since 1876 he has continued alone.

Our subject was elected County Judge in 1861, and served four years. He has been an active business man and fairly successful in the accumulation of property. He is a stockholder in the Illinois Printing Company, of Danville, Ill., and in company with William C. Jones compiled a work entitled "A Practical Treatise upon the Jurisdiction of, and Practice in the County Courts of Illinois," in 1883. He was editor of the *Union and Gazette* at Urbana two years, and assisted in the organization of the I. B. & W. R. R. Co., in which he was a Director several years, and was one of the Trustees of the State University from 1867 to 1873.

Judge Cunningham was married in 1853 to Miss Mary, daughter of Col. P. D. McConoughey, of Bainbridge, Ohio. They have a beautiful home near the city limits of Urbana, comprising a farm of eighty acres, with a handsome dwelling and suitable out-buildings. Mr. and Mrs. C. are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Judge has long been a member of the Masonic fraternity,

having been Master of his lodge for six years, and has filled high positions in the Grand Lodge of Illinois. He is also a Knight Templar.



JOSEPH PIERCE, a native of Bullitt County, Ky., is now a highly respected resident of Harwood Township, in possession of a good farm embracing 120 acres of land in a thorough state of cultivation. He was in early life trained to habits of industry, and his property has been accumulated solely through his own exertions.

Our subject was born Jan. 1, 1821, and was the third child of John and Matilda (Weeks) Pierce, natives of the Old Dominion. His father followed farming all his life and spent his days in the State which gave him birth. Joseph remained under the parental roof until nineteen years of age, and then going into Washington County, Ky., engaged as a farm laborer for a year. He then took a contract to make 16,000 rails at thirty-seven and one-half cents per hundred. After the completion of this, he followed teaming one winter and in the spring began laying his plans for the establishment of a home and domestic ties. On the 14th of December, 1842, he was married to Miss Margaret M. Lanham, who was a native of his own State, and the second child of John and Ellen Lanham, also natives of the Blue Grass State.

Our subject and his wife soon after their marriage, located on a farm in Marion County, Ky., which they occupied for five years following. Mr. Pierce then determined upon a removal to the West, and coming into Greene County, Ill., purchased a farm of 150 acres east of Kane. He occupied this for a period of fifteen years, in the meantime redeeming the land from its original condition and building up a good homestead. In 1864, however, receiving a good offer to sell, he disposed of his property and returned to his native State, where he purchased 113 acres of improved land in Washington County. He remained there five years, but there was a charm about the prairies of Illinois which led him westward once more. Coming to this county he purchased eighty acres on section 16, in Harwood Township, to which he soon afterward

added forty acres, making 120, which constitutes his present homestead. He also owns 100 acres on section 20.

Mr. Pierce has been fairly prospered in his labors, but himself and his wife have met with severe affliction in the loss of seven of the ten children who came to brighten their home and which they had hoped would all remain with them until their labors on earth had ceased. Those whom they laid away in sorrow and with tears were, Margaret M., John Henry, Cedonia, William Edward, Matilda Jane, Harriett Ann and Franklin. Of those living Angeline became the wife of William Deshazier, a prosperous farmer of Harwood Township, owning a homestead near his father-in-law, and they have one child, Jessie; Elvina is the wife of Charles Anderson, who occupies a portion of the home farm; they have three children—Ellen G., Margaret M. and Josephine. Joseph is the youngest son and is at home with his parents.

Mr. Pierce devotes his entire attention to the raising of grain. He is Democratic in politics but takes no active part otherwise than depositing his vote as a dutiful citizen on election day. He has frequently served his township as Road Commissioner and his district as School Director, but has never aspired to political offices. He has in all respects built up a record as an honest man and a good citizen, and in return is rewarded with the sincere respect and esteem of his neighbors. Mrs. Pierce is a member of the Catholic Church at Rantoul. A lithographic view of the pleasant home of Mr. Pierce is shown elsewhere in this work.



GUSTAV STUMPF. This worthy farmer, a resident of Rantoul Township, owns and occupies 170 acres of land on section 6, free from incumbrance and equipped with tasteful new buildings, including a good residence. Here, with a genial, intelligent and industrious wife, and bright and promising children who yet remain in the home, he is in the enjoyment of a large share of the pleasant things of life to which he is justly entitled and has fairly earned by his industry and economy. His possessions are the result of his

own labor, and he may be pardoned for a feeling of pride and satisfaction in viewing his surroundings, and the methods by which he became proprietor.

Mr. Stumpf has been a resident of this county for a period of seventeen years. He was born and reared on the other side of the Atlantic, first opening his eyes to light in the Grand Duchy of Baden, six miles from the River Rhine, on the 5th of December, 1830. In accordance with the laws and customs of his native country, he commenced attending school when six years of age, and pursued his studies until fourteen. He then commenced to assist his father on the farm, continuing there until seventeen years old, when he entered the army. After a service of five months he returned to his father's house, but being of an ambitious turn of mind and seeing little prospect of advancement or a competence in his own country he decided to seek his fortunes in the New World. He accordingly set sail from Bremen in the month of March, 1852, and after a voyage of thirty-five days set foot upon American soil. He landed in New York City with about \$10 in his pocket, and made it his first business to secure employment.

The Erie Railroad being in process of construction at the time of Mr. Stumpf's coming to this country, he engaged in assisting to grade and lay track for two months, and thence going to Pennsylvania, worked on a plank road for a month. Afterward he was variously employed, on a railroad, in a sawmill, digging ore and butchering until 1868. In the spring of that year he started for the West, locating first in Livingston County, Ill., where he purchased a tract of wild prairie land at \$12.50 an acre. He remained in possession of this property, improving it and increasing its value, until 1870, when he traded it for his present farm. This, however, would scarcely be called a farm at the time of his purchase, being simply a tract of uncultivated land. Having given much of his life to the tilling of the soil, he realized the possibilities lying underneath the sod in this section, and set to work with courage and hope to build up a permanent homestead. The result of his labors we have already noted.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married in Pittsburgh, Pa., Jan. 29, 1855, was formerly Miss

Regina Schmidt, a native of Bavaria, and born Dec. 13, 1836. Mrs. S. has proved the true helpmeet of her husband, who cheerfully acknowledges that to her assistance and wise counsel he has been largely indebted for the success of his later years. Of their children, who were six in number, Louisa became the wife of Tilman Goodfelt, and lives with her husband in Franklin County, Neb.; John is at home with his parents; Mary became the wife of David Engleman, and died in 1886, when twenty-four years of age, leaving four children; Rosa, Gustav and Annie are at home with their parents.

Since becoming a citizen of the United States Mr. Stumpf has taken a genuine interest in its political affairs, and upon first becoming a voter identified himself with the Republican party, of which he has since been a sincere and hearty supporter. He has contributed no little to the status of his township, in building up a good home and carrying on his farming operations in a most praiseworthy manner. Mr. and Mrs. Stumpf are members of the Catholic Church. A lithographic view of the handsome residence, outbuildings, etc., on the farm of Mr. Stumpf, is shown elsewhere in this work.

ETHAN ALLEN BIRDZELL is a native of this county, born in the city of Urbana, Feb. 22, 1855. Great changes have taken place in his native town since his boyhood, and since his father, John Birdzell, migrated from Indiana to this locality. The latter was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1828, although his parents' permanent residence was in Indiana at the time. Our subject's mother, who in her girlhood was Miss Catherine L. Hudson, was a native of the same State as her husband, and came with him to this county in 1854, stopping first in the vicinity of Urbana for about three years, and thence removing to a farm on section 19, in St. Joseph Township, which finally included 320 acres of some of the choicest land in that locality.

John Birdzell was a man of great industry and energy, and the property which he accumulated was the result of his own perseverance. After a worthy career, during which he established himself

fully in the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens, he departed this life March 10, 1880, on the homestead which he had eliminated from the uncultivated prairie. With the exception of two years spent in California, most of his life was passed in St. Joseph Township. The parental family includes three sons and two daughters, of whom the subject of this sketch was the eldest; Daniel C. and David C. are residents of Champaign County; Laura A. is the wife of Joseph H. Stayton, a farmer of St. Joseph Township; Lydia A. married David B. Stayton, Jr.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed after the manner of most farmers' sons, attending the district school, and assisting his parents as his services could be made available around the homestead. He remained under the home roof until his marriage, in 1875, his chosen bride being Miss Mahala O., daughter of Reuben C. and Amanda Koch, who came to this county in the spring of 1860. The parents of Mrs. Birdzell had a family of four sons and five daughters, who are recorded as follows: Sarah C. became the wife of Abram Hoy; Mahala is the wife of our subject; Augusta married Charles P. Drullinier; Frank M. is unmarried, and a resident of St. Joseph; Mary R. died when an interesting young girl of thirteen years; John Otis died when eighteen months old, and Levi L. when an infant of a month, also Charles W; Cora S. lived to be only nine years of age.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Birdzell remained on the farm two years, and then took possession of the farm belonging to Mrs. B. in St. Joseph Township. Mr. Birdzell afterward desiring to change his occupation, moved with his family into the town of St. Joseph, in the fall of 1882, and engaged first in the drug trade which he afterward abandoned to become a partner of John W. Somers in the grain business. In 1884 he sold out, and wishing to recuperate his health, visited Hot Springs, Ark., where he remained two months with excellent results. Upon returning to St. Joseph he became the partner of Messrs. Irons & Fox.

The fine residence of Mr. Birdzell is built of brick, and pleasantly located, constituting one of the attractions of the town. Four bright children

complete the happiness of the home circle, named respectively, Charles Allen, Walter M., Luther Earl and Lorin G. One brother of Mr. Birdzell, Joshua S., died when a promising young man twenty-four years of age, on the farm near Mayview. Another, Walter Wesley, died at the same place when a boy of nine years.



JOHAN H. LOVINGFOSS, although not a personal owner of real estate, has for four years successfully conducted what is known as the Lynn Grove Farm, which is one of the finest in Sidney Township, and is located on section 31. He was born in Pennsylvania, July 9, 1825, and is the son of Henry and Mary (McKown) Lovingfoss, the former a native of Belgium and the latter of Ireland. The parents removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio, where they both died, the father June 9, 1853, and the mother May 2, 1865.

In 1873 John H. Lovingfoss removed from Ohio to Champaign County, Ill., where he has since resided. His educational advantages were limited to such as could be casually gleaned in the old log school-house of the pioneer days of Pennsylvania, but by making intelligent use of such means as were within his grasp he acquired a good common-school education. From boyhood to the present time he has been engaged in the pursuit of farming.

On Jan. 15, 1852, Mr. Lovingfoss was married to Miss Mary J. McCafferty, daughter of Charles and Margaret (Hunter) McCafferty, who both died in Ohio. Mrs. Lovingfoss became the mother of four children, whose names and dates of birth are as follows: Ellen J., born April 23, 1854; Albert N., Oct. 1, 1856; James H., Dec. 7, 1858, and Charles H., Aug. 23, 1860. Of these but one has survived, James H. The mother of these children was removed by death, and our subject subsequently contracted a second marriage, with Miss Jane Woodruff. She was born in 1842, and died March 23, 1868. They had three children: George E., born Sept. 4, 1863; William H., Aug. 19, 1865, and Mary E., Aug. 15, 1867. The youngest is deceased.

Mr. Lovingfoss, on Jan. 7, 1869, was married for

the third time, Mrs. Minerva Black being the other contracting party. She was the widow of John Black, by whom she had three children: James M., born Jan. 16, 1863; Anna C., Oct. 1, 1864, and Louisa C., June 3, 1867. The father of these children died in April, 1867. Mrs. Black is the daughter of Absalom Roush, of Adams County, Ohio. By her marriage with our subject three children have been born, viz.: John Edgar, Jan. 16, 1870, Elva E., Oct. 12, 1871, and Gertie E., May 20, 1877. Five of our subject's children are living at home. He also has a granddaughter, Ettie E. Kennedy, born Oct. 25, 1872, who has made her home with him since eleven months old. Mr. and Mrs. L. are both highly respected members of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics he is a Democrat.



GEORGE N. WYNINGER, editor and proprietor of the *St. Joseph Eagle*, publishes a bi-weekly paper, which he established in August, 1886, and which, in connection with its well-appointed job office, has become one of the indispensable features of the town. The paper is a four-column folio, devoted to the interests of the people in that section, reporting the principal events that occur from time to time, and giving a faithful exposition of matters likely to be of interest to the residents of the township. The job department is equipped with a fine assortment of everything essential to the "art preservative," and the proprietor by his wise and discreet management has fairly ingratiated himself into the good-will of the people.

The boyhood days of Mr. Wyninger were spent in Boone County, Ind., where his birth took place on the 3d of February, 1859. His parents, William and Martha J. (Howard) Wyninger, were natives of Tennessee and Kentucky, respectively. Our subject received the advantages of the common schools and his time when not in school was employed upon his father's farm. He remained in Boone until thirteen years of age and then going into Carroll County, Ind., engaged in various occupations four years. Then, desirous of seeing something of the Southwest he crossed the Mississippi into Ar-

kansas and Missouri, and upon returning to this side of the Father of Waters took up his abode in St. Joseph and here concluded to remain. His taste had always inclined to the newspaper business, and in 1884 he purchased the job office of V. J. Gallion, which he conducted two years, and then established the *Eagle*, which he has since continued in a manner satisfactory to all concerned. The paper is Republican in politics, and a downright spicy little sheet, which contributes its full quota toward keeping the town lively and prosperous.

Mr. W. has been quite prominent in local affairs since coming here, and in 1885 was elected both Town and Village Clerk. Those who know him wish him and the *Eagle* abundant success, as he is an enterprising citizen and should be encouraged.



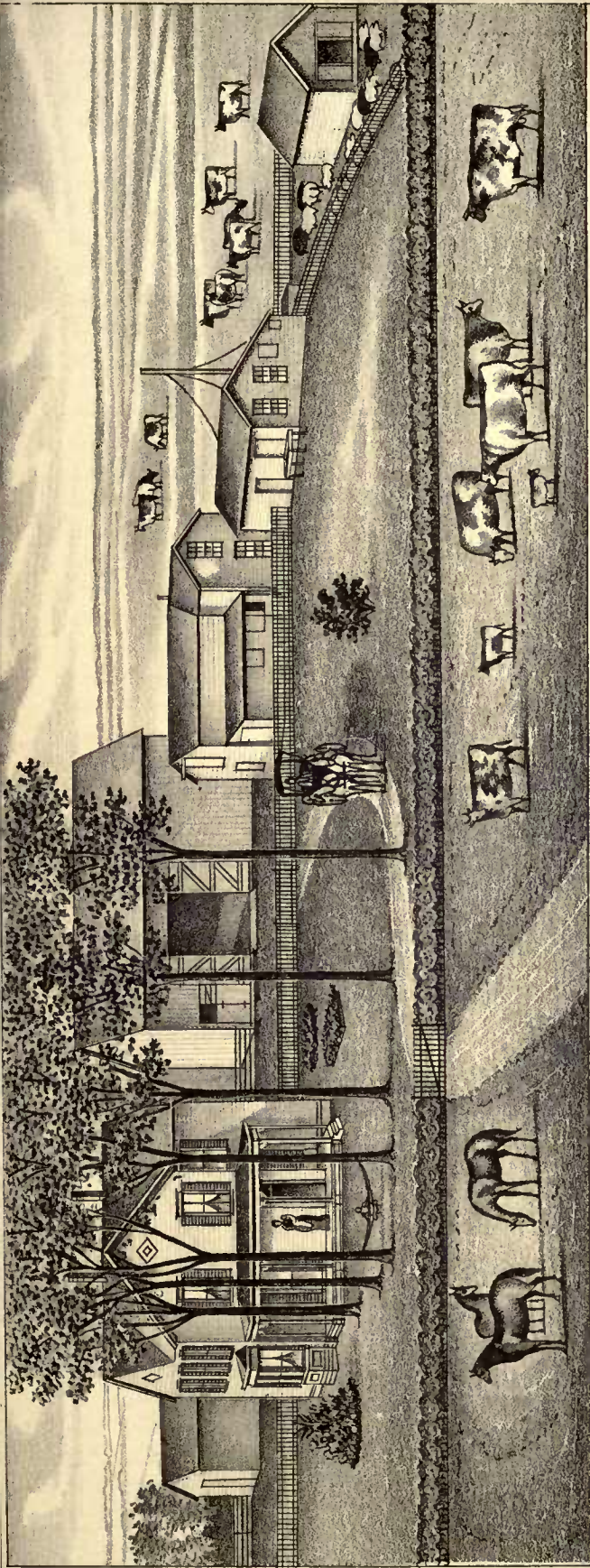
NELSON A. GRAY, an ambitious and enterprising young farmer of Rantoul Township, manages his father's old homestead of 485 acres, and also 280 acres belonging to himself. He possesses more than ordinary ability as a business man, and having had a lifelong experience in agricultural pursuits is eminently fitted for the task which at present devolves upon him. The homestead on section 19, a view of which is presented in this work, was established by his honored father in 1861, and is equipped with the finest description of farm buildings and machinery. In addition to the ordinary pursuits of husbandry Mr. Gray is operating a dairy, the proceeds of which yield annually a handsome income.

The subject of this history is a scion of an old and excellent family, the later descendants of whom became well known in Pennsylvania, where he himself was born in Wayne, Erie County, Aug. 13, 1857. His father, William A. Gray, was a native of the same town, his birth taking place Dec. 15, 1821. His grandfather, Mathew A. Gray, was born in the eastern part of Pennsylvania or New Jersey, and became one of the earliest settlers of Erie County. He secured possession of a tract of timber land in Wayne Township, cut down the trees and prepared the soil for cultivation, and for many years industriously occupied himself in its improve-

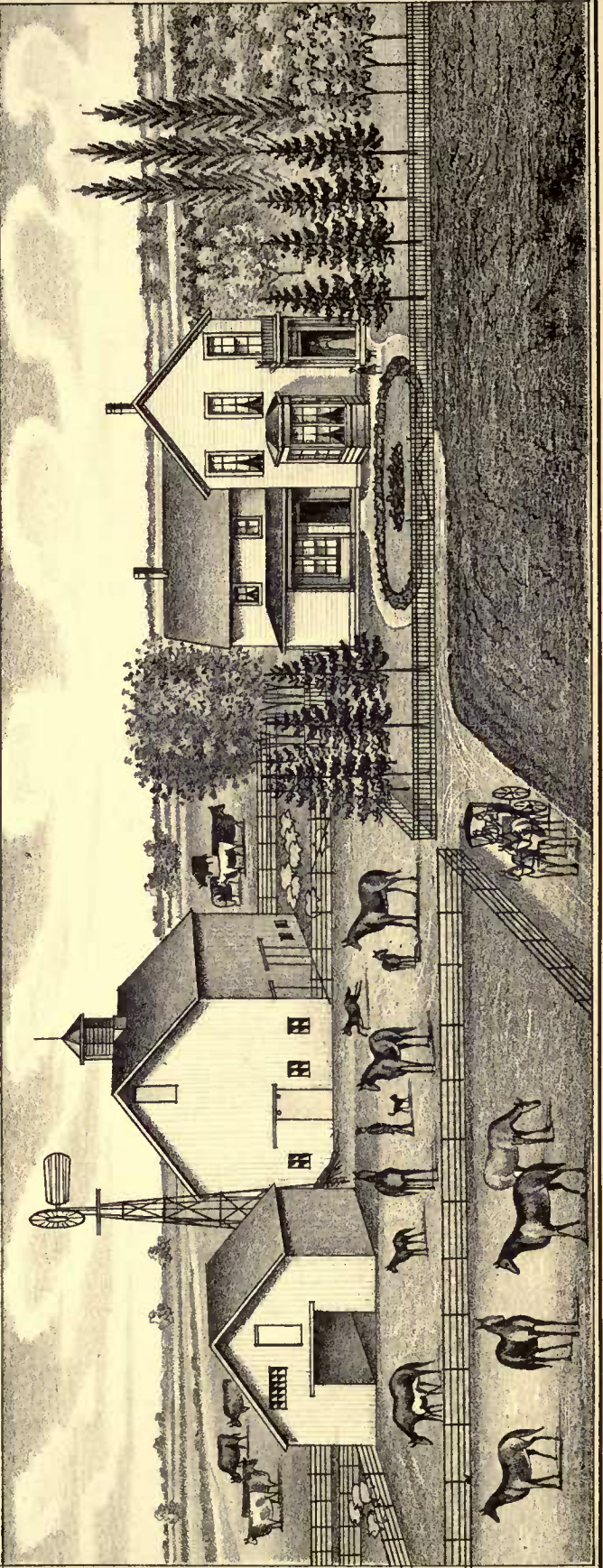
ment, establishing a comfortable home, where he remained until his death. His settlement was made before the days of railroads or canals, and for a number of years Pittsburgh was the only depot for supplies. Mathew Gray became a man of prominence in that section of country, being rarely intelligent and possessed of decided views concerning State, national and local affairs. He was for a long time Deacon in the Presbyterian Church, after the establishment of a society there, and his opinions were held in much respect, both religiously and politically. The grandmother before her marriage was Miss Esther Smith, a lady of Scotch-Irish descent. By her marriage with Mathew Gray she became the mother of eleven children. Two of these died in infancy, two died in youth, and seven lived to mature years, were married and reared families.

Among the sons who inherited in a marked degree the excellent qualities of both parents was William A., the father of our subject. He received careful home training, and was educated in the pioneer schools, which were conducted in a log cabin. When not in school, his education being principally carried on in the winter season, he assisted his father in clearing the land and tilling the soil. He remained a member of the household until establishing domestic ties of his own. At his marriage his father gave him 100 acres of land, which he operated intelligently and successfully, and in time added to his real estate by the purchase of 160 acres more. He prepared the greater part for cultivation by clearing it of the forest trees, and erected a good set of frame buildings. This farm he occupied with his family until 1859, then selling out, purchased a one-half interest in a flouring-mill and woolen factory at Cynthiana, Ky. Two years later he traded that property for eighty acres of land in Kansas and a half section in Rantoul Township, this county. His family removed to this locality in February, 1862.

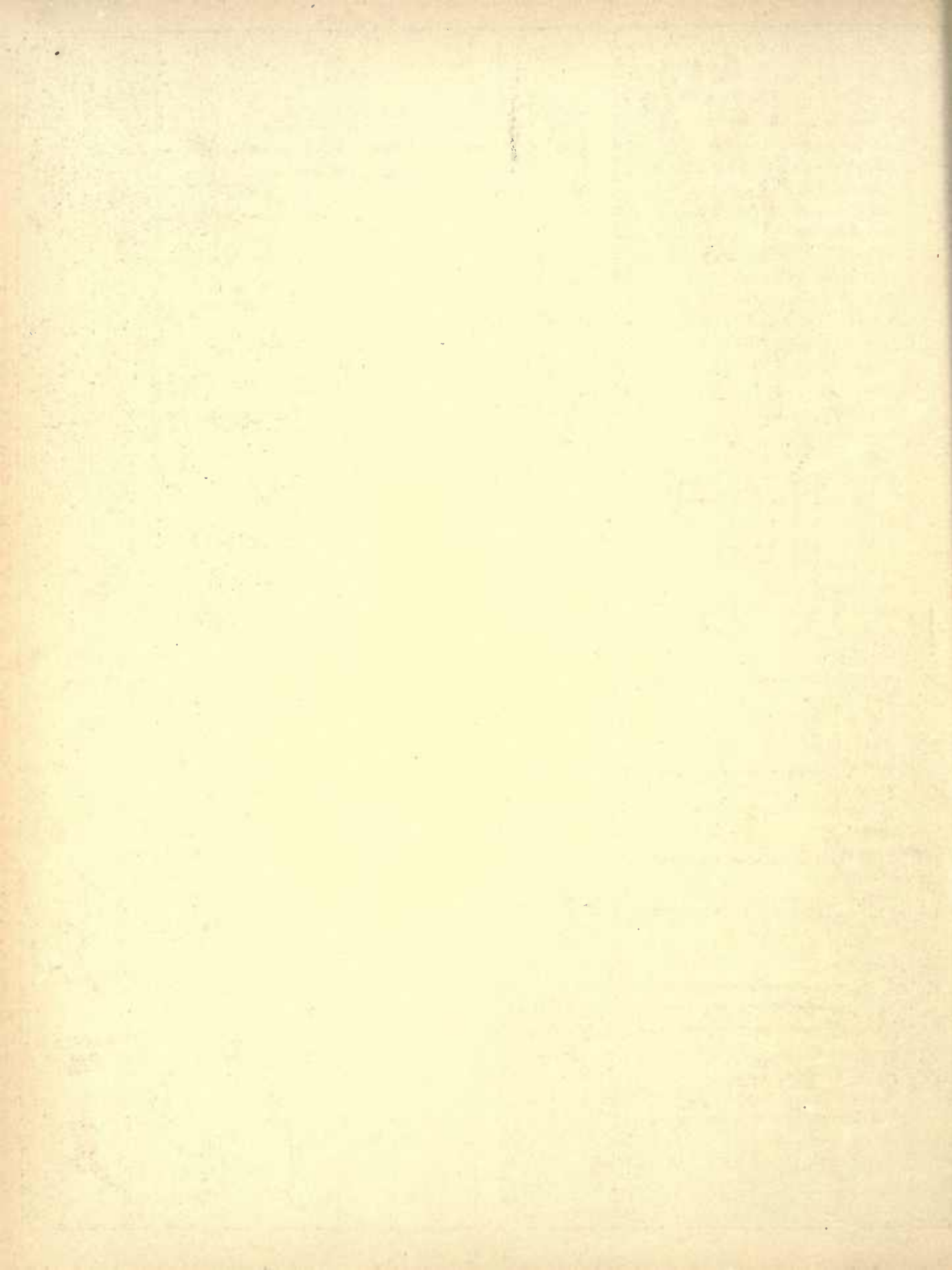
The purchase in Rantoul Township consisted of wild prairie, and before the arrival of his family Mr. Gray put up a house and made things as comfortable as possible for their reception. After taking possession he occupied this homestead until 1874, then leaving it in the hands of a tenant,



"WILLOW GLEN" RESIDENCE OF N. A. GRAY, SEC. 19, (R-9-E) RANTOUL T. P.



RESIDENCE OF GEORGE. A. SMITH, SEC. 11, SCOTT T. P.



returned East and spent a year in Rochester, N. Y. Afterward he went to Pennsylvania, and becoming a resident of Corry, Erie County, lived there until 1879. In the spring of that year he returned to the West, and locating upon the farm in Rantoul Township remained there until his death, which took place Aug. 30, 1880. The mother of our subject, who became the wife of William A. Gray July 2, 1845, was formerly Miss Sarah Mead, and was born in Youngsville, Warren Co., Pa., Sept. 4, 1821. She was the daughter of John Mead, a native of Meadville, Pa., whose father, John Mead, Sr., of Crawford County, that State, was a prominent man in that section of Pennsylvania, and in honor of whom (in connection with a brother) the city of Meadville was named.

The family at first were driven from that section by the Indians, and took refuge in the fort at Franklin, fifty miles distant. In this flight they were assisted by a friendly tribe. In due time after their enemies had been removed from that locality they returned, and the grandfather spent the last years of his life at Meadville. There also the maternal grandfather of our subject grew to manhood, and upon setting out for himself in life removed to Youngsville. He was first employed in a sawmill, and worked industriously at whatever his hands could find to do. He was of an enterprising and thrifty disposition, and in a few years, by wise economy had saved enough to purchase the saw and grist mills which he had first entered as a laborer. After operating these successfully for a number of years, his accumulations still steadily increasing, he began to purchase land, and finally became the proprietor of a valuable tract of 400 acres, to which he gave his chief attention, and established a good home, where he spent the remainder of his days. When a young man he married Miss Sallie Huffman, of Susquehanna, Pa., who cheerfully shared in his labors and rejoiced in his successes. She died at the homestead in Youngsville, having become the mother of two children, a son and daughter. The latter, Ida, who was born March 8, 1847, became the wife of M. E. Stamey, and died of consumption Jan. 16, 1873, while on a visit to her father.

After the death of her husband the mother of

our subject was married the second time, Dec. 23, 1885, to Mr. E. M. Bartlett. Mr. B. was born in Newry, Oxford Co., Me., July 18, 1830, and is the son of Jonathan and Nancy (Barker) Bartlett, natives of the same town as their son. The grandparents of Mr. Bartlett were of English birth and ancestry, who, crossing the ocean early in life, located in Oxford County during its first settlement.

Nelson A. Gray, of this sketch, was in the second year of his age when his parents removed from his native State to Kentucky, and was five years old when they became residents of this county. His early studies were conducted in the district schools of Rantoul Township, and his education completed in the University of Illinois, where, after a four years' course he graduated, in June, 1883. After leaving school he returned to the farm, the duties of which have always been very attractive to him, and in addition to the raising of corn and wheat has of late been giving much attention to the breeding of fine stock.

Mr. Gray's life career commenced amid unusually happy surroundings, and after providing a good home for the reception of his bride, he was united in marriage with Miss Minnie Collins, at the home of her parents in Rantoul Township, Feb. 11, 1885. Mrs. Gray is the daughter of Charles and Mary (Cerrie) Collins, natives respectively of Ohio and Illinois. Her birth took place in Schnyler County, this State, Oct. 11, 1864. Her maternal grandfather, who was a descendant of excellent Scottish ancestry, and himself born in the Land of the Thistle, emigrated to the United States at an early day, and coming to the West located among the first settlers of Schuyler County. There he still resides, having now reached the advanced age of eighty-two years. He possesses in an eminent degree the sturdy and reliable characteristics of his race, and as a man and citizen has exercised a decided influence in shaping the affairs of the vicinity where he has lived so long and is so highly respected.

Our subject and his wife are the parents of two bright children—Sarah E., born Nov. 22, 1885, and George A., March 15, 1887. Mr. G. is favored with a good constitution, and combines

strictness of moral principle with energy and decision of character. He is orthodox in religious views, being with his amiable wife, a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Gray's School-house. Politically he is a true Republican, and upholds the principles of his party with an earnestness and fearlessness which at once indicate his sincere belief in the principles which he advocates.



GEORGE A. SMITH. The homestead of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch is pleasantly located on section 11, Scott Township, and embraces 240 acres of land, with a handsome and substantial set of frame buildings, a view of which appears on another page, and forms a most valuable adjunct to the pictorial department of this ALBUM. He came to this county in the spring of 1874, soon afterward becoming a resident of Scott Township, and by the exercise of energy and industry has improved one of the finest farms in this section of the county. His land has been made tillable by the aid of seven miles of tile, and being a natural mechanic he only paid out \$100 to hired help in the erection of his buildings, which, being mostly done by his own hands, are of first-class workmanship. His stock and farm machinery are of the best description, and everything about the premises indicates thrift and prosperity.

Mr. Smith is a native of Lake County, this State, born Jan. 6, 1848, and is the second child of George S. and Beatrice (Yule) Smith, who were natives of Aberdeen, Scotland. They emigrated to the United States before their marriage, and coming to the West located on a farm in Lake County, Ill., where they still reside. The parental household included eight children, three sons and five daughters. George A. lived at home until he was eighteen years old, pursuing his studies in the common schools and assisting in the labors of the farm. At the age mentioned he went to the home of his uncle in Kenosha County, Wis., where he worked one year, and afterward took up the carpenter's

trade, which he had learned in his native county. He then returned home and remained in his native county until the fall of 1872. Thence he proceeded to Ft. Scott, Kan., and from there to Missouri, where he farmed one year on rented land. His next journey was into this county.

Mr. Smith was married in his native county, Jan. 11, 1869, to Miss Mary E. Goodnow, who was born in Du Page County, Ill., Jan. 26, 1842. This lady was the daughter of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Puffer) Goodnow, the former a native of Boylston, Mass., and the latter of Millbury, in the same State. After marriage they came to this State and located at Downer's Grove, Du Page County, whence they afterward removed to Lake County, where Mr. G. died Nov. 10, 1869. Mrs. G. still survives, and resides with her son-in-law in Scott Township. Mr. and Mrs. Goodnow were the parents of three children, one son and two daughters, all of whom are now deceased.

The wife of our subject died at the home of her husband in Scott Township, Feb. 16, 1887. She was a lady highly respected by a large circle of friends and acquaintances, and a consistent member of the Baptist Church. They had no children, but adopted two, named Joseph and Mary. The latter became the wife of James Coon, a farmer of Scott Township, and is the mother of one child, a son, Elmer. Mr. Smith is Republican in politics, a Baptist in religion, and has been intrusted with the minor offices of his township. As a farmer and citizen he is held in high respect by the community of which he has been a member for over thirteen years.



GEORGE W. COUDEN is the only surviving representative of one of the pioneer families of Champaign County, and is the owner of a fine estate, located on section 27, St. Joseph Township, where he was born June 18, 1855. His father, a native of Ohio, was born Oct. 13, 1806. He emigrated from his native State to Champaign County about forty years ago, and soon after his marriage to Miss Julianne Dwellinger, which event occurred Sept. 18, 1845. On his arrival in this

county he settled on a farm about five miles southwest of the town of St. Joseph. He cultivated and improved his land, carrying on a successful farming business, and passed the remainder of his life there. He did not long survive the death of his second wife, which occurred March 19, 1859, his demise taking place Aug. 12, 1859. Seven children were born of his second marriage, namely, Philip H., William, Taylor, Harrison; Henrietta, the wife of Addison L. Wood; George W., and Martha M., the wife of Lee Marshall.

The subject of this notice passed his boyhood upon his father's farm, attending school during the winters, and in the summer time assisting in the farm labor. In his twenty-second year he was united in marriage with Miss Alfaretta Paxton, the daughter of D. P. Paxton, formerly a resident of Indiana. After his marriage, Mr. Couden settled on his present place, and has become one of the most substantial and successful farmers in the vicinity, while his kind disposition, courtesy and hospitality have won the regard of all who know him. In conducting his farm he has made a specialty of breeding Norman draft horses, of which he has some fine specimens in his well-built and convenient stables.

Mr. and Mrs. Couden have four interesting children—Otis, Carrie, Roscoe F. and Freddie. Mr. Couden has served as School Director for several years, and himself and wife are both highly esteemed members of the Christian Church at Pleasant Grove.

ZEPHANIAH M. DUNN. One of the finest farms in St. Joseph Township is located on section 12, and invariably attracts the eye of the traveler on account of its finely laid out fields, its neat and substantial fences, and the commodious farm buildings which at once indicate the taste and means of its proprietor. Mr. Dunn obtained possession of his present property mostly by the exercise of his own industry and enterprise, and ranks among the progressive men of this section who have been the chief instruments in developing its resources.

Our subject is a native of Kentucky, born near

Harrison, in Cynthiana County, April 18, 1831. His grandfather, Benjamin Dunn, a native of the Old Dominion, removed from there to the Blue Grass regions in early manhood, and it is supposed was of English parentage. He became a successful and extensive planter in the cotton districts, and spent his last days in Kentucky. His wife was formerly Miss Massa Mills, and they reared a family of six sons and four daughters, of whom Zephaniah, Sr., the father of our subject, was the eldest. He also was born in Harrison County, where he received a common-school education, and upon reaching manhood was married to Miss Lavina Brownfield, a native of the same county. The mother of our subject was the daughter of John and Anna (Clemens) Brownfield.

After marriage our subject's parents continued to reside in their native county until the fall of 1834, then came north to Central Illinois, and located in what is now Somer Township, this county. Here the elder Dunn purchased a half section of land, and in due time became one of the most extensive stock-raisers in this locality. He labored until the fall of 1877, and then started across the Mississippi to Missouri on business, and while in Atchison County, the latter State, he was taken with fatal illness and died. The wife and mother preceded him to the home beyond, departing this life Feb. 22, 1877. The thirteen children of the parental household lived to maturity, married, and reared families of their own.

The subject of this history, who was the fourth child of his parents, was but three years of age when they became residents of this county. His education was obtained mainly in the subscription schools, and during the latter days of attendance at one of these institutions he was obliged to walk two and one-half miles each way, and worked for his board by feeding cattle for Mr. A. Busey. He was married, when twenty-two years of age, to Miss Elizabeth, second daughter of Samuel and Sarah Mapes, who were among the pioneer settlers of Champaign County. After marriage Mr. Dunn purchased fifty-six acres of land in Ogden Township, this county, where he began the career of an independent farmer, and upon which he remained until the outbreak of the late war. Thence he re-

moved to the farm of his father, which he occupied two years, and then disposing of his own land in Ogden Township, purchased the land which constitutes his present homestead. The improvements which we see on his farm to-day have been brought about by his own perseverance and industry, and indicate in a marked degree the character of the proprietor. In addition to mixed husbandry he has given much attention to the raising and breeding of graded stock, and has realized a handsome income annually. The grain which he raises is mostly consumed by his horses and cattle, and he ships numbers of the latter every year to the Eastern markets. A view of his residence, together with its surroundings, is shown elsewhere in this work.

Mr. and Mrs. Zephaniah Dunn, Jr., became the parents of eight children, six sons and two daughters, and have been called to mourn the loss of all but two. John S. died when a promising young man twenty-two years of age; J. F. married Miss Jessie Holloway, and lives in St. Joseph Township; Matthew F. remains at home with his parents. Mr. Dunn served three years in his township as Road Overseer, and has been a member of the School Board from the second year of his residence here. The wife of his youth and the mother of his children passed from earth at the homestead on the 3d of July, 1883. In February, 1884, he was married to Mrs. Phoebe Mapes, daughter of Charles Holloway, Esq., of Vermont, and widow of Samuel Mapes. Mr. and Mrs. Dunn are members in good standing of the Christian Church, and our subject politically clings to the doctrines of the Jacksonian Democracy, with which he became imbued when a young man, and which he considers the true basis of Government. Mr. Dunn was appointed executor of his father's estate prior to his death, and acted in that capacity with entire satisfaction to all concerned.

JAMES W. VANSCHOYCK, a representative of irresistible energy and a good example of a progressive farmer, living in Ludlow Township, is a native of Brown Township, Franklin Co., Ohio, and was born Aug. 7, 1838. He

is the son of David and Esther (Bailey) Vanschoyck, the former a native of Franklin County, Ohio, and the latter of Pennsylvania. The grandfather of our subject, John Vanschoyck, descended from German ancestry, and was one of the earliest pioneers of Franklin County, Ohio, to which he removed from Pennsylvania when a young man. He located upon a tract of timber land, from which he cleared a farm and lived there until about 1857. He then came to this State and spent the last years of his life with his son near Leroy.

David Vanschoyck spent his entire life in his native county. When reaching manhood he bought a tract of timber land in Brown Township, where he built the house in which his son, James W. of our sketch, was born. His life was passed after the manner of the early settlers of that day and he lived contentedly, tilling the soil and enjoying the friendship and respect of all who knew him. He rested from his earthly labors in 1854. He had married in early life Miss Esther Bailey, and they became the parents of ten children, seven of whom lived to mature years. The mother is still living with her children in Brown Township, Franklin Co., Ohio.

The subject of this history was the second child of his father's household and was sixteen years old when the latter died. He took charge of the farm, which he managed until 1861, and at the outbreak of the late Civil War enlisted in Co. C, 20th Ohio Vol. Inf., and served three years and four months. He participated with his comrades in the battle of Bull Run, with true soldierly courage enduring all the privations and hardships of a soldier's life until the expiration of his first term of enlistment. He then returned home and rested a month, afterward becoming a member of the 18th Ohio Infantry, and participated in the battles of Perryville, Ky., Shiloh and Chickamauga, when his regiment joined the command of Gen. Sherman, and he was in all the battles from Chattanooga to Atlanta, including the siege and capture of that city. He received his final discharge Aug. 14, 1864, and returning to the old homestead in Franklin County, Ohio, resumed farming until 1867. In the spring of that year he came West and purchased 160 acres of land on section 10, Ludlow Township. Eighty acres of this

were under cultivation and a small frame house stood upon it. Mr. Vanschoyck planted trees and hedges, broke the remainder of the land and lived upon it until 1871, when he sold out and purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. This comprises the northwest quarter of section 15. The land is all improved, furnished with a good set of frame buildings, and forms one of the most desirable farms in the township. A lithographic view of his residence and its surroundings is shown elsewhere in this work.

Our subject was married in his native State, April 12, 1865, to Miss Annie, daughter of Charles and Mary J. (Ferris) Holmes. Mrs. Vanschoyck was born in Franklin County, Ohio, July 14, 1844. Her father, a native of New York, removed to Ohio when a young man and located in Franklin County, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying Oct. 5, 1874. The mother was reared in Franklin County, Ohio, and is still living there, among her children. The household of our subject and his wife includes seven children—Arthur, Charles, Wilbur, Nora, Orville, Dora and Belva. The parents are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially Mr. V. belongs to Ord Post No. 372, G. A. R.



EDWARD S. FISHER. The real estate of this worthy resident of Ogden Township consists of a quarter of section 17, in this county, and another quarter section in Vermilion County. Mr. Fisher became a resident of the Prairie State in 1865, first locating in Vermilion County, whence he removed to Champaign County in 1881. He has followed agricultural pursuits since boyhood, and would not feel at home elsewhere than on the farm, or occupied in any other vocation than that which now engages his attention. He has lived the life of an upright, conscientious man, filling worthily his position as the head of a family, and an important member of society.

Our subject is a native of Wayne County, Ind., born Feb. 18, 1826, and the son of John and Jane (Starbuck) Fisher, of North Carolina. The former,

who was born Sept. 7, 1792, departed this life at Union City, in Randolph County, Ind., on the 8th of February, 1881, in the eighty-eighth year of his age. John Fisher came of a family noted for longevity, strong physically, and retaining their mental faculties remarkably until the close of life. The wife and mother, who was born in 1798, also died in Indiana, passing away on the 4th of February, 1882. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but her husband belonged to the Society of Friends, having joined them when forty years of age. Both were of fair complexion and had blue eyes. He was five feet ten inches in height, and weighed 160 pounds. The mother was of average size. Of their sixteen children, nine grew to mature years and seven died in infancy. Daniel A. first married a Miss Baldwin, who died a few years later, and he was then married to a Miss Sherman; he is now deceased. Joseph died in California some twenty-three years ago; Edward S., of our sketch, was the third child; Phebe first married Mr. Baldwin, and after his death became the wife of David Bailey, and was widowed a second time; her third husband was Nathan Reed; James died in boyhood; Robert first married Miss Henderson, who died early in life; his second wife was Miss Cotton. Annie J. in early womanhood became the wife of J. Commons, who died, and she then married Charles Pearce; John married a Miss Freeman, and Lydia E. married J. R. Jackson.

Edward S. Fisher came to Illinois in 1865, locating first in Vermilion County, where he resided until 1881, being in the meantime located upon 160 acres of land in Oakwood Township. In the spring of the year mentioned, he came to Champaign County and located upon his present farm, also embracing a quarter section of land. Here he has followed the ordinary routine of a farmer's life, and by his upright and honest methods, has secured the esteem of his fellow-citizens. He was elected Commissioner of Highways, and has been Justice of the Peace for two years. In 1887 he was elected Township Supervisor by a majority of thirteen, there being four candidates in the field. This office he has filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. He is a staunch Republican in politics, and nothing pleases him better

than to note the march of progress in his community both in an educational and moral point of view.

The marriage of our subject to Miss Elizabeth Clements took place Nov. 22, 1849. Mrs. Fisher is the daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth (Brandenburg) Clements, and was born Dec. 22, 1834. Her father was a native of Ohio, born in 1791, and reared to farming pursuits. He followed this vocation in Indiana during the latter years of his life, and died on the homestead in Wayne County, June 11, 1865. He was a good man in the broadest sense of the word, a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and by his patient industry and good management, accumulated considerable property. He was prominent in local affairs, and held in high respect by his fellow-citizens. The mother of Mrs. Fisher was born in 1795, and survived her husband only three years, dying at the homestead in Wayne County in 1868. She was also a member of the Methodist Church, and in the various relations of life, fulfilled her part with fidelity, leaving behind her a record of womanly virtues and kindly deeds.

The seven children of our subject and wife are recorded as follows: Joseph married Miss Marcia Board; Nancy J. became the wife of Elias Freeman; James married Miss Annie Morris; Elizabeth, John, Ella and Matilda are at home with their parents. The brothers and sisters of Mrs. Fisher were, James, who married Miss E. Boyd; Matilda, who married Josephus Ladd; Maria, Mrs. James Peel; Samuel, who married Miss Eveline Gray; Susan, Mrs. John Jones; William married Mrs. Lovina Knox, and Anthony married Miss Matilda Horn.

A lithographic view of Mr. Fisher's handsome residence is shown on another page.



PROF. S. W. SHATTUCK, M. A. C. E., who holds the Chair of Mathematics, and is business agent of the University of Illinois, is well and favorably known by the people of Champaign, where he resides. He is a native of Groton, Mass., and was born Feb. 18,

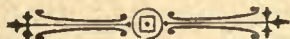
1841. He is the son of Walter and Roxana (Fletcher) Shattuck, natives of the same place as their son. The father of Prof. Shattuck nearly all his life was engaged in mercantile pursuits, and in later years as a private banker. He departed this life at his home in Groton, in 1870, and his beloved wife followed five years later. The grandfather of our subject was a Captain in the War of 1812, and his great-grandfather was a Captain in the Revolutionary War. The parents of our subject reared a family of ten children, five now living, namely, Martha, Mrs. Cory; Susan, Mrs. Carter; Samuel W., Abbott and Mary.

Samuel W. Shattuck commenced attending school at an early age, and was graduated at the Vermont State Military College in 1860. The following year he was engaged as a teacher in the college. During this time and prior thereto he had been Sergeant Major of the 6th Massachusetts Infantry. Upon the call for soldiers the 6th was among the first to respond, and was the first to report for duty at Washington, D. C. At the expiration of his term of service of four months he returned to his duties as a teacher, only remaining until 1863, when he was appointed Adjutant of the 8th Vermont Infantry. In 1864 he was promoted Adjutant General of the Brigade with rank of Captain. At the battle of Cedar Creek he received a shot in the leg, and his horse was shot from under him. He engaged in all the battles of the Shenandoah Valley, and continued in the army until the close of the war. Soon afterward, returning to Norwich he became Professor of Mathematics and Military Tactics in the college, and was its acting President for one year. He was also appointed Inspector General for the State of Vermont, with the rank of Colonel.

Prof. Shattuck came to Illinois in 1868, having been appointed to the Chair of Mathematics in the State University at Urbana. Five years later, while Dr. Gregory was in Europe, he was acting Regent of the University, and was Vice President from 1874 to 1876. As a scholar and executive officer he is seldom equaled or surpassed.

Prof. Shattuck was married, in 1866, to Miss Adelaide White, of Columbus, Ohio, and the daughter of Capt. Philo White, of that city. Of this

union there have been born four children—Charles W., Annie F., Edith A. and Walter F. The Professor is Republican in politics, a worthy member of the G. A. R., and in all respects a highly esteemed citizen and member of society. The family residence is located at No. 108 Hill street, where its inmates enjoy the society of the cultured people of the city.



SELIM H. PEABODY, Ph. D. and LL. D., President of the University of Illinois, is a native of Rockingham, Windham Co., Vt., born Aug. 20, 1829. He is the son of Rev. Charles H. and Grace S. (Ide) Peabody, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of Vermont. The first generation of Peabodys of which we have any account came from England in the year 1635, and settled in Essex County, Mass. From that branch descended all the Peabodys of America.

The father of our subject in early life learned the clothier's business and carried on the same in New Hampshire until 1831. He was converted to religion in 1830, and became impressed with the feeling that it was his duty to labor in the cause of Christ. He accordingly entered upon a course of study in Newton Theological Seminary, Newton, Mass., where he spent five years and graduated in 1836. His first charge was at Sutton, Worcester County, that State, where he labored for four years, then accepted a call from Randolph, Mass., and filled a charge there until his death in 1842. Previous to this event, from the 1st of January until March, he had been holding revival meetings, during which time he overworked and contracted a severe cold. He took to his bed, but was sent for to preach the funeral sermon of three or four boys who were drowned. Although scarcely able to leave the house, he consented to the request, and the result was an additional cold from which he never recovered. Rev. Charles H. Peabody was born June 12, 1779. He departed this life in 1842. His wife, the mother of our subject, was born Aug. 20, 1804, and is now living at Randolph, Mass.

They had only two children—Selim H., our subject, and Mary I., who became the wife of Rev. L. B. Steele, of Pittsford, Vt.

Selim H. Peabody during his younger years attended the public schools and the academy of his native town, the latter of which was conducted by John P. Gulliver, now a professor in Andover Theological Seminary. In the fall of 1842 he entered the Boston Latin School and for one year made his home with the family of Simon G. Shipley. Afterward he went to live with his uncle, Simeon Ide, in Claremont, N. H., where he worked for his board and attended the academy taught by the sons of Rev. Dr. Lord, of Dartmouth College. During the same time he was employed in a paper-mill and also in setting type, remaining in Claremont until the spring of 1845. In the meantime he had never lost sight of his original intention to secure a collegiate education. He had been a close student and was now fully prepared to enter the institution toward which all his hopes had turned, but he had no money. He now returned to Randolph, Mass., and for the lack of something better engaged with a carpenter and worked at his trade until nineteen years old.

In the fall of 1846 Mr. Peabody commenced teaching, his first school being at Billerica, Mass., where he taught ten weeks at the rate of \$10 per month. The winter following he taught three months in Braintree, Mass. After this he became assistant teacher in the academy at Nashua, N. H., and by this time had secured sufficient means to enable him to go on with his studies at the University of Vermont, which he entered in September, 1848, and from which he graduated four years later. In the meantime he also taught school at intervals in Billerica and elsewhere. At the beginning of his junior year in college he was appointed assistant teacher in the public High School at Burlington, Vt., and during his senior year taught school in Franklin, Mass., three months. Before graduating he was appointed Principal of the Burlington High School, the first of its kind established in the State of Vermont. After one year in this institution he accepted the Professorship of Mathematics in the seminary at Fairfax, Vt., and after spending one year there became con-

nected with the Polytechnic College, Philadelphia, as Professor of Mathematics and Civil Engineering, which position he held from 1854 to 1857. He then turned his steps westward to Eau Claire, Wis., where he laid out and platted the town and also served as master carpenter in the building of houses and stores. Prof. Peabody opened the United States Land Office at Eau Claire, in the Register Department of which he was chief clerk, and where he remained until December, 1859. The Fond du Lac High School then having been established, he became its Principal until 1862. Afterward he went to Racine, where he was appointed Superintendent of Schools, remaining as such until September, 1865, and then accepted a position as Professor of Natural Sciences in the High School of Chicago.

In September, 1871, Prof. Peabody returned East and became connected with the Agricultural College at Amherst, Mass., as Professor of Physics and Engineering. Three years later he returned to the Garden City and accepted his former position in the High School, and occupied it until 1878. He then came to Champaign and was appointed Professor of Mechanics and Engineering in the Illinois Industrial University. In February, 1880, he was proffered an editorial position in a publishing house in New York City, which he accepted with the expectation of abandoning teaching as a life work. After reaching New York he was appointed Editor-in-Chief of the American edition of Chambers' Encyclopedia, which was then being published under the title of the "Library of Universal Knowledge." In the meantime he also edited a monthly magazine and was engaged in other literary work.

In August, 1880, Prof. Peabody was unanimously re-elected to his former position in the University, of which he was at once notified and also of his appointment as Regent *pro tempore* to fill out the unexpired term of service made vacant by the resignation of Dr. Gregory. In March following he was elected Regent, which position he has since held. Dr. Peabody is also known as the author of a charming series of juvenile books on natural history, in addition to text books on various branches of mathematics and a number of scientific treatises. His thorough education and natural abilities have finely adapted him for the

responsible position which he now holds and in which he has distinguished himself as an executive and instructor of more than ordinary ability.

The marriage of Prof. S. H. Peabody and Miss Mary E. Pangborn, of Burlington, Vt., was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in 1852. Mrs. P. is the daughter of David K. Pangborn, of Vermont, and by her intelligence and sympathy with her husband's life-work, is well fitted for his companion and life partner. Of this congenial union there have been born four children—Grace, Cecil H., Arthur and Kate F. The Professor politically is a Republican and takes an active interest in current events, keeping himself well posted in regard to national and political affairs.

It may be proper to state briefly that the University of Illinois is a well defined aggregation of several distinct colleges, with special faculties and courses of instruction. The work is divided among the four colleges of Agriculture, Engineering, Natural Science, and Literature and Science, with the two detached schools of Military Science and Art and Design. Each college is supervised by a Dean and the Professors divide up their work in the different departments according to the more or less close relations of the subject. The head of the faculty and Regent of the University is our subject, Prof. Peabody.



JOHAN CLARK. In 1868 the subject of this notice selected this county for his future home, and coming here purchased land from the Illinois Central Railroad at \$8 per acre. This was located on section 6, Compromise Township. It was uncultivated, and from it Mr. Clark has eliminated one of the finest farms in this section. It embraces 370 acres, all enclosed and improved, and he has upon it a good set of farm buildings, including a substantial and commodious dwelling, tastefully finished and furnished, in the rear of which is a good barn and all other necessary outhouses for the storage of grain and the shelter of stock. After spending several years in the cultivation and improvement of his land Mr. Clark re-



*J H Dunlap
Savoy Ills*

tired from active labor and is now enjoying wisely the fruits of his early industry.

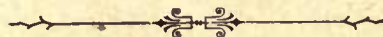
The subject of this history, who is of excellent birth and parentage, first opened his eyes to light in Forfarshire, Scotland, April 2, 1830. His parents, William and Mary (Donaldson) Clark, also natives of Scotland, had a family of four children, two of whom, Thomas and Alexander, are deceased. Isabell, the wife of David Freeman, remains in her native land. Thomas emigrated to the United States, and located in Cook County, Ill., whence he subsequently moved to Kansas, where he died in 1886. John, of our sketch, thus remains the only representative of the family in this country.

Mr. Clark was reared on his father's farm in Forfarshire, and when twenty-three years of age, May 23, 1853, he was united in marriage with Miss Jane Butters, a native of his own county, and the day following they sailed from Glasgow for the United States. After a tedious voyage of fifty-two days on a sailing-vessel they arrived in New York Harbor and took up their abode in New York City, where they remained two years. In the spring of 1855 they came westward to Chicago, residing in that city a year, and subsequently removed to a farm in Cook County where they remained until January, 1868. When Mr. Clark first arrived in Chicago he had but \$6 in his pocket, \$5 of which he was obliged to pay in advance for the rent of a house, and thus with \$1, commenced keeping house in the United States. While living in Cook County, and when their son John was only three weeks old, their house was burned down and they were then left penniless. Friends came to their rescue, however, and they soon recovered their losses by industry and economy. On coming to this county, they located upon the present homestead of the family. He first engaged in mixed husbandry but later, finding it more profitable and less laborious, turned his attention chiefly to stock-raising.

Of the five children born to Mr and Mrs. Clark one died in infancy and was buried in Chicago. Those surviving are, Alexander, Robert B., John A., and Elizabeth, the wife of Alfred Jinkson. In January, 1886, our subject and his wife returned to their native Scotland, where they remained four months, visiting among the friends of their child-

hood. The father of Mrs. C. was living at that time, but has since passed away. They sailed from New York on the steamer "Oregon," which was sunk on the return trip in New York Harbor. They returned on the "State of Georgia," and were but nine days going from Chicago to Dundee, Scotland, which was a great contrast in point of time to their voyage of thirty years before.

The fine homestead of Mr. Clark, a view of which may be found in this work, with its broad acres and handsome residence gives ample evidence of the progress which he has made since becoming an American citizen. He has served as School Director, Road Commissioner and Tax Collector of his township, and no man more generally responds to the call for assistance in the furtherance of any enterprise calculated to benefit his community. For many years Mr. and Mrs. Clark were members of the Congregational Church, but as this denomination is not represented in Penfield, they, in 1886, identified themselves with the Baptists.



JAMES H. DUNLAP, Postmaster at Savoy, Station Agent of the Illinois Central Railroad, and Agent of the American Express Company, is known by most of the citizens of Champaign Township, by whom he is highly respected as a gentleman of intelligence and ability, and one who discharges the duties of his several offices with promptness and satisfaction. He was appointed Postmaster in 1875, and the following year was instrumental in having the express office established here, and has continually held the agency. He has been Station Agent since 1874, and has also been telegraph operator since 1880, at which time the office was established.

Mr. Dunlap has been a resident of Champaign County since a child two years of age, and nearly all his life has been spent in the neighborhood where he still resides. His birth took place in West Chicago, Cook County, this State, on the 2d of November, 1854. His parents were Menzo and Arabella (Pierce) Dunlap, by whom he was reared to manhood, educated in the common schools, and trained to habits of industry and those principles

which are the foundation of a successful and honorable course through life. His early years were employed in farming pursuits until December, 1874, when at the age of twenty years, he was appointed Agent of Savoy for the Illinois Central Railroad. Six months later he received his commission as Postmaster. He is Republican in politics, President of the Board of Trustees of the Savoy Methodist Episcopal Church, and has always taken an active interest in the advancement and welfare of his county and community. Socially he belongs to Western Star Lodge No. 240, A. F. & A. M., and is a member in good standing of Knights of Honor Lodge No. 841, both of Champaign.

The wife of Mr. Dunlap, to whom he was married in Farmer City, De Witt Co., Ill., on the 22d of April, 1877, was formerly Miss Henrietta, daughter of J. N. and Eliza (Baltzell) Coon. Mrs. D. was born in Shelby County, Ohio, April 6, 1856, and at the date of her marriage resided at Farmer City, Ill. Of this union there were born five children: Burleigh H., Feb. 10, 1875; Rosa E., May 20, 1879; Louie N., Oct. 10, 1880; Albert M. and Isabell J., the latter twins, Jan. 15, 1884. Our subject and his wife are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the support of which they have contributed liberally and cheerfully, and during their long residence here have become the center of a large circle of friends.

The portrait of Mr. Dunlap is given on a preceding page. His inflexibility and uprightness in the different positions he so efficiently fills, together with his general worth and nobility of character, will secure for the picture a hearty welcome from the entire patronage of this ALBUM, which it materially assists in embellishing.



ISAAC HIXENBAUGH. The farm of this gentleman, with its fine residence and handsome out-buildings, lies like a picture in the landscape of Ogden Township, and is located on the southwest quarter of section 30. It embraces 129 acres of choice land, which has been managed in the wisest manner and which has responded liberally in rich products to the hand of one of the most skill-

ful agriculturists in this part of Champaign County. To aid him in the successful tilling of the soil Mr. Hixenbaugh has availed himself of the experience of older men, and of the skill of the inventor, adapting his fields to that in which they are likely to be the most prolific, and cultivating the soil and gathering in the grain with the best modern farm machinery manufactured. The farm stock is of the best description, his stables containing especially fine animals, among which is a thoroughbred Lawrence colt, Bonny Scotland by name, but registered St. Joseph, who, if he lives and no accident happens to him, will be heard from hereafter throughout this part of the State.

Mr. Hixenbaugh came to Illinois in 1868, with a cash capital of \$200. By a series of wise investments, and the outlay of judicious labor he is now in possession of a good many thousands worth of property, with the prospect of being able to pass his declining years in the enjoyment of the luxuries of life which he has so justly earned. His early years were passed in Marion County, W. Va., with his parents, Isaac and Martha (Ogden) Hixenbaugh. He was born May 4, 1846, and as soon as old enough, commenced attending school in the winter season while in summer his youthful services were made available on his father's farm. The latter was a native of Pennsylvania, born of excellent parents on the 24th of July, 1802. Besides himself, his brother Jacob became a member of the family at the same time, and lived to years of manhood.

The father of our subject removed from Pennsylvania to Illinois in 1868, his death taking place in this county in August, 1874. His wife, Martha, was born in 1806, and departed this life Sept. 20, 1868, while the family were living in Ogden Township. She fulfilled worthily the duties of wife and mother, and was a consistent member of the Christian Church. The eight children of the parental household were: Sarah, who became the wife of George Underwood; John, who enlisted in the 25th Illinois Infantry, and died at St. Louis, Mo., while in service; Mary, the wife of Thomas Freeman; Morgan, who married Sarah A. Whittzel; Adam, who married Margaret White; Martha, who died in girlhood; Isaac, of our sketch, and Henry B.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were

passed with his parents on a farm, and he removed with them to Illinois in 1868. He was reared to habits of industry, and those principles which constitute the true man and citizen, and the year after his arrival in this State, and after laying his plans for the establishment of a home, feeling that life was incomplete without a wife and companion to encourage him in times of difficulty, and rejoice with him in seasons of success, he proffered his hand and fortune to Miss Mary M. Freeman, who accepted, and they were made husband and wife on the 19th of August, 1870. The birth of Mrs. Hixenbaugh took place in Ogden Township July 16, 1849, her parents being Thomas and Nancy (Redman) Freeman, the former a native of Ohio, and the latter of Illinois. The twin sister of Mr. Freeman was named Mary; she became the wife of David Meade and is now deceased. The parents of Mrs. H. are living in Ogden Township. The children born of her union with our subject are: Louis M., Jan. 22, 1871; Clarence N., Oct. 20, 1872; Thomas F., Dec. 5, 1875; Clara B., Oct. 10, 1877, and Electa G., Dec. 22, 1879. Two of these, Electa G. and Thomas F., rest in the quiet churchyard at Homer. A lithographic view of Mr. Hixenbaugh's residence is shown on another page.



CHARLES A. BENGTON, of Harwood Township, came to this country from his native land, Sweden, in 1868, and at once began to make himself familiar with its customs and institutions. He was possessed naturally of a receptive mind and the ambition necessary to success. He began life at the foot of the ladder, but has made his way steadily upward until he is now a prominent property owner of Harwood Township, and ranks among its most highly respected citizens. His comfortable homestead on section 7 comprises eighty acres of land, every foot of which he has made available for some purpose, and upon which the work has been well done. He makes a specialty of breeding Morgan horses and Holstein cattle, and exhibits some of the finest animals in Central Illinois. Mr. Bengton is only one among scores of

his countrymen who are numbered among the most valued citizens of the Prairie State.

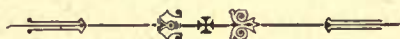
Our subject spent his early years in the town of Linköping, Sweden, which is situated about 108 miles southwest of Stockholm. It has a cathedral and other churches, a town hall, a library, a House of Assembly, an old castle and a gymnasium. It is the See of a Lutheran Bishop, and the population of the city is over 8,000. Amid these surroundings our subject was born, on the 28th of May, 1847, but with all its advantages he was induced to believe that there were still greater in the New World, and determined to try them. His parents were John and Johanna C. (Peterson) Bengtson, and he was their third child. The father emigrated to America in 1852, and sixteen years later his family came. Our subject came with the various members of the family and located near La Fayette, Tippecanoe Co., Ind. Charles A. was employed as a farm laborer near the city for four or five years, and then changed his location to Benton County, although pursuing the same line of work.

Our subject removed from Indiana to Iroquois County, this State, in 1881, and thence to Ford County. In the meantime he had saved what he could of his earnings, and was now enabled to purchase 120 acres of improved land. He was married on the 11th of December, 1872, and soon after his purchase took possession of his home with his family. Two years later he sold the farm in Ford County and purchased eighty acres in Champaign, upon which he has remained since that time. He has been keenly observant of what was going on around him, and there are few native born Americans who have exhibited a greater degree of intelligence and enterprise, although not having to contend, as he did, with the difficulties of a strange land, new customs and different people.

The wife of our subject was formerly Miss Clara J. Erickson. She is a native of the same country as her husband, was born Jan. 24, 1851, and came alone to America when a young lady, in 1872, casting her lot among strangers and caring for herself until her marriage with Mr. Bengtson. She is the daughter of Swanson and Christina Margneritta Erickson, also natives of Sweden, where they were married and spent their entire lives. The

mother passed to her long home in 1872, and the father in 1875. Of the seven children born to our subject and his wife the record is as follows: Alfred W. was born Sept. 25, 1873; Amanda M., Sept. 22, 1875; Adalina A. and Anton W. (twins), Aug. 13, 1877; George Courad, Feb. 28, 1880; Brewer I., May 18, 1882, and Tillie J., July 22, 1885. Amanda died Sept. 2, 1876; Adalina, Nov. 4, 1880, and Anton, Sept. 26, 1880. Those living are at home with their parents.

Mr. Bengtson is independent in politics, aiming to give his support to the candidate whom he believes best qualified for office. His influence has always been strongly in favor of the establishment and maintenance of schools and churches, and whatever besides is calculated for the welfare of his community. He is a man of decided views, although quiet and unobtrusive in his manner. His opinions are held in due respect by his fellow-townsmen as those of a man temperate in his impulses, clear-headed and cool, and one whose judgment is usually safe to follow.



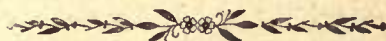
WILLIAM LEHMAN. Among the respected citizens of Sidney is the subject of this sketch, a carpenter and builder by trade, and one of the leading real-estate owners of the place. He was born in Lebanon County, Pa., Dec. 20, 1820, and his parents, Michael and Christiana (Spangler) Lehman, were both natives of the same place. Neither of them are now living, although they attained to an advanced age.

William Lehman is the third in order of birth of a family of nine children. The names of his brothers and sisters are Henry, Michael, John, Isaac, Catherine, Mary, Elizabeth and Susan. After attaining his majority our subject was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Haak, also a native of Lebanon. Her parental family included ten children, and the names of her brothers and sisters were Isaac, Henry, John, Benjamin, George, Catherine, Mary, Sally and Elizabeth. The marriage of our subject with Miss Haak was blest by the birth of eight children: F. W., Henry L., Daniel M., Cyrus P., Samuel G., David S., Elizabeth, who died in infancy, and Amanda, the wife of Dr. Hess,

of Sidney. Henry was killed at the battle of Chancellorsville, while gallantly defending the "Stars and Stripes;" F. W. was wounded at the battle of Gettysburg, and Daniel M. also served in the late war.

The wife of our subject passed from her earthly career to the enjoyment of an everlasting peace beyond, and Mr. Lehman formed a second matrimonial alliance, with Miss Zerby Sibley, the daughter of John and Catherine Sibley. Six children were born to them, namely: Hiram and John, deceased; Edward, in Kansas; Emma, the wife of Charles Hay, who is in the railroad business in Kansas; Lizzie, the wife of Charles Vernon, of Sidney, and Minnie, who is single.

In 1865 Mr. Lehman removed with his family from his native State to Cass County, Ind., where, in addition to following his trade, he also engaged in sawing and cutting lumber. In 1867 he removed with his second wife and ten children to Urbana, and since that time has made his home in this county. For a number of years he has been a resident of Sidney, and has been for a long time one of the Trustees of the village. He owns several lots with excellent dwellings upon them. In politics he is an uncompromising Republican, and in religion, himself and wife are members of high standing in the Lutheran Church.



NICODEMUS FULL, who for several years has been active and prominent in the rural community of St. Joseph Township, was born and reared in the Old Dominion, first opening his eyes to the light in Franklin, Pendleton County, April 1, 1831. He comes of excellent German ancestry, his grandfather, George Full, having been born in the Fatherland, whence he emigrated with his wife, Catherine, soon after his marriage, and was among the early pioneers of Virginia. They reared a family of two sons and three daughters, among whom was George, Jr., the father of our subject, who was born on the old farm in Pendleton County in the early part of the year 1800. Like his father before him he followed agriculture. He, too, received a limited education, remaining under

the home roof until his marriage. His wife was formerly Miss Margaret, daughter of Martin Judy, of German parentage, and after marriage they settled down in Pendleton County, where they reared a family and spent their entire lives.

Of the children born to George and Margaret Full, but three are living. Nicodemus, of our sketch, was the second son and sixth child, and remained under his father's roof until twenty-two years of age. He then started out in life on his own account as a farm laborer, working at \$10 per month. In 1853 he left the Old Dominion, and coming to this county resolved to establish a home for himself within its borders. He was willing to work and wait, and continued employed as before until he had accumulated sufficient means to buy the necessary things with which to commence renting a farm. He operated as a tenant for three years, upon land belonging to D. B. Stayton, and then purchased his present farm of 160 acres on section 9, in St. Joseph Township.

The land upon which our subject located first could scarcely be dignified by the name of a farm, because it was simply raw prairie, uncultivated and unfenced. One of his first duties was to put up a tenement, which was built of plank, and was 16x26 feet in area. The floor was not even nailed down, and the walls were destitute of plaster. He occupied this for about seven years and until able to erect a frame dwelling, and thereafter gradually added other handsome and substantial buildings, which are now among the chief attractions of the estate. Of late years Mr. Full has given much time to the raising of fine stock, in which business he has made the larger part of his money. His stables contain some noble specimens of Belgium and Norman horses, his cattle and hogs are of excellent grade, and he has obtained quite an enviable reputation as a breeder in this locality.

The lady, who for a period of over twenty years, has presided over the domestic affairs of our subject's home, and been his earnest sympathizer and counselor in his undertakings, was in her girlhood Miss Nancy J. Breese, a native of Tippecanoe County, Ind., who came to this county in the year 1852. Her parents died many years ago. The father died while on his way to Chicago, and

the mother in Champaign County, Ill., in 1862. Of her marriage with our subject there were born two children only, a son and daughter, George C. and Vida May. When Mr. Full first began voting the old Whig party was in existence, and he identified himself with its followers. Later, feeling that he could not endorse Republican principles, he went over to the Democracy, with which he has since affiliated. He has meddled but little in politics, however, his official experience including the duties of a Constable only, which he discharged two years.



GEORGE CONDIT, dealer in hardware at Rantoul, established his business here in 1877. He is a native of Licking County, Ohio, and was born May 22, 1839. His parents, James B. and Amanda (Sampson) Condit, are natives of New Jersey. Soon after their marriage the parents removed to Ohio, and located in the town of Jersey, where, and in Johnstown, the father of our subject engaged in mercantile business. He continued there until 1867, and on coming to Champaign County engaged in the grain trade, and as a banker, carrying on the latter business with Mr. Burnham, under the firm name of Condit & Co. They continued together several years, when Mr. C. disposed of his interests to his partner, and removing to Pontiac embarked in the hardware trade.

Our subject grew to manhood in his native county, receiving a fair education in the common schools, and came to this locality in 1857, before his marriage. He engaged in farming for about fifteen years, abandoning this, however, in 1872, to establish his present business. He carries a good line of everything needed in his department, including farm implements. In 1873 he associated himself in partnership with Mr. A. Fromlet. The latter gentleman retired in 1876, and his place was taken by C. McFarland. Business was transacted for several years under the firm name of Condit & McFarland, when the latter retired, and our subject has since conducted the business alone. He is a thorough business man, and has built up an exten-

sive and lucrative patronage. He is well known throughout this section, and is regarded as an upright, honorable man.

During his residence on the farm, in 1864, the marriage of Mr. Condit and Miss Mary Carr, of Champaign, was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents. Mrs. C. was born in Indiana, and is the daughter of Adam Carr, who removed from there to this county in about 1850. The children of this union are James A., Stella and Charles. The wife and mother departed this life in the spring of 1885.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1886, was Miss Lizzie Piffer, of Rantoul. They have a pleasant and attractive home, and enjoy the society of many friends. Both are members of the Congregational Church, in which Mr. Condit has officiated as Deacon for several years, and also as a teacher in the Sunday-school. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party.



JOHAN W. RICHMOND is widely and favorably known as an importer of French draft, Percheron, English draft, also Cleveland Bay and English coach horses, his headquarters being in Fisher Village. He is a gentleman of great energy of character, always busy and revolving some new project in his mind, always pleased, of course, when these prove of benefit to himself, and almost as well pleased when they prove to be of use and convenience to his fellow-citizens. Our subject is the son of Wilson and Mary (Judy) Richmond, natives of Ohio, the latter being a sister of J. H. Judy, of whom a sketch is given elsewhere in this work, together with that of the parents. The parents of Mr. Richmond soon after their marriage emigrated from the Buckeye State to Illinois, where Mr. Richmond engaged in farming and stock-raising and where he still lives. The mother died in Hittle Grove Township, Tazewell County, in 1854.

Wilson Richmond came to Tazewell County in 1830, and his wife in 1826. They, together with others, experienced the hardships of the winter of

the deep snow, when the grandfather of our subject, Joseph Richmond, was frozen to death in crossing the prairie from Mackinaw to Hittle's Grove. In company with Samuel Judy he had gone from the Grove to Mackinaw for provisions. On the return trip Joseph Richmond, when within a short distance of home, exhausted by cold and fatigue, dropped down unable to proceed further. His companion was obliged to leave him and he died in the snow, being found by the settlers the following morning, sitting upright as when Mr. Judy had left him. It required about thirty-six hours before they were able to get his body in a position so that it could be coffined. Of the nine children born to Wilson and Mary (Judy) Richmond, four died in infancy and five lived to adult years. Since that time Jane, who became the wife of Thomas H. Bell, departed this life in Newcomb Township, Jan. 11, 1887. (A sketch of Mr. Bell will be found elsewhere in this work.) Frank married, and is farming in Brown Township, this county; Nancy became the wife of Joseph Headrick, a prosperous farmer of Newcomb Township; Mary, Mrs. John L. Knott, resides with her husband on a farm in Missouri.

John W. Richmond was born in Hittle's Grove Township, Tazewell County, this State, July 26, 1846. His boyhood and youth were passed on his father's farm, and during the winter seasons he availed himself of the instruction afforded in the common schools. He remained a member of the parental household until thirty-five years of age, having at the early age of fifteen years assumed the management of the farm. The responsibility thus placed upon him by wise and judicious parents admirably developed his natural business talent and fitted him for the further duties of life, in which he has been more than ordinarily successful. He became a resident of this county in 1881, in the meantime having purchased a large tract of land in Newcomb Township. The residence of himself and his family, however, is in the village of Fisher, where he has a handsome dwelling in the midst of finely laid out grounds, and everything calculated for the comfort and pleasure of its inmates.

Mr. Richmond was married, Sept. 20, 1884, in the city of New York, to Miss Nora Havenhill, who was born in Kendall County, this State, April

16, 1862. Mrs. R. is the daughter of Hiram and Sarah (Richmond) Havenhill, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Ohio. Her father's family included nine children. Mr. Havenhill is still living and is a resident of Kendall County. The mother died there Jan. 11, 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Richmond are the parents of one child, a son, Wilson R. In the sketch of Henson Richmond, published on another page in this work, will be found some interesting facts connected with the history of the Richmond family, our subject being a nephew of Mr. R. Politically Mr. Richmond affiliates with the Republican party, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Blue Lodge No. 622, of Hopedale, Ill.; Royal Arch Chapter No. 155, of Delavan, and Constantine Commandery No. 51, of Lincoln, Ill.

In the prosecution of his business Mr. Richmond has made seven trips to the Old World, visiting England, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany and Italy. His real estate embraces 1,400 acres of improved land lying mostly in Brown, Newcomb and East Bend Townships. For the draining of this he has expended about \$12,000 in tile alone. He keeps from eight to twelve head of imported horses, sometimes more, and has proved himself admirably adapted to his chosen calling, having built up an enviable reputation in the West as a good judge of horses, in the breeding of which he takes great pride and aims to excel.

CHARLES E. WRIGHT. This gentleman is located on section 21, Newcomb Township, of which he has been a resident since a young man of twenty-one years of age. He is the owner of 165 acres of good land, upon which he has erected all needful farm buildings, and the whole of which constitutes a comfortable and substantial homestead. His residence is one of the best in the township, and is surrounded by a handsome grove, a view of which is to be seen on another page.

Mr. Wright is a native of Licking County, Ohio, where he was born Sept. 30, 1840, and the son of Hiram and Eliza (Blood) Wright, natives re-

spectively of Vermont and Massachusetts. After leaving New England they located in the Buckeye State, whence they removed in about 1872 to Illinois, settling in Newcomb Township, where they still reside. The parental family included eight children, five boys and three girls. Our subject remained under the home roof and received a fair education in the common schools. He was bred to farm pursuits, which he has followed all his life.

Mr. Wright was married in Newcomb Township, Sept. 10, 1863, to Miss Nancy H., daughter of J. S. Hannah, of whom a sketch and portrait appear in another part of this volume. Mrs. Wright is also a native of Ohio, and was born Dec. 10, 1846. Of their thirteen children six only are now living: Lewis L., William W., Hiram S., Charles A., Clara and Sadie. Lyman F. died when he was two and one-half years of age. The others died in infancy.

Our subject and his wife are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically Mr. Wright is a staunch Republican. During the first year of the Civil War he enlisted in the 76th Ohio Infantry, which was known as the "Squirrel Hunters," but only served a short time, the regiment belonging to the State Militia. Mr. Wright is an intelligent farmer, thoroughly conscientious, a man of the strictest integrity, and enjoys the confidence of his fellow-citizens.

JOHAN A. OSBORNE. A prominent writer has said that "all history is only biography." We find this especially exemplified in the community of which our subject is a member. Its history is principally the biography of the lives of those men who have mostly lived worthily and left a good impress upon the places which in time will know them no more. Mr. Osborne has fulfilled his duties as a good citizen and member of society, and has built up one of the best homesteads in Rantoul Township. Although perhaps not at first attracting the eye to any special points it presents a picture of peaceful country life under the proprietorship of an industrious and intelligent man.

John A. Osborne is a native of this State, born

near Griggsville, Pike County, Nov. 3, 1847. His father, Thomas Osborne, was a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, where he grew to manhood on a farm, and after the death of his father emigrated to America, accompanied by his mother and five brothers. The latter were George, James, Samuel, John and Charles. Three of these brothers located in this State, one in Kansas and one in Indiana. Thomas settled in Ohio, where he worked on a farm for a few years, and was married. In 1844 he came to this State with his wife, making the journey via the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. He first rented a tract of land in Pike County, which he operated successfully, and a few years later purchased a farm in Brown County, which he has since occupied. His wife, the mother of our subject, in her girlhood was Miss Matilda Coulter. She was a native of the same county as her husband, and after becoming the mother of six children passed to the other life at her home in Brown County, in the summer of 1855.

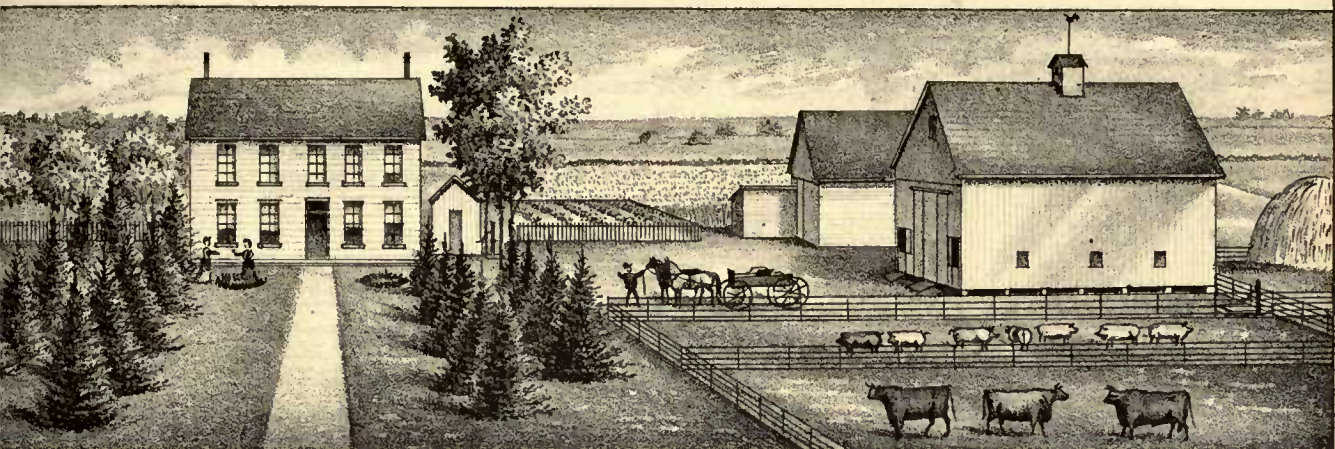
Our subject was the only son of his father's family, and was five years old when they located in Brown County. His first studies were carried on in a log school-house with puncheon floor, slabs for benches and writing-desks, and in all respects finished and furnished after the fashion of those days. The system of teaching was widely different from that of the present time, but the boys of those days grew up industrious and self-reliant, and have since, in many cases, made their mark in the world. Young Osborne lived with his parents until twenty-three years of age, then married and located with his bride on a tract of land in Logan County, this State, which he rented for three years. At the end of this time he had accumulated a small amount of money, and in 1874 became possessor of his present homestead. Upon this he has brought about great improvements. It includes 157 acres, all improved and in a fine condition for the raising of grain and stock, to which he is now devoting most of his time and attention. In 1879 he became interested in the bee industry and provided himself with all the appliances necessary for the successful carrying on of an apiary. He had at one time eighty-nine stands, and has become quite an expert in the management of the industri-

ous little workers, whose example may well be the subject of attention by humanity. In addition to his farming operations Mr. Osborne is engaged in breeding thoroughbred Poland-China hogs, which have been carefully selected from the best families of that noted breed. He also owns a very fine thoroughbred Holstein bull registered "The Rajah," No. 2269, and has several other high-grade thoroughbred animals. He is also breeding Percheron horses, and has at the head of his stables for breeding purposes a very fine horse.

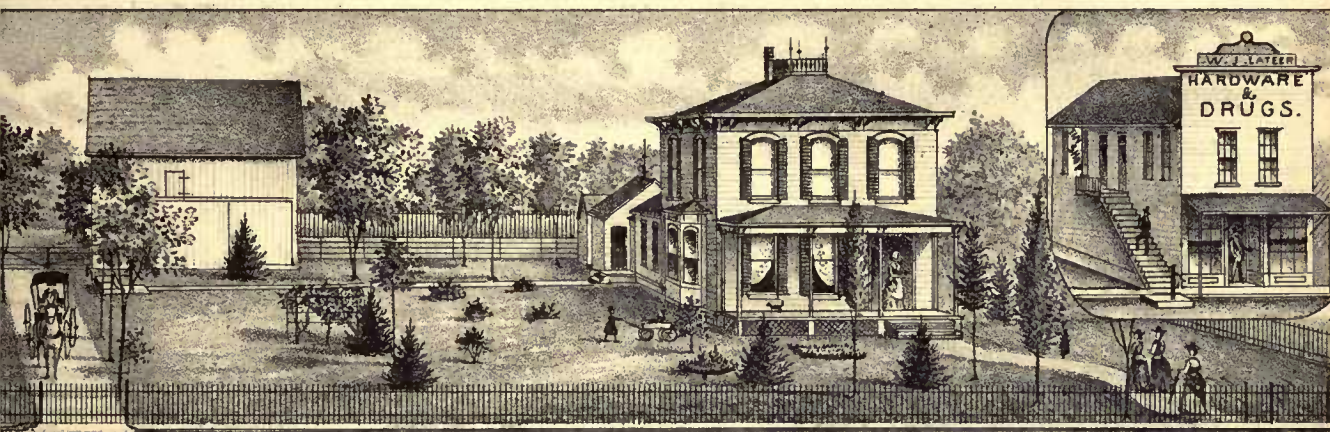
The lady who, in 1870, consented to become a sharer in the fortunes of our subject was Miss Margaret A. Rutledge, a native of Decatur, Macon Co., Ill., and the daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Reed) Rutledge, the former of Irish ancestry. The four children who have added to the pleasures and responsibilities of the household are Lilly M., John W., Cyrus E. and Elizabeth E. Our subject is Republican in politics, and with his wife a consistent and valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is in all respects a worthy representative of the pioneer element, his father having been among the first who located in Brown County, endured the hardships and privations of life in a new settlement, and received due honor as one of the brave spirits who did not shrink at the thought of toil and fatigue, but was willing to give the strength of his manhood for the sake of those who should come after him. A view of the fine thoroughbred stock and home place of Mr. Osborne is shown elsewhere in this work.



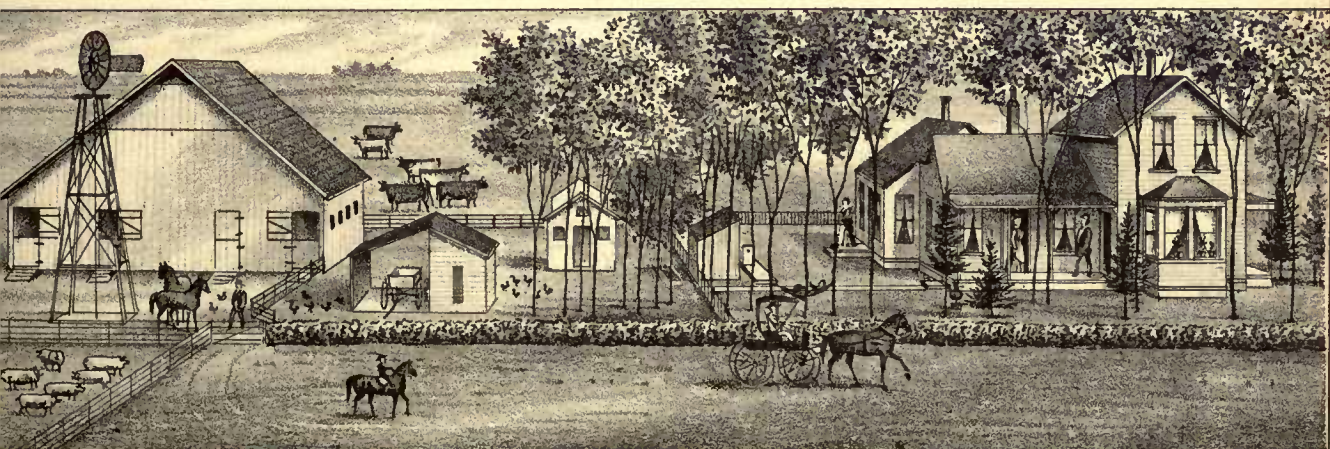
J K. THOMPSON. Some of the most enterprising men of the county reside in Philo Township. The gentleman whose name heads this brief biography is prominent among this number. He is the proprietor of a well-conducted farm of 125 acres on section 3, Philo Township, where he located in 1881. His land is finely improved and stocked with the best grades of domestic animals, including thoroughbred Short-horn cattle and fine horses. His present possessions are the result of his own industry. Since a boy of



RESIDENCE OF ELI BARRETT, SEC. 22, BROWN TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE & BUSINESS HOUSE OF W. J. LATEER, FISHER, ILL.



FARM RESIDENCE OF GEORGE EDWARDS, SEC. 18, PHILO TOWNSHIP.

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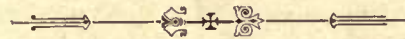
twelve years he has been familiar with the care of horses, to the habits of which animal he has given much attention, and has obtained quite a reputation as a breeder of the noblest and most useful of all animals.

Mr. Thompson was born in Cumberland County, Pa., June 29, 1813. His father, John Thompson, a native of Adams County, Pa., was reared on a farm which occupied a part of the ground where was fought the battle of Gettysburg. The Thompsons were of Scottish origin, the grandfather of our subject coming to this country before his marriage and settling in Adams County, Pa., where he reared a family, and spent the remainder of his days. John Thompson was reared on the farm in Pennsylvania, and upon reaching manhood was married to Miss Elizabeth King, who was a lady of Irish parentage. Their wedding took place in Cumberland County, where they located upon a farm and whence they removed to Ohio in 1820. The father, however, having received a good education spent the earlier part of his life as a teacher in the public schools. After his marriage he settled with his bride near Urbana, Champaign Co., Ohio. This remained the home of the parents of J. K. until their death, that of the mother occurring when she was seventy-two years old, and the father's in 1880, at the venerable age of eighty-nine years. Of their four sons and four daughters one died before the parents. Six are now living.

Mr. Thompson was the eldest son and third child of the family. He remained a member of the parental household until thirty-one years of age. He was united in marriage, in Champaign County, Ohio, in the year 1844, to Miss Margaret A. Van Meter, whose parents, Col. Henry and Margaret (Renick) Van Meter, were natives of Virginia, and of German descent. The father of Mrs. Thompson was a man of great energy and industry, and served as a commissioned officer in the War of 1812. After retiring from the army he engaged as a farmer and stock-dealer, and accumulated considerable property. He was Sheriff of his county for several terms, and was universally respected as a citizen and business man. Both parents died in Champaign County, Ohio.

After his marriage Mr. Thompson located on a

farm near Urbana, Champaign Co., Ohio, whence he removed in 1876 to Philo Township, this county. Here he has been successfully engaged in agriculture, and has displayed excellent judgment in the management of his farm and business matters generally. He was formerly a Whig, politically, but since the organization of the Republican party has been a firm supporter of its principles. Both our subject and his wife are connected with the Presbyterian Church. A lithographic view of Mr. Thompson's residence is shown on another page.



JOHN M. COLLISON, a retired merchant and farmer of Rantoul, is a native of the Prairie State, and was born near Pilot Grove, Vermilion County, on the 24th of May, 1844. His parents, Absalom and Mary V. (Chenowith) Collison, were natives of Ohio. The former died when our subject was but eight years of age. His early education commenced in the district schools, and he was afterward sent to a High School near the State line of Indiana. He pursued his studies here for several months, then returned home to his mother, and the following year embarked in farming. In 1867 he took up his residence in Rantoul, where he embarked in general merchandising.

Mr. Collison continued in mercantile business until 1887, then purchased his present farm, which consists of sixty-eight acres just outside of the corporate limits of Rantoul. During his successful experience as a merchant he invested largely in farm land, having 200 acres in Rantoul and 160 acres in Compromise Township, 320 in Vermilion County, and eighty acres in Ludlow Township, this county, all fertile land and under a good state of cultivation. His home is presided over by a lady who in her girlhood was Miss Lucy Waldon, of Saybrook, McLean Co., Ill., to whom he was married Sept. 1, 1886. By a former marriage with Miss Sarah A. West, of this county, there were born two children—Edna, who died when four years of age, and Mabel. The mother departed this life at her home Feb. 21, 1884.

Mr. Collison has been prominent in the local affairs of his township, serving as Trustee and School

Director, and is uniformly called upon to aid his fellow-townsmen in their deliberations upon matters of general interest. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Rantoul Lodge No. 470. He is also a K. of P. Both Mr. and Mrs. C. are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is Trustee, and to the support of which he has contributed generously and otherwise advanced its interests whenever the opportunity was presented.

The father of our subject upon locating in Vermilion County entered a tract of Government land embracing 800 acres. He labored with the true pioneer spirit, tilling the soil, building fences and putting up the structures necessary for the use of the family and the shelter of grain and stock. After a goodly record he departed this life in 1855, dying upon the homestead where he had labored with so much patience and courage, and done so much toward the development and progress of that section.



J S. WOLFE, attorney at law in Champaign, is a native of this State and was born in Morgan County, Sept. 21, 1833. His parents were George and Mary (Simms) Wolfe, natives respectively of Greenbrier County, Va., and Spartanburg, S. C. George Wolfe, in 1812, removed with his parents to Ross County, Ohio, the family locating near Chillicothe, where the father, Henry, engaged in farming until his death, in 1825. He was a man of deep piety and marked ability. He served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and late in life united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he remained a consistent member for many years. The children of the household were Elizabeth, Jacob, Henry, Catherine, Daniel, John, Mary, George and Joseph, all now deceased.

George Wolfe, the father of our subject, was reared to farming pursuits, which he followed in Ohio until 1826, in which year the entire family came to this State and were among the early pioneers of Morgan County. The father located upon a tract of Government land where he remained until 1839, when he sold out and moved into

Macoupin County, where he still pursued his former occupation until his death, which occurred in 1874. The mother also died that same year. Of their seven sons, two died in infancy. The others are as follows: James is a resident of Macoupin County, Ill.; J. S., of our sketch, was the second; Thomas lives in Barton County, Mo.; George is a resident of Gerard, this State; Peyton lives in Barton County, Mo. George Wolfe politically was a staunch Republican, a strong Prohibitionist, and especially interested in the establishment and maintenance of schools.

The subject of this biography remained on the farm until twenty-two years old, and pursued his early studies in the pioneer log school-house, which, however, was different from some others of that early period, having a long window on each side. They, however, used slabs for writing-desks and the system of teaching as well as the structure itself in which it was carried on, were widely different from those of the present day. Mr. Wolfe early in life began to lay his plans for the future. After leaving home he purchased five yoke of oxen and commenced breaking the prairie, and was occupied at this laborious work for two years, in the meantime keeping in view the intention which he had formed of commencing the study of law as soon as possible or practicable. In 1857, he went to Carlinville, entered a law office, and became a thorough student of Blackstone, and was admitted to the bar two years later.

Mr. W. commenced the practice of his profession at Carlinville, but the following year removed to Champaign, of which city he was then a resident for four years. In 1864 he took up his abode in Chicago, where he remained until 1867, and then, on account of the death of his father-in-law, William Young, returned to Champaign, where he has since lived. He has been Attorney for the Illinois Central Railroad Company, a number of years, and socially belongs to Western Star Lodge No. 240, A. F. & A. M., and Urbana Commandery No. 16, K. T.

Mr. J. S. Wolfe was married, May 15, 1862, to Miss Celestia A. Young, of Lorain County, Ohio. Their residence, to which a host of warm friends and acquaintances often resort, is pleasantly located

on Church street, and the office of Mr. Wolfe is located in the Burnham Block. Our subject is independent in politics. Mr and Mrs. W. are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which the former is Class-Leader and a member of the Official Board. He is a careful, painstaking lawyer, a man of the strictest integrity, and enjoys the confidence of his fellow-citizens.



JACOB S. COONS is a prosperous farmer and stock-grower, residing in St. Joseph Township. He is the son of William and Christina (Smith) Coons, and was born Oct. 5, 1836, in Tompkins County, N. Y., near Italy. The Coons branch of the family are of German ancestry, and were early settlers of America in the old Colonial times, wherein they took an active part in the various Indian disturbances, with which New York was for a long period troubled. His paternal grandparents, Jacob and Ellen (Hawthorne) Coons, were natives of that State, where his father, William Coons, was born in 1807, in Schoharie County.

William Coons' boyhood and youth were passed in his native State, and he was there taught the cooper's trade. His marriage to Miss Christina Smith, daughter of Jacob and Mary (Young) Smith, likewise occurred there. The Smith family were natives of Virginia, but were subsequently among the early settlers of Pennsylvania. After his marriage William Coons removed to Marion County, Ohio, and subsequently to Wyandot County. He passed the remainder of his life in that State, his death occurring in 1852; he left his widow with a family of six children, five sons and one daughter.

Jacob S. Coons passed his early life in Ohio, where he received the advantages of the common schools, and subsequently attended an excellent select school. He remained with his mother until twenty-one years of age, and then went to visit the old homestead in New York, and the relatives from whom his family had been so long separated. He spent four years there, engaged in various business enterprises, and then returned to Ohio. In the autumn of 1858 he came to Champaign County, and

was engaged for a time in farming by the month. He next rented a farm and soon acquired sufficient capital to purchase eighty acres of land. He has cultivated and improved this, and from time to time increased its limits until he now owns a fine estate containing 170 acres. He has brought his farm to a high state of cultivation. It is well fenced and tiled, and supplied with a pleasant residence and excellent farm buildings. In conducting his farm, Mr. Coons has been especially successful in raising cattle and hogs.

Mr. Coons has been twice married. His first wife was Miss Susan Cox; she became the mother of two children—Ada, the wife of George Neldon, and Arthur M. On the 7th of October, 1886, Mr. Coons was married to his present wife, Mrs. Cowell, of Vermilion County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Coons are both highly esteemed members of the Methodist Church, of which the former is one of the Trustees. Mr. Coons is a staunch Republican, and holds the belief that in all the affairs of life, political and social, law and order should be the regulators of the commonwealth.



THEODORE F. CRANE, during the years of his early manhood and middle age, was employed mostly in agricultural pursuits, but is now retired from active labor and spending his days in the comfort and quiet which he has so justly earned. He is one of the most valued residents of Rantoul, and a man for whom its people have the warmest and most sincere regard.

Mr. Crane was born in Peoria County, near Farmington, Ill., Dec. 9, 1836. He is the son of John M. and Louisa (Randolph) Crane, natives of New Jersey. The grandfather of our subject, Harry Crane, was of Scotch ancestry, and located in New Jersey in the Colonial days. There he married, and reared a fine family of sons and daughters who, with one exception, scattered through different parts of the East, John M. having moved to Ohio. He lived in and around the city of Cincinnati several years, where he secured quite a large amount of real estate but lost heavily on account of its subsequent depreciation. He left that locality

in 1830, and coming to Peoria, secured possession of a farm where he cultivated the soil, and in connection with it operated a sawmill for a number of years. Afterward he sold the farm and purchased another, but subsequently abandoned agriculture and removing to the town of Kenney, retired from active business and made his home with his children. His death took place in this county in 1881. Mrs. Louisa Crane survived her husband for a period of nearly six years, and died in Fulton County in January, 1887. The parental household included three daughters and nine sons, with three pairs of twins, five of them boys. Seven of the children have passed to their long home.

The subject of this history, who was the youngest son of the family, grew to manhood in Peoria County, receiving a common-school education, and remained with his parents until he was nineteen years of age. He then started out on his own account, engaging as a farmer, stock-trader and dealer in real estate. Early in life he had evinced unusual business talents, which developed as years passed by and he soon found himself on the road to a competency. When twenty years of age he was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Marchant, of Fulton County. This lady is the daughter of Jonah and Sarah J. Marchant. After their marriage the young people went to housekeeping in Peoria County, where our subject continued nearly a year and then, removing to Abingdon, Knox County, engaged in hotel-keeping. Thence he removed to Fulton County two years later and engaged in farming, but afterward returned to Peoria County, where he remained three years. His next removals were to Stark and Marshall Counties. In the former he engaged for nine years in farming.

Mr. Crane became a resident of this county in 1876, locating one and one-half miles southeast of Rantoul on section 1, where he had purchased 320 acres of the finest land in that locality. For ten years thereafter he followed farming and stock-raising, and the various pursuits incident to rural life, realizing each year a handsome income, and retired in the spring of 1886, upon a competency. Besides his farm property in Rantoul Township, he has 160 acres in the northern part of the county. His farm is now operated by a tenant. The in-

dustrious habits of Mr. Crane will by no means permit him to be idle, and he is now dealing somewhat in real estate.

Of the seven children, four sons and three daughters, born to our subject and his wife, two died in infancy. Those surviving are, Anna L., Eva A., Estella M., Cassius M. and Austin T. It is hardly necessary to state that considering the more than ordinary business capacities of Mr. Crane he has been often called into the councils of his fellow-townsmen when deliberating upon questions relating to the various enterprises inaugurated for the welfare of the people. He has taken great satisfaction in the establishment and maintenance of schools, serving as Trustee and encouraging by every means in his power, the moral and intellectual advancement of his community. Mr. and Mrs. Crane became connected with the Christian Church in 1876, of which they have since remained consistent members, and our subject is a Trustee. He votes with the Republican party, and is an ardent Prohibitionist.



A BRAHAM D. CROSS, Postmaster at Rantoul, is the staunch representative of an excellent Pennsylvania family, of English descent, and was himself born near Danville, in Lycoming County, in November, 1830. His parents were Joseph and Mary A. (Davis) Cross; the former was born in England, and the latter in Wales. They emigrated to this country in their youth and after their marriage settled on a farm in Lycoming County, Pa. The quiet of their rural life was interrupted, however, by the wars with Texas and Mexico, in which Joseph Cross served as a Federal soldier, and as he never returned from the battle-field was supposed to have been killed. His widow was left with four children, two sons and two daughters, of whom our subject was the eldest. She afterward married again and the children were subsequently scattered.

Upon leaving his mother's home our subject drifted to the city of Philadelphia, where he learned the carpenter's trade and from which place, in 1856, he came to the West. Soon after reaching the borders of Illinois, he concluded to take up his

abode in Rantoul and commenced operating as a builder and contractor. He was afterward made conductor of a train, and subsequently, in connection with Harvey E. Bullock, distinguished himself as one of the publishers of the *Rantoul News*, with which he remained connected from 1874 to 1877. He again returned to the road and was conductor on the Nickel Plate Road, running from Ft. Wayne, Ind., to Belleview, and on the Cleveland and Marietta from Cleveland to Valley Junction. He was appointed Postmaster in June, 1885, the duties of which office he has since performed with credit to himself and satisfaction to those who recommended him. He gives his whole time and attention to the duties of the office and has effected some admirable changes in the management. He has been a lifelong Democrat, always in good standing with his party, and is an attendant of the Episcopal Church, to which the various members of his family belong.

Over thirty-five years ago, in November, 1851, Mr. Cross was married to Miss Martha Jacoby, the ceremony being performed in the Episcopal Church in the town of Andalusia, Pa. The wife of our subject is the daughter of John and Elizabeth Jacoby, of Bloomsburg, Pa., and of this congenial union there have been born eight children. Of these but four are now living: George S.; Lillian E., now the wife of O. J. Downey, editor of the *Potomac (Vermilion County) News*; Frank Raymond, Assistant Postmaster, and Ruth D.



WILLIAM F. HOWARD, of Hensley Township, occupies a snug farm on section 24, where he settled in 1865. The homestead was originally established by his father, from whom it was purchased by our subject, who has carried out in a praiseworthy manner the improvement which he instituted. When our subject first took possession of the place there was upon it a comfortable set of frame buildings. In 1885 the house was destroyed by fire, together with most of its contents. Mr. H. with commendable enterprise immediately set about rebuilding, and now has one of the pleasantest homes in this part of the county.

The subject of our sketch was born in Union Township, Brown Co., Ohio, Jan. 25, 1838. His paternal grandfather was a native of Virginia, whence he removed to Ohio, settling in Brown County when that section of the country was a wilderness. He put up the first mill in the county, which was furnished with three run of buhrs, one for corn, and two for wheat, and was operated by horse power. This mill was a great convenience to the settlers, and patrons came from thirty miles away. Mr. Howard became the proprietor of an extensive tract of land and cleared a farm upon which he resided until his death. Among the members of the family reared there was Campbell, the father of our subject, who was born May 7, 1811. He spent his entire life on the homestead and his death occurred there in 1886. When a young man he purchased a tract of timber land adjoining the old homestead, and at the time of his death was the possessor of 200 acres, besides other land in that vicinity. Campbell Howard was married to Miss Angeline Forsyth, and they became the parents of seven children, all of whom save one grew to mature years.

The subject of this history was reared on the farm and when old enough began to assist in its labors, and during the winter seasons attended the district school. He remained under the home roof until his marriage, and then assumed the management of a portion of the farm. From this he removed in 1863 to the farm of his uncle, which he operated until 1865. A portion of the year 1864 Mr. H. spent in the army, serving in the 172d Ohio Infantry. In 1865 he came to this county and settled on his present homestead. His wife was formerly Miss Mary Baker, a native of Mason County, Ky. Their marriage took place Sept. 22, 1859. Mrs. H. is the daughter of Hiram W. and Margaret (Van Buskirk) Baker, the former a native of Mason County, Ky., where he followed farming and spent the greater part of his life. His death occurred in 1849. Mrs. Margaret V. Baker was born in Virginia, spent the last years of her life with her children, and died in Hensley Township, this county, July 6, 1883.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard have seven children: Eleanor, Mrs. Pitman, who lives in Urbana; Ida

M., Minnie B., Laura, John A., Charles T. and Lawrence. Our subject and his wife are prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. That they enjoy the highest regard of their numerous friends is not at all strange. They are high-minded, honorable people, honest and upright, and generous whenever and wherever their charity is invoked. Politically Mr. H. supports the principles of the Republican party.

FRANK WILCOX, real-estate and mortgage broker, also Abstracter of Titles of Champaign, has been a resident of this section since 1865, and is closely identified with the business interests of the city in which he resides. He is a native of New Jersey, and was born between the towns of Elizabeth and Newark, March 13, 1834. He is the son of Levi, Jr., and Hulda (Crane) Wilcox, also natives of New Jersey, who followed farming for some years in their native State, and then removed to Ohio. There the father of our subject located in Warren County, and engaged as a contractor on the old Erie Canal until 1842. That year he removed to Indiana, becoming a resident of Fountain County, where he farmed and kept a hotel for a few years, finally removing to Warren County, the same State, where he continued farming and died in 1853. The mother had departed this life ten years before. Their nine children were David B., Anner, Elias C., Orpha, Albert, Frank, Mulford, John and Mary. Of these four are living, namely, Elias, Anner, John and Frank.

The great-great-grandfather of our subject, who was Peter Wilcox, a native of England, emigrated to America in January, 1736 or 1737, settling on Blue Brook, in New Jersey, which was known as the Peter Hill Farm, and which consists of 424 acres. This tract of land lay between Blue and Green Brooks, and Peter Wilcox occupied it the remainder of his life. He married and raised a family of five children, of whom William, the second son, was the great-grandfather of our subject. William became the father of eleven children, his second son being Levi, the grandfather of our subject. Levi, Sr., became the father

of four children, of whom Levi, Jr., was the father of our subject.

The parents of Frank Wilcox had a family of nine children, of whom Frank was the sixth in order of birth. The family patronimic in early days was spelled Willcockse and was changed to Wilcox by the grandfather, Levi, Sr.; one "l" was dropped by the father of our subject. Peter Willcockse was an officer in the English army, a man of great force of character. He finally resigned his position, and was subsequently engaged in a duel on the ocean with a Frenchman.

Mr. Wilcox of our sketch was reared on the Wabash River, in Indiana, and attended school during the winter season until fourteen years of age. In the summer he assisted his father in the labors of the farm. At the age named he engaged as clerk in a dry-goods store at Covington, where he remained four years, and then started across the plains to California, seeking for an improvement in health. After five years spent on the Pacific Slope, he returned by water, and in the fall of 1856 engaged in business at Covington. This he sold out in 1859, spent the following winter in Nebraska City, and in the spring of 1860 started to Pike's Peak. There he engaged in mining and located a cattle ranch half way between Breckenridge and what is now Leadville. The following year he returned to Covington, Ind., and in 1862, the late war being in progress, entered the army as Captain of Co. F, 63d Ind. Vol. Inf., and was placed on duty at Indianapolis as Provost Marshal of the district composed of Indiana and Michigan.

In the fall of 1863 Capt. Wilcox and his company were sent to the field and engaged in active service during the Atlanta campaign. After the battle of Resaca our subject was commissioned Major of the 63d Indiana Infantry, and the following year was promoted Colonel of the 154th Indiana Infantry, which rank he held until the close of the war. He was in the battles of Columbia, S. C., Franklin and Nashville, Tenn., and fought the rebel Gen. Johnson, from Kennesaw Mountain to Atlanta. He received his honorable discharge in 1865, and coming to the city of Champaign, became the partner of A. B. Eads, and with him opened a real-estate office. They made one set of abstracts and

purchased another, continuing together until 1879, when Mr. Wilcox purchased the interest of his partner, and since that time has conducted the business alone.

Our subject was married at Leavenworth, Kan., in 1860, to Miss Margaret F. Fields. Mrs. W. was the daughter of John and Majah (Jarvis) Fields, and of her union with our subject became the mother of four children, of whom only one is now living, a daughter, Fannie M. Their residence is located on the corner of Hill and State streets, where they extend a generous hospitality to a large number of friends and acquaintances.

Col. Wilcox has taken a deep interest in the success of the temperance movement, and is an Elder in the Presbyterian Church, with which Mrs. W. is also connected. He has been Superintendent and teacher of the Sabbath-school, and in all respects has identified himself fully with the moral and educational interests of this section. He was President of the Champaign County Sabbath-School Association for four years, which under his management became the Banner county, which position it still maintains. He is now serving the fourth year as President of the Sabbath-School Association of the Thirteenth District of the State. Socially he belongs to the G. A. R.



WILLIAM M. WEST, the leading dry-goods merchant of Rantoul, is a native of the Buckeye State, and was born near the city of Cleveland, Sept. 8, 1845. His father, Munns West, a native of Ireland, emigrated to America when a young man twenty-one years old. He had some knowledge of mercantile pursuits, having served three years as a clerk in his native country, but after becoming an American citizen changed his occupation somewhat, becoming a dealer in real estate and engaged in agriculture, of which he made a success.

The mother of our subject, formerly Miss Mary A. Higgins, was a native of Euclid, a suburban town of Cuyahoga County, about ten miles from Cleveland. After marriage the young people located on a tract of land near the city limits,

where they continued to reside a number of years. In 1854, the elder West, deciding to join the tide of emigration setting toward the Prairie State went first to Rockford, Ill., and thence to this county. Under the impression that farm life would suit him best he purchased 320 acres in Harwood Township, of which he remained in possession until after the outbreak of the late war, and in 1863 abandoned farming and took up his residence in Rantoul. Not long afterward he purchased a stock of goods, and from that time until 1866 engaged in general merchandising. In the fall of the year last named he formed a partnership with M. E. Wandell, but a year later they dissolved, and Mr. West, purchasing the interest of his partner, carried on the business alone until selling out to C. W. Gulick. Later he engaged in brokerage, and in 1872 retired altogether from business. He departed this life at his home in Rantoul, on the 10th of May, 1881, in the sixty-second year of his age. The mother had died in 1865, while they were living on the farm. Of their eight children, but four are living, and our subject is the eldest of the family.

William West was a boy of eleven when his parents became residents of this county. He assisted his father on the farm, and after finishing his primary studies entered Eastman Commercial College, where he took a thorough course, and became a book-keeper. After his father established the store in Rantoul, William became his trusted clerk, and in January, 1875, purchased the business. Two years later he took V. C. Lennox in as a partner, and they continued together four years, at the expiration of which time the stock was divided, Mr. West taking the dry-goods and Mr. Lennox the groceries, since which time each has conducted business alone.

In addition to his stock and store in Rantoul, besides a handsome residence, Mr. West has a good farm near the town limits, where he makes a specialty of breeding Percheron horses. He embarked in this enterprise in 1882, and has now sixty as fine animals of this description as will be found in this section. In 1881-82 he invested considerably in Kansas and Nebraska lands, and altogether has a prospect of living comfortably in his old age.

The lady who has presided over the home of our

subject for a period of nearly twenty years was formerly Miss L. E. Dodge, a native of Union County, Ohio, and who became his wife in the spring of 1869. She is the daughter of J. K. Dodge, formerly of this county, but now a resident of Kansas. The five children born of this union are Munns, Charles E., William O., Ray D. and Jessie May. The family residence is pleasantly located, and is evidently the home of refinement and cultivation. Mr. West has taken an active interest in the welfare of his fellow-citizens, serving as School Trustee and as a member of the Town Board for several terms. He was elected Justice of the Peace in 1883, and served acceptably for two terms. Mr. and Mrs. W. are identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are among its most devoted and consistent members. Socially Mr. West is a valued member of the K. of P.



JAMES H. TENNANT. The State of Illinois has developed many of the most extensive agriculturists the Nation can boast of, and the subject of the following sketch may well be classed among the number. In Condit Township he owns the whole of section 13, and carries on one of the best conducted stock farms in this section of the country. His land is finely located, and in all respects admirably adapted for the purpose to which it is mainly devoted. Nature has done much for section 13, and Mr. Tennant has greatly aided also in producing one of the most attractive spots in Champaign County. He possesses the energy and enterprise necessary to success in this department of agriculture, shipping annually large numbers of the finest animals to be found in the Mississippi Valley.

Our subject is a native of New York State, and was born in Mayville, Chautauqua County, Aug. 25, 1833. He is descended from an excellent family, who were widely and favorably known throughout New England. His grandfather, Daniel Tennant, a native of Connecticut, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. After the independence of the Colonies had been established he took up his abode in the Empire State, which at that

day was only just beginning to give promise of its future importance. He located in Oneida County, being among the pioneer settlers there, and carried on merchandising for several years. Subsequently he removed to Chautauqua County, where his death occurred in about 1848.

The father of our subject, Austin Tennant, was a native of Sangerfield, Oneida Co., N. Y., where he was born April 24, 1799. He received an unusually good education for those days, and in early life became a teacher, which occupation he followed for a number of years. In about 1827 he purchased a tract of heavily timbered land, near which was afterward Mayville, Chautauqua County, from which he cleared a farm, and lived there until about 1855. In the meantime he added to his first estate, and became one of the landed proprietors of that locality. Upon his removal from there in the year mentioned he located in the city of Ash-tabula, Ohio, purchasing city property there, where he now resides. After the labors of an active and industrious manhood he still retains his health and mental faculties to a remarkable degree, and now is passing his declining years in the enjoyment of a competency. The mother of our subject was Miss Laura Morgan, whose parents, Russell and Eliza Morgan, were among the earliest pioneers of Chautauqua County, N. Y., where Mrs. Tennant was born. The parental household included three children: Amos H., who lives in Mayville, N. Y.; Sarah J., Mrs. Munn, of Warren County, Pa., and our subject, James H.

Mr. Tennant, of our sketch, who was a bright and ambitious boy, after graduating from the district school, entered Westfield Academy, in his native county, to prepare for college. His college course was pursued in Buffalo, and after graduation in 1852, he engaged as clerk at Erie, Pa. Six months later he threw up his clerkship and entered the employ of the Sharon Iron Company, whose headquarters were at Buffalo. His time not being fully occupied he began to speculate on his own account, and was very successful. After being in the employment of this company for six years he succeeded to the business. Two years later he went South and commenced dealing in cotton. He became proprietor of five river steamers, making

his headquarters at Memphis, and at the end of two years found himself possessed of a fortune of half a million dollars. Soon afterward, on account of failing health, he was obliged to abandon active business, and coming North to Chicago devoted himself to the care of over 60,000 acres of land, and the restoration of his health.

While in the midst of other business transactions Mr. Tennant had also bought largely of wild land in the West, among which was the section which he now owns in Condit Township. Of this he took possession in 1873, and commenced the improvements which have now made this tract so valuable. Since then he has divided his time between this place and Chicago, spending, however, the past two winters in Texas, where he also has extensive real-estate interests. In due time Mr. Tennant expects to make his home in the Lone Star State.

The marriage of J. H. Tennant and Miss Elizabeth T. Hulburt, a native of Erie, Pa., was celebrated on the 27th of May, 1863. Of this union there were born two children: Clara, the only daughter, died when eighteen months old; the son, George B., completed his education at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., and is now a civil engineer, and a resident of Grand Rapids, Mich.

JAMES A. WILSON, the youngest son of William and Martha (Fulton) Wilson, was born in Vermillion County, Ill., April 29, 1859. When six years old the family removed to the place where he now resides, on section 9, in Raymond Township. He received his elementary education in the district schools, and subsequently entered the West Side High School in Champaign County, whence he graduated in 1883. He resides on the homestead, of which he now owns an undivided interest. This also is the home of his aged mother, who has now reached the age of threescore years and ten. A sketch of the parents will be found elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Wilson is a man of fine tastes, and has done some very creditable work as an artist in crayon. He has been employed at different times as a school teacher. Politically he votes the Democratic ticket,

and served as Collector of Raymond Township two years. He united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1876, with which he has since been identified. He is one of the younger members of the community, destined to rank among its representative citizens.

ALBERT DUNLAP, deceased, who was widely known as one of the most highly respected residents of Champaign, was a native of the Prairie State, and was born at Leyden, Cook County, Dec. 29, 1847. He was the son of M. L. Dunlap, who emigrated from New York State to Cook County in 1836. In early manhood he was married to Miss Emeline Pierce, also a native of the Empire State, and who is still living with her son Henry, having now arrived at the advanced age of sixty-nine years.

Mr. Dunlap was the fourth son in a family of nine children, seven boys and two girls. When he was nine years of age, the family came to Champaign County, locating on a farm of 320 acres, three and one-half miles south of the city of Champaign, and now known as Rural Home Fruit Farm. It was at that time an unbroken prairie. The early years of our subject were spent alternately at the district school, and after the manner of most of the sons of pioneers, in assisting to develop the farm and establish a comfortable homestead. The father laid off several acres of his land for a nursery, the first project of the kind in this section of the State.

When nineteen years old Albert entered the High School at Tuscola, Ill., where he pursued his studies two terms, and afterward attended the private school at Kimmundy, where he completed a good business education. In this institution also he met his future wife, Miss Elizabeth J. Claytor, and they were united in marriage on the 10th of August, 1868. Mrs. Dunlap was born in Ross County, Ohio, and came West with her parents, John and Esther Claytor, in 1860. They located upon a farm in Marion County, Ill. Mrs. Dunlap was the eldest of eight children, and received her education in the district and High Schools at Kimmundy. She afterward became a teacher,

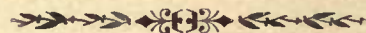
which profession she followed a number of years. She united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1864, and has performed all the duties of a wife and mother in the most faithful and devoted manner.

In 1869 Albert Dunlap became a partner with his father, and brother Merton, in the nursery business. Upon the death of the former our subject continued the business in connection with a brother. In 1880 Mr. Dunlap removed to Savoy, Ill., and engaged in merchandising, buying grain, etc. He commenced in a modest way, and his prompt business methods soon placed him on the road to prosperity. As his trade increased he enlarged his facilities, building a more commodious store, and putting up a large grain elevator. He also erected a dwelling for his family, whom he removed from the farm, and closed out the nursery business. Such was the confidence in his business integrity, that many farmers preferred to haul their grain longer distances in order to do business with him. Many also entrusted their private business to his care, and he managed a large amount of property belonging to non-residents. He fulfilled all his trusts in a faithful and creditable manner, and fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of all with whom he had dealings.

In 1885, in order that he might give his children the benefit of a good school, Mr. Dunlap removed his family to Champaign, although continuing his business in Savoy, going out on the morning freight and returning in the evening to his home in the city. On the 22d of November, 1886, he entered the caboose of a delayed freight train that had stopped to do some switching. Two friends had accompanied him into the caboose. The night was dark and rainy, and on the way the station agent remarked to Mr. Dunlap that the light in the distance was the local freight on which he usually returned home. No apprehension was felt, as the local always stopped, but this train proved to be a wild freight, which passed the local at the first station back. Not aware that there was a delayed train ahead, and having been repeatedly urged by the trainmaster to make Champaign within a given time, the engineer was unable to check the speed of his train, which was running very fast. They

dashed into the standing cars, completely wrecking the caboose, engine and many cars. The engineer of the wild train, James Near, was killed, and also Mr. Dunlap's two companions. Mr. Dunlap was taken from beneath the wreck badly mangled but still alive. Kind hands removed him to the nearest house, his former residence, where he expired in about one hour. Upon being taken from the wreck he asked, "Is this a dream?" Thus ended the life of one of the best citizens of Champaign County, through the criminal neglect of the trainmaster at Champaign to notify the wild train that a delayed one was ahead of them, and urging the greater speed.

At the time of his death Mr. Dunlap was Township and School Trustee, and serving his second term as Supervisor. He was also President of the County Grain-Dealers' Association. He became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1865, and was in the broadest sense of the word, a Christian gentleman, beloved by all who knew him. He possessed in an eminent degree that highest of all Christian virtues, charity for his fellow-men. At the time of his death, his family consisted of his wife, three daughters and one son. At the time of this calamity Ella Marion was seventeen years of age; Alice, fifteen; Nellie, ten, and Joseph C. but two years old. Mr. Dunlap by his wise foresight, left his family in comfortable circumstances. His name is held in tender remembrance as one who left a record of an upright and honorable life.



WILLIAM H. VANASLEN. The agricultural implement trade at Tolono is represented in a praiseworthy manner by the subject of this biography, who is a native of Cumberland County, Pa. His birth took place on the 4th of April, 1845, and his parents were Isaac and Sarah (Beltzhooover) Vanaslen, whose ancestors originally came from Holland, and located in Pennsylvania at an early period in its history. Isaac Vanaslen was a farmer by occupation, and by his first marriage became the father of nine children, five of whom died of scarlet fever in childhood. Four grew to mature years. Sarah, who became

the wife of Levi Gleim, died in 1881; Mary Jane, who married Levi Gntshall, and Kate E., the wife of W. H. Gipe, are residents of Boiling Springs, Pa.; our subject is the twin of Kate E. The mother of these children departed this life in 1856. The father subsequently married Mrs. Rachel Smyers. There were no children of this marriage. This lady died in 1885, and Isaac Vanaslen in 1878, when seventy-three years of age.

Our subject was but eleven years old when his mother died. He continued to live on his father's farm until sixteen, attending the district school during the winter and farming in the summer. When nineteen years of age he commenced teaching, and the following year entered Burnham's American Business College at Springfield, Mass. After leaving college he resumed teaching in Cumberland County, Pa., until the year 1870, when he came to Illinois, took a course of penmanship at Champaign, under the instruction of H. S. Souder, and for six years afterward was employed successfully as a teacher of penmanship. After this he was variously employed during the summer seasons.

On the 13th of May, 1873, he was united in marriage with Miss Jessie A., daughter of Jesse and Anna M. Simpson, of Tolono. On the evening of their marriage they went to Pennsylvania, where Mr. Vanaslen resumed teaching school in Clearfield County, remaining there until 1875. That year he located in Tolono, where he was employed as a teacher for nine years following, during the winter season, while in the summer he dealt in agricultural implements. In the meantime he formed a partnership with S. J. Surrrell, and the business was conducted under the firm style of Surrrell & Vanaslen until the fall of 1883, when our subject became sole proprietor.

Mr. and Mrs. Vanaslen became the parents of one child only, a daughter, Lilly K., born Sept. 15, 1876. They occupy a pleasant home on Holden street, and are surrounded by a large circle of warm friends. Mr. V. has made his own way in the world, and is now comfortably situated financially. From a modest beginning he has built up a good trade, and his courteous dealings have secured him the respect of his community. He has held various local offices, and politically endorses the principles

of the Republican party. Our subject and his wife have been active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church for a period of fifteen years or over, and have given special attention to Sabbath-school work.

WILLIAM ROCK, deceased, one of the honored pioneers of Sadorus Township, and who improved one of the first farms laid off on section 24, became one of the prominent landmarks of the county, and left to his descendants a name and a record of which they may well be proud. He was born in Alleghany County, Md., Feb. 17, 1799, and departed this life at his home in Sadorus Township, in 1883. He remained a resident of his native State until 1831, and in the spring of that year emigrated to Indiana, and in March, 1835, came to this county. Soon afterward he took up a claim of forty acres in Sadorus Township, and built the house which continued his residence the remainder of his life.

The career of Mr. Rock illustrates in a remarkable manner the result of determination, perseverance and industry. Upon coming to this county he had only money enough to pay for his forty acres, at \$1.25 per acre. At the time of his death he was the owner of nearly 2,400 acres of land, which, with the exception of 190 acres purchased after his will was made, was divided in an equitable and satisfactory manner among his children.

William Rock spent his boyhood and youth as a member of his father's household until his marriage in 1824. His first wife, formerly Miss Nancy Beavers, was born Aug. 15, 1808, and of this union there were eleven children: James is deceased; Catherine, Mrs. Bryant, resides near Parkville; Elizabeth is deceased; Andrew J. is written of elsewhere in this work; Jane and William H. are deceased; Mary, Mrs. Newton Coler, lives in Sadorus Township; Rebecca married Pierce S. Coler, and lives in Sadorus Township; George is deceased; Ann is the wife of Dr. J. G. Chambers, of Sadorus Township; John is deceased. The death of little Jane occurred about two years after the arrival of Mr. Rock and his family in Sadorus Township. There was scarcely enough suitable material in the neighborhood in which to enshroud the child, but a

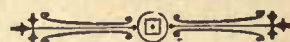
small piece of white muslin was finally secured from Mrs. Henry Sadorus. There were not even boards to be obtained large enough to make a coffin, and the father and brother hewed out a receptacle for the remains from a log. The mother of these children passed from earth Nov. 28, 1847. A year later Mr. Rock was married to Miss Nancy Shreve, by whom he had one child, Martin V., who died Jan. 9, 1864. The second wife, who was born Jan. 25, 1808, still survives him, and is living in St. Joseph, this county.

When Mr. Rock commenced farming in this county, his stock consisted of a light four-horse team, three cows, a few calves and about a dozen pigs, which he had brought with him. The first dwelling was built of round poles, and contained a solitary room 16x18 feet. In this the family dwelt for about eight years. The next residence was built of hewn logs, and was one and one-half stories in height. The more pretentious residence, which was erected in 1848, was built of brick, made and burned on his land. The first school in that locality was a private one, conducted in a little house, which Mr. Rock built especially for that purpose. In this five of his children learned their letters at the same time. Mr. Rock himself learned his letters in the evenings after he was married, from a man who was working for him, and felt quite proud of his later accomplishments in reading. His first lessons in arithmetic were obtained by counting the chapters in the Bible, which was the first and only reading book he ever had. He was a Universalist in religious belief, and meetings were sometimes held at his house or in the neighborhood.

In this sketch, necessarily brief, there is scarcely space to detail the experiences of Mr. Rock, as one of the earliest pioneers of this county. His family never suffered for food, because there was plenty of wild game, and when not able to reach the mills, which were twenty to sixty miles away, they pieced out their meager fare on home-made hominy. The epicure of to-day might seriously object to the "menu" of those times, but the pioneers possessed in a remarkable degree the quality of contentment and made the best of circumstances.

Mr. Rock politically was a staunch Democrat, and

seldom permitted any other duties to interfere with casting his vote on election days, although this at first involved a journey to Urbana. He was a remarkably healthy man, although at long periods suffered from inflammation of the eyes, which finally destroyed his eyesight. In the management of his business affairs he was prudent and far-seeing, and looked upon death as one of the least calamities that can befall a man, making his arrangements for that event with as much calmness as he would to start upon a journey to see a friend. He had erected a monument on the private burying-ground on his farm, and there, according to his request and his previous arrangement, his body was laid for its final rest. The memory of "Uncle Billy Rock" is held in kind remembrance by all who knew him, and who will often speak of him to their children and grandchildren as one of the resolute spirits who aided so materially in developing the resources of this section and opening a path for the march of a later civilization.



WILLIAM YOUNG, carpenter and builder, at Rantoul, is a native of the Buckeye State, and was born in Bethel Township, Miami County, Jan. 31, 1833. His grandfather, John Young, a native of Ireland, and of Scotch ancestry, emigrated to the United States when a young man, and locating upon a tract of land in Virginia, opened up a farm, upon which he labored and passed the remainder of his life. Among the members of his family was a son, John, who was born in the Old Dominion, where he grew to manhood, employed at farming and in the distillery which his father operated in connection with the farm. The liquor manufactured there was transported to Richmond and Baltimore. John Young was inherently opposed to the institution of slavery, and after the death of his father resolved to leave a section of country which upheld it. He accordingly sold his property, and removing to Ohio, purchased a farm in Miami County, where he made his home until his death.

Before leaving his native State John Young had married Miss Nancy Northcut, a Kentucky lady,

and the daughter of Willis Northcut, a native of Scotland, who settled among the early pioneers of Miami County. The mother of our subject is still living, making her home in Miami County, Ohio, and having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. Of the eleven children born to them, six lived to mature years. Samuel, during the late war, enlisted in the 8th Illinois Infantry, and died in the service; Willis is at Topeka, Kan.; Eleanor married Abram Oliver, who died in Mason County, this State; Sarah A. died in Miami County, Ohio; William, of our sketch, was the fifth child; John, also a Union soldier, died in West Charleston, Ohio, from disease contracted in the army.

William Young, as the son of a pioneer, became well acquainted with the difficulties attending life in a new settlement. His early studies were carried on in the subscription schools, and in common with other farmers' boys of that period, he was trained to habits of industry, and at an early age began to assist in the labors around the homestead. When nineteen years-old, desiring a change, he commenced learning the carpenter's trade, at which he served an apprenticeship of three years. At the expiration of that time he resumed farming, at which he continued until 1856. In the spring of that year he came to Mason County, this State, where he worked at his trade a year, then rented a tract of land, where he carried on farming until after the outbreak of the late war. He then resolved to lay aside his personal interests and assist in the preservation of the Union, and accordingly enlisted in Co. B, 85th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served until the close of the war. His army experience embraced seventeen distinct engagements with the enemy, including such sanguinary battles as those of Perryville, Ky., Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge and Kennesaw Mountain. He marched with Sherman's army from Chattanooga to the sea, and was present at the siege and capture of Atlanta, whence the army removed northward, and after the surrender of Lee passed in grand review before the President at Washington. After leaving the Capital our subject proceeded with his regiment to Springfield, where, in June, 1865, it was mustered out. Mr. Young then returned to Mason

County and resumed his trade, which he followed until 1871. In the spring of that year he took up his abode at Rantoul, where he has since lived, and been successfully engaged as a carpenter and builder. Being a natural mechanic, as well as having had the advantages of thorough training in his business, he has become an expert, there being many evidences of his skill in Rantoul and vicinity. In 1877 he erected a handsome dwelling for himself on Penfield street, at the corner of Belle avenue, which, with its surroundings, constitutes one of the pleasant homes in Rantoul.

The lady who has superintended his household affairs for a period of thirty years, in the meantime becoming the mother of four children, was formerly Miss Mary C. Layman, to whom he was married Sept. 8, 1857, in Mason County, Ill. Mrs. Young, like her husband, is also a native of Ohio, and was born in Union County, March 6, 1838. She is the daughter of Henry Layman, of whom mention is made in the sketch of Lewis Layman, published elsewhere in this volume. The children of Mr. and Mrs. William Young are George W., Alvin, William N. and Grace W.

Mr. Young became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1854, and Mrs. Young joined three years later. Our subject has been greatly devoted to the interests of his church and religious matters in general, serving as Class-Leader for a period of twenty-five years, and being a faithful and efficient worker in the Sunday-school. He has been a staunch supporter of the Republican party since its organization, and illustrates admirably the character of a Christian gentleman, which is evinced in his private life and in the midst of his family as well as in the public places to which he has repeatedly been called.



JESSE B. THOMPSON is the owner of eighty acres of fine, well-improved land, located on section 25, Sidney Township. He was born in Fayette County, Ohio, Jan. 15, 1833, and is the son of Presley and Louisa (Britton) Thompson. His parents were both natives of Ohio, and died at Jeffersonville, that State. Our subject moved

from Ohio to Illinois in 1864, bringing with him his wife and four children. He was married in Ohio to Rebecca (Armstrong) Wright, daughter of John Armstrong. She was born in Fayette County, April 1, 1833. Her mother was a native of Virginia, and her father of Ohio, in which State both of her parents died. Their daughter, Rebecca, had previously married Mr. Jacob Wright, and was left a widow, [her husband's death occurring Oct. 3, 1854. He was one of the unfortunate victims to the terrible scourge of cholera that swept over the country during that year. By this marriage she had one child, Leander A., now living in Kansas.

Jesse B. Thompson was the eldest of a family of seven children—Jesse, Mary C., Susan, Naney, James H., Elizabeth and Minerva. Mrs. Thompson's grandfather, Joseph Parrot, was of German origin; he was a Captain in the Revolutionary War, and lived to be nearly one hundred years of age. Her parents had a family of twelve children—Samuel E., Mahala, George H., Mary, Naney, Able, Rebecca, Sarah, John, Jane, Joseph and Elizabeth. Mr. Thompson and his wife have become the parents of four children: Granville, who lives in Kansas; Amy, John W., and Ida, deceased. Mr. Thompson is interested in the public affairs of the county, and has held the office of School Director. His farm residence and out-buildings are tasteful and commodious.

WILLIAM CHERRY. The 320-acre farm which has been the subject of so much comment by the people in that vicinity and by travelers through Ogden Township, belongs to the subject of this sketch, who is accounted one of the most skillful farmers in that section of country. He located on his present farm in 1866, and of late years has been extensively engaged as a stock-grower, his animals embracing Southdown sheep, Clydesdale horses and high-grade Short-horn cattle. For the accommodation of these he has fine pasture lands, and all conveniences for shelter, while the main barn and the dwelling will compare favorably with the farm buildings of his neighbors.

Mr. Cherry is in all respects an important factor

in his community, not only interesting himself in the reputation of its farming interests, but contributing to its religious, moral and educational advantages, serving as School Director and Commissioner of Highways, and occupying other important positions in the counsels of his fellow-townsmen. He and his family are regular attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is one of the pillars, and his wife is a Sunday-school teacher of several years' standing. Mr. Cherry, politically, does not confine himself to party lines, but aims to support the man best fitted to have custody of the public interests, hence may be properly called an Independent.

In common with many of the representative men of the wide and prosperous West, made so by their industry and persistence, Mr. Cherry was originally from England, his birth taking place in Oxfordshire, June 9, 1828. His parents, Thomas and Ann (Lock) Cherry, were of pure English stock, and the former, born Feb. 14, 1805, is still living in his native country. The wife and mother, who was born in 1806, departed this life Sept. 29, 1878, and her remains were laid to rest in Albury Churchyard. The ten children of the parental household were William, George; Thomas, who died in this State in 1870; Jane, Esther, Barbara; Emma, who died Feb. 25, 1877; Ann, Eliza and Mary.

Our subject remained in his native England about five years after reaching his majority, but not being satisfied with his prospects there decided to come to the United States. Boarding a sailing-vessel at London he landed in New York after a tedious voyage of eight weeks, and soon afterward proceeded westward to Toledo, Ohio. He there engaged with the Wabash Railway Company, but a month later secured work on a farm at \$16 per month. After remaining in that vicinity one summer he pushed on into Indiana, remaining there until his marriage, on the 21st of February, 1855. His bride was Miss Sarah Leaver, and the wedding took place at Attica. Mrs. Cherry is a native of Buckinghamshire, England, born Jan. 3, 1833, and is the daughter of John and Anna (Lovesey) Leaver, who spent their entire lives in their native England, and are now deceased. The father died in 1880, aged ninety-two years. He had followed

farming all his life, and was a greatly respected citizen. The mother preceded her husband to the other life, dying in 1860, aged sixty-seven years. The children of the parental family, nine in number, were named respectively Ann, Elizabeth, William, Mary, Ellen, John, Sarah, Emma and Eliza. The latter was burned to death, her clothes having caught fire from an open fireplace.

Some time after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Cherry came to Illinois, and Mr. C. was employed at whatever his hands could find to do, in the meantime saving what he could from his earnings. His steady persistence and industry have been generously rewarded, as his present surroundings fully indicate. In the absence of children of their own Mr. and Mrs. C. have performed the part of parents to three others, whom they took in their infancy. The eldest, whom they named James H. Cherry, received a good education at the hands of his benefactors, with whom he remained until reaching manhood, and in 1883 was married to Miss Emma Smith, and has a comfortable home in Ogden Township. The second one, Emma McClarron, died when about thirty-one years of age. Minnie, who was born in 1871, still remains with her foster-parents.

DAVID B. STAYTON, Sr., a prominent and influential farmer of St. Joseph Township, is of Scotch ancestry, and spent his earliest years in the Blue Grass regions, where the first representatives of the family settled upon their arrival in this country. His father, Joseph Stayton, also a native of Kentucky, was there reared and married, and eight years after the birth of his son, our subject, departed from the scenes of his youth and early manhood to seek his fortune in the Prairie State. He came to this county in the fall of 1830, accompanied by his family, and purchased forty acres of land on the east fork of Salt Creek in St. Joseph Township. Here he lived and labored, the soil yielding him a rich return for his industry, and here he spent the remainder of his life.

He wisely invested his surplus capital in additional land, and at the time of his death was the possessor of 300 acres, all improved with the ex-

ception of a valuable timber tract of eighty acres. The father of our subject was twice married, and became the parent of eighteen children. Of these there are living but three of the first marriage, and but two of the second. David B., of our sketch, was the third child and second son, and first opened his eyes to the light on the old farm in Mason County, Ky., June 23, 1820. Although but a boy when the removal was made to Illinois, he remembers many of the incidents connected therewith, and the country as it appeared at the time. There were then only two families in St. Joseph Township, and no school was established until four years later, consequently the educational advantages of young Stayton were extremely limited. In the winter of 1834, one William Peters donated the use of his kitchen to the juvenile pioneers, their studies being conducted by John Lard, who, when not occupied in school, engaged in whipsawing and farming in the neighborhood. Our subject availed himself of school privileges for a few weeks during the winter seasons, but his services were for the most part urgently required upon the farm, where he remained with his parents until reaching manhood.

The young men of those days, usually before they were out of their teens, began to make their calculations for the future, which almost without exception included domestic ties and a home of their own. There then appeared no more worthy ambition than to build up a good homestead and leave an honorable name to posterity. It would be well if the principles inculcated by the pioneer fathers and mothers had prevailed until this day, for it was these sentiments, in connection with others fully as worthy, which resulted in such a perfect building up of the great West, and in giving to the historian the fine material which he now has to work upon. David Stayton in taking the first steps toward the consummation we have alluded to, began as a farm laborer in the neighborhood of his father for the munificent wages of \$12 per month. There were few luxuries with which to coax his money from him, so he lived economically and carefully, saved what he could, and the following year proudly took possession of his father's farm as a tenant and also at the same time took unto himself a wife, Miss Sarah, the daughter of Jacob and Sarah Bart-

ley, of Pickaway, Ohio. Later the young people removed to section 16, in St. Joseph Township, which is included in his present homestead. His first purchase consisted of 160 acres, to which he added from time to time until he had a clear title to an entire section. After his children were grown and began to establish homes for themselves he divided the land among them, reserving but 220 acres for himself and wife. Of the offspring of Mr. and Mrs. S., seven in number, only four survive, namely, Elizabeth, the wife of John S. McElwee; Joseph H.; David B., Jr., and William J. They are all located in the neighborhood of their father's farm, and are highly respected citizens, having done ample honor to the early training of their wise and excellent parents.

Mr. Stayton, as one of the pioneers of Champaign County, was early in life called upon to assist in the adjustment of its local and business affairs, although he had no ambition whatever for office. The first position which he was called upon to fill was that of Justice of the Peace, but he refused to qualify and they were obliged to seek a more willing candidate. Afterward he was prevailed upon to serve as Constable three and one-half years and subsequently was elected Collector of St. Joseph. He was Supervisor one year, and afterward held the offices of Assessor and Collector for a period of twenty-five years in St. Joseph, the duties of which he discharged with conscientious fidelity.

Mr. Stayton was a staunch supporter of the Democratic party until near the close of Buchanan's administration, when he began to feel that there was reason for a change in his sentiments, and believing that the Union should be preserved at all hazards, he therefore cast his vote for Abraham Lincoln at the next Presidential election, and since that time has affiliated with the Republican party.

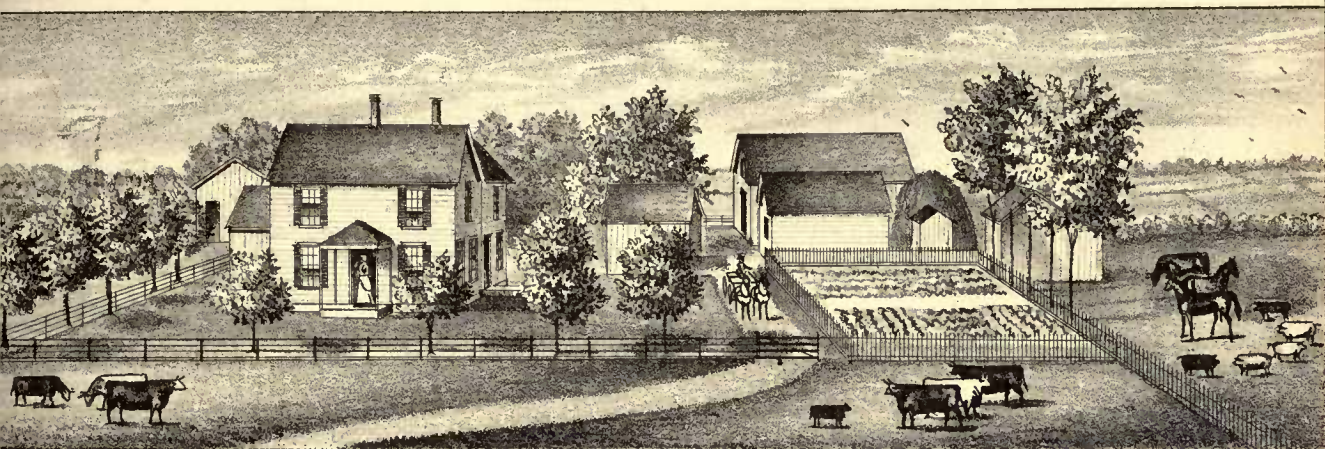
Mr. Stayton is of an affable and genial disposition, which at once secures him the respect and friendship of stranger and citizen alike. He possesses more than ordinary intelligence and is most entertaining to converse with, being able to place before the mind's eye of his hearers a vivid picture of the early days when he joined in the chase after deer and wolves, and when the cry of the hounds

was music to his ears. He was of stout and muscular frame, very active on his feet, and possessed the hardy spirit and the nerve which made him a general favorite and the admiration of the pioneers for miles around. He is wisely spending his declining years in the ease and comfort which he has so justly earned by a life of industry and economy and, surrounded by hosts of friends, is passing down the sunset hill of life with a clear conscience, and as one who will leave a good record when he passes from the scene of action.

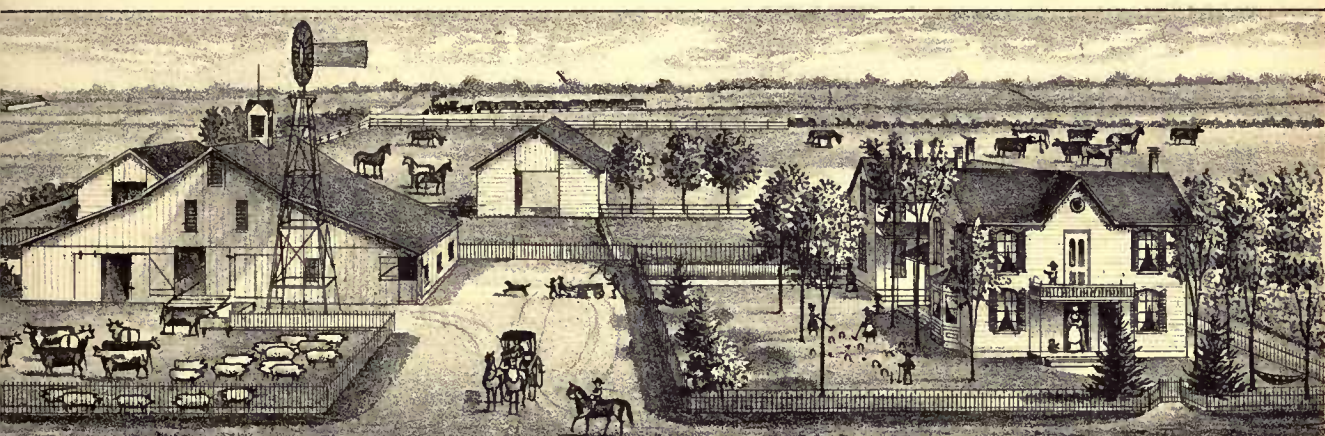
The mother of our subject in her girlhood was Miss Anna Beard, a native of the same county in Kentucky as David Beard, who was born in the Blue Grass regions and traced his lineage back to a good old family of German descent. Mrs. Stayton was a true pioneer wife and mother, looking well to the ways of her household, carefully training her children, and possessed of all womanly virtues. Her death took place on the old homestead in St. Joseph Township.

CHARLES KIRKPATRICK, M. D., a rising young physician of Penfield, completed his medical studies in the College of Indiana at Indianapolis, from which he graduated in February, 1885, and commenced the practice of his profession at Ladoga, Montgomery Co., Ind. From there, a year later, he came to Penfield, and although his residence here has been comparatively brief he has already built up a lucrative practice. He has been a close student and extensive reader, and as a conscientious practitioner is rapidly establishing himself in the confidence of this community.

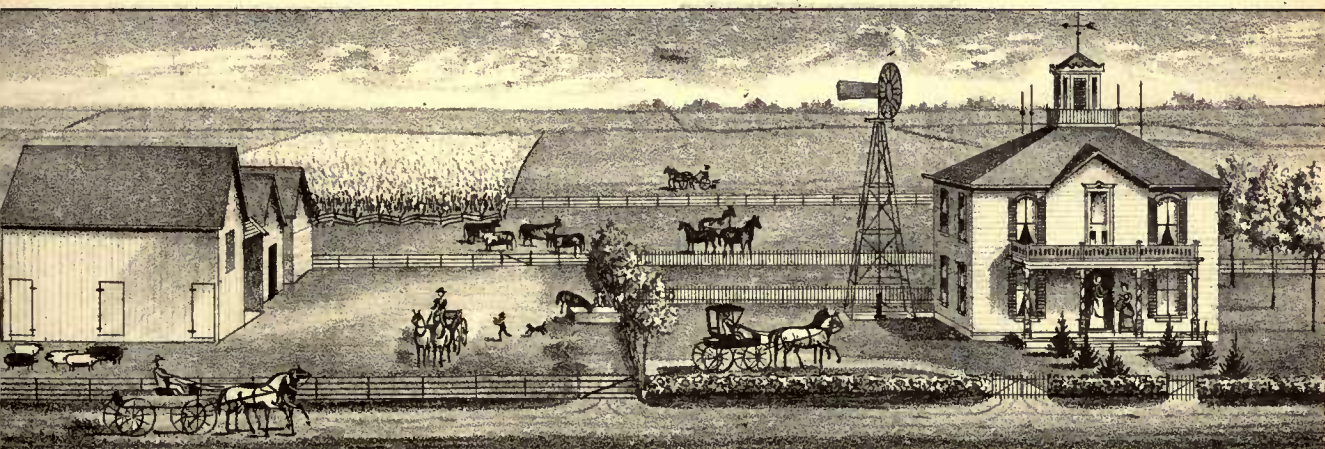
Dr. Kirkpatrick was born in Urbana, this county, June 15, 1864, and is the son of John C. and Mary (Busey) Kirkpatrick, prominent among the residents of that city as valued members of an intelligent and well-educated community. He remained a resident of his native town until sixteen years of age, pursuing his early studies in the public schools and completing his classical course in the State University. Before attaining his majority he was united in marriage with Miss Gertrude, daughter of John B. Wilson, of Ladoga, Ind., in which city



RESIDENCE OF ROBERT HEWERDINE , SEC. 18.,(R.9. E.) RANTOUL TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF HENRY KURTZ , SEC. 32.,BROWN TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF J. R. GULICK , SEC. 28.,NEWCOMB TOWNSHIP.

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she was born and reared. The two children of Dr. and Mrs. Kirkpatrick are John and Ruby. They are pleasantly located on Main street, and enjoy the society of the best residents of the city.

Dr. K., politically, is a staunch supporter of Republican principles, and socially belongs to Genevieve Lodge No. 160, K. of P., being Chancellor Commander, and the youngest man in the world occupying this position, as he was chosen when but twenty-two years old. He is well fitted both by early training and natural talents to occupy a high position in the medical profession of this county.



EPHRAIM DRESBACH, an enterprising farmer and stock-grower of St. Joseph Township, is possessor of an estate containing 120 acres of valuable land located on section 20. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, near Lithopolis, Nov. 12, 1834, and is descended from German and Irish ancestry, being the son of John and Anna (Hoy) Dresbach, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio. John Dresbach was born in 1804. His wife, Anna, was the daughter of Philip and Elizabeth (Irely) Hoy. The Irely family were natives of Pennsylvania, but of Irish origin, and the family of Philip Hoy descended from German ancestry.

After his marriage John Dresbach lived for a time in Fairfield County, Ohio, and then removed with his family to Hancock County, settling near Findlay. Not satisfied with the locality, he changed his residence to Fairfield, and afterward to Pickaway County, making in the latter place a permanent settlement, and building up a homestead, where he died in the winter of 1886. He was twice married. The death of his first wife occurred in Fairfield County, in 1844. Of this union six children were born, and of the second marriage there were three.

Ephraim Dresbach passed his boyhood in Fairfield and Pickaway Counties, where he received such education as could be obtained at the country schools. After the death of his mother he made his home with relatives and began the struggle of life at a very early age. Possessing an obliging

disposition he made friends, and employed himself in various branches of farm labor until he had reached his twenty-fourth year. He then united in marriage with Miss Clarissa E. Croninger, a native of Pickaway County, Ohio, and the daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Hines) Croninger. After his marriage Mr. Dresbach settled on a farm in Pickaway County, and remained there until the autumn of 1867, when he removed with his family to Champaign County, Ill. The first year he rented a farm in St. Joseph Township, and subsequently purchased his present place. Only a part of the land was broken, but he has since brought it to a fine state of cultivation. He is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, giving special attention to the raising of hogs.

Mr. and Mrs. Dresbach had a family of ten children, eight of whom are living, and recorded as follows: Elnora S. is the wife of Theodore F. Swearingen; Joseph F. is residing at home; Christie B. is the wife of O. Hootz; Clara L., Alma May, Arthur C., Minnie O. and Ora A. are with their parents.

In politics Mr. Dresbach reserves the right of voting for the best man, regardless of party. He is interested in public affairs, and has served as School Director, giving satisfaction in the discharge of his duties.



MRS. LUCY J. VARNEY, widow of Samuel B. Varney, and daughter of Robert and Sarah (Frye) White, natives of New Hampshire, was born in the Old Granite State in 1816. Her father was a blacksmith by trade, and her maternal grandfather, Ebenezer Frye, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War with the rank of Major. He also was a native of New Hampshire, and when not in the army engaged in farming pursuits. Late in life he became a resident of Northport, Me., where he spent the remainder of his days, beloved and honored by all who knew him.

Robert White, the father of Mrs. Varney, removed from his native State first to Peacham, Vt., where he engaged in blacksmithing, and subse-

quently, in 1818, went to Maine. In the latter State he became quite prominent in public affairs, served as Justice of the Peace, and was expert in the settlement of estates. In the meantime he also carried on his trade, having a number of men under him. He remained a resident of Maine the balance of his life, dying at the ripe old age of eighty-seven years. The mother died when seventy-one years old. Of their eleven children, four only are now living, and three—Mrs. Mary A. Turner, Robert F. and George N.—are residents of Odin, Marion County.

Mrs. Varney, the fourth child of her parents, received careful home training and a fair education in the common schools. She remained under the home roof until her marriage with Samuel B. Varney, which took place in Montville, Me., in January, 1845. Mr. V. was a native of Maine, born in 1814, and the son of Silas Varney, who was a farmer by occupation. Samuel B. was a bright and ambitious boy, and through his own efforts obtained a practical business education. His childhood and youth were spent upon his father's farm, and after starting out in life for himself he engaged in hotel-keeping and farming combined in Levant, Penobscot Co., Me. In 1859 he resolved to emigrate to the great West, and after reaching the Prairie State purchased a tract of land seven miles from the city of Champaign, this county. This he cultivated and improved, in the meantime visiting Missouri and purchasing land there also. In connection with his farming he also engaged in the grocery business for a short time. He erected a handsome residence on Church street, Champaign, which a few months later was destroyed by fire. He soon afterward rebuilt upon the same site.

Mr. Varney was Democratic in politics, and with his wife, became connected with the Presbyterian Church, in which he was a Deacon for many years. He was a man of excellent business capacity, extreme kindness of heart, and was imbued with those principles which constituted him an honest man and a good citizen, respected and beloved by all who knew him. Mr. and Mrs. V. became the parents of three children, of whom two died when quite young, and the remaining daughter when twelve years of age. Mrs. Varney afterward adopted two

little girls: Mattie became one of the family when seven years old; she is now married to Dr. M. C. Wilson, is living in Downs, McLean County, and has two children—Mabel C. and Warren. The other child, Mary, was eight months old when taken by Mrs. Varney, who has performed toward her the part of a kind and affectionate mother; she is now fourteen years old, and is pursuing her studies in the High School of Champaign.



SOLOMON Y. STAFFORD occupies a quarter of section 36, St. Joseph Township, which is an excellent body of land, well cultivated and supplied with convenient and substantial farm buildings. He took possession of this place in the fall of 1863, and since that time has been industriously engaged as a general farmer and stock-raiser, making a specialty of Poland-China hogs and draft horses. Our subject, who is a native of the Buckeye State, was born near Washington, the county seat of Fayette County, on the 8th of May, 1814. His grandfather, Z. B. Stafford, was a native of Tennessee, and became the father of four children. His son Charles, the father of our subject, was born in Tennessee, and went with his brother-in-law to Ohio. In that State he received his education and developed into manhood, and selected from among the daughters of Fayette County, Miss Nancy Leverton, who became his wife in the fall of 1809. This lady was a native of North Carolina, and the daughter of Foster Leverton, who removed to Ohio after the close of the Revolutionary War, in which he had participated as a Colonial soldier. Charles Stafford served in the War of 1812, and after his marriage continued to reside in Fayette County, where he became extensively engaged in farming and accumulated a fine property. The parental family included ten children, all of whom lived to mature years and with one exception were all married.

The parents of our subject were of Irish and English origin respectively, and Solomon Y. was their second son and fourth child. He was reared on the farm in Ohio, and received a limited education in the district schools of his native town-

ship. He was carefully trained, however, by his excellent parents, and imbibed those principles of honesty and honor which served him so well in later life. He remained with them until after reaching his majority, and when in his twenty-fourth year was united in marriage with Mrs. Naney (Wilkinson) Hoppis, and they located on a small farm of which our subject became the owner, and where they lived until the fall of 1863. Mr. S. then resolved to seek his fortunes in the Prairie State, and coming to this county, located upon the land which constitutes his present homestead. The only child of the household was a daughter, Jane F., who became the wife of John Brown, and died at her home in February, 1882. The mother had preceded her child to the silent land, passing away in the spring of 1874.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1875, was Mrs. Mary J., widow of Jacob Rice, and by her first marriage had become the mother of one child, a daughter, who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. S. are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which our subject officiated as Trustee and Steward for several years. He is a staunch Democrat, politically, and is a citizen of due importance in his township, being acknowledged by all as having materially assisted in its development.

THOMAS W. GIDDINGS. This enterprising and well-to-do resident of Ludlow Township is successfully engaged as a farmer and stock-raiser on section 10. He comes of an excellent English family, the first representative in this country being his grandfather, who crossed the ocean and located first in Connecticut, whence he removed later to Pennsylvania, where he followed the pursuit of agriculture, reared a fine family of sons and daughters, and having built up a good record as a citizen, passed to his final rest in the Keystone State in about 1816. His son, Moses C., who was born in Lancaster, Conn., was the father of our subject. The grandfather, Silas Giddings, at his death left his widow with nine children, six sons and three daughters.

Moses C. Giddings, being the eldest son, was

largely depended upon to assist his widowed mother in the care of the family and the management of the homestead, in which he nobly exerted himself until each member could take care of himself. The estate comprised a body of land 400 acres in extent, situated eight miles from what afterward became the flourishing city of Erie, Pa. When the father of our subject took possession of it it was heavily timbered. He was a very industrious and energetic man and cleared the land, disposing of the timber by means of two sawmills which he erected on the place, and which for a period of several years were kept steadily at work.

Moses Giddings remained in Pennsylvania until 1857, then disposed of his interests there, and coming to Warren County, this State, purchased a farm in Floyd Township, which he cultivated and occupied the balance of his life. After reaching the age of fourscore years, he passed to his final rest on the 12th of May, 1880, regretted by all who knew him as being a citizen of more than ordinary worth and ability. He was a strict temperance man, and had been reared in the Presbyterian Church. After his marriage, however, he became a Methodist. In common with his cousin, Joshua R. Giddings, who became famous as an Abolitionist before the war, Moses C. was also bitterly opposed to slavery, and upon every occasion gave expression to his views upon this subject. It is scarcely necessary to say that during the later years of his life he was an ardent Republican, the principles of which party he cheerfully endorsed after the abandonment of the old Whig doctrines.

The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Sophronia Stafford, a native of New York, and daughter of Jesse Stafford, of that State. She accompanied her husband to Illinois. They became the parents of thirteen children, whom they trained to habits of industry and those principles which made of them reliable citizens and useful members of society. After building up a good record as wife, mother and friend, Mrs. Sophronia Giddings departed from the scenes of earth at her home in Floyd Township, on the 12th of May, 1875. Eleven of her children lived to become men and women, and ten are still surviving. Jesse died in Henry County, Iowa; Hannah, Mrs. Martin, is a resident

of Colorado; Sebastian, of Monmouth, Ill.; Samantha, Mrs. Styles, of Colorado; Edwin W., of Campbell, Minn.; Silas, of Polk Grove, Iowa; Marion is deceased; John W. lives in Ludlow Township, this county, and Henry C. on the homestead in Warren County; George W. and Harriet A., Mrs. Ogden, live in Ft. Collins, Col.

Thomas W. Giddings, the ninth child of his parents, attended school with his brothers and sisters, and with them assisted in the labors on the farm. He was fourteen years old when his parents came to Illinois, and remained a member of the family until the outbreak of the late war. He then enlisted in Co. C, 138th Ill. Vol. Inf., entering the service in 1865, and was detailed for duty chiefly in Kansas and Missouri. After being mustered out he returned to his home in Warren County, and in the spring of 1866, in partnership with a neighbor, engaged in general farming and stock-raising. This partnership was dissolved two years later, and after assuming the management of the home farm one year our subject crossed the Mississippi into Missouri, and engaged in the herding of cattle. In the fall he shipped 150 animals to Buffalo, and as many more to Warren County, the latter of which he fed until the following spring, when he sold them and resumed farming with his brother. A year later he purchased a tract of land in Floyd Township, and engaged in farming and stock raising until 1875. In the spring of that year he came to this county and purchased the southeast quarter of section 10, in Ludlow Township, where he industriously employed his time until 1883, and was remarkably successful in his farming operations. That year he added to his landed estate, and in company with his brother bought the northeast quarter of section 10. Two years later he purchased the interest of his brother, and is now the possessor of a half section under a fine state of cultivation and supplied with excellent farm buildings. Nothing has been left undone to preserve its reputation as one of the finest homesteads in this part of Champaign County.

On the 15th of November, 1868, after Mr. Giddings had begun to lay the foundation for a home, he selected as his future wife and helpmeet Miss Laura A. Wiggins, to whom he was married in

Floyd Township. Mrs. G. was born in the latter named township, July 2, 1849, and is the daughter of Benjamin F. and Mary Jeanette Wiggins. The former, a native of Oneida County, N. Y., removed to the West in the pioneer days, and located in Warren County, Ill., where he improved a farm and reared a family. He was married in early manhood to Miss Jeanette Mattson, also a native of the Empire State. The mother of Mrs. G. departed this life at her home in Warren County. Mr. Wiggins afterward became an inmate of the home of our subject, and died in 1883.

The six children of Mr. and Mrs. Giddings are Warren L., Archie, Cornelia, Nellie (who died when two years old), Orlo and Irena. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal Church in Ludlow, of which the parents have been members several years. Mr. Giddings, politically, is a staunch Republican, and fearlessly upholds the principles of his party. A view of the residence of Mr. G. is shown on another page of this work.

LEW E. STEVENSON, Postmaster at St. Joseph, and also a leading druggist and jeweler of the place, was born among the hills of Southern Ohio, near Hillsboro, the county seat of Highland County, on the 21st of April, 1850. His parents, Elisha and Nancy A. (Keelor) Stevenson, were natives of the same State. The father of our subject followed farming in Ohio until 1854, when with his family he came west to Champaign County, Ill., locating at Urbana, where he engaged in farming, and where he still resides, having, however, retired from active labor some years ago.

The children of Elisha and Nancy Stevenson, thirteen in number, consisted of seven sons and six daughters, twelve of whom lived to mature years and with the exception of three were all married. Three of these came West with their parents, and the remaining ten were born in Champaign County, where they still reside. Arthur A. is deceased; Lew E., of our sketch, was the second born; Cinderella became the wife of C. A. Lawhead; he is now deceased. Sarah J. is a resident of Urbana; Elisha is passenger conductor of the L. B. & W.

R. R., and makes his home in Indianapolis, Ind.; Susan is the wife of Edward Stephens, of St. Louis, Mo.; Josephine married Edward Swan, a well-to-do farmer living south of Urbana, Ill.; Charles H. is a conductor on the Santa Fe Railroad, with headquarters at Las Vegas, N. M.; William F. is Assistant Postmaster and a pharmacist, and resides in St. Joseph; Benjamin F. lives in Oakland, Ill.; Elizabeth is the wife of Edward G. Hammer, of Urbana; Uriah S., the youngest, remains with his parents. Alferretta died in infancy.

Mr. Stevenson was a lad four years of age when his parents came to this county, and his education was begun and completed in the public schools of Urbana. He remained at home working on a farm until he attained the age of twenty-three years, and then entered the drug-store of William Sim, of Urbana, in the capacity of a clerk, and remained four years, acquiring in that time a thorough knowledge of the drug business in all its branches. In January, 1877, he came to St. Joseph and purchased the drug stock of W. B. Sim, and since that time has continued in the trade here, adding an excellent stock of drugs and medicines, wall-paper, paints, oils and jewelry. He was appointed Postmaster in 1885, having been a staunch adherent of the Democratic party since exercising the right of suffrage. He was a strong Union man during the war, and illustrated his principles in the most forcible manner by proffering his services in aid of its preservation, becoming, in 1864, a member of Co. A, 135th Ill. Vol. Inf., and fulfilling all the duties required of a faithful soldier until his honorable discharge at Mattoon, September 28 following.

One of the most important events in the life of our subject was his marriage, which took place Dec. 28, 1877, his chosen bride being Miss Ada O. Coffman.* Mrs. S. is a native of Urbana and the daughter of Noah B. and Margaret Coffman, at present residents of Ft. Scott, Kan. Of this union there is one child only, a daughter, Mae Agnes, now an interesting girl of eight years. The family residence is pleasantly located.

Mr. Stevenson has for many years been a member of the Masonic fraternity, is a Knight Templar and also belongs to the I. O. O. F. and G. A. R. Both he and his estimable lady are members in good

standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. S. has been a Trustee since the organization of the society at St. Joseph. He is actively interested in Sunday-school work, and has officiated as Superintendent, serving also as chorister and a teacher. He is one of those men necessary to the well-being of every community, who knows just what is to be done at all times and how to do it, and is willing to aid by his means and influence every enterprise calculated for the welfare of the people.



F. WILSON, who is a dealer in horses and engaged in the livery business on Walnut street, is contributing his full share toward the business interests of the city of Champaign by carrying on his department in a methodical and systematic manner, and in which he has been established since April, 1887. His large barn on Walnut street contains some of the best traveling stock and vehicles in the city, and his patrons comprise its best people.

Mr. Wilson is a native of the Prairie State, and was born in Piatt County, Sept. 18, 1852. He is the son of Henry L. and Margaret (Hubbard) Wilson, both natives of Ohio. The former, who was also a dealer in fine horses, removed from the Buckeye State to Illinois, and located in Piatt County, where he remained until 1854. He then purchased a farm in Newcomb Township, Champaign County, which he occupied two years, and thence removed into the village of Mahomet, where he continued his business as a purchaser and shipper of fine horses until his death, which was brought about in the following sad manner: His office was located adjacent to Llewellyn's drug-store, and one night while sleeping there the store was set on fire, and Mr. Wilson, unable to escape, was burned to death. This melancholy event occurred on the 16th of May, 1876. Mr. Wilson during the late war enlisted in the 125th Illinois Infantry, serving nine months, and was finally discharged on account of physical disability. He belonged to the Republican party and was a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity. The mother of our subject is still living, making her home at Mahomet. Of

the parental household, including five children, two only are now living, our subject, H. F., and his sister, Mrs. Dorothy Pugh, of Mahomet.

The subject of this biography received a practical education, attending school until sixteen years old. He inherited the same love for that noblest of animals for which his father was noted, and at an early age engaged in buying and selling, while at the same time operating a livery stable in Mahomet. Desirous of a larger field for his operations, he removed to Champaign, and first leased a stable on Neal street, which he occupied until burned out, in 1887. His loss at that time aggregated \$2,500, partially covered by insurance. Three valuable horses were destroyed, besides office fixtures, harness, etc. On the 14th of April following Mr. Wilson purchased the large livery barn on Walnut street, where he is now permanently established and is building up a fine patronage. Politically he affiliates with the Democratic party.

The marriage of H. F. Wilson and Miss Burzetta Fetty was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Mahomet, in 1872. Mrs. Wilson is the daughter of Nimrod Fetty, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of three children. The eldest, eleven years of age, named himself Harry F. The others, aged two and one-half years and three months respectively, are unnamed.

PETER ROOS, Professor of Industrial Art and Design in the University of Illinois, and a native of Sweden, was born at Lyngbye, Kristianstad Læn, the 22d of February, 1850, where he received the fundamental part of his education. From childhood he showed a strong propensity for art, and soon after his confirmation entered that field under the instruction of a celebrated artist in the city of Kristianstad, with whom he remained for nearly four years.

In 1871 Prof. Roos emigrated to America and located in Boston, as a decorator and designer. In a little over a year he was elected teacher of drawing in the Boston city schools. He also formed a partnership to establish the Boston Art Academy.

From this school was sent quite an extensive exhibit of students' work to the Philadelphia Exposition in 1876. This was awarded the medal of the Centennial Commission. At this time he was called to take charge of the Art Department of the University of Illinois. Owing to urgent engagements in Boston he relinquished that position for two years. In 1880 he returned upon a renewed call to the Chair of Art and Design.



MAJ. ABSALOM B. VALLANDINGHAM, who is well and favorably known in Compromise Township as a stirring, energetic citizen, is of excellent old Kentucky stock, being born near Lexington, in Fayette County, Sept. 1, 1817. His father, John Vallandingham, was born near Georgetown, where he grew to manhood and married Miss Ann Bainbridge, who was born in Baltimore, Md., but reared in Kentucky. After marriage the young people took up their abode in Scott County, whence they removed to Owen County, where the father of our subject became owner of a plantation of nearly 1,000 acres, together with from ten to twenty slaves. The parents reared a family of ten children, and the father departed this life in about 1850, at the age of fifty-three years. The wife and mother survived until 1876.

Maj. Vallandingham was the eldest child of the household, and under the encouragement of his father received a good education, as did his brothers and sisters. He grew to manhood in Owen County, and in 1839, when twenty-two years of age, was united in marriage with Miss Mary Vallandingham, a distant relative. He engaged alternately in farming and teaching and in this way provided comfortably for the needs of his growing family, which in the course of time included five children. Of these the record is as follows: Piekard is farming in Owen County, Ky.; Ann became the wife of John M. Richards, and died leaving a son and daughter; Elizabeth, the wife of J. M. Arnette, resides in Frederickstown, Mo.; John, during the late war, was killed in the Confederate ranks, having been induced to enter the service by some of

his cousins; Armilda, who married Willis Hall, is also dead; she left one son.

Mrs. Vallandingham, after being the affectionate and faithful companion of her husband ten years, departed this life at her home in Owen County, Ky., in the summer of 1849. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married in March, 1852, was Miss Malinda Johnson, who died the following year. On the 21st of October, 1856, he was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Elizabeth Coons, who was born in Fayette County, Ky., Oct. 28, 1832, and was the daughter of Henry C. and Margaret Coons. That same year Maj. Vallandingham opened a hotel at Warsaw, Ky., which he conducted until the breaking out of the war. In 1861 he acted as Provost Marshal of Warsaw, and had charge of a company of home guards until this department of the military was disbanded by general order and requested to enter the regular service. The Major assisted in recruiting the 18th Kentucky Infantry, and was afterward detailed for the Secret Service of the United States Army, to look after the guerrilla element of the Blue Grass State. In 1864 he recruited the 37th Kentucky Infantry, and was commissioned Major, serving the interests of the Union faithfully until the close of the war.

In 1867 Maj. Vallandingham left the Blue Grass regions and came north into Illinois, locating first near Bloomington, McLean County. In common with many other Southerners he had lost all his property during the war, and upon coming to this State was compelled to begin life anew. He first rented a tract of land, where he followed farming, and also engaged as a law practitioner in McLean County. Three years later he came to this county, continuing as a farmer and counselor-at-law, and was instrumental in obtaining the right of way for and constructing the Havana, Rantoul & Eastern Railroad. Upon the completion of this he located at Gifford, where he has since resided. In 1882 he abandoned his law practice, and now devotes his time to looking after his property and acting as "mine host" of the Commercial Hotel. He owns twenty-two town lots in Gifford, besides three acres, two houses and his residence property.

Maj. Vallandingham in early life affiliated with

the Whig party and after its disbandment supported Republican principles until 1875, since which time he has been identified with the Greenbackers. Although repeatedly solicited to fill responsible offices he has invariably declined, preferring to give his time and attention to his home and business affairs. He has always lived well and extracted as much enjoyment from life as possible, being possessed of that genial disposition which enables him usually to look only upon the bright side. Socially he is a Royal Arch Mason. Mr. and Mrs. V. are members in good standing of the Christian Church, in which, as elsewhere, our subject has distinguished himself as an active and valued member.



JT. PEARMAN, M. D., who has been a resident of the Prairie State for over thirty-five years, is one of the leading physicians of Champaign County, of the Regular School. He was born in Hardin County, Ky., Oct. 29, 1829, and is the son of John and Sarah (Lyons) Pearman, natives respectively of Georgia and Virginia. John Pearman, Sr., served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and was present at the battle of New Orleans. After retiring to civil life, he engaged in farming pursuits in Kentucky, to which State he had removed with his parents when a boy, and there became acquainted with his future wife, the mother of our subject. In 1851 he sold out his interests in Kentucky, and emigrating to Illinois, purchased a farm in Edgar County, which he cultivated until 1860, and then, on account of old age, retired from active labor. He subsequently made his home with his son, Samuel Pearman, near Paris, where he died at the advanced age of eighty-four years. The mother departed this life in 1881. They were the parents of eight children who lived to mature years, and three of whom still survive. These are, Martha, Mrs. Pinell, of Edgar County; Dr. J. T., our subject, and Mary, Mrs. Sisk, of Vermillion Township, Edgar County.

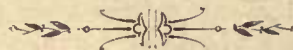
The subject of this biography spent his early years upon his father's farm, and received a common-school education. When twenty-one years of age he commenced teaching, spending one year

thus occupied in Kentucky. He pursued the same calling after coming into Edgar County, and in 1852 commenced reading medicine with Dr. Thomas Smith, of Grand View, Ill., graduating in 1858, at Rush Medical College, Chicago. He located in Edgar County, where he remained eight years, in the meantime perfecting himself still further in his profession by attending a course of lectures in the winter of 1860-61. There he had a fine practice. He entered the army as Surgeon, and was assigned by Gen. Nelson as Surgeon for the 15th Indiana Regiment. From there he was transferred to the hospital at Nashville, Tenn. After two months he was taken ill and sent home, whence, after one month, he returned to his duties, suffered a relapse, and was obliged to abandon his connection with the service.

In 1863 Dr. Pearman, wishing to enlarge the field of his operations, removed to the city of Champaign, where he has since established a fine practice, mostly within the city. In 1878 he was appointed Surgeon of the Illinois Central Railroad, his jurisdiction extending from Kankakee on the north to Gilman on the south, a distance of 120 miles. He is a member of the State, County and National Medical Associations. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity. He has always taken an active interest in the progress and development of his adopted county, interested in its educational and moral welfare, and in 1881 was appointed by Gov. Cullom, a Trustee of the University of Illinois.

Dr. Pearman was married, in 1858, to Miss Elizabeth Elliott, who was born in Edgar County, Ill., and was the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Hanna) Elliott, of Ohio. They removed to Illinois in the pioneer days and located in Edgar County. Of this union there were born five children, the record of whom is as follows: Ida became the wife of C. H. Stephens, of Logansport, Ill., and they have one child, Sabra; J. Ora is a physician and surgeon, having a fine practice in Chicago; Ira E. is a clerk in the Merchants' National Bank, of Chicago; Minnie and Myrtle are at home with their father. Mrs. Elizabeth Pearman departed this life in the latter part of August, 1881. The second

wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1883, was Miss Mae Columbia, a native of Champaign County, and the daughter of Curtis and Nancy (Cox) Columbia, natives respectively of Kentucky and Illinois. Of this marriage there has been born one child—Arthur C. The family residence, which is located on South Neal street, would be at once singled out as the home of refinement and culture, and is the resort of the cultivated people of Champaign.



BENJAMIN CODDINGTON, deceased, was for many years a highly esteemed citizen of Sidney Township. He was born May 8, 1828, in Ohio, and was the son of John and Susanna (Roadamer) Coddington. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania, where his father was born April 4, 1774, and his mother, May 24, 1789. His family removed to Ohio and thence to Illinois, where they were among the pioneers of this State.

Probably no portion of the fertile State of Illinois is better adapted to agriculture and stock-raising than that embraced within the limits of this county, and the early settlers patiently endured the many privations and hardships to which they were exposed, looking hopefully forward to the future with a faith and courage that were almost sublime. Time has wrought marvelous changes, and the prairies, once desolate wastes covered with coarse, matted grass, now wave with harvests of golden grain and form rich pasture lands for vast herds of cattle and sheep, and to-day the children of the pioneers are reaping the harvest which their fathers planted at the costly price of suffering and privation.

Mr. Coddington was active and enterprising in business, and in his early life cleared and improved a fine farm. His uprightness and integrity of character won a large circle of friends, and in his home he was a kind father and loving husband. His death occurred on the old homestead, April 13, 1865, and he is buried in Bliss Cemetery near Sidney. Mr. Coddington was in every respect a most estimable man, and his death was not only a loss to

his family, but to the community, by which he was beloved and sincerely mourned.

Mr. Coddington's marriage to Miss Delilah Thomas took place Dec. 10, 1841. Mrs. Coddington was born Jan. 13, 1825. Her father was twice married, and she had two own sisters older than herself, Mary and Margaret, and eight half brothers and sisters, whose names are: Harriet, Melissa, Rebecca, Jemima, Joseph, Henry, Jefferson, and one who died in infancy. All are now deceased with the exception of Harriet and Melissa. Mr. and Mrs. Coddington had a family of nine children born to them: Joseph, married to Miss Carrie McElroy, lives in Sidney Township; Catherine, the wife of Henry McElroy, is living in Mitchell County, Kan.; Mary S. is dead; Sarah J. is the wife of James McElroy; John, married to Miss Emma Woodcock, resides in Sidney Township; Elizabeth, the wife of Isaac George, likewise resides in that township; Clarissa is dead; Benjamin F. and Alice are single and live with their mother.

Mrs. Coddington's estate contains 210 acres of valuable, well-improved land, with a pleasant residence and excellent farm buildings. She conducts the business in her own name and is greatly assisted by her son Benjamin, who is general manager of the place. Mrs. Coddington is a highly esteemed member of the United Brethren Church, a sincere Christian, and a refined and courteous lady in every sense of the word, and possesses the affectionate regard of a large circle of friends.

DR. J. W. TRISLER, one of the rising young physicians of the city of Urbana, located here in 1886, and in the comparatively short time of his residence has already established himself in the esteem and confidence of the people. He is a native of Brown County, Ohio, and was born Nov. 8, 1858. His parents, Abraham and Christina (Davis) Trisler, formerly of Hamersville, Ohio, engaged there in farming pursuits for a number of years, but afterward removed to Ripley, Brown County, where the mother died in 1875, leaving a family of eight children. These were Randolph, now Superintendent of the public

schools of Cincinnati; Lafayette, a teacher in that city; Sarah, Amanda, Dr. J. W.; Charles, of Kansas, Clara and Maria. The father of our subject was a member of the Democratic party, and held the office of Justice of the Peace in Brown County for a number of years. Both parents belonged to the New-Light Church.

Dr. Trisler remained with his parents on the farm until eighteen years of age, attending the schools of his native county. He afterward went to Mason County, Ky., and entered Dover Academy, where he studied for eighteen months, and soon afterward commenced reading medicine under the instruction of Dr. W. A. Dixon, of Ripley, Ohio, and then attended lectures at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, from which he graduated in 1884. He commenced the practice of his profession at Decatur, Brown Co., Ohio, whence, after three and one-half years he removed to Wellington, Kan. Eighteen months later he came to Illinois and located at Urbana, where he has since followed his practice with success. He is a close student and an extensive reader, and bids fair to occupy an enviable position among his brethren of the profession in this county.

Dr. Trisler was married, in 1882, to Miss Emma West, of Decatur, Ohio, and they have become the parents of two children—Bessie and Carl.

JOHN T. AINSWORTH, who since 1879 has been farming extensively in Ludlow Township, is the proprietor of a fine estate on section 28, where he has a commodious residence, and all other buildings necessary for the carrying on of agriculture in a first-class manner. His farm estate comprises 400 acres, many of the fields enclosed with beautiful hedge fences, of which he planted five miles the second year after taking possession, and has planted more as time and opportunity afforded. He also has a pond embracing an area of about two acres, which is stocked with German carp. Mr. Ainsworth took possession of this property in 1869, when the land was unimproved, and since that time has given to it his en-

tire attention, and, as is evident, with the happiest results.

The subject of this history is a native of this State, born in Lynchburg Township, Mason County, Jan. 23, 1847. His father, William Ainsworth, was a native of the town of Blackburn, Lancashire, England, the son of Thomas Ainsworth, a weaver by trade. He emigrated to the United States in about 1842, and proceeding directly westward, located in Mason County, Ill., where he established a permanent home, and spent the last years of his life. William Ainsworth was quite young when apprenticed to a silversmith and watchmaker, serving until eighteen years old. Then, in company with his elder brother, he set sail for the United States. Coming to Illinois, as we have said, he settled in Mason County, and was soon afterward attacked with fever and obliged to place himself under the care of a physician. He thus contracted a debt of \$60, which he paid in work for the Doctor at \$8 per month, as he had but threepence in his pocket when landing here, and no capital to go on. He finally borrowed money from an elder brother, and entering a tract of land, commenced farming on unimproved prairie. He still owns his first purchase, and has brought about a vast improvement in its original condition. It includes a series of beautiful and productive farms, and fine farm buildings, including a residence, barn, and sheds for the shelter of stock.

The wife of William Ainsworth, the mother of our subject, was formerly Miss Elizabeth Pendleton, who was born in Church Parish, Lancashire, England. They became the parents of ten children, and the mother departed this life at the home of her husband, in 1860. John T., of our sketch, was the eldest of the family; Sarah, the eldest daughter, resides with her father, and Elizabeth A., the wife of J. J. Ainsworth, is also a resident of Mason County. These are the only survivors.

Our subject received his early education in the district schools of Mason County, and afterward attended Virginia Academy in Cass County. When nineteen years old his father returned to England and left him in charge of the farm. Produce was high, and his management of the farm proved very successful. He continued there until 1869, then

removed to this county and located upon the land which he now occupies. He still has charge of the land belonging to his father, and his entire time and attention are given to agricultural pursuits. He has built up an enviable reputation as a farmer, stock-raiser and business man, and is one of the important factors of an enterprising and industrious community.

The marriage of John T. Ainsworth and Miss Frances Penny, took place at the home of Lewis Layman, in Champaign County, Ill., in the spring of 1873. Mrs. Ainsworth is the daughter of William G. and Ellen (Duff) Penny, and was born in Sangamon County, Ill., May 20, 1846. Their three children are William P., Nellie E. and Frances L. Our subject and his wife are devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Ainsworth, politically, is independent. He has been connected with local affairs since coming to this section, being a man of excellent judgment, and possessing a good fund of general information. Since 1875 he has been one of the drainage commissioners for Big Slough Special Drainage District, embracing an area of 12,000 acres, which originally was worthless land, and has now been brought to a good state of cultivation. He served as Highway Commissioner through 1871-73, and is a man whose opinions are solicited upon all matters of interest concerning the welfare of his township and neighborhood.



GEORGE W. TREES, one of the substantial farmers and stock-growers of Illinois, resides on section 20, St. Joseph Township. He is one of the self-made men of the State, having acquired his fine property through the exercise of industry, energy and good management. He was born in Clermont County, Ohio, near Moscow, May 16, 1846, and is the son of William and Delila (McAdams) Trees. His grandfather, John Trees, was a native of Pennsylvania, of German extraction, whose wife was a native of North Carolina.

William Trees was born in Clermont County, Ohio, Nov. 14, 1807. He was reared on his father's farm, and remained in his native county until his marriage with Miss Delila McAdams, who was like-

wise a native of the same county. He then resolved to go West, and removed to Indiana with his young wife, and after an experience of four years returned to his native county in Ohio, where he continued to reside until his removal to Champaign County, Ill., in 1868. Upon his arrival he located in Rantoul Township, where he still resides. Mr. and Mrs. William Trees became the parents of fourteen children, seven boys and seven girls, all of whom with the exception of three lived to maturity; nine are still living. His wife, who was born in Clermont County, Ohio, in 1808, died in September, 1886, after a long life of usefulness and self-sacrifice. She was a noble woman who lived to promote the interests and happiness of her family. She left eighty-four grandchildren. Her father was head of a family of twenty-four children, and his grandchildren were numbered by the hundreds.

George W., who was the tenth in order of birth, passed his boyhood attending the common school and assisting his parents, until he reached the age of twenty-one, when he resolved to go West in search of a career in life for himself. He came to Champaign County, Ill., where for a year he was engaged as a wage-worker by the month. By economy and industry he had then acquired enough money to purchase forty acres of land. This he improved and cultivated and subsequently sold at an advance which enabled him to make another purchase of 160 acres. He improved this tract also, and sold it, purchasing the place which he now owns and occupies, most of which is cultivated, well fenced and tilled.

The marriage of Mr. Trees to Miss Jennie Ray occurred in October, 1873. She is the daughter of John and Amanda Ray, residents of Vermilion County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Trees have an interesting family of four children, whose names are as follows: Hattie D., Lillian P., Merrill J. and Mertie May.

Mr. Trees is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, giving special attention to Short-horn cattle, the best breeds of hogs, and thoroughbred horses. He realized \$2,260 as the proceeds of a stock sale on his farm Feb. 23, 1887. Mr. Trees is recognized in the community as a man of excellent

business qualifications, and received the appointment of Drainage Commissioner of the Miller District. Himself and wife have been for many years members of the Methodist Church, of which he is one of the Stewards. He takes a personal interest in the cause of religion, and has been a teacher in the Sabbath-school for ten years. Politically Mr. Trees is not restricted by party spirit, but votes for the man whom he considers best qualified to fill the position.

HIRAM J. DUNLAP, editor and manager of the Champaign weekly and daily *Gazette*, is a native of the Prairie State, born in Leyden, Cook County, Feb. 8, 1841. He is the son of Mathias L. and Emeline (Pierce) Dunlap, natives of New York State, the former of whom was born in Cherry Valley, Sept. 14, 1814, and spent his childhood and youth upon the farm of his father, William I. The latter subsequently removed to Pulaski, Oswego Co., N. Y., where he lived until emigrating to this State. Here he located at Troy Grove, La Salle County, whence he removed to Leyden, Cook County, and afterward to Champaign County, where he died in 1858.

Mathias L. Dunlap was a gentleman of good education, and was engaged in teaching school at Troy Grove. He afterward secured a clerkship at Chicago at the time it was a village of 5,000 inhabitants. He subsequently became book-keeper for a firm of contractors on the Illinois and Michigan Canal at Lemont, where he remained two years. After coming into Cook County, he entered a piece of Government land in Leyden, which was then twelve miles west of the city limits. There he followed farming and surveying, in the meantime holding the office of Township Supervisor, serving thus for several years. In 1854 he was elected to the State Legislature, when Cook County sent but four members to that body. He was Democratic in politics, and cast his last Presidential vote for Frank Pierce.

After leaving Cook County, Mathias L. Dunlap located upon 320 acres of land south of Champaign, which he had purchased in 1855, and which is now known as "Rural Home." He removed his family

to that place in 1857, where he made his home until his death, which occurred Feb. 14, 1875. He was a man of rare intelligence, possessing a good fund of general information, and was the agricultural correspondent of the *Democratic Press*, before its consolidation with the *Chicago Tribune*, and then of the *Tribune* until the day of his death, a period of twenty-two years. He was also a contributor to various western journals almost from the first day of his arrival in Illinois. The parental family included eight sons and two daughters, of whom Hiram J. was the second child.

The subject of this history after reaching years of manhood engaged as a farmer and fruit-grower until 1874. He had received a good common-school education, and after leaving the pioneer schools attended for a time Wheaton College, at Wheaton, Ill. He became connected with the weekly *Gazette* of Champaign as local editor in 1874, which position he occupied five years and until the appointment of the editor and proprietor, George Scroggs, as Consul to Hamburg, in 1879. Mr. Scroggs then selected Mr. Dunlap as editor-in-chief, and after the death of Mr. S., in 1880, Mr. Dunlap was appointed manager of the paper. He commenced the publication of the daily *Gazette* in 1883, and has conducted it successfully until the present time. It is the only daily paper in Champaign County, and the organ of the Republican party in this locality.

Mr. Dunlap is a clear and forcible writer, and commenced his literary labors in his youth. For three years he was the agricultural correspondent of the *Chicago Tribune*, and has been connected with other papers in the West in the same capacity. He possesses excellent business ability, being one of the Directors of the Building Association of Champaign, and for many years Secretary of the Agricultural Board, and interested in all enterprises tending to the welfare and progress of the county. He is Republican in principle, and uniformly casts his vote and exerts his influence in support of his party. Socially he is a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity, in which he was for nine years High Priest, and was Master of Blue Lodge in Champaign one year. He was Supervisor of Champaign Township for nine consecutive years,

and has served as a delegate to the various county and State conventions.

Hiram J. Dunlap was united in marriage with Miss Ellen L. Baker, of Cobden, Union Co., Ill., Nov. 18, 1861. Mrs. D. is the daughter of Garret H. and Elmina (Clapp) Baker, who were natives of New York State. They are pleasantly located on West Clark street, and enjoy the society of the most cultured people of the vicinity. Aside from his city interests, Mr. D. is the owner of a fruit farm two miles south of Champaign.

FREDERICK B. BATTLES, who has distinguished himself as one of the intelligent and progressive farmers of Harwood Township, is located on section 28, and has just inaugurated the breeding of fine stock, starting out with a herd of imported Holstein cattle. Among these are Younger Hendrick and Vic Duvries, both imported, and also Bessie L'Oiel and Victor of Harwood. With this handsome showing he expects to raise a herd which will compare favorably with anything of the kind in the county. Aside from this and the raising of grain and hay in large quantities, he also keeps a dairy of fifteen fine cows. The farm buildings are amply suited to the purposes for which they are intended, the house being shapely and commodious. The proprietor takes much pride in the result of his labors, and may be freely pardoned in supposing that there are few who will surpass him in good management, enterprise and industry.

Mr. Battles is a native of Dorchester, Mass., and was born Dec. 15, 1828. He is the fifth child in a family of ten born to his parents, Joseph and Judith (French) Battles, also natives of the Bay State. Joseph Battles served as a soldier in the War of 1812, in the place of his twin brother, Benjamin, who had been drafted and was a married man. The grandfather of our subject, Jonathan Battles, was a Captain in the Revolutionary War in command of a Massachusetts company. His grandmother was formerly a Miss Porter, a descendant of a prominent family in New England,

various members of which afterward scattered in different portions of the West.

The father of our subject was one of the pioneer settlers of Lowell, and became largely interested in cotton manufactures. He was one of the first to establish a mill there, and his elder brother, Frank F., is now Superintendent in one of the Massachusetts cotton mills, having held the same position for a period of forty years; the mill employs 2,000 hands. Another brother, Joseph P., has just retired from a similar position in the Atlantic mills, at Lawrence, which he had held for forty years. Still another one, Charles, was Superintendent and Paymaster in another establishment of the kind, where he was employed for thirty years.

Our subject passed his childhood and youth in his native city, and upon reaching manhood served an apprenticeship as a molder, being thus employed until 1851. In the spring of that year he started by vessel around Cape Horn, from Boston for California, and upon arriving on the Pacific Slope selected his location in the Suisun Valley, where he engaged in farming. After a residence there of two and one-half years he returned East as far as Iona, Mich., where he engaged in a sawmill for two years.

While a resident of Michigan Mr. Battles, on the 1st of February, 1857, was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Wiser. Mrs. B. was born in Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 18, 1834, and was the fifth child of Henry and Elizabeth (Reinhart) Wiser, natives of Pennsylvania, and among the most highly respected people of the farming districts. Henry Wiser, the grandfather of Mrs. Battles, and his father-in-law, John Reinhart, were both soldiers of the Revolution.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Battles came to Douglas County, Ill., and shortly afterward to Champaign County, locating on the south half of section 28, which had been purchased by the brother of our subject. This has been the home of Mr. Battles since 1857. Upon his first arrival here his neighbors were few and far between, and the land wholly uncultivated. Nothing but a wagon tract marked the line of travel, and here, in common with their remote neighbors, they struggled with

the difficulties of the wilderness until the soil yielded them a return for their labor, and the blooming aspect of the country induced a more generous colonization.

The five sons and two daughters born to our subject and his wife are all living with one exception. Benjamin, the youngest, passed away in early childhood. Those surviving are Frank W., Frederick, Mary A., Elizabeth B., John F. and Joseph. The latter and his deceased brother Benjamin were twins. The eldest daughter, Mary, is the wife of Albert Tompkins, who operates a rented farm about half a mile from the residence of his father-in-law. Our subject is a Republican in politics, and his estimable wife is a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. A lithographic view of the thoroughbred herd of Holsteins and the handsome home of Mr. Battles is shown elsewhere in this work.



GEORGE WEBSTER is numbered among the intelligent and prosperous farmers of Rantoul Township, where he located on section 9, in 1872. At that date there was a small house and a few acres under cultivation. He now has a farm of 160 acres, finely laid out in grain fields and pasture lands, and equipped with good stock, creditable farm buildings, all necessary machinery, and the usual appliances required by the progressive, modern agriculturist. His course in life, although perhaps not distinguished by any remarkable event, has been that of a peaceable and law-abiding citizen, conducting his business and farming transactions in a praiseworthy manner, and enjoying the esteem and confidence of his fellow-men.

The early home of Mr. Webster was located in New Lebanon, Columbia Co., N. Y., where he was born under his father's roof, on the 5th of January, 1845. His parents, Aurelius and Elsie (Brockway) Webster, were natives of Rensselaer County, that State, where they grew to years of maturity and became husband and wife. After his marriage Mr. W. purchased a sawmill in East Nassau, Rensselaer County, which he operated for a number of years,

and thence removed to Columbia County, where he had previously bought a farm, upon which he located and lived until his decease, March 13, 1886. The grandfather of our subject, Constant Webster, occupied himself the greater part of his life in blacksmithing and farming, and possessed that resolute and industrious spirit which resulted in his prosperity and secured for him a comfortable home. He also was a resident of Rensselaer County, where he looked his last upon the scenes of earth, and where his remains were laid to rest.

The subject of this sketch was the fifth of ten children born to his parents. He passed his boyhood and youth after the manner of most farmers' boys, and in common with his brothers and sisters assisted in the lighter labors around the homestead. His studies, begun in the common schools, were completed in the academy at Lebanon, and he remained under the home roof until his father's death, in 1866. In December of that year, having nearly reached his majority, he started for the West, and located in the borders of Indiana until June of the following year. He then came to Delavan in Tazewell County, this State, where he worked by the month two years, and afterward for a few months clerked in a store. His constitution, however, would not permit of indoor employment, and without much regret he returned to farming. He continued a resident of Tazewell County until 1872, when he made his advent into this county, and purchased a tract of land now included in his present farm. After occupying this for a period of about nine years he left it in charge of a tenant, and removing to Rantoul engaged in general merchandising, living in town two years. He then returned to his farm, where he has since resided and superintended its cultivation and improvement. He has never enjoyed robust health.

The marriage of our subject and Miss Mary H. Slaughter took place at the home of the bride's parents in Delavan, Ill., April 15, 1873. Mrs. Webster was born in Delavan Township, Aug. 20, 1853, and is the daughter of William and Sarah (Hudson) Slaughter, pioneer settlers of Tazewell County, to which they removed from Ohio in 1852. Of this marriage there have been born three children—Frank, Nelson and Edith, all at home with their

parents. Mr. Webster politically is a decided Republican, and keeps himself well posted upon the current events of the day. Mrs. Webster is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

G W. TERRY, a retired farmer who is spending his life quietly in the city of Urbana, was born in Darke County, Ohio, Oct. 13, 1817. His parents were Nathan and Delilah (Westfall) Terry, natives of Ohio and Kentucky. His grandfather, Enos Terry, was born in New Jersey, to which State his parents emigrated from Ireland and where they spent the last years of their life. Enos Terry served as a Colonel in the War of 1812, and the final treaty with the Indians was made at his house. He afterward removed to Ohio with his family, where he became an extensive farmer and land-owner, and was also identified with the political affairs of that section, being Associate Judge of Darke a number of years. He also married and reared a family, among whom was Nathan, the father of our subject. He was bred to farming pursuits, which he carried on near the old home his entire life. His family consisted of seven children, of whom only three are now living: Sarah, Mrs. Furnas, of Miami County, Ohio; George W., of our sketch; and Linus, a carriage manufacturer of Miami County. Both the families of Enos and Nathan belonged to the Christian Church.

The subject of this history remained at home with his parents, attending school and assisting in the labors of the farm until fifteen years of age. He then went to Logansport, Ind., where he served an apprenticeship of five years at saddlery and harness-making, and then worked two years as a journeyman. In 1845 he pushed further westward into Illinois, stopping the first two years in Tazewell County, whence he came, in 1847, to Champaign County. Here he purchased eighty acres of land in Somer Township, to which he afterward added sixty acres, which he improved and cultivated until 1869, with uniform success. At this time, wishing to abandon farming pursuits, he erected a fine brick residence at the intersection of Main and Coler streets, into which, when completed, he removed his family

and where he has since lived. He sold the farm in 1873. While a resident of Urbana Township he was intrusted with its various offices, the duties of which he fulfilled with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents.

Mr. Terry was married in 1849, to Mrs. Eliza Adkins, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of James and Asenath (Hall) Young. Her parents were natives of Ohio, and her father was one of the earliest settlers of the Buckeye State. Of the ten children comprising the parental household, five only are now living, namely: Mrs. Elizar Tenney; Mrs. Mary Somers, of Somer Township, this county; Walter, who is farming near Normal; Mrs. Sarah Moore, of Ford County, Ill., and Naomi, Mrs. Ditto, of St. Joseph Township, this county. James Young came to Illinois in 1842, and locating on a farm in Urbana Township cultivated the soil until he rested from his earthly labors. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. By her first marriage Mrs. Terry became the mother of two children—William and Asenath.

Mr. Terry is Republican in politics, and during the late war assisted in the preservation of the Union by enlisting in Co. B, 76th Ill. Vol. Inf., and serving three years. He was promoted Sergeant, and was present at the battles of Vicksburg, Jackson, Blakesley, and many other engagements and skirmishes. He is a member in good standing of the I. O. O. F. and the G. A. R., and a fair representative of the substantial farmers and business men of Champaign County.

JAMES G. OLDHAM, of Urbana, has obtained a local reputation as a breeder of fine stock, in which he has had a valuable experience and been remarkably successful. He is a native of Fayette County, Ohio, and was born Oct. 2, 1847. His parents, John G. and Anna (Warner) Oldham, were natives respectively of Virginia and Ohio. John Oldham was an extensive farmer and stock-dealer, and the owner of about 800 acres of land in Fayette County. In connection with farming he also operated a blacksmith and cooper shop. His life was one of industry and en-

ergy, and he remained in Ohio, to which State he had removed at an early day, until his death, in 1852. Mrs. O. survived her husband thirty-three years and died near Urbana in 1885. Both parents belonged to the Society of Friends, and politically the father of our subject was a staunch adherent of the old Whig party.

The parental family included ten children, eight now living, namely: Jane, Mrs. Daniels; John E.; Massey, Mrs. Williams; Simeon W.; Elizabeth, Mrs. Lukens; Abner W.; J. W., and James G., of our sketch. The grandfather of our subject, Edward Oldham, was a native of Virginia, and married Miss Jane Gardner, who was of English descent. The mother of our subject was the daughter of Levi Warner, a native of the Keystone State, reared among the Quakers, and whose grandparents, also Quakers, emigrated from England at an early period in the history of this country and engaged extensively in farming.

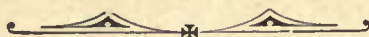
Mr. Oldham, of our sketch, was bred to farm life and at an early age learned to depend upon his own resources. When thirteen years old he commenced working out at \$7 per month, and made himself so useful that in the fall of that same year his wages were raised to \$15 per month. The year following he received \$17. In the meantime he prosecuted his education by attending school in the winter, so that at seventeen years of age he engaged as a teacher at Madison, Ind., in the vicinity of which place his labors had been carried on since he was ten years of age.

Our subject came to Illinois in 1864, and rented a farm three miles east of Urbana. He operated upon rented land until 1875, and then purchased a farm in Urbana Township, which he occupied until 1882. In the meantime he had been engaged in buying and shipping stock, of which he made a success, and which he has continued since 1871. He deals only in the best grades, and has in his stables a number of blooded horses, usually keeping no less than twelve on hand. Mr. Oldham became a resident of Urbana in 1883, at which time he began dealing in city property, and is at the present doing more to build up and improve the city than any other one man.

In view of the career here detailed it is hardly

necessary to say that Mr. Oldham has arrived at his present position, financially, through his own efforts, and he possesses the respect and esteem which are tacitly accorded all those who have been successful in surmounting difficulties, and have thus attained that independence of character which constitutes the substantial and reliable citizen.

Mr. Oldham was married on the 9th of March, 1871, to Miss Bell L., daughter of John and Maria (Roe) McDonald, natives of Virginia and Kentucky respectively. Of this union there are two children—Ora B. and Ada P.


 **S**AMUEL A. KIRKPATRICK, of St. Joseph Township, is the third son and fifth child of John C. and Mary C. (Busey) Kirkpatrick, and was born on the old homestead Dec. 22, 1860. The Kirkpatricks are a family widely and favorably known in the Buckeye State, where James Kirkpatrick, the grandfather of our subject, was born, reared and married. He afterward removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind., and reared a family of sons and daughters, among whom was John C., the father of our subject, who became a resident of Illinois in 1851. He possessed the excellent traits of his Irish and German ancestry, and by his energy and industry became a leading light in this locality, assisting with his brother pioneers in developing the resources of the country, and building up from the uncultivated prairie the fine and fertile stretch of land which is now considered one of the most valuable in the Prairie State. His first purchase comprised a portion of the present site of Champaign.

John C. Kirkpatrick followed farming for many years, and is still living, but retired from active labor. He became particularly successful in the raising of cattle for the markets, from the proceeds of which he realized quite a fortune, which he invested in real estate to the extent of 800 acres, which now comprises one of the finest farms in Champaign County. The beautiful residence is surrounded by choice shade trees, flanked by good barns and other out-buildings, and in fact is very nearly perfection in all that constitutes the modern

country home. The parental family included the following children, all living, viz., Marion F., Albert J.; Elizabeth, the wife of D. R. Dilling; Hattie B., the wife of C. A. Barricklow; Samuel A., of our sketch; Charles S., Jesse C. and Fannie.

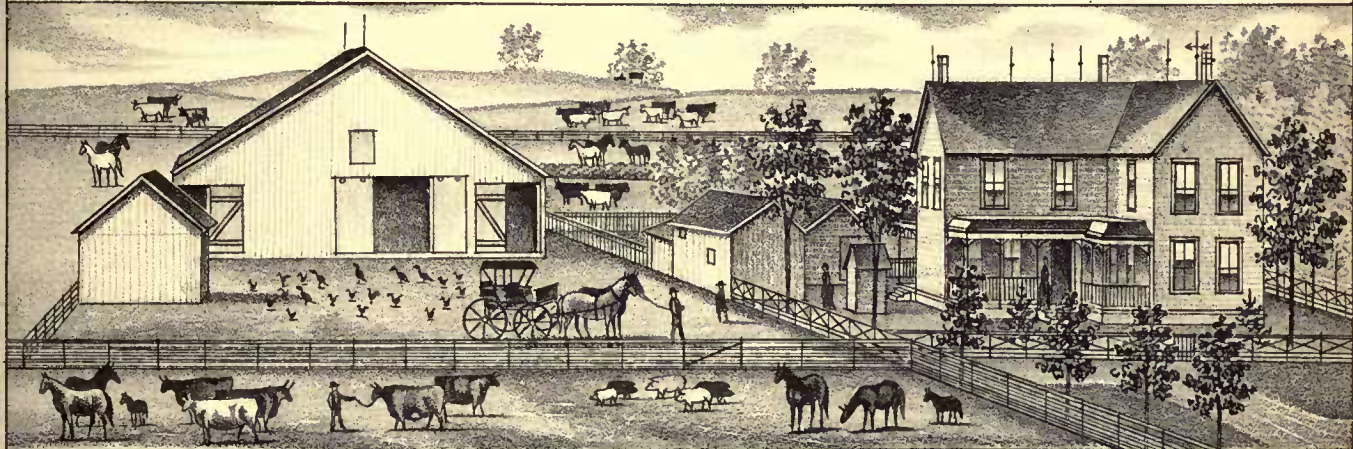
Our subject remained a member of the household until 1884, and on the 23d of April of that year, was married to Miss Ella Day, of Fountain County, Ind. Mrs. Kirkpatrick is a native of the county mentioned, and the daughter of Michael and Jane Day. After marriage, the young people made their preparations for a permanent residence on the old homestead, where they have still remained, and where our subject, like his father before him, has successfully followed farming and stock-raising, and made a specialty of fine horses, breeding and importing direct from Scotland some of the best specimens of Clydesdales to be found in Illinois. He also has a small herd of thoroughbred Short-horn cattle, and has acquired quite an enviable reputation as a breeder of fine stock. In conjunction with this he has raised large quantities of corn annually, it being consumed mostly by the farm stock.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Kirkpatrick, there has been born one child, a son, Glenn B. Mr. Kirkpatrick received a good education, completing his studies in the Normal School at Ladoga, and for two winters thereafter conducted a school in Champaign County. He finally concluded, however, that farming was preferable to teaching, but by a judicious course of reading keeps himself well informed upon matters of general interest.

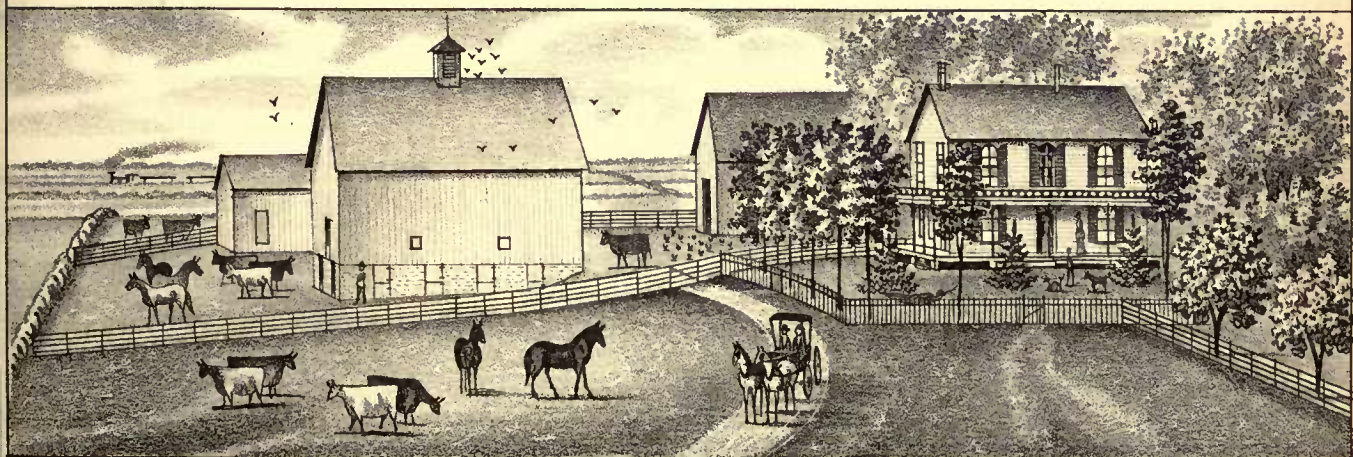
 **J**OSEPH R. HUDSON, the fourth son of John and Lydia Hudson, of St. Joseph Township, was born near Rising Sun, now the county seat of Ohio County, Ind., March 18, 1846. He came to this county with his parents when a boy eight years of age, and completed his education by a limited attendance at the district school. He has been continuously a resident of the old homestead, and before reaching his majority was united in marriage with Miss Nellie Koep, a native of Ohio, but whose parents were from Pennsylva-



RESIDENCE OF WM F. HOWARD, SEC. 24, HENSLEY TP.



RESIDENCE OF ROBERT DAVIS, SEC. 13, MAHOMET TP.



"SYCAMORE HOME," = R. B. MORRIS, SEC. 15, URBANA TP.

nia. Of this union there was born one daughter, Amelia M., now the wife of Joseph Rice, of St. Joseph Township. The mother departed this life when the child was but an infant.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in the spring of 1880, was formerly Miss Margaret McGraw, a native of New York State, who came to this county with her parents when a child. She is the daughter of Roger and Mary McGraw, the former of whom is deceased; the mother resides in Urbana. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hudson are members and regular attendants of the Catholic Church at Champaign.

The homestead of our subject includes 160 acres of choice land, with a handsome and substantial residence, which was put up in the summer of 1886. The barn and out-buildings are commodious and convenient, and the premises in all respects indicate the supervision of an enterprising and intelligent proprietor. Mr. Hudson has given his attention principally to the raising of grain and stock, in which he has been eminently successful, and is reckoned among the well-to-do and independent farmers of St. Joseph Township. He is pre-eminently an expert in the cultivation of the soil, and his stock operations yield him annually a handsome income.

CHRISTOPHER L. HOWSER, one of the enterprising young farmers of St. Joseph, of whom much is expected in the future, was born not far from his present residence on the 8th of November, 1864. He is the third son of Jonathan and Margaret J. (Dillman) Howser, who became residents of this county in 1854, settling upon a farm in St. Joseph Township, where they still reside.

Our subject received the advantages of the common schools, and remained with his parents until his marriage, which took place in the spring of 1884, when he was in the twentieth year of his age. The lady destined to become the sharer of his home and fortune was Miss Millie J. Reeder, a native of Montgomery County, Ohio, born in 1864, and the daughter of Henry H. and Emma (Neil) Reeder,

who became residents of this county in 1870, and are now residing in Philo.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Howser located upon their present homestead on section 31, which embraces eighty acres of improved land, with a handsome two-story residence, a good barn, and all necessary out-buildings. Mr. H., in addition to general farming, has already distinguished himself as a successful stock-raiser, giving his attention mostly to hogs and cattle, numbers of which he fattens each year and ships to the Eastern markets.

To this little household, established early in life, there have been born two children, a son and daughter, Herman Blaine and Laurel Bertram. Mr. Howser since becoming a voter has uniformly exerted his influence in support of Republican principles, and takes an intelligent interest in county and local affairs.

JOHAN H. HUDSON. The fine farm of 360 acres, which is located on section 30, in St. Joseph Township, and invariably attracts the eye of the traveler through that section with its thrifty grain fields, and pasture lands neatly fenced, its handsome and imposing residence in the midst of a beautiful grove, and the other shapely and convenient out-buildings, has been for years the property of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch. Of this he took possession when it was but an open prairie, with neighbors few and far between, and since that time he has given to the place his undivided care and attention. On all sides are evinced the industry and enterprise of an intelligent and wide-awake man, and one who, without question, has been largely identified with the agricultural interests and the welfare of his township.

Mr. Hudson was born in Ohio County, Ind., near the thriving town of Rising Sun, the county seat, March 22, 1814. His father, John Hudson, a native of England, was born in 1803, and in 1820 emigrated to the United States and was married in Ohio to Miss Lydia McKinsy, a native of the Buckeye State. After marriage the young people re-

maintained for a time in Ohio, and thence removed to Indiana, of which they were residents until 1854. Then, with their family of nine children, they came to this county, locating two miles south of Urbana upon a farm which the father rented for one year. He then purchased the farm which lies on section 19, and is now occupied by his son Joseph R. He is in the enjoyment of good health and all his faculties. The mother's death took place May 23, 1887.

The parental family of our subject included ten children, of whom only seven are living. Of these John H. was the third son, and was fourteen years old when his parents came to this county. He completed his education in the schools of Terre Haute, Ind., and remained with his parents until reaching his twentieth year, when he started out on his own account by renting a farm. At the expiration of a year he purchased eighty acres of land which is now included in his present homestead, and to which he has subsequently added until the farm embraces 360 acres. Upon laying his plans for the future, one of the most important steps toward the establishment of a home of his own was his marriage with Miss Eliza, the daughter of Jonathan and Martha J. Houser.

The young people after their marriage remained a year on the homestead of the elder Hudson, and then removed to their own farm on section 30. The first modest dwelling was replaced in 1876 by the present fine residence, and Mr. Hudson has been continually adding improvements since taking possession. Most of his accumulations have been the result of his success as a grain-raiser, although he has dealt largely in cattle, keeping usually about seventy head which he fattens on grass. He is also engaged considerably in the breeding of draft horses, and exhibits some fine specimens.

The home circle of Mr. and Mrs. Hudson was completed by the birth of eight children, six sons and two daughters, named respectively, Lettie L., Clifton A., Charles H., John M., Oscar, Perry, Frederick M. and Carrie. All are at home with their parents.

The career of Mr. Hudson has been essentially that of a self-made man, who early in life became dependent upon his own resources, and who has

been prospered through his own perseverance and industry. Upon first starting out for himself his outfit consisted of one horse which had been given him by his father. He labored industriously, lived economically and was remarkably fortunate in his investments. He is now ranked among the representative farmers of Central Illinois, and his estate adds greatly to the value of property in his community, as well as forming one of the most attractive features of the landscape.

GEORGE W. PUTNAM, who is well known as a member of the firm of Putnam Bros., the leading business house at Penfield, is with his brother conducting an extensive trade in agricultural implements, besides having a store of general merchandise and a grain elevator. Mr. Putnam was born on the 3d of May, 1852, when his parents were residents of the city of Rochester, N. Y., where he lived until two years old, and then moved with his parents to Worcester County, Mass., remaining there until twelve years of age, and then came with them to Illinois. His boyhood and youth were passed alternately in the district school and employed in the lighter labors of the farm until a youth of seventeen years.

Our subject's father, a gentleman of much natural ability, who valued the advantages of learning, being desirous that his son should receive a college education, placed him in the High School of Cincinnati, Ohio, where he pursued his studies until the death of the former. He returned home after a time but subsequently resumed his studies until failing health obliged him to abandon them, and his school life was practically ended. Afterward he resumed work on the farm until February, 1883, his mother in the meantime having given him a portion of the land. At the date mentioned, in company with his brother Edgar, he engaged in his present business, and they now pay over to the railroad company annually more than one-half of the freight charges at Penfield Station.

On the 22d of April, 1878, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Florida Kirkpatrick, at the home of the bride's parents in Charity, Ver-

million Co., Ill. Mrs. P. is the daughter of Samuel and Rebecca Kirkpatrick, and was born in Indiana; her father is proprietor of a fine farm in Vermilion County, this State, and is one of the leading agriculturists of that section. The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Putnam are, Nellie, Earl and Harry. Mr. P. is a strong temperance man, Democratic politically, and socially a member of the Knights of Pythias.

THOMAS R. COSBEY was born among the Ohio hills, in Hamilton County, Dec. 29, 1848. He was the third child of Samuel M. and Elizabeth (Malsbury) Cosbey, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of New Jersey. The father of our subject was the son of Samuel and Ellen (Lee) Cosbey, of Scotch descent, and his mother was the daughter of William and Eliza (Bowman) Malsbury, natives of New Jersey.

The childhood and youth of our subject were spent on his father's farm and his education was conducted in the district schools of Sycamore Township. When he was fourteen years of age the family were bereft of the kind care of the affectionate mother who passed from earth in middle life, and Thomas R. was placed in the home of an uncle. He remained there a year, and afterward took up his abode with another uncle, remaining the same length of time. His father was then married and the family once more established under the same roof. The second wife of Samuel Cosbey was formerly Miss Ellen Steefel, a native of New Jersey, and with them our subject remained until he was twenty-four years of age. He then began farming on his own account and, believing that he would be enabled to maintain a family, on the 18th of June, 1874, was united in marriage with Miss Maggie Meier, who was the eldest of seven children born to John M. and Kunigunda (Seitenfaden) Meier. Her parents were natives of Bavaria and came to America during the great foreign emigration of 1848.

Mr. and Mrs. Cosbey soon after their marriage, established themselves on a farm in Hamilton County, Ohio, which they occupied until the spring of 1884. Then coming West they located on a

farm of 240 acres in Harwood Township, which was owned by the father of our subject. Here Mr. Cosbey has since successfully followed farming and stock-raising and has become one of the important factors in the agricultural interests of this section.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Cosbey, seven in number and all living, are recorded as follows: Linn Leonard was born in 1875; Carl Walter, in the year 1876; Myra Mabel, Oct. 22, 1877; Halley, May 31, 1879; Miles Milo, May 5, 1881; Iola Edith, Nov. 5, 1883; Lola May, Aug. 14, 1886. The home and its surroundings form a pleasant picture of country life in the midst of peace and plenty. Our subject has never been an office-seeker, although occasionally officiating as Township Clerk or Trustee. His political sympathies are with the Republican party, and religiously, with his estimable wife and her parents, he adheres to the doctrines of the Lutheran Church.

T. FUGATE, M. D., a popular and prominent physician of Urbana, located in this city in November, 1868, whence he had removed from Pike County, Ill. He was born in Wytheville, Wythe Co., Va., June 15, 1831, and is the son of Wilbourn and Euphemia (Thompson) Fugate, natives respectively of Virginia and North Carolina. Mr. Fugate was a Huguenot. His ancestors fled to this country before persecution, locating in South Carolina. His father was prominent in the affairs of his native county in Virginia, occupying an official position the greater part of his life. He studied medicine in his younger days, but never practiced. He removed with his family to Pike County, Missouri, and there became a partner in the *Bowling Green Republican*, with which he was associated for three years. Then, in partnership with Mr. Block, he engaged in mercantile pursuits, and in 1835 purchased a farm which he occupied until 1863. He then sold out and removed to Mt. Sterling, Ill., near which town he purchased land and lived for some time. After disposing of his property there he became a resident of Camp Point, where he died on the 2d of December, 1866, at the advanced age of eighty-six.

years. During his early life Wilbourn Fugate was a Whig, politically, but later cast his lot with the Democratic party. Religiously he was an old-school Presbyterian. He possessed a remarkable memory, especially in regard to names and dates, and wherever he lived was readily recognized as a man of more than ordinary ability, well fitted to be a leader among his fellows. He was a great admirer of Masonic principles, and connected himself with the fraternity when a young man, becoming prominent and establishing many lodges in different localities. The six children of the parental household are recorded as follows: J. T., of our sketch, was the eldest; Dr. Jerome W. is practicing in Lawrence, Kan.; Elizabeth married Dr. A. L. Darrah, of Bloomington, Ill.; Dr. Lyeurgus W. has built up a fine practice in and around Colchester, McDonough County; David W. and Miranda are residents of Camp Point, Ill. The mother survives, and is living with her son, our subject, at Urbana, being now seventy-six years old.

The Doctor spent his younger days in teaching school, and pursuing his studies under competent tutors at Barry, in Pike County, Ill. When twenty-two years of age he determined to see something of the world, and proceeding to Virginia, traveled South and East and in various other sections for several years. Upon returning to this State he resumed his former occupation, and devoted his leisure hours to the study of medicine. After a thorough course in the Missouri Medical College he was admitted to practice, in 1859, entering upon his profession in the city of St. Louis, of which he was a resident until the breaking out of the Rebellion. He then returned to Pike County, Ill., where he followed his practice until 1868. In that year he turned it over to his brother, Lyeurgus W., and removed to Urbana, where he has since been actively engaged. He is prominent and popular among his professional brethren in this city, and belongs to the State, County, and District Medical Societies. He has been a close student, an extensive reader, and has won his way fairly to the confidence and esteem of the people of Champaign County.

Dr. Fugate was married in 1862, to Miss Dora Parkes, who was born in Adams County, Ill., in

1838, and is the daughter of Orsamus and Jane (Burnham) Parkes, natives of Ohio. Of this union there are three children: Minnie, Mrs. Ray, of Urbana, who has two children—Wayne and Carlos; Wilbourn W. and Alice G. are at home with their parents. The family residence is pleasantly located at the intersection of High and Broad streets, where its inmates enjoy all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. The Doctor and Mrs. F. are members in good standing of the Baptist Church, and number among their friends and associates the leading people of Urbana.

BROWN MATHEWSON, who is worthily fulfilling his mission as a member of the farming community of Compromise Township, for the last twenty-two years has been industriously cultivating 160 acres of land on section 4. Here he has a good set of farm buildings, with all the machinery required by the modern agriculturist. Our subject is a native of Rhode Island, and was born at Smithfield, Sept. 11, 1810. His early years were passed after the manner of most farmers' boys, and he started out quite young in life to do for himself. Going first to Oxford, Mass., when but fifteen years of age, he worked nine months in the year and spent the remaining three in school, in the meantime doing chores for his board. He was thus occupied for a period of two years, and then returning to his native State engaged in a livery stable at Providence, where he worked for a year, in the meantime revolving in his mind a plan by which he would be enabled to see something more of the world, and find if there were not something better for him in the future.

At the expiration of this time Mr. M. proceeded first to Utica, then to Buffalo and Niagara Falls, and from there walked about 200 miles through the country to Albany. He thence proceeded by boat to Schenectady, and from there to New York City, finally arriving in Hartford, Conn., where he engaged to work by the month, and was thus occupied two years. He now determined to seek the West in earnest. Proceeding first to Cincinnati and finding nothing to keep him there, he went into

Frankfort, Ohio, and was afterward variously engaged, being in the lumber-yard and on the canal, driving a cooper's wagon sometimes, and finally rented a piece of land and settled down for five years.

After becoming his own man on the farm, and feeling the necessity of a companion and helpmeet to cheer his solitude, Mr. Mathewson was united in marriage with Miss Marie Williams, of Butler County, Ohio, and they went to housekeeping in modest style upon the rented land. In due time the family was increased by the birth of four children, one of whom died in infancy, and the other three grew to maturity and married. Lewis W., the eldest son, chose for his wife Miss Mollie Cannon, of Cincinnati, and where he is now City Engineer; James married Mrs. Elizabeth Jackson, and is farming on section 2 in Compromise Township, this county; Alice, the wife of C. W. Lambert, is living in Nebraska.

Mr. Mathewson, in 1845, abandoned farming for the time, and moving into Cincinnati purchased a number of teams and commenced draying. This proved a very successful venture, and he continued for seventeen years, during which time he purchased several lots, and in 1861 sold them all in order to come to Illinois. He reached this county in July, 1865, and purchased 160 acres of land in Compromise Township, where he built a small house, into which he removed his family the following spring. Ten years later he met with an affliction in the death of his wife, who departed this life on the 7th of January, 1875, and was buried in the cemetery at Maplewood.

The present wife of our subject, formerly Mrs. Harriett (Wells) Thrapp, and to whom he was married Jan. 7, 1882, is the daughter of Richard and Susannah (Sappington) Wells, and was born in Knox County, Ohio, Sept. 6, 1827. Her father was a native of Anne Arundel County, Md., was born Jan. 4, 1800, and in early life learned the carpenter's trade at Baltimore. He worked there several years, and when twenty-six years of age was married and removed to Ohio, locating among the earliest settlers of Knox County. Thence he removed to Licking County, and engaged in farming there for a period of thirty-five years. Subsequently he

removed into Delaware County for the purpose of educating his children, and died there May 27, 1871. His wife, formerly Miss Susannah Sappington, was born Oct. 19, 1808, in the eastern part of Maryland, near the shores of Chesapeake Bay. Her parents died when she was but four years of age, and she was reared by her uncle, Charles Willoughby. She departed this life Aug. 31, 1843, during the residence of the family in Licking County. Her children, five in number, were John T., Harriett A., Rebecca J., Richard N., and a babe who died unnamed. These worthy people filled their niche in life, and were devout members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The grandfather of our subject, Joseph Mathewson, was a native of Rhode Island, where he spent his entire life engaged in farming pursuits, and passed from the scenes of his earthly labors on the 18th of November, 1812, at the age of sixty-three years, ten months and fourteen days. His wife, who in her girlhood was Miss Bettie Brown, was a native of the same State as her husband, and also died there Feb. 17, 1842. She survived her husband many years, having at the time of her death reached the advanced age of eighty-eight years, one month and seven days. The great-grandfather of our subject, Othniel Mathewson, a native of the same State as his son, lived to be one hundred and one years, seven months and twenty-eight days old. His death took place on the 18th of October, 1800.

ASHBEL H. BAILEY, of Rantoul Township, came to this section of the country in the spring of 1861, and located on a farm four miles west of the village of Rantoul. After engaging in farming for a period of ten years he moved into town and took charge of a nursery, which he conducted until admonished by failing health that he must retire from active labor. Of his family, one son, Algernon S., after serving in the Union army as a member of Co. I, 12th Ill. Vol. Cav., died of disease contracted in the service. Frederick S. resides here, and Edward D., in Clark, Dak. Laura E. married F. A. Brown, of Dakota,

and Charles W., the youngest, is a grain dealer and Postmaster at Tomlinson.

The subject of this sketch was born in Lenox, Berkshire Co., Mass., Sept. 11, 1819. His parents, Caleb and Betsey (Hills) Bailey, were natives of Connecticut and Massachusetts respectively, and the former of English and the latter of German ancestry. Caleb Bailey early in life learned the shoemaker's trade, afterward engaged as a merchant, and during the latter part of his life devoted himself to farming. The eight children of the parental household comprised five sons and three daughters, six of whom survive. Ashbel H. was the eldest of the family, and spent his early life in his native town, receiving his education at the district school and Lenox Academy. Upon the removal of the parents to Ohio he accompanied them, and grew to manhood on the farm. He had a natural love of learning, and after becoming a resident of the Buckeye State entered Grand River Institute at Austinburg, Ohio, where he became fitted for a teacher at the age of sixteen years. He subsequently attended Western Reserve Teachers' Seminary two years. He commenced teaching in the district school, and advanced until he became Superintendent of Schools in Ashtabula County, Ohio, and was also connected with the Board of Examiners eight years.

While a resident of Ohio Mr. Bailey was united in marriage with Miss Laura M. Wright, of Ashtabula County, and daughter of Col. David Wright. The young people located at Jefferson, Ashtabula County, where Mr. B. taught several years, and then at College Hill. He became agent for Terre Haute and Ohio Female Colleges, and was thus occupied ten years, coming to this county soon afterward. Mrs. Laura M. Bailey departed this life in the summer of 1868.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1870, was formerly Miss Sarah E. Smead, who, like her husband, was in earlier years a teacher, and at the time of her marriage was engaged in her profession in Madison, Ohio. She also is a native of Massachusetts, whence her parents removed to Ohio when she was a young lady sixteen years of age.

Mr. Bailey has been prominent in the affairs of

this locality since coming here, representing Rantoul Township in the Board of Supervisors for a number of years, and in 1880 was elected to the State Legislature on the Republican ticket, serving in the Thirty-second General Assembly. Much of his life has been devoted to reading and study, he being one of those men who wisely consider the time well spent which is given to the improvement of the mind. He keeps himself well posted upon current events, and although having little to do with general politics, casts his vote in support of Republican principles. Nothing pleases him better than to be able to encourage the various worthy enterprises calculated for the general welfare of his fellow-citizens, and his voice is always heard on the side of truth and justice. The agitation of religious and educational questions finds no more interested listener than himself, or one who more zealously encourages every measure for the intellectual and moral advancement of the people. His home in Rantoul is the resort of the intelligent and educated people of the place. He has been connected with the Congregational Church for a period of twenty years, and of which Mrs. Bailey is also a member, being the active sympathizer of her husband in his religious ideas and literary tastes.

THOMAS H. BELL, one of the self-made men of Newcomb Township, was born in Madison County, Ohio, Feb. 8, 1845, and is the son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Smith) Bell, natives of the same county, where the father died in June, 1848. The parental household included six children, of whom Thomas H. was the fifth. He resided in his native county until seventeen years of age, and until after the outbreak of the late war. He then enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. A, 113th Ohio Vol. Inf., and served three years. At the battle of Kennesaw Mountain he was badly wounded in the head, but finally recovered and resumed his place in his regiment.

After the close of the war in the spring of 1866, Mr. Bell came to Illinois, stopping in McLean County a short time, and thence went to Kansas. Afterward he returned to Ohio, and after a brief

stay in Madison County, finally settled in Tazewell County, Ill., where he lived six years, and in the spring of 1875 came to Champaign County, locating in Newcomb Township, where he purchased a tract of land and commenced its improvement and cultivation. He is now the possessor of 180 acres, with good buildings and valuable farm machinery, and in both his agricultural and business operations has been eminently successful. He is regarded as a good citizen and worthy member of the community, and is contributing his share toward the development and progress of this section.

Mr. Bell was married in Tazewell County, Ill., Dec. 31, 1868, to Miss Jane Richmond, a native of that county, who was born Oct. 26, 1849. Of this union there have been born six children—Norah, Benjamin, Laura, Harvey, Bessie and James. Mrs. Bell departed this life in Newcomb Township, Jan. 11, 1887. Our subject is Republican in politics, and takes an interest in general and local affairs.

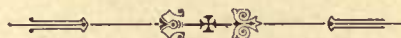


JOHAN M. MINTURN, physician and surgeon at Rantoul, first drew breath in the village of Callensville, Pendleton Co., Ky., April 16, 1854. His ancestry is traced as follows: William W. Minturn, his paternal grandfather, was born in Virginia, Sept. 1, 1791, and married Miss Tirza Fellows, of Point Pleasant, May 26, 1816. She was born June 18, 1799, in Shelbourne, Mass., and became the mother of eleven children. The great-grandfather of our subject, Samuel P. Minturn, was of German descent and a native of Holland, whence he emigrated with his parents in the latter part of the sixteenth century. His father was Samuel P. Minturn, Sr. The family of the latter included eleven children, of whom the mother was formerly Miss Catherine Howel, of Warwick, Orange Co., N. Y.

The father of our subject was born in Point Pleasant, Va., June 19, 1830, and during early manhood, in 1849, became a resident of Pendleton County, where he married Miss Susan Ann Williams, of that county, Oct. 5, 1851. Of the four children born to them, namely, John M., William W.,

Mary T. and Anna B., only our subject and one brother survive. John M., being the eldest of the family, passed his boyhood in his native town, and after a brief course in the primary schools studied under a private tutor and obtained a good acquaintance with Latin, German and English. He afterward made himself useful as clerk in a general merchandise store, and in 1876 began the study of medicine, while at the same time carrying on general merchandise. After he had sufficiently advanced he entered the Medical Department of the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, and was graduated with honors in 1880. Soon afterward he returned home and commenced the practice of his profession. Four years later, desiring a broader field of operation, he came to the West and located in Rantoul, where he has since been a valuable addition to the profession.

Dr. Minturn married while in his native State, his bride being Miss Sallie Kennedy, of Paris, Ky., their wedding occurring April 25, 1883. Of the three children born of this union, only one is living, a daughter, Winnie St. C. The others died in infancy. Dr. Minturn is Examining Surgeon for the United States Pension Department, to which office he was appointed July 15, 1885. He is connected with the Christian Church, and in all respects is an addition to the community.



DAVID A. KING, formerly a highly respected farmer of Urbana Township, is now living in ease and retirement in the city on East Main street. He became a resident of Illinois in 1855, locating first in Hensley Township, this county, where he purchased 160 acres of land, which he occupied until 1882. He was successful in his farming operations, and now in his declining years is enjoying the fruits of his early industry. He is still in possession of his farm property, which is occupied by a tenant.

Mr. King is a native of Bourbon County, Ky., and was born June 5, 1818. He is the son of Robert S. and Rebecca (Ford) King, natives respectively of Virginia and Maryland. His father, who was a wheelwright by trade, became a resident of

Kentucky in 1796, to which State he removed with his father, David King, Sr. The latter built the first brick house in Madison County, and was engaged in the saddlery and harness business. When a young man he served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. His son Robert S., the father of our subject, spent the remainder of his life in the Blue Grass region, where he married and became the father of thirteen children. Of these five are now living, namely, John P., David A., Thomas F., Robert A., and Margaret, Mrs. King. Robert S. King during the war was a staunch Union man, and with his excellent wife a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church during a period of sixty-three years. His home was the headquarters of the Methodist clergymen of that vicinity during their conventions and other important meetings. Although a Southerner he was never known to take a drop of ardent spirits or have liquor in the house but once, and that was ordered by the physician in a case of sickness. He was a Henry Clay Whig of the old type, and rounded up a worthy and useful life at the age of eighty-seven years. The mother was seventy years old at the time of her death.

Our subject received his early education in the pioneer log school-house, with its puncheon floor and greased paper for window panes. He remained under the parental roof until twenty years of age, and then became overseer on a farm of slaves, which position he occupied for six years following. Afterward he engaged in the manufacture of furniture in Clark County, Ky., for a period of sixteen years, giving employment to several men and apprentices. In 1855 he sold out and made his first entry into the Prairie State.

Mr. King of our sketch was married, in 1840, to Miss J. E. Mitchell, a native of Montgomery County, Ky., and they became the parents of eleven children, of whom nine are still living: John W. married Miss Kate Fry, and they have four children—Blanche, Earle, Rosecoe C. and Kate; Harriet, Mrs. Fisher, of Hensley Township, has six children—Coyner, Alice, Della, Jennie, Eliza and Minnie; Margaret, Mrs. Ellen, of Hensley Township, has three children—Frank, William and Nellie; Bessie, Mrs. Coffman, is a resident of Hensley Township, and Susan B., Mrs. Montgomery, of Condit Town-

ship; Roxy, Mrs. Fry, of Urbana, has two children—Bessie and Ethel; Isabella, Mrs. Stickrod, of Champaign, has two sons—Willie and Harry; James R. married Miss Lotta Nicely, and they live at Girard, Kan.; David A., Jr., married Miss Bell Stickrod, and they have two children—Flora and Cora; they live in Condit Township. Mrs. J. E. King died at the home of her husband in Hensley Township, Aug. 30, 1880.

For his second wife Mr. David A. King married Mrs. Mary A. (Christie) Brewer, a native of New York City, and the daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Day) Christie, of New Jersey. Her father was a contractor and builder, and the parental household consisted of three children, two now living—Mrs. King and Abraham Christie, of Nebraska. The first husband of Mrs. King, Ashael Brewer, was one of the old settlers of Champaign County and a native of Maysville, Ky. He died in Urbana Township in 1881.

Mr. King is one of the representative citizens of this county, and since his residence here has been closely identified with its business and agricultural interests. He is Democratic in politics, and has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for a period of fifty-five years. During that time he served as Class-Leader and Steward, and has always contributed liberally and cheerfully of his means for the support of the Gospel.



JOHN M. HADDEN, M. D., a popular and successful physician of Seymour, Ill., is the son of Gawin and Sarah (Martin) Hadden, natives of Indiana County, Pa. They located in their native county after their marriage, where they are now residing and engaged in farming pursuits. Their eight children included four sons and four daughters, of whom our subject was the second. He was born in Indiana County, Pa., Aug. 7, 1842, and pursued his first studies in the common schools. He remained under the home roof until nineteen years of age, and in the fall of 1861, after the first call for troops to defend the Union, enlisted in the 67th Pennsylvania Infantry,

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G. B. Lester

serving till the close of the war. At the battle of Winchester he was captured by the rebels, and for a period of two months confined in Libby and Belle Isle prisons. He was finally paroled and in October, 1863, exchanged, and joined his regiment at Bull Run. He was particularly fortunate in his after career as a soldier, escaping wounds and imprisonment, and at the close of the struggle, received his honorable discharge and was mustered out at Harrisburg, Pa.

Our subject then returned to his old home in Indiana County, and resumed his studies in Plumville Academy, where he attended six months and then entered Shelocta Academy, where he spent one year, and from there went to Greenville, Pa., where he attended a select school two years. In the meantime he had been paying his own expenses by money earned during the hours when not in school, mostly as teacher. After completing his studies he entered the office of Dr. Thomas McMullen, of Greenville, with whom he read medicine three years, and completed his professional studies in the Medical Department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. After a thorough course of one year in this institution, he returned to Greenville and commenced the practice of his chosen profession in partnership with Dr. McMullen, with whom he operated two years. He then returned to the University and remained one year, after which he received his diploma. He came to Champaign County in the spring of 1872, and located at Seymour, where he has built up an extensive and profitable patronage, and is highly esteemed as a physician and surgeon.

The marriage of Dr. John M. Hadden and Miss Jennie E. Johnston was celebrated in Scott Township on the 24th of October, 1878. Mrs. H. is the daughter of George and Esther (Irwin) Johnston, who were natives of Ireland, where the father died. The mother afterward emigrated to America, and died at her home four miles north of Seymour in 1863. The parental family consisted of five children, of whom Mrs. Hadden was the second. She was born in Ireland in about 1844. She is a lady highly respected in her community and a member in good standing of the Methodist Church. The Doctor politically is a Republican.

CAPT. JOHN B. LESTER, whose name is familiar throughout this county, and who gave some of the best years of his life to the service of his country when he earned the title which he now bears, is the sixth child of Benjamin and Deliverance R. (Baldwin) Lester, the former a native of New York and the latter of Wales. The mother of our subject emigrated with her parents to this country at an early age, and after her marriage with Mr. Lester they located first in Cincinnati, Ohio, whence they afterward removed to Switzerland County, Ind., and later, in 1852, to Champaign County, Ill. The father purchased a tract of land in Newcomb Township; where his death occurred in 1857. The mother is still living at an advanced age. Their family of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, were born mostly in Switzerland County, Ind.

The birth of our subject took place in the latter named county, Feb. 2, 1836, and he lived there with his parents until sixteen years of age, thence removing with them to this county, of which he has since been a resident. He remained a member of the parental household until his marriage, which took place in Newcomb, Oct. 12, 1865, the lady of his choice being Miss Elizabeth A., daughter of Hiram and Lydia (Allamang) Trotter (see sketch of Hiram Trotter). After his marriage he located upon a farm of his own, on section 23, in Newcomb Township.

On the 7th of August, 1862, young Lester enlisted in Co. F, 125th Ill. Vol. Inf., as a private, and on the 4th of November following received his commission from Gov. Yates as First Lieutenant. In March, 1863, he was promoted Captain of his company and served in that capacity until the close of the war, winning the admiration and esteem of his company to a man. He was engaged with his comrades in some of the most important battles of the war, and at Kennesaw Mountain his clothing was rent with seven bullets. In the engagement at Altoona he was surrounded, together with the left wing of his regiment, by the rebels, but succeeded in cutting his way through and personally captured and held the rebel officer in command. He still has in his possession the sword which he took from that commander. Capt. Lester went through the

Atlanta campaign under Gen. Sherman, after which the troops proceeded to Washington, passed in grand review before the Chief Executive, and were then mustered out and returned to their homes.

Capt. Lester on returning to civil life again took up farming in Newcomb Township, where he has since occupied himself in the cultivation of the 352 acres of land which constitute his present homestead. He is a decided Republican, politically, and occupies a good position socially and in the regard of the business community. He became a member of the Masonic fraternity in 1855, and now belongs to Mahomet Lodge No. 220, at Mahomet. In the G. A. R. he is a member in good standing of Ft. Worth Lodge No. 300, at Fisher.

The wife of our subject was born in Frederick County, W. Va., June 26, 1842. Of the eight children who came to bless their union five only are now living, viz., Marion, Rosa, Wiley, Lydia and Nellie. Those deceased are Sherman, Sanford and George. Mrs. Lester is a lady held in high respect and a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Capt. Lester was a member of the Board of Supervisors for three years. He has not been an aspirant for political honors, but has preferred to attend to his business of farming. The accompanying portrait of Capt. Lester will be received with pleasure by all who know him, and recognized as that of a worthy and honored citizen.



WILLIAM BREINER. Mr. Breiner took possession of his place in Harwood Township in the spring of 1870, and has resided there, with the exception of a brief interval spent in merchandising at Ludlow, since that time. The improvements, which are noticeable on account of their superiority, are due to the ingenuity and industry of the owner who, as a man, citizen and farmer, is regarded as one of the most valuable members of the community. Much of his land is devoted to grain-raising, the grain being chiefly utilized on the farm in the feeding of stock, in which department of agriculture Mr. Breiner takes great

delight. His stables contain some fine specimens of Norman horses. In cattle his favorites are the Short-horns and his swine are of the Poland-China breed. The farm buildings are finely adapted to all the requirements of the modern agriculturist, combining convenience with taste in their structure, and the fences and farm machinery are kept in first-class condition.

Mr. Breiner is the representative of an excellent old family and spent his early life, until a boy of thirteen years, in the township of Bethlehem, Hunterdon Co., N. J., where he was born on his father's farm, Sept. 6, 1839. The family included thirteen children, of whom our subject was the second born. His parents were Francis J. and Anna (Overpeck) Breiner, the father a native of Strasburg, Germany, and the mother of Pennsylvania. Margaret, the mother of Francis J. Breiner, was born in the same old German city as her son, Strasburg, the capital of Alsace-Lorraine, famous for its historic interest, and one of the points of attack by the German army in 1870, during which many of its most important buildings sustained great injury, but were afterward restored as far as possible to their original condition. Among the other public institutions is the library, containing nearly 400,000 volumes, and the famous University which is the admiration and ambition of the intellectual German youth. Its railways and canals connect it with all the great rivers of France, and with the Danube, are important aids to its commerce. Its lofty houses, spacious squares and streets, intersected by branches of the Ill, form a scene exceedingly picturesque and over which the American traveler lingers with deep admiration. The father of our subject, however, only retains faintly in his mind's eye the picture of his native city, as his parents emigrated to America when he was a child of six years.

After the Breiner family had landed on American shores they proceeded to a point near Philadelphia, where they located and spent the remainder of their days, the father being occupied in weaving. The mother of our subject was the daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Shumaker) Overpeck, and was born in Pennsylvania, of which State her parents were also natives. The father died in middle life and the mother was afterward married to Ira

Cline. Of this latter union there were born seven children.

After their marriage Francis and Anna Breiner, in 1852, came to Illinois and located in Fairview, Fulton County, where Mr. B. followed his trade as a carpenter, and upon accumulating sufficient means purchased, first, 152 acres of unimproved land on the northwest quarter of section 5, in what is now Prairie City Township. He took possession of this in the spring of 1857. One of his first duties was to put up a house for the shelter of his family, which proved quite a pretentious structure for those times, being 16x26 feet in area with two stories and a basement. It was very substantially built, and, with his estimable wife, he still occupies it. He subsequently added to his original purchase of land 135 acres, so that the farm now contains 287 acres and is one of the most fertile tracts in that section. Francis Breiner is now a hale and hearty old man, seventy-four years old, active and energetic as many men a quarter of a century younger. The mother has kept even pace with her husband and is in the enjoyment of good health. They have performed their part in life in a quiet and unobtrusive manner and now, surrounded by many friends and all the comforts of life, are spending their declining years amidst the peace and plenty so justly earned.

William Breiner, of this sketch, spent his youth and early manhood with his parents, being trained to habits of industry, but receiving only a limited education. After reaching his majority he rented a tract of land adjoining his father's homestead, where he began farming for himself while he boarded at home and assisted his father when not busy with his own concerns. There was little comfort in working for himself alone, and on the 22d of August, 1861, he secured a partner to share his fortunes, being married to Miss Elizabeth Dunbar, whose acquaintance he had made years before. This lady was the second child of Warder and Elizabeth (Logsdon) Dunbar, natives of Kentucky, who occupied a farm on the same section as our subject. Mr. Breiner, abandoning the land upon which he had been working, rented a tract near by, in Warren County, where he remained eight years with satisfactory results. He was then enabled to pur-

chase forty acres of this, and continued his occupancy of the log cabin which he had previously built until he could put up a more pretentious dwelling. This latter structure was 16x24 feet in area, with one story and basement, to which he afterward added a kitchen 10x16 feet. This he occupied with his family a little more than eight years, being prosperous, as usual, and then commenced to look about him for something still better. There was a tract of 160 acres on section 22, in Harwood Township, which he very much desired and of which he soon managed to secure possession after selling his Warren County farm. Upon this was a house already begun, which he finished, and into which he removed his family in August of the same year (1870). He afterward added to his landed estate by the purchase of eighty acres in Kansas.

Mr. Breiner for several years afterward was continuously engaged in farming and stock-raising, but in the winter of 1876, imagined he would like to change his occupation, and engaged in merchandising. This he tried to his satisfaction for one year and then returned to the farm, drawing a long breath of relief after he had been reinstated as a member of the rural community.

Of the three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Breiner, a little son, Willie T., died in infancy; Emma Iola became the wife of John Darsham, of Rantoul, and they have one son, Earnest Esel. The youngest son of our subject, also Esel by name, remains on the homestead assisting his father. Mr. B. was married the second time, Nov. 13, 1881, to Mrs. M. M. Taylor; she is the daughter of Charles F. and Mary (Holtz) Ahlert, natives of Germany, who emigrated to the United States when their daughter Mary was but six years of age. They located in New York where they remained several years and until after the first marriage of their daughter, who then took up her residence with her husband in New York City. After the death of the latter she went to Chicago with her sister, where she met her present husband.

Mr. and Mrs. Breiner have continued on the farm since their marriage, enjoying the respect of the community around them, and filling their places worthily in life. Both are members of the Christian

Church, with which our subject has been connected for a period of twenty-seven years. He cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and has supported the Republican nominees for that office since that time. He served his township as School Trustee and Road Commissioner for three years, and was then elected School Treasurer, which position he holds at the present time. He has been an earnest worker in the Church and Sunday-school, being Superintendent of the latter in Harwood Township for five years, and at present occupies the same position in the Pleasant Vale Sunday-school. During the last fourteen years he has labored as a Christian teacher among the young, and nothing pleases him better than to see a houseful of bright young faces listening with interest to the precepts of the Master.

Mr. Breiner, in 1886, was elected Justice of the Peace, which office he still holds, and the duties of which he is discharging in a manner creditable to himself and satisfactory to his constituents.



ARMSTRONG A. GOINGS, one of the early pioneers of the Prairie State, is widely and favorably known throughout this county as a man eminently worthy the respect of its best citizens. His has been a life filled with industry and usefulness, and after building up a record as an honest man and good citizen he is now practically retired from its sterner duties and in a comfortable home in Rantoul Township is spending his later days pleasantly. In locating a home in the West, he traveled over a long stretch of country, his native place being Fredericksburg, Md., where he was born Dec. 6, 1810; this he left with his parents in 1839, for the new and undeveloped West.

The father of our subject, Roswell Goings, was a native of Maryland, of German ancestry, his grandfather having emigrated to America during the early settlement of Maryland, where he located and spent the remainder of his life. Among the sons was Roswell, who was born in Maryland and who lived there until 1811, when he removed to Pennsylvania and purchased a farm in Greene County,

which he occupied until 1839. That year he came overland with his family to Illinois and settled in that part of Tazewell County now included in Woodford County, taking up a tract of Government land, improving a farm and establishing a comfortable homestead, which he occupied until his death, which occurred in about 1860. In early manhood he was married to Miss Lett, also a native of Maryland, and who departed this life at the home of her son in California in about 1867. Her father was a native of Germany, who emigrated to this country when a young man, and during the Revolutionary War assisted in establishing the independence of the Colonies. He was wounded at the battle of Brandywine, but lived to return to civil life, found a home, and rear a family.

The subject of this sketch was the fourth child and second son of his parents, and but an infant when they removed from Maryland to Pennsylvania. He grew to manhood in Greene County, that State, and when twenty years of age accompanied his parents, first to Mason County, Va., and then to the further West. This latter journey was made via the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Peoria, which was then a village of a few straggling log cabins. Mr. Goings purchased a claim in Tazewell County, ten miles east of the hamlet, and as soon as the land came into market proceeded to Springfield on horseback and entered it. Among the persons interested at this sale was Stephen A. Douglas, who officiated as crier. The claim of Mr. Goings had been improved by the building of a log cabin, into which the family removed and lived for a time, and then he sold out and purchased land adjacent. He remained a resident of Tazewell County thirteen years, then removed to La Salle County and purchased land near the present site of Tonica. This he improved and transformed into a good farm, which he occupied until 1879. In the spring of that year he sold out and came to this county, and now lives with his son.

Mr. Goings was married in November, 1835, to Miss Mary Green, a native of Virginia, who was born in June, 1811. She remained the faithful and affectionate companion of her husband for over thirty years, and then departed this life at their home in La Salle County, Oct. 18, 1868. The nine

children born of this congenial union are recorded as follows: Edward is a resident of St. Louis, Mo.; Susannah is the wife of William Buren, and they live on a farm in Livingston County, Ill.; Frank is in Beadle County, Dak.; Sarah E. is the wife of Raymond P. Francis, a farmer of Ludlow Township; Eliza married James Gregory, and they are residents of Livingston County; Mary, Mrs. Dudley Witty, lives in La Salle County, and Elisha is farming in Rantoul Township, this county. Two are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Goings became members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in early life, with which the mother remained connected during her lifetime, and in which Mr. G. still retains his membership. He was the pioneer Methodist of this county, and while residing in Tazewell and La Salle Counties his house was the home of the preachers, and the place at which the neighborhood meetings were frequently held.

Elisha Goings, the son above mentioned, was born in La Salle County, Ill., Nov. 29, 1853. He remained with his parents until after reaching his majority, and was married Nov. 8, 1876, to Miss Julia Foster. This lady is a native of Copenhagen, Denmark, where she was born Sept. 5, 1855; she is the daughter of A. T. and Catura Foster, natives respectively of Denmark and England. The family emigrated to America in 1866, and the parents are now residents of Ft. Scott, Kan. Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Goings have five children, viz., Lilly, Fannie, Arthur, George and Chester. They are members and regular attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and valued factors of an intelligent community.



WILLIAM DAVIS, of Harwood Township, first opened his eyes to the light in Huntingdon County, Pa., on the 10th of November, 1823, and was the third child of Evan and Lutitia (Conley) Davis, also natives of the Keystone State, and the father a stonemason by trade. In 1837, when our subject was a boy of fourteen years, his father gathered together his household goods, and with his family set out for the farther West, and coming into this State located near Fairview, in Fulton County, where he

commenced farming after the methods adopted by the people of the Prairie State. He lived a quiet, uneventful life, and finally removed to Prairie City, McDonough County, where both parents closed their eyes upon the scenes of earth.

Young Davis remained a member of the parental household until the day after he was twenty-three years of age, and on the evening of that day was one of the chief actors in an interesting ceremony, by which he became the husband of Miss Susan, third child of John and Susan (Martin) Wolgamot, who were born near Hagerstown, Md. The wife of our subject was a native of Maryland, born Dec. 12, 1823. The young people after their marriage located on a farm of eighty acres, near Fairview, which our subject had purchased a short time previously. Three years later he sold this and purchased a quarter section near Canton, which he retained until 1853. He then changed his property into a stock of merchandise at Prairie City, McDonough County, and was in trade there for three years following. During the great depression in grain and pork, which will still be remembered by many of the settlers of that region, Mr. Davis was compelled to close out his business at a great sacrifice. He then took up butchering, which he followed thirteen years in Prairie City, and in 1868 came to this county, resolving to resume farming. He managed to secure possession of a tract of land from the Illinois Central Railroad, in Harwood Township, which he has since retained his hold upon, and upon which he has effected a remarkable and admirable change. The soil had never been turned by the plowshare, and there was neither a building nor a fence upon it. He now has a farm of eighty acres, on section 16, smiling with grain and pasture fields, neatly fenced and with comfortable buildings. It presents the picture of a pretty rural home, which should satisfy the ambition of any ordinary person.

The seven little children, who came one by one to the household of our subject and his wife, were named respectively Sarah R., John E., William H., Samnel G., George H., Edward and Nettie. The third child, William, was taken from the home circle when but twenty-two months old; Sarah is the wife of Samuel Barber, a carpenter by trade,

and a resident of Rantoul; they have a family of seven children—Minnie, Lutitia, Jennie, Nellie, Willie, Pearl and Maud; John married Miss Ida Hewitt, of Ludlow, and follows farming near the homestead of Mr. Davis; within the precincts of this little household are the children—Effie, Lida and Elma; Samuel married Miss Jennie Counteman, and is a resident of Chicago, being a conductor on the Illinois Central Railroad. Of the three children born to them, Stella and Claud are numbered with the dead; Amanda, a bright girl of ten years, is with her parents. George married Miss Emma Smith, and lives in the northern part of this county, being a successful farmer; Edward married Miss Annie Doak, and lives on a farm a short distance north of his father; Nettie is the baby.

Mr. Davis, in 1869, was elected School Trustee, and served nine years in succession. He was Collector four or five years, and was elected Assessor eight years ago, which position he still holds. He was elected on the Republican ticket. Both Mr. and Mrs. Davis are connected with the Baptist Church, and are the most highly valued by those who know them best.

VALENTINE J. GALLION, Justice of the Peace and Supervisor of St. Joseph Township, first opened his eyes to the light near the Atlantic coast, adjacent to the city of Hagerstown, Washington Co., Md., on the 5th of March, 1835. His father, James W. Gallion, departed this life while still a young man, and when our subject was but a boy, so that the latter has but little knowledge of him. The mother in her girlhood was Miss Margaret S. Troutman, a native of Pennsylvania. The parental family included four sons.

Our subject passed his early life in his native county, and in common with his brothers enjoyed the advantages of the public school near Hagerstown, and the excellent training of a wise and judicious mother. He remained with the latter until twenty years of age, and then commenced to learn the trade of a ship carpenter, at which he worked four years. In the meantime, being fond of reading and study, he had not neglected his books and now began teaching, which occupation he followed

with success until the outbreak of the late war. Then, laying aside his personal plans and interests, he responded to the first call for troops by enlisting in Co. F, 6th W. Va. Vol. Inf., in which he served four years, and was successively promoted Second and First Sergeant, and finally First Lieutenant of Company K, with which rank he served until the close of the war, being mustered out in June, 1865.

In the month of July following his retirement from the army Mr. Gallion came West, locating first in Champaign, where he engaged in general merchandising. Two years later he resolved to follow agricultural pursuits, and secured possession of eighty acres of land at Burr Oak, where he followed farming two years, and then resumed his former occupation as a teacher in St. Joseph, where he continued until elected a Justice of the Peace, in 1874. Since that time he has given his attention to the duties of his office, which he has held continuously for over thirteen years. He took his seat with the Board of Supervisors in the spring of 1880, and has since remained in that position. He is a gentleman well versed in the duties of his office and common law generally, and is frequently called upon to act as Administrator of estates, which he usually succeeds in adjusting with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned.

Our subject was married in the Old Dominion, in August, 1866, to Miss Julia W. Gallion, also of West Virginia. They have three children living, namely, Charles H., Marshall E. and Grace M. Florence N. is deceased. Mr. Gallion and his wife united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in youth, to the support of which they contribute liberally and cheerfully, and in which Mr. G. is a Trustee. Besides his farm property he owns several buildings in St. Joseph, from the rents of which he derives a snug little income in addition to that afforded from his office and general store, which is located in St. Joseph.

WILLIAM S. FUNKHOUSER, who became a resident of Somer Township in 1864, owns and occupies a comfortable homestead, where he is carrying on agriculture in an in-

telligent and successful manner. His farm consists of 120 acres, a large portion of which is devoted to the raising of corn and stock, the latter consisting principally of horses and hogs.

Mr. Funkhouser was born on a farm near Lawrenceville, Dearborn Co., Ind., Oct. 14, 1842. He is the son of Jacob Funkhouser, who was born in Beaver County, Pa., in 1818, whence he emigrated to Indiana with his father's family at a very early age, while the country was yet a wilderness, and Indians and wild animals roamed through the forests. The grandfather of our subject, Abraham Funkhouser, was also born and reared in Beaver County, Pa. He left Indiana in about 1852, and locating in Greene County, Ill., died there at the age of seventy-nine years. The father of our subject still lives in Hamilton County, this State. The parental family included seven children. Our subject remained under the home roof until his marriage, which took place Nov. 1, 1865. His wife was formerly Miss Sarah F. Kirby, who was born in this county and was the daughter of James Kirby. There were twelve children in our subject's family, seven of whom survive, namely, Jasper, Ida May, Edward J., George C., Guy, Ernest and Jessie Pearl.

James Kirby was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, in 1816. He married Miss Susan Trickle, March 17, 1836. The parents of Mrs. Kirby settled in Ohio at an early day, whence they removed to the present site of Danville, Ill., in about 1825. There Mr. Trickle erected the first mill in Vermilion County. Subsequently they came to this county, where they passed the remainder of their days. The grandfather of Mrs. F., Elias Kirby, a native of Maryland, settled in Ohio when a young man, making his first location in Pickaway County, whence he afterward removed with his family to a point near Attica on the Big Shawnee. The grandmother of Mrs. F. was formerly Miss Polly Johnson, whose father was a native of Virginia. The parental household consisted of ten children, five sons and five daughters, all of whom came to Illinois together. Mr. and Mrs. Kirby became the parents of fourteen children, two of whom died in infancy, and two after reaching adult years. There are now remaining five sons and five daughters, all of whom

are married and settled in Illinois, save one who is in Iowa.

Politically our subject is a staunch supporter of the Independent party. He has been School Director. He was formerly a member of the United Brethren Church, but is not now connected with any religious organization. His services as School Director extended over a period of fifteen years.



REV. ANTHONY JOSEPH WAGNER, Pastor of St. Patrick's Church, at Tolono, is a native of Philadelphia, Pa., and was born Feb. 8, 1849. His parents, John and Elizabeth Wagner, were natives of Alsace, France, and after marriage, in about 1840, emigrated to the United States and located in the Quaker City. John Wagner there engaged as a contractor and builder, continuing this business until his decease, in about 1850. The mother, who remained a widow, is still living at Philadelphia, having now arrived at the age of seventy-two years. The parental family included four sons: John, who is pastor of a Catholic congregation at Pottstown, Pa.; James, in the War Department at Washington, D. C.; Peter A., an importer of rattan, at Philadelphia, and Rev. Anthony, of our sketch, who is the youngest of the family.

Our subject's early education was conducted in the School of the Christian Brothers at Philadelphia, and when thirteen years old he entered the Academy of the Christian Brothers in New York City. Later he took a classical and philosophical course in St. John's College, at Fordham, N. Y. He entered upon his theological studies in St. Charles' Seminary, at Overbrook, Pa., and after graduating, came West, and was ordained at Peoria, Ill., on the 13th of December, 1878. He officiated as assistant Priest for some time at Champaign, in fact until appointed to his present charge at Tolono, on the 10th of August, 1879.

The church edifice at Tolono was built by Rev. Patrick Toner, in 1871. He officiated until 1879, and then, on account of failing health, retired and returned to Ireland. Our subject then succeeded to his charge. The church building is 80x42 feet

in area, and the parish contains about ninety families. Since the time when Father Wagner took charge, a residence and thirty acres of ground have been purchased, and the church property altogether is valued at \$10,000. As pastor and preacher the present incumbent has fulfilled his duties in a manner creditable to himself and highly satisfactory to his parishioners.



JOHN CRAWFORD. One of the fine homesteads which lie on section 23, Scott Township, is the property of the subject of this sketch, of which he came into possession in 1875. It embraces 240 acres of finely improved land, with a comfortable and convenient dwelling, good barns and outhouses, and all the appliances of a first-class country estate. Mr. Crawford is a native of Morgan County, Ohio, and was born April 30, 1840. His parents, Simeon and Elenor (Hainsworth) Crawford, were natives respectively of Ohio and Maryland. They settled in Morgan County, Ohio, after their marriage, whence they removed to Hocking County, and from there to Wisconsin. In about 1856 they came to Illinois and located in Logan County, but afterward returned to Ohio. Later they came back to Illinois and took up their abode in Bopdville, this county, where they spent the remainder of their days.

The family of the above-mentioned couple consisted of nine children, of whom our subject was the fifth in order of birth. He was reared to farming pursuits and remained in his native State until after the outbreak of the Rebellion. He then proffered his services to assist in the preservation of the Union, becoming a member of the 90th Ohio Infantry. At the battle of Chickamauga he was wounded in the breast and finger, and afterward, at the battle of Stone River, injured by a fall. He was mustered out of service at Camp Dennison, Ohio, in 1865. He then came to Logan County, Ill., where he took up his residence for a brief period, then, returning to Ohio, he was married in Logan, Hocking County, on the 3d of December, 1865, to Miss Julia A. Staker. Mrs. Crawford was born in Hocking County, Aug. 20, 1845, and is

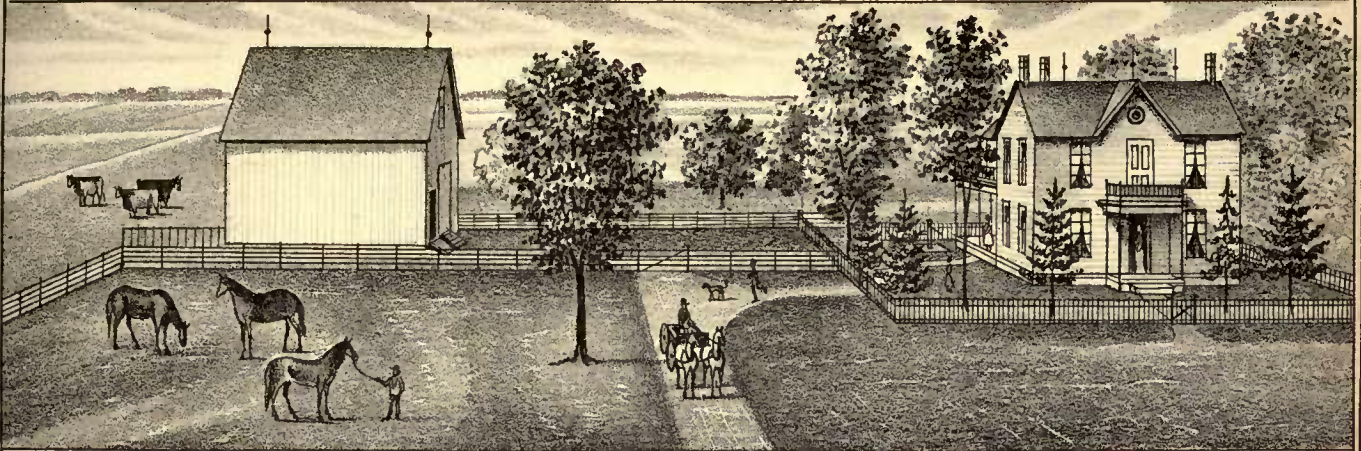
the daughter of George and Henrietta (Rohberg) Staker, both natives of Germany. Her parents emigrated to America in early life and settled in Muskingum County, Ohio, whence they removed to Hocking County, and passed the remainder of their days. They had a family of eight children, of whom Mrs. Crawford was the fifth in order of birth.

After his marriage, Mr. Crawford at once returned to this State, and purchased a farm in Logan County which he occupied five years. He then sold out and removed back to Ohio, locating in Pickaway County, where he remained six years, and in 1875 returned to Illinois. He then settled in Scott Township, of which he has since been a resident, and besides being prospered in his farming and business operations, has secured the confidence and esteem of all who know him. The eight children of our subject and his wife are, Curtis A., Anna Belle, Ross C., Minnie M., Olive G., Harry P., Nellie F. and Luvernia Henrietta. Mr. Crawford has taken a genuine interest in the prosperity of his adopted county, and in his township has served as School Director and Trustee. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party.

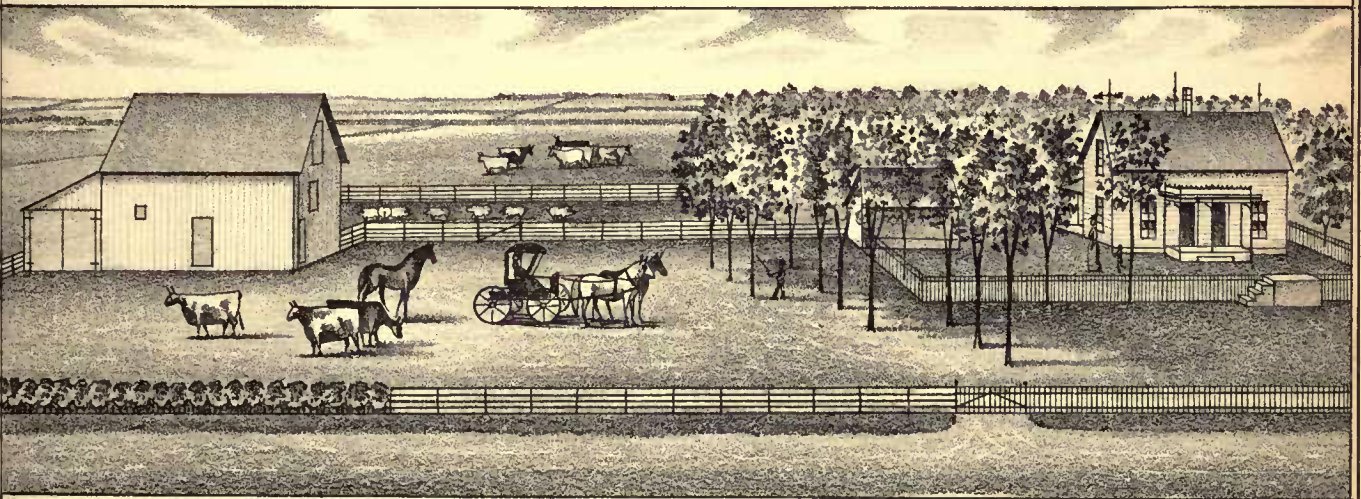


MRS. CHARLOTTE VAN FLEET, daughter of Abram and Philomela Payne, and widow of Christopher B. Van Fleet, is a resident of Stanton Township, and owns a fine farm of 150 acres on section 36. She has lived in this county since 1873, when her husband purchased the present homestead, but only lived to enjoy it a little over three years, his death taking place on the 19th of August, 1876.

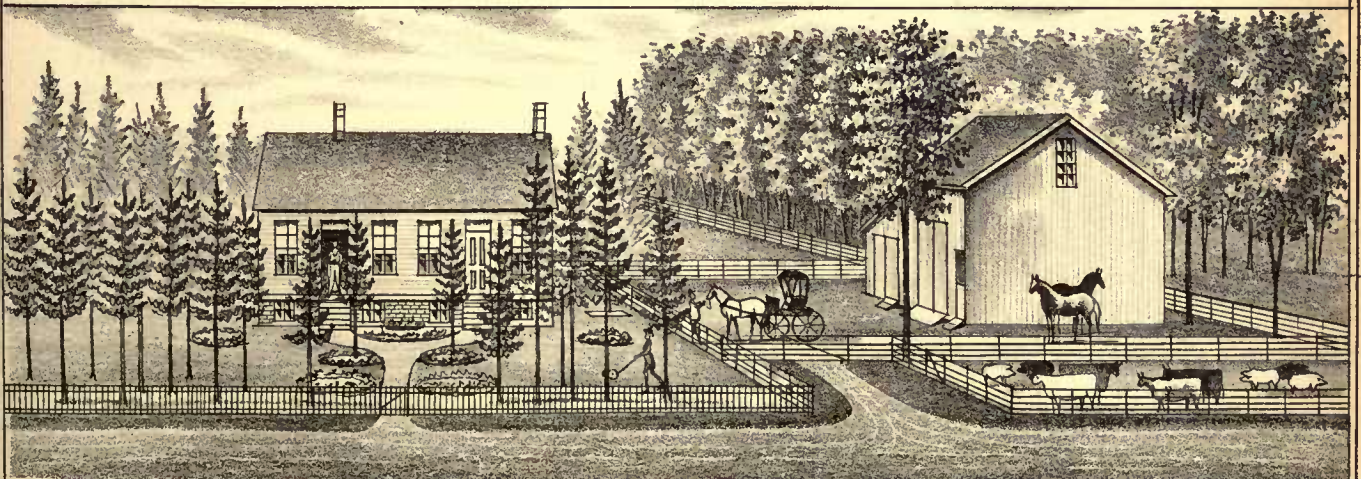
Mrs. Van Fleet is a native of Washington County, Ohio, and was born Oct. 9, 1828. Her parents were natives respectively of Connecticut and Massachusetts, and her father, born in 1792, died in Marion County, Ohio, in 1870, when seventy-eight years of age. The mother died six days later, aged seventy-two, and their remains were laid to rest side by side in the burial ground at Pleasant Hill.



RESIDENCE OF ISAAC HIXENBAUGH, SEC. 30, (T-19-N) OGDEN TP.



RESIDENCE OF THOMAS LAVERICK, SEC. 31, (R-14-W) AYRES TP.



RESIDENCE OF Z.M. DUNN, SEC. 13, ST. JOSEPH TOWNSHIP.

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Grandfather Payne, also born in Connecticut, removed to Ohio during the early settlement of the State, and with his wife, Hannah, lived there the remainder of his days. The Paynes were of English origin, and a family who became prominent in the New England States for their uniform successes financially, and their excellent qualities as citizens.

The parents of Mrs. Van F. had a family of thirteen children, two of whom died young. Those who lived to maturity are recorded as follows: Benjamin L. remained single, and became a resident of Kansas, where his death took place when he was sixty-three years old; Stephen and his sister Eliza Ann, now the wife of David J. Brady, are also residents of Kansas; Philomela died when two years of age; Abram married Miss Sarah J. Smith, and is a resident of Ogden Township, this county; William, who married Miss Sarah J. Bartrom, served as a Union soldier during the late war, and died in the army at Memphis, Tenn., after having participated in many important battles; his widow is a resident of Marion County, Ohio; Charlotte, of our sketch, was the seventh child; Angelina, now Mrs. Henry Kelly, is a resident of Dubuque, Iowa; David J. married Miss Marinda Wiseman; he was a soldier in Co. I, 174th Ohio Vol. Inf., and was killed during one of the battles in Tennessee, on the 7th of December, 1864; Charles F. is married, and living in Ohio; Philomela (2d) passed from earth when eighteen months old; Emeline became the wife of Victor Taylor, and they are residents of Pilot Grove, Ill.; Susan M., Mrs. Joseph Contu, is living in Marion County, Ohio.

Mrs. Van F. spent her childhood with her brothers and sisters at home, and received the excellent advantages afforded by the common schools of the Buckeye State. When eighteen years of age she was united in marriage, Aug. 1, 1846, with Christopher B. Van Fleet, who was a native of Marion County, that State, and born Dec. 24, 1824. He was deprived of a mother's care when two years old, and was reared by his grandparents, who lived upon a farm in Marion County. His childhood and youth were passed after the manner of most farmers' boys, attending school during the winter season and working on the farm in summer. He was

twenty-two years of age when married, and engaged in farming in Ohio until the outbreak of the late war. He then enlisted in Co. I, 66th Ohio Vol. Inf., entering the ranks Nov. 19, 1861, and serving until April 5, 1863, when he was discharged for physical disability. He was unwilling, however, to give up the struggle, and believing that he was yet good for a fight with the rebels, re-enlisted on the 1st of September, 1864, to serve until the close of the war. This time he was assigned to the 174th Ohio Infantry and remained, as he had desired, with his comrades until the surrender of the Confederate army. He was promoted Corporal, and met the enemy in some of the most important battles of the war.

After retiring from army life Mr. Van Fleet returned to his native county in Ohio, where he remained engaged in farming six years. In 1871 he emigrated to Vermilion County, this State, and thence after two years took up his abode in Champaign County. The sister of Mr. Van F., Mrs. Abigail Harraman, resides in Marion County, Ohio. The children of Mr. Van Fleet were as follows: Asa B. was born Feb. 28, 1848; he was studious and made good progress in school, and at nineteen years of age commenced teaching, which he continued for seven successive winters. Afterward he engaged in merchandising in Marion County, Ohio, until 1870, in which year he sold out and came to Illinois. His time subsequently for a few years was employed in teaching and farming alternately. After the death of his father he was called to take charge of the homestead. The second son, Harvey, died when two years of age; Marilla died when an interesting girl of nine years; Andrew E. married Miss Mary A. Johnston, and is a resident of Thayer County, Neb.; Princess L. became the wife of Pierce Dunn, and is living in Vermilion County, this State; Anna E. remains on the homestead; Almira died when two years of age; Clara M., a teacher, makes her home with her mother; Samantha E. is also at home, assisting in the duties of the household.

Christopher B. Van Fleet, although a resident of Stanton Township but a brief time, was recognized as a worthy citizen, and in his farming operations was eminently successful. He left a comfortable

home and fine property to his widow, who since his death has sustained the reputation of the estate and kept it up after his own praiseworthy methods. He uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party.



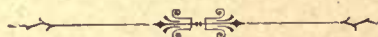
JOSEPH CODDINGTON is a prominent farmer and stock-grower, residing on section 12, Sidney Township. He is the son of Benjamin and Delilah (Thomas) Coddington, and was born in Sidney Township, Oct. 24, 1843. His parents were natives of Ohio, where his father was born in 1823, and his mother in 1824. (For history of parents, see sketch of Benjamin Coddington).

Joseph Coddington was the eldest of a family of nine children, comprising three sons and six daughters. He passed his boyhood and youth on the parental homestead, assisting his father on the farm in the summer and attending school during the winter. The educational advantages of the western frontier were beginning to improve at that time, and he made the best use of all the opportunities afforded him, and during his life at home also acquired much useful experience in systematic farming. His marriage to Miss Clara McElroy took place Nov. 23, 1871. Mrs. Coddington is the daughter of Samuel and Mary A. (Franklin) McElroy, and was born July 13, 1853, in or near Marietta, Ohio. She is the eldest of a family of six children, three sons and three daughters. Her parents were natives of Ohio, but are now living in Sidney Township. Mr. and Mrs. Coddington had a family of three children born to them—Grant, Essie May and Mary Delilah. The two elder are deceased.

May 14, 1864, Mr. Coddington enlisted in the service of his country for 100 days, and was kept on guard duty on the Government Island near Roek Island. He was a faithful and efficient soldier, and after serving more than his full time, was mustered out at Camp Butler, about the 16th of September, 1864. After his return, he remained at home until 1874, and then removed with his family to Mitchell County, Kan. Remaining there a few days, and encountering some of the cyclones

incident to that region, he decided to return to Illinois, where he has since resided.

Mr. Coddington is the owner of a fine estate containing eighty acres of valuable land, all of which is under cultivation, with the exception of five acres of timber. His residence and farm buildings are substantial and well appointed. He takes great interest in stock-raising, giving special attention to hogs of the Poland-China breed. The management of his farm is carried on with system, aided by the best modern improvements. He possesses a thorough knowledge of agriculture in all its departments, and by close and intelligent application to business has met with marked success. In business transactions he is always guided by honesty and integrity of character; in his home life he is affectionate and indulgent, and his genial disposition has won a large circle of friends by whom he is held in the highest esteem. With his wife he is a member of the United Brethren Church, in which he is Class-Leader and also Assistant Superintendent of the Union Sunday-school.



JAMES R. MORE. Among the pioneers of Champaign County, the number of which is slowly but surely decreasing, this gentleman deserves more than a passing notice. He has been one of the most reliable men in the business and agricultural community, being possessed of more than ordinary ability, great resolution and energy of character, and those qualities upon which the prosperity of a section and country depend. He is descended from an excellent family, who trace their ancestors back to Germany, and the first representative of whom, after reaching this country located in New York State. His grandfather, Henry More, of German parentage, was born in Columbia County, N. Y., where after reaching manhood he engaged in farming pursuits, being located for a number of years on a tract of land at Chatham Four Corners. Thence he went into Delaware County and purchased a large tract of timber land, from which he cleared a farm, and where he remained occupied in its improvement and cultivation until his death.

Among the children of Henry More was Henry,

Jr., who was born on the farm at Chatham Four Corners, and was but a boy at the time of the removal to Delaware County. There he grew to manhood, and was occupied after the manner of most farmers' sons until his marriage. The maiden whom he chose to share his fortunes was Miss Betsey Ann Farrington, who was born in Delhi, Delaware Co., N. Y., and was the daughter of March Farrington, a native of Massachusetts, who removed to Delaware County, N. Y., during its early settlement. His daughter Paulina was the first white child born in Meredith Township, that county.

This was during the time that the Colonies were struggling for their independence. Mr. Farrington cherished a hearty contempt for the Tories, and as soon as his services could be made available he shouldered his musket and started for the scene of conflict, and did not leave the field until peace was established. Mr. F. then returned to his home, where he remained engaged with his private concerns until 1812, and then as soon as the guns began firing again left at once for the field of battle, where he served until the end of the second conflict. He was permitted to escape unharmed, and spent his declining years in Delhi with the mother of our subject.

After their marriage Henry More, Jr., and his young wife settled down on the old homestead, in a section which had not even then been disturbed by the building of canals and railroads. In addition to his farming he set aside a part of the house for the accommodation of travelers, the homestead being located on the main road leading from Delhi to the Hudson River. Thus employed, and passing a comparatively uneventful life, he remained until his earthly labors were terminated on the 27th of October, 1841, being stricken down in his prime, when but thirty-nine years of age. He had previously visited Michigan and contemplated a removal there, but his untimely death essentially changed the whole future for his family.

Our subject, who was born in Delhi, N. Y., May 17, 1829, was the only son in a family of five children born to his parents, and was but twelve years of age when his father died. The mother, with excellent management and forethought, kept her family together and gave the children a good edu-

cation, fitting them for teaching. James R. graduated from Delhi Academy when seventeen years old, and at once entered upon his profession as a teacher. He was thus employed for several winters, engaging in farming during the summer. He continued a resident of his native county until 1854, when he migrated to Michigan and purchased a tract of land in St. Joseph County, where he engaged in farming and teaching alternately until 1859. He then sold out and, accompanied by his little family, came to this county and rented land in Rantoul Township. This he occupied until 1860, and then purchased a portion of the land included in his present farm. His course from the beginning was marked by good judgment and deliberation, and he was uniformly prosperous in his undertakings. He followed closely the principles which had been instilled in him by his excellent parents, lived honestly and uprightly, was prompt in meeting his obligations, and secured the respect and esteem of all who knew him. He added by degrees to his real estate, and is now possessed of 160 acres in the home farm near the city, eighty acres on section 10, and another eighty on section 12 in Rantoul Township. It is all improved and enclosed, and furnishes every facility for the successful raising of stock and grain.

On the 6th of October, 1852, Mr. More took another important step in life, becoming united in marriage with Miss Louisa M. Lee. The wedding occurred in Delhi, N. Y. Mrs. More was born in Roxbury, Delaware Co., N. Y., March 8, 1829, and is the daughter of John and Mittie (Baker) Lee, natives of Delaware County, the latter born in Roxbury, and the daughter of Joseph and Eunice Baker, natives of Connecticut and pioneers of Delaware County. The parents of Mrs. More, together with two brothers and one sister, died in Roxbury, all within three weeks, in 1850. Her paternal grandfather, Daniel Lee, was also a native of Connecticut, whence he emigrated to the vicinity of the future town of Roxbury, N. Y., during the early settlement of the Empire State. Later he removed to Westernville in Oneida County, where his decease occurred.

The six children of Mr. and Mrs. James R. More comprise a family of which they may well

be proud. Ella, the eldest daughter and child, became the wife of J. A. Pillars, a resident of Champaign; Henry is farming in Rantoul Township; Edward N.; Anna married Samuel E. Tubbs, and resides in Auburn, N. Y.; Fred and Nellie are at home with their parents when not engaged at their studies in school. Our subject and his wife are devout members of the Episcopal Church, and Mr. More, who in early days was a staunch adherent of the old Whig party, now cheerfully endorses Republican principles and gives his vote and influence in support of them.

JOHN L. LESTER. The 400-acre farm lying one and one-half miles west of Gifford and six miles east of Rantoul, has been a subject of much comment by travelers passing through that section, embracing as it does one of the finest bodies of land in Compromise Township. This, like most of the homesteads adjacent, was built up gradually from a modest beginning, and is the property of the above-named gentleman. He commenced life in a modest manner, and the quarter century of steady labor which he has given to the completion and beautifying of his home, has resulted in the draining and tilling of a large portion of the land and the erection of a beautiful dwelling, in addition to the other buildings required by the modern agriculturist. The stables contain fine horses, and the sheds and pens display numbers of cattle, hogs and sheep, all in good condition and well cared for, and the whole presenting a rural scene which is a delight to look upon.

Mr. Lester is a descendant of excellent English ancestry, and his father, Thomas, was born in England. When a youth of fifteen years, in company with his father, he came to the United States on a pleasure trip, landing in New York City about one year previous to the beginning of the Revolutionary War. They remained a few months visiting in the States, but the temperature being a little warm for English subjects they found it convenient to go over to Canada. Young Thomas was left there in charge of Gen. Drummond, while his father set out upon his return to England. This was the last time Thomas saw his father and he was never more

heard from by his friends. Thomas subsequently enlisted in the Canadian army, but a year afterward deserted and went over into the ranks of the Colonists. He served in the army of Gen. Washington until their independence had been established and was honorably discharged.

After retiring from the service Thomas Lester went into Oneida County, N. Y., and purchased 100 acres of heavily timbered land, which he cleared and transformed into a good farm, where he passed the remainder of his days. He reached the advanced age of seventy-eight years, passing to the other life in 1858. The mother of our subject was formerly Miss Delight Vanderwalker, a native of Oneida County, N. Y., whose parents were born in Holland. The family consisted of ten children, namely, George W., Martin, Leonard, Mary Ann, Nancy; John L., of our sketch; Charles, Fannie, Elizabeth and Melissa. Those living are Mary Ann, Elizabeth and John L.

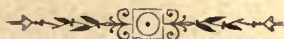
Young Lester passed his early years under the parental roof, attending school during the winters and assisting on the farm in summers until seventeen years of age. Then, in 1845, with a cash capital of \$6 in his pocket, he started in life for himself. Upon arriving at his destination, which was Monroe, Mich., he had \$1 left. His first business was to procure employment, which he obtained with the Michigan Southern Railroad Company, with whom he remained two years, working at seventy-five cents per day and boarding himself. At the expiration of this time he visited his father and mother in Oneida County, N. Y. After a time spent among old friends he engaged with the Albany & Boston Railroad Company, with whom he remained a year, and then went into the New York & Erie Railroad Company, with which he served acceptably for a period of nine years. In 1857 he made his first visit to the Prairie State, and locating in Springfield became an engineer on the Great Western Railroad.

The following year, with the view of changing his occupation and making arrangements for a permanent abiding-place, our subject purchased 164 acres of wild prairie land in Compromise Township, this county, on section 3, for \$6 per acre. There was no house within five miles. He had now a

family, and his first business was to provide for them a suitable dwelling, which he had ready in the spring of 1861, and of which they took possession. In the meantime there arose a necessity for more hard cash than he could obtain by working on his land, so he resumed railroading as engineer with the Illinois Central Railroad Company, and was thus employed until March, 1864. He then abandoned the road for good, and turned his undivided attention to farming. He met with uniform success from the start, and added to his first purchase by degrees, allowing none to run to waste or be neglected, and draining the swamp sections with tile.

It is hardly necessary to state that Mr. Lester has been prominent in township affairs, his fellow-citizens naturally looking to him to assist in filling its important offices. He served as Supervisor three years, and with the exception of one year has been School Director since 1856. He and his excellent wife have for many years been connected with the Baptist Church, and since becoming a voter Mr. L., having imbibed the principles of freedom which were an essential element of his father's character, has uniformly encouraged Republican ideas.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married on the 16th of February, 1852, was formerly Miss Mary Jones, a native of Bradford County, Pa., born Jan. 12, 1828, and the daughter of Daniel and Jane Jones, natives of the same county. Of the three children born of this union one only is living, Charles H., who is married and a resident of Dakota; he has one child. Jane R. died in Susquehanna, Pa., when about three years of age, in 1856. Daniel T., born July 22, 1863, died at the home of his father in Compromise Township, on the 6th of February, 1882, when a promising young man nineteen years of age.



GEORGE L. COLLINS. This highly respected resident of Scott Township may be properly classed as one of its self-made men, who from a modest beginning has arisen to a good position among his fellow-citizens, both socially and financially. He started in life when twenty-one

years of age, with no capital but his strong hands and willing disposition, and for two years was employed as a farm laborer in Piatt County, and afterward in Mason County for a period of three years. He then rented a farm in Shelby County where he remained two years, and from there removed to Bondville, where he was employed by S. M. Athens, of Cincinnati, Ohio, as a grain buyer. At the expiration of this contract he came into Scott Township and rented a farm. He afterward lived in Bondville and Colfax Township, and then returning to Scott Township purchased the farm which he now occupies.

Upon taking possession of this Mr. Collins began the establishment of a permanent homestead in which he has admirably succeeded, and where he has accumulated sufficient means to enable him to pass his declining years surrounded by the good things of earth. He has also secured for himself the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens, by whom he is regarded as an important factor in the business and agricultural interests of this section. He is Democratic in politics, has served as School Director, and has taken a genuine interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his county and community.

Mr. Collins was born in Vermillion County, Ind., April 15, 1846. He is the son of Aaron and Virginia (Fultz) Collins, the former a native of the Old Dominion and the latter of Pennsylvania. They removed to Indiana soon after their marriage, locating in Vermillion County, whence they removed in the spring of 1857, to Piatt County, this State. Five years later they took up their abode in Danville, Ill., whence they removed to Grayville, where the father of our subject departed this life in February, 1884. The mother still survives and lives in Danville, Ill. Of the twelve children which comprised the parental household, ten lived to become men and women. Our subject remained with his parents in Piatt County until he reached his majority. His subsequent course we have already indicated.

Mr. Collins was married in Mahomet, Ill., Nov. 18, 1875, to Miss Catherine, daughter of James and Anna (Kelly) Bowes. The parents of Mrs. C. were natives of Ireland, who emigrated to this country

while young. The father died in Scott Township, this county, in April, 1882. The mother is living with our subject. Of the three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Bowes, Mrs. C. was the eldest. Her birthplace was Cincinnati, Ohio, and the date thereof Jan. 23, 1854. Of her union with our subject there have been born two children, both daughters, Blanche G. and Maude M. Mrs. Collins is an intelligent and worthy lady, and a devoted member of the Methodist Church.



SAMUEL D. MANDEVILLE is an extensive farmer and stock-grower, living on section 15, Sidney Township. He is the son of Elijah and Hulda (Denton) Mandeville. They came of French and German extraction, and were married in their native place, Seneca County, N. Y. In 1859 they removed from New York and settled in Champaign, Ill., where Mrs. Mandeville died in 1860. After the death of his wife Mr. Mandeville returned to New York, but after remaining there one year removed to St. Joseph Township, in this county, where he engaged in the business of farming and stock-raising until the last fifteen years of his life, when he made his home with his son, Dr. J. B. Mandeville, of Philo, with whom he remained until his death, which occurred Oct. 10, 1885. He was buried by the side of his wife in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Champaign, Ill. Formerly he was a Presbyterian, but afterward became a member of the Congregational Church.

Samuel D. Mandeville was born in Ovid, Seneca Co., N. Y., July 2, 1839, and remained at home until eighteen years of age, when he removed to Champaign, Ill. During his first year in this place he held a clerkship in the store of A. O. Woodworth; at the expiration of the year he was appointed manager of a general store at St. Joseph, by Mr. Woodworth, for whom he conducted the business for about six months. He then purchased the stock of Mr. Woodworth and entered into business for himself, which he successfully carried on until 1865, when he sold out his stock to Kelly & Shreve. During the next three years he was engaged in stock-raising, dealing extensively in sheep

and investing in wool. During the two following years he entered into partnership with William O. Shreve, in osage plant raising. He was at this time a resident of Champaign, and while living there was married, Feb. 3, 1869, to Miss Mary A. Coffeen, of Homer, Ill. She was the daughter of M. D. and Mary (Elliot) Coffeen, highly respected and well-known people of this county. She was born Sept. 3, 1846. Her death occurred May 10, 1884, and her remains were tenderly laid to rest in the cemetery at Sidney.

Mr. Mandeville's family consisted of seven children: Ira F., who was born July 25, 1870; Ollie M., born April 27, 1872; Hulda, May 10, 1876; Ethel G., Sept. 1, 1878; Anna B., March 17, 1880; Paris and Carrie were twins, born March 14, 1884. Carrie died Sept. 9, 1884, and was buried by the side of her mother.

Mr. Mandeville is now holding the office of Supervisor, representing his township on the County Board. In 1876 he held the office of Assessor of Sidney Township, and was Postmaster at St. Joseph for a term of five years. He has charge of 147 acres of well-fenced land, and gives considerable attention to stock-raising. He is one of the Trustees and Stewards of the Methodist Church, of which his wife was also a highly esteemed member. His political interests are identified with the Republican party, and in its success he always evinces the most earnest zeal.



WILLIAM M. JONES, a gentleman in the prime of life, and a farmer of St. Joseph Township who is entitled to much credit for his industry in building up one of its finest homesteads, is the second son of Lewis and Sarah (Street) Jones, who were residents of Sidney Township at the time of his birth, which took place Dec. 8, 1848. The branch of the Jones family to which our subject belongs traces its origin in this country back to the Old Dominion, where the grandfather, Maj. Matthew Jones, was born, and from which he removed to Ohio at an early period in the history of that State. He there married Miss Elizabeth Allen, who was born in 1792, and they reared a

family of six children. The maternal grandfather of our subject, David Street, served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and was married to a Miss Duncan, of Kentucky, who was of German descent. The Jones family first originated in Wales, from which the first representatives emigrated to this country during the Colonial days.

Lewis Jones, the father of our subject, was born July 3, 1816, and married Feb. 23, 1843. His wife, Sarah, was born March 19, 1814. After uniting their fortunes they migrated to this State, locating first at Macoupin, whence they removed to this county in the spring of 1843, where the elder Jones purchased a small tract of timber land, built a log cabin, and continued to live until April, 1849. He then sold out and purchased the farm now occupied by his son, our subject. This he secured from the Government at \$1.25 per acre. It is located on section 32, and is included in the present fine estate embracing 320 acres of valuable land, which, under the wise manipulation of its proprietor is numbered among the finest homesteads in this county.

At the time Lewis Jones settled here the present flourishing city of Urbana was an unpretentious hamlet of one house. He lived to see the country developing around him, and the march of the iron horse over fields which, when he came here were traveled only by wild game and now and then a solitary traveler. He did not live to old age, however, but passed from the scenes of earth in the forty-third year of his age, on Christmas Day, 1858. He left a wife and four children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second.

William M. Jones passed his boyhood and youth on the old homestead, attending the district school and assisting his mother as best he could after the father had passed away. Upon reaching manhood he began farming on his own account, still remaining on the homestead, to which he brought a bride on the 6th of October, 1886. This lady was formerly Miss Nora B. Cooper, a native of this county, and the daughter of David and Nancy (Wise) Cooper, who removed from Ohio to this State in about 1860.

Mr. Jones has continued on the old homestead up to this time, and has added by degrees a large

acreage of the fertile land adjoining. Aside from general farming and stock-raising he has given much attention to the breeding of Belgian horses, having about four head of as fine animals as are contained in any of the stables of this section. Mr. Jones also fattens numbers of cattle annually, which he ships to the Eastern markets and the proceeds of which yield him a handsome income. The land is largely devoted to the raising of grain, being finely adapted to this purpose by its thorough drainage with tile, and its admirable location, which enables it to receive the sunshine and the atmosphere best calculated for the growth of vegetation.



I SAAC FRANCIS. Among the early settlers of St. Joseph Township the name of our subject is worthy of an honorable place. He was born Nov. 9, 1825, in Madison County, Ohio, near La Fayette. His grandfather, Reason Francis, was one of the pioneers of the latter-named State. He lived there in the early days, when wolves and bears were frequent visitors, and upon one occasion dispatched an aggressive bear with a tomahawk. His wife's maiden name was Margaret Bair. Her father was likewise one of the early settlers of Ohio. He was a brickmason by trade, and the founder of London, the county seat of Madison County.

Our subject's father, John Francis, came to Ohio with his parents in the early days, where, after attaining to manhood, he married Miss Nancy Vance. She was a native of Virginia, and the daughter of John Vance. In 1840 her father left his Eastern home with the intention of settling in Champaign County, Ill., but earthly plans are in the hands of a Higher Power. On the journey his death occurred while seated at the breakfast table. The family of Mr. Vance is of Scotch extraction, and that of Mr. Francis of English lineage. After his marriage John Francis settled in Madison County, Ohio, and engaged in farming there, becoming one of the principal wheat-growers of the neighborhood. He passed the remainder of his life in Madison County, where his death took place in August, 1838. He had been twice married, and was the father of six children.

Isaac Francis was the eldest child of his father's first marriage. His boyhood was passed at home among the green fields of his native county until the death of his mother, after which he made his home with strangers. He first engaged in farm labor as a wage-worker by the month, and when he had reached the age of twenty resolved to seek his fortune in the West. He came to Champaign County, Ill., and first found employment in Homer by the month, and next, like Abraham Lincoln, took a job of rail-splitting, at which he worked faithfully summer and winter for two years, receiving thirty-seven and a half cents per hundred.

In 1849 our subject married Miss Eliza J. Gazle, but their married life was of short duration, her death occurring in the following August. In 1855 he was married the second time, to Miss Ella Van Brunt, the daughter of Samuel Van Brunt. After his marriage he rented a farm for five years, and in 1859 purchased his present place on section 33, containing 120 acres of choice land. The place had originally but few improvements, but his farm is now well tiled and fenced, and supplied with a good barn and pleasant farm residence. His former dwelling-house was destroyed by fire in 1882, but fortunately it was partially covered by an insurance of \$450, which afforded some assistance in the building of another house.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis have a family of three children, two sons and a daughter—Edgar, Craton W. and Jennie. In politics he is a staunch Republican. Mr. Francis is just and kind in disposition, temperate in his habits, and possesses the esteem of all who know him.



MRS. ELIZABETH (EVANS) GABRIEL, who may be justly numbered with the early pioneers of Champaign County, located in Rantoul Township on a tract of wild land, in 1867. She became familiar with all the difficulties of settlement in a new country, and performed worthily the duties of a pioneer, being among those noble women without whom the settlement of this county would have been much

less advanced than it is at the present time. She evaded no duty, and labored cheerfully with her family during the days when such labor was necessary to their well-being and to the establishment of a home. Her first husband, Phineas Allen, was drowned in the Hocking River. He was crossing a trestle work during high water, and falling from the bridge was drowned. His body was found three months later.

Mrs. Gabriel was born Feb. 11, 1822, in that part of Athens, Ohio, which is now included in Vinton County. Her father, David Evans, was a native of Virginia, and her grandfather, Caleb Evans, removed from the Old Dominion to Ohio in about 1840, and settled near Columbus, where he spent the balance of his days. His son, David, who was a young man when this removal was made, married in the Buckeye State and located on a timber tract in Athens Township, Vinton County. He first erected a log cabin, which, however, was soon replaced by a more modern structure, and cleared a part of the land, and remained there until his death, which occurred in 1854. The maiden whom he chose for his wife, Miss Sallie Roderick, was born on the Scioto River in Ohio, and died at her home in Vinton County, in 1844. The parental household included eleven children.

Mrs. Gabriel remained with her mother until her marriage, assisting in the household duties, learning to spin, weave and knit, and to cut and make the clothing for the family. Her first marriage took place on the 12th of May, 1842, when she became the wife of Phineas Allen, the gentleman above mentioned, who was a native of Athens County, Ohio, and was the son of Phineas Allen, Sr., who emigrated from his native State of New Jersey to Ohio in the pioneer days, and locating in Athens County, there passed the remainder of his life. Phineas Allen, Jr., spent his entire life in his native county, and during his last years was engaged in the management of his father's farm. Mrs. Allen was married to William Gabriel in 1861, who died in 1863. Mrs. Gabriel removed to Franklin County in 1865, renting a farm, which her sons worked until 1868, when they came to Champaign County, and bought forty acres in Condit Township, and later moved to Rantoul Township. Here she im-

proved a farm and lived for several years, displaying great skill in the management of the place.

In 1881 Mrs. Gabriel removed to the village of Rantoul. By her first marriage she became the mother of six children, two of whom are deceased. Those surviving are Harvey, who is a resident of Indiana; George, living in Arkansas; Sarah, who married Providence Mounts, and is a resident of Pawnee, Kan., and Tartus, who manages the farm. The second son, Sanford Allen, was born July 3, 1845, and during the war enlisted in the fall of 1861, in the 75th Ohio Infantry. At the bloody battle of Gettysburg he laid down his life, and his remains were laid to rest in a soldier's grave. He was a bright and promising young man, and Sergeant of his company. Of the second marriage of Mrs. Gabriel there were no children.



hON. S. H. BUSEY. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch is one of the oldest pioneers of Champaign County, having come here in 1836 with his parents, when a lad twelve years of age. Here he grew to man's estate, and finished the education which was begun in his native county. He was born Oct. 24, 1824, in Greencastle, Ind., his parents being Col. Matthew W. and Elizabeth (Bush) Busey, whose family consisted of eight children, of whom our subject was the second in order of birth.

When Mr. Busey came to this county, the neighbors were few and far between, but possessed in an eminent degree the social spirit which prevailed in the pioneer days. The neighbors were all acquainted with each other for twenty miles around, and it was considered almost a duty to attend the dances, weddings and funerals which occurred in the county. The schooling of young Busey was mostly carried on in a log cabin with puncheon floor and greased paper for window-panes. He remained under the home roof, assisting his parents in the duties incident to the opening up of a new farm, and after arriving at years of manhood was married, in 1848, to Miss Artemesia Jones, of Greencastle, Ind., formerly of Kentucky, whence she removed with her parents, John W. and Alice

(Scott) Jones, to Greencastle, Ind., when a child.

Of the union of our subject and wife there were born eight children, of whom the record is as follows: John W. married Miss Ada Tobias, and they have two children—Frankie and Katie; this son is carrying on an extensive stock farm in Compromise Township, and breeding Short-horn cattle and Clydesdale horses. Augusta Busey is the wife of W. P. Morgan, an attorney of Minneapolis, Minn.; Frances, Mrs. H. Riley, lives in Champaign, where her husband is engaged in the jewelry business; Matthew W. married Miss Kate Richards, and they have two children—Paul W. and Virginia; he is a partner in Busey's Bank. James B., who is farming in Newcomb Township, this county, married Miss Kate Kaucher, and they have two children—Martin M. and Simeon H.; Alice, Mrs. G. Freeman, of Urbana, has three children—Simeon H., Jessie and George; George W., who is now in Arizona, has charge of the Colorado River Indian Agency; William H. is conducting a stock ranch at Great Bend, Kan.

In 1853 Mr. Busey began the improvement of what is now known as the University Farm, which he occupied until 1866. He then became a resident of Urbana where he was for many years engaged in the drug and grocery business. At the same time he was first and foremost in the enterprises which were calculated to develop and increase the prosperity of this county, among which was the First National Bank of Champaign, of which he was the originator, and one of its first Directors. He afterward sold out his interest in this institution, and established Busey Bros.' Bank, at Urbana, which he withdrew from in 1879, in order to give more of his attention to his extensive farming interests and his lands which were scattered throughout this county, and of which he has quite an area in Kansas and Nebraska devoted to stock-raising.

In the spring of 1877 Mr. B. was elected Supervisor of Urbana Township, and that same year was chosen to represent his county in the Legislature. He is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, and has often been urged to allow his name to be placed before the people as their candidate for Congress. He has always taken an active interest in benevo-

lent enterprises, and has been generous in contributing his time and money for the building up of his township and county.

The Busey family residence is a fine modern structure, pleasantly located, and its inmates are surrounded by all the comforts and luxuries of life. Mrs. Busey is connected with the Baptist Church, and is a lady highly esteemed for her excellent qualities of character.



GEORGE W. GRISWOLD, Supervisor of Harwood Township, is a well-to-do farmer operating 160 acres of land on section 17. He may be pardoned for priding himself upon his "Yankee" blood, as it has been the means of making him one of the most prosperous, thorough and energetic tillers of the soil, who came to the West in their young manhood and resolved to make their mark.

The early home of Mr. Griswold was in the thriving little town of Sharon, Litchfield Co., Conn., where his birth took place on the 12th of August, 1836. He was the first child of Francis W. and Eunice (Surdam) Griswold, the former a native of New York and the latter of Connecticut. The year following the birth of our subject, his father, taking his family and household goods with him, proceeded to Sullivan County, N. Y., and located on a farm, where he engaged in agriculture until 1852. He was a man wide awake to what was going on around him, and when he heard of the tide of emigration setting toward the central portion of this State, he determined to join the caravan, and see what there was for him in the larger fields of the less thoroughly cultivated West. He located first in Kendall County, this State, but five years later moved into Peoria County, taking possession of a farm in Elmwood Township, near the now flourishing city of Peoria. There our subject remained under the parental roof until the winter of 1859. Being then twenty-three years of age, he concluded that it was high time to begin the establishment of a home of his own. He took the first important step toward the accomplishment of this end on the 28th of December following, being united in mar-

riage with Luey, eldest child of Joseph and Ann (Enzer) Cox, natives of England, who emigrated to this country early in life, and located in Peoria, Ill., during its early settlement.

After their marriage, the young people took up their residence on a small farm in Brimfield Township, where they remained three years, but not being quite satisfied with the results, returned to a farm in Elmwood Township, which they occupied for twelve years thereafter. In the meantime Mr. Griswold had been prospered, and accumulated quite a little sum of money with a fine assortment of farm implements. Believing, however, he could do still better by removal to this county, he disposed of his property in Peoria County, and embarked in a like enterprise in this county. Purchasing 160 acres of wild land in Harwood Township, he first provided a suitable shelter for his family, and soon afterward entered vigorously upon the tilling of the new soil. The results of his labor have been eminently satisfactory, and the traveler passing through Harwood Township acknowledges there is scarcely a more desirable homestead there than that of George W. Griswold. A view of the place is to be seen on another page. The greater portion of the land has been devoted to the raising of grain, and of late years Mr. G. has given much attention to the breeding of Norman horses, of which he intends to make a specialty in the future.

Mr. G. is strongly Republican in politics, and keeps himself well posted upon current events. Having abandoned the greater part of his farm labors with the exception of the department spoken of, he has abundant time for reading and argument, and while never offensive in the expression of his views, takes genuine delight in bringing up strong reasons in support of them. He was elected Supervisor on the People's Ticket, and has filled the offices of Commissioner of Highways and School Director for several years, the duties of which he has discharged with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents.

Mr. and Mrs. Griswold became the parents of three children: The eldest daughter, Julia, died in 1873, when twelve years of age; Elza W. and Blanche are at home with their parents. The son Elza, has the chief management of his father's farm,

and is a promising young member of a more than ordinarily intelligent community.

The father of our subject, Francis W. Griswold, after the death of his wife came to this county, and made his home with his son until his death, which took place in 1885. According to his wish, his remains were taken back to Peoria County.



LOUIS BOGART COLE. This gentleman since 1865 has been identified with the business interests of Rantoul, and to his energy and enterprise the town is largely indebted for the extent of its business transactions, and the reputation it has gained as a desirable locality for those who are indisposed to be idle. Mr. Cole represents the agricultural implement trade, and is extensively engaged in buying and shipping grain, while at the same time giving much of his time and attention to the breeding of Percheron horses. Of the latter he has some fine animals, and is building up quite a reputation in this line throughout Central Illinois.

Mr. Cole is a native of the Dominion of Canada, and was born June 14, 1827. He is the son of Conrad B. Cole, who was born in the same locality, and who after reaching manhood married Miss Sarah A. Kennady, of Vermont, her birthplace being near St. Albans. Her parents subsequently removed to Canada, where she met Conrad B. Cole, and where, after her marriage to him she spent the remainder of her life. The father of our subject was a carpenter by trade, and also engaged in farming. The ten children of the parental household consisted of five sons and five daughters; two of the sons are now deceased. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Barnard Cole by name, was born in the Mohawk Valley, in New York State, being the son of Daniel Cole, a native of what was then Little York, but now included in New York City. The family were originally from Holland.

The subject of our sketch, who was the eldest child of his parents, passed his childhood and youth near his birthplace, and when nineteen years old spent two seasons upon the lakes as a sailor. Then, concluding that terra firma would suit him better,

he remained on land and learned the millwright's trade, which he pursued in the State of New York until the spring of 1855. For ten years afterward he was a resident of Wolverton, Canada, whence he came to this county in 1865. He engaged first as a contractor and builder, which he followed until 1871, and then began dealing in lumber and grain. His yard and its contents, including a flouring-mill, was destroyed by fire in 1872, the whole involving a loss of \$7,300. He recovered from this disaster as soon as possible, and resumed the grain and coal trade, by degrees adding agricultural implements, and now carries a full line of everything required by the modern farmer. Besides his stock and town property he owns a good farm in Rantoul Township, the proceeds of which yield him a handsome sum annually.

Mr. Cole began dealing in fine horses in 1879. He has now thirty-seven head, nearly all Percherons, models of beauty and symmetry, and embracing some of the finest animals of the kind in Central Illinois. At the head of his stables is the celebrated horse "Monarch," imported from France by Timothy Slattery in 1880, and which took the second prize at the horse show in Chicago in 1881. He is one of the finest horses in Champaign County, and is valued at a high figure.

The first marriage of Mr. Cole took place in the spring of 1856, when he was united to Miss Elizabeth Hinchelwood, who was a native of Scotland, and the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Hinchelwood, who emigrated from that country with their family in 1845, and are now residents of Ontario. Mrs. Cole departed this life after becoming the mother of one daughter, Elizabeth A., who is now the wife of Thomas Little, of Rantoul. The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1862, was formerly Miss Isabelle Honeyman, of Kirkcaldy, Scotland, who came to the United States with her parents when a little girl. Of this marriage there have been no children.

Our subject cast his first presidential vote for Gen. Winfield Scott, and since exercising the right of suffrage has been the staunch supporter of Republican principles. He was Justice of the Peace two terms, and has served as Collector of Rantoul Township two terms. He keeps himself well posted

upon current events, and no man in the township feels greater satisfaction in contemplating its progress and general welfare than he. Mr. Cole identified himself with the Masons in Canada in October, 1858, and since that time has been a valued member of the fraternity. As the friend of law, order and progress, he is filling his niche in life worthily, and building for himself a good record.



DR. EDWIN A. KRATZ. The gentleman whose history we briefly note in the following lines is a worthy member of the medical profession of Champaign County, having been located in the city of the same name for a period of twenty years. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, and by a course of close study and extensive reading has thoroughly fitted himself for his chosen profession. Since commencing his practice in this vicinity his skill and judgment have uniformly commended him to the people and the result has been profitable both in a financial and social sense.

Our subject is a native of Plumsteadville, Bucks Co., Pa., where he was born July 12, 1844. He is the son of Henry and Annie (Stover) Kratz, also natives of the Keystone State. Henry Kratz pursued the occupation of a farmer, and became the father of a family of twelve children, five now deceased. Those surviving are Annetta, of Pennsylvania; Henry S., of Ft. Worth, Tex.; Jordan H., of Greenwood, Del.; Catherine, of Danboro, Pa.; Reuben S., on the old homestead, and Fernando, of Danboro. The mother departed this life March 15, 1887, when seventy-two years old. The father is still living. For the last twenty-five or thirty years he has been known as one of the most extensive and prosperous farmers in Bucks County. His father, Phillip, was born on the old homestead at Plumsteadville. His grandfather, also Phillip, spelled his name with an "F." The family descended from the Swiss and the first representatives in this country located in Eastern Pennsylvania in about 1707.

Dr. Kratz was reared on his father's farm, where he remained until twenty years of age. At the early age of sixteen he commenced teaching a pri-

vate school in his native town, and in the fall of 1862 had charge of the public school in Springfield, Bucks County. He was also Secretary of the Teachers' Association in Springfield Township. In 1864, toward the close of the late war and before he had reached his majority, he enlisted in Co. A, 198th Pa. Vol. Inf., and was clerk temporarily at brigade headquarters. He engaged in the battle at Preble's Farm, Va., Boydstown Plank Road, and was at the capture of Ft. Steadman in the Old Dominion. At the battle of Dunwiddie Court House he was shot through the chest and in the left arm below the elbow, also in the right arm above the elbow. He lay in the Mt. Pleasant Hospital, Washington, D. C., for eight weeks, and was unfit for duty for three and one-half months. In fact, he has never since been a well man, and is now unable to ride on horseback and unfitted for manual labor. As soon as able to return home he received his honorable discharge on account of disability.

After the war, in 1866, and when but twenty-two years old, young Kratz started for the West. He stopped in Ohio for about one year and then came to this county and commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Mills, in Champaign. He entered upon a course of lectures at the University of Michigan, after which he returned to his native State and attended lectures in the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, from which he graduated on the 19th of March, 1869. After receiving his diploma he returned to the West and commenced practice in Champaign. He belongs to the County, State and Central Illinois Medical Societies, and was one of the Directors of the public library, being Secretary of the Board until in 1876, when it was turned over to the city. After that he was still retained as a Director. He was elected City Clerk of Champaign in 1881, serving four years, and was Supervisor of the township during 1884-85. Politically he is an earnest supporter of the Republican party. Socially he belongs to the Masons, the I. O. O. F., the K. of P. and the G. A. R., in the latter of which he is Commander. He became a member of the State Militia in 1877, and the following year was promoted to Assistant Surgeon of the regiment. In 1871 the Doctor was appointed Pension Examiner for the district, which he held until

1885, when he was dropped to be again appointed in 1886. He is now Secretary of the Board.

Dr. Kratz was married in 1884, to Mrs. Annie Beidler, of Champaign, and the daughter of Benjamin C. Bradley, of Versailles, Ky. Of their union there has been born one son, Alonzo P. Besides the pleasant residence on West Clark street, Dr. K. is the owner of valuable town lots, and has distinguished himself as much in a business capacity as in his profession.

ROBERT DAVIS became a resident of Mahomet Township in the spring of 1871, settling upon section 13, where he has since lived. His homestead consists of 332 acres of fine farming land, all improved, and upon which he has erected a convenient and substantial dwelling and all other requisite farm buildings, a view of which is shown on another page. He has been prosperous in his agricultural operations and is considered one of the representative men of the farming and business community.

Our subject is the son of James and Mary (McCullum) Davis (see sketch of James Davis). He was born in Iowa City, Iowa, Oct. 17, 1842, and after pursuing his primary studies in the common schools completed them in the High School at Danville. Since fourteen years of age he has lived on a farm, and remained with his parents until he was twenty-two. He first started in business for himself in Hensley Township, where he carried on farming four years, and then purchased a part of his present homestead. He was married in Mahomet Township, Oct. 19, 1864, to Miss Elvira B. Scott, a native of this township, and the daughter of Judge F. L. Scott, who died in Mahomet Township, Nov. 13, 1878. The mother of Mrs. Davis before her marriage was Miss Julia A. Herriott, and she departed this life at her home in Mahomet Township, Jan. 16, 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Davis became the parents of five children, namely, Wiley, Thomas, Julia B., Mary M. and Charles. Wiley and Julia B. are the only surviving children. The others died in infancy. The wife and mother departed this life Jan. 18, 1876.

Mr. Davis was married to his present wife, who was formerly Miss Sarah G. Little, in Urbana, Sept. 14, 1876. This lady is the daughter of Leavitt C. and Lucy (Webster) Little, natives of New Hampshire. After marriage her parents located in McKean County, Pa., where they spent the remainder of their days. Mr. Little was engaged in farming and surveying. Mrs. Lucy J. Little was first married to Philip Webster, by whom she had two children—Charles D. and Philip L. The four children of the parental household were Ellen, John S., Susan and Sarah G. Mrs. D. was born in McKean County, Pa., Sept. 22, 1843, and by her marriage with our subject became the mother of three children—Fannie D., Earnest L. and Jay R.

Mr. Davis, politically, is a reliable Republican, and a man greatly esteemed among his fellow-townsmen, who have intrusted him with the various minor offices of the township. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Mahomet Lodge No. 220, and with his wife is prominently connected with the Presbyterian Church.

JAMES K. ICE, druggist at Gifford, possesses the following interesting history: The first representative of the family in this country was the great-great-grandfather of our subject, Frederick Ice, who emigrated from Prussia, and settled in Eastern Virginia long before the Revolutionary War. He lived to the good old age of one hundred and twenty-four years, and died in Marion County, W. Va. Among his sons was Adam, the great-grandfather of our subject, who was born in Marion County, W. Va., spent his entire life in his native State, and died in 1850, when ninety-eight years of age. He married Miss Bayles, also a native of the Old Dominion, and they became the parents of five children, viz., Polly, Rolla, Elizabeth, Margaret and William B. The great-grandmother died in 1851, aged ninety-three.

Their son Rollo, who was born in Marion County, W. Va., in 1796, was the grandfather of our subject. He also spent his entire life in his native State, engaged in farming and stock-raising, and after a creditable record as a citizen and business

man, rested from his labors in 1876. He married Miss Rachel Hayes, a native of his own county, who was born in 1798 and died in 1878. Their family of seven children grew to man and womanhood, and were named respectively Oliver P., Fielding R., Henry M., Elizabeth, Adam R., Rolla E. and Phebe. The latter two were twins. Of these children, the eldest, Oliver P., was the father of our subject.

Oliver P. Ice was also born in Marion County, W. Va., his birth taking place May 15, 1821. His younger days were passed under the home roof, and when nineteen years old he was married to Miss Sarah Dent, in January, 1840, and they settled on a farm of 500 acres given him by his father, and located in his native county. After occupying this several years they crossed the Mississippi into Iowa, but after a year returned to the Old Dominion and once more established themselves near the old homestead, where they remained twelve years. In the spring of 1860 Oliver P. Ice came with his family to this county, and after spending one year at Urbana purchased eighty acres of land in Urbana Township, which he afterward doubled, and occupied until the spring of 1880. He then sold out and moved to Texas, where he lives at present and is extensively engaged in stock-raising.

The mother of our subject was born Oct. 9, 1821, and departed this life at the home of her husband in Marion County, W. Va., Aug. 18, 1851. Her remains were laid to rest in the family burying-ground on the old homestead in that county. The parental family included six children, namely, Zerilda, George R., James, of our sketch, Bathsheba, Charlotte and Sarah E. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Dudley E. Dent, who was born near Morgantown, W. Va., and passed his days mostly in that neighborhood. He served as a soldier in the War of 1812, took part in the engagement at Hampton Roads, and was in the engagement with the British at North Point, near Baltimore. He met his death by drowning in the Kanawha River, W. Va., in 1844. The maiden name of his wife was Mahala Berkshire, who was born near Morgantown, Va., and died in 1884. They were the parents of twelve children—George W., Maria, Alpheus E., James V., Sarah Ann, Cornelius B., Ze-

rilda D., Anara, Marmaduke, Margaret, Dudley E. and Richard M. Three of their boys, James, Alpheus and Richard, served in the Confederate army and were killed during the Rebellion. Marmaduke and Dudley E. fought in the Union army and both came home disabled for life. Our subject's great-grandfather Dent, a native of Easton, Va., served all through the Revolutionary War as Captain. After the independence of the Colonists had been established he settled near Morgantown, together with quite a number of his old company, and died there in the midst of his friends.

James K. Ice, like all of his family from his great-grandfather down, was born in West Virginia, his first introduction to life being on the 8th of April, 1844. He was deprived of the affectionate care of his mother when a lad seven years of age, and was the third of six children born to his parents. Only two now remain of the family, himself and his sister Zerilda. In due time his father was married the second time, and James K. remained in his native State until sixteen years old, then, in company with his father and stepmother, came by steamboat to Cincinnati and thence by rail to Urbana, Ill., landing in this county in the spring of 1860. He continued under the parental roof four years thereafter, and when twenty years of age was united in marriage with Miss Nancy J. Butcher, Sept. 20, 1863. His wife is the daughter of William J. and Marinda (Ullom) Butcher, who are now deceased.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Ice located on a tract of land in Urbana Township, and thence removed to a farm in Marshall County, which our subject operated some time for his uncle, Enoch Dent. Afterward he rented land in another part of Marshall County until the spring of 1865, when he went into Putnam County, Ill., and pursued farming there, coming thence to Champaign in 1870. His first location here was in Compromise Township, where he operated on eighty acres for two years, and then purchased 160 acres on section 36. After residing there a few years he purchased the farm of his father in Compromise Township, which he occupied until the spring of 1882. This he afterward sold and purchased 164 acres of good land in Vermilion County, where he lived five

years. He then determined to change his location and occupation, and accordingly rented his farm, and purchasing the stock and fixtures of James M. Morse, at Gifford, removed hither and embarked in the drug trade. He has made a good beginning and his friends predict his entire success. He keeps a well-selected stock of goods, and his courteous manner to his customers is securing for him the patronage of the best people in the northeastern part of the county.

Mr. Ice has always taken an intelligent interest in matters of local importance, and at the polls casts his vote and influence in favor of the Democratic party. Mr. and Mrs. Ice have become the parents of ten children—Hortense, David W., William H. Meldora, Eugenie (deceased), Marinda, Oliver S., Laura, Nellie and Constance.

JOHN WEEKS DODGE, one of the oldest and most highly respected citizens of Rantoul, came to this vicinity in the spring of 1856, and purchased 1,000 acres of wild prairie land, which he began to improve, and upon which he spent some \$5,000 in fitting the soil for the raising of winter wheat. This, however, proved an unfortunate investment, and together with his ill-health, induced him to abandon farming and take up his residence in Rantoul, where he established a drug-store, which he carried on successfully for about eight or nine years. Subsequently he opened a land-office, and during a business of four years' standing had operated in 50,000 acres, the commissions from which yielded him quite a little fortune. In 1873 he retired from active business, and is now enjoying the fruits of his labors, surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. In addition to his town property he owns a good farm not far from the limits, embracing 235 acres of valuable land, which he rents for a stated sum annually.

Mr. Dodge for many years has been prominent in the affairs of Rantoul Township, representing it as Supervisor on the County Board, and for a period of seven years was Assessor, at the time when the one township comprised an area equal to four. Under his excellent management the expense

of this amounted to but \$13.50. Subsequently, after the organization of Rantoul Township proper, its other territory being laid off into Ludlow, Harwood and Rantoul, he assisted in its organization, took an active part in the erection of the first and second school buildings, and was Director for many years. He served as Justice of the Peace seven years. He cast his first presidential vote for Jackson.

The birth of our subject took place near Whites-town, Oneida Co., N. Y., on the 21st of November, 1808. His father, John Dodge, a native of New Hampshire, was born July 7, 1776, three days after the declaration of American independence, and died of old age at his home in Twinsburg, Ohio, in his seventy-ninth year. In early manhood he married Miss Hannah Weeks, a native of Comfret, Conn., their wedding taking place in Oneida County, N. Y., in 1800. The Weeks family was noted for its intellect and learning, the male members following professions generally. The family originated in England, and were among the earliest settlers of New England. The maternal grandparents of our subject removed from Connecticut to New York while young people, and soon after their marriage. Grandfather Dodge served in the Revolutionary War, and was killed at the battle of Bunker Hill. He had been married but a short time before his enlistment, and his wife was married four times afterward, becoming the mother of seventeen children.

The family of John Dodge, Sr., and his wife included ten children, of whom all lived to mature years, and five are still surviving. The youngest is seventy-two years old. The mother died when forty-two years of age. The subject of this biography removed with his parents from his native State to Portage County, Ohio, when a boy of ten years, where he completed a good, common-school education, attending three months after he was twenty years old. Under the careful training of his father he also became a practical farmer. He remained under the home roof until twenty years old before he ventured to begin the establishment of a home for himself, but in the meantime had taken good care of his earnings, and was now ready to engage in farming for himself. Among his fem-

ine acquaintances was Miss Susan Bissell, a lady of fine abilities and excellent education, who had for several years been engaged in teaching, and her he chose for his life companion, their wedding taking place at the home of the bride's parents Aug. 21, 1834. They began life together on a farm, and fifteen years later Mr. Dodge had acquired sufficient means to engage in merchandising, which he believed would suit him better than the further pursuance of farm life. In passing it may be proper to note the fact that a large portion of his capital was accumulated by the labor of his hands, much of the time at fifty cents per day. Mr. Dodge opened his first store in the little town of Twinsburg on the Western Reserve in Ohio, which he operated successfully for a period of seven years, after which he decided to try his fortunes in the Prairie State.

Of the six children of Mr. and Mrs. Dodge three died in infancy; Orris B. is engaged in the manufacture of agricultural implements at Dixon, in which he has amassed a moderate fortune; Susan J. is the wife of M. J. Beard, of Rantoul; Mary M. is the wife of A. P. Neal, a druggist of the latter-named place. Mr. and Mrs. Dodge were connected with the Congregational Church, of which Mr. Dodge has filled the office of Deacon for several years.

Mrs. Susan (Bissell) Dodge, after an illness of several years, closed her eyes upon the scenes of earth May 11, 1873. She was a lady of most admirable qualities, a devout member of the Congregational Church, and the center of a large circle of friends, whose sorrow at her death was evinced in many ways, and especially by the large attendance at her funeral. In her home life and with her family she was the same kind friend and counselor, setting an example worthy of imitation by her children, and uniformly proving the sympathizer of her husband in his difficulties and rejoicing in his prosperity.



GEORGE F. BEARDSLEY, who is well known in the business community of Champaign, deals in real estate, bonds and mortgages, and is one of the important factors of the

solid interests of this section. He is a native of the wealthy and populous State of Ohio, his birth having taken place in that State on the 26th of May, 1827. His parents were John and Mary (Fitch) Beardsley, natives respectively of Stratford and New Haven, Conn. His father was born Sept. 26, 1792, and his grandfather, John Beardsley, Sr., a native of the same town as his son, was born Feb. 16, 1757. The first representative of the family in this country emigrated from England in 1635, fifteen years after the landing of the Pilgrims. It is believed their native place was Stratford-on-Avon, near the home of Shakespeare. The grandfather of our subject served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War six years, and lost his hearing at the battle of Stony Point by the bursting of a cannon near him. He died at Stratford, April 2, 1802, having been the father of five children, nearly all of whom lived to an advanced age.

John Beardsley, Jr., the father of our subject, during his early life learned the trade of cabinet-maker at which he served an apprenticeship of seven years, and which he pursued until his removal to Ohio. He emigrated from his native State to Ohio in the pioneer days, settling in Knox County, Milford Township, of which he was one of the organizers, where he outlived all of his brother settlers. His life was long and full of interesting incidents. After leaving his native State he first went to South Carolina, where he spent one winter and afterward made three trips to Ohio, making the first and second journeys on foot. He first entered 160 acres of Government land, which subsequently became the principal part of his farm, and upon which he resided for sixty-four years. He was married on the 9th of September, 1822, in New Haven, Conn., to Miss Mary Fitch. Upon the third trip to Ohio he was accompanied by his bride, and they made the journey with one horse, which hauled their entire outfit. Upon one occasion when on the edge of a precipice the animal suddenly took a notion to go backward. The occupants of the wagon had just time to spring to the ground when horse and vehicle rolled over to the bottom. Neither, however, were seriously damaged, and by the assistance of a company of mountaineers, who quickly gathered at the scene, they were soon hauled

up to the road and the journey resumed. John Beardsley became a man of note in his adopted State and held several local offices of responsibility, the duties of which he discharged with conscientious fidelity. Originally he was a Whig in politics, an ardent admirer of Henry Clay, and with other anti-slavery members of his party naturally gravitated into the Republican ranks when the old party was abandoned. He became connected with the Congregational Church in his youth, and was often an interested listener to the remarkable discourses of Dr. Nathaniel W. Taylor, Lyman Beecher and Lorenzo Dow. Mr. Beardsley himself was a lay speaker of rare sweetness and power. After a long and worthy life, distinguished by temperance and kindness of heart, he closed his eyes to earthly scenes after having made a good record, and with the personal respect and esteem of all who knew him. His death occurred Feb. 24, 1887.

The record of the children of John and Mary (Fitch) Beardsley is as follows: Charles, a resident of Burlington, Iowa, is Fourth Auditor of the United States, having served eight years, receiving his first appointment under the Hayes administration; Henry is practicing law at Clarks, Merriek Co., Neb.; Mary, Mrs. Craven, lives in Milverton, Ohio; two children of the family died some years ago—Elizabeth, at the age of forty-eight, and Melissa, at thirty.

George F. Beardsley was reared to farming pursuits, received his education in the pioneer schools of the Buckeye State, and upon reaching manhood commenced farming on his own account, which he carried on in Ohio until 1867. He then removed to this State, and locating in the city of Champaign, established his present business. He enlisted, in 1864, in the National Guards, doing military service around Petersburg and in the meantime engaging in several skirmishes with the enemy. After the close of the war he located in Champaign, and since that time has been successfully engaged in real estate and loans.

Mr. Beardsley inherited in a large degree the resolution and energy of his honored father, and served as Justice of the Peace in Knox County, Ohio, for a number of years, in the meantime also serving as Postmaster under President Buchanan.

Since coming to this locality he has identified himself with all its interests, both business and educational, serving as member of the City Council for eight years and being a member of the Board of Education since 1879. For the past eighteen years he has been a Deacon of the Congregational Church. He was first President of the Champaign Sugar and Glucose Company, is a Director and stockholder in the Champaign National Bank, President of the Champaign Tile Factory, has a half interest in the Larnard & Beardsley Block and is otherwise connected with the various enterprises of the city.

The marriage of George F. Beardsley and Miss Martha Mahan was celebrated in Knox County, on the 10th of August, 1854. Mrs. B. is the daughter of John and Martha Mahan, natives of New York State. Of her marriage with our subject there have been four children, of whom three are living: Henry M. married Miss Marietta Davis, and lives in Kansas City; they have two children—Ella and George. This son is practicing law in Kansas City. Anna is at home with her parents; John is pursuing his studies in the Sophomore class of the Illinois State University. The family residence is located on University avenue. Mr. and Mrs. B. are members of the Congregational Church, and are held in the highest respect wherever known. Politically our subject casts his vote in support of Republican principles.



EDWARD S. OBENCHAIN, who is well known in Compromise Township as a thrifty and prosperous farmer, owns a good homestead on section 20, embracing 240 acres of land, finely improved, with a good residence and other ample farm buildings, of which he took possession in 1872. He is of Southern birth and parentage, and first opened his eyes to the light in Botetourt County, Va., Oct. 17, 1832. His parents, John and Sarah (Stair) Obenchain, were also natives of the Old Dominion, where they lived until seven years after the birth of their son Edward. In 1839 the family removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind., where the father followed farming until 1860. Thence he removed into the city of La Fayette,

where his death occurred in the fall of 1863, when he was seventy-five years old.

John Obenchain was twice married, his first wife dying in 1843, and leaving fourteen children, all of whom grew to man and womanhood. His second wife, before her marriage to Mr. O., was Mrs. Sarah (Timberlake) Johnson. She survived her husband about one year. Of this union there were no children. The father of our subject was a man of much ability, possessing decided views upon matters of general interest. He was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and all his life a teetotaler, being a member of the first temperance society in the United States, the Washingtonian.

The subject of our sketch was the eleventh child born to his parents. The family presented a remarkably fine picture of health and strength, each of the boys attaining a height of over six feet. Edward S. was seven years old when the family removed to Ohio, where his primary studies were conducted in a log cabin school-house, and where he took advantage of every opportunity to acquire useful information. He was fond of his books and then, as now, made the most of his opportunities. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-two years of age, and was then married, Aug. 10, 1854, to Miss Mary, the daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Anderson) Miller. Mrs. O. was born in Indiana, Aug. 18, 1835.

Two years after their marriage the young people migrated to Illinois, and located first in Macon County, removing thence the following spring to Piatt County, where Mr. O. followed farming until 1862. He then returned to Macon County, and in 1872 removed to Champaign County, locating upon his present farm. It was then but a tract of unimproved land. With the energy and industry which have formed the basis of his success in life he set about the improvement of his purchase, and now has it all enclosed, laid off in convenient fields for pasturage and the raising of grain and stock. During the warm season he operates a steam threshing-machine, which he purchased in 1884.

Of the twelve children born to Mr. and Mrs. Obenchain five were taken from the home circle in infancy. Of the survivors the record is as follows:

Abraham L. married Allie Johnson, and is teaching school at Burr Oak in Ford County; Ida M. is the wife of Finley Fowler, of Summit, Cook County; Effie J., Charles A., Maude L., John A. and Hattie E. are at home with their parents.

Mr. O. upon first becoming a voter identified himself with the Republican party, but is now independent, aiming to support the men whom he considers best fitted for the positions they desire to fill. He has served as Road Commissioner in his township for many years, and as a member of the School Board. He has no desire for official preferment, having sufficient business of his own to engross his whole time and attention. In addition to his farming interests he operates in grain at Penfield as junior member of the firm of Bear & Obenchain. Socially he belongs to the I. O. O. F. at Gifford.



CHARLES GLOVER, engaged as a baker and confectioner in Champaign, is a native of Dover, England, where he was born in 1830. He is the son of John and Susannah (George) Glover, natives of the same country, where they spent their entire lives, and reared a family of five children. Of these four are now living. John Glover was employed as a mail coachman from Dover to London.

The subject of this history, the only one of the family who came to the United States, arrived here in 1853, first locating in New York City. He had served his apprenticeship at his present business in England, at which he was employed in New York City for three years after landing. From there he came to Chicago and thence to Champaign, where he was first employed as a cook at the National House, and afterward in the same capacity at the Doane House. He then started a bakery on Neal street, which he conducted for six months, when he sold out, and for the following nine years was employed in expressing and draying. In 1863 he left his team to serve in defense of his adopted country, and enlisted in the 135th Illinois Infantry, serving six months. After retiring from the army he resumed the business which he had abandoned for the life of a soldier, and which he sold out later.

Afterward Mr. Glover was connected with the Illinois Central Railroad until 1872. In the meantime he returned to his native country and spent some time in the city of London, being absent four months.

In 1872 Mr. Glover purchased an interest in his present business which was established by Hamlin & Patterson. It was operated under the firm name of Patterson & Glover for two years, when our subject purchased the interest of his partner, conducting the business some years, when he sold out and purchased the bakery of George R. Ruger, which he removed to his old stand, and in which he continued until 1881. Besides his thriving trade and stock in town, he owns a snug farm of forty acres just outside the city limits.

Our subject was united in marriage with Miss Martha Marshall, a native of Ireland, Sept. 9, 1856. They have no children of their own, but have supplied the place of father and mother to an adopted son, Charles H. They are members in good standing of the Congregational Church, and politically Mr. G. is an ardent Republican. He is a self-made man in every respect, and his present possessions have been accumulated by his own industry and economy. His establishment gives employment to four men, and is conducted upon thorough business principles.

MMOORE, A. M., Superintendent of West Side public schools, at Champaign, Ill., was born near Pittsburgh, Pa., May 27, 1844.

He prepared for college in the public and private schools of Pittsburgh, and entered Franklin College, New Athens, Ohio, in 1859, graduating therefrom in 1863, receiving the degree of A. B. Afterward the degree of A. M. was conferred upon him by his Alma Mater.

Mr. Moore entered the Western Theological Seminary after graduating, and pursued a literary course for two years, at which time he married and began teaching in the graded schools. He has taught continuously since at Uniontown, Pa., Dwight, Charleston, and Polo, Ill., one year at the latter place, and has been at Champaign since 1880.

He is a gentleman and a ripe scholar, and as an educator stands in the first rank. He has been married twice.

Mr. Moore's ancestors came to this country during the religious persecutions in England. His great-grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He is of Scotch-Irish descent, and has the characteristics of both races. He is in the prime of life, and his future career is very promising.

DR. WILLIAM B. SIMS, of Urbana, is widely and favorably known throughout this county as one of the leading men of the medical profession. He began practice in this county in the early part of 1870, at St. Joseph, where he remained until 1883, and then took up his residence in Urbana, which has since been his home, and whose people have learned to respect him for his natural talents and the fidelity with which he has attended upon those requiring the exercise of his professional judgment and skill.

Dr. Sims is a native of Blount County, E. Tenn., and was born April 14, 1836. His parents were William G. and Mary E. (Cusick) Sims, who were engaged in farming pursuits, and of whose marriage there were born twelve children. Of these only seven are now living—Joseph, Martha J., Catherine, Elizabeth, William B., David M. and Mary E. In 1840 the parents of our subject removed with their family to Edgar County, Ill., being among the earliest settlers of that region. The elder Sims purchased a tract of timber land in the Wabash Valley, and built a log cabin 18x20 feet, which consisted of one room only, with a fireplace running across one end, and with one window on each side of it. This log cabin remained the residence of the family for a number of years, and was then replaced by a more modern structure, built of hewed logs and weatherboarded. The father of our subject cleared the heavy timber from eighty acres, and passed the remainder of his life in the pioneer home which he had thus established. His death occurred in 1867, twenty-two years after that of his wife, who died in 1845.

The first representatives of the Sims' family in

this country emigrated from Ireland at an early day, settling in East Tennessee. Among these was James, the grandfather of our subject, who served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and lived to the age of one hundred and ten years, his hair then being only slightly gray. That of his son, William G., the father of our subject, was nearly as dark at the time of his death as it was when he was in his prime. The life of the latter was particularly active, and he was distinguished as a man of more than ordinary ability and enterprise. For a period of twenty-four years, while living in Tennessee, he drove a six-horse team to and from Baltimore and New Orleans to Knoxville, Tenn., managing the six animals with one line, riding the left wheel horse. After coming to Illinois he kept a number of hogs and cattle, which ran in the woods, the former feeding on acorns and beech-nuts, by which they were sufficiently fattened for table use. In case hay gave out during the spring season, when the bass-wood trees began to bud, a tree was cut down for the cattle to browse upon.

Our subject passed his early childhood amid these primitive scenes, in the meantime attending the subscription schools from the time he was four years old. When thirteen years of age young Sims left the farm to learn the trade of a shoemaker, which he followed fifteen years. Upon the outbreak of the late war he proffered his services as a Union soldier, enlisting in the 4th Illinois Cavalry, and secured the commission as Corporal, serving until 1864. He took part in the battle of Ft. Donelson, and was afterward detailed for detached service in the Quartermaster's department until within the last nine months, when he held the position of Chief Saddler for his regiment. In 1864 he was transferred to the hospital service as Ward Master, having charge of three hospitals at Natchez, Miss., which responsible position he held until the expiration of his term of enlistment.

Our subject commenced the study of medicine in McLean County, Ill., in 1866, and in the winter of 1869-70 attended a course of lectures at Rush Medical College, Chicago. He began the practice of his profession at St. Joseph, this county, in the early part of 1870, where he built up an extensive and lucrative business. Afterward he attended the

Louisville Medical College, whence he graduated in 1878. Five years later he removed to Urbana, and since 1883 has been a resident and practitioner of this city. In the meantime he was the pharmacist for E. M. & W. M. Nolton, of Urbana, until the 1st of January, 1877. He also carried on a drug-store at St. Joseph from 1875 to 1877, in which latter year he sold out.

The marriage of Dr. Sims took place in 1855, the lady of his choice being Miss Sarah J., daughter of Joseph Medley, of Vigo, Ind. Of this union there have been born eight children, of whom the record is as follows: Samuel N. is a practicing physician of St. Joseph, this county; Joseph M., a resident of Veedersburg, Ind, is agent for the I., B. & W., C., B. & W., and St. Louis Narrow Gauge Railroad; William F., of Mayview, this county, is engaged in blacksmithing; David M., an engineer, resides in Brazil, Ind.; George E. is farming in Cimarron, Kan.; Charles B., residing in Urbana, is a telegraph operator for the I., B. & W. R. R.; Sadie and Orin B. are at home with their parents. The attractive family residence is pleasantly located on East Green street, and the office of the Doctor is in Tearman's Block, on Main street. Our subject is Republican in politics, and belongs to the Champaign County and Illinois Central Medical Societies.



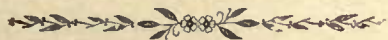
JEREMIAH N. REYNOLDS, of the firm of Condit & Reynolds, dealers in farm implements and furniture, is, with his partner conducting a lively trade at Rantoul, and is considered one of the important factors in the business community. He passed his early years among the hills of Guernsey County, Ohio, near the little town of Cambridge, where his birth took place Nov. 15, 1848. His parents, Jeremiah and Julia (Rollins) Reynolds, were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ohio, the Keystone State also producing his grandfather, John Reynolds, who was of German descent.

The father of our subject during early manhood removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio, being among the pioneer settlers of that region, where he re-

mained the balance of his life, resting finally from his labors in 1884. The wife and mother is still living. Their offspring consisted of ten children, eight sons and two daughters, all, with one exception, still living. Jeremiah N., of our sketch, who was the sixth child, remained on the farm with his brothers and sisters until in 1870, when he was twenty-two years of age. Then, desirous of seeking his fortunes elsewhere, he came to this county and located on a farm in Rantoul Township, whence he removed, in 1884, to Rantoul, and established a meat market. This he abandoned a year later to engage in his present business. The firm carries a full line of farm implements, including binders and mowers, besides several varieties of road vehicles. Their straightforward methods of doing business have commended them to the public generally and they are building up a solid and steadily increasing patronage.

After becoming satisfied that he could maintain a family in a manner becoming his station in life, Mr. Reynolds was married, in 1877, to Miss Juliet Thayer, of Rantoul, and they established themselves in a snug little home in the northeastern part of the city. Mrs. R. is a native of New York State, and came with her parents to this county, where the latter still reside. The only child born to our subject and wife, a daughter, died in infancy.

Besides his interest in the business to which he gives his close attention, Mr. Reynolds is the owner of a good farm outside of the town limits, which embraces eighty acres under a good state of cultivation and which is operated by his brother. He is a general favorite among his fellow-townsmen and a worthy member of the K. of P. Both he and his wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Rantoul.



GEORGE H. SWAIM, one of the prosperous farmers of St. Joseph Township, owns a fine estate embracing 120 acres of valuable land located on section 29. He was born in Parke County, Ind., near Rockville, March 23, 1828. His grandfather was Michael Swaim, a native of North Carolina, who with his wife, left his native State

for the Western frontier in 1819, and was among the early settlers of Indiana. Their family consisted of nine children, all of whom grew to maturity.

The father of our subject, Jehu B. Swaim, was born in North Carolina in 1803, and removed with his parents to Indiana, where he married Mrs. Nancy (Johnson) White. She was a native of Tennessee, who had removed to Indiana with her parents when a young girl. After his marriage Mr. Swaim settled in Parke County, Ind., where he became owner of an extensive tract of land containing 600 acres. He carried on a successful farming business and was one of the principal stock-growers in that section of country. When George H., the subject of this sketch, was about fourteen years of age, the home circle was broken by the death of his beloved mother. She left a family of eight children, three boys and five girls, seven of whom are now living. She also had two children by her former husband, Mr. White.

George H. Swaim, the third child of his parents, passed his boyhood and youth on his father's farm, remaining there until his marriage with Miss Elizabeth C. Jones, in 1855. Mrs. S. was the daughter of Joseph and Mary Jones, and was born in Fountain County, Ind., Aug. 30, 1834. When ten years of age she removed with her parents to Vermilion County, Ill., where she was educated and grew to womanhood. After his marriage Mr. Swaim engaged in farming in Parke County, Ind., until the autumn of 1866, when he removed to Champaign County, Ill., with his family, locating upon his present farm. The residence and other buildings were erected by Mr. Swaim, and are all excellent and well appointed, admirably adapted to farming and stock-raising, in which Mr. S. has been successfully engaged. He has always interested himself in the welfare of his community and has served nine years as School Director.

On the 24th of February, 1886, their happy home was darkened by the shadow of death. The Master had called the beloved wife and mother to another home, where, when all are gathered in, there shall be no more parting. Mrs. Swaim had been for thirty years a devoted Christian, and passed to her reward triumphing in the faith of

Jesus Christ. She was the mother of the following children: Addie T., the wife of J. C. Watson, a resident of Champaign; Amelia J., residing at home; Wilber J., Mary A., Sophronia E., Sarah A.; Minnie, who died in infancy; Lenie F. and Alta. Mr. Swaim and his wife were both members of the Baptist Church, of Muncie, Ill., but the family had been in the habit of attending the United Brethren Church, there being no Baptist Church near their home.



COL. S. T. BUSEY, banker, and Mayor of Urbana, is a native of Greencastle, Ind., where he was born Nov. 16, 1835. He is the son of Matthew W. and Elizabeth (Bush) Busey, both natives of Shelby County, Ky. The father of our subject removed to Indiana in 1812, being among the early pioneers of that region, and from there came to this State with his family in April, 1836. A few months previously he had purchased the land on a part of which now stands the elegant residence of his son, the subject of this sketch. The primitive dwelling was in existence until a few years ago, when it gave way to the modern improvements.

Soon after his arrival here Matthew W. Busey became prominent in local affairs. While in Indiana he had been commissioned Colonel of the State Militia and in a few years after his arrival here was appointed to a similar position in the State Militia of Illinois. On "general muster" day he was conspicuous by his military bearing and glittering uniform. Besides occupying various minor positions in Champaign County he became Associate Judge, and in 1840 was elected to represent his district in the Legislature, and was his own successor, serving two terms, during the latter of which occurred the Mormon War. Col. Busey was heartily in sympathy with Gov. Ford in his efforts to eliminate that infamy from the State, and voted for each measure having that object in view. He was active in the establishment of railroads, and mainly instrumental in securing the county seat at Urbana. In the meantime he gave all necessary attention to his farms and lands, and attained quite a reputation as a breeder of fine stock. He departed this life Dec.

18, 1852, having enjoyed the esteem and confidence of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. In religion he abided by the precepts of the Golden Rule, and politically was an ardent Jacksonian Democrat.

The land which Col. Matthew Busey had secured during his early settlement here aggregated 1,000 acres, upon which is at present located a large part of the city of Champaign, and also the State University. The mother of our subject survived her husband twenty-eight years, and died in 1880, at the home of her son, Col. S. T. Busey, after having arrived at the advanced age of seventy-nine years. The eight children who comprised the parental household are all living, as follows: Simeon H., John S.; Mary C., wife of John C. Kirkpatrick; Louisa J., widow of W. H. Romine; Col. Samuel T.; Sarah, wife of Judge J. W. Sim; Elizabeth, Mrs. Allen McClain, and Matthew D. At the time of the mother's death they all were located within sight of the old homestead. John S. now resides in Medicine Lodge, Kan.

The father of our subject was a gentleman of fine personal appearance, standing six feet, two and one-half inches in his stocking feet. His father, Samuel, removed from North Carolina to Kentucky in company with Daniel Boone, of whom he was an own cousin. It is supposed that Samuel Busey was born in Virginia. He, too, was of unusual stature, being six feet, seven and one-half inches. The family descended from Scotch ancestry, and tradition has it that Paul Busey, the Scotch giant, was one of their ancestors. They not only inherited magnificent physical constitutions but those qualities of character for which the Scottish nation has been especially noted. They were carefully trained to principles of honor and honesty, which were calculated to preserve in each generation the qualities which have constituted them honest men and good citizens.

The subject of this history was reared to farming pursuits, in the meantime receiving a common-school and seminary education. He remained under the home roof until twenty-two years of age, then started out for himself by engaging in mercantile business at Urbana, which he continued for five years. He sold out in 1862 to enter the service

of his country, and assist in the preservation of the Union. At his own expense he raised a company of 100 men at Urbana, of which he was elected Captain, and which was merged into the 76th Illinois Infantry. At the organization of the regiment he received the commission of Lieutenant Colonel and in May following was promoted Colonel. He served three years in the army, and at the battle of Ft. Blakesley, in Alabama, was wounded in the right eye by the bursting of a shell, from the effects of which he was blind for fifteen years. At the siege of Vicksburg he held the extreme left, his line being the most advanced and nearest the rebel camp. He was the first Union officer to enter the city of Jackson during its siege, and after its evacuation received the thanks of its inhabitants for suppressing the destruction by fire, which had been started in the city. When one of his men was captured, through his active efforts he was liberated inside of a week. For his courage and uniform kindness in the treatment of his subordinates, he was a general favorite both with them and his superior officers, and made for himself a military record which he may justly view with pride.

At the close of the war Col. Busey returned to Urbana, and engaged in farming pursuits until the fall of 1867, when, in company with his brother S. H., he organized Busey Bros.' Bank. Subsequently he purchased the interest of his brother and associated with him his nephew, M. W. Busey, and the institution is now known as Busey's Bank. He erected the present bank building in 1872. In the meantime, however, he conducted his farming interests until 1886, and then turned them over to the charge of tenants. His landed possessions include 9,000 acres, 1,000 of which are in Illinois.

Col. Busey was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Bowen, on the 25th of December, 1877, at Delphi, Ind. Mrs. B. is the daughter of Abner Bowen, a prominent citizen of Carroll County, Ind. Of her marriage with our subject there have been born three children—Marietta, Bertha T. and Charles B. Col. Busey is Democratic in politics, and a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity and the G. A. R. He is one of the representative men of Champaign County, and has been foremost in encouraging every enterprise cal-

culated to advance its welfare and prosperity. He was elected Mayor of Urbana in 1879, which position he has held since that time. As a business man, a citizen, and socially, he is widely and favorably known, and enjoys in a marked degree the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

DANIEL CUSHMAN. The subject of this history, who since 1870 has been a highly respected resident of Champaign Township, emigrated from the Green Mountain State when a young man, after his marriage. He was born in Windham County, Jan. 3, 1832, and was the son of Silas Cushman, also a native of Windham County, Vt. His grandfather, Barnabas Cushman, was born in Hardwick, Mass., and followed the sea in the merchant service during the early years of his life. He afterward located in Windham County, Vt., where he cleared a farm from the wilderness, and spent the remainder of his days. There Silas Cushman, the father of our subject, was reared to farming pursuits. He inherited a part of his father's homestead, purchased the interest of the other heirs, and took up his abode there until his death. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Cordelia Haskins, also a native of Vermont, and by her marriage with Silas Cushman became the mother of five children, of whom our subject was the third son.

Daniel Cushman was reared under the home roof, and assisted his father in clearing the timber land and tilling the soil, remaining in his native county until twenty years of age. In the meantime he had also employed himself working by the day, in hay time, receiving fifty-eight cents for a day's work. As he grew older he commanded better wages, and when twenty years of age received \$100 for six months' work, which was considered a great price at that time. He had been trained to habits of economy, and saved what he could of his earnings, so that soon after his marriage he was enabled to purchase a small farm near Wilmington, Vt., which he occupied until 1870. In the spring of that year he sold out, and coming to Illinois

purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. This is a fine body of land, situated within half a mile of the city of Champaign. Aside from general farming he is engaged in the breeding of Norman and Percheron horses, Short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs. The farm in all its appointments is one of the most attractive spots in the township, everything about the premises being kept in good repair. Mr. Cushman has evinced his enterprise in every direction, and has contributed largely toward the development and progress of Champaign Township.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Cynthia Adams took place in Wilmington, Vt., on the 3d of November, 1853. Mrs. C. was born in that city Nov. 3, 1835, and was the daughter of Ira and Betsey (Livermore) Adams. Of this union there were born two children—Gilbert L. and Florence M. Mrs. Cynthia Cushman departed this life in Wilmington, Vt., Sept. 22, 1860. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married on the 6th of March, 1862, was Miss Martha A., daughter of Jason B. Burton, of Vermont, and granddaughter of Isaac Burton, who was one of the early pioneers of Bennington County, that State. She was born in Manchester, Dec. 16, 1840. Her father was a farmer by occupation, and a man prominent in the affairs of his county, serving for a number of years as Deputy Sheriff. He spent his entire life in his native county, and died there in about 1864. He married in early life Miss Martha Boynton, who was a native of Vermont.

Mr. and Mrs. Cushman became the parents of one child, a daughter, Elsie L., who was born July 26, 1873, and died May 1, 1885. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Baptist Church, and Mr. C., politically, is a strong Republican.

DANIEL MYERS, deceased. The history of our country, whose early settlement, because comparatively recent, has been brought down very closely to us, we fondly imagine has produced more and better examples of substantial worth and genuine nobility than any other under the sun. Many of the early emigrants to the land of freedom settled first in Penn-

sylvania, and from that grand old State have sprung some of the most admirable characters which it is the delight of the historian to portray. Among these may be truly classed, as an example of true manhood, the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch.

Daniel Myers was born near Mercersburg, Franklin Co., Pa., on the 5th of December, 1839. His father, John F. Myers, a farmer by occupation, and also a product of the Keystone State, was a resident of Franklin County until 1865, when he resolved to change his location, and proceeding northwestward came into the Prairie State. He settled in Fulton County, and in time became the possessor of two farms, which he carried on successfully until a few years before his death, which took place in Bushnell, Ill., April 1, 1886. The mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Mary Miller, was born and spent her entire life in Pennsylvania, having died in Franklin County before the removal of the family to Illinois.

Our subject grew to manhood in his native county, and received the common-school advantages of those days, remaining with his parents until he had formed domestic ties of his own. He then rented a tract of land near the homestead, which the young couple occupied until coming to this State with his father. Here Mr. Myers located in Peoria County, and operated on rented land two years afterward. Thence he removed to his father's farm in Fulton County, which he occupied until 1870, and then became a resident of Rantoul Township, purchasing the farm which his family now occupies. He survived thirteen years after this removal, and became the center of a large circle of warm friends, whose deepest respect he had gained by his upright course as a man, and his valuable qualities as an enterprising, industrious and intelligent member of the community. His death occurred Dec. 18, 1883, in the midst of his sorrowing family, and regretted by all who knew him. His name is held in kindly remembrance as one who has left a good record of an honorable and worthy life, the best heritage which a man can bequeath to his children.

The marriage of Daniel Myers and Miss Hannah



J. A. Bellingr



James Geazel

Divelbiss took place in Mercersburg, Pa., Feb. 23, 1860. Mrs. M., like her husband, was also a native of Franklin County, and the daughter of Leonard and Catherine (Talman) Divelbiss, natives respectively of Franklin and Adams Counties, Pa. The maternal grandfather, Jacob D., was a native of Fulton County, Pa. There also he was married, and reared a fine family of sons and daughters, most of whom located on farms in that vicinity, where he spent his entire life. Leonard, the father of Mrs. M., also died in Pennsylvania. Her mother was the daughter of John Talman, a native of Adams County, Pa., and the representative of a well-known and highly respected family in that region.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Myers there were born five children—Libby S., Delevan M., William H., Hattie M. and Edna O. Mr. and Mrs. Myers united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in about 1872. Mr. M. was active in religious matters during his lifetime, and the faithful wife, who survives him, still adheres to her early faith. The homestead comprises 160 acres of land on section 5, which has been wisely and judiciously cultivated, producing some of the best crops of this section, and is supplied with a good residence and other necessary farm buildings. The place presents a picture of neatness and taste, which is looked upon with admiration by all who pass by it, and is recognized as the home of intelligence and thrift.



JACOB A. BELLINGER. The subject of the following sketch, whose portrait is given in this connection, was born in the Mohawk Valley, near Little Falls, Herkimer Co., N. Y., Feb. 17, 1838. He is the son of Andrew and Catherine (Horse) Bellinger, who were both born near the birthplace of their son and were of German ancestry. After marriage they settled in their native county, where they lived for a number of years, and thence removed to a farm in Oswego County. From there they went to Fayetteville, near Seneca, and in the spring of 1855 came Westward to Illinois and settled in Newcomb Township, this county, where the father died in the fall of

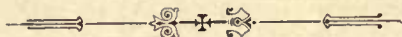
that year. The mother's demise occurred in Hensley Township, in the latter part of March, 1876.

The parental household of our subject included twelve children, six boys and six girls, of whom seven still survive. Jacob A. was the youngest son and the tenth child of the family. His education was quite limited, not being able to attend school on account of ill-health. He came to Illinois with his parents in 1855, and since that time has been a resident of this county. He has followed farming all his life, and during his residence of over thirty years in this locality has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of all who know him. He was married in 1863, and for thirteen years thereafter carried on farming in Hensley Township. In December, 1877, he removed to Mahomet Township, locating on section 14, where he had purchased 231½ acres, and which he has been industriously engaged in cultivating and improving since that time. He has also added to his original purchase so that he now has 524 acres, 453 of which are in a tillable condition. Upon this he has a substantial and convenient farm dwelling, a good barn and all other necessary buildings. Everything about the premises is in good shape and well cared for and displays on every hand the industry and forethought of its proprietor.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married in Mahomet Township, Sept. 9, 1863, was formerly Miss Ellen J. Scott, a native of Mahomet Township, born Dec. 17, 1842. She is the daughter of Judge Fielding L. and Julia A. (Herriott) Scott, both natives of Kentucky. They emigrated from the Blue Grass region to Vermilion County, this State, and soon afterward came to Champaign County, locating on section 14, Mahomet Township, where Mr. B. now lives. The father died at his home Nov. 13, 1878, and the mother in Mahomet Village, Jan. 16, 1882. Their ten children comprise six sons and four daughters, of whom Mrs. B., of our sketch, was the eighth in order of birth. She remained under the parental roof until her marriage, receiving careful home training and a fair education. Mr. and Mrs. Bellinger are the parents of two daughters—Norah K. and Rosa L.

Our subject while living in Hensley Township served as Supervisor one year. He has also occu-

pied the minor offices within the gift of the people of Mahomet Township. He is Republican in politics, and with his wife and daughters, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He takes a genuine interest in educational and religious matters and is the staunch supporter of every measure calculated to benefit his township and community.



WILLIAM TAYLOR BROWN was born in Union County, Ind., on the 2d of January, 1847, and was the second in a family of five children belonging to Isaac and Margaret (Coffin) Brown. His father was the son of William and Sarah Brown, of Indiana, and his mother, the daughter of Elijah Coffin, of Ohio.

The father of our subject remained on his farm in Indiana until about 1859, when William was a lad of twelve years. He then gathered together his family and household goods, and crossing over the line into the Prairie State, located in Ford County, where he afterward purchased a farm of 160 acres northeast of Paxton. This was partially improved, and he occupied it until about 1868, when he sold out and purchased 160 acres on section 29, in Harwood Township, this county. Here he remained until 1872, and again selling out took up his abode in Vermilion County, where he followed butchering for a time, and then resumed farming in Rantoul Township, where he now resides.

The subject of this sketch remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-eight years old, farming in partnership with his father. This not proving very remunerative, he concluded to engage in agriculture alone, and for this purpose rented a tract of land in Harwood Township. He also purchased an interest in the estate of his wife's mother, which lies undivided in the widow's hands during her lifetime, but which she does not occupy at present. Our subject was united in marriage with Miss Laura Stewart, of Harwood, their wedding occurring at her home Feb. 18, 1877. Mrs. Brown is the daughter of Charles and Mary (Shank) Stewart, of Ohio, who removed to Illinois before

the birth of their daughter, which occurred in Edgar County in 1858. Charles Stewart was called from earth when most needed by his family of little ones, but the mother with commendable foresight, managed well and kept her children together. Mr. Stewart was a man of high character and sterling integrity, and was recognized as a valued and useful citizen who could be illy spared from a community. The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Brown is a daughter, Mary Maude, born Sept. 9, 1881.

Our subject has steadily declined to become an office-holder, but frequently serves his township in the position of School Director, and in other local offices which require a man of wise judgment and irreproachable honesty. In politics he is Republican, and has frequently been a delegate to the various conventions in his county. Mrs. Brown united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1886, and is in all respects a lady eminently fitted to be the wife and companion of such a man as her husband.



JOSEPH H. STAYTON, a native of this county, and the second son of David B. and Sarah Stayton, was born on the farm of his father in St. Joseph Township, Jan. 7, 1856. David Stayton was one of the pioneers of Champaign County, to which he came from his native State of Kentucky in about 1830 with his father, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Joseph H. Stayton attended the district school in his boyhood, and at an early age commenced assisting his parents around the homestead, upon which he remained until after reaching his majority. One of the most important events of his life was his marriage with Miss Laura A., eldest daughter of John and Catherine Birdzell, which took place in the spring of 1876.

After marriage, the young people continued on the farm of Mr. Stayton, the elder, until Joseph H. purchased his present homestead on section 16, St. Joseph Township. This comprises seventy-eight acres of finely cultivated land, with a neat and substantial residence, a good barn, and other necessary out-buildings. The land is principally devoted to the raising of corn and wheat, to which it seems

admirably adapted. The stock is of good grades and well cared for, and besides his land, the property of our subject includes a fine assortment of valuable farm machinery.

The four children of Joseph H. and Mrs. Laura A. Stayton were named respectively John D., James W., Beatrice E. and Gracie May. They form a bright quartette of whom the parents may well be proud. Mr. Stayton is still a young man, of whom much is expected in the future. He was elected Commissioner of Highways in the spring of 1884, and in this as well as other responsible positions, has proved himself eminently worthy of the confidence reposed in him by his fellow-citizens.



ANDREW J. PRICKET, who first opened his eyes in the Buckeye State, Jan. 8, 1823, passed his early years among the hills of Brown County, upon the farm of his parents, James and Almira Pricket, who were also natives of Ohio. They remained there ten years after the birth of our subject, then migrated to this State and lived for a number of years in Vermilion County, when the plans of the family were materially changed by the death of the father, which took place in 1835. The bereaved wife was thus left with two children, and afterward made her home in Vermilion and Champaign Counties, surviving until seventy-one years of age, and died at the home of her daughter in Livingston County, Ill.

Andrew J., of our sketch, grew to manhood in Vermilion County, and then began to lay his plans for the future, first taking unto himself a wife and helpmeet, namely, Miss Charlotte Webb, who was a native of Ohio, but at the time of their marriage a resident of Danville. Mr. Pricket and his bride located first on a farm in Vermilion County, where they remained until the spring of 1864, and then came to this county. Our subject selected a tract of land lying on section 32, in St. Joseph Township, which consisted of eighty acres and which he has now brought to a fine state of cultivation. The labor of twenty years has certainly not been in vain, and the change which he has effected from

the first condition of his property indicates how well his time has been employed, and should certainly be considered by him a rich reward for his industry.

Mr. Pricket has a fine family of four children: John M., Andrew; Emma, the wife of Frank Thompson, and Scott, who is at home with his parents. Mr. Pricket, since exercising the rights of an American citizen, has uniformly voted with the Democratic party, and is a man whose opinions are generally respected.



JOHAN W. SOMERS, cashier of the Exchange Bank of St. Joseph, is still comparatively a young man and a native of this county, having been born in the township which bears his name, Oct. 5, 1852. He is the eldest son of Waitman and Mary (Young) Somers, the father a native of North Carolina and born in 1821. The latter came to this county with his parents in the pioneer days, and with them was among the first settlers of Somer Township. Here he grew to manhood, and was then employed for a number of years as Deputy County Surveyor. He married Miss Mary Young, and settled down on a farm on section 22, where he lived and labored until his death, which took place in the spring of 1866. The mother still survives, making her home with her children in Somer Township. The parental household consisted of six sons and three daughters, five still living.

The subject of this narration was the second child of his parents, and passed his boyhood and youth after the manner of most farmers' sons, on the homestead in his native township. He received the ordinary district school advantages, and remained under the home roof until he had developed into manhood. Upon starting out in life for himself, he repaired to Urbana, where he was employed as a clerk by Dr. J. T. Miller, who was engaged in the grain trade, and with whom he remained four years. Thence he removed to St. Joseph, becoming the clerk and book-keeper of John A. Meyers, also a grain-dealer, with whom he remained twelve months. Soon afterward, in company with V. B. Swearingen

and John J. Woodin, he engaged in the grain, lumber and coal trade, the firm being Swearingner, Woodin & Co., and they continued together until 1884. They then dissolved by mutual consent, and a few months later Mr. Somers accepted his present position.

The Exchange Bank of St. Joseph was organized by S. T. and M. W. Busey, of Urbana, and has become almost indispensable to the citizens of this section of the county.



FRANCIS ELMORE PINKERTON, editor and proprietor of the Rantoul weekly *Press*, was born in Tremont, Schuylkill Co., Pa., Dec. 20, 1852. His grandfather, George Pinkerton, a carpenter by trade, was a gentleman of excellent education, and varied his mechanical labors frequently by teaching school, which he followed mostly during the winter seasons. He died in 1873, at the ripe old age of seventy-five years. His son, who was afterward familiarly known as Col. Cyrus Levi Pinkerton, was reared in Tremont, where after reaching years of manhood he followed in the footsteps of his father as a teacher, but instead of taking up manual labor, inclined to the study of law, in the practice of which he became proficient, and which he followed for a period of twenty-five years.

The father of our subject possessed a keen eye to business, and began speculating by the purchase of Black Creek lands in his native county, which he disposed of at a good price, at the same time also engaging in the lumber trade and dealing in general merchandise. Unfortunately, however, he lost all of his property, and in his last years was not permitted to enjoy the fruit of his labors. Politically, he was a staunch Republican and occupied a seat in the State Legislature for a period of two years. During the war he was appointed a Colonel in the State Militia by Gov. Curtin. He married, in early manhood, Miss Fanny All Singer, who was a native of Halifax, Dauphin Co., Pa. Both parents finally came West, and died in Rantoul, this county.

Mr. Pinkerton of this sketch, attended the schools

of his native town both day and evening, and remained a resident there until he was eighteen years of age. When sixteen years old he entered the office of the Tremont *News* to learn the "art preservative," and three years later finished his trade at Plymouth, Pa. A year later he established a paper called the Nicholson *Examiner*, with which he remained connected until the summer of 1874, then coming West he became editor of the Rantoul *Journal* for two and one-half years. He afterward purchased this paper, which he consolidated with the Rantoul *News* and named the *Rantoulian*, carrying it on in partnership with H. E. Bullock for two years. He then purchased the interest of his partner, and changed the name of the paper to its present style. The office outfit is creditable to the intelligence of its proprietor and includes a cylinder power press, with the other appointments of a first-class job printing establishment. The *Press* is independent in politics, and has a large local circulation.

Mr. Pinkerton casts his vote with the Republican party, and his paper has much to do in shaping the politics of this section. He is recognized among his associates as a man of ability and good judgment, having served as a member of the County Central Committee. He also belongs to the Illinois State Press Association, and being a practical printer is identified with the Joliet Typographical Union. He was married, in October, 1881, to Miss Mollie Bois, who was born in Rantoul, and is the daughter of J. J. and Lucy Bois, of whom a sketch will be found elsewhere in this work. The little family includes two children—Charles and Francis.



FELIX G. SEYMOUR, of Scott Township, is favorably known as one of its intelligent farmers and substantial citizens. He is a native of Hampshire County, now W. Va., and was born Dec. 1, 1824. His parents, Garrett and Sarah (McNeil) Seymour, were natives of West Virginia, in which State they remained after their marriage, and where the mother died early in life. Garrett Seymour afterward removed to Indiana, where he remained a resident of Tippecanoe County for

about nine years. Thence he removed to Ross County, Ohio, where his death took place in 1848. The seven children of the household included four sons and three daughters, of whom our subject was the youngest.

Felix G. Seymour was about ten years of age when the family removed to Indiana, and remained in Tippecanoe County for eight years following. He then returned to the vicinity of his old home in Virginia, and for two years lived with an uncle in Hardy County. From there he proceeded to Ross County, Ohio, where he engaged in driving cattle and farm work, and where he continued to live until 1863. In the fall of that year he started for the West with his wife and five children, and coming into Champaign County located in Scott Township. In company with his uncle, R. R. Seymour, who is now deceased, he purchased about 1,000 acres of land, 900 of which he yet owns. The greater part of this was improved and under a good state of cultivation. Our subject erected a comfortable farm dwelling, and has all necessary out-buildings for the shelter of stock, the storage of grain, and the carrying on of agriculture after the most modern and improved methods. He has been uniformly successful in his undertakings since coming to Illinois, and is one of the representative men of an enterprising and prosperous community.

The marriage of Felix G. Seymour and Miss Catherine J. Parker took place in Ross County, Ohio, Feb. 24, 1852. Mrs. S. was a native of that county, born Dec. 26, 1832, and the daughter of Richard and Nancy (Dill) Parker, natives respectively of West Virginia and Ohio. They settled in Ross County after their marriage, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Seymour became the parents of six children, namely, Sarah J., Parker, Margaret E., Catherine, Virginia and Nancy T. Sarah became the wife of Benjamin White, and is a resident of Seymour, Ill.; Parker married Miss Amanda Slider, and is farming in Scott Township, this county; Catherine died Oct. 30, 1874, when fourteen years old; Virginia died May 10, 1864, aged eighteen months; Nancy P. resides at home with her father. Mrs. Catherine J. Seymour departed this life at her home in Scott Township, Nov. 9, 1867. She was a lady highly

respected in the community, and a member in good standing of the Methodist Church.

Mr. Seymour since coming to this county has been prominent in local affairs, holding the offices of Supervisor, School Treasurer and Director for many years. He is also connected with the Methodist Church, to the support of which he has contributed liberally and cheerfully. In earlier years, politically, he was a staunch adherent of the old Whig party, but upon its abandonment gave his support to Democratic principles. He has all his life been engaged in farming, and of late years has given much attention to the breeding of fine stock.



ABEL R. SEYMOUR, the proprietor of 240 acres of valuable prairie land and forty acres of timber on section 17, Scott Township, is a fine representative of the prosperous element of this county, who by his own industry and enterprise has built up a fine homestead and secured a competency for his later years. He is a native of Hampshire County, Va., born Dec. 2, 1815, and the son of Garrett and Sally (McNeil) Seymour. His parents were both natives of Hardy County, now W. Va., where they were married and first located. Afterward they removed to Hampshire County, where the mother died in about 1825. The father afterward removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind., where he lived about ten years and then became a resident of Ross County, Ohio, where he died in 1848. The six children of the parental household included four sons and two daughters, of whom our subject was the third child.

Abel Seymour removed with his father to Tippecanoe County, Ind., and in 1839 to Ross County, Ohio. In the latter place he was engaged in herding and driving cattle until 1848. He then removed to Fayette County, Ohio, and from there in 1856, to Urbana, where he lived two years, then returned to Fayette County, of which he remained a resident until 1862. That year he came to Illinois, purchased a farm in Cumberland County, and lived there until the fall of 1866. He afterward rented land in Piatt County until 1869, when he

came to this county and located in Scott Township, of which he has since been a resident.

The marriage of Abel R. Seymour and Miss Jean Dill was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Ross County, Ohio, May 13, 1840. Mrs. S. is the daughter of Robert and Ann (Gregory) Dill, who were both natives of Pennsylvania. They located in Ross County, Ohio, soon after their marriage, became the parents of ten children, who lived to mature years, and there spent the remainder of their lives. Of the seven sons and three daughters born to Mr. and Mrs. Dill, the wife of our subject was the fifth child. Mrs. Seymour was born in Ross County, Ohio, Nov. 22, 1812. Of her union with our subject there have been born eight children, of whom the record is as follows: William D. married Miss Kate E. Ruffner, and is farming in Scott Township; Annie became the wife of Joseph H. Bradley, and died in Hillsboro, Ohio; Abel married Miss Sciota A. Reniek, and resides in Seymour, Ill.; Sally J. married Abel S. Scott, a farmer of Scott Township; Robert G. married Miss Rhoda Bartlett, and is a resident of Denver, Col.; Richard F. is at home with his parents; John J. married Miss Corinne Howell, a cousin of the author, W. D. Howell, and resides in Quincy, Cal.; Absalom J. is in Nevada.

Abel Seymour, Jr., during the late war enlisted as a Union soldier in the 60th Ohio Infantry, and served in the army for fourteen months. He was captured at Harper's Ferry in September, 1862, but soon afterward paroled and went with his regiment to Chicago, where they were discharged. The year following he re-enlisted in the 1st Ohio Cavalry, and served until the close of the war. In 1854 our subject, in company with three other gentlemen, took a trip to England and Scotland in the interest of the Clinton and Fayette Counties Importing Company, for the purpose of purchasing Short-horn cattle. He was gone about two months, the journey proving a source of both pleasure and profit.

Mr. S. has been quite prominently connected with township affairs, holding the minor offices, and politically is a Democrat. Mrs. Seymour is a member of the Swedenborgian Church. In 1861 she was chosen President of the Ladies' Aid Society at

Washington Court House, in Ohio, and shortly after the battle of Pittsburg Landing was sent to Camp Dennison in charge of supplies. She is a lady of great benevolence and kindness, and gave much of her time during the war in preparing necessities for the wounded soldiers, large consignments of which were frequently sent from the North to the various hospitals where the soldiers were suffering from illness or wounds.



JOHN McCABE, of Harwood Township, was born in County Monaghan, Ireland, June 24, 1828, and was the third child of James and Bridget (Trainor) McCabe, natives of the same county and who spent their entire lives there. Our subject spent his childhood and youth amid the rural scenes of his native county. By the time he was twenty-one years of age he had saved a little money which he intended to expend in seeking a country whose advantages were eminently greater than those of his own land. At the outset he met with a dire misfortune by falling into the hands of sharpers, who robbed him and left him stranded among strangers and without means in the city of Dumfries, Scotland. Being too proud to return home he joined the British Navy and followed the life of a sailor for over six years. Halifax and the West Indies were the principal rendezvous, and his ship, belonging to the Admiralty, was privileged to cruise along the North American coast. Young McCabe became intimately acquainted with the nature of the fishery troubles between Great Britain and the United States, and distinctly remembers the incidents connected with the capture of the "Cardinal Knight" by the English cruiser, and the division of the spoils, in which he received four shillings and sixpence for his share. Commodore Perry's fleet soon afterward put in an appearance which resulted in the adjustment of difficulties, after which hostilities ceased.

Mr. McCabe relates many interesting incidents of his experience in the naval service. After a time spent in the waters of the West Indies they left, and touched land but little for several months thereafter, and in February, 1853, encountered one

of the severest gales ever known on the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The life boats, which were lashed to the rigging forty feet above the deck, were carried away by the spray from the heavy sea which followed. After almost superhuman exertions by the soldiers and sailors the ship was finally brought into harbor safely, and continued operating along the coast of the Atlantic until the outbreak of the Crimean War. All the vessels of the English navy were then called into requisition to take sides against the Czar in his conflict with the Ottoman Empire. Here and on the way to the Baltic our subject encountered many thrilling scenes. He spent a season there, doing much service, when he came to America.

Mr. McCabe landed in New York City on the 22d of December, 1854, and soon afterward went over into Pennsylvania and began work on a farm near the Delaware Breakwater. We soon find him running as a steamboatman on the Monongahela River. Afterward he turned his steps westward, but returned to Pittsburgh, where he worked in a brickyard first, and then started out on a peddling tour. Upon one of his excursions he visited Massillon, Ohio, where his feet were so severely frozen that he suffered a loss of three of his toes. The following spring he returned to his old run on the Luzerne from Pittsburgh to Brownsville, and while on the river the engine of the boat exploded and he was naturally "laid off." In the fall of 1857 he started down the Ohio to Louisville, and from there to Memphis, after which he went up the White River to Napoleon, Ark., in the meantime buying and selling merchandise as before. At this last place while unloading an iron boiler he was severely injured in the back. Upon recovering from this he proceeded to St. Louis, and soon afterward came to Illinois and engaged as a farm laborer. He soon rented a tract of land and began farming for himself.

On the 5th of August, 1859, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Ann Spencer, of Mt. Hope Township, McLean County. Mrs. McCabe was the sixth of a family of eight children born to Richard and Bridget (Cavanaugh) Spencer, natives of Ireland, who emigrated to America at an early day, and coming to this State located first at Mc-

Lean Station. Mr. and Mrs. McCabe went South, where he followed ditching until the breaking out of the war. This project, however, fell through, and Mr. McCabe finally decided to return to McLean County, and was only \$5 richer than when he set out. The following year he and his wife engaged to work for a farmer, his salary to be \$14 per month and hers to be \$6. They were thus engaged eleven months, saving every penny they could, and at the expiration of this time rented a tract of land, and began farming for themselves. They followed agriculture two years near McLean Station, and thence removed to a farm in Logan County which they occupied four years. While in the latter place two children were born—James R. and John F.

The first entrance of our subject into Champaign County took place in the spring of 1869, when he purchased 160 acres of land in Harwood Township, where he soon erected a house. He increased his landed interests after the second year by the purchase of 120 acres. Mr. McCabe met with a severe accident in the spring of 1885, being kicked by a horse and one leg broken. He lay upon the ground helpless from nine o'clock in the morning until five in the evening before he was found and taken home, enduring suffering that can better be imagined than described. From the shock to his system he has not yet fully recovered, and it was only by the most judicious care that his life was saved.



W W. OBRYANT, a native of the southwestern part of this county, was born April 5, 1843, and is the son of John C. Obryant, of Virginia, who first drew breath in the rural districts of old Virginia in 1811. His grandfather, Holcomb Obryant, was of Irish descent, and the first representatives of the family in this country located in Virginia and became the progenitors of a numerous family. The mother of our subject was Eliza Drullinger, a native of Ohio. Of her marriage with John C. Obryant there were born two sons and eight daughters, seven of whom lived to mature years, married and settled in homes of

their own. The mother is still surviving, making her home with her children, and enjoying remarkably good health for a lady seventy-two years of age.

The subject of this history spent a part of his early life in Vermilion County, but attained his majority in this county. During the progress of the late war he enlisted in Co. K, 125th Ill. Vol. Inf., and followed the fortunes of a soldier until the close, taking part in many of its important battles, namely, Perryville, Ky., Chickamauga and Mission Ridge, besides meeting the enemy in various skirmishes and experiencing many hairbreadth escapes. He wound up his military career by joining the army of Gen. Sherman in its march from Atlanta to the sea, going through the Carolinas and being at the battle of Bentonville, whence they moved on to Richmond and from there to Washington to the final grand review, after the surrender of Lee's army. Here Mr. Obryant, with those of his comrades who remained alive after their terrible experiences, was honorably discharged and subsequently paid off at Chicago.

Our subject, after once more becoming a civilian, returned to Vermilion County, where he remained until the spring of 1866. He then made his way to St. Joseph Township, where he began farming, having in view the establishment of domestic ties and a home of his own. The lady destined to become the sharer of his fortunes was Miss Mary Ludwick, to whom he was married Feb. 17, 1869, in St. Joseph Township. Mrs. Obryant is a native of Indiana, born near La Fayette, and the daughter of John and Eveline Ludwick, natives of Maryland and Virginia, respectively. After marriage the young people settled near what is now Mayview, where Mr. Obryant rented a tract of land for a term of five years. He continued there prosperously, and when his lease had expired purchased ninety acres of land near the farm of Isaac Leas, which is now known as the Leas Farm. Our subject occupied this ten years, then sold out and took possession of his homestead. Here he has operated after the theory of Horace Greeley, that a small amount of land well cultivated is more profitable than a larger area partially neglected. He has but eighty acres, but has brought it to a fine and fertile condition, built a good residence and barn, and has

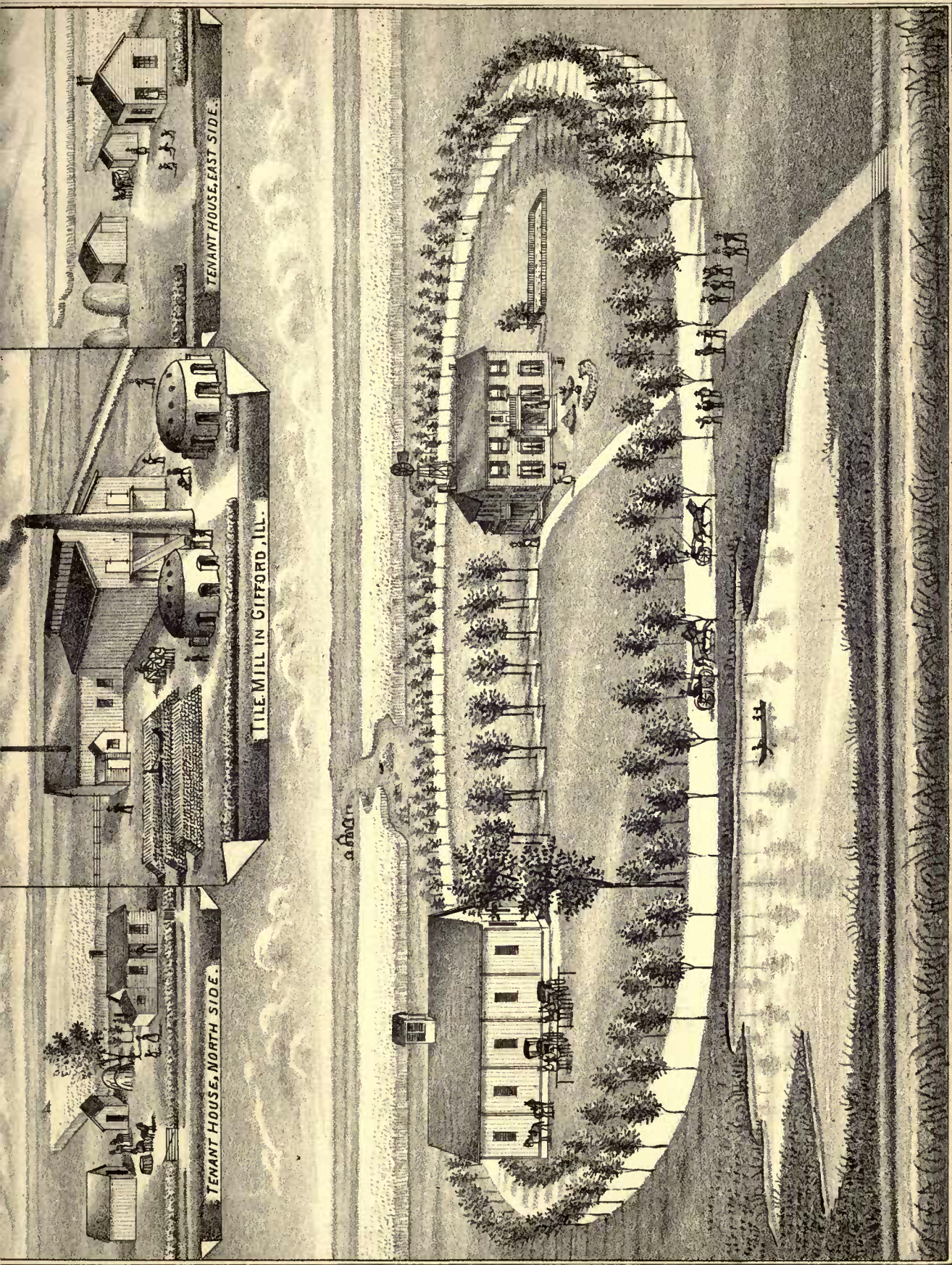
excellent grades of Short-horn cattle, together with hogs and horses of no mean degree.

The household of Mr. and Mrs. Obryant now includes three bright children—Frank E., Anna May and W. Roy. The parents are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at St. Joseph, in which Mr. Obryant has officiated as Steward and Trustee for a number of years, and has been continuously identified with the Sunday-school, in which he has always maintained an active and kindly interest.



EZRA DICKERSON, one of the most extensive farmers of Champaign County, occupies 640 acres in Compromise Township, on section 19, of which he took possession in 1867. He came here with a determination to establish a permanent home and become identified with the best citizens of this county. With comparatively little effort he has been assigned to his rightful position as a representative business man and member of the community, enjoying in a marked degree the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens. As a farmer he has been unusually successful, and in the township has identified himself with its most important interests. He commenced life as a carpenter at \$10 per month, and was afterward variously employed until he had saved \$300 in money, with which he purchased a sawmill and established himself in the lumber trade, from the proceeds of which business he purchased the farm that formed the basis of his fine property.

Mr. Dickerson is a native of Franklin County, Ind., born July 13, 1834. His parents, John and Elizabeth (Carroll) Dickerson, natives of Ohio, after marriage removed to Indiana, and located among the early pioneers of Franklin County. The father of our subject was a cooper by trade, which business he followed until 1853, when he removed to Hendricks County, Ind., and engaged in farming until retiring from the active labors of life. His death occurred in that county in 1872, when seventy-two years old. Mrs. Dickerson still survives and is now a resident of Sheldon, Ill. The parental household included four children, who are



RESIDENCE, FARM PROPERTY AND TILE MILL OF EZRA DICKERSON, SEC. 19. (R. 14 W.) COMPROMISE TOWNSHIP.

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located as follows: Clarinda, the wife of Daniel Clark, resides in Hendricks County, Ind.; Jane married William Brnddige, a resident of Kansas; Elizabeth, Mrs. Frank Hereford, lives in Lincoln, Ill.

Our subject was the second child and the only son of his father's family. He learned the trade of a carpenter in his youth, which he followed in Franklin and Hendricks Counties, Ind., until he engaged in the lumber trade. After coming to this county he purchased 640 acres of unbroken prairie, including section 19, which he has transformed into a beautiful and desirable homestead. He was one of the seven men chiefly interested in building the Havana, Rantoul & Eastern Railroad, his associates in this enterprise being B. J. Gifford, G. D. Penfield, John Penfield, Milo Dewey, Robert Fisher and H. E. Bullock. They afterward associated with them Lewis Stewart, of Plano, Ill. Mr. Dickerson superintended the laying of thirty-five miles of track, as well as the building of several bridges. After the completion of the road he officiated as conductor, having charge of a train four years. During the construction of the road he contracted for a large number of ties and much other material, and was one of the most important factors in the whole enterprise. Upon severing his connection with the railroad, and after an absence of six years, he returned to his farm and has since devoted his time and attention to its improvement. The land is drained with 1,300 rods of tile, and the residence, which was erected in 1883-84, is a commodious structure, two stories in height, being finely finished, and altogether is one of the best farm dwellings in that part of the county. In 1884, for the purpose of draining his own land, he established a tile manufactory, and the business proving profitable he has continued it, making extensive shipments to various parts of this and other counties. His fields, which are conveniently laid out and neatly fenced, are finely adapted both for pasturage and grain-raising, being chiefly devoted to the latter. The full page view of his farm, which we present in this connection, gives one an excellent idea of its extent and the splendid family residence, its surroundings, his factory and other buildings.

The lady who has presided with great dignity

and amiability over the household of our subject for a period of twenty-four years, was formerly Miss Elizabeth Wiley, a native of Hendricks County, Ind., and the daughter of Alfred and Susan Wiley, natives of Guilford County, N. C. They took up their abode in Hendricks County, Ind., in 1834, during the pioneer days. The children now living of Ezra and Mrs. Dickerson, are two daughters, Florence and Effie. A little son, Charlie, died when two years of age. Florence, in August, 1881, became the wife of David Stephens; she is now the wife of Walter M. Dickey, a resident of Chicago, and dealer in fine trotting horses; she has a son by her first husband. Our subject politically affiliates with the Democratic party, and is regarded as one of the most substantial men of his township.



J B. SMITH, of the firm of J. B. Smith & Co., dealers in boots and shoes at No. 59 Neal street, Champaign, located here in the fall of 1854. He is possessed of those principles and traits of character which have constituted him an honest man and a good citizen, the encourager of morality and education, and which have made him universally esteemed by all who know him.

Our subject is a native of Kentucky, born Aug. 7, 1832, and is the son of Jacob and Eliza (Porter) Smith, natives of Philadelphia. Jacob Smith was an extensive furniture manufacturer in that city, and also in Kentucky, and left the latter State for Illinois in October, 1851. He settled in McLean County and lived a retired life in the city of Bloomington until his decease in 1875, at an advanced age. The mother died the following year, aged eighty-four, being one year younger than her husband. Both parents were members of the Presbyterian Church. Of their seven children five are still living, namely, Thomas M., of Missouri; R. P.; Mrs. Cochran, of Bloomington, Ill.; Mrs. Noel, of Missouri, and J. B., our subject. Jacob Smith, Sr., during the early part of his life was a staunch adherent of the old Whig party, and after its abandonment affiliated with the Republicans, casting one

presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, who was a distant relative and who afterward visited him at his home in Bloomington.

The subject of this biography attended school in his native State until fifteen years of age, completing his studies at Danville College. He then engaged as clerk in a store at Richmond, and was thus occupied until the family removed to Illinois. In the spring of 1854 he engaged in mercantile business at Urbana, remaining only a brief time, however, as in the fall of that same year he put up a store on Main street in Champaign, in which he continued business in connection with that at Urbana. His partner, J. W. Hill, managed the Champaign branch. In 1859 Mr. Smith sold out and returned to Bloomington, engaging in the same business until 1861, and until after the opening of the late war. He then started out as a sutler of the 8th Missouri Regiment, but his health failing in the course of a few months he returned once more to Bloomington.

In the spring of 1862 Mr. Smith went to Chicago, and engaging in the fancy and dry-goods trade; remained there until the great fire in October, 1871. After this disaster he again returned to Bloomington, and in company with his brother, Robert T., opened a wholesale and retail boot and shoe business, which they conducted one year, and then our subject returned to Chicago and became connected with the firm of Eddy, Harvey & Co., wholesale dealers in boots and shoes and hats and caps. He remained with the firm until their failure in 1882. He afterward engaged again with his brother in the boot and shoe business in Bloomington, where they remained until February, 1887, when Mr. Smith removed to Champaign and established his present business.

Our subject was married, in 1855, to Miss Mary J. Howse, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of David Howse, who settled in Champaign County in 1854. The father of Mrs. S. was also engaged in the boot and shoe business while in Ohio, but after coming to Illinois followed farming and carried on a nursery. He departed this life in Champaign in 1882. The family of Mr. Howse included six children, namely, Mrs. Smith; Mrs. Mulligan, of Dakota; Mrs. Hill; David B., Bell and Kossuth.

The latter four reside in Champaign County. Mrs. Howse died in Champaign in 1856.

Mr. Smith is independent in politics, a member of the Masonic fraternity, and with his excellent wife is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church.

ELIAS RUSSELL first drew breath among the hills of Delaware County, Ohio, to which State his father had removed from his native State of Virginia with his parents when a boy. The grandfather of our subject, John Russell by name, was born in the Old Dominion, being the offspring of a family who traced their ancestry from England, and whose first representatives in this country located in Virginia in the Colonial days. They were agriculturists, and became noted for their thrift and prosperity.

John Russell married early in life and became the father of a fine family of sons and daughters. Among these was Joseph A., who was born in Virginia, and when a boy removed with his parents to Ohio, where he grew to manhood, married Miss Jemima C. Eckhart, and became the father of Elias, of our sketch.

The Eckhart family was originally from Germany, and its later representatives became prominent in the early settlement of Ohio. Joseph Russell after his marriage located with his young wife in Fairfield County, where he opened up a farm and remained until his death, which occurred in the winter of 1881, after he had arrived at an advanced age. The wife and mother still survives, making her home near Lithopolis. The parental household included two sons and four daughters, of whom the record is as follows: Daniel, the eldest, married and settled in Shelby County, Ill.; Elizabeth is the wife of Daniel Stumpf, of the same county; Maria married William Stumpf; Elias, of our sketch, was the fourth child; Mary became the wife of Wilkinson Clark, of Fairfield County, Ohio, and Sarah married Calvin Foor.

Our subject spent his early years in Fairfield County, Ohio, passing his winters in attendance at the district schools, and assisting in the labors of

the farm until his marriage. This event took place when he was in his twenty-third year, in September, 1860, his chosen bride being Miss Nancy M., daughter of Thomas and Effie (Drake) Whitzel, of Fairfield County, Ohio. In the fall of 1861 Mr. and Mrs. Russell came into Shelby County, Ill., where they took up their residence for a year. They were not quite satisfied with that locality and migrated into Champaign County, locating first in Stanton Township. Here our subject engaged in farming and stock-raising and cultivated annually a large area of corn and wheat. Finally, in 1881, he secured possession of eighty acres of land on section 10, in St. Joseph Township, where he permanently located and which has since been his home. He has been willing to labor for the good things of life, and his industry has been amply rewarded. Himself and family are enjoying all the comforts which could be reasonably wished for, and possess in a marked degree the esteem and respect of their neighbors.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell have become the parents of two children only—Frank S., and an infant who died unnamed. Mr. R. since coming to this township has served as School Trustee and Treasurer, Commissioner of Highways, and in other positions where he has been of decided assistance in local matters. He is esteemed as a man of excellent judgment, and his honesty has never been questioned. Since becoming a voter he has upheld the principles of the Republican party.

EDGAR W. PUTNAM, junior member of the well-known firm of Putnam Bros., carrying on an extensive trade in agricultural implements and general merchandise at Penfield, was born in East Douglas, Worcester Co., Mass., June 3, 1857, and was eight years of age when the family migrated to Illinois. His primary education was conducted in the common schools, afterward being continued in the High School at Champaign upon coming to this county. He has inherited the business talents of his father, and possesses the sound sense required by the practical financier. He remained a member of the parental household until

1882, then came to Penfield and associated himself in partnership with Thomas J. Campbell, with whom he operated under the style of Campbell & Putnam until 1884. Then by the withdrawal of Mr. Campbell the firm became Putnam Bros.

On the 10th of October, 1875, Mr. Putnam was united in marriage with the lady of his choice, Miss Mary M. McLeod, who was born in Vermillion County, this State, in 1857. The father of Mrs. Putnam served as a Union soldier in the late war, and yielded up his life on the battle-field, in Missouri. The mother is yet living. The only child of Mr. and Mrs. P. is a son—Lewis Watkins. Mr. Putnam, politically, supports the principles of the Democratic party, and officiates in Penfield as Notary Public. Socially he is a member of Genevieve Lodge No. 160, K. of P.

JONATHAN SMITH. The English born resident of Ayers Township form no unimportant class of its population. Numbers of them came here twenty years ago or more and by their sturdy industry and substantial character have assisted in building up the community both in a moral and an agricultural point of view, and have been among the most reliable citizens and business men. Of this class Mr. Smith of our sketch is no unworthy representative. He took possession of his present farm on section 17 in 1883, since which time he has labored industriously to improve the quality of the soil, and while successfully prosecuting his chosen calling as an agriculturist, has by his honesty and frugality established himself in the respect of the entire community.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were spent in Yorkshire, England, where he first opened his eyes to the light on the 20th of November, 1847. His parents were Francis and Mary (Hugill) Smith. The mother died when he was but five years old. He lived at home until twenty-one years of age, and then sailed with his young wife from Liverpool to the United States. The father is still living in England.

After landing in New York City Jonathan Smith at once proceeded westward to Morgan County,

this State, where he worked by the week at his trade of blacksmithing, which he had learned of his father in the old country. He followed this for twelve years thereafter and obtained an enviable reputation as a skillful and reliable workman.

The wife of our subject was, in her girlhood, Miss Anna M. Tunstill. She is a native of the same county in England as her husband, is the daughter of John and Sarah (Bond) Tunstill, and was born in January, 1845. Her parents are still living, remaining in their native country. The six children of Mr. and Mrs. Smith were named respectively, Rose Ann, John F., Jonathan H., William H., Mary E. and David G. They form a bright and intelligent group of which the parents may well be proud. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Broadlands. Mr. S., after becoming an American citizen, identified himself with the Republican party. Socially he is a member of Homer Lodge No. 252, I. O. O. F.



ALBERT G. PORTERFIELD is the youngest son of Samuel and Nancy (Davis) Porterfield, and a native of Armstrong County, Pa., where his birth took place on the 4th of September, 1848. He was reared on a farm in the Keystone State, receiving a common-school education, and in 1863 emigrated with his parents to Illinois, since which time he has been a resident of this county. In the spring of 1867, although but eighteen years of age, he rented a tract of land in Raymond Township and engaged in farming on his own account. Three years later he purchased forty acres of unimproved land on section 9, which is included in his present homestead. The whole now comprises 120 acres, which he has carefully cultivated and improved, and where, in 1883, he erected a fine barn thirty-four feet square, and furnished with all the necessary conveniences required by the modern and progressive farmer. He is now building a residence, which when completed will probably be one of the finest in this county.

A lithographic view of it is presented on another page.

The family of our subject consists of his wife and four sons—William W., Samuel H., Marcus J. and Arthur T. His marriage took place on the 22d of February, 1872. Mrs. Porterfield, formerly Miss Eliza J. Tucker, was born in Clermont County, Ohio, April 25, 1846. Her parents were Nelson and Sarah (Gaskin) Tucker, both now deceased. She received a good education, and for some time before her marriage was a popular teacher in the schools of Champaign County. She is a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a lady possessing many excellent qualities of mind and heart. Our subject, politically, affiliates with the Republican party, and has served one term as Township Assessor.



JOSEPH T. KELLEY, who has distinguished himself as one of the most valuable residents of Harwood Township, was born in Rockingham County, Va., May 14, 1809. He was the youngest of fourteen children, the offspring of Abram and Sarah (Burgess) Kelley, the former of Irish birth and the latter supposed to have been born in Germany. On account of the Irish Rebellion, Abram Kelley became an exile from his native land before the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. Two of his brothers escaped with him, and upon reaching this country, Abram enlisted upon the side of the Colonists, serving at first for one year and afterward becoming the substitute for his two brothers, both of whom had been drafted, and in this capacity serving two years. After the independence of the Colonists, he located for a time in Virginia, and in 1810 removed to Ohio, his wife dying the same year. He served his adopted country again during the War of 1812. During this time his family lived in Rockaway County, Ohio.

At the age of fifteen years our subject for five years became a member of the family of Joseph Vance, who owned a farm in Champaign County, Ohio, and was a member of Congress. He had enjoyed the confidence of his employer and had also

ingratiated himself into the affections of his employer's niece, Miss Sarah, eldest daughter of John W. and Margaret (Lemon) Vance of Virginia. They were married Nov. 9, 1830, and at once set out to seek their fortunes in the farther West. They proceeded on horseback and reached Danville, this State, where were located the salt works belonging to the father of Mrs. Kelley. His wife having died he was without a housekeeper, and arrangements were made for Mr. Kelley and his wife to become inmates of his home, when they arrived there March 20, 1831. Three years later Mr. Vance went West to fight the Indians, Mr. Kelley remaining at home, taking general supervision of the salt works. The war with Mexico, in 1846, again stirred his patriotism, but the ranks being full he could not enlist. Concluding he might as well use the plowshare as the sword, he purchased 300 acres of prairie land in Vance Township, Vermilion County, Ill., and entered upon the work of improving it. About four years later he sold out, and removed to St. Joseph, this county, and rented a farm. Shortly afterward the owner of this died and Mr. Kelley purchased the land and occupied it until 1866. In January of that year his wife died, and for the time he gave up farming, rented his land, and in 1867 sold out to his son John W.

Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Kelley only four survive, namely, John W., James, Margaret and J. Duncan. The deceased are David V., Mary J., William, Martha and Sarah. John W., in 1875, sold the farm and removed to Denver, Col.; where he is in the employ of the Central Pacific Railroad Company; he married Miss Caroline Lisha, of Homer, this State. James is engaged in the grocery trade and also a dealer in live stock at Boulder, Col. His first wife was Miss Carrie Knox, who died in 1876. He then married Alice, daughter of Judge Slaughter, of Colorado. Margaret is the wife of Joseph H. Shreve, a grain dealer of Indianapolis, Ind. Duncan married Miss Jennie Camp, of this county, and is employed as a book-keeper in the Assessor's office in Denver, Col.

Mr. Kelley was again married, Dec. 24, 1868, to Mrs. Patience (Neal) Bullock, daughter of Edmund and Sarah (Davis) Neal, and widow of Morgan L. Bullock. Her parents were natives of Maine, but

soon after their marriage removed to Greene County, Ohio, and located on a farm. While living there, Patience was born to them, Jan. 17, 1816. Mr. Bullock, her former husband, was a native of Dutchess County, N. Y. He was a well educated man and taught school considerably in his younger years. He was a practical carpenter and builder, but finally turned his attention to farming. After farming at different places, they moved upon the homestead of her parents to care for them in their declining years. Nine years later the mother died, and the father in 1867. They then came to Harwood Township, and Mr. B. purchased eighty acres of land on section 33, and moved his family into a small house which stood upon it. Soon afterward on one long-to-be-remembered morning they were appalled by the discovery of flames in the prairie grass around them and were obliged to take the best means for escaping with their lives. The fire swept everything before it until reaching the hay field where Mr. Bullock and his sons and hired help were at work. They soon found their efforts futile in endeavoring to save the hay and started toward the house, in the direction of which the wind was already blowing. By the time they reached it the fire had already communicated with the barn, and they barely saved the horses by leading them out with the harness on. This accomplished, the house was discovered to be on fire, and the only thing which they could remove before it was consumed was a chest of tools and the money concealed in it. The men lost their hats and coats and the women all their wearing apparel except that they had on. They then attached the horses to the wagon which they had succeeded in saving, and took up their abode in a hotel until they could put up a small house. The fire occurred Oct. 10, 1860, and they took possession of the new house in December following.

In December, 1865, the husband and father was called from earth. His widow remained upon the farm until her marriage with our subject. During the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Kelley at St. Joseph, Mr. Kelley kept hotel from 1849 to 1864, and often entertained Abraham Lincoln and David Davis, who were holding District Court through this section of the State and when going that way al-

ways stopped at the "Kelley House." Mr. Kelley still preserves the old arm chair in which Mr. Lincoln used to sit and tell stories while Mr. Davis would lie on the floor and enjoy them. This chair is an old-fashioned one with wide rockers and a buffalo cushion, and was the especial favorite of the lamented President.

Mr. Kelley was the first Postmaster at St. Joseph, which position he held for a period of ten years. In politics he is a Republican. He is a hale and hearty old man, well preserved and active as many men twenty years his junior. He is respected by the entire community, and is one of the most familiar figures to be seen about the house and garden, where he spends the greater part of the time, delighting in viewing the growth and maturing of vegetation. Mrs. Kelley is a member of the Baptist Church.



HENRY REESE, a highly respected member of the farming community of St. Joseph Township, has successfully operated on a valuable body of land on section 10 since the spring of 1857. He is a fine illustration of the self-made man, who from a modest beginning has worked his own way up in the world to a good position socially and financially among his fellow-citizens, and by his straightforward and upright life has secured their kindly regard and confidence.

The first recollections of our subject are of his father's farm in Washington County, Pa., where he played when a boy, and where he first opened his eyes to the light, July 10, 1829. He comes of excellent Welsh ancestry, which was first represented in this country in the Colonial days, and whose descendants, settling in Pennsylvania, reared families of sons and daughters who formed a large proportion of the farming element of that region. Thomas Reese, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, where he grew to manhood and married Miss Anna, daughter of William and Rebecca Sunderland, of English descent. After marriage they located permanently in Washington County, where they built up a good record as parents, friends and citizens. They reared their children to habits of industry, and passed to their final rest

near the place where they first joined hands together for the journey of life. They never became wealthy, but were able to provide comfortably for their ten children until they were old enough to go out into the world and take care of themselves. These all lived to mature years, were married, and nine of them still survive.

The subject of this narration was the second son and child of his parents, and passed his boyhood and youth on the homestead in the Keystone State after the manner of most farmers' sons of that period. As soon as old enough his services were utilized on the farm, while a brief period each winter was spent in the district schools. Later he began earning a little extra money by working for the neighbors in his vicinity, and finally drifted into the Prairie State and Champaign County. He was first employed in herding sheep for Silas Clark, with whom he remained three years, after which he began renting land, which he continued until purchasing his present farm. This now includes 185 acres of finely improved land, lying near the town of St. Joseph, convenient for both market and trade. Mr. Reese spent several years in tilling the soil, building fences and adding other necessary improvements, and then turned his attention principally to the raising of high-grade cattle, in which he has been eminently successful, being able to exhibit some of the finest animals in Central Illinois.

Mr. Reese married, in the spring of 1859, Miss Catherine, daughter of Moses Argo, Esq., who was one of the earliest pioneers of this county, and first established himself upon a tract of land in Champaign County, where among other children this daughter was born, reared and educated. Of this marriage there were born six children. The eldest, Samantha, became the wife of Alfred Cole; the others are William F., Addie, Jennie, Lyman and Oran B.

Mrs. Reese departed this life at the home of her husband, Feb. 15, 1880. Mr. Reese was a second time married, at Urbana, April 10, 1884, to Miss Emma, the daughter of Levi and Leanna (Haymons) Feaster. Of this union there were born two children—Pearl, and one who died in infancy unnamed.

Mr. and Mrs. Reese are members of the Christian

Church at St. Joseph, to the support of which they have always contributed liberally, and in which our subject has served as Trustee for several years. They enjoy the friendship and respect of a large circle of friends and acquaintances, and their home forms a pleasant resort for the best people of St. Joseph Township, who have learned to esteem the worthy proprietor and his wife for their excellent qualities as neighbors, friends and citizens.



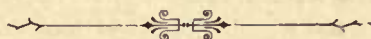
CCOURTLAND BROWN, who was present at the organization of Harwood Township, was elected its first Clerk and served acceptably for four years from 1870. In the meantime, and for twelve years thereafter, he was employed as a teacher in this locality. After an interval of seven years he is now holding the office of Township Clerk again, and in other respects is prominent among the local affairs of his community. He is a gentleman of more than ordinary intelligence, keeping himself well posted upon current events, is a staunch Republican politically, and an ardent admirer of the late John A. Logan, in honor of whom his youngest son is named. He is thoroughly alive to all the political movements of the day, but takes greater pleasure in his favorite occupation, that of farming and stock-raising, in which he displays a good degree of skill. He has been well educated and at one time fitted himself for a telegraph operator, but abandoned the idea on account of the confinement involved in following that calling.

The real estate of Mr. Brown consists of a good farm of eighty acres on section 20, where he has put up good buildings and fences, and makes a specialty of breeding Percheron horses and Poland-China hogs. While giving due attention to his personal concerns he has always been ready to contribute of his time and means for the upbuilding of worthy enterprises and the establishment of schools and churches. He has been President of the Township Sunday-School organization since its inception, and Superintendent nearly every year since he was married.

Our subject is a native of Union County, Ind., where he was born Nov. 28, 1842, and is the eldest

child of Isaac J. and Margaret E. (Coffin) Brown. His father was a native of Virginia, and the son of William and Sarah (Brown) Brown, also natives of the Old Dominion and engaged in farming pursuits. William Brown was an uncle of Gen. Burnside, whose mother was Mr. Brown's sister. Isaac Brown, in 1850, removed from Indiana to Ford County, this State, where he purchased land and followed farming ten years. Thence he came to this county and purchased eighty acres of land on section 29, Harwood Township. He was not contented with farm life alone but took up butchering, and was at various times engaged as a stock buyer, which latter occupation involved frequent removals from one place to another. At present he resides in Rantoul Township, where he follows farming alone.

Courtland Brown remained a member of his father's household until reaching manhood, and Oct. 16, 1870, was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Payton. She is the daughter of John H. and Temperance Payton, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Their first home was located on section 29, in Harwood Township, where our subject owned sixty acres of land, which they occupied thirteen years, bringing it to a high state of cultivation. He then sold out and purchased eighty acres on section 20, where he has since remained. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Brown were Cora May, who is now deceased; Carl Franklin, also deceased; Charles Vernam and John William, his twin brother, are both deceased; the youngest is Lloyd Logan.



JOHNS McELWEE. The father of this gentleman, Carson J. McElwee by name, became a resident of this county in the spring of 1856, to which he had removed with his family from near Covington, the county seat of Fountain County, Ind. Among the members of the household was John S., of our sketch, who was born in the above mentioned locality Sept. 11, 1848. His mother was formerly Miss Eliza J. Buchanan, of Pennsylvania, and removed with her husband to Indiana during the pioneer days.

She died in Champaign County. The father remained in this county until the spring of 1876 and then crossed the Mississippi and took up his residence in Kansas, where he still lives. The children of the household included four sons and six daughters, of whom only three survive, one brother and two sisters, namely, John S., L. C. and Elmira A.

The subject of this sketch was eight years of age when his parents became residents of this county. He attended school and grew to manhood in St. Joseph Township, choosing from among its maidens for his wife, Miss Sarah E. Stayton, to whom he was married in the spring of 1871. Mrs. McE. is the daughter of David B. and Sarah (Bartley) Stayton, and by her union with our subject became the mother of three children, one of whom died in infancy; those living are Sarah J. and David C. After marriage Mr. McElwee located upon a farm in St. Joseph Township, where he has since remained engaged in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture, and fulfilling all the obligations of an honest man and a good citizen.



JACOB M. OCHEL TREE, Station Agent at Homer, operating in the interest of the Wabash Road, is a native of Marshall County, Ind., where he first opened his eyes to the light Dec. 20, 1846. He is the son of John R. and Rebecca A. (Martin) Ocheltree, the former a native of the Old Dominion and the latter of Ohio. The father of our subject, who was born March 22, 1817, began farming early in life in Virginia, but in 1860 came to the West and locating in this county engaged in the lumber business at Homer. In 1877 he sold out and embarked in the furniture trade. His parents removed from Virginia to Ohio when he was quite young and from there to Marshall County, Ind., in 1845.

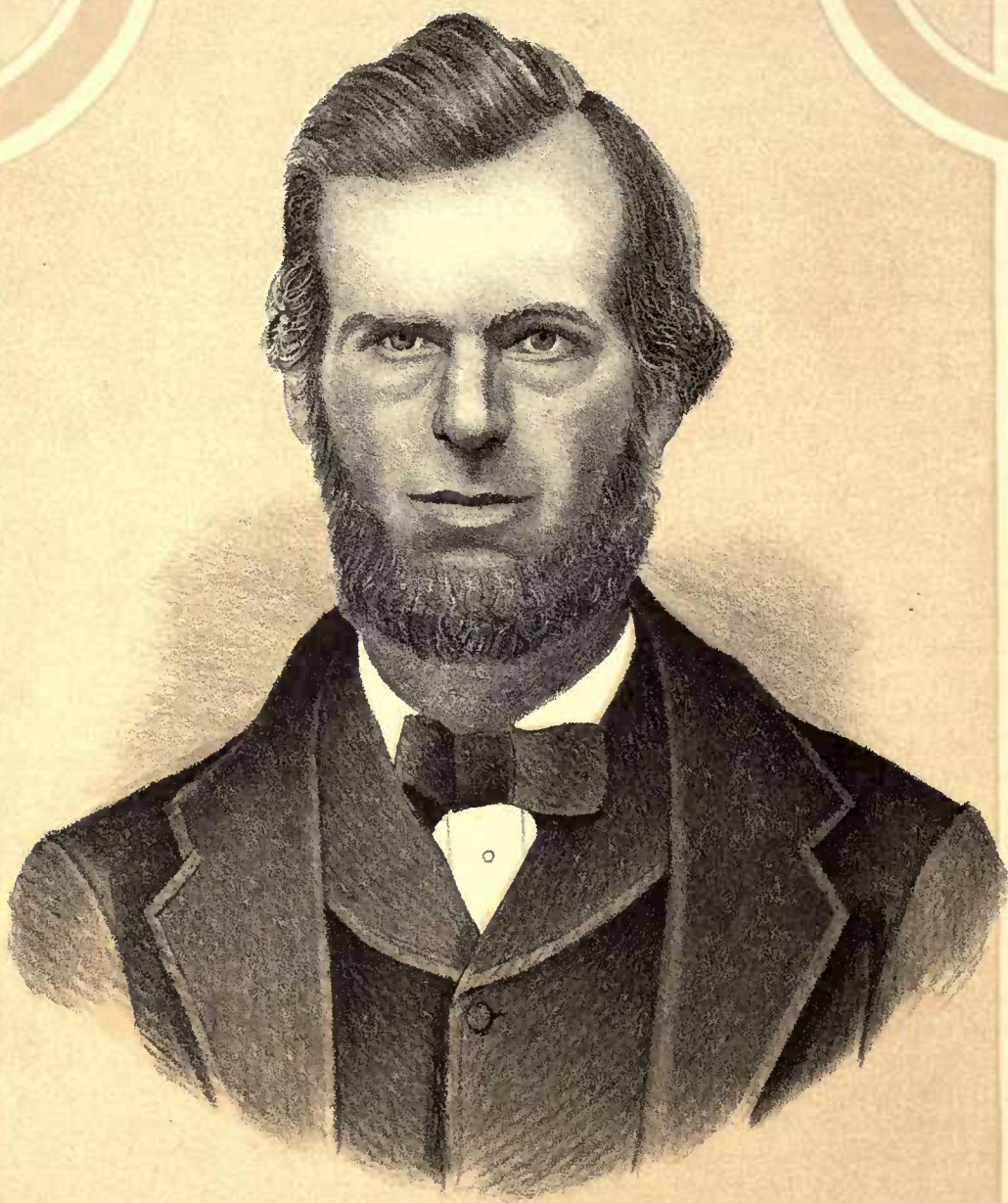
John Ocheltree first established himself on a timber tract in the latter State, whence he removed, in 1852, to Illinois, locating first in Vermilion County. There he purchased 160 acres of land and followed farming until coming into this State. He was married in Marshall County, Ind., in 1842, to the mother of our subject, who was born in Scioto

County, Ohio, July 14, 1823. She also is living, and both are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which the father is Trustee. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party. The parental family included nine children: John A. married Miss Rose E. Coffee; Rhoda J. died in 1864, when twenty years of age; Jacob M., of our sketch, was the third child; Hor-tense A. married Mr. J. R. Shaffer, and is now deceased; Martha E. is the wife of S. W. Thompson; Gilson S. married Miss Lucy Warner, who is now deceased; Gilbert B. married Miss Ida Driscoll; Mary J. is deceased; Benjamin N., the youngest son, is now about twenty-one years of age.

Our subject pursued his early studies in the common schools, first in his native county and afterward at Homer, of which his parents became residents in 1852. After leaving school he was variously employed until the 6th of October, 1870, when there transpired one of the most important events of his life, namely, his marriage with Miss Phebe O. Gilliland, which took place at the home of the bride's mother in Van Wert County, Ohio. Mrs. Ocheltree was born in the latter-named county, March 25, 1850, and is the daughter of Gordon and Margaret Gilliland, who located after their marriage in Van Wert County, among the pioneer settlers of that region. Her father, who was born in 1800, followed farming there all his life, and died in 1864, upon the comfortable homestead which he had established. The mother, who was born Dec. 3, 1811, still survives and makes her home there, being now nearly seventy-six years of age. Both parents were worthy members of the Presbyterian Church. Their nine children were named respectively, Almira, Ann Eliza, Amanda, Susan, Josephine, Harriet, Thaddeus S., Oscar (deceased), and Phebe, the wife of our subject. The four children who came to the household of our subject and his wife were born as follows: Mabel G., Aug. 15, 1871; Clifford E., Jan. 20, 1874; Jessie A., Nov. 21, 1875, and Gordon R., March 6, 1879. The latter only lived a little over a month, dying on the 17th of April following.

Mr. Ocheltree is numbered among the representative citizens of the town, having held the office of School Treasurer twelve years in succession, and

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William P. Sutnam

being honored with other important trusts by his fellow-townsmen. Both he and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. O. has been a Sunday-school Superintendent for several years and is now a teacher. Politically he is a true blue Republican. He has occupied his present position as Station Agent for a period of twenty years, at the same time attending to the express business and operating the telegraph. His course has been that of an industrious and useful citizen, and he has received his reward in the esteem and respect of the whole community.



WILLIAM P. PUTNAM. The history of this gentleman, whose portrait is presented on the opposite page, is that of a man who was pleasant in his family, respected by his community, and esteemed most highly by those who knew him best. He was born in Hartford, Conn., March 10, 1828, and was a descendant of the famous Israel Putnam of Revolutionary fame. His parents, Silas and Sarah (Ludden) Putnam, were natives respectively of Connecticut and Maine. Their marriage took place in the latter State, whence they removed shortly afterward to Connecticut, and from there, seven or eight years later, to Sutton, Mass., where the father spent the balance of his life, which terminated in 1866. The mother is still living and a resident of White County, Ind. The eight children of the parental household were Syra, Annette, William P., Walter T., Rosetta A. who died in infancy, Ada J., Lydia R. and Sarah R.

Mr. Putnam in early life learned the trade of a millwright, following the same until about 1859. The next important event in his life was his marriage with Miss Minerva Harris, which took place April 14, 1850. Mrs. Putnam is a native of New York State, and was born in Wayne County, Nov. 24, 1822. Her parents, Solomon and Elmira (Harris) Harris, were natives of Rhode Island. Solomon Harris was born March 18, 1787, and during his boyhood became a resident of the Empire State, in which he passed the remainder of his life. He was bred to farming pursuits, which he followed

with success, and became a man of influence in Wayne County, assisting especially in building up his township, where, in due time, he established a permanent homestead, and where his death occurred Oct. 11, 1828, while he was yet in the prime of life. His wife, Elmira, the mother of Mrs. Putnam, who was born April 24, 1793, survived her husband less than a year, passing over the river on the 27th of August, 1829. They were married May 9, 1813, and became the parents of five children, whom they named respectively, Daniel, Nancy, Susan, Minerva and Lorinda. The youngest child and daughter died when about twenty-five years of age. The others were scattered through different States in the Union. Mrs. Putnam spent her childhood and youth at the home of her Aunt Lapham, and became an expert in housewifely duties, receiving careful training and the best school advantages of that locality in those days. She was naturally bright, and became well fitted for the duties of the future, and to be the wife of such a man as William P. Putnam.

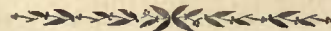
Mr. and Mrs. Putnam after their marriage, resided for a time in Providence, R. I., and in 1864 removed to Illinois, settling in what is now Ogden Township, Champaign County, where Mr. Putnam purchased a half section of raw prairie land, which he improved and to which he afterward added 160 acres. He did not live, however, to carry out his plans in reference to a home in the Prairie State, his death occurring six years later, in February, 1870, when he was in the prime of life and the midst of his usefulness. He had wisely improved his time, however, while life and strength were given, and besides enclosing his land with substantial fences, had put up a good set of frame buildings. The dwelling with its appurtenances stood on a rise of ground, and could be seen from a long distance, presenting with its surroundings the appearance of an embryo village. Mr. Putnam had also gained quite a reputation as a stock breeder and dealer, to which he was turning his attention and had been very successful. The year preceding his death he drew plans for a commodious barn, which he intended furnishing with all modern conveniences. After his decease Mrs. Putnam exerted herself to carry out the intentions of her husband,

erecting the barn which he had in contemplation, and the beautiful and commodious dwelling. Upon this there have been expended thousands of dollars, and it is in all respects a model residence, including the latest conveniences within, and the best skill of the architect in its finishing, both within and without. It stands in the midst of ample grounds, and challenges comparison with any structure of the kind in Champaign County. The out-buildings are amply adapted to the storing of grain and the shelter of stock, and the farm implements and machinery are of the best description, and of a character compatible with the carrying on of an extensive country estate. The land belonging to this stretches away over an area of 480 acres, and stands as a silent monument built up by the hand of thrift and industry. It is also being perpetuated by a lady who possesses more than ordinary ability. Mrs. Putnam administered on the estate, settling up the business to the entire satisfaction of the family, and was highly complimented by the Court for the promptness and good judgment which distinguished her as executrix.

William Putnam was a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, and although at all times recognized as a leader whose opinions, given with deliberation and forethought, were accordingly of value, he never sought office, preferring to give his entire attention to his private affairs. He was remarkably temperate in his habits, having no use for intoxicating liquors or tobacco, and was consequently always in possession of his naturally clear head and determined disposition. He seldom failed in whatever he earnestly set about, pursuing it resolutely and with indomitable industry, his most peculiar characteristic, and generally his efforts were crowned with success.

Our subject and his estimable lady lived together harmoniously for a period of twenty years. Their wedded life was blest by the advent of five children, whose births occurred as follows: George W., May 3, 1852; Henry F., May 2, 1854; Edgar W., June 3, 1857; Nettie, Oct. 29, 1859; Fred S., Sept. 5, 1862. They constitute a fine family group, are all living and married. They have largely inherited the intelligence of their gifted parents, and their periodical visits to the homestead constitute

a bright episode in the life of their widowed mother. Like her, they are living worthily, and enjoy the esteem and confidence of hosts of friends.



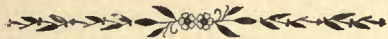
JOHN T. FREEMAN. The pioneer farmers are slowly but surely passing away, and their sons are looked upon to supply their places. Among the latter is the subject of this history, whose father, a native of the Buckeye State, came to this State in 1830, and in early life learned to hold the plow, to plant, sow, and to gather in the harvest. Our subject is a native of this State, and has made his mark as a citizen of worth in the community, and as an enterprising farmer. In the spring of 1880, when looking around at the land in Homer Township, he selected a tract of 180 acres on section 29, and at once began to make improvements. The former dwelling in due time was replaced by a beautiful residence, and under his wise manipulation the land which had been indifferent has now been brought to a high state of cultivation. In due time there were brought to it a number of specimens of fine stock, which number has been increased, and the quality thereof improved to such an extent that Mr. Freeman is accredited with being one of the most skillful stock-growers of this vicinity.

The birth of John T. Freeman took place in Champaign County on his father's farm in Ogden Township, July 25, 1854. He is the son of Thomas and Nancy (Redman) Freeman, and both parents were born in 1826. They are still living, and reside in Ogden Township. Our subject, as will be seen, is still a young man. He remained with his parents until after reaching his majority, and after returning from his trip to the farther West, before locating on his present farm secured a partner and helpmeet. This lady was Miss Jennie B. Silkey, a native of New Comerstown, Ohio, and born Aug. 14, 1858. Her parents, John P. and Mary (McMan) Silkey, were natives respectively of New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Her father, who was born in 1825, is still living, and a resident of Urbana. He was a tanner by trade, but is now retired from active labor. The wife and mother, who was born

in 1829, departed this life at her home in Sidney, in 1875. The six children of the parental household were Thomas E., Joseph B., Fremont, Jennie B., Charles M. and Annie.

Mr. and Mrs. Freeman located upon the farm which they now occupy soon after their marriage. They have one child, a son, Roy C. Their home is a pleasant resort for numbers of friends, and they are surrounded by the comforts of life. Mr. F. in his farming and business transactions displays good judgment and enterprise, and is contributing his full quota to the agricultural interests of this section. His political sympathies are with the Republican party, and he takes a genuine interest in all matters relating to the welfare of his county. He identified himself with the Masonic fraternity in 1886, and is now a member of Ogden Lodge No 754, and Homer Chapter, at Homer, Ill.

The parental family of our subject included six children, recorded as follows: Mary M. is the wife of Isaac Hixenbaugh; Edmond R. married Miss Lillie Mathews; John T., of our sketch, was the third child; James J. married Miss Flora E. Yount; William H. and Martha yielded up their lives in childhood, and were laid to rest by their sorrowing parents in the quiet country burying-ground.



JONATHAN N. HOWSER, who for many years has been prominent in the agricultural affairs of St. Joseph Township, is a native of the wealthy and populous State of Ohio, his birth taking place near Felicity, Clermont County, Oct. 16, 1821. The Howser family originated in Germany, from which they emigrated in the Colonial days, the first representatives in this country settling, it is believed, in Maryland, near the sea coast.

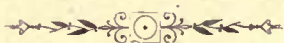
Abraham Howser, the grandfather of our subject, was born across the water, and emigrating from his native Germany, located in Hagerstown, Md., whence he removed to Kentucky. He was married and reared a family, and died while on a visit to Ohio after arriving at a good old age. His son, Christopher, the father of our subject, was born in Kentucky, and grew to manhood in the Blue Grass

regions, but subsequently removed to Ohio, where he married Miss Elizabeth Hoover, of Clermont County, where they settled on a farm and lived in a modest way, laboring industriously to establish a home, and provide as well as they could for their children. The efforts of Christopher Howser met with remarkable success, considering the fact that he was thrown upon his own resources at the beginning, and before his death he had become the owner of 1,000 acres of land. He had also engaged extensively in stock-raising. One of the attractive features of the homestead was a large fruit orchard, containing fifty choice varieties of fruits which flourish so well in the soil of the Buckeye State.

Christopher Howser and his wife became the parents of seven sons and three daughters, all of whom lived to mature years, and seven married and reared families. Jonathan N. of our sketch, was the eldest of the family. He received the advantages of a common-school education, and after the fashion of the youth of those days, began early in life to lay his plans for the future. One of the important steps in this direction was his marriage, which occurred in the spring of 1843, to Miss Margaret J. Dillman, who was a native of Brown County, Ohio. They became the parents of six children, five of whom were born in the Buckeye State. In the fall of 1856, Mr. Howser with his family, turned his steps westward, and located in this county. He remained here, however, but a year this time when he went back to Ohio, where he staid until the fall of 1860. He then returned to Illinois and located upon his present farm on section 31, in St. Joseph Township, where he has since remained industriously tilling the soil and meeting with a rich reward for his labors. From 240 acres of wild prairie, he has improved a fine homestead, and provided liberally for his children, the most of whom are settled comfortably in homes of their own. During the years of his first labors in this county, Mr. Howser turned his attention largely to the raising of hogs, in which he met with rare success, but later has taken to the feeding of cattle, large numbers of which he fattens and ships each winter.

The children born to our subject and his wife were, Eliza C., now the wife of John H. Hudson;

Leonidas H., Robert C.; Martha J., the wife of J. D. Laughlin, and Christopher Lincoln; a little daughter named Caroline died in infancy. Mr. Howser has been quite prominently identified with local affairs, serving as Commissioner of Highways three years, and for some time was School Director in his district. He was a Whig during the existence of the old party, but after its abandonment, heartily endorsed the principles of the Republicans, with which he still continues. Both Mr. and Mrs. Howser are members of the Olive Christian Church, in which our subject has served as Deacon, and been prominent among the counsels of his brethren since becoming identified with them.



ABNER F. LEAS, one of the peaceful and law-abiding citizens of St. Joseph Township, pursuing the even tenor of his way on a good farm on section 9, drew his first breath near the city of Covington, Fountain Co., Ind., Oct. 6, 1838. In looking back over his family history we find that his grandfather, Daniel Leas, was a native of Pennsylvania, and emigrated to Ohio with his family when his son George, the father of our subject, was a boy. The first representatives of the family in the United States came over from Germany and located in the Keystone State during its early settlement. His grandfather, Daniel, was the first of whom we have any clear account. He grew to manhood among the Alleghanies, and became the father of six sons and two daughters, all of whom became men and women. George, the eldest, was married in Ohio, and thence removed to Indiana. His wife, Lydia, was the daughter of Abner Crane, whose family removed from New York to Ohio in the pioneer days. They traced their ancestry back to England. George Leas was a potter by trade, which business he followed in Fountain County, Ind., successfully for some time, and subsequently took up agricultural pursuits until retiring from active labor. He was born in about 1801, and lived to be seventy-six years of age. His aged partner still survives, now nearly eighty years old, making her home in the place where they lived together so many years. Of her

ten children, eight grew to mature years and four are still living.

The subject of this sketch, the fifth child of his parents, grew to manhood in his native county, and received the advantages of a common-school education. After reaching his majority he left the parental roof, and coming into this county located on 160 acres of land, entered by his father on section 9, in St. Joseph Township. He kept bachelor's hall several years, and in addition to the cultivation of his land began raising hogs and cattle, the proceeds of which yielded him generous returns, and from which he in fact made the most of his money. When a little over twenty-eight years of age, March 13, 1867, he was married, choosing for his wife Miss Lydia E., third daughter of Israel and Hannah Patton, who came from Tennessee and located in Vermilion County during its early settlement. Our subject and his young wife went to housekeeping in a structure which he had previously built, but which, in 1876, was replaced by a fine, two-story residence. This is erected after the modern style of architecture, and is beautifully located on a rise of ground commanding a fine view of the surrounding country. The barn and other outbuildings are in keeping with the residence, providing all conveniences for the shelter of stock and the storing of grain. In the rear is an orchard of choice apple trees, and the grounds around the dwelling are embellished by shade trees, and those which bear the finer fruits, such as cherries, peaches, etc.

Mr. Leas has invested his surplus capital in more land, and besides the home farm owns 280 acres on section 3, all under the plow, neatly fenced, and yielding in abundance the choicest products of the Prairie State.

Of the union of our subject and his wife there were born five children, only two now living—Charles F. and Myrtie M. The wife and mother died at her home in January, 1885. The second marriage of Mr. Leas took place Jan. 13, 1887, the lady being Miss Lettie Stevens, who was a native of Ohio, born in Clermont County, and became a resident of this locality in 1865. She was the daughter of James A. and Millie Stevens, natives of Vermont and Ohio respectively.

Mr. Leas has been prominent in the affairs of his

township since coming here, and was among the first who assisted in organizing a drainage system for the State, during which time he officiated as Commissioner of St. Joseph Township. He has been interested in the moral and educational welfare of his community, and assisted in organizing the Christian Church at Prairie Hope, of which he is one of the Deacons, and has taken great interest in the advancement of the Sabbath-school.



BENJAMIN E. COFFEEN, of Homer Township, is the son of one of the pioneers of this county, who opened the first store of general merchandise in this section. This was Michael D. Coffeen, well and favorably known among the earlier residents of Champaign County. He was born in the Empire State Aug. 17, 1813, and died in this county Oct. 14, 1882. He followed merchandising the greater part of his life. His earlier years were spent on his father's farm in Chautauqua County, N. Y., and when fourteen years of age he was employed in the manufacturing of fanning-mills until eighteen, and then entered the store of James Growendyke at Eugene, in Vermillion County, Ind., where he remained until reaching his majority.

Mr. Growendyke and Mr. Coffeen entered into partnership in general merchandising in 1834, in what is known as Old Homer, Mr. Coffeen conducting the business. He remained the partner of Mr. Growendyke up to 1854, when he formed a partnership with Samuel Growendyke, which he continued until 1860. In the meantime he had made the most of his opportunities, and being possessed of more than ordinary ability was entrusted with many of the local offices, finally being elected Probate Judge. His business was managed with excellent judgment and foresight and he accumulated a fair competency. He was one of the principal organizers of Homer Township, and located the site of the village, a mile from the old town. In early life he voted with the Whig party, and afterward identified himself with the Republicans. He was a great admirer of the principles of the Ma-

sonic fraternity, being a member in good standing of this and also of the I. O. O. F.

The mother of our subject was formerly Miss Mary Elliott, daughter of Asa Elliott, and born in 1817. She became the wife of Michael D. Coffeen in 1836, and departed this life twelve years later, in 1848. Of this marriage there were born six children, viz., Michael, Caroline, Emeline, Benjamin, Mary and Asa. Mr. Coffeen for his second wife married Miss Helen M. Lyons, in 1852. This lady was a native of Ohio, and came to Illinois with her parents when quite young. Of her union with Michael D. Coffeen there were born eight children, William, Ellen, Ida, Dollie, Lacey, Frank, Nettie and Michael. The latter died in infancy.

Mr. Coffeen of this sketch passed his early years occupied in farm pursuits, and remained a member of his father's household until his marriage. The maiden of his choice was Miss Harriet Smythe, who was born Dec. 10; 1849, in Greencastle, Ind., and became the wife of our subject March 16, 1870. Her parents, Ebenezer and Elizabeth (Sill) Smythe, were natives respectively of Georgia and Kentucky, the father born in 1804, and the mother in 1807. At an early day they removed to Greencastle, Ind., where they spent the remainder of their lives, the mother passing away in 1858, and the father two years later, in 1860. Ebenezer Smythe was a Douglas Democrat in politics, and an old-school Presbyterian in religion. He was a man of decided views and fearless in the expression of them. The mother belonged to the Missionary Baptist Church. The nine children born to this household all lived to mature years. They were named respectively, Statira Clay, George V., Ebenezer W., Ulysses T., Gonsalvo C., Bettie, Mary, Roxa and Harriet. Mr. and Mrs. Coffeen have no children.

The homestead of our subject comprises twenty acres of choice land, upon the pleasanter part of which stands a fine dwelling in the midst of choice shade trees and shrubbery, with a good barn and adjacent out-buildings; he also owns sixty-five acres near Sidney, Ill. The farm stock and machinery are well cared for, and everything about the premises is kept in good shape, giving to the homestead a general air of neatness and comfort. Mr. C. has always taken an intelligent interest in local affairs,

and has held the office of Assessor for the last five years. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Homer Lodge No. 94, and Republican in politics. Mrs. C., a lady of great intelligence, having her own views upon matters and things in general, does not agree with her husband politically, being a decided Democrat. She became a member of the Christian Church in 1869, with which she has since been connected.



HANFORD REYNOLDS, a farmer of Harwood Township, was born Dec. 27, 1833, in Bedford, Westchester Co., N. Y. He was the sixth child in a family of seven, born to Enoch and Maria (Reynolds) Reynolds, both of the same name but not related to each other before marriage. The parents of Enoch Reynolds were James and Abigail (Knapp) Reynolds, natives of Connecticut. They were married Oct. 18, 1786. Abigail was born Oct. 10, 1765, and died Nov. 3, 1831. The names of their children were, Stephen, Ezekiel, James, Josiah, Silas, Nezer, Enoch, Abigail, Reuben, Rachel, Hanford, Lockwood, Joseph, Sarah and Amanda, all of whom live in South Salem, N. Y. Enoch Reynolds, one of these children, was the father of our subject. James Reynolds enlisted in the Revolutionary War, near its close, and served for nine months. Maria was the daughter of Nathaniel Reynolds and Mrs. Hannah (Todd) Cooly, natives of Connecticut. Nathaniel Reynolds was a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary War, serving most of the time until its close. He was captured by the British, and held prisoner for three years, during which time he worked at the tailor's trade, and received excellent wages for his services. He drew a pension until the time of his death. His children were Nezer, Enos, Timothy, Deborah and Nathaniel, all born in Greenwich, Conn. Enoch Reynolds lived on one farm in Westchester County, N. Y., for half a century. He reared and educated his family and made his home in that place until his death.

Hanford Reynolds undertook to learn the trade of a carpenter when about seventeen years of age, but on account of ill-health was obliged to relin-

quish it during his first year. He then attended the Union Academy (New York), where he applied himself diligently to his studies for two years, after which he taught school for two winters. Seeking a wider field for advancement in life, he went to New York City, and engaged as a clerk in the Knickerbocker Association, where he remained almost a year. He next took a position in a wholesale paint-store. This proved so hurtful to his health that he was obliged to give it up at once. He then invested in a chain and compass, and came West as a surveyor. His first work was done at Geneseo, Henry Co., Ill., where he was appointed Deputy County Surveyor. His health improved, and he held this position for two years, when he again made a change, and was engaged in the nursery business in Missouri and Illinois for the next two years. He then engaged in farming with a brother residing in Knox County, with whom he remained one year. March 28, 1862, he married Miss Susan A. Roberts, the eldest child of Jesse D. and Louise (Kirk) Roberts, natives of Indiana, where Mrs. Reynolds was born Feb. 11, 1843.

Our subject, after marriage, bought eighty acres of wild land in the northern part of Knox County, Ill., and spent five years improving and cultivating it, when he sold out and came to this county, and bought all of section 14, Harwood Township, where he now lives. He has built a pleasant home, and his farm land is all under excellent cultivation.

Mr. Reynolds was the leader in the organization of the township, and wrote and circulated the petitions, after which he presented them for acceptance and approval. He was elected the first Supervisor of the township, and has once since held the same position. He was largely instrumental in forming the excellent system of the division of the township into the school districts, and has served as School Trustee for fifteen years. He is public spirited, and has been identified with all the best progressive movements in the community. He is warmly interested in politics, and is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. Mr. Reynolds and his wife are members of the Christian Church. They have had a family of six children, one of whom is deceased, Morris M. The others are Amelia, Charles A., William H., Chester Garfield and John

J. Amelia is married to J. W. H. Remley, of Chillicothe, Ohio. The others are living at home with their parents. Mr. Reynolds has paid some attention to stock-raising in the carrying on of his farm, and intends in the future to increase his business in that direction. Besides other stock he raises Norman horses and Poland-China hogs.

The following is the genealogical table of Mr. Reynolds' family: The maternal great-grandfather of Hanford Reynolds was Nathaniel Reynolds, the names of whose children were, Jared, Benjamin, Ferris, Ezra, Samantha and Sarah. Hanford's maternal grandfather, also Nathaniel Reynolds, was born Feb. 22, 1754, and died Sept. 21, 1843. He married Hannah (Todd) Cooley, Oct. 15, 1778. The names of their children were Deborah, Nathaniel, Lydia, Abraham, Betsy, Sarah, Hannah, Enoch, Alvah, George, Maria and Benjamin.



ALLEN M. SADORUS. As the representative of a prominent family, which came into this county in the pioneer days, the subject of this sketch deserves more than a passing notice. He was born March 13, 1821, in Rush County, Ind., and is a son of Henry and Mary (Titus) Sadorus, natives of Pennsylvania. His parents removed to Indiana soon after their marriage, and from there to this county in 1824, settling at Sadorus Grove, on the Okaw River.

The subject of this biography spent his boyhood and youth tilling the soil, until about twenty years of age, when he started out to do for himself. He entered the employ of a boating company on the Wabash River. His first trip was to the Crescent City, where he remained a couple of weeks and then went up the Red River to Shreveport. He worked there in a sawmill about six months, and then entered the surveying corps in the State of Texas. He afterward returned to his home in Illinois, and in 1843, with an ox-team he started to Iowa for the purpose of entering land and farming, and afterward was engaged in the building of Ft. Des Moines, being one of the first to inaugurate this work. He remained in that vicinity two years,

then returned to Illinois and took charge of his father's farm for the five years following.

In the spring of 1846 Mr. S. was married to Miss Margaret Hamilton, the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Cook) Hamilton, natives of Indiana. In 1850 he decided upon a change of location and took his family in a wagon, proceeding to St. Louis, from there to New Orleans and thence to Texas, and near San Antonio exchanged his horses for an ox-team, and pushed on through Old Mexico, fighting the Indians along the way to prevent their ravages. Upon arriving near the mouth of the Gila River, Mr. S. and one of his men went forward to find Capt. Brant who, they had been informed, had a force of men and a small boat, which was used as a ferry in crossing the Colorado. Upon reaching the point they could find neither the party nor the boat, and following the river a short distance, came to an Indian camp. There they found the boat and bargained for its use by paying in blankets and trinkets. After they had taken over one load the Indians took the boat away from them and compelled them to make rafts and swim their stock over. In this way they got across, but lost a number of cattle and mules by drowning. When they reached the opposite bank they found the Captain and his men dead on the shore. This was their first intimation of the hostility of the Indians. Following this company was the Oatman family in a train from Illinois, who were attacked by these Indians. The father and mother with two or three children were killed, and Olive and Mary Oatman taken prisoners. Mary died soon afterward, but Olive remained in captivity for about five years, and was then returned to the whites. One of her brothers was left for dead, but was afterward picked up and taken care of by some members of the train with which Mr. Sadorus was traveling.

Our subject and his companions reached San Diego in the fall of 1847, and there a little daughter was added to the family. As soon as the mother was able to travel, the family moved onward to the mines, where our subject took his pick and began searching for the yellow ore and followed the occupation of a miner for two years, the proceeds of his labor being a snug little fortune. He went into Butte County, Cal., and unfortunately invested all

his money in live stock, which he afterward lost by high waters. The water rose to the eaves of their house and the family were thankful to escape with their lives. When Mr. S. saw the flood approaching he rapidly caulked his wagon-box, and with it and the aid of his horses, transferred his family to dry ground, where he left them to return for the household goods. As they left the Island a grisly bear attacked them, and they were forced to fight it off with the paddles of the boats. After much labor they effected the removal of their goods.

Mr. Sadorus moved up the valley of the Sacramento, where he once more embarked in stock-raising together with farming, and where he remained for a period of ten years. At the end of this time, during which he had been quite prosperous, the country was again flooded and the second time he experienced great loss in the drowning of nearly all of his stock. The animals which escaped died for want of grass, during the drouth which followed. Mr. Sadorus, now disgusted with life in that region, proceeded to Nevada, and settled in Humboldt County, where he lived until the fall of 1867. On the 22d of September, that year, his wife passed from the troubles of this life. Their five children, Mary Jane, Melissa Ann, Sarah Frances, John H. and Charles W. are still living. Three of these were born while the family resided on Rock Creek in California. While residents there a wholesale massacre of the white settlers was undertaken by the Indians who had before been considered perfectly peaceful. The first intimation of danger was an attack on Tom Allen, who had gone up the creek after a broken-down wagon and taken a little pet Indian boy with him for company. Allen was killed, but the boy escaped and ran to the bottom of a hill, where Mrs. Hecox lived. The little Indian caught up her little boy and ran and was followed by Mrs. H. and her baby. Another son and two grown daughters were up the creek hunting berries, and they were all three killed. Mr. Sadorus and his family miraculously escaped, and he with a posse of men ran down from the valley, buried the dead and then followed on after the Indians. They killed more than fifty of them, and materially crippled the tribe, so that but few more murders occurred. Mr. Hecox was away from

home during the massacre of his family, and they were taken into the family of Mr. Sadorus, where they were prepared for burial by his family. The poor mother never recovered from the shock, but died a maniac some time afterward.

Mr. Sadorus still lives in the far West, having his eldest son with him. He is a well preserved man for his age, and possesses the vim and energy of a man twenty years younger. He still owns the old homestead in this county, and 160 acres on section 13, in Sadorus Township. At this writing (June 18, 1887,) he is visiting his brothers, William and Henry in Sadorus, and expects to return to Illinois after a time, to remain permanently, and spend his remaining years among his old friends. Although never paying much attention to politics, whenever near the poles at election times, he has substantially indicated his sympathy with the principles of the Democratic party. The thrilling experiences of his life would make a volume if written in detail.

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JAMES W. HUMRICHHOUSE is familiarly known throughout the southeastern portion of Champaign County as proprietor of Fair Land Farm, which lies two and one-half miles south of Homer, on section 29, and includes 320 acres of some of the finest farming land in that locality. Mr. H., who was born in Vermillion County, Ind., Aug. 28, 1844, took possession of this fine estate in 1882, first purchasing 240 acres to which he afterward added eighty acres, and now the place is mainly devoted to the breeding and feeding of fine cattle, hogs and draft horses. The latter are mostly of the Belgian breed and in this department Mr. Humrichhouse has acquired an enviable reputation.

Our subject, James W., is the son of George and Lydia (Grace) Humrichhouse. His father was born on the Atlantic Ocean during the voyage of his parents from Germany to the United States, in 1817. He is still living, making his home in Edgar County, Ill. The greater part of his life has been spent as a farmer and blacksmith. The immediate



ancestors of the family are of pure German blood. George Humrichhouse, after becoming an American citizen and obtaining the right of suffrage, cast his lot politically with the Democratic party, and religiously became a member of the Presbyterian Church. The wife and mother, formerly Miss Lydia Grace, was born in 1822, in Indiana, and still remains the companion of her husband. Their family included eight children, recorded as follows: John W., who married Miss Rachel Brokaw; James W., of our sketch, is the second son and child; Mary C. became the wife of A. B. Cogshall; Amanda is now Mrs. C. Hopkins; George R. married Miss Edna Arnold; Sarah J. is unmarried; Margaret A. is the wife of Samuel Acklin; Jasper G. was the youngest born. The brothers and sisters of Mr. George Humrichhouse were named respectively, John, Jacob, Mary, Elizabeth, Susan, Daniel, Eli, Charlotte and Caroline.

The subject of this sketch came to Illinois in 1864, during the progress of the late war. Directly afterward he enlisted in the 150th Illinois Infantry as a private, and was afterward promoted Corporal. He did not see very much active service but fulfilled all the duties required of him, and at the close of the war received his honorable discharge, being mustered out at Atlanta, Ga., in 1866. He then returned to his home in Illinois and a year later went to Kansas, and, after a few months, he returned to Illinois and located in Warren County, where he met the lady who was destined to become the sharer of his home and fortunes. This was Miss Priscilla Grace, a native of that county, where she was born March 2, 1843. Their marriage took place on the 28th of March, 1867. Mrs. H. is the daughter of James H. and Elizabeth (Lyons) Grace, who were both natives of Indiana. James Grace was born in 1817, and is now a wealthy and prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Warren County. His wife, Elizabeth, was born in Indiana in 1821, and departed this life at her home in Warren County in 1846. Mr. Grace was afterward married to Miss Agatha Lyons, who only lived a few years. He then married Miss Amanda Overman. Of the first marriage there were born three children—Solomon, Priscilla and John W. The oldest son during the late war received the commission of Second

Lieutenant in the 14th Illinois Infantry, and died after being in the service one year. John W. married Miss Lovina Lupper. Of the second marriage there were born six children, three of whom died in childhood—Jessie, Mary and Elizabeth. The third wife became the mother of two children—Olive B. and Erma.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Humrichhouse, four in number, were born as follows: George E., Sept. 7, 1868; William P., Sept. 5, 1870; Stella F., April 5, 1874; Dollie G., Feb. 4, 1878. Mr. H. is Democratic in politics and a worthy member of the G. A. R., Post No. 263. He is highly respected by his fellow-citizens, and is considered an important factor of the business and agricultural community of his section.

A lithographic view of his residence is shown on another page in this ALBUM.

**F**RANCIS M. HOSS, one of the sons of an honored pioneer of St. Joseph Township, first opened his eyes to the light in this county on the farm of his father, Feb. 19, 1857. The latter, Christopher Hoss, a native of Brown County, Ohio, was born Sept. 19, 1822, and died in Champaign County, March 10, 1872. He became a resident of this county in 1836, and married Miss Serena Hayden, whose family had also removed from the Buckeye State at an early day. The grandfather of our subject, Daniel Hoss by name, was of German descent and parentage. The first representatives of the family in this country settled first in St. Joseph Township, and were numbered among the most important members of the agricultural community.

Christopher and Serena Hoss had a family of eight children, of whom the record is as follows: John W. is a resident of Kansas; Amanda J. became the wife of L. S. Drullinger, and Mary E. married H. P. Drullinger, of Nebraska; Francis M., of our sketch, was the fourth child; Daniel T. is farming in St. Joseph Township; Eliza is the wife of George Knapp, of Auburn County, Iowa; Charles C. is a resident of St. Joseph; the youngest died in infancy.

Our subject was reared on the homestead of his



father and commenced his education in the district schools, afterward taking a course in the public schools at St. Joseph. He was orphaned by the death of his parents when about fifteen years of age. His father, however, had been prosperous, and left an estate including 440 acres of land, from which our subject received his portion upon attaining his majority. He was married, March 13, 1879, to Miss Charlotte, the second daughter of A. J. and Ruth Bowers, of St. Joseph Township. The young people located on their present homestead on section 11, where they have since resided, and where our subject has brought about admirable improvements. The farm embraces eighty acres, thoroughly drained with tile, neatly fenced, and furnished with all other necessary improvements constituting the first-class modern homestead. With the exception of the house all the buildings were put up by our subject. His land has been chiefly devoted to general farming, although he has given considerable attention to stock-raising. His household includes four children—Lorin, Della, Walter and Ruthie M.

Mr. Hoss has maintained a proper interest in the welfare of his community, serving as School Director and otherwise identifying himself with the interests of the people. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church of St. Joseph, in which Mr. H. has been Deacon for some time. He is a staunch Republican, politically, casting his first presidential vote for James A. Garfield.

**D**R. McKINNEY, M. D., a medical practitioner of Gifford, has been a resident of this county since the spring of 1878, when he located in Ogden Township and continued the practice of his profession which had been begun several years before. He has been an extensive reader and a close student, and is a credit to his profession in all respects. Dr. McKinney is a native of Shelby County, Ohio, his birth taking place April 15, 1837. His father died when he was about six months old, and the mother with her two children removed to Logan County, where she purchased a small tract of land and superintended the

operations of the farm. In 1839 she married Israel Downing.

Our subject spent his younger days mostly on the farm and pursued his primary studies during the winter in the district schools. When fourteen years of age his mother and stepfather moved to Delaware County, Ind., and two years later young McKinney engaged in teaching, which he followed during the winter seasons while the farm received his attention in the summer. In the meantime he employed his leisure time in acquiring useful knowledge. In 1855 he entered the university at Hartsville, Ind., with the intention of still further perfecting himself as a teacher. Just before becoming of age, he was united in marriage with Miss Hannah, the daughter of Jonathan and Ruth (Stonecipher) Thornburg, their wedding taking place at the home of the bride's parents on St. Valentine's Day, 1858.

After this event our subject continued to employ his time as before, in the meantime taking up the study of medicine until 1863. The Civil War being then in progress he enlisted in Co. G, 9th Ind. Vol. Cav., and served until the close, most of the time as Hospital Steward. After retiring from the army he entered the Medical College at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he spent a year, and began the practice of his chosen profession. He afterward took up his residence at Barbara Mills, and in the fall of 1872 attended a course of lectures in Miami Medical College. His residence in this county dates from the spring of 1868, when he located in Ogden Township and continued his practice up to and during the winter of 1877. With the intention of keeping pace with the progress of his brethren in the profession, he again supplemented his knowledge by a course of lectures at Indianapolis, from which he graduated in the spring of 1878. Soon afterward he moved into the village of Gifford, with the interests of whose people he has since been identified. He now enjoys an extensive practice, together with the confidence and esteem of his patrons.

Dr. McKinney has been connected with the Champaign County Medical Society since its organization and was at one time President; he also belongs to the Illinois Medical Society, and socially



is a member of the I. O. O. F. The Doctor and Mrs. McKinney united with the Methodist Episcopal Church at Gifford in about 1880, and our subject is numbered among the reliable voters of the Republican party. Of his marriage there were born four children, viz., Thomas, Dora, James and Ira.

Thomas McKinney, the eldest son of our subject, was born in Delaware County, Ind., Nov. 29, 1859. He pursued his first studies in the district schools of Ogden Township and later entered the Urbana High School. He was a studious boy, ambitious to excel, and after graduating from High School was prepared for a course in the State University at Normal, Ill. He afterward taught school and employed his leisure time in the study of medicine under the instruction of his father. In 1880 he entered Rush Medical College at Chicago, and graduating in 1883, returned home and became the partner of his father. His marriage with Miss Lottie Hickey was celebrated on the 26th of November, 1885, and they have one child, a daughter, Lila. He is a worthy member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Pera Lodge No. 574, and became a Knight of Pythias in 1887.

The father of our subject, Thomas McKinney, was born in Shelby County, Ohio, in 1812. He spent his entire life in his native county, being there reared and married, and there passed to his final rest, his death taking place while he was still a young man, in 1837. The mother, Elizabeth (Rector) McKinney, also a native of Shelby County, Ohio, was the daughter of Daniel and Nancy Rector. She died in 1871, and was buried at Pilot in Vermilion County, this State. The sons of her first marriage were D. R., of our sketch, and James M. Of her second marriage, there were three children, namely, Daniel D., Samuel and Jonathan. The father of the latter, Israel Downing, died in Delaware County, Ind., in 1856. The grandfather of our subject, also Thomas McKinney, was a native of Ireland, who emigrated to the United States when a young man, and located in Shelby County, Ohio, where he reared a family, all of whom became well-to-do citizens and valued members of the community.

The father of Mrs. McKinney, Jonathan Thornburg, who was born in Tennessee, emigrated to

Delaware County, Ind., during the early history of that section, and after bravely fulfilling his mission as a pioneer, closed his eyes upon the scenes of earth on the homestead on which he had labored diligently many years to establish and provide his family with the comforts of life. His wife, Ruth, was also a native of Tennessee. They were married there and made the journey from that State to Indiana overland with teams. She is still living and a resident of New Burlington, Ind., having arrived at the advanced age of ninety years.

**M**RS. ELIZABETH SWEARINGEN, widow of the late Thomas Swearingen, a well-remembered citizen of this township, is now hostess of the Swearingen House of St. Joseph. This little hotel has been for several years successfully conducted by Mrs. Swearingen and her daughter Minnie, and under their excellent supervision has won an enviable reputation for the neatness and comfort of all its appointments, and the hospitality of its hostess.

Mrs. Swearingen was born in Kentucky near Maysville, April 4, 1827, and when an infant removed with her parents to Champaign County. She is the daughter of Hiram and Jane (Swearingen) Rankin. The Rankin family is well known among the pioneers of this county. They were the descendants of several old Kentucky families, who were among the early settlers of that State when it was a wilderness. Both of her parents died in St. Joseph Township. Mrs. Swearingen had the advantage only of the common schools in which to receive her education, but she possesses much native business capacity with a clear intellect and good judgment, all of which have been developed and brought into play by circumstances.

In 1846 she was married to Thomas Swearingen, a resident of St. Joseph Township. He was likewise a native of Kentucky, and was born in 1820. When a mere lad he removed with his mother from their native State to Champaign County, where she settled in what is now St. Joseph, and there reared her family. Thomas received a common-school education, and after his marriage en-



gaged in general farming two miles southeast of the town of St. Joseph. He was industrious and enterprising, and carried on a successful business until his death, which occurred Aug. 31, 1872. His widow was left with four children, all of whom were girls, and quite young at the time of their father's death. Mrs. Swearingen bravely assumed the position of head of the family, educating her daughters and conducting the farm, where she remained until the marriage of all her daughters except the youngest. Her children are as follows: Jennie, the wife of James Duree; Melvina, the wife of Frank Robbins; Callie, the wife of William Morrison, a resident of Ogden Township, and Minnie E., an accomplished young lady, the companion and assistant of her mother.

In the winter of 1880 Mrs. Swearingen left the farm and removed to St. Joseph, where she has since resided. In the following year she purchased what was then called the St. Joseph Hotel, and took possession in the autumn of 1883, thoroughly refitting the house and putting it in good order. She has been successful in her enterprise, clearing off the indebtedness in making the purchase, and also receives a good income from her farm, which she rents.



**W**ILLIAM PARK, of Urbana, who is widely and favorably known throughout Champaign County, has been a resident here for a period of over thirty-five years, and probably has done more than most men in building up and improving one of the finest sections in the Prairie State. In earlier days he was an extensive landowner, and is now the proprietor of 400 acres under a fine state of cultivation. He is singularly modest and retiring in disposition, and although many a time proffered important offices in the county, has uniformly declined to be made conspicuous in this manner, although he has been one of the first in the establishment of schools and the encouragement of every enterprise calculated to advance its welfare both morally and financially. He has always lived with an aim and object in life, and that was

to perform a good act as he had the opportunity, and to accomplish what he could in the comparatively short space of time allotted to a human life.

The subject of this history was born in York County, Pa., Dec. 19, 1812. He is the son of Elihu and Elspy (Lamon) Park, natives of the same county as their son. The grandfather, William Park, Sr., was a native of Lancaster County, Pa., where he became an extensive farmer and miller, erecting, in 1776, a large building in which he carried on the milling business the greater part of his life. The great-great-great-grandmother of William Park, our subject, emigrated with her parents from England in company with William Penn, and settled with him in Philadelphia. The Parks are of Scotch ancestry; but the other side of the family descended from the Welsh and Irish. Elihu, the father of our subject, was born Aug. 8, 1786, and, like his father before him, followed farming and milling all his life in the township where he was born. He lived to a good old age, being over seventy-five years, and died July 22, 1862. The parental household included fourteen children, of whom only two are now living.

William Park, Jr., was the second child of his father's family and his brother, Joseph, now living at Urbana, the fourth. The parents were both members of the Presbyterian Church, in whose doctrines they faithfully reared their offspring, and the father of our subject, being a wealthy and influential citizen, held many positions of trust and responsibility. Our subject spent his younger days at school and recalls the fact that his education was conducted under the instruction of twenty-two teachers in succession, all being of Irish or Scotch nationality. His school days commenced when he was seven years old, the temple of learning being a log cabin, and his studies were carried on in seven of these successively. He attended school winters until nineteen years old and the balance of the year assisted his father on the farm and in the mill, also learning the trades of carpenter and millwright. In 1832, after working on a farm five months, at \$7 per month, he left his native State with the large sum of \$47.50 in his pocket. His first destination was Miami County, Ohio, where he commenced his labors as a millwright and after-



ward operated a sawmill. He finally rented a mill in Greene County, that State, the construction of which he had superintended, and operated this four years on shares, making \$3,000 during that time. He afterward lost this and \$5,000 besides within the space of three months, by buying wheat for which he paid \$1.40 per bushel, grinding it into flour and hauling it to Dayton, where he was unable to get transportation at that season of the year. Being obliged to hold it the price went down and resulted in this heavy loss. That was in 1837. Mr. Park recovered from this calamity as best he could and wasted no time in bewailing his misfortune. A few months afterward he began the operation of a distillery which he ran for two years and then sold out. In 1840 he rented another mill, and put up a sawmill and distillery, operating the three jointly for a period of three years, and again lost heavily.

Mr. Park after this disaster as before got up and went at it again. He formed a partnership with an old Quaker and they operated in company a grist and saw mill, making \$900 in two years. Our subject then resumed his former trade as a millwright and carpenter, and employed from fifteen to twenty-one men, summer and winter, for three years following. At the expiration of this time he had all his debts paid and \$1,300 besides. In 1848 he built a woolen factory in the same county, which gave employment to fifteen hands. This he run on shares for eighteen months and sunk \$6,300. He then concluded to leave the Buckeye State and came to Urbana, this county, with \$207. After he had settled down and decided upon his future course he had \$100 in his pocket. He first purchased a log house for which he paid \$50 down, and began casting about for the erection of a steam sawmill. He talked the matter over with the people of this vicinity, who admired his courage and resolution, and loaned him \$800 for three years at six per cent. He obtained \$1,800 worth of machinery from Powell, of Cincinnati, on trust, putting in a twenty-two-horse power engine, and thus, in 1849, established the first steam power in Champaign County. This mill he operated for six years. He built his first gristmill at Urbana in 1852, to which he made an addition four years later. He also put up a machine-shop and foundry for J. N. Wilson, who became

engaged in the manufacture of reapers and mowers. This proved too large an elephant on Mr. Wilson's hands, and he solicited Mr. Park to take hold of it, from which the latter suffered a loss of \$7,000 on account of the destruction of the mill by fire.

In 1857 a company of gentlemen visited Urbana, having in view the erection of a woolen factory. Mr. Park furnished them the building and machinery, which afterward fell into his hands and he, in company with Messrs. Clapp and Gear, operated the same successfully for three years. He then sold his interest in this and also his gristmill. In the meantime, in 1854, Mr. Park had put up a sawmill on the Sangamon River which, in company with J. T. Phillips, he operated for two years. During that time also A. T. Marshall erected a sawmill at Parkville. Our subject became his security for the machinery and as a natural consequence was obliged to take the mill for pay. This he rented for four years and then put up a gristmill adjacent. Both mills were destroyed by fire in 1860.

After this disaster, from which Mr. Park recovered as manfully as before, he went to Sidney, where he put up a grist and sawmill which together cost \$21,000. These he operated for eighteen months and then they also were destroyed by fire. He erected a sawmill immediately upon the same ground and when completed, in the space of nine years following, sawed the timber from 700 acres of land. Each eighty acres made 1,250,000 feet of lumber. Becoming encouraged by these results he put up a brick flouring-mill at Sidney at a cost of \$25,000 and a warehouse for one-fifth of that sum. He retained possession of the warehouse five years and then sold it at its original cost. He still owns the flouring-mill. These experiences in the life of Mr. Park are given chiefly to encourage young men by showing them that a man can rise from nothing, as he has done four times, besides losing heavily by fire, and \$35,000 of bad accounts, mostly security.

In the meantime, amidst the press of business and the calamities and prosperity which succeeded each other, he found time for the formation of marital and domestic ties, and in the summer of 1836 was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Haynes, of Greene County, Ohio. Of the union there were born two children: Jennie, Mrs. Jaques, of Urbana,



has three children—William, Minnie and Robert; David E. Park, who is farming in Sidney Township, married Miss Mary Mansfield, and they have one child, William, named after his grandfather. In 1863 Mr. Park purchased a one-half interest in the street railroad running from Urbana to Champaign, at which time he assumed its management and has since continued it. Politically he is a warm supporter of the Republican party, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity. The beautiful and commodious family residence is situated at the corner of Beach and Birch streets, Urbana, where our subject and his wife extend a generous hospitality to the warm friends and acquaintances whom they have made during their long residence here. Mr. and Mrs. P. religiously are connected with the Universalist Church.



**J**OSEPH GORDON, who spent his early years "in a home beyond the sea" in County Wexford, Ireland, emigrated to the United States with his parents when ten years old. They first settled near Aurora, Ill., and he removed with them to this county. He is now the owner of one of the finest farms in Compromise Township, which he opened up from the uncultivated prairie. His first purchase consisted of eighty acres, the money to buy which he earned with his own hands as a farm laborer. To this he subsequently added, and is now in possession of an unincumbered property of 400 acres. His farm is supplied with excellent buildings and all the machinery required by the modern agriculturist.

The birth of our subject took place in County Wexford, Ireland, July 31, 1846. He is the son of John and Mary (Whelan) Gordon, natives of the same county, the former born in 1815. He pursued farming in his native isle until 1857; and on the 5th of February set sail from Liverpool for the United States, landing in New York City after a voyage of seven weeks and three days. He at once proceeded westward to Aurora, this State, where he commenced working on a farm by the month, and was thus employed for about eleven years. In 1868 he purchased 200 acres of wild

prairie land in Compromise Township, and with his family took possession of it the following spring. He has been greatly prospered in his farming operations and fortunate in his investments, and has now an area of 800 acres of fine farming land, with good buildings. The parents of our subject were married in their native county in 1845, and there were born ten children, viz., Joseph, Bernard, Nicholas, Charles, Thomas, Anastasia, Anna and Mary. Two infants died unnamed. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Joseph Gordon, was also of Irish birth and parentage, and spent his entire life in his native land.

The subject of this history, the eldest of his father's family, was a boy of ten years when his parents crossed the Atlantic. He remained under the home roof, receiving a limited education and assisting his father until his marriage, which took place on the 3d of February, 1874, with Miss Ellen McQuade. Mrs. Gordon is the daughter of Thomas and Catherine (Mylon) McQuade, natives of Ireland. The former was a native of Limerick County, and emigrated to America in early life. The mother, who was formerly Miss Catherine Mylon, was born in King's County, Ireland, and came with her parents to the United States when a young woman twenty years of age. Of her union with Thomas McQuade there were born two children only, Ellen, the wife of our subject, and a son, Thomas. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, eight in number, were as follows: Charles, Thomas, Joseph, Catherine, Mary E., Anna E., and two infants who died unnamed. Our subject and his wife are members of the Penfield Catholic Church, and Mr. G. politically is a Democrat.



**W**ILLIAM HEWERDINE. The subject of this history, who is essentially a self-made man, commenced his struggle with the world at the early age of ten years, when he set out to earn his own living. Thus thrown upon his own resources he soon acquired that habit of self-dependence which has been the secret of his success in life. He soon learned that the surest prop to lean upon was his own strong hands and resolute



will, and these he put in force to the best of his ability until he began to realize the happy results of his exertions.

Our subject's birthplace was across the sea in Lincolnshire, England, and the date thereof March 21, 1828. His parents, William and Ann (Garten) Hewerdine, were natives of the same shire, where they were reared, married and spent their entire lives. Six of their children emigrated to the United States. Thomas, the eldest, lives in East Bend Township, Champaign County; our subject was the second son; Robert is a resident of Rantoul Township; Joseph, of Condit Township; Charlotte married Fred Ackerman, who is farming in Rantoul Township; George resides in Condit Township.

When William Hewerdine started out to do for himself, for the first six months he received nothing but his board. Afterward he was paid two sovereigns for one year's work. The second year, as his usefulness increased, his wages were raised, until upon arriving at the age of twenty-three years, he was paid £10 per year and his board. About this time he commenced working on the railroad in process of construction from London to York. The next year while still employed there a sand bank caved in, and he came very near being buried alive, but fortunately escaped with only a broken leg. After recovering the use of his limb he resumed work and continued until the road was completed through Derbyshire.

Our subject remained a resident of England until 1856, and in the spring of that year set sail from Liverpool for the United States. After a tedious voyage of seven weeks he landed in New York, with just money enough to pay his fare to Toronto, Canada, where he desired to go. After arriving there he secured employment in a brickyard during the following summer, and in the fall came to the States and located in Tippecanoe County, Ind., where he worked on a farm for one year at \$13 per month. This was increased the following year to \$14, and the third year he received \$15, being employed by the same man three years. The year following he worked for the man's brother. In 1860 he left Tippecanoe County, and coming to this State commenced work by the month in Condit Township, this county. One year later he rented

land there which he cultivated three years with success, and was then enabled to purchase a tract of eighty acres of wild land, which is now included in his present farm. He built a house as soon as practicable, and proceeded with the improvement of his land, adding to it as time passed and his means justified. He is now the owner of 240 acres, and has erected a substantial set of farm buildings. The land is all enclosed with neat fencing, and yields in abundance the best crops of the Prairie State.

The marriage of our subject with Mrs. Nancy J. Hire, was celebrated on the 15th of June, 1865, at the home of the bride's parents in East Bend Township, Champaign County. Mrs. H. was born near Jeffersonville, Fayette Co., Ohio, Oct. 14, 1841, and is the daughter of William Jeffreis, of that same county. Of this union there were three children, two girls and a boy. Her paternal grandfather, Isaac Jeffreis, was a native of Virginia, and emigrated to Ohio in the pioneer days, being among the earliest settlers of Fayette County; he then moved to Missouri, where he died. There his son William and the other children were reared to become worthy citizens. After reaching manhood William removed to Illinois, in 1860, and located in East Bend Township, Champaign County, where his death took place in November, 1863. In early manhood he had married Miss Ruth Johnson, who was a native of Pennsylvania, and whose father, William Johnson, a native of Maryland, served as a soldier in the War of 1812. The father of the latter is supposed to have been born in England; he spent his last days in Ohio. William Johnson finally came to the West. He received a pension during the last years of his life, and died in East Bend Township, this county, when one hundred and four years of age. His daughter, the mother of Mrs. H., is still living with the latter.

Mrs. Hewerdine has been twice married. Her first husband, Amaziah Hire, was born in Fayette County, Ohio, and after the breaking out of the Rebellion became a soldier of the Union army, enlisting in the 90th Ohio Infantry, and died in the service near Murfreesboro, Tenn., in 1863. Of this union there was born one child, a son, William W., who is now married and farming in Condit Town-



ship. Our subject and his wife are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and held in high respect by all who know them.

UTLER E. HAMILTON, manager of the lumber business at Penfield, which is conducted by his brother, John M. Hamilton, is a native of Hampshire County, Mass., where his birth occurred April 22, 1830. His parents, David and Abigail (Meacham) Hamilton, were also natives of the Bay State. The father is now deceased; the mother still survives, and is a resident of Rantoul. Our subject was reared on his father's farm, and received a common-school education, continuing a resident of his native county until reaching his majority. He then became clerk in a store at Brooklyn, N. Y., where he acquired a good knowledge of the mercantile business. In 1856 he engaged as a traveling salesman for a wooden and willow ware house, being one of the first drummers in the United States, which class now numbers many thousands. He subsequently dealt in notions and later in druggists' sundries, remaining on the road almost continuously for a period of twenty years. His travels extended over the States of New York, Pennsylvania, and as far South as Charleston, S. C.

In the meantime the residence of Mr. Hamilton was Brooklyn, and during the time he was in that city and the metropolis, New York, ground which had been laid off into lots advanced from \$50 to \$18,000. Mr. H., although distinguished from his early youth as a person of forethought, omitted to avail himself of the opportunity to thus make a fortune. He remained a resident of the Empire State until 1876, then coming West located first in Rantoul among the pioneer settlers, whence he afterward removed to Penfield, where he has since resided.

During his residence in New York State Mr. Hamilton met and married Miss Celia J. Higgins, their wedding taking place in June, 1858. Mrs. H. was born in Halifax, N. S., in 1838, and is the daughter of Samuel and Sarah Higgins, who removed from her native Province to Brooklyn when Celia was but two years old. Of this marriage

there were born three children, two now living—Franklin D., of Rantoul, and Edward L., at home with his parents.

Mr. Hamilton cast his first presidential vote for Gen. Winfield Scott, the Whig candidate, in 1852. Since the abandonment of the old party he has voted independently. He was reared in the Baptist Church, of which his parents were members in Brooklyn, and for twelve years was connected with Plymouth Church, presided over by the late Henry Ward Beecher. In 1866 Mr. Hamilton became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Brooklyn, N. Y., and has since given his earnest support to that denomination.

JEFFERSON R. PLACE owns a fine farm of 120 acres on section 36, Sidney Township, nearly all of which is under good cultivation. He was born in Delaware County, Ohio, Jan. 2, 1835, and is the son of Reuben and Jemima (Point) Place, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. They afterward removed to Greene County, Ind., where they purchased a farm and passed the remainder of their lives.

Jefferson R. Place was reared on the farm, and his education was necessarily limited to such as he could acquire from practical life, and the advantages of the old log cabin school-house of Ohio. In 1859 he was married, in Indiana, to Miss Polly J. Carney. Her parents, both of whom are now dead, were natives of North Carolina. Jan. 13, 1872, Mrs. Place died, leaving no children. Our subject was again united in marriage, the lady of his choice being Miss Henrietta Cash, the daughter of John and Celia (Gibson) Cash, residents of Sidney Township. Of this union there are three children—William E., Mary E. and Chester.

The parents of Mr. Place reared the following family: Caroline, Philip, Vanela, Nancy, Alexander, Martin, Jefferson R., Amy, John L., Emma and Emeline; the two latter were twins, one of whom died in infancy. The family of his present wife's parents comprised five children (see sketch of John Cash). In the family of his first wife's



parents there were nine children—William, Sally, Sherwood, Eunice and Hannah (twins), Rochella, Polly A. (deceased), Absalom, and one who died in infancy.

Mr. Place is a man of good business ability, and is actively engaged in the supervision of his farm, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation. His home is pleasant and hospitable, and all the appointments of his place are in excellent order. His wife is a member of the Methodist Church, in which she takes an active interest as far as her family duties will permit. In politics Mr. Place is a Republican.



**D**R. L. K. LAMB, one of the popular young physicians of Tolono, has the largest and most lucrative practice in the southern part of this county. He is a native of Ohio County, Ind., born Oct. 15, 1849, and the son of Dr. James and Sarah Ann (Carnine) Lamb. The mother departed this life at Tolono, Ill., in December, 1885. The father is still living, and a resident of Aurora, Ind., where he has practiced his profession since 1865. There were four children in the family, two still living, our subject, and his sister Caerella, the wife of Frederiek Treon, M. D., who holds a Government position, located at Crow Creek Agency, Ind. Ter.

The subject of this history grew to manhood in his native State, pursuing his primary studies in the common schools and afterward entering upon a literary course in Hanover College. At an early age he commenced the study of medicine with his father as preceptor, and in 1871-72 attended the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati. At the expiration of this time, although but twenty-two years of age he commenced the practice of medicine in his native town, where he continued successfully for a period of three years. Wishing to gain a still better knowledge of his profession he took another term in the Ohio Medical College, where he graduated in 1876. He next located at Rising Sun, Ind., where he remained three years, and in the spring of 1879 came to Tolono, where he has since resided. He became the partner of Byron Burns in 1886, and in connection with his practice conducted a trade

in drugs, groceries and jewelry. His professional associate is Dr. C. M. Craig, and they operate together under the firm style of Lamb and Craig.

Dr. Lamb was married, Dec. 27, 1882, to Miss Catherine M. Graham, a native of Richland, Ind., and the daughter of Dr. A. E. Graham, of Rush County, Ind. Mrs. Lamb completed her education in the University at Bloomington, Ind., and perfected herself in music at Xenia, Ohio. She is a lady of fine accomplishments, and a favorite in the social circles of Tolono. They have one son, James Graham, who was born Dec. 23, 1883. Dr. Lamb is a staunch supporter of Republican principles, and takes an active interest in all matters pertaining to the intellectual and moral welfare of his community. He is the oldest physician in active practice at Tolono, and has built up a large patronage in this section of the county.



**R**OBERT HEWERDINE, the proprietor of 200 acres of finely cultivated land on sections 17 and 18, Rantoul Township, was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1833. His father, William Hewerdine, was a native of the same shire, where he married, and reared a large family, following the occupation of a farmer. He was possessed of limited means, and at an early age the children went from home to work. Our subject when six years old commenced thus to assist in the support of the family. He was too small to be of great service to anyone, and only earned three-pence per day. He made his home with his parents until twelve years of age, when he went to work for a butcher. The first year he received ten shillings and his board. The second year twenty shillings, and the third year thirty-five shillings and his board.

Mr. Hewerdine continued to work by the year in England, the last two years being occupied as a railroad laborer, until starting for the United States in 1856. After a tedious sea voyage he landed in New York City, whence he proceeded to Toronto, Canada, and after three months spent there returned to the States, and proceeded westward until he reached Indiana. Going into Tippecanoe



County he engaged to work for the Meharry family, various members of which are now located in different parts of Champaign County. He remained with them until 1860, then came to this county, and in due time rented a tract of land in company with two brothers, where they engaged in farming until after the outbreak of the late war.

Our subject, naturally of an observant nature, had watched with interest the passing events in this country with the character and customs of its people. The longer he lived here the more he resolved to identify himself with its institutions and interests. Accordingly, soon after the first call for troops to assist in the preservation of the Union he set aside his personal plans and interests, and became a member of Co. I, 25th Ill. Vol. Inf., marching with his regiment to the scene of conflict. He entered with courage upon the life of a soldier, resolved to bear with fortitude whatever hardships were allotted him. His regiment was under the command of Col. Coler, and he participated with his comrades in the battles of Pea Ridge, Corinth, Perrysville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, and all the engagements from Chattanooga to Atlanta, being present at the siege and capture of the latter city. He encountered many hairbreadth escapes, and at the battle of Mission Ridge was wounded and reported in the dispatches mortally hurt. He recovered, not long after, however, and at the expiration of his term of service received his honorable discharge and was mustered out with his comrades.

Soon afterward our subject returned home and took up the broken thread of life which he had dropped to enter the army. His first work was a job of cutting corn, for which he received ninety-five cents per day, and after this was finished he worked by the month two years afterward. By close economy he now managed to save a sum of money sufficient to purchase eighty acres of land, about one-half of which had been broken, and upon which stood a small house. He at once energetically engaged in its improvement, and in due time began to enjoy the rewards of industry. What was once a tract of land given to the growth of wild grass, and swept each year with destructive prairie fires, now yields in abundance the choicest products cultivated by the farmers of Illinois. Mr. Hewerdine

has added to his original purchase, and has all but sixty acres of his large farm either in pasture or grain fields. The place is supplied with good buildings, and well equipped with the most practical farm machinery. In politics Mr. H. is Republican.

A lithographic view of the residence and surroundings of Mr. Hewerdine is shown elsewhere in this work.



**S**TEPHEN L. TOMPKINS is the owner of a quarter of section 17, Harwood Township, which comprises a body of choice land, and under a good state of cultivation. It was but partly improved when it came into his possession, and he has fitted it up with fences and neat buildings, planted an apple orchard, and also trees of finer fruits, and has in all respects one of the pleasantest homesteads in Harwood Township. He has a splendid assortment of stock and good machinery, all well eared for, and everything about the premises is a credit to the proprietor.

Mr. Tompkins was born in Clermont County, Ohio, April 5, 1845. He is the second child of Nicholas W. and Naekey (Stephenson) Tompkins, and his father, a native of Ohio, was the son of Jonathan and Rebecca Tompkins, who were natives of the same State and born there while it was a Territory. The mother of our subject, also a native of Ohio, was the daughter of Lemmel and Florence (Abraham) Stephenson. The former was a native of Delaware and moved to Pennsylvania when a young man, and there married. His wife was a native of that State. After his marriage Nicholas Tompkins located in Clermont County, Ohio, where he had formerly engaged in farming, and took up mercantile pursuits at Point Isabelle, where he remained until the close of his life, Dec. 10, 1867. His widow is still living on the old homestead, at the latter-named place.

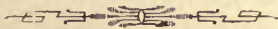
The boyhood of our subject was spent in the rural districts and his education secured in the common schools of that period. He had reached his majority at the time of his father's death and was appointed administrator of the estate. He continued with his mother five or six years later, until their property affairs had been adjusted satisfactorily.



ily, and then started for the West to seek his fortune. Upon arriving in Central Illinois he purchased eighty acres of partly improved land in Stanton Township, this county, of which he took possession and began its improvement. Two years later he sold out and secured possession of the land embraced in his present homestead.

Mr. Tompkins' marriage with Miss Mary E. Besore took place at her brother George's residence, in Urbana, Sept. 16, 1875. His wife was the youngest child of John and Mary (Moun) Besore, whose offspring were twelve in number. Her parents spent the earlier part of their lives in the agricultural districts of Western Pennsylvania, where Mr Besore was recognized as a man of more than ordinary ability and of high Christian character. He and his estimable wife have both passed to their long home. The two eldest children of Mr. and Mrs. Tompkins are Minnie May and Edmund Earl. The baby, who has but just learned to know her name, is called Lutie Orvolean.

In regard to political affairs Mr. Tompkins avails himself of the rights of the free American citizen and votes independently, aiming to give his support to the best man. He has steadily declined becoming an office-seeker, although upon various occasions having been elected to discharge the duties of Town Clerk or Treasurer, maintaining that he could serve his fellow-citizens fully as well by his vote and his influence as in the more conspicuous positions in which they would have placed him. In State and National affairs his sympathies are decidedly with the Democratic party. Mrs. Tompkins, a lady of much worth and amiability, is a valued member of the Christian Church.



**J**AMES H. HODAM, born in Gallia County, Ohio, Aug. 15, 1841, was the eldest of five children born to Adam D. and Eliza Ellen (Grant) Hodam. The father was a native of Nicholas County, W. Va., and the son of John and Phebe (Mouse) Hodam, also of the Old Dominion, and among the most worthy people of the agricultural districts. John Hodam served in the

War of 1812, and his father in the Revolution; the latter was a German by birth. The mother before marriage, was Miss Eliza Ellen Grant, of Ohio, and was the daughter of David and Mary (Boggs) Grant. David Grant was a native of Virginia, who descended from Scottish ancestry, and his wife, Mary, was the daughter of Samuel and Ellen Boggs, natives of Ireland. Adam Hodam, who was a farmer, was also deeply religious, and occupied his leisure time as a local minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The family settled in what is now Roane County, W. Va., in 1843, and the father still resides there. The wife and mother departed this life Nov. 13, 1885.

The subject of our sketch spent his younger years in assisting to clear his father's land, but when fourteen years of age was employed as mail carrier between Zachville and Spencer, a distance of twenty-eight miles, which he made on horseback. His salary was \$75 per annum, but the money paid out for the same service now aggregates \$3,000. He was thus employed until the commencement of the Civil War. His native State was largely Democratic, but the opposition was also very strong, especially in the western part of the State, Roane County having a small Whig majority. When the question of secession arose, in the spring of 1861, young Hodam went with his State, and joined the rebel army. He enlisted in Co. C, 17th Va. Vol. Cav., being mustered in Aug. 28, 1861, and was on duty in the mountain regions several months. A year later his regiment was attached to the brigade of Gen. Albert G. Jenkins, and took part in a raid through West Virginia and Ohio. They soon returned, however, and joined the Confederate forces under Gen. Loring in the Kenawha Valley.

In May, 1863, this brigade was transferred to the Shenandoah Valley, and participated in the capture of Winchester and the route of Gen. Tyler's force at Martinsburg. Company C was soon afterward ordered to report to Gen. John B. Gordon, at Gettysburg, and acted as the advance in the march on the cities of York and Wrightsville. At the battle of Gettysburg his horse was shot and he was stunned by the concussion of a shell. After recovering, he participated in many cavalry skirmishes on the retreat of Gen. Lee through Virginia.



After the defeat of the Confederate forces at Cloys' Farm in May, 1864, the brigade assisted in the pursuit of Gen. Hunter and his command into West Virginia. Our subject was with Earley in the battle of Monocacy Junction, Md., where every field officer of the regiment was killed or wounded. He assisted in the pursuit of Cook's command to the Potomac, in which fight many of the associates of his boyhood days, then engaged as Federal soldiers, were captured. Mr. Hodam also saw the brave Gen. Mulligan, of Chicago, tenderly carried from the field to a house near by to die. A few days afterward he was sent by Gen. McCausland with a body of infantry, to take McCoy's Ford on the Potomac. They captured the Federal pickets at daybreak, but were attacked by the cavalry, which, however, they kept at bay until assistance arrived. They then pushed the enemy back toward Hagerstown, and circling around Hunter's army, entered Chambersburg the next morning. After a few shots and a short parley, the town was fired by Harry Gilmore's Maryland battalion. Though the Southern people had suffered much from the outrages of Northern soldiery, yet the victorious troops here were moved with pity for the defenseless women and children, and Mr. Hodam with some of his comrades, assisted many of these to places of safety, and saved for them what property they could from the devouring element. In the battle at New Creek, Va., Mr. Hodam was severely wounded in the thigh by a minie ball, and was sent to the hospital at Staunton. Here he received his only furlough during the war. Before really able he insisted upon returning to duty, and in the absence of officers who had been killed or disabled, assumed command of his company in which he had already been promoted First Sergeant. During the skirmish at Liberty Mills, Dec. 24, 1864, in a hand-to-hand encounter with a Federal trooper, Mr. Hodam received a severe sabre cut in the right side, but stuck to his saddle and captured his antagonist.

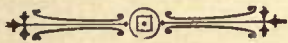
The division to which the regiment of our subject belonged took part in the battle of Five Forks. The sufferings and privations that man and beast endured in that retreat no tongue can tell. Mr. Hodam saw his brave comrades one by one drop-

ping by the wayside, starved, sick or wounded, to die or be captured by the advancing hosts of Grant. The last fight of importance that he took part in was near Farmville. The day following, at 10 o'clock, Gen. Lee had crossed the Appomattox, the 17th Regiment bringing up the rear with orders to burn the bridge at Farmville. Sergt. Hodam had deployed his company as skirmishers near the bridge, and the enemy were pouring down the hill upon them on every hand. Feeling that they must escape, they started for the bridge, but when near, it burst out in flames. The Federals seeing the situation, set forward with exultant yells to capture the rebels, and Sergt. Hodam shouted to his comrades that they must either swim, drown or surrender. Mr. Hodam himself preferred the former, and the whole company plunged over the steep bank, and to their joy found the water only up to the horses' breasts, and they succeeded in getting safely across. The Federals were close enough to cut them off, but in their humanity let them go. Gen. Lee's surrender occurred soon afterward. Brigades had been reduced to regiments in numbers, regiments to a mere handful, and companies blotted out entirely. Of the ninety-two men and officers forming Company C, not a private was left, the only men surviving being Sergt. Hodam and a Corporal.

After an absence of nearly four years, Mr. Hodam returned to his home, arriving there May 17, 1865. He was without the means to buy himself a suit of clothes, but declares that among his warmest friends were the boys in blue, many of whom he had met in battle and on the skirmish line. Owing to the reconstruction laws in the South, our subject determined on coming North, and when he came into this State possessed a cash capital of \$2.25. By hard work and honest means, he has secured a good home of 160 acres, and is surrounded with all the comforts of life. Though living in a strong Republican township, he has held his share of local offices. He feels proud that among his strongest friends and supporters are the men who went to the front in defense of our country's flag, that flag that now knows no North, no South, but for which the boys who wore the blue and gray will rally and guard from foeman's touch.



Mr. Hodam was married to Miss Sarah Harshbarger in the winter of 1868. She was the daughter of Joseph and Anna (Wenger) Harshbarger, natives of Augusta County, Va., and was born in 1844. Our subject and wife reside on section 21, Harwood Township. They were the parents of seven children, but four of whom are now living, namely, Robert M., Joseph A., Anna E. and Cordelia B. Mr. Hodam when fifteen years of age, became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His estimable wife belongs to the Mennonite Church.



**F**REDERICK SCHOENBERGER. This gentleman, as a partner of William Foos, of Springfield, Ohio, has charge of nearly 4,000 acres of land, embracing sections 6, 7, 8, 18 and 19, Brown Township, and is conducting one of the largest stock farms along the Mississippi Valley. The ranch accommodates about 600 head of cattle, forty head of horses and mules, and the firm fattens about 500 head of hogs annually. Our subject is well fitted for the important interests of which he now has charge, both by birth, training and education, being the son of a well-to-do Pennsylvania farmer, Frederick Schoenberger, Sr., who was born in Lancaster County, married to Miss Lydia Whitman, of York County, Pa., and took up his abode in the latter county, where the subject of our sketch was born. The parents spent the greater part of their lives in York County, and there, when they had ceased from their earthly labors, their remains were laid to rest.

The parental family consisted of six sons and seven daughters, Frederick of our sketch being the seventh child. He was born on the farm in York County, Jan. 22, 1827, and passed his boyhood and youth after the manner of most farmers' sons, attending school during the winter season and making himself as useful about the farm in summer as his age and size permitted. When eighteen years old he commenced serving an apprenticeship to the tanner's trade and afterward worked as a "jour" at this in Pennsylvania and Ohio until after reaching his majority. He visited Clarke County, Ohio,

first in the fall of 1848, and the following year entered into partnership with his uncle, Baltzer Schoenberger, who was engaged in the tanning business, and with whom he operated three years. Our subject then sold out his interest in the business, but soon afterward purchased it back entire, continuing it until about 1861. He then withdrew entirely, disposing of his property to other parties, and engaged in farming, also running a threshing-machine until 1864.

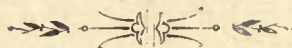
Mr. S. now decided to change his location, and setting his face toward the Prairie State, came to this county, and finding in Brown Township a location which pleased him, proceeded at once to arrange for settling permanently. That same year he formed a partnership with Mr. Foos, and soon made arrangements for their present extensive stock farming. The residence of our subject is located on section 8, where there is a fine house with beautiful surroundings, and a few representatives of the choice stock which range at will over the larger domain of the farm proper. In this retreat Mr. Schoenberger, with his family about him, gleans much enjoyment from life, and is rated as a fair representative of the farming community.

Our subject before leaving Ohio was married in Clarke County, March 2, 1856, to Miss Emily, daughter of Wailes and Nancy (Foos) Aldrich, who was born in Clarke County, Ohio, Feb. 25, 1831. Her father was a native of Vermont, and the mother of Ohio, to which latter State they emigrated soon after their marriage, locating in Clarke County, where they spent the remainder of their lives. The household circle included two children only, a son and a daughter. The brother of Mrs. S., William Aldrich, is still a resident of Ohio. Of the two children of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Schoenberger, by name, William J. and Ida A., the former, in May, 1881, married Miss Ida Foos, of Champaign, and is engaged in business at Springfield, Ill.; Ida A. became the wife of William C. Brickey, and died at the home of her husband in Clarke County, Ohio, Jan. 14, 1879. Her daughter, Ida S., resides with her grandparents, our subject and wife.

Mr. Schoenberger, although full of business, never having time to be idle, has represented



Brown Township in the Board of Supervisors and officiated as School Director. Politically he is a staunch Republican, and fearlessly upholds the principles in which he sincerely believes. Mrs. S. is a consistent member of the Christian Church, and a lady highly esteemed by all who know her.



**T**HOMAS J. WOODIN, junior member of the firm of Ream & Woodin, manufacturers of drain-tile at St. Joseph, represents with his partner one of the most important industries in that section, which was established by Mr. Ream in the spring of 1880. Our subject became connected with the enterprise in 1882. The equipments of the works are after the latest improved patterns, and the drying is carried on by the most popular method, namely, that of air instead of heat. In addition to this industry the firm is also engaged in the breeding of Norman and Belgian horses, and has now in its possession six fine stallions of late importation, which are destined to make their mark among the fine horses of Champaign County.

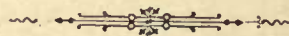
Mr. Woodin is a native of Vermilion County, this State, born near what was formerly known as Butler's Point, but is now Catlin, Sept. 16, 1841. His parents, Elmore and Rebecca Woodin, were natives respectively of New York and Ohio, and were among the earliest settlers of Vermilion County. They located on a tract of uncultivated land, from which the father built up a good homestead, where he lived and labored until called to his eternal rest, in the spring of 1858. The mother survived him for a period of twenty-two years, her death taking place in 1880, at the home of her son in St. Joseph. Of the eight children born to the parents three only survive, two sons and one daughter, residents of St. Joseph.

Our subject passed his boyhood and youth in Vermilion County, where he began and completed his education. He remained with his mother until after her second marriage, and when a youth of nineteen years enlisted as a soldier in the Union army, becoming a member of Co. E, 51st Ill. Vol. Inf., his regiment being assigned to the Army of

the Mississippi, and stationed first at Cairo, Ill., then took part in the battle of New Madrid in Missouri, and thence proceeded to Memphis, Tenn., whence they were ordered back to Corinth, assisting in the capture of that city, and from there retraced their steps again to Alabama, then to Murfreesboro and Chattanooga, meeting the enemy at each point. During a charge at Mud Creek young Woodin was shot through the ankle by a minie ball, making a very painful wound, and by reason of which he was confined to the hospital eleven months. Upon his recovery the war was practically ended, and he received his honorable discharge in June, 1865, at Springfield, Ill.

After being transferred from a soldier to a civilian Mr. Woodin took up his abode in St. Joseph Township, where he has since resided. He first engaged in farming, and then became connected with his brother in the grain business until 1867, when he added the shipping of stock, hogs and cattle, which he found quite profitable, and which he still pursues. In 1875 Mr. Woodin was united in marriage with Miss Carrie A., the daughter of Jonathan Hunt, one of the pioneers of Champaign County, the wedding ceremony taking place in Prairie Hope Church. The offspring of this union was three sons—Walter L., Earl B. and Ernest C.

Mr. W. was one of the members of the first Town Board of St. Joseph, and has served as Director of the Village School Board, while his clear head and good judgment are often called into requisition by his fellow-townsmen in discussing the measures which shall result in the most good to the greatest number.



**W**S. CORLIS is the owner of eighty acres of highly cultivated land located on section 25, Sidney Township. He was born in Upper Canada, Dec. 19, 1839, and is the son of Abraham W. and Elizabeth (Shaw) Corlis. His father was a native of New York State, but removed with his parents to Canada when but ten years of age. About the year 1850 our subject's father removed with his family to Michigan.

On the 28th of February, 1862, Mr. W. S. Corlis enlisted in Co. A, 3d Mich. Vol. Inf., and served



three years in the War of the Rebellion. He was first a member of the 3d Corps, but after Gen. Grant had been made Commander of the Army of the West he was removed to the 2d Corps under Gen. Hancock. He fought bravely in the battle of Seven Pines, the second Bull Run engagement, the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and the Wilderness. At the close of the war he was mustered out of service at City Point, Va., and returned to Michigan, where he remained six months, and then removed to Champaign County, where he has remained until the present time.

Mr. Corlis was married in Vermilion County, Ill., Oct. 8, 1866, to Miss M. J. Peters, the daughter of Sylvanus and Catherine (Burton) Peters. Her parents were natives of Ohio. Her mother died in Indiana and her father in Urbana, this county. Mr. Corlis and his wife have six children, viz., Don, born Aug. 25, 1869; Walter, March 1, 1871; Mary, Dec. 8, 1873; Alta, Dec. 5, 1875; Fred, Oct. 4, 1877; Norah, June 1, 1884. His residence and farm buildings are both comfortable and elegant, as will be seen by examining the lithographic view which is shown on another page of this work. Mr. Corlis has become identified with the interests of the place; has held the office of School Director, and in politics sympathizes with the Republican party.



**E**DGAR ALLEN SHAVER, a law-abiding citizen, and a gentleman duly respected by his neighbors and acquaintances, located on section 16, Rantoul Township, in 1880. He has been a resident, however, of the Prairie State since 1865, coming here with his father from Indiana. His birthplace was Shelby County, Ohio, and the date thereof Aug. 3, 1844. He is the son of Philip Shaver, who was born in Warren County, Ohio, Sept. 5, 1814, and whose parents were of German birth and ancestry. The grandfather of our subject emigrated to the United States when a young man, and settled in Ohio during its early colonization. He there married and raised a family, among whom was Philip, the father of our subject, who

passed his boyhood and youth in Warren County. After reaching manhood he was married to Miss Mary E. Bailey. Her father, William Bailey, a native of Virginia, was one of the early pioneers of the Buckeye State, and made his location in Clinton County. Philip Shaver, soon after removing from his native county, resided in Shelby and Logan Counties until 1861, then crossed over the line into Indiana, and settled on a farm which he had purchased in Noble County. After a residence there of six years, he came to this State, purchased eighty acres of land in Logan County, and improved a farm, building up a good homestead, where he died June 8, 1879. His wife, the mother of our subject, was born in Ohio, and departed this life at their home in Logan County, this State, Oct. 2, 1875.

Edgar A. Shaver attended the district schools in Shelby County, Ohio, and when old enough assisted his father on the farm. He removed with the family to Indiana in 1861, and four years later commenced working at the carpenter's trade. He was a natural mechanic, and handled tools with so much ease and readiness that he received wages from the first. In company with his brother he afterward purchased eighty acres of wild land in Logan County, and while working at his trade also superintended the improvement of his land. He continued thus occupied in Logan County until becoming a resident of Champaign County in 1880. That same year he purchased the farm of which he is the proprietor, and which comprises 160 acres of land with a good residence, and all other needful buildings. He raises grain and stock principally, and the land also supplies all the produce required for the household. He has an excellent wife, and five bright children complete the happiness of the household. These are Elmer A., Thomas Albert, Charles Edgar, Elonzo Dow and Claudius. Mrs. Shaver, formerly Miss Melissa J. Dalbow, is a native of this State, born in Pike County, March 21, 1856. Her father, Isaac Dalbow, a native of New Jersey, came to Illinois during the early settlement of Pike County, where he located and spent the remainder of his life. The maiden name of his wife was Eliza Mustard. She was born in Virginia, is still living, and a resident of Pike County.



The home of Mr. and Mrs. Shaver presents the typical picture of a peaceful farm house, whose inmates are surrounded by all the comforts of life. They are training their children to habits of industry and those principles of virtue and honor which are the sure foundation of good citizenship, and which will secure for them the respect and esteem of their community, and a good financial standing in life. Our subject and his wife became connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1883, of which they remain consistent members.

The brothers and sisters of Mr. Shaver, eight in number, are recorded as follows: John W. was born May 27, 1842; Frances B., Aug. 22, 1846; Elizabeth A., May 4, 1848; Thomas E., born Dec. 17, 1849, died Oct. 25, 1878; Philip W. was born Jan. 10, 1852; Nancy J., Sept. 12, 1854; Mary M., Dec. 14, 1856; Amy A., born Aug. 5, 1860, died Aug. 17, 1880; Nancy, who was born in 1854, died in 1886.



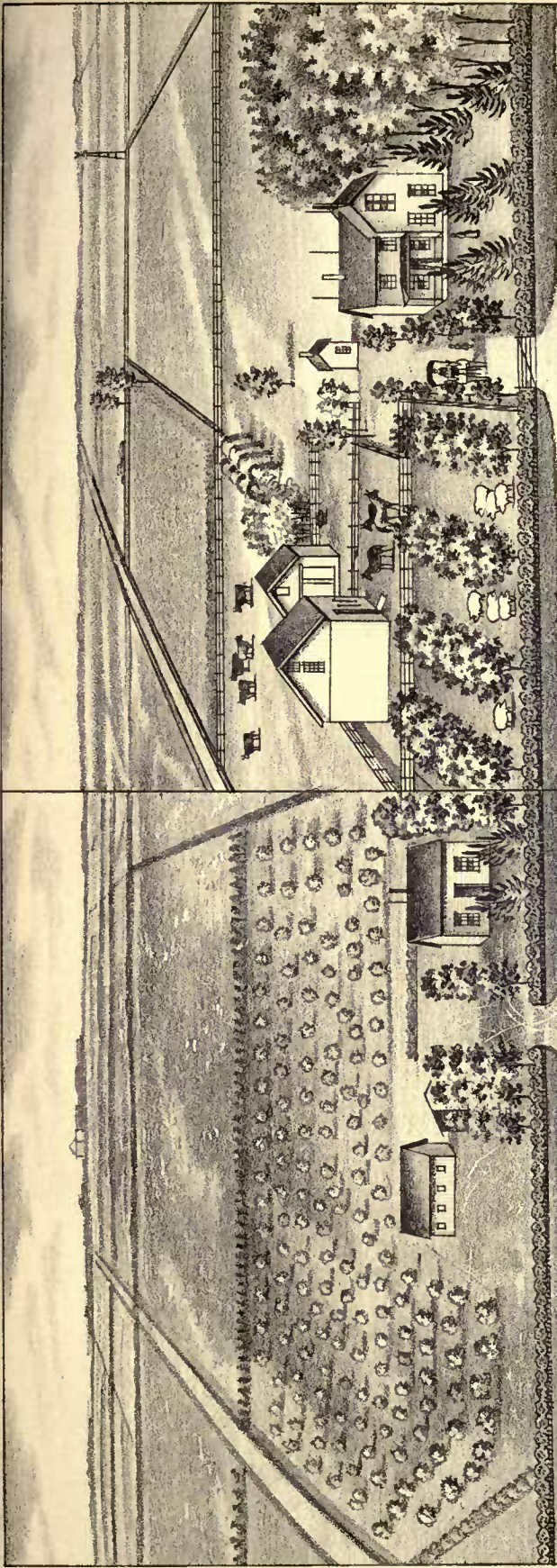
**W** S. WATERS. The career of this gentleman possesses more than ordinary interest to the reflective mind, as it presents a forcible illustration of the result of enterprise and industry and a steady, undeviating course through rain and shine. Mr. Waters started out in life with no capital but his strong hands and determined will. He was willing to live within his income at the start and has adhered to this rule all his life. He commenced in an extremely modest manner, occupying at first a small house with a few acres of land, but gradually made his way upward until now we see him in possession of an elegant residence occupying one of the most beautiful sites in Stanton Township. It is on a rise of ground which commands a view of the country for miles around. The dwelling and its adjacent buildings stand back from the public road and a beautiful driveway winds around, bordered on each side with handsome shade trees. The ground is otherwise embellished with shrubs and flowers, and the fields surrounding form a picture extremely beautiful to look upon.

The land is finely improved and the live stock of the farm includes the better grades of horses, cattle and hogs. One important feature of the homestead is the fine fruit orchard which provides the family and many of their friends with good things to eat the year around. It has taken many years to perfect the homestead as it at present appears, and the proprietor may be pardoned if he views with pride and satisfaction the result of his labors. The estate, a view of which we give in this connection, lies on the southwest quarter of section 7, and about five miles from the little village of Thomasboro, the chief shipping and trading point of that locality.

The subject of this history is a native of Berkshire County, Mass., where he drew his first breath Feb. 11, 1826. His early days were spent on the farm, where he gained a good acquaintance with the various departments of agriculture and received the advantages of the common schools. When sixteen years of age he left the parental roof to learn the blacksmith's trade at Otis, Mass. This occupied his time for six years and he then set up in business for himself. After conducting his shop at Otis nineteen years, he determined to change his location and occupation, and selling out came to this State and for the following four years rented land and carried on farming. In 1870 he purchased 256 acres of wild prairie and at once set about its cultivation and improvement. The first year he broke and fenced about forty acres and built a small house into which he moved his family. From that time his course has been one of prosperity, and while building up a permanent and beautiful homestead he has at the same time secured the goodwill and esteem of his neighbors and fellow-citizens. The work of such a man is not merely confined to his own estate or to his own interests, but has its effect throughout the whole township, contributing to build up and maintain its reputation as the abiding-place of an intelligent and enterprising community. By his successful management of his farm he has, as it were, painted a bright picture on the landscape which gives pleasure to all who look upon it and is a silent witness of what refined taste and ingenuity may accomplish.

The lady who has presided with dignity and grace over the home of our subject for a period of



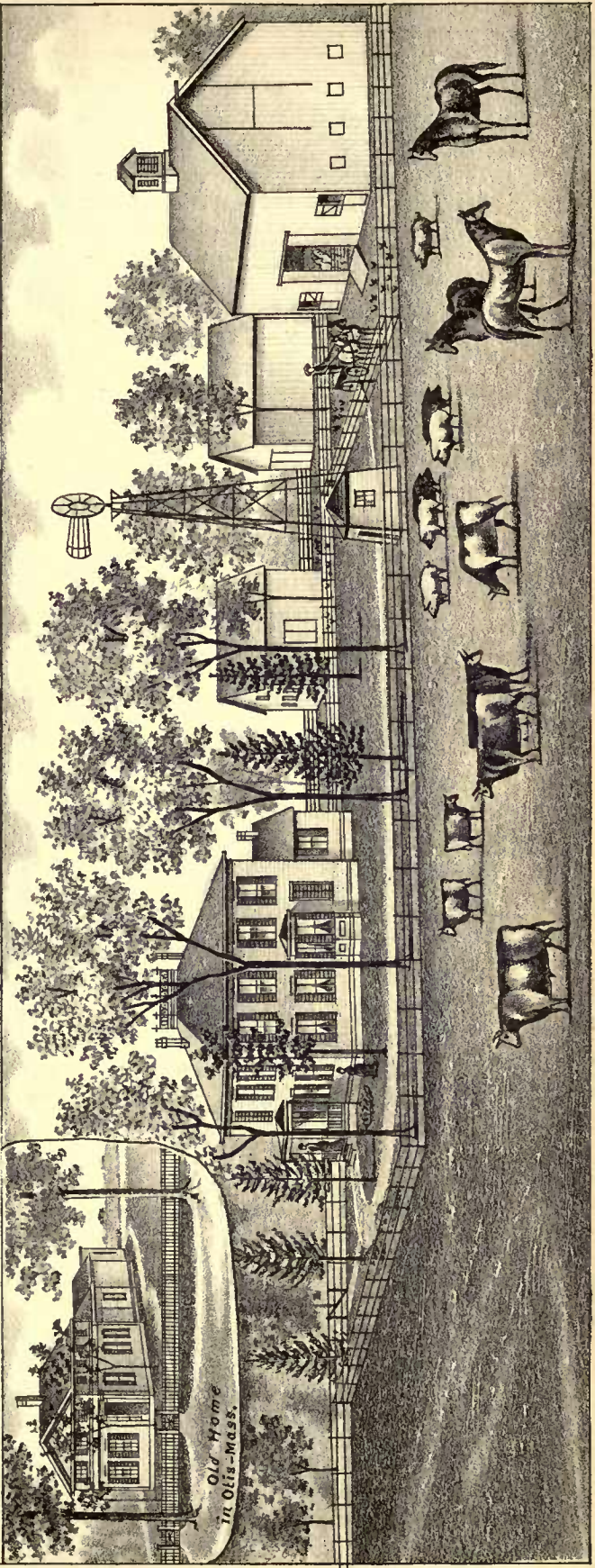


SEC. 29. — LOOKING WEST.

TENANT HOUSE WALNUT GROVE FARM LOOKING SOUTH

SEC. 31.

FARM PROPERTY OF J. H. LOGAN, IN SIDNEY TWP.



RESIDENCE OF WM 5. WATER5. SEC. 7. STANTON TOWNSHIP.



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over thirty-five years, was in her girlhood Miss Elizabeth Haley, to whom he was married on the 12th of October, 1849, in Blandford, Mass. Mrs. Waters was born in Blandford, Hampden Co., Mass., in 1825, and is the daughter of Tucker M. and Hannah (Watson) Haley, natives of Rhode Island. The parental household included three children: Elizabeth, Mrs. W.; Henry A., who married Annett Penn, and is a practicing physician of this county, and Jennie A., the wife of Joseph Waters, of New York City. Henry and Jennie are twins. Tucker Haley departed this life at his home in Somer Township, this county, in September, 1870, and the wife and mother over a year later, Jan. 12, 1872. The grandparents of Mrs. Waters, Jeffrey and Hannah (Babcock) Haley, were natives of Rhode Island, whence they removed to Massachusetts at an early day where they passed the remainder of their lives. The former died in 1828. The grandmother survived her husband for about twenty-four years, her death taking place in August, 1852. The family is of English descent.

The father of our subject, Levi Waters, who was born in Massachusetts, moved to New York, where he lived for twenty years. He was married in early life to Miss Lucinda Twining, and they became the parents of six children, as follows: Lyman T., who married Miss Jane Sheppard, and they are residents of Copenhagen, N. Y.; W. S., of our sketch, was the second son; Joseph, who married Miss Jennie Haley, and is living in New York City; Robert, who married early in life and his first wife died shortly afterward; he was then married to Miss Mollie Leach; and they are living in Fayette County, Ohio; Nelson, who first married Miss Emma McBurney, of Peterboro, Ontario. She died in 1882, and he was then married to Mrs. Bell, of Paxton, Ill.; they are living in Marshall County, Kan. Henry died when five years of age. The Waters family is also of English ancestry. The paternal grandparents of our subject were natives of Rhode Island, but afterward removed to Massachusetts, where they spent their last years.

The five children of Mr. and Mrs. Waters are recorded as follows: Henry N., who was born Nov. 30, 1851, died Aug. 9, 1878; Howard W. was born Nov. 26, 1853; Myron L., March 13, 1856; Ella E.,

May 3, 1861; Jessie L., Jan. 6, 1872. The living children are all at home, the boys assisting their father in carrying on the farm. Mrs. Waters is a member of the Congregational Church. Mr. Waters is a decided Republican in politics, as is the whole family.



JOSEPH H. LOGAN, now a farmer and stock-grower, located on section 31, Sidney Township, was one of the gallant soldiers ready to respond to the call of his country to lay down his life if required in the defense of the "old flag." He was born in Carroll County, Ohio, Jan. 27, 1840, and is the son of J. M. and Elizabeth (Hixon) Logan.

In the spring of 1867 Joseph's father, who had lived for some time in Indiana, moved to Kansas, where he remained until 1874, when, not feeling satisfied with his surroundings, he came to Champaign County, and remained through one winter with his son Joseph H. In the following spring he returned to Indiana and remained there one year, then moved to Wayne County, Ill., where he is now living in comfort and ease as a retired farmer.

Joseph H. Logan came to Illinois in 1866, when a young man, and purchased forty acres of railroad land, which he broke and cultivated until 1871. He then sold and purchased his present place, comprising eighty acres of valuable land all under a high state of cultivation, and on which he has an elegant residence and excellent farm buildings, well supplied with all the modern appliances necessary for systematically conducting farm work. Among the representative farm views given in this ALBUM may be found that of Mr. Logan.

In December, 1863, Mr. Logan enlisted in Co. B, 1st Indiana Heavy Artillery, and served until January, 1866. Among the many hard-fought battles in which he was engaged was the memorable siege of Mobile, which continued throughout nine weary days and nights. While in the service he was never absent from his post except for a short time when he lay sick in the hospital at New Orleans. Unable to march with his battery to Ft. Morgan he, with a few others, was left in charge of the



camp equipage until the return of the regiment. Mr. Logan, like many others, who escaped death on the battle-field, contracted disease from exposure and hardship while in the army, from which he has never fully recovered, having been to some extent an invalid since the close of the war. He does not, however, regret the sacrifice made in behalf of his country, and suffers with a patient resignation the afflictions which are the result of his army services.

On the 6th of April, 1866, Mr. Logan was married to Miss Eliza Ring, the daughter of Walter and Mary (Hoffsinger) Ring. She was born Oct. 2, 1849. Her parents were of German extraction, and both of them are now living in Indiana. Mr. Logan and his wife have a family of six interesting children, whose names are as follows: Cora A., born March 15, 1869; Franklin, Jan. 11, 1875; Charles, Dec. 10, 1877; Effie A., April 4, 1882. A son and daughter died in infancy.

In addition to the home place Mr. Logan owns eighty acres of highly improved land on section 29, and six acres of timbered land. He is a public-spirited man, interested in all the affairs of the county, and has held the offices of Road Commissioner and School Director. He is regarded as one of the best citizens of his community, and has made a good record both on the battle-field and in the pursuits of the peaceful calling which he now follows. In politics he is a Democrat.



**M**ILTON H. SOPER, a gentleman of education and refined tastes who has made the most of his opportunities in life, is one of the most highly respected members of the farming community of Harwood Township, residing on section 26. He is of New England birth, having been born in Franklin County, Vt., April 2, 1836. He is the youngest child of Remember E. and Permelia (McNall) Soper, also natives of the Green Mountain State. His mother was of Irish descent. Her father, a Captain in the English army, while in the service was sent to Canada, and subsequently removed to Vermont, where he engaged in farming and remained until his death. The father

of Milton H. Remember E., was a Captain in the United States Army, and participated in the War of 1812. At the battle of Plattsburg, being in one of the volunteer corps, he was the means of saving the regular troops from defeat. His coolness and bravery inspired his men with courage to rush upon the enemy and put them to flight. Subsequently he was engaged along the Canadian border until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged. He received a pension for his services and also a bounty of 160 acres of land. Upon one occasion while in the service, and during the storming of the fort at Plattsburg, the movements of the volunteer troops commanded by Capt. Soper, were so regular and precise that the British mistook them for reinforcements from the regular service, and withdrew from their position, abandoning the attack of the fort. The gallant Captain, although in many engagements and always at the front with his men, escaped without a wound. After retiring from the service he returned to his home in Vermont where he spent several years.

The father of our subject came to Illinois in the fall of 1847, settling near what is now Waukegan. His family consisted of four daughters and two sons, viz., Adeline, Julia, Orange P., Eveline, Rachel, and Milton H. of our sketch.

Young Soper continued under the parental roof until sixteen years old, spending much of his time in school. He then entered Waukegan Academy, and from there was sent to Lawrence University, at Appleton, Wis., where he pursued his studies for two years. He then entered the University of Michigan, where he completed his studies with much honor and returned home. He found his father in ill-health and at once cancelled an engagement which he had made to take charge of the public schools in Memphis, Tenn. The late war being then in progress it was perhaps fortunate that he was not permitted to go South. He engaged in the real estate and loan business at Waukegan, and continued with his father for the following three years. He had greatly desired to acquire a thorough knowledge of medicine, but sacrificed his own wishes to those of his parents, and at their solicitation returned with them, in 1863, to his native State. He purchased a farm of 360 acres in



Franklin County, and in company with his father followed agriculture for a period of four years. His father and mother continued to reside in Vermont until their deaths, while Milton II. returned West.

In company with his brother, O. P., he went into Southwest Missouri and took the first steps in the establishment of a sheep ranch. They looked over the country and found a suitable location, but also found that an ultra Yankee had very little to encourage him in settling there. In view of this state of affairs they returned to Illinois and purchased about 560 acres of land from the Illinois Central Railroad Company, for the purpose of speculating. In due time they sold all but 120 acres and upon this, in 1868, our subject, who was then married, removed his family. There has been a great change since then. The uncultivated prairie has been transformed into a beautiful farm of 240 acres, with a handsome modern residence, a good barn and all other buildings necessary for the shelter of stock and the storage of grain. The Soper farm is acknowledged by all to be one of the finest in Harwood Township, and its proprietor is one of the most popular men in that locality. His residence is finely finished and furnished, and one of the most interesting features is the fine library, to which the proprietor often has recourse in his leisure hours. In early youth his inclinations were for the army or navy, and at one time he made all preparations for a course at West Point. He gave up his cadetship, however, at the solicitation of his mother, who was apprehensive of the result of such a life for her favorite son. She could not blame him, however, for he came of ancestors remarkable for their military prowess.

The lady whom our subject married was Miss Catherine A., daughter of Elijah and Mary (Nay) Soper, also of Vermont, but supposed to have been no relative. Their marriage took place Jan. 18, 1862, in Waukegan, Ill. The family of children, six in number, born to our subject and his wife, are as follows: The eldest daughter, Cora M., was born in Vermont. The others—Adrian E., Arthur M., Stanley L., Morton N. and Laura Edith—are natives of the Prairie State. Mr. and Mrs. S. are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and

our subject has often discharged the duties of the various township offices. Politically he is a Republican.



**W**ILLIAM LENEVE. The subject of this sketch, a native of this State, was born seven miles northeast of what is now the flourishing city of Danville, in September, 1832. He is the third child of John and Rebecca (Newell) Leneve, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Kentucky. His paternal grandparents were Samuel and Catherine (Arlington) Leneve, the former the son of John and Catharine Leneve, natives of France. John Leneve served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War under command of the gallant Lafayette, and was killed in the same battle in which his commander was wounded. The grandmother of our subject was the daughter of John Arlington, who was banished from Scotland on account of his religious belief. He fled to America and joined with the Colonists in the war against his persecutors, resolved to "give his life and seal it with his blood," if necessary for the cause of independence. The later descendants of the family were highly educated, and strictly religious, and several of its male members were statesmen of marked ability, who wielded an important influence upon the social and moral questions of their day.

The father of our subject with his brother, Obadiah, came to Illinois in 1824, and located first in Vermilion County during its earliest settlement, when the footprints of white men were seldom seen. The journey was made overland, and upon arriving at their destination they occupied their wagon as a shelter until they could put up a log hut. Both being single they were obliged to keep house for themselves, and the Indians were their only neighbors. They entered a large tract of land and made every preparation to establish for themselves a permanent home. Two years later Obadiah, who was the first to inaugurate a change in their manner of living, brought a wife to the cabin door who took charge of their domestic affairs, and seeing how much better it was to have "women folk" around, John in due time followed his brother's example.



The cabin of one small room was not large enough for two families, so the brothers separated, and thereafter each followed farming for himself. In due time each family was augmented by the birth of children, and these, like their fathers and mothers, were at an early age inducted into the experiences of pioneer life, together with its labors and duties.

Our subject took kindly to the labor imposed upon him and remained a member of the parental household until he was twenty-six years old. He then concluded he was big enough to look out for himself and also for another. His marriage with Miss Emma Smith took place at the home of the bride's parents on the 4th of March, 1858. Mrs. L. was the daughter of Joseph and Juliet A. Smith, and by her union with our subject became the mother of two sons, Joseph Perry and Marshal Ney, both of whom are still living. The latter married Miss Mary, daughter of Samuel and Sarah Kuns, and is engaged in farming near the homestead of his father. The mother of these children passed from earth on the 1st of June, 1866. She was a lady greatly beloved by her husband and friends, by whom her memory is held as the cherished wife and mother who performed all her duties in life in a faithful manner and left behind her a record of womanly virtues.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Aug. 22, 1867, was Margaret M. Halvert, the eldest daughter of Davis S. and Rachel (Collins) Halvert, natives of Kentucky. Her father, although fifty years of age at the outbreak of the late Civil War, enlisted in the Union army and served gallantly for three years. The first husband of Mrs. L. was William Mills, of Vermilion County, Ill., by whom she became the mother of one son, William H., who married Miss Ada, daughter of Elbridge and Minerva Loring, of Vermilion County. Mr. and Mrs. Mills have one daughter, Edna V.

Our subject continued in the stock business in connection with farming until 1875, the year when so many men succumbed to the hard times and parted with the larger share of their possessions. Mr. L. was carried along in the general disaster, being obliged to give up all his property to his creditors, and retained for himself only a team of horses and one cow, though the law, which provides

for those who have met with like misfortune, would have given him more. In due time he was enabled to recover his footing and eventually purchased back 240 acres of the land he was obliged to forfeit, and begins to feel that he is once more upon solid ground.

Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Leneve, one daughter, Emma S., passed from earth at the age of twelve years, leaving a sad vacancy in the household circle. Those surviving are John S., Sanford W., Lillie J., Samuel F., Thomas, Laura May and Nellie Ray; the two latter are twins. They are all at home with their parents, the older members having received a good education and the younger ones still pursuing their studies. Our subject and his wife are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. L., although taking no active part in politics, endorses the principles of the Republican party.



**ON. JAMES S. WRIGHT.** The subject of this history has been a resident of Champaign County for the long period of fifty-six years, and has won an enviable place in the hearts of its people. After a busy and energetic life he is now retired from active labor, and in a beautiful home, surrounded by the comforts of life, and the friendship of his fellow-citizens, is enjoying the ease and quiet to which his early industry and honorable and upright course in life have fully entitled him.

Mr. Wright was born in Highland County, Ohio, on the 4th of August, 1816, and came to Illinois in 1830, with his father's family, excepting the mother, who had died five years previously in Indiana. They first settled near Homer, Champaign County. The father of our subject, John B. Wright, was born in Virginia in 1785, and in 1805 was married to Miss Elizabeth Stephens. They removed on a boat down the Ohio River to a point near Leesburg, where James S. was born. In the same year they emigrated to Indiana, locating where Winchester now stands. There the mother died, in 1825, and the father in 1869. The latter was a man of great force of character, and possessed more than ordi-



nary ability, being prominent in the local affairs of his county, and served in the State Legislature at Corydon, the old capital, from 1818 to 1824. Here the boy James was raised after the manner of most farmers' sons and assisted his father in the blacksmith-shop, the latter having served an apprenticeship at this business in early manhood. Our subject attended school three months each winter, where the old Scotch teacher would vary the afternoon exercises by taking a nap, a drink of liquor, and whipping two or three boys.

The Wright family was of Scotch-Irish descent, and the family of John B. consisted of three sons—David, James and John B., Jr. After going to Indiana the father of our subject, in addition to his blacksmithing and legislative duties, served as County Treasurer, and filled other responsible positions with credit and fidelity. After coming to Illinois they located in what was then called Vermilion but is now Homer Township, Champaign County. Here the elder Wright purchased 160 acres of land, for which he paid \$500, and where, after years of industrious labor, he established a comfortable homestead, which he occupied until a few years before his death, which occurred in 1869. His natural abilities were soon recognized by the people of this locality, and it was not long before he was tacitly acknowledged as a suitable leader in the community and a man whose opinions and word could be relied upon. Here he served as County Commissioner and was called to other positions of note. He had been reared in the Society of Friends, and possessed in a marked degree the simplicity and the honor which go hand in hand with the lives of the Quakers. The parental family consisted of nine children, of whom four are now living, and all are residents of this county—Phebe, Mrs. Way; Rebecca, Mrs. Butler; Sidna, Mrs. Swearingen, and James S.

When nineteen years of age James S. Wright after much persuasion received the permission of his father to start out in the world on his own account. The family had experienced all the difficulties and privations of pioneer life, and when our subject was offered the enormous salary of \$1 per day by the Illinois & Michigan Canal, he at once accepted, after having hired a farm hand at \$10 per month to work

for his father during his minority. He had received a practical education and had taught school one winter. After three days' work on the canal he "flew" his contract, as the bread-making, which was carried on by an Irishman with a pipe in his mouth, took away his appetite. He then secured employment in a hotel, where he became practically cashier and treasurer, and remained there until 1837. He then returned home, and purchased eighty acres of land, but until ready to take possession of this engaged as clerk in a store at Homer, with which, in connection with book-keeping, he occupied himself for five years following. Subsequently he engaged in the pork trade, transporting his produce down the river to New Orleans. After abandoning this he engaged as a stock-dealer at Homer, buying cattle and hogs, and feeding and shipping, continuing at this for ten years.

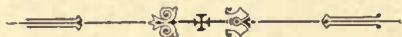
In 1855 Mr. Wright removed into the city of Champaign, and in addition to mercantile pursuits engaged quite extensively in real-estate transactions. He was cashier of the bank at Champaign for three years after its organization. He put up the first brick building in the city, in 1856, and was first and foremost in every enterprise calculated to advance its welfare. He donated the first \$1,000 for the establishment of the Illinois Industrial University. During the erection of the building work was stopped one year on account of the high prices occasioned by the war, and Mr. Wright in his anxiety to see it completed then contributed \$500 more. As time passed on he became an extensive land-owner in this and adjoining counties.

In 1846 Mr. Wright was elected to the Legislature by fifty majority over the Democratic candidate, Col. M. W. Busey. He met in this body such men as ex-Gov. Reynolds, U. F. Linder, Gov. Matteson, Judge Joseph Gillespie, and Stephen P. Logan, then leader of the House. Lincoln and David Davis were there, but not members. Stephen A. Douglas during that term was elected Senator. In the meantime Mr. Wright was also the incumbent of the office of County Surveyor. In 1880 he was elected to the State Senate for four years, and he often refers proudly to the brains and talent which he found in the General Assembly of Illinois thirty years ago, and which he believes superior to that



of the present day. He has never belonged to any church or any other organization except temperance societies, of which he joined every one that came in his way, and by every means in his power opposed the manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors. Mr. Wright, as may be supposed, is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and has served two terms as Mayor of Champaign. He was Postmaster of Homer and Justice of the Peace in that place and in Champaign.

The marriage of James S. Wright and Miss Catherine Lander was celebrated in Homer Township, this county, at the residence of the bride's parents Nov. 19, 1840. Mrs. W. was the daughter of John and Sophia W. Lander, of Kentucky, who removed from Bourbon County in 1830, and coming to this State and county settled in what is now Homer Township, near the farm of John B. Wright. John Lander died seven years later, in 1837, and his wife in 1849. Mrs. W. was born in Bourbon County, Ky., March 26, 1823. Upon the same day of her marriage with our subject, her sister Margaret was married to William Elliott, Esq., of Homer, Rev. William Phillips performing the joint ceremony. After remaining the faithful and affectionate companion of her husband for a period of forty-six years, Mrs. Wright departed this life Nov. 9, 1886. She was a lady of great personal worth and highly respected by all who knew her. They became the parents of eight children, four now living—James C., Jessie A., Minnie E. and Katie G. The family residence is located at No. 136 East University avenue, where its inmates, surrounded by hosts of friends, are enjoying all the comforts of life.



**M**RS. NANCY REID, the daughter of James P. and Catherine (Pool) Leedy, and wife of C. Reid, and who is pleasantly situated in St. Joseph, was born in Vigo County, Ind., March 4, 1838, and came to Champaign County with her parents. Her father, a native of Indiana, was born Sept. 12, 1812, and the mother, June 1-1, 1810. Their marriage took place in Portsmouth, Ohio, in 1831. They afterward removed to Indiana, and located on a farm in Vigo County, where

the father died in 1847. The mother, who was a Miss Argo, survived her husband for a period of nearly thirty years, in the meantime becoming a resident of Ogden Township in this county, where her death took place Dec. 22, 1875.

Their family of five sons and four daughters is recorded as follows: Rebecca Jane became the wife of James Purcell, and died in Vigo County, Ind., in 1839, leaving two children; William H. was married, and at the breaking out of the late war enlisted in an Illinois regiment and died in the service at Nashville, Tenn., a year after his enlistment; Elizabeth died when a child of seven years; Naney, of our sketch, was the fourth in order of birth; John T. married Miss Elizabeth Helton, who, after becoming the mother of eight children, departed this life in February, 1876; Francis J. married Miss Jessie Jarrette, and they are living in St. Joseph, this county; David, who enlisted in the 26th Illinois Infantry, was wounded, and died Aug. 14, 1864; Augustus died in the service of his country in 1862; James A. married Miss Nellie Peters, and is a resident of St. Joseph.

The mother of these children, after the death of her first husband, was married June 15, 1858, to Benjamin F., the son of Benjamin and Esther Argo, of Pickaway County, Ohio. The death of Mr. A. took place in St. Joseph, Dec. 17, 1880. Benjamin F. Argo, Sr., built the first "rail-pen house" in the northern part of St. Joseph Township, which he occupied with his family for several months. His first wife was Miss Nancy Lee, of Pickaway County, Ohio, to whom he was married Feb. 11, 1827. Her death took place in St. Joseph Township on the 18th of June, 1857.

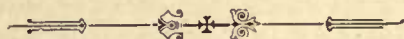
Mrs. Nancy Reid spent her childhood and youth under the parental roof, receiving a common-school education and being trained in the duties which best fitted her for a housewife and a helpmeet to some good man. Her marriage with C. Reid took place in St. Joseph Township, this county, Aug. 7, 1859. Of this union there were born eight children, two sons and six daughters, of whom four are deceased: Mary C. is a resident of Finney County, Kan.; Effie was married to C. W. McMains, Jan. 1, 1885, but is now a widow, and living with her parents, her husband having died Sept. 20, 1886;



William and Maggie A. are at home with their mother.

Mr. Reid was born in Ireland, and when twenty years of age emigrated to the United States, landing first in New York City, where he worked one year at blacksmithing, which trade he had learned in his native country. Thence he went to Chicago, spent a year or so in the Garden City, and from there came into this county, where he was married, and followed his trade at St. Joseph until the outbreak of the Civil War. He then enlisted on the 25th of August, 1861, giving his time to his adopted country for the space of three years, during which he endured cheerfully the hardships of a soldier's life and received his honorable discharge at the close of his term of enlistment, and was mustered out at Springfield, Ill., in 1864, since which time he has been following his trade and has provided a good home for his family in St. Joseph.

In 1885 Mr. Reid crossed the Mississippi, and going into Finney County, Kan., took up 160 acres of land which he is now improving, while at the same time working at his trade in Montezuma. Mr. Reid is a worthy citizen in all respects, and possessed of commendable enterprise and industry. He is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and belongs to St. Joseph Post No. 220, G. A. R. He is also connected with the I. O. O. F. Mrs. Reid is a consistent member of the Christian Church. Their home in St. Joseph is pleasantly located, and is provided with the conveniences of modern life.



**HERMAN TAULMAN.** The subject of the following biography presents the picture of a well-preserved old gentleman, healthy, happy and active, possessed of a clear conscience, and who has marked over threescore years and ten on the dial of time. His birth took place near the city of New York, Oct. 3, 1816, and he is the youngest child of William and Anna (Hulse) Taulman, the former a native of New York and the latter of Germany. The father of our subject was a blacksmith by trade, and removed from his na-

tive State in 1818, settling near Cincinnati, Ohio. There his wife died about one year later, and his own death took place in about twelve months after his wife's decease at Flat Rock, Ind., to which he had removed. Thus their son Herman was left an orphan at the tender age of four years, and having no written record, has little knowledge of his ancestry. After the death of his father he was bound out to Solomon Ferris, a farmer of Hamilton County, Ohio, with whom he lived until reaching his majority. He early became acquainted with labor, and the only education he received was that obtained in the imperfect country schools.

Our subject upon starting out in life for himself was fully prepared to depend upon his own resources, having no capital and no friends to furnish him with such commodity. He continued at farm work until after his marriage, which occurred March 25, 1839, when he was a little over twenty-three years of age. His wife was Miss Mary, daughter of Louis and Mary (Clark) Pierson, who were natives of Ohio. After his marriage he located with his young wife upon a tract of rented land in Hamilton County, and for four or five years afterward followed farming. He then put up a sawmill in the timber regions of Hamilton County, and remained a resident there for a period of twenty years. In the spring of 1844 he suffered a great affliction in the death of his wife; she had become the mother of two sons, William and John. The former married Miss Hester Thornell, and still lives in Ohio, where he owns and operates the sawmill built by his father years ago. He has two children—John Wesley and Hattie. John married Miss Lillie Dill, and they located on the farm of our subject in Harwood Township, where they remained until the death of the former, which occurred in 1886. He left a wife and one child.

In 1846 our subject married Miss Annie Davis, eldest child of Abram and Elizabeth (Morris) Davis, natives of Ohio, and residents of Hamilton County. Of this latter marriage there were born five children, namely, Cavalier; Adam Lee, now deceased; Oscar Marion, Mary and Luella. The latter married Calvin Crane, a prosperous farmer of Rantoul Township. The other surviving children are at home with their parents.



Mr. Taulman, in March, 1869, disposed of his interests in the Buckeye State and came to Illinois with his family. He had been fairly prosperous in tilling the soil among the Ohio hills, and in seeking his new location, selected a tract of 320 acres on the south half of section 32, in Harwood Township. The land was unimproved and without fences or buildings. His first business was to put up a tenement for his family and soon afterward he began to break the sod. He labored industriously for several years, taking advantage of modern methods of agriculture, and keeping his eyes open to what was going on around him in the world generally. After fencing his land and bringing it to a good state of cultivation he turned his attention to stock-raising. He makes a specialty of Short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs. He has planted an apple orchard, set out choice trees of the finer fruits, and as time and opportunity permitted has embellished his homestead in those ways best known to the energetic and enterprising farmer.

Mr. Taulman has never been a politician although earnest in his advocacy of the principles in which he believes and which are most nearly represented by the Democratic party. He has served as Road Commissioner and School Director for many years.

**F**RANCIS M. LEIGH, a worthy representative of one of the oldest families of St. Joseph Township, was born in this township on the old homestead of his father and upon which he spent the greater part of his life, as he himself settled there after his marriage and will probably keep it in the possession of the family. That which gave the feudal estates of old their value and importance was the residence upon them of one generation after another, by which method the family gained its power, influence and reputation.

Mr. Leigh was born Sept. 3, 1845, and is the son of Henry and Jemima (Fisher) Leigh, natives of Ohio and Virginia respectively. His paternal grandparents, Levi and Elizabeth (Seedeth) Leigh, were young people in the old revolutionary times, and

the great-grandfather Seedeth participated as a soldier in the conflict which resulted in establishing the independence of the Colonies. Henry Leigh was born in Virginia, in which State his parents had settled after their marriage, and where their son was introduced to the responsibilities of life Sept. 4, 1807. Subsequently they removed to Ohio, settling in Pickaway County, where he grew to manhood and married Miss Jemima, the youngest child of John and Elizabeth (Petty) Fisher. The Fisher family were of German and Welsh extraction, and the children of John and Elizabeth F., which included four sons and five daughters, all grew to mature years, married, and settled in comfortable homes of their own.

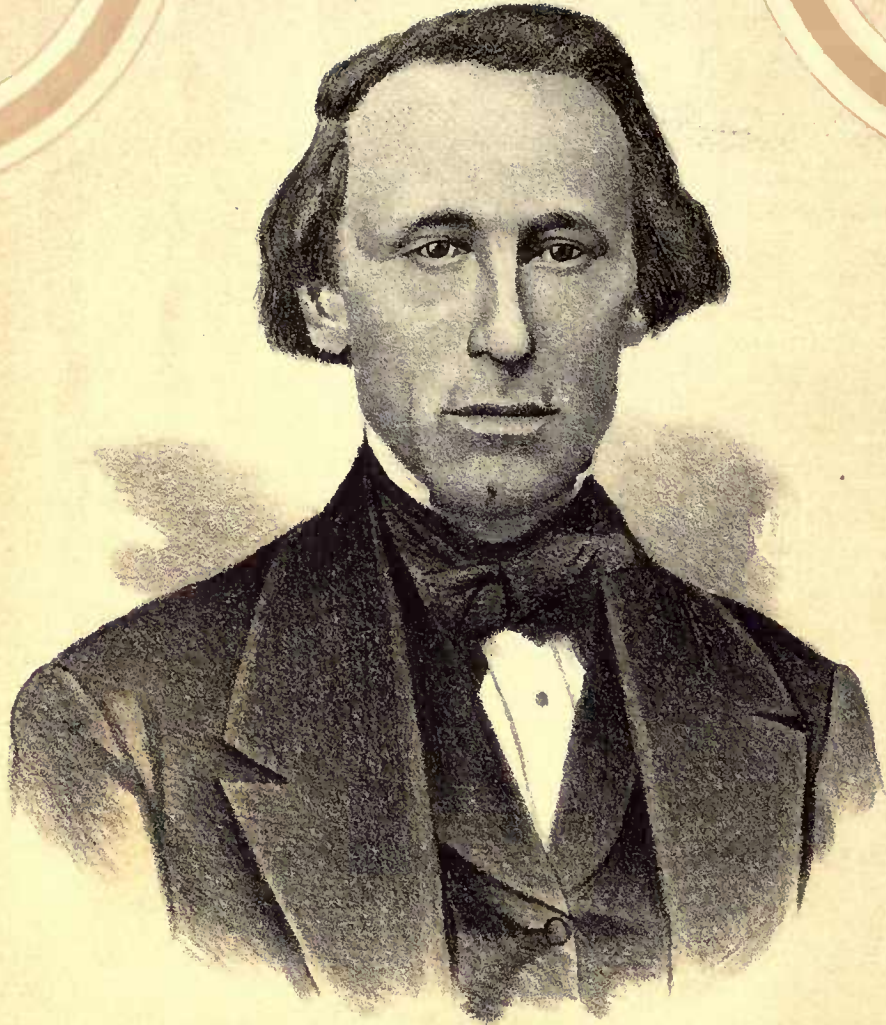
Henry Leigh and his wife remained in Pickaway County until the spring of 1836, and then decided to seek their fortunes in the Prairie State. Loading their household goods upon a wagon they started overland by team, part of their journey lying through the Black Swamp of Indiana. They carried their provisions, camped and cooked by the wayside, and after a journey of four weeks arrived at their destination. Mr. Leigh selected a tract of land on section 2, St. Joseph Township, and proceeded with its improvement and cultivation, although not being able to secure a title until some time later. The country at that time abounded in wolves, and their cries, together with those of the wild geese, often aroused the settlers to pursue them. Gradually as the country became settled up these creatures disappeared, and the settlers' guns hung idle for weeks upon the wooden peg in the cabin. The father of our subject labored industriously to build up a comfortable homestead for his family and succeeded admirably, as the present farm gives ample indication. It now includes 120 acres of valuable land, thoroughly drained with tile, and fitted up with all modern improvements. The house and other farm buildings are substantial and comfortable, and finely adapted to all the purposes of country life.

The subject of our sketch pursued his first studies in the pioneer log school-house in the winter season, and as soon as old enough his services were made available on the farm. The death of his father took place when Francis M. was a youth of four-



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*Milton Babb*





*Elizabeth B. Yeazel*



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teen years, in the spring of 1861. He continued with his mother thereafter, proving her main support and counselor, and after he assumed the management of the farm the mother practically retired from active labor but is still living, making her home with our subject.

Mr. Leigh was married, Nov. 14, 1867, to Miss Martha, second daughter of John L. and Catherine Ross, and a native of Indiana, to which State her parents had removed after their marriage. Mr. Leigh brought his bride to the old homestead which still continues their residence.

Our subject is the only survivor of his father's family of eight children. Two died in infancy. The others lived to mature years, but have since passed away. They were, Elizabeth, Martha C., Charles S., John F. and Mary A. The mother's birth occurred May 27, 1813. Her residence on the present homestead of our subject comprises a period of fifty years, and the changes which she has witnessed during that time have been as remarkable as satisfactory to one who has watched them with an observant eye and rejoiced at every evidence of the prosperity of Illinois.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Francis M. Leigh were nine in number, three of whom died in infancy. The others are John M., Marion E., Catherine A., Ivah May, Lola Etta, William Everette. Mr. Leigh has been prominent in the affairs of his township since reaching his majority, and is a gentleman in whom his neighbors have great confidence as they have watched his course from boyhood up and found there the elements of a reliable and substantial manhood. He has officiated as School Director, and with his estimable wife is a member in good standing of Prairie Hope Church.



**J**AMES YEAZEL, a successful farmer and stock-grower of Homer Township, is a native of the Buckeye State, and was born in Clarke County, March 2, 1817. His parents, Abraham and Mary (Curl) Yeazel, were both natives of Virginia, the former of German and the latter of Scotch ancestry. Abraham Yeazel, who was born April 29, 1774, located in Ohio in

the pioneer days, and became a farmer and stock-grower of much importance in Clarke County and vicinity. He departed this life in 1831, when little past his prime, and in the midst of his usefulness, at the homestead which he had established by his enterprise and industry. Politically, he was a staunch Whig, and served for a number of years as Justice of the Peace. The mother of our subject, who cheerfully shared the fortunes and rejoiced in the successes of her husband, was born Oct. 30, 1776, and became the wife of Abraham Yeazel on the 7th of October, 1794. The marriage resulted in the birth of fourteen children, and presented the remarkable spectacle of an unbroken family circle until after reaching adult years, all living to become men and women, all married, and rearing families. They were named respectively, Mary A., Sarah, George, William, David, Jeremiah, Catherine, Jacob, Adam, Elizabeth, Abraham, Sidney, James and Isaac.

The younger years of James Yeazel's life were spent upon the farm of his father in Ohio, and when twenty years of age, on Sept. 7, 1837, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary M. Spencer, a native of Ohio, whose parents were from the State of New York. The result of this union was twelve children, who were named respectively, Jacob, John, Hamilton, William, George, James, Alice, Abraham, Abigail, Matthew L., Charles and Mary I. Five of these are deceased—Jacob, Hamilton, George, James and Charles. The mother died at the homestead, March 9, 1867.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in June, 1872, was formerly Mrs. Elizabeth (Littler) Babb. Of this union there have been born four children—Milton J., Maria E., a son who died in infancy unnamed, and Frank. The children of Mrs. Yeazel by her first husband, were Edwin P., Alice J., James E. and Charles D. Mr. Babb was a native of Hardy County, W. Va., where he was born Nov. 10, 1826. His death occurred Jan. 8, 1869, when in the forty-second year of his age, and while a resident of Homer Township. He was of a wealthy family and was himself a good financier. He was an extensive stock-grower and in all respects a representative business man and citizen. He became a member



of the Methodist Episcopal Church when fifteen years of age, and carried out in his daily life the religion which he professed, being a kind husband, father and neighbor. His last illness was of brief duration, being taken with typhoid-pneumonia, which resulted fatally six days later. As one of the prominent men in the early history of this county we take pleasure in presenting his portrait in this ALBUM.

Politically, Mr. Babb was an ardent supporter of Republican principles, but only participated in politics enough to cast his vote at the regular elections. His estate embraced 1,100 acres of land lying in the northern part of Ogden Township. He came to Illinois in 1854, and was married to Miss Elizabeth Littler three years later. The only daughter born of this marriage, Mary Alice Jane, became the wife of George W. Helm and the mother of twin daughters, Mabel Jane and Mary Alice, who are at the present writing (1887) bright and interesting children six years of age. Mrs. Helm, who had evinced great ability as an artist, died at her home in Sidney, Feb. 12, 1881, having been married less than a year. Edwin and Charles Babb, who are promising young agriculturists, have charge of their father's farm and are principally engaged in the breeding of fine horses. Edwin, in 1884, married Miss Emma S. Conkey, and they have one child, Harry C. James E. Babb, a finely educated young man, graduated in law at Chicago and is now a partner of Judge Fry, a prominent member of the legal profession of that city.

Mrs. Elizabeth B. Yeazel was born in Ohio, Jan. 14, 1838. Her parents, Edwin and Margaret (Sterrett) Littler, natives of Ohio, are both now deceased. The parental household numbered six children, namely, Rachel, Elisha, Elizabeth, Mary A., Martha and Edwin. Mr. Yeazel came to Illinois in 1840 with less than \$1,000 in cash. He has been quite prosperous, as evidenced by the statement that his real estate now includes 600 acres of some of the finest farming land in Central Illinois, provided with good improvements, including a fine brick residence, a substantial barn and all conveniences for general farming, together with the proper feeding and care of fine stock. He is now engaged in breeding Norman and Clydesdale horses, and

has a few sheep, with choice grades of cattle and hogs. Although our subject is not strong physically, his natural energy will not permit him to be idle, and he is always busy looking after the stock and generally superintending the estate. Although not mixing much in politics or religious matters, he is the staunch supporter of Republican principles and a believer in the Christian religion. His portrait may be found on page 830. Mrs. Yeazel when a young girl thirteen years of age, united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which she has been a devout and consistent member since that time. The portrait of this estimable lady accompanies this sketch.

JOHN J. MUMM, of Sidney Township, is the proprietor of a fine farm of 320 acres lying on sections 17, 18 and 20, the residence, a view of which is to be seen in this work, being on the latter. The homestead includes a shapely and substantial dwelling, a good barn and all necessary out-buildings, and is pleasantly located and well drained. The first purchase of our subject in this township consisted of forty acres of uncultivated prairie, to whose extent he added as time passed on and his means permitted. When it came into his possession the greater part of his land had never been tilled. By years of industry he has brought the whole to a fine state of cultivation, and besides producing the ordinary farm crops in abundance, Mr. M. has also given much attention to high-grade Short-horn cattle, Norman horses, and Poland-China swine.

Our subject has been uniformly successful in his farming and business operations, and is one of the important factors in the agricultural interests of this section. He commenced life at the foot of the ladder, and is a forcible illustration of what may be accomplished by resolution and perseverance. He emigrated from Holstein, Germany, to this country in 1854, landing with a cash capital of \$5. He at once made his way to the Prairie State, and for two years afterward was a resident of Cook County, where he engaged as a farm laborer. Afterward he came into Champaign County, worked



on a farm for a time, and then rented a tract of land which he cultivated on shares. He invested his savings in land, and in due time found himself on the road to prosperity. He is now an important property holder in one of the richest counties of the Prairie State. Every dollar of his possessions has been accumulated by his own industry and good judgment, and he may reasonably regard his career with pride and satisfaction.

Mr. Mumm is a native of Sleswick-Holstein, Germany, and was born Feb. 1, 1832. He is the son of William Mumm, a native of the same Province, of pure German parentage and ancestry. The Mumm family is well and favorably known throughout a large portion of the Fatherland, its representatives having been distinguished for those substantial and reliable elements of character peculiar to the German nationality. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Ann Hinz. She also was of an excellent family, and was a native of the same Province as her husband. They remained on their farm in Germany until 1866, then, accompanied by their eldest son, William, Jr., came to the United States, and located with him, first in Sidney Township, and then removed to Philo Township, where they were residents the remainder of their lives. The mother departed this life in 1879, aged eighty-two years, and the father in 1883, aged eighty-three. They were members in good standing of the Lutheran Church.

The subject of this notice was the third son and child of the seven included in the parental household. Of these three only are now living. John J. remained with his parents until starting for the United States, in 1854, unaccompanied by any friend or relative, and having, besides a small amount of money, only the clothes which he wore. He soon, however, procured employment, found friends, and in due time could see his way to the establishment of a home. Accordingly, on the 19th of December, 1857, he was united in marriage in Sidney Township to Miss Magdalena Witt, a native of the same Province as her husband, and the daughter of Dulf and Anna Magdalena (Young) Witt, natives of Germany. They emigrated to the United States in 1864, coming directly to this State and locating in Sidney Township,

of which their daughter had been a resident since early in 1857. Here the father died in about 1876; the mother died in 1869 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mumm.

Our subject and wife became the parents of seven children, of whom two, Rimer and Emma, are deceased; Anna is the wife of Henry Witt, a farmer of Sidney Township; John W. married Miss Minnie Malone, and they reside on the homestead; Mary, Peter and Henry are at home. The family are members and regular attendants of the Lutheran Church, of which our subject has held the various offices. Since becoming a citizen of this country he has voted the straight Republican ticket and has held the office of Road Commissioner in his township.



PROF. GEORGE E. MORROW, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Professor of Agriculture in the University of Illinois, after occupying the position of Professor in this department in the Iowa Agricultural College, changed his location, in 1887, and accepted the corresponding Chair in the University of Illinois. Prof. Morrow is a native of the Buckeye State, being born near Cincinnati, Oct. 19, 1840, and is the son of John and Nancy (Espy) Morrow. His paternal grandparents, Jeremiah and Mary (Parkhill) Morrow, were natives of Pennsylvania. His grandparents on his mother's side were of Scotch-Irish descent and also natives of the Keystone State.

Hon. Jeremiah Morrow located in Warren County on the Little Miami River in 1798, purchasing 640 acres of land, where he built a flouring-mill and sawmill, and carried on farming and milling the remainder of his life. He was a man of more than ordinary ability, and tacitly accorded the position of leader in his county and community, both socially and politically. He was a member of the First Constitutional Convention in Ohio, and the first and only Member of Congress for a number of years. While in the Senate he was on most of the important committees, and was elected Gov-



ernor in 1822, serving from that year until 1826. He was again elected to Congress in 1840. He was the first President of the Little Miami Railroad Company, and took an active interest in everything pertaining to the development and progress of his adopted State. The canal system of Ohio was organized while he was Governor, and received his hearty assistance and support. He encouraged the establishment and maintenance of schools and churches and religiously adhered to Presbyterian doctrines. Jeremiah Morrow had a family of eleven children, among whom was John, the father of our subject, who was reared and educated in the schools of Ohio, and who inherited in a marked degree the talent and energy of his father. The pursuit of agriculture, however, seemed most congenial to his taste and he commenced putting his theories into practice on the home farm where he has always lived, being now eighty-seven years of age. The mother died in 1881, aged eighty-two. Both parents became members of the Presbyterian Church early in life. Of their nine children, four only are now living, namely, Lizzie, Thomas E., Josiah, and George E. of our sketch.

Prof. Morrow received an academic education and remained at home with his parents until August, 1861. The Civil War being then in progress he enlisted in Co. C, 2d Ohio Vol. Inf. He was wounded at the battle of Perryville, Ky., in October, 1862, and afterward captured by the guerillas, being held a prisoner, however, but a few hours. On account of failing health he was obliged to abandon the service in July, 1863. After a few months spent in Minnesota, he entered the Law Department of Michigan University, from which he graduated in 1866. He never practiced law, however, but became editor of the *Western Rural*, and subsequently of the *Western Farmer* until 1875. In 1876 he was elected Professor in the Iowa State Agricultural College, which chair he abandoned to accept his present position.

Prof. Morrow takes a genuine interest in his work, and is prominently connected with the agricultural and live stock associations of the country, both State and National. He frequently delivers addresses on the subject, and has been a regular and intelligent correspondent of agricultural journals.

In 1879 he made a trip to Great Britain on professional business, and gained a good insight into the methods and theories adopted by the agriculturists of the Old World.

The marriage of Prof. George E. Morrow and Miss M. Gifford, of Washington County, N. Y., took place in Detroit, Mich., in 1867. Of this union there were born four children, three of whom are living—Minnie M., Clarence G. and Grace E.



GEORGE OAKES, a prosperous member of the farming community of Ogden Township, is of excellent Pennsylvania parentage, and was born in the Keystone State, Feb. 8, 1837. He is the son of Michael and Naney (Farmer) Oakes, the former of whom was born in 1806, and died in Vermilion County, Ill., in 1881. He was engaged in farming pursuits all his life, which calling he followed first in his native State, then in Ohio, coming first to Illinois in 1847. He then returned to the Buckeye State, where he remained four years, and in 1851 came back to Illinois, locating in Clark County. After a residence there of fourteen years he changed his location to Vermilion County, which remained his permanent home. Upon first exercising the right of suffrage he voted with the Democratic party but later supported Republican principles. The family were of German ancestry, and the mother a member of the Albright Church. Her death took place in Indiana while on the journey to Pennsylvania in 1850. Of their five children the record is as follows: George, of our sketch, was the eldest; Naney died in childhood; John, during the late war enlisted in the 25th Illinois Infantry, serving from August, 1861, to January of the following year, when he died very suddenly of measles at Raleigh, Mo.; Daniel married Miss Melissa Morrison, and located in Vermilion County; Caroline, the wife of Frederick Wagner, lives in Ohio.

Our subject remained with his parents attending school during the winter seasons and assisting on the farm the balance of the year until after reaching his majority. Afterward he was variously employed until the outbreak of the Rebellion, the



family then living in Illinois. In February, 1864, he enlisted in Co. F, 26th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served eighteen months, mostly in the Army of the Tennessee. He afterward went with Sherman through the Atlanta campaign, being at the siege and capture of that city and in the fight at Savannah, Ga. He received his honorable discharge at the close of the war, turning his steps homeward in July, 1865.

The marriage of our subject took place on the 30th of August, 1860, the maiden of his choice being Miss Lydia C. Golden, a native of this county, born in 1843. She was orphaned when but four years of age, and became an inmate of the family of Abraham Yeazel, with whom she remained until her marriage, which took place at his residence in Homer Township. Mr. and Mrs. Oakes became the parents of four children: Ann M., born April 6, 1862, is the wife of Aubert Pogue, and resides in this county; Caroline, born Nov. 13, 1863, married H. E. Huffman; Nancy, born May 25, 1866, died three months later, on the 9th of August; Michael, born Aug. 15, 1871, is now a resident of this county.

The farm of our subject consists of forty-five acres well cultivated and cared for, and the dwelling will compare favorably in point of appearance, comfort and convenience with those of the other prosperous and industrious residents of Ogden Township.

**D**R. WILLIAM M. RAWLINSON, a graduate of the Baltimore School of Dental Surgery, came to this State in the winter of 1877, becoming a resident of Homer, Ill., on the 14th of February. He at once opened an office and began the practice of his profession, in which he has met with more than ordinary success, building up a large patronage and securing the respect and esteem of all who know him. Our subject is a native of York County, S. C., his birth taking place Oct. 21, 1848. His father was Col. J. W. Rawlinson, who was a native of the same State. He served twelve years in the Legislature of South Carolina, and for many years was prominently identified with public affairs in his native State. He was

Democratic in politics and one of the pillars of the Presbyterian Church. In early life he identified himself with the Masons, of whose principles he was a great admirer and in which fraternity he occupied an important position. He was married early in life to Miss Jane Moore, also a native of South Carolina.

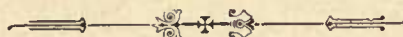
Dr. Rawlinson was reared on his father's farm in York County, S. C., and under the careful training of his excellent parents was instilled with those worthy principles which have formed the basis of his success in life. A little over a year after locating in Homer, he was united in marriage with Miss Virginia West, their wedding taking place at the home of the bride's parents on the 26th of October, 1878. Mrs. Rawlinson was born in Wisconsin in 1852, and of her union with our subject there were born three children, two sons and a daughter.

Dr. Rawlinson commenced life without capital otherwise than his resolute will and persevering industry. When landing in this village he had but \$5 in his pocket and was obliged to pay a week's board in advance, which left very little collateral. It is hardly necessary to state that for some time afterward and until he began to gain a foothold he was obliged to live most carefully and economically. His present status financially and socially is a silent but forcible witness of what he has accomplished. He has now a fine business and a comfortable home where, with his family, he enjoys many of the luxuries of life, and no man is esteemed more highly in the community. Politically, Dr. Rawlinson is Democratic. He has occupied various minor offices in the town and is one of the Directors in the Building and Loan Association established in 1886, and of which he was one of the prime movers, being represented by fifty shares, each share valued at \$100. He has been a member of the Masonic fraternity since 1885, having passed the Chapter degrees.

The brothers of Col. J. W. Rawlinson, the father of our subject, Benjamin F., James M. and Charles W., are all living in South Carolina, two engaged in farming and one in mercantile pursuits. The parental family of the mother of Dr. Rawlinson included five children, the eldest being the mother of our subject; William, a Captain in the Confederate



army, at the battle of Gettysburg was wounded by a rifle ball which he carried for five years afterward, when it was extracted; Frederick, who also received a Captain's commission, was killed at the battle of Gainesville; Baxter was a prominent lawyer at Charlotte, N. C., and Dorcas, who married a Mr. McDuncan, and lives in North Carolina.



**A**MBROSE W. STRONG located upon his present farm on section 17 in St. Joseph Township soon after his marriage, in 1853, when but nineteen years of age. He possessed great energy of character, had been trained to habits of industry and economy by his excellent parents, and is now the owner of a fine property, which he has accumulated for the most part unaided and by the exercise of his own labor and perseverance.

Mr. Strong was born in Hancock County, Ohio, Oct. 4, 1834. His ancestors, upon first crossing the Atlantic, settled in New England, of which his grandfather, Cyrus Strong, was a native, and whence he emigrated to Ohio during its early settlement. He was one of the most worthy members of the farming community of Hancock County, where he married Miss Mary Moore, and became the father of three sons and three daughters. Subsequently, in 1833, he resolved to see something of the farther West, and coming to this county purchased a small tract of land in St. Joseph Township, which he carefully cultivated until resting from his earthly labors, his death taking place in the spring of 1853. The wife and mother had departed this life three years previously. John Strong was married the second time, to Miss Mary Hayden, and selling the first farm removed to another in St. Joseph Township, where his earthly labors ended. The children of John and Mary (Moore) Strong were Ambrose W. of our sketch, Permelia, Casper L., Cyrus, Tabitha and Nancy E. Of these four are now surviving, and located in this county.

Our subject remained under the parental roof until his early marriage, his chosen bride being

Miss Martha A., daughter of William and Sarah Peters, who settled in this county in the pioneer days. Mr. Strong's first business was to put up a house for the shelter of himself and wife, and they then took possession of the land destined to remain their permanent home. It is hardly necessary to say that its present condition is in great contrast to its former state. The soil has been carefully cultivated, the fields are neatly enclosed with substantial fences, and the farm buildings are creditable alike to the taste and good judgment of the proprietor. Mr. Strong wisely invested his surplus capital in additional lands, and now has a fine farm of 200 acres, productive of the finest crops in the Prairie State. He has been largely engaged in grain-raising, and has made a specialty of Poland-China hogs and fine horses.

While a young man Mr. Strong frequently increased his purse by breaking prairie for his neighbors, and spent few idle hours, his natural inclinations making labor pleasurable as well as profitable. In 1874 the first humble dwelling was replaced by a handsome new residence, which is flanked by correspondingly good out-buildings. A lithographic view of the place is shown in this work. He has planted fruit trees and otherwise embellished the premises after the manner of the modern and progressive farmer. Socially he is a favorite among his townsmen, and is liberal both in religion and politics, aiming to support the man best qualified for the office.



**J**AMES DAVIS, an old and highly respected resident of Mahomet Township, who was formerly engaged in farming pursuits, is now living in retirement upon a competency in the village of Mahomet. He is a native of Newark, Ohio, and was born Nov. 14, 1811. His parents, Zachariah and Elizabeth (Roberts) Davis, were natives respectively of Carlisle, Pa., and Martinsburg, Va. They were married at Newark, Licking, Co., Ohio, the mother dying there Nov. 16, 1844. Mr. Davis afterward came to Illinois, and made his home alternately at Champaign and Danville. He died in the latter place on the 5th of




May, 1865. Their family of six children included four sons and two daughters, of whom James of our sketch was the eldest.

James Davis remained a resident of his native county until 1842, during which time for a period of thirteen years he was engaged principally as a butcher. In the year last mentioned he turned his face westward, and emigrating to Iowa engaged as a hotel-keeper in Iowa City. He met with fair success, but after two years changed his location to Wabash, Ind., where he engaged as a carpenter and butcher, and also in merchandising. In December, 1856, he left Indiana and came to this county, where he spent the winter in Champaign, and the following spring removed to Newcomb Township, where he remained five years. During that time he had acquired a tract of land, and removed to Scott Township. Two years later he located in Mahomet, and engaged in butchering for twelve years following. Since 1866 he has been a resident of the village, most of the time engaged actively in business until about 1884, when he retired.

The marriage of James Davis and Miss Elizabeth Roberts took place in Franklin County, Ohio, Oct. 2, 1832. Mrs. Davis was a native of the latter State, and by her union with our subject became the mother of one child, a daughter Lizzie, who is now the widow of John Leslie, and a resident of Danville. Mrs. Davis departed this life Oct. 31, 1838, at Newark, Ohio. Mr. Davis was the second time married, in the latter-named place, April 28, 1840, to Miss Mary McCollum, a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, and born Nov. 28, 1814. She is the daughter of Francis and Margaret (Bradley) McCollum, who were natives of Ireland, and emigrated to America soon after their marriage. They became the parents of ten children, six girls and four boys. Of the marriage of our subject there were born seven children, namely, George, Robert, Elizabeth, Josephine, Lucinda A., Ida and James H. George died in Iowa when two years old; Robert is a resident of Mahomet Township, and his biography appears on another page in this work; Elizabeth, the wife of A. J. Ham, died in Scott Township, Jan. 21, 1866; Josephine married William F. Scott, who died in Hensley Township in February, 1879, and she afterward became the wife

of J. R. Cissna; Lucinda died in Wabash, Ind., when nineteen months old; Ida died there also, aged five years; James H. married Miss Agnes Clark, and is a resident of Mahomet.

In 1852 Mr. Davis visited California via the water route, and was nine months on the voyage. He had expected to work in the mines, but changed his plans and commenced dealing in stock. He spent about two years on the Pacific Slope, and returned both pleased and benefited by the experience. As a useful and valued citizen he has held a prominent place in the affairs of his township, serving as Justice of the Peace, School Director, Clerk and Highway Commissioner. Socially he is a member of the I. O. O. F., and with his family, enjoys the association and esteem of the best citizens in his community.

J. W. SHUCK, dealer in shelf-hardware, tinware, wheel-barrows, picture frames, brackets, sewing-machines, looking-glasses and furniture, forms an important factor in the business interests of Urbana, where, since 1874, he has carried on a thriving and profitable trade. He is a native of Bedford County, Pa., born Jan. 24, 1839, and the son of Daniel J. and Ellen J. (Herriage) Shuck. His father was a native of Cumberland, Md., and the mother of Bedford County, Pa. The younger years of Daniel Shuck were employed in the manufacture of wagons and carriages, and later he became foreman of a tannery. He is now living at Bedford Springs, Pa., aged eighty years. The mother is seventy-six.

The household circle included twelve children, six now living. Mary A. became the wife of John Mann, who is a contractor and builder at Lincoln, Neb.; Margaret M., Mrs. W. T. Filler, is a resident of Pittsburgh, Pa., where her husband is occupied in carpentering; Asbury B. is a graduate of Clarke's School of Cincinnati, and is doing an extensive and prosperous business in Urbana; J. W., of our sketch, was the fourth child; Vinton W. is profitably engaged in the hardware and store trade of Urbana; William B. is a resident of Bedford, Pa. James H. was the third child, and became a prominent citizen



of Urbana, where he resided from the time of his discharge from the army until near the date of his death. He was a soldier in the 94th Illinois Infantry, a regiment made up at Bloomington. In Urbana he engaged in the grocery trade, and afterward in the furniture business. He married Miss Alice Justice, in Allegheny City, Pa. As a business man he was very successful. Daniel Shuck is a staunch Republican in politics, and officiated in his younger days as an exhorter of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was Tax Collector in 1838, and greatly interested in the establishment of churches and schools.

The subject of this biography spent his younger years in school, during the winter season, until fifteen years of age. He then served an apprenticeship of three years at the blacksmith's trade, but wishing to advance still further on the road to learning, for three summers following attended school and taught during the winter. Afterward he went to Pittsburgh, Pa., and entered Iron City Commercial College, where he was graduated. He came West in 1860, and established himself as a book-seller in Bloomington, where he carried on business six months, and thence removed to Urbana. In 1861 he was appointed Deputy County Clerk, in which office he continued until August, 1862. The Civil War being then in progress, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. B, 76th Ill. Vol. Inf., and was in the service nearly three years, participating in many of the important engagements of the war, and serving as Quartermaster Sergeant. He was in the battle at Holly Springs, the capture and siege of Vicksburg and Mobile, and traveled with his comrades over a stretch of 10,000 miles. After his enlistment his regiment received 156 recruits. They were mustered out of service at Galveston, Tex., and paid off at Chicago on the 4th of August, 1865.

Upon his return home Mr. Shuck was replaced in the office which he had abandoned to become a soldier, and remained Deputy County Clerk until 1869, when he was appointed Clerk, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Capt. Clarke, and at the expiration of the term was elected to the full term of four years. At the expiration of that time Mr. Shuck established himself in the furniture business at Urbana, which he conducted one year. He

then purchased the hardware store of Heisler Bros., which he has operated in connection with his other business until the present.

Mr. Shuck was married, in 1865, to Miss Julia, the daughter of John W. Benner, of Urbana. They have two children—Harry M. and Hattie M. Mr. S. is Republican in politics, and has served as Alderman of the Third Ward and School Trustee. Besides his furniture business and his residence at the corner of Day and North streets, he has a fine farm of 320 acres near Urbana, and 640 acres of land in Reno County, Kan. The latter is devoted to stock-raising. With his excellent wife, he is prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is Trustee and Treasurer. The Shuck family are of German descent, and our subject has inherited in a marked degree the substantial qualities of his ancestors, which have constituted him a fine representative of the business and industrial interests of this section.

**E**DWARD F. THAYER, deceased. The rural home which occupies a portion of section 6 in Sidney Township, remains as a monument to the thrift and industry of this gentleman, who for many years presented to the people of his neighborhood and vicinity an example worthy of imitation by his resolution of character and his natural perseverance and industry. He was born in Conway, Mass., June 2, 1826, and died March 20, 1886, at his home in Sidney Township. His remains were laid to rest in Lynn Grove Cemetery.

The Thayer family nearly thirty years ago, attracted by the superior advantages of the West, moved from Massachusetts to Lee County, Ill. After a residence there of three years, they again changed, removing to Big Rock, Kane Co., Ill. That place not proving satisfactory, after a trial of three years, they came to Sidney Township, this county, in 1864, which place has since been their permanent residence.

While a resident of his native State, Mr. Thayer was married, Nov. 20, 1853, to Miss Luthera, the daughter of Erastus and Mary A. (Porter) Booth.



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John K. Patterson



E. F. Thayer



The birthplace of Mrs. Thayer was the township of Florida, in Berkshire County, Mass., and the date thereof, Oct. 27, 1828. She had ten brothers and sisters, the names of whom were, Mary, Harriet, Nancy, Pauline, Aesa, Guelma, Fannie, Sarah, Tryphena and Erastus. Mr. Thayer had two brothers and one sister—Salem, Oscar and Eliza.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Thayer was blest by the birth of ten children: Edward E., born April 28, 1855, is married and lives in this county; Nancy L., born July 25, 1857, is the wife of Edward Hayden, and resides in Philo; Mira E., born April 26, 1859, is the wife of Albert Detamore, and resides in Nebraska; Frank H., born June 4, 1862, is single and lives in Nebraska; Otis T., born Sept. 11, 1863, and married to Miss Nettie Davis, also lives in Nebraska; Ernest and Walter M., twins, were born Oct. 10, 1867, and reside with their mother; Sarah A., born April 22, 1861, died Nov. 6, 1874, and Charles C., born March 6, 1871, died Oct. 6, 1874; they are both buried beside their father; Merton E., born Feb. 1, 1873, lives at home with his mother, who is a most estimable Christian lady. The Thayer estate includes ninety acres of highly improved and fertile land, constituting the homestead, besides eighty acres of farm land in Philo Township.

A lithographic portrait of Mr. Edward F. Thayer is shown in connection with this sketch. Although a man quiet and unobtrusive in life and habits, he filled worthily his appointed station in life, and is kindly remembered by hosts of friends. He built up one of the homesteads which assist in the embellishment of Sidney Township, and pursued the even tenor of his way, in all respects deporting himself as an honest man and a good citizen.



**M**RS. CATHERINE PATTERSON, widow of John K. Patterson, came to this county in the pioneer days when a young woman, and during a period of over fifty years, in which she has passed in and out among the people of St. Joseph Township and vicinity, she has been the recipient of their deepest respect and confidence, possessing those kindly and generous qualities of

heart and disposition which have endeared her to hosts of friends and caused her to be widely known as a lady of the kindest impulses and the highest moral character.

Mrs. Patterson, the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Myers) Swearingen, is a native of Lewis County, Ky., born near Maysville, Dec. 16, 1808. She removed with her mother to this county in 1835, her father having died in Kentucky. The family included ten children, five sons and five daughters. Catherine, less than two years later became the wife of John K. Patterson, who was born in Madison County, Ohio, Oct. 2, 1810, and was the son of William and Jennie (Kilgore) Patterson. The former died in his native State, when his son was a young boy. The latter afterward went to live with his uncle, Thomas Kilgore, who gave him an interest in his business, that of a cattle-dealer, in which the youth became quite proficient, and invested his first capital in 120 acres of land in St. Joseph and Sidney Townships.

On the 1st of January, 1837, Mr. Patterson was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Swearingen, and they settled on a farm one and one-half miles southeast of St. Joseph, this county, where Mr. P. engaged in general farming and became very successful. He added to his landed property until he became the owner of 360 acres, which he spent many years in improving and embellishing, putting up handsome and substantial buildings, and adding all the appliances of a modern country estate. In the spring of 1874 he retired from active labor and removed into the town of St. Joseph, where his death took place the following fall. He left a wife and seven children. One child, Robert, had died when thirteen years of age; Mary M. is the wife of John Caley; Elizabeth married Arthur Strong; Frances D. is the wife of John Dakin; Amanda M. was married to Van B. Swearingen; Thomas E. married Miss Nettie A., daughter of Jessie C., and Elizabeth Wood; Otho married Miss Sadie Wood, of Indiana, and they reside in St. Joseph Township; John K. married May E. Gillispi, daughter of Dr. Gillispi, of St. Joseph Township, and they now reside there.

Mrs. Patterson after the death of her husband continued in St. Joseph, of which she has since



been a resident and is now in the seventy-ninth year of her age. She is a complete picture of the well-preserved, handsome and healthy old lady, with a fine head of hair in which there is but little gray, and still continues the habits of industry to which she was trained from a child, doing her own cooking and much of her housework, in which she takes delight and sets a fine example of neatness and thrift to many a younger lady. She has been a member of the Christian Church for over fifty years, and has adorned her profession by her modest walk and conversation, doing good as she had opportunity and exerting a happy influence over all around her. She was very active and energetic in her youth, taking delight in all the employments of the farm, a fearless horseback-rider, and engaging with zest in all the pleasures of country life. Upon one occasion, however, while riding she was thrown from her horse and sustained dislocation of the hip and ankle, from which she still suffers.

Thomas E., the fifth child of Mr. and Mrs. Patterson, was born Dec. 7, 1849, and married Sept. 10, 1874. He settled with his bride upon a farm, and departed this life in November, 1881, leaving a wife and one son, Theophilus C. His wife, Mrs. Nettie (Wood) Patterson, was born in Wilmington, Clinton Co., Ohio, and came to this county with her parents when a girl twelve years of age. She remained under the home roof until her marriage, and by her union with Thomas E. Patterson became the mother of one child only, a son, who was but an infant when his father died. Mr. Patterson was a gentleman greatly respected in his community for his sterling worth of character, his high moral principles, and his value as a straightforward and enterprising citizen, whose place it will be hard to fill.

The Patterson family is of Irish origin, the first representatives in this country having settled, it is believed in Virginia, and the later descendants of whom have been widely and favorably known for the enterprise and energy with which they have conducted their business affairs, and the interest they have taken in advancing the interests of the section of country wherever they have seen fit to establish a permanent home. Mrs. Catherine Patterson, as a lady who has witnessed remarkable changes during the period of a long and eventful life,

is tacitly accorded that deference and respect due to one who has watched the development of one of the richest sections of the Western Continent, and has always rejoiced in its prosperity, training her children to become worthy residents in a more than ordinarily intelligent community, and of a State which has become great through the enterprise of its pioneers who inaugurated and taught their children to maintain its phenomenal prosperity.

A lithographic portrait of John K. Patterson is shown on a preceding page.



AQUILLA PALMER, who has been a resident of the Prairie State nearly fifty years, coming here when a child, is pleasantly located on section 18, Homer Township, where he has a good farm embracing 165 acres of land, with a comfortable residence and all other necessary buildings for the carrying on of agriculture intelligently and successfully. A view of the place is shown on another page of this work. He is a native of Clarke County, Ohio, born April 30, 1832, and is the son of Landon and Annie (Ellis) Palmer, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Kentucky. Landon Palmer was born in Loudoun County, Va., in 1800, and died in Champaign County, Ill., Oct. 21, 1865. He followed farming all his life, and from a modest capital of \$30 in cash became possessed of property worth \$17,000, the accumulations of his own perseverance and industry. His wife, Annie, the mother of our subject, was born in Kentucky in 1803, and died at her home in Champaign County in 1862. The parental household included twelve children, of whom eleven are now living, and named respectively, Edmund, Ellis, Mary J., Aquilla of our sketch, George W., Elizabeth, Milburn, Emanuel, Sarah, Andrew J. and James. Charlotte is deceased.

The subject of this history during his boyhood attended the district schools of his native county in the winter season, and during the summer followed farm pursuits. The family removed to Illinois in 1838, and he remained a member of the parental



household until reaching his majority, in the meantime having learned the carpenter's trade. Being a natural mechanic he became an expert at this business, and received more than average wages. In 1855 he purchased 240 acres of land in this township, upon which he operated until 1861, then sold out a portion of his present farm. The fine residence and handsome out-buildings, which serve to embellish the homestead are largely the work of his own hands, and that which he did not personally perform he superintended, the result being some of the finest architecture in this part of the county.

The lady who has presided over the home of our subject for a period of over twenty-eight years became his wife on the 6th of March, 1859. She was formerly Miss Huldah H. Clark, born in Butler County, Ohio, Dec. 17, 1832, and is the daughter of David and Jerusha (Clark) Clark, natives respectively of New Jersey and New York. The father was born Sept. 27, 1789, and died Sept. 22, 1849. The mother, born Jan. 14, 1800, died Dec. 2, 1835. Their children were Philinda, Harriett, Jane, Mary, George, Nancy and Huldah H. After the death of his first wife Mr. Clark was married to Mrs. Blackall, formerly a Miss Leach. Of this marriage there was born one child, a son, Alvin, who married Miss Brock, and is now living in Hamilton, Butler Co., Ohio.

Of the ten children born to Mr. and Mrs. Palmer the record is as follows: Charles, born March 26, 1860, died Oct. 23, 1874; Landon and Annie were twins, born in 1861; the latter died on the 9th of March, 1866; Jerusha was born Aug. 18, 1862, and died March 23 of the following year; David, born Dec. 20, 1863, died Oct. 6, 1864; Henry C., born Dec. 19, 1864; Albert, June 17, 1869; Oliver, born Aug. 1, 1871, died April 2 of the following year; Lonami, born Nov. 28, 1872; Sophia, April 12, 1874. Mr. Palmer, politically, is a straightforward Republican; he is a thorough business man, prompt to meet his obligations, and in all respects possessing the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

David Clark, the father of Mrs. Palmer, in early life was a fisherman, but later engaged in farming. His early advantages were extremely limited, and he learned to read the Bible from his wife after

they were married. The paternal great-grandfather was an Englishman by birth, and a sailor by occupation. His home was on the New England coast, and while on board ship he was at one time captured by the British and hot tar poured over him in order to make him swear allegiance to the king, but he would not comply with their wishes. During his absence, and in the time of the Revolutionary War, his wife protected her home from the ravages of the British, and upon one occasion, when they were trying to steal her calves, buckled on her husband's sword, shouldered his gun and saved her property.

ABRAHAM THOMPSON, one of the most enterprising farmers of St. Joseph Township, and a native of this State, came from St. Clair County in 1857, and took possession of his present farm of 140 acres located on section 25. Here he has engaged largely in the raising of grain and cattle, the latter being high grades, of which he has shipped annually large numbers, realizing a handsome income. The farm is well supplied with all the machinery required by the modern and progressive agriculturist, and its proprietor has long been recognized as one of the important factors in a community possessing more than ordinary intelligence and enterprise.

The birth of our subject took place near the town of Highland, Ill., Dec. 10, 1834, on the farm of his father, Hezekiah Thompson, whose family included three children, two sons and a daughter, of whom Abraham was the eldest. The family, which was originally from Virginia, settled in Kentucky during the pioneer days, whence the grandfather, Abraham Thompson, Sr., removed to St. Clair County, Ill., in 1816. Before the removal, however, he had married in his native State, a Miss Brown, and they became the parents of nine children, four sons and five daughters. Grandfather Thompson died in St. Clair County in about 1819. His wife survived him several years, finally making her home in Fayette County, this State, where her death took place.

Hezekiah Thompson, the father of our subject,



was born in Kentucky in 1813, and was but a child of three years when his parents removed to Southern Illinois. There he was reared to manhood and began the establishment of a home of his own by becoming the husband of Miss Mary Lewallen, a native of Tennessee, from which State her parents had removed to Illinois when she was but a child. After his marriage H Ezekiah Thompson and his bride remained in St. Clair County until 1835, and then took up their residence in Fayette County. Their only daughter, Eliza A., became the wife of Harry Spalding, Superintendent and Master Mechanic of bridges on the Vandalia, Terre Haute & Indianapolis Railroad. The younger son was named after the reigning President, William Henry Harrison.

Abraham Thompson passed his boyhood and youth in Fayette and Bond Counties, being nearly of age when the family removed to Fayette County. He first received the advantages of the common schools, which was supplemented by attendance at a select school. He was a bright boy, fond of books, and when quite young engaged in teaching, which he followed for some time afterward. His first business venture was in the lumber trade in St. Joseph Township, where he took charge of a sawmill and shipped large quantities of walnut lumber to different points North and South. This was cut from trees which grew on land owned by him, and he followed this business successfully for eight years, and then turned his attention to farming. Afterward he invested his surplus capital in a stock of general merchandise, including drugs and groceries, and in the space of three years had built up a good trade. His early habits, however, still clung to him, and he did not feel contented away from the farm. He accordingly abandoned mercantile pursuits and purchased the land included in his present farm, which he has now brought to a fine state of cultivation, and which bears fair comparison with anything of the kind in that section. Here, amid the comforts of his home and family, he is enjoying the fruits of his labors and the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married Feb. 24, 1858, was formerly Miss Drusilla, daughter of William and Sarah (McNutt) Peters,

who was born on her father's homestead in St. Joseph Township, Aug. 24, 1838. Of this union there are four children—Eliza A., Wallace Clark, Sarah L., the wife of N. J. Bradley, and Melinda, at home with her parents.

Mr. Thompson has served his township in many positions, covering a period of twenty years, as School Director, Assessor, Collector and Supervisor. He casts his vote with the Republican party, and both he and his estimable wife are members of the German Baptist Church.

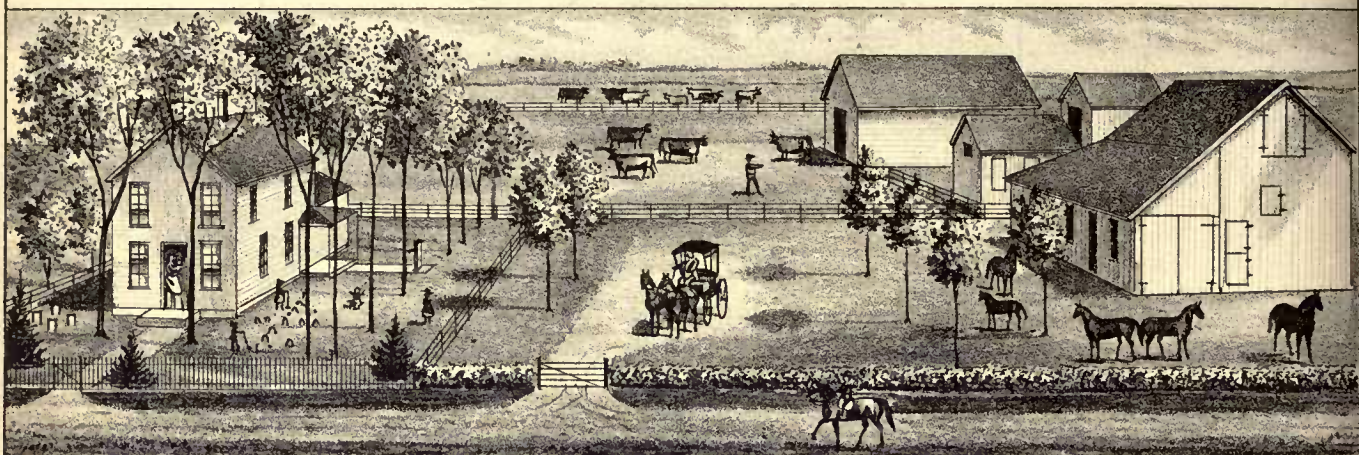
**E**DWARD T. TELLING. The gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch is a leading member of the farming community of Ayers Township. His estate embraces 326 acres of the most highly cultivated land, on section 31, where of late years he has given his attention principally to the breeding of fine stock, mostly Short-horn cattle of the best grades. The entire farm is finely located, well watered and neatly fenced, and the buildings, tastefully and substantially constructed, are as convenient in their arrangement as they are ornamental in appearance, which will be seen by an examination of the lithographic view which appears in this connection. The entire premises indicates the supervision of a man more than ordinarily intelligent, who lays his plans with deliberation and executes them with decision.

Mr. Telling is one of the finest representatives of an English farmer, a class of people to whom the West is largely indebted for its present status financially, and the law-abiding element which pervades this section of country. His early home was across the sea in Gloucestershire, England, where his birth took place April 17, 1842. There his parents, John and Hannah (Bouton) Telling, united their hands and fortunes, reared a family, and spent the remainder of their lives. John Telling was born in 1795, and after a life of successful industry departed from the scenes of his earthly labors after having arrived at the advanced age of seventy-seven years, in 1872. The mother, who was born in 1797, survived her husband thirteen years, her decease taking place in 1885 at

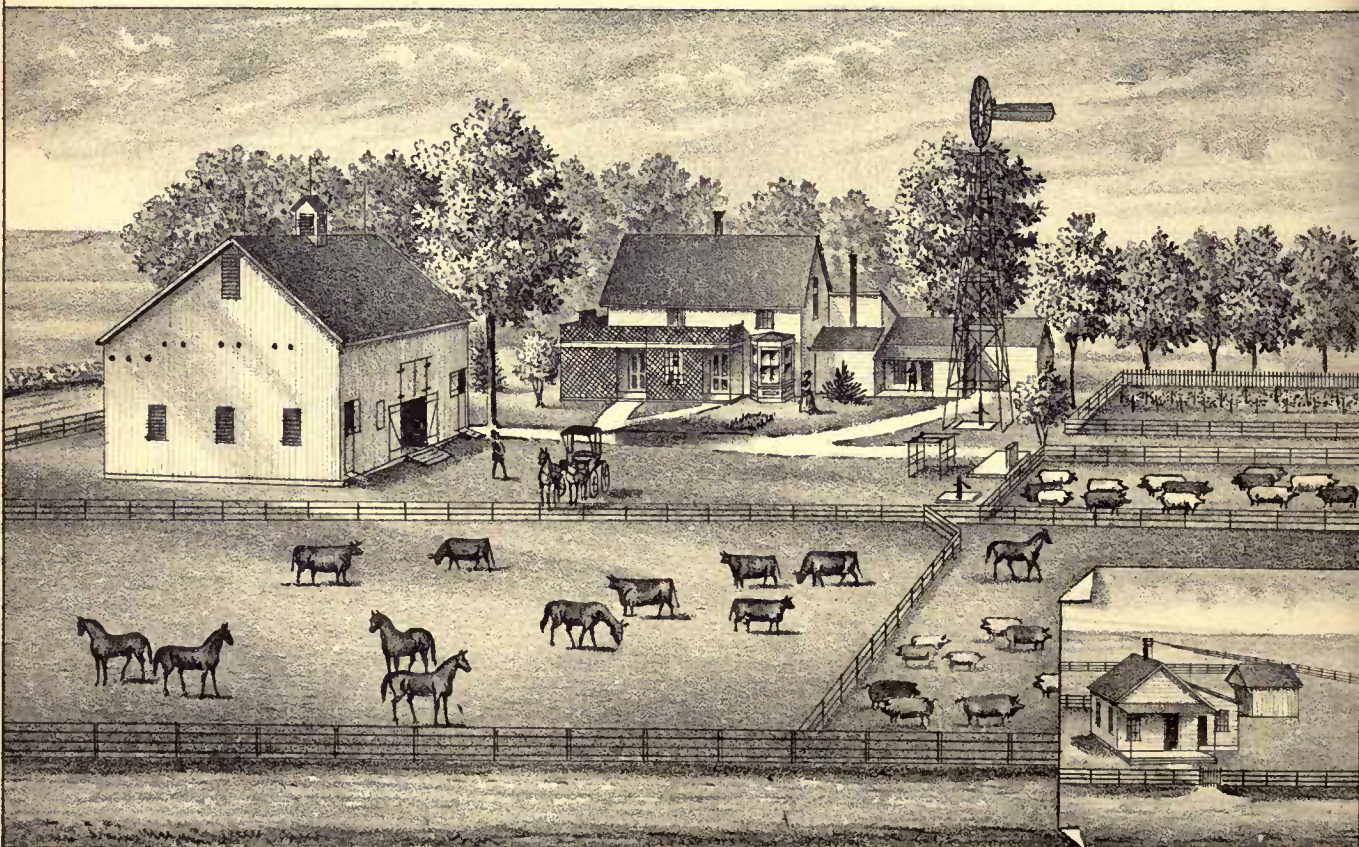


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RESIDENCE OF E.T. TELLING, SEC. 31., (R. 14. W.) AYRES TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF D. R. WILSON, (PROPR. OF BLACK BELL HERD, OF POLAND CHINA SWINE). SEC. 24, SIDNEY TOWNSHIP.



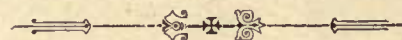
the age of eighty-eight years. The children who gathered around the family hearthstone were Isaac, Thomas, William, George, Eliza, a babe who died unnamed, Henry, Mary A., John and Edward T.

The subject of this sketch was the youngest of his father's family and remained under the parental roof variously engaged until reaching manhood. His marriage took place on the 2d of April, 1868, after he became a resident of Morgan County, Ill. His wife, who was formerly Miss Sarah F. Taylor, was a native of said county, born May 5, 1844, and the daughter of George and Polly E. (Tucker) Taylor, natives of Kentucky. George Taylor was born in 1805, removed from his native State to Illinois in 1830, followed farming all his life, and having made a good record as a man and citizen, departed this life Sept. 23, 1886. He was a staunch Union man during the war, Republican in politics, and a member of the Christian Church. The mother, who was born in 1807, is still living, and a resident of Morgan County, Ill.

Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, eleven in number, the eldest born died in infancy; Maximilia, the second daughter, became the wife of John Swigert; Edward married Miss Susan Sooy; Benjamin married Miss Sarah Delany; William married Miss Mary McCane; Casabianea married Miss Mary Scott; Phebe became the wife of George Scott; Sarah, the next in order of birth, is the wife of our subject; George married Miss Mattie Jefferson; John married Miss Sarah Spires; Shelby married Miss Belle Spires. The household of Mr. and Mrs. Telling comprises a fine family of children, eight in number, and born as follows: Nellie T., Oct. 18, 1869; George W., July 6, 1871; John W., July 27, 1873; Annie F., March 21, 1876; Mary E., Jan. 14, 1880; Hannah B., Oct. 19, 1882; Edward R., Oct. 3, 1885; Albert B., Sept. 31, 1886.

After leaving the shores of his native country in 1860, Mr. Telling first landed in Canada, and eleven months later repaired to New York State. He came to the West in the fall of 1864, locating in Morgan County, and seven years later went to Sangamon County, where he staid three years, thence went to Morgan County, and from there to this county, and purchased 160 acres of land in Ayers Township. He has been greatly prospered

in his farming operations, and fortunate in his investments, and has now doubled the original purchase of land, which through his judicial management has become one of the most fertile tracts in Central Illinois. He has taken a warm interest in the welfare of his adopted State, and few private citizens have had more influence in encouraging every enterprise calculated for its moral and financial advancement. He is one of the most influential members of the Republican party in this township, and is serving as Commissioner.



**D**URFEE R. WILSON is an extensive farmer and stock-grower, living on section 24, Sidney Township. He deals largely in pure Poland-China hogs, and exhibits some of the handsomest varieties in this part of the State. The chief of the herd is registered in Ohio Herd-Book. Mr. Wilson's son, W. D. Wilson, is a partner in the stock business. He is dealing in Holstein cattle with full-blood and high grades.

Our subject was born in Clinton County, N. Y., March 24, 1828, and is the son of Durfee and Fannie (Campbell) Wilson. His mother was a native of Worcester County, Mass., and his father was born in Leicester, the same State, Jan. 23, 1788, and died at Colchester, Vt., Oct. 17, 1850. Their family consisted of nine children: Solomon M. died when two years old; Eliza A. became the wife of Guy Loomis, and both are now dead; Harriet is the widow of Theron B. Chamberlain, and resides in New York; Nathaniel E. married Miss Mary Brownwell, and lives in Colchester, Vt.; Henderson C. married Miss Mary A. Porter, and lives in North Troy, N. Y.; he was formerly a member of the State Legislature of Vermont, having served one term in the Lower and several years in the Upper House; Durfee R. is the subject of our sketch; Solon was killed by an accident when seven years old, and Milton, married Maria Woolecott, and is living in Red Cloud, Neb.; Merritt married Charlotte Stemm, and they reside in Clinton County, N. Y. The mother of these children died July 24, 1838. On the 22d of July, 1841, her husband contracted a second marriage,



with Lydia Safford, at Cambridge, Vt.. Mrs. Lydia Wilson is still living, and is ninety-six years of age.

Durfee R., the subject of our sketch, was married on the 17th of March, 1852, to Miss Mary Ann Keeble, the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Bruce) Keeble. Her parents were both born in England, and came from the State of Vermont to Illinois in 1864, where both died in Philo Township.

Mrs. Mary A. Wilson became the mother of four children: William, born in Milton, Vt., Jan. 31, 1853, married Miss Emma M. Towner; Elizabeth M. A., born at Colchester, Vt., July 1, 1857, became the wife of Samuel J. Kesterson, and is now deceased; Georgie A. D., born in Champlain, N. Y., Oct. 29, 1859, is the wife of William Cash, living in this county. One child died in infancy.

After the death of his first wife, Mr. Wilson married again, taking for his wife Mrs. Mary (Moody) Towner, the daughter of Simon S. and Hannah (Colwell) Moody. She was born in Fountain County, Ind., April 3, 1832. Her mother was a native of New Jersey and her father of Canada. By her first husband, Mr. William Towner, she had seven children. George W., born Dec. 10, 1854, married Sarah Crosby; Benjamin F., twin brother to George, is blind, which affliction came upon him when he was nine months old; Albert E., born Nov. 18, 1857, married Miss Alice Conley, and they live at 540 Warren avenue, Chicago; Clinton S., born Aug. 11, 1861, married Latta King, and lives at 834 Madison street, Chicago; Nora H., born March 7, 1863, is single; Emma M., born Nov. 10, 1865, is the wife of Willard B. Wilson, and lives in this township; Walter G., born Aug. 8, 1868, is living in Chicago. Mr. Towner, the father of these children, was born Aug. 23, 1816, at Prairie Town, Ind., and married Miss Mary Moody, March 28, 1852, in Covington, Fountain Co., Ind. In that same month he moved from Indiana to Champaign County, Ill., where his death took place.

Of Mr. Wilson's second marriage there is one child, Theron C., born May 16, 1875. In January, 1862, Mr. Wilson, desirous of locating in the West, removed from Champaign Township, Clin-

ton Co., N. Y., to Philo Township, Ill. He remained there some four years, actively engaged in farming and buying and selling stock. He afterward located in Crittenden Township, where he remained two years, and then changed his place of residence to Terre Haute, Ind., where he still engaged in buying and selling live-stock. He also employed part of his time at the carpenter's trade and in the sale of marble. In 1870 he left Indiana to locate in this county and settled on the farm where he now resides.

Mr. Wilson is the owner of 160 acres of well-improved land, and twenty acres of timber on section 1, Sidney Township. His premises are all kept in excellent order and good repair. He has held several of the local township offices. Both himself and wife are highly esteemed members of the Presbyterian Church. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F., No. 473, at Sidney, Ill., Homer Encampment, Homer, Ill., and Canton No. 11, at Danville, Ill. In local politics he is not influenced by party spirit, but endeavors to sustain in office those whom his judgment advises him are best fitted to fill the place, but in National politics he votes the Democratic ticket.

A lithographic view of the handsome residence of Mr. Wilson, together with its surroundings, is shown on a preceding page.

ROLLIN H. MORSE, Business Manager of the Exchange Bank at Gifford, lives with his mother on section 14, in Compromise Township, where his parents located in 1869. He is a native of Kendall County, this State, born May 14, 1867, and was brought by his parents to this county when but a year old. His schooling was obtained at Rantoul and Paxton primarily, and in the fall of 1884 he entered the State University at Champaign. After finishing the preparatory he entered the regular course, but ten weeks later was called home on account of the illness of his father, which terminated fatally May 6, 1887. Business matters then demanded his presence in connection with the estate, and taking charge of his father's bank he assumed its management and has



carried it on with great credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. Although little over twenty years of age he possesses the discretion of many a man older, and is also of the highest moral character, interested in religious matters, a member of the Baptist Church, and an earnest worker in the Sabbath-school. He furnishes an example which might be imitated with profit by many even older than himself, and by his upright and manly course is proving a source of comfort to his mother and pride to his friends.

Our subject is the son of James M. and Elizabeth J. (Hart) Morse. His father was for many years one of the most prominent and valued citizens of Compromise Township. His birth took place in Cazenovia, Madison Co., N. Y., June 19, 1836, and he traced his ancestry back to the Puritans, whose descendants were among the pioneer settlers of New England. He spent his boyhood and youth in Madison County, his education being completed at the Oneida Conference Seminary, a Methodist institution at Cazenovia, in which he pursued his studies for a period of six years. When twenty years of age he determined to seek his fortunes in the great West. He first went into Wisconsin, and for a year was alternately engaged in farming and teaching, and the year following became a resident of Kendall County, this State, where he remained until 1868, pursuing the occupations of farming and teaching, and some years later came to this county and took up his abode near what is now the town of Gifford.

In the meantime Mr. Morse had purchased 220 acres of land, and in the spring of 1869 turned his whole attention to its improvement and cultivation. In due time the soil responded to his labors and he found himself on the highway to prosperity. He put up a fine residence with a good barn and all other necessary out-buildings, and when the homestead was complete as a country residence turned his attention more to strictly business pursuits. Among these he purchased a stock of drugs and opened a store in Gifford, which he conducted until January, 1887, then sold out. He had in the meantime, in May, 1885, inaugurated an Exchange Bank at Gifford, the operations of which he superintended until obliged to abandon it on account of

ill-health, when it practically passed into the hands of his son Rollin.

The death of James M. Morse took place on the 6th of May, 1887. During the years of his health and strength he was active and industrious in his habits and regarded among the most useful citizens of Compromise Township. He was the author of many measures tending to its welfare, and contributed generously to the establishment and maintenance of religious and educational institutions. He became a member of the Baptist Church when a youth sixteen years old, and was actively connected with it the balance of his life, being one of the organizers of that society at Gifford and doing all in his power to encourage and build up the society. His political influence was cast in support of Republican principles, and he was entrusted with the important local offices, in which he discharged his duty with fidelity and with satisfaction to his townsmen. He was Postmaster of Gifford for a period of six years and until the change of administration. He was confined to his house the greater part of the time for a year and a half previous to his death, which was occasioned by partial paralysis of the brain. He died peacefully, surrounded by his family and friends, and his remains were laid to rest in Welles Cemetery.

The mother of our subject was the daughter of Dennis and Elvira (Dutton) Hart, and was born Jan. 9, 1838, in Chautauqua County, N. Y. She attended the common schools in early childhood and later the select schools, remaining a member of her father's family until her marriage. She became the wife of James M. Morse on the 10th of October, 1861, the marriage taking place at her home in Chautauqua. The young people soon afterward removed to Lisbon, Kendall Co., Ill., and after four years removed to Sandwich, in DeKalb County, and from there two years later to Compromise Township. In the spring of 1869 they took possession of the present homestead of the family. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Morse has conducted the affairs of the farm intelligently and successfully, and is also proprietor of the Exchange Bank. Of her union with James Morse there were born four children, of whom the record is as follows: Hattie M. was born Aug. 22, 1862, and be-



came the wife of William A. Wooldridge, Oct. 2, 1883; Rollin H., of our sketch, was the next; Adelbert, born Sept. 17, 1869, died the 28th of the same month; Jedediah D. was born Oct. 13, 1874. Mrs. Morse is connected with the Baptist Church, and is a lady highly esteemed in the community for her rare business ability and the admirable manner in which she conducts her business affairs, and contributes in assisting to elevate the tone of society around her and the moral and religious element of the community.

Dennis Hart, the father of Mrs. Morse, was a native of Connecticut, born Sept. 2, 1798. He was reared to farming pursuits by his father, who tilled the soil before him and followed agriculture all his life. He was married, Feb. 1, 1825, to Miss Elvira Dutton, and soon afterward removed from his native State to Chautauqua County, N. Y., where he purchased 120 acres of timber land and proceeded to open up a farm in the wilderness. He cut down the forest trees, prepared the land for cultivation, was uniformly successful in his operations as a farmer and business man, and became prominent in the affairs of that locality. He put up a fine residence which was the pride of that section for a quarter of a century, and rested from his earthly labors on the 8th of September, 1868. The mother of Mrs. Morse, formerly Miss Elvira Dutton, was born Dec. 22, 1802, and was the youngest of a family of five children. She is still living, having reached the advanced age of eighty-four years, making her home with one of her children in the town of Sherman, N. Y. Her children were named Cornelia E., Mary E., Joseph D., Henry M., Elizabeth J., Harriett A., Rollin W. and Abbie M.



**H**ENRY M. MORRIS, proprietor of Rantoul Nursery, and also operating an extensive apiary, is pleasantly located on section 2, in Rantoul Township, and is meeting with success in the prosecution of his chosen calling. His natural tastes have seemingly well fitted him for these specialties. He has fifty stands of bees and his nursery includes several acres of land, with

all the appliances necessary to the successful prosecution of his labors. He occupies with his family a tasteful and substantial residence, surrounded by choice shrubs and trees, and on all sides indicating the cultivated tastes of its owner.

Mr. Morris was born in Elgin, Kane County, this State, Oct. 14, 1846, and is the son of Edwin and Mary A. (Benson) Morris, the former a native of Connecticut, of Welsh ancestry, and the latter of Portage County, Ohio. The parental household included eight children, and the mother departed this life in 1856, when her son, Henry M., was a lad ten years of age. The father is now making his home with his son, our subject.

The great-grandparents of Mr. Morris removed from Connecticut to Ohio, settling in Portage County in the pioneer days. The grandfather was a shoemaker by trade, but took up a tract of land which, with the assistance of his sons, he cleared and improved into a good farm, where he and his aged partner spent the last years of their lives in comfort and contentment. Their son, Edwin, was a youth of sixteen years when his parents made the journey overland to Ohio. He was married in Portage County and lived there until the spring of 1846, when he started with his family for the prairies of Illinois. Their outfit consisted of a team of horses and a wagon, and they carried their household goods and provisions, camping out at night and cooking by the wayside. They located first upon the present site of the city of Elgin, which was then a small village, and the father engaged in teaming, transporting wheat to St. Louis and bringing back merchandise.

In the fall of 1846 Mr. Morris sent his family back to Ohio while he crossed the Mississippi for the purpose of looking over the country, in the meantime visiting Wisconsin, but finding nothing desirable returned to Ohio and purchased land in Break Neck Township, Portage County. From this the timber had not yet been cleared and he set about cutting down the trees, and in due time had several acres under a good state of cultivation. He bought a number of cows and engaged in dairy farming until the spring of 1864, when he decided to once more try his fortune in the West. Coming to this county he engaged in the livery business at



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David Peabody



Rantoul, and also carried on farming on a tract of land outside the limits. He was thus engaged until 1882, when he proceeded to Arkansas and bought railroad land, where he opened up a good farm and lived four years. He then returned, and is now in business with his son, the subject of our sketch.

Henry M. was fairly educated in his youth, his studies not being completed at the time of the late war. In May, 1861, when but eighteen years old, he determined to go into the army, and accordingly enlisted in Co. D, 171st Ohio Vol. Inf., but was captured by Morgan, the raider, during the summer, and being paroled returned home. He afterward came to Illinois with his parents, and in February, 1865, re-enlisted in Co. G, 151st Ill. Vol. Inf., serving until the close of the war. After his honorable discharge he returned to Rantoul and was occupied as a carpenter until 1870, when he engaged in the hardware trade, and a year later embarked in the lumber business. In 1872 he opened a grocery store which he carried on two years, then sold out and purchased the Rantoul Nursery which, in connection with bee-keeping, he has carried on successfully and which is a source of pleasure as well as profit.

Mr. Morris was married, Oct. 7, 1868, to Miss Harriet N. Myers, who was born in Dansville, N. Y., Oct. 13, 1847, and is the daughter of Peter and Theresa (Gardner) Myers. Of this union there are six children—Charles M., Ethelroy B., Mabel L., Keith G., Helen F. and Theresa Rose. Our subject is Republican in politics, and with his wife, is a member in good standing of the Congregational Church.



**D**AVID PEABODY, an enterprising and prosperous farmer of St. Joseph Township, and whose portrait is presented on the opposite page, is pleasantly located on section 13, where he has a good farm of 208 acres and is surrounded by all the comforts of life. His history, briefly narrated, is substantially as follows: The Peabodys were originally from Scotland. Our subject was born in Switzerland County, Ind., Sept. 11, 1833, and traces his ancestry back to New

England, of which his grandfather, Stephen Peabody, was a native, having been born in Massachusetts. From there, when a young man, he removed to Scottsville, N. Y., thence to Pennsylvania, and from there to Switzerland County, Ind., where he permanently located, and spent the remainder of his days. He married a Miss Clark, and they reared a family of three daughters and four sons. Among the latter was Adolphus A., who was born in New York, accompanied his father to Indiana when a lad fourteen years old, there grew to manhood, and married Miss Pernelia Lester, who became the mother of our subject. Her parents were David and Sarah (Applebee) Lester, of German descent.

After their marriage the parents of our subject remained residents of Switzerland County, Ind., until the spring of 1834, then removed to La Gro, Wabash Co., Ind., where the death of the father took place in 1880, when he was seventy-eight years of age, his birth having occurred in 1802. The wife and mother is still living, making her home in La Gro, Ind. She was born in 1811, and by her marriage with Adolphus Peabody became the mother of eight children, five sons and three daughters. Of these, one died in infancy. Sarah, the wife of Joseph Pratt, is a resident of Wabash County, Ind.; David, of our sketch, was the twin of his sister Sarah; Hiram is now deceased; Edward and Cyrus are living on a farm in Wabash County, Ind.; Mary is the wife of Henry Stoops, of that county; William A., the youngest, is farming in La Gro Township, Ind.

The boyhood and youth of David Peabody were spent after the manner of most farmers' sons, attending the district school in winter, and assisting his parents around the homestead the balance of the year. After the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in Co. G, 72d Ill. Vol. Inf., and followed the vicissitudes of army life for three years. He was present at some of the most important battles of the war, namely, Champion Hills, Black River, and the siege and capture of Vicksburg, where he was detailed as a sharpshooter. Afterward he went to Nashville and Franklin, Tenn., where the enemy was met and vanquished, and after various other engagements and skirmishes, in which he was fortu-



nate in escaping without a wound or imprisonment, one day there came news of the final surrender of Lee's army, and he and his comrades not long afterward received their honorable discharge.

After being mustered out of service Mr. Peabody returned to this county and began making preparations for the establishment of a future home. One of the first important steps was his marriage, in 1868, to Miss Anna Hillegas, who was a native of Wabash County, Ind., and the daughter of Jonathan and Mary E. (Brosier) Hillegas. The latter were of German descent, but natives of Pennsylvania. Our subject and his bride located not long afterward upon the farm which has since remained their permanent dwelling-place, and in the community with whose interests they have been identified for a period of nearly twenty years. Upon this Mr. P. has effected all the improvements which now attract the eye of the passer-by, and which constitutes one of the most desirable homesteads in St. Joseph Township. The household circle includes one daughter and two sons, namely, Eugene F., Charles A. and Mary Bertha.

Our subject and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at St. Joseph, and Mr. P. belongs to St. Joseph Post No. 220, G. A. R., in which he takes great interest. He is one of the valuable factors of the community which has known him long and well, and by whom he is held in the highest respect. In politics he is an uncompromising Republican.



**D**R. WILLIAM A. CONKEY, one of the honored pioneers of Illinois, came to the State with his parents in 1830, nearly fifty-seven years ago. The face of the country at that time was vastly different from the picture which it now presents, and our subject, in common with other sons of pioneers, is in possession of a rich experience dating over a long period, during which he has witnessed changes more strange than fiction. He commenced life in a modest manner, has kept full pace with the march of progress and civilization, and is now numbered among the extensive farmers and stock-growers of the Prairie

State. His property embraces 400 acres of finely cultivated land on section 7, Homer Township, a part of which he took possession of in 1852. He afterward added to his real estate as time passed on and his means accumulated, improving his land with shapely and substantial buildings, enclosing the fields with fences, and supplying all the requisites of a first-class country estate.

Dr. Conkey is of New England birth and parentage, having first opened his eyes to the light in Franklin County, Mass., Dec. 6, 1820, and being the son of Alexander and Lucy (McCulloch) Conkey, who were also natives of the Bay State. The father of our subject, who was born Nov. 1, 1789, came to Illinois with his family in 1830, and located first in Edgar County. Although a stone cutter by trade he engaged in farming after coming to Illinois, and was thus occupied until his death, which occurred Nov. 9, 1859. He was a man of much force of character, decidedly orthodox in his views religiously, and a member of the Presbyterian Church, in which he held the office of Deacon for many years. He was a great admirer of the principles of the Masonic fraternity, with which he united when a young man. The mother of our subject was born March 11, 1789, the same year as her husband, and passed away the same year in which he died, her decease occurring in July. She was a most worthy Christian lady, who sympathized with her husband in his views and beliefs.

Of the union of Alexander and Lucy Conkey there were born four children, of whom the record is as follows: The eldest son, Otis M., was first married to Miss Naomi Morton, who died three or four years afterward; he next married Miss Sarah Taylor. Hyslop A. was married thrice; his first wife, Miss Zilpha Sweet, lived only a few years, and he was then married to Miss Jane Keyes; this lady also survived but a short time, and for his third wife he married Miss Esther Bales. Lusetta S. married Alanson Baldwin, and is now deceased; William A. is our subject.

William A. Conkey was a lad of ten years when his parents made the long journey from Massachusetts to Illinois, but he still remembers many of the incidents connected therewith, especially the camping at night and cooking by the wayside, and




making their beds in the wagons. He remained a member of the parental household until twenty-three years of age, and then started out to make his own way in life with a small capital of \$2.50, with which he purchased a town lot in what is now the village of Homer. His boyhood and youth, aside from the ordinary farm labors, had been partially spent in attendance at the school carried on in a log cabin, and later, having a taste for the study of medicine, he repaired to Louisville, Ky., and after taking a course in the college there, was pronounced fitted for the duties of the profession. After making a trial of this for a period of nine years, during which time he could not really interest himself in the profession, he abandoned it and turned his attention to farming. In this latter he has been greatly prospered, as his fine farm of 400 acres, with its well-kept stock and ample buildings, gives evidence. A view of the place is shown in this work. He has among his herd of Short-horn cattle some of the finest animals in Central Illinois, and both as a farmer and stock-grower has attained an enviable reputation in this section of the State.

Dr. Conkey has also been prominent in the affairs of his township, representing it on the Board of Supervisors ten years in succession, serving as Justice of the Peace and Commissioner of Highways, and being called upon to assist in many of its important measures for the general good. Upon first exercising the right of suffrage he cast his vote with the old-line Whigs, but upon the abandonment of the old party cheerfully endorsed the principles of the one built upon its ruins, and has been a true-blue Republican since the organization of the party. Socially he is a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity, having attained to the 3d degree, and has also occupied various important offices among the brethren, being now connected with Homer Lodge No. 199.

While a resident of Edgar County, Ill., Mr. Conkey made the acquaintance of Miss Elizabeth Wilson, who became his wife on the 19th of November, 1843. Of this marriage there were born two children, both of whom died in infancy, the mother also passing to the other life soon afterward. Her death occurred Aug. 15, 1847, when she was about twenty-eight years of age, her birth having taken

place July 21, 1819. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married May 31, 1849, was formerly Miss Sarah V. Saddler, a Virginia lady, born Nov. 20, 1827, and the daughter of William and Keziah (Brooks) Saddler, also natives of the Old Dominion. They removed from there to Illinois in 1840, locating in Vermilion County, where the death of the mother occurred some years later. Mr. Saddler afterward removed to Champaign County, where he died in about 1863. The children of this household were John C. H., William I., Jane E., Sarah V. and Lucy.

Dr. Conkey came to Homer Township from Edgar County in 1843. The family of nine children born to himself and wife is recorded as follows: Aubert J., the eldest, married Miss Susan E. Butler; Byron M. died when four years of age; Francis, born Dec. 3, 1854, died on the 23d of February following; Lucy was born Dec. 1, 1856; Bruce T., April 27, 1859; Carl, July 10, 1861; Emma S., born Nov. 3, 1863, became the wife of E. P. Babb, on the 9th of October, 1884; Frank M. was born May 3, 1868, and Fred B., Oct. 24, 1870. These children constitute a fine family, having inherited the business ability of their father and the virtues of their mother.

 ANTHONY COYLE, the descendant of an old family dating back to the Revolutionary War, is one of the prominent farmers and stock-growers of Kerr Township. He was born April 5, 1840, in Baltimore, Md., and is the son of Martin and Mary (Goian) Coyle. Martin Coyle was born in Maryland, of which State his father, John Coyle, was also a native. His mother, Catherine, was the daughter of Thomas and Margaret Goian, of North Carolina.

Both of Anthony Coyle's grandfathers served in the Revolutionary War, and likewise in the War of 1812. Martin Coyle, his father, was a wholesale merchant in Baltimore, and died when Anthony was but eight years of age. Deprived of his father's protection and care he left home at the age of twelve years to begin the battle of life for himself. He first visited some relatives in Wheeling, W. Va.,



for whom he worked for a short time. Thence he went to Warwick, near Zanesville, Ohio, and there engaged in teaming. In the spring of 1854 he came to Chicago, and thence two months later, returned to Ohio, sojourning for a brief time in Barnesville, but finding no favorable opening for business there he returned the same autumn to Illinois, and located in Urbana, this county, where he engaged in farming for Charles McKinney. He worked in this manner for various parties until 1859, when he was engaged for two years as assistant in managing the farm of F. B. Battles, in Harwood Township. In the fall of 1860 he went to New Orleans, and for a time engaged in teaming.

While completing arrangements for buying horses in Illinois and shipping them South, Mr. Coyle's negotiations were cut short by the breaking out of the Civil War. He then returned to Illinois and resumed farming. But having descended from a military ancestry, his patriotism prevailed and he entered the service of his country, enlisting July 10, 1861, in Co. D, 2d Ill. Vol. Cav., under Capt. Charles E. Verrick. He served until June 14, 1863, when he was discharged on account of disability, having received a gunshot wound Dec. 20, 1862, at Holly Springs, Miss. He had been with the Army of the Tennessee during the entire time of his service, and was with Grant at Holly Springs, when his supplies were all destroyed by the rebel General, Van Dorn.

Mr. Coyle was united in marriage with Miss Georgiana Kuder, Nov. 16, 1863. Mrs. C. was the youngest child of Solomon and Frances (Skinner) Kuder, natives of Ohio. For three years Mr. C. had the management of his father-in-law's farm. On the 29th of October, 1864, his beloved wife was removed by death, leaving one child, George Solomon, who is now deceased. June 14, 1866, Mr. C. was married the second time, to Miss Amanda J. Kuder, the youngest daughter of John and Cornelia (Edson) Kuder, natives of North Carolina. In 1868 he made his first purchase of land, which consisted of forty acres of wild prairie in Kerr Township, located on section 32. He has remained here since the winter of 1869, cultivating and improving his farm, to which he has in the meantime added forty acres.

To Mr. and Mrs. Coyle there were born four children, only two of whom are living, namely, Clara Permelia and John Franklin. The deceased are Mary Frances and Joseph Benjamin. Mr. Coyle is actively engaged in farming and stock-raising, giving special attention to breeding Bertrand and Messenger horses, and Poland-China hogs. He is also interested in public affairs, having served four terms as Supervisor, six years as Road Commissioner, seven as School Trustee, and about six as Director. He belongs to the Democratic party and takes an active part in local politics. Himself and wife are both members of the Methodist Church.

GEORGE H. REED. The history of this gentleman, who is well known in the vicinity of Rantoul, as a skillful breeder of Percheron horses, first opened his eyes to the light near the town of Marcellus in Onondaga County, N. Y., March 15, 1833. He is of English ancestry, and his paternal great-grandfather became a resident of Massachusetts during the early settlement of New England. He married and reared a family, and among his sons was Zebulon, who married Miss Elizabeth Tracy. They reared a family of two sons and five daughters, among them being Jonathan, the father of our subject. The latter was born in the town of Concord, Mass., in 1804, and became, with his parents, a resident of Marcellus, N. Y., four years later. He is still living, an energetic and active old gentleman, eighty-three years of age.

Our subject grew to manhood in his native county, and when twenty-three years of age started out for himself, drifting westward, and finally engaged as traveling salesman for a commission house in Toledo, Ohio. In 1859 he returned to his native town, having chosen one of its daughters for his future wife. This lady was Miss Martha, daughter of William and Sarah Sarr. They were married in 1859, and took up their residence in Cayuga County, where Mr. Reed engaged in farming and remained there until 1868, when he came into this county and purchased a farm on section 17, in Ludlow Township. He followed agricult-



nural pursuits until the fall of 1871, and then, desiring to change his occupation, left the farm in charge of a tenant, and going into Rantoul, purchased vehicles and horses and engaged in the livery business. He was thus occupied for perhaps a year, and then became interested in Percheron horses, to the breeding of which he turned his attention, and to which he seems eminently fitted, judging from the success with which he has operated. Among his favorites are Comet, a jet black; Charles, dark gray, and Oliver, still darker and dappled. These creatures are of magnificent proportions, and the owner may readily be pardoned for his pride in them. The business consumes the larger portion of his time.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Reed, four in number—Grace A., George H., Jr., Blanche M. and Kate S.—are all living at home with their parents, and form a bright and interesting family. The parental family of our subject included six sons and five daughters, all of whom lived to mature years and nine still survive. They are located mostly in the East, and all have comfortable homes while living honest and worthy lives, in accordance with the early training received from their excellent parents.



**F**REDERICK A. BEISSER, a successful and skillful market gardener of Champaign Township, has been a resident of this section since the spring of 1855, and a year later located on the snug homestead which he now owns and occupies. Here he has a good frame house, and for the prosecution of his calling, has nine greenhouses. He raises the first vegetables of each season, and finds a good market for his earliest produce at the city of Chicago. Later in the season he sells vegetables at Champaign and Urbana. He has a good understanding of his business, seems naturally adapted to it, and takes pride in producing the finest specimens of the garden and greenhouse.

Mr. Beisser was born in the Province of Saxony, Prussia, Aug. 12, 1825, and five years later removed with his parents to Brandenburg, where he attended school until fourteen years old. The family then returned to Saxony, locating in the

city of Magdeburg, where he lived until eighteen years old. His parents soon afterward began to make preparations to emigrate to the United States, and on the 10th of July following, set sail from Hamburg, arriving in New York on the 20th of September, after a very stormy passage. They proceeded to Buffalo, via the Hudson River and Erie Canal, and remained residents of that city for three years. From there they removed to Mahoning County, Ohio, whence, after four years they removed to Cleveland, and were residents of the Forest City for seven years following. In 1855 they came to this county. The mother died a short time afterward. The father then returned to Cleveland, where he spent the last years of his life.

While in Mahoning County, Ohio, Mr. Beisser was employed in a coal mine, and after taking up his residence in Cleveland, engaged as clerk in a drug-store, remaining six years under one employer. In the meantime he gained a good understanding of the business, and then set up a store for himself. This was destroyed by fire eighteen months later, and having lost all his possessions, he concluded to emigrate to the farther West. Coming into Champaign County, he engaged as clerk in a general store, where he was employed for six months, and then became connected with the mechanical department of the Illinois Central Railroad, most of his time being occupied in repairing. After two years he was placed in charge of a gang of men in Effingham County. After a year thus employed, he purchased a tract of unimproved prairie land on section 24, in Champaign Township, which, after another year, he sold out, and in 1858 took possession of his present place. Upon this he has effected marked improvements, and is doing a profitable and steadily increasing business, enlarging each year his facilities for the raising of choice garden products. He is universally respected by his fellow-townsmen, and in politics inclines to Democratic principles, making it a point, however, to cast his vote for the men whom he believes to be the best qualified for office. He commenced in life at the foot of the ladder, and has attained to a good position in the community, with an assured competency for his old age.

Mr. Beisser was married in Buffalo, N. Y., in



1846, to Miss Amelia Meissner. Mrs. Beisser was born in the Province of Silesia, Prussia. They have no children of their own, but are supplying the place of kind parents to an adopted son, Robert J. Fieg.



**W**ILLIAM J. PETERS, a representative of one of the pioneer families of Champaign County, was born on his father's homestead in St. Joseph Township, Feb. 3, 1834. Here William Peters, Sr., first settled in 1827, making his first purchase of eighty acres with five yoke of oxen. He afterward added to his real estate, and in due time had a good farm of 120 acres, which to-day bears fair comparison with the homesteads adjacent. The family residence is a substantial and roomy structure, two stories in height, and with its adjoining out-buildings invariably attracts the attention of the passer-by. The stock and farm machinery are of the best description, and the entire premises indicates the industry and taste of the proprietor.

The parents of our subject, William and Sarah (McNutt) Peters, who were born in Kentucky, emigrated from the Blue Grass regions to Indiana, whence they moved to Champaign County, in 1827, locating three miles south of the present town site of St. Joseph, on section 19. Here Mr. Peters lived and toiled industriously until 1862, when he rested from his earthly labors. The wife and mother survived several years, her death finally taking place on the old homestead. Their thirteen children all lived to maturity and included seven sons and six daughters. Of these one died when about nineteen years old; eleven married, and have families of their own.

William J. Peters, who was the seventh child of his parents, was reared on the homestead, educated in the district school, and remained with his parents until reaching his majority. He then located upon the eighty acres which constitutes a part of his present homestead, where he commenced tilling the soil on his own account and was prospered. After he had laid the foundation for a future home, he was united in marriage with Miss Jemima Penny, in the spring of 1858, and they took up

their residence on his first purchase. The wife of our subject was born in Madison County, Ohio, in 1840, and is the daughter of Joseph and Rhoda A. (Johnson) Penny.

The household of Mr. Peters and his wife was gradually enlarged until eleven little ones had been added to the family. Of these but eight are now living, namely, Henry C., who married Miss Susan M. Foreman, and is now a resident of Piatt County; Joseph R., who married Miss Mary Stanner; William A., who married Mary L. Harvey; Sarah E., Eliza J., wife of William Ridinger; Cyrus E., Elizabeth A., Arlis O. John C., the eldest child, died in infancy; Amanda C., when three years old, and Addie F., in infancy.

Mr. Peters has been a useful member of his community, serving as Commissioner of Highways, Road Overseer, School Director, and in other positions where his clear head and cool judgment proved of great benefit to his fellow-citizens. He was reared in the Democratic faith, to which he still adheres, although meddling little with politics, except to exercise the rights and duties of a free-born American citizen at the polls.



**G**EORGE K. LARGENT is the owner of a fine estate containing 160 acres, located on section 23, Urbana Township. He is the descendant of an old Virginia family, and was born Oct. 2, 1833, in Hampshire County, W. Va., twenty-six miles east of Romney. His parents were natives of Virginia, and never left that State. His father, Lewis Largent, was twice married. His second wife was the daughter of Abner Clark, and the mother of George K. The families of each marriage comprised sixteen children.

George Largent was brought up on his father's farm in Hampshire County, and remained at home until his twenty-second year, when his marriage with Miss Naomi Harmon took place. Mrs. Largent is the daughter of Samuel Harmon, a resident of Pendleton County, W. Va. During the progress of the Civil War, Mr. Largent lost all of his property; his horses and cattle were captured and his place



laid waste by the confederate troops. His business was so broken up by this disaster that in August, 1862, he left the South and removed to Peoria County, Ill. After remaining there three years he changed his residence, in 1868, to Philo Township, Champaign County, where for six years he conducted a rented farm. Having recovered from his financial-embarassment he then purchased his present homestead. His land is in a fine state of cultivation and well improved, and he is chiefly engaged in general farming.

Our subject and wife have had a family of seven children. The first born, Jacob W., died in his twenty-first year; Elizabeth C. is the wife of Mr. Rhinehard, a resident of this county; Samuel D. is Principal of the High School at Tolono; George G. is a prosperous farmer residing in Philo Township; John A. is a teacher of high standing in his profession; Charles A. is an active, enterprising farmer, and Rosa M. resides at home with her parents. Mrs. Largent and two of her sons are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Almost at the beginning of his business career Mr. Largent was seriously crippled in resources by the devastations of war, which, wherever it sweeps through a country leaves misery and desolation in its track; anguish and sorrow are its heritage, and it will yet be many years before the country recovers from the clash of arms which shook the Republic from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Through trial and adversity, Mr. Largent has born himself with the courage of a brave man, and by energy and industry has to a great extent retrieved the losses of the past.



**P**ETER MYERS, deceased. The subject of the following history located in Rantoul Township during the pioneer days and became closely identified with its development. He was a man of more than ordinary ability, and was at once recognized as eminently fitted to be a leader of the community. After occupying the minor offices of the township he was, in 1868, elected as Sheriff of Champaign County, the duties of which office he discharged in a creditable man-

ner for a period of two years. He was reared to farming pursuits which, however, he only followed about five years after his marriage, his mind inclining more to trade than agriculture, and during the latter part of his life he was engaged mostly in the lumber business, his transactions extending over a large section of country.

Mr. Myers was a native of Greenbush, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., born Nov. 19, 1809. His father, Peter Myers, Sr., was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., and his grandfather, also named Peter, was of German parentage, the exact location of his birth not being known. He carried on a farm in Dutchess County for a number of years, and then retired to Greenbush, where he spent his last days. His sons followed in his footsteps, also tilling the soil. The father of our subject carried on farming for a number of years in Rensselaer County, and then retiring to the village of Greenbush, spent his last years in peace and quiet. His children were eight in number, four of whom survive.

Peter Myers, of this sketch, remained under the home roof until reaching manhood, and upon starting out in life for himself made it his first business to secure a companion and helpmeet to share his fortunes. The maiden of his choice, Miss Theresa Gardner, became his wife Sept. 1, 1835, and the following year, with a team of horses and a wagon, they went overland into Genesee County, and located upon a farm which they occupied for five years. Mr. Myers then began dealing in lumber, his operations commencing at Portage, N. Y. In 1840 he removed to Dansville, Livingston Co., N. Y., where he resided until 1850, and thence removed to Canisteo, Steuben County, where he became the owner of a sawmill, which he conducted until 1855. In the spring of that year he migrated to this State and county, purchasing a tract of wild land in Tolono Township, which he occupied two and one-half years, effecting what improvement he could in that short time. He then removed to the city of Champaign, where his family resided two and one-half years. Mr. Myers in the meantime establishing a lumber trade at Rantoul. In 1861 he took up his residence at Rantoul, where his death occurred Jan. 31, 1880.

Mr. Myers was a man of decided views upon all



matters of general interest, and before the organization of the Republicans was an old-line Whig. After the abandonment of that party he cast his lot with the Republicans, and was by them elected Sheriff in 1868, serving his full term. Both he and his wife were members in good standing of the Congregational Church at Rantoul. Mrs. Myers is a native of Stephentown, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., born July 22, 1815. Her father, Lodowick Gardner, was a native of Rhode Island, in which State his father located soon after his marriage. A few years afterward they went to Rensselaer County, and took up a tract of timber land, in the cultivation and improvement of which Grandfather Gardner was engaged the remainder of his life. The father of Mrs. M. grew to manhood in Rensselaer County, was married and reared his family in Stephentown, where he died in about 1824. Her mother, who was formerly Miss Chloe Bull, was a native of Connecticut, and the daughter of Abner Bull, who removed from that State to Rensselaer County, N. Y., during its early settlement, and there died at the age of ninety-one years.

Two children were born to our subject and wife: Harriet N., the wife of H. M. Morris, of Rantoul, and Helen T., a teacher of music, who resides with her mother. They occupy a pleasant home within the village limits, and enjoy the society of a large circle of friends.



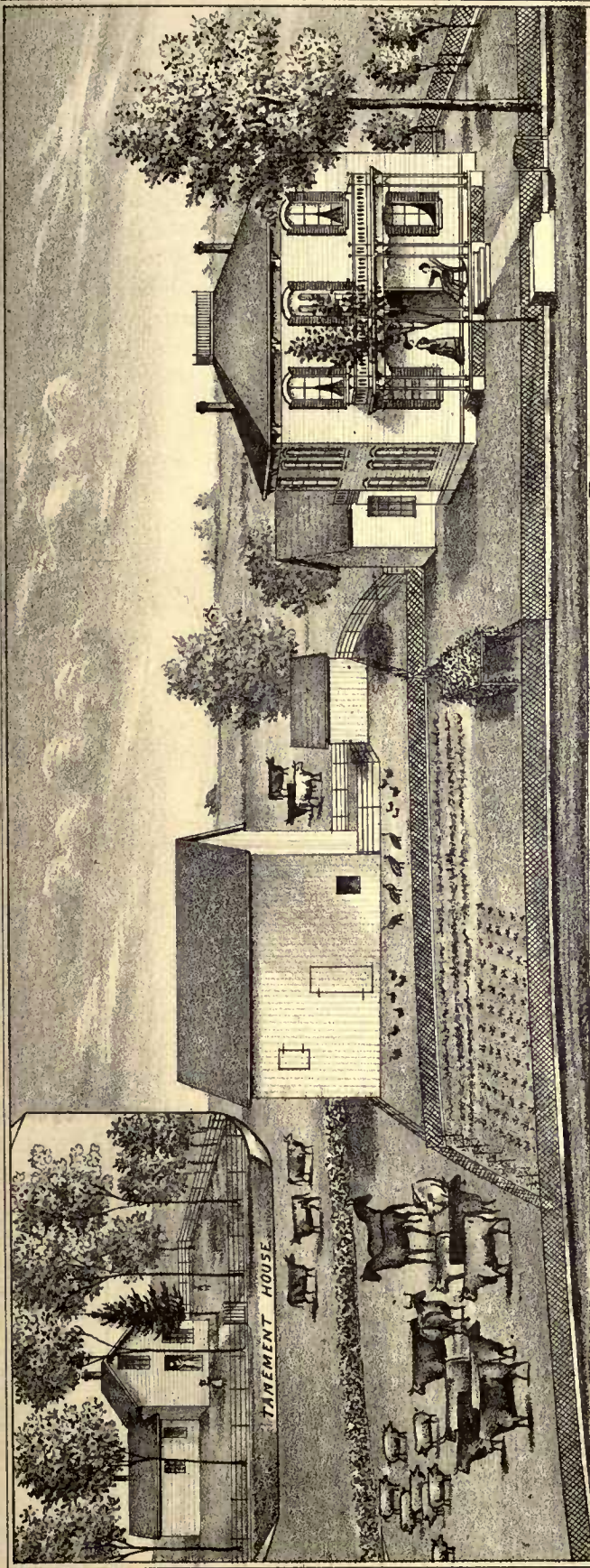
**WILLIAM FLETCHER.** In presenting this biographical notice of one of the leading farmers of Champaign County, and a gentleman who thoroughly represents its progressive element, it is well to advert to the life story of those from whom he drew his origin. Joseph Fletcher, the father of our subject, was born in Kirby Moorside, Yorkshire, England, Sept. 27, 1781. His parents were William and Elizabeth Fletcher, also natives of Yorkshire, where they spent their entire lives, and were laid to rest in the churchyard at Kirby Moorside. They left as a legacy to their children a record of kindly and upright lives,

which were spent in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture.

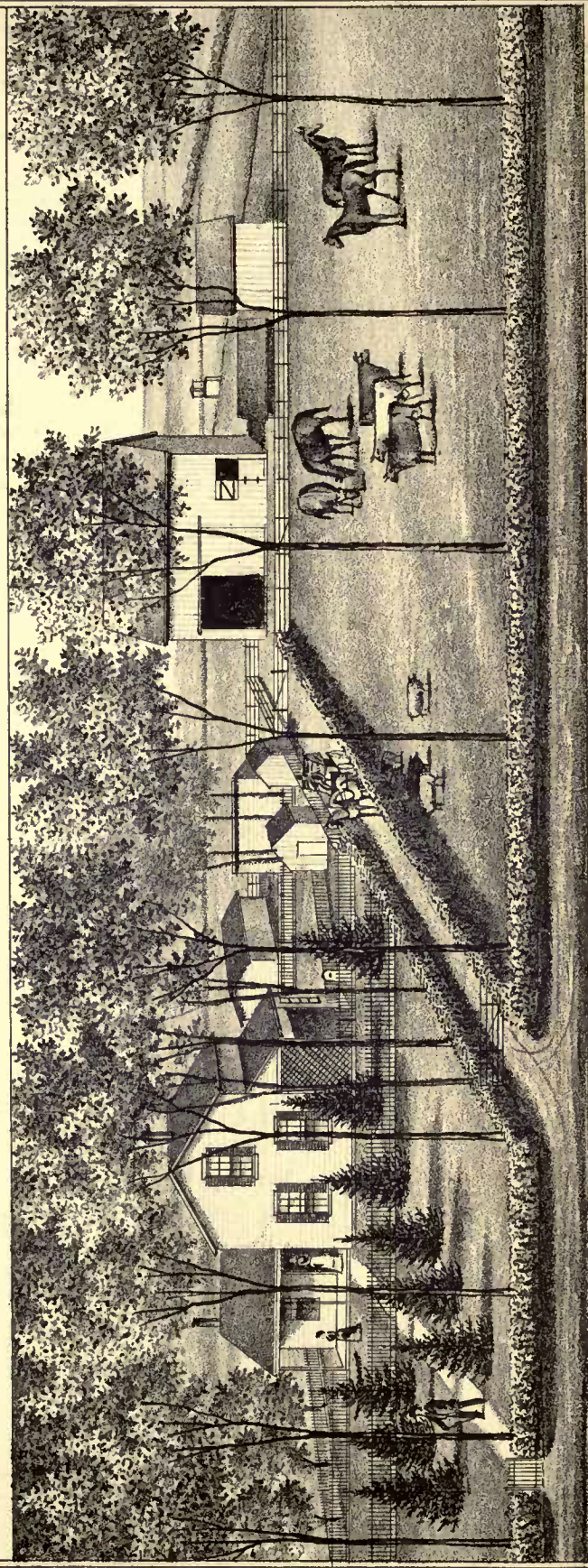
Joseph Fletcher, after his marriage, located in the parish of Normanby, where he engaged in farming until 1855. That year, on the 1st of April, accompanied by his wife and seven children, he set sail for the United States, and after a safe voyage landed in New York City on the 1st of May. He had a few hundred dollars in his possession, and coming directly to Illinois purchased 200 acres of land in Mason County, and entered eighty acres more from the Government. Of this, eighty acres were partially improved. The balance had never been turned by the plowshare. After providing a suitable dwelling for his family he at once proceeded to the cultivation and improvement of his land, and during the time of his residence there brought 240 acres to a condition where it yields in abundance the choicest products of the Prairie State. Having now accumulated a competency for his declining years, he rented his farm and repaired to the home of his son, our subject, in this county, where with his faithful companion and the mother of his children, he resided until his death, which occurred June 22, 1882. He was a man greatly esteemed for his excellent personal traits of character, his correct and temperate habits, and his uncompromising honesty. The mother, a lady of more than ordinary intelligence, is still living, and is now eighty-four years of age. Her faculties are preserved to a remarkable degree and she still possesses the happy and active disposition of her youth. She recalls distinctly many incidents of the early days when they first settled in Illinois and remembers dates with wonderful correctness. Mrs. Fletcher was born in Normanby, Sept. 27, 1803. Her parents were John and Ann (Thompson) Taylor, both also natives of Yorkshire, England, where they spent their entire lives and were buried in the old churchyard at Normanby.

The parental family included nine children, of whom the record is as follows: John still lives in Mason County, this State; William, of our sketch, was the second child; Joseph W. resides in the city of Champaign; Jane, when a child of four years, died in England on the 23d of March, 1833; an infant died unnamed in 1838; Thompson was born





RESIDENCE OF CLEMENT M. MILLIAN , SEC. 18, HENSLEY TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF W. FLETCHER , SEC. 7. (R. 9. E.) RANTOUL TOWNSHIP.



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Feb. 22, 1837, and died in 1870, in Mason County; Mary, the wife of Robert Pierson, lives in Harwood Township, this county; Jane is the wife of B. F. Yates, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this ALBUM; Bessie married Isaac Layman (see sketch), and departed this life at the home of her husband in 1872; John T. was born in England in 1853, and reared by his grandmother, with whom he lived until grown.

Our subject remained with his parents and attended the common schools briefly during his boyhood. He was not, however, fond of study but preferred to work, and when eleven years of age engaged as a groom. Two years later he occupied himself as a plowboy, being employed thus four years, then engaging as a teamster followed this five years. The next eighteen months he held the position of foreman on a large farm. In 1855, accompanied by his parents, he set sail for America, and has remained a resident of this State since his arrival here. He has in the meantime visited his native England and spent nine months among the friends of his boyhood and youth.

In 1869 Mr. Fletcher purchased 329 acres of uncultivated prairie which is now included in his present farm in Rantoul Township. Four years afterward he took possession of this, his parents accompanying him. Since that time he has industriously labored, cultivating and improving his property, with most gratifying results, and now has the satisfaction of knowing that there is not an acre of waste land on the farm. That which is not devoted to pasture is utilized for the growing of corn, oats, rye and wheat, and the vegetable products required by the household. He has a substantial dwelling, flanked by a good barn and out-buildings, while fruit and shade trees embellish the grounds about the residence. The friends who have known him best have the highest appreciation of the character of Mr. Fletcher both as a neighbor and friend. He has taken a genuine interest in the progress and prosperity of his adopted county, and is the encourager of every enterprise tending to its moral and intellectual advancement.

Politically Mr. F. votes the Democratic ticket, and is a worthy and consistent member of the Methodist

Episcopal Church. His extensive farming operations have been uniformly successful, and the smiling fields of growing grain, the wide pastures tenanted by well-cared-for stock, with the ample farm buildings and pleasant surroundings form one of the pleasantest pictures in the landscape of Champaign County. A view of the place is presented on another page of this work.



**C**LEMENT McMILLIAN. Among the prairie homes of Illinois there are perhaps none more attractive than that of the subject of our sketch, which is finely located in Hensley Township, on section 18. Its shapely and substantial buildings, choice grades of stock, and excellent farm machinery all indicate the industry and intelligence of their proprietor. The farm, which consists of 240 acres, is under a fine state of cultivation, and yields in abundance of the choice products of the Prairie State. Our subject as a man is held in the highest respect by all who know him, and none have assisted toward the material growth and prosperity of his township and county more than he.

Mr. McMillian was born in Greenbrier County, now West Virginia, Sept. 16, 1829. His paternal grandfather removed from Culpeper to Greenbrier County during the early settlement of that section of country. He purchased a tract of timber land and improved a farm, where he spent the remainder of his life. There also his family was reared, among whom was Daniel, the father of our subject. He was born in Culpeper County, and was quite young when his parents became residents of Greenbrier County. He grew to manhood on the farm and then settled upon a tract of land given him by his father, which he occupied until 1847. He then removed to Cabell County, where he cultivated rented land a few years, and thence removed to Mason County, in the same State, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was married in early manhood to Miss Margaret Carroll, a native of Greenbrier County, Va. After the death of her husband Mrs. McM. came to Illinois and spent the



last years of her life with her son, our subject, in Piatt County, her death occurring in 1869.

The parental family of our subject consisted of six children, of whom Clement was the third in order of birth. He was reared to farming pursuits and made his home with his parents until his marriage. Afterward he rented land in his native State, then removed to Ohio, and for years followed farming on rented land in Fayette and Pickaway Counties. Not being quite satisfied with his condition or prospects in the Buckeye State, he concluded to seek the farther West. In October, 1855, he started for Illinois with a team of horses and wagon, and accompanied by his wife and three children. The country at that time was destitute of hotels, and the travelers camped in the open air and cooked the provisions which they carried with them. After eighteen days' travel they arrived in Champaign County, this State, where they remained until 1868. They then gathered together their household goods once more and took up their line of march for Piatt County, where they remained until 1881, then returned to this county. Upon first coming to this county they located near Mahomet, whence they removed the following year to Condit Township, where Mr. McM. operated on rented land until 1868. He then returned to Piatt County and purchased a farm of eighty acres, where he lived with his family until 1881, as above mentioned. He then sold out and purchased a part of the old Dickerson homestead, which he has occupied since that time.

Mr. McMillian was married first in the Old Dominion, in January, 1851, to Miss Sarah J. Mathews, who was born in Augusta County, that State, and was the daughter of James and Martha (Ham) Mathews. Of this union there were born three children: Martha R., the wife of J. T. Ruckman, a resident of Piatt County, Ill.; Maggie E., Mrs. M. V. Skeels, of Summer County, Kan., and Frances J., the wife of H. P. Bowman, of Piatt County. Mrs. Sarah J. McMillian departed this life at her home in Piatt, Sept. 19, 1878. Our subject was married again, in 1879, to Miss Catherine, daughter of Henry and Catherine (Beek) Dickerson. The present wife of our subject was born in Washington County, Pa., in 1841, and remained with her par-

ents until her marriage. Both she and her husband are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The latter has been connected with this denomination since eighteen years of age. He has contributed liberally and cheerfully to the support of the Master's cause in this place. As one of the representative homesteads of this county, we take pleasure in presenting a view of Mr. McMillian's place in this volume.

CLAUS J. WITT, of Sidney Township, who for several years successfully conducted the farm belonging to Mr. Coffeen on section 24, has recently purchased a fine tract of seventy-nine acres on section 23, this township, in which venture all his neighbors wish him the success to which he is entitled by his energy, enterprise and perseverance.

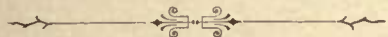
Mr. Witt, a native of Holstein, Germany, was born Jan. 13, 1832, and is the son of Dulf and Magdalene (Young) Witt, also of German birth and parentage, and who emigrated from the Fatherland to America in 1864. They immediately sought the West, and locating in this county, here spent the remainder of their days. Their family consisted of six children—Dulf, Anna, Claus, Lena, William and Peter.

Our subject came to the United States in 1854, ten years before his parents. After spending one year in the vicinity of Chicago, he made his way to this county, of which he has since been a resident. He was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Kuder, in 1862. Mrs. Witt is the daughter of George and Sarah (Morris) Kuder, who were of German extraction, and reared a family of eight children—Isiga, Elizabeth, George, Hannah, Emeline, Benjamin, Sarah and Catherine. Mr. Witt and his wife are the parents of six children—William, Edward, Emeline, John, Laura and George. Both our subject and wife are members in good standing of the United Brethren Church. The family ranks among the worthiest class of citizens, and Mr. Witt, as a thorough and progressive farmer, deserves the highest praise.

In politics Mr. Witt votes the Democratic ticket



but aside from casting his ballot at important elections he is content to allow more experienced heads to run the Government while he exercises the industrious talents handed down to him from his resolute German ancestry, and employs himself in the no mean position of a skillful tiller of the soil.



**E**W. PARKER. The great-grandfather of our subject, Thomas Parker by name, was the progenitor of the Parker family in this country and emigrated from England when a young man, locating at Lexington, Mass. It is believed that it was he who led the men at Lexington during the Revolutionary War. After the independence of the Colonies had been established he located on a tract of land in Middlesex County, Mass., where he followed agriculture the remainder of his life. He married in that county and reared a family, among them being Ebenezer, the grandfather of our subject.

The latter also enlisted as a soldier before he had attained his majority, and assisted the Colonists in their struggle for freedom, and like his father before him, spent the greater part of his life in the Bay State. His first wife was the grandmother of our subject, and among their children was Ebenezer, who was born in Worcester County, Mass., and when of suitable years engaged as a clothier. Later he abandoned this calling, and locating upon a tract of land in Worcester County, followed farming the balance of his days. His death occurred after he had reached the age of fourscore years. He was a man of strictly religious principles, living and dying in the orthodox faith. Politically he adhered closely to the old Whig party. He married Miss Hannah Merriam, of his own county, who survived him several years, and lived to be ninety years old. All the grandparents of our subject were strong, both mentally and physically, the result of temperate lives and high moral principles.

The parental household of our subject included twelve children, eight sons and four daughters: Ebenezer W. was born Oct. 28, 1813, and was the fourth child of the family, of whom one daughter

and four sons are yet living. Our subject is the only one in Illinois. The others are residents of Massachusetts. The childhood and youth of Mr. Parker were spent under the home roof, assisting his father in cloth dressing and pursuing his studies at the public schools. After reaching manhood he was married, May 26, 1840, at the home of the bride's parents, to Miss Chloe A. Parmenter, a native of Worcester County, Mass., born Sept. 17, 1817. Mrs. P. is the daughter of Solomon and Mary T. (Allen) Parmenter, also natives of the Bay State and of New England parentage.

The grandparents of Mrs. Parker were born in Massachusetts, where they spent their entire lives. Solomon Parmenter fought in the Revolutionary War, and was own cousin to the Paulding who captured Maj. Andre. He lived to be seventy-five years old. The grandmother was formerly Miss Lydia Gleason, who was first married to a Mr. Cheney. She was a lady of more than ordinary ability, was reared and educated at her home in Worcester County, and died while in the midst of her strength and usefulness. The Parmenters were liberal in their religious belief, and Mr. P. politically was a staunch Whig. He was a man of influence in his community, and the sons and daughters inherited in a large degree the excellent traits of their parents.

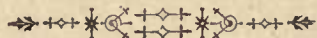
Mr. and Mrs. Parker became the parents of four children; E. C., the third child, a banker and dealer in real estate, married Miss Mattie Baker, and is doing business in Philo; Louisa is at home with her parents; Mary became the wife of Paschal Parkman, and both she and her husband are deceased; they left two sons and a daughter—Charles C., William and Emma; the latter married Irvin Baker, who is engaged in the printing business in Kansas; Annie E. Parker died when three years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Parker after their marriage resided for a time in Massachusetts, whence they removed to the Prairie State in April, 1856. Coming into this county, Mr. Parker purchased 160 acres on section 10, in Philo Township. During the years which have elapsed since that time he has brought the original wild land into a thorough state of cultivation, well drained with tile and stocked with



a choice assortment of domestic animals. A feature of the homestead is the number of beautiful trees which grew from seed which he planted when first taking possession of his land.

Our subject and his wife were for many years members of the Presbyterian Church, but are now Spiritualists in belief. Mr. Parker is Republican in politics, and was one of the first to advocate the abolition of slavery, being one of the two men who voted the Abolition ticket in Massachusetts for Birney as President. He was most strongly opposed to human slavery, and did everything in his power in making it unpopular. A view of Mr. Parker's handsome residence is shown on another page.



**W**ILLIAM MORTON, who is pursuing the even tenor of his way on a fine farm in St. Joseph Township, became a resident of this county soon after the war. He is the owner of nearly 300 acres of good land, the choicest being in the home farm of eighty acres, which lies on section 25. Here, of late years, in addition to general farming he has given much attention to stock-raising, having a fine herd comprising seventy-five head of Short-horn cattle, a number of good horses, and is also engaged in breeding very fine Poland-China hogs.

The subject of our sketch was born near Blairsville, Indiana Co., Pa., March 23, 1832. His grandfather, John Morton, also a native of the Keystone State, was born near Harrisburg and married Miss Mary Bell, a Pennsylvania lady. The Morton family is of Scotch ancestry, the first representatives coming to this country in the eighteenth century, and locating it is believed in Pennsylvania during its earliest settlement. The children of John and Mary (Bell) Morton included a son, John, who afterward became the father of our subject. He was born and reared in Indiana County, Pa., and married Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Eliza Young, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of American birth. The father of our subject learned the trade of wagon-making early in life, but afterward engaged in farming and remained a resident of his native

county his entire life. He was born in January, 1800, and died in June, 1878. His wife, Elizabeth, was born in 1808, and preceded her husband to the silent land March 4, 1844. Their ten children included three sons and seven daughters, five of whom still survive.

William Morton, who was the sixth child of his parents' family, spent his boyhood and youth upon the old homestead in Pennsylvania, receiving a common-school education and being trained to habits of industry and those principles which form the basis of an upright and honest character. In the spring of 1854, after becoming of age, wishing to see something of the world outside of his native State, he proceeded to Indiana and engaged first as a boatman on the Wabash Canal. A year later he repaired to Perryville, Ind., where he remained two years, and then coming to Danville, this State, remained there also two years. In 1856 he was employed on a cattle ranch where he continued for three years following, and until the outbreak of the late Civil War.

Mr. Morton was one of the first to respond to the call for troops to aid in the preservation of the Union, and enlisted in the spring of 1861, in Co. E, 51st Ill. Vol. Inf. His army life comprised a period of four years and twelve days, during a part of which his regiment belonged to the 20th Army Corps, which operated mostly in Missouri, Tennessee and Georgia. He took part in many of the important battles of the war, including a number of skirmishes with the enemy, being at New Madrid, Island No. 10, Farmington, Stone River, Chattanooga, Chickamanga and Mission Ridge. In the spring of 1864, his regiment was in the 3d Brigade, 2d Division, 4th Army Corps, detailed to go to the Southeast, where they participated at Resaca and all the engagements of the campaign. In the battle of Kennesaw Mountain our subject lost two fingers of his left hand by a gunshot from the enemy. He was confined in the hospital for sixty days, and in the meantime his bravery was rewarded by being commissioned Second Lieutenant. Afterward he was present at the battles of Spring Hill and Franklin, in the latter of which the commanding officer was wounded, and Lieut. Morton was placed in command of the company at



the battle of Nashville. They followed Hood's army across the Tennessee, were soon afterward sent to Nashville, and went into winter quarters at Decatur, Ala. In the spring of 1865 they were ordered to Bull's Gap, Tenn., where they were encamped at the time of Lee's surrender. The regiment was mustered out near Camp Irwin in September, 1865.

After receiving his honorable discharge Lieut. Morton returned to Champaign County and purchased his present farm. He has been uniformly prosperous in his agricultural operations and has contributed his full quota toward the building up of his township and community.

**R**OBERT PETERS. The fine farm of 240 acres, lying on section 14, in St. Joseph Township, was eliminated from the raw prairie by the subject of this sketch, who came to this county during the pioneer days and for a period of over fifty-seven years has walked in and out among its people, enjoying their confidence and esteem and interesting himself in their happiness and prosperity. He began with modest means, and by a life of industry and economy gradually accumulated his present property, which consists of one of the finest homesteads in the township.

Mr. Peters is a native of Rush County, Ind., and was born near Rushville, Jan. 8, 1827. He comes of substantial German ancestry, his great-grandfather having crossed the ocean from the Fatherland in about 1600. The son of the latter, David by name, was born in Pennsylvania, where he spent a part of his life in the farming districts, then removed to Kansas and from there to Rush County, Ind. He lived industriously and frugally and rounded up the ripe old age of ninety-six years. He and his wife, Permelia, became the parents of the following-named children: Aaron, John, Isaac, David, Samuel, William; Mary, who became the wife of J. T. Hayden; Elizabeth, who married B. Brown, and Sarah, the wife of Jesse Eaton.

William Peters, the father of our subject, remained with his brothers and sisters under the parental roof, and early in life formed domestic ties, being united in marriage with Miss Sarah Mc-

Nutt, a native of Kentucky. To the household thus established there were born twelve children, six sons and six daughters, all of whom lived to maturity and formed a remarkably fine looking family group. With the exception of two, David and Joseph, all are married and settled in comfortable homes. Robert, of our sketch, was the third son; Malinda is deceased; Isaac, William J.; Martha A., who married Ambrose Strong; Drusilla and Lucinda, twins, the latter deceased; Elizabeth J., who married Saint Rice; Jonathan L. and John N., comprise the remainder of the family.

The subject of this sketch was the third son and child of his parents, who removed from Indiana to this county when he was little more than an infant. His father selected a tract of land in what is now St. Joseph Township, two and one-half miles south of the present site of the town, purchasing forty acres of Silas Yount, upon which he located and industriously began its improvement and cultivation. He was prospered in his undertakings and invested his surplus capital in more land until he became the owner of 440 acres. He took great pride in his farming operations, in the excellence of his crops, and the grade of his live-stock, and the farm is acknowledged by all to be one of the best arranged in that part of the county.

William Peters lived temperately, enjoyed excellent health, arose early in the morning, and retired each night with the consciousness that there had been, "something attempted, something done." He possessed great force of character, more than ordinary ability, and kept himself well posted upon matters of general interest. He was often called upon to serve as administrator, and seemed peculiarly adapted to the adjustment of estates, in which he gave full satisfaction to all concerned. After taking possession of his first purchase he put up a substantial hewed-log house of two rooms, and this structure, with comfortable additions remained his home during the balance of his natural life. His death took place in August, 1864, and besides his estate of 400 acres he left his family \$10,000 in money, in addition to a large amount of personal property. This handsome little fortune he had amassed from almost nothing. The faithful wife and mother, who had assisted materially in the build-

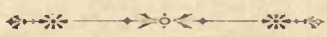


ing up of the homestead, survived until the spring of 1873. The remains of both parents were laid to rest in the burying-ground on the homestead.

Our subject remained under the parental roof until reaching manhood, during which time he had obtained his education mostly at a private school. Before finally departing from the home roof he was married, Aug. 22, 1849, to Miss Mary E., eldest daughter of Henry and Dianna (Robertson) Swearingen, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride's parents in St. Joseph Township. Mrs. Peters was born in Adams County, Ohio, March 31, 1831. Her parents were natives respectively of Kentucky and Ohio, being married in the latter State, whence they emigrated to this county in 1839. They were among the most highly respected members of the farming community of St. Joseph Township, where they spent the last years of their lives.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Peters located with his bride on the homestead which they still occupy and where occurred the birth of their sons and daughters, eleven in number, seven of whom are still living. Sarah C. is the wife of Benjamin Stiner, of St. Joseph; John H. is managing the homestead; Isaac S. is farming in St. Joseph Township; Susan J., the wife of William Parrett, lives in Homer Township; Eliza A. married F. K. Shobe; William A. and Mary E. are at home with their parents. Franklin died in August, 1882, aged twenty-three years.

Mr. Peters became a member of the Christian Church in about 1864, with which his wife has been connected since seventeen years old. They have lived blameless and upright lives, filling worthily their position in the community, training their children to honorable lives, and, keeping in view the fact that the acts of individuals necessarily exert a great influence upon those around them, have shaped their lives accordingly.

 **H**ENRY C. WHITE, one of the most prominent and prosperous members of the agricultural community of Homer Township, is a fine illustration of the self-made man, who commenced life at the foot of the ladder, and has

climbed steadily upward until he occupies one of the topmost rounds. He holds a high position, socially and financially, and is possessed of all the qualities which constitute a valuable and reliable citizen. His property, which is finely located on section 20, comprises 170 acres of fertile prairie land, upon which he has erected a handsome and substantial set of buildings, admirably adapted to all the purposes of country life. Aside from his farming operations, which have been arduous and constant, he has generously interested himself in the welfare of the people about him, and been, as opportunity presented, a promoter of those measures tending to the moral and educational welfare of the community. He has held the various offices within the gift of his townsmen, including those of Tax Collector, Commissioner of Highways and School Director. It will thus be seen that he has contributed all that could be reasonably expected toward building up the interests of his adopted county, of which he became a resident in the fall of 1851.

Mr. White is a native of Clarke County, Ohio, his birth taking place at the homestead of his father in Harmony Township, April 26, 1831. He is the son of Benjamin and Sarah (Foreman) White, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Kentucky, the former born Oct. 11, 1790, and the latter Aug. 30, 1796. Their marriage took place in Champaign County, Ohio, Jan. 4, 1817, and they spent the remainder of their days in Clarke County. Benjamin White departed from the scenes of his earthly labors March 1, 1846, in Harmony Township, Clarke County, and the mother followed her husband to the silent land Aug. 23, 1878, dying in Homer Township, this county, having survived him a period of thirty-two years. The parents of our subject are affectionately remembered by him as having been persons of more than ordinary intelligence, and possessing those Christian virtues which are so essential to the proper training of a family for a worthy position in the community. Benjamin White was a leader of the Baptist Church in Clarke County, Ohio. He was liberal-minded and generous with his friends, and this latter quality of his character effected his ruin, financially, as he stood security for debts which he was obliged to



liquidate. Politically, he was an old-line Whig, and clung to his principles with that open-hearted tenacity which proved how conscientious he was in everything which he believed to be right.

The mother of our subject when a young child, emigrated with her parents from Kentucky to Ohio, where she was reared and received a limited education. She was the suitable companion of her husband in every respect, like him being high-minded and generous, and looked well to the ways of her household, training her children carefully as to morals and teaching them to become industrious and frugal. She was an expert at the spinning-wheel and loom, and like the mothers of those days, kept her family comfortably clothed from the proceeds of her own industry. The Foreman family originally came from Ireland, and Sarah (Foreman) White was one of its most worthy representatives. By her union with the father of our subject, she became the mother of nine children, all of whom grew to become men and women. Joseph, now sixty-nine years of age, is a resident of Dakota; Isaac is sixty-five years, and is farming in Coles County, Ill.; Mary, the widow of Joseph Sayton, is fifty-eight years of age; Eleanor, the widow of Alexander Boarland, is sixty-three years of age, and a resident of Homer Township, this county; Amos died unmarried when twenty-four years old; Henry C., of our sketch, was the sixth in order of birth; Nancy is the wife of James Poage, a prosperous farmer of Vermilion County; Martha J. died Aug. 9, 1859, when twenty-two years of age; Perry married Miss Elizabeth Umbenhower, and lives in Homer, Ill.

Mr. White spent his boyhood in his native State, coming to Illinois in 1851. He located in Homer Township, where he was first employed by the month, and afterward went to the city of New York with a four-year-old steer, which he led all the way by a rope from this township to the great metropolis. After he had determined to make this his future home he was united in marriage with Miss Emily Laybourn, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in St. Joseph Township, in September, 1859. Mrs. Emily White was born near LaFayette, Ind., Sept. 2, 1839, and after becoming the mother of four children, departed this

life at her home in Sidney Township, Jan. 8, 1867. She was a lady highly esteemed by a large circle of friends, and a faithful member of the Baptist Church. The children of this marriage were named respectively, Abraham L., Alice J. (deceased), Charles F. and Emma B. The latter died in 1865, when twelve days old.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Sept. 27, 1868, was formerly Mrs. Elizabeth (Staten) Swearingen, who was born in St. Joseph Township, this county, Jan. 24, 1842, and is the daughter of Joseph Staten, of the latter-named township, who is now deceased. Of this union were born the following children: John C., David B., Saddle E., Francis B. and Elizabeth E.; the latter died in infancy. Mr. White meddles little with political affairs, but uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party. Socially, he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, with which he became connected in 1873. He is at present a member of Homer Lodge No. 199, together with his two sons, Lincoln and Charles.

AMUEL J. REAM is senior member of the firm of Ream & Woodin, manufacturers of drain tile, near the city limits of St. Joseph, where they have a valuable plant, embracing all the requisite machinery for carrying on this industry in a proper and profitable manner. Our subject is well fitted by natural talent and early training for the carrying on of an important business, and the firm has become one of the indispensable features of the manufacturing element of this section.

The earliest recollections of Mr. Ream are of Central Ohio, where he was reared; in Union County, and where his parents still reside. His birth, however, took place in the more southerly part of the State, near Greenfield, in Ross County, on the 10th of November, 1849. That same year his parents removed to Union County, where their son, Samuel J., was reared and educated, with his six brothers and sisters, on the farm which constituted the parental homestead.

The parents of our subject were Samuel and Elizabeth (Featherlin) Ream, natives of Pennsyl-



vania, whence they both removed in early youth locating with their parents in Ross County, Ohio, where they became acquainted and were afterward married. Mr. Ream engaged moderately in farming and stock-raising, and although not becoming wealthy, provided his family with all the comforts of life, and reared his children to habits of industry and economy, which have served them well in their battle with the world. The seven children of the parental household included four sons and three daughters, six still living, namely, George W., Matthias, Elizabeth; Samuel J., of our sketch; Adelia and Frank.

Our subject, in endeavoring to secure an education, was frequently obliged to travel four miles in order to reach the temple of learning, which was a primitive structure of modest dimensions, and the system of learning conducted after the manner of those days, was widely different from that of the present. He remained a member of the parental household until reaching his majority, and after starting out for himself was variously engaged until 1879, when he came to this county still a single man, and formed a partnership with Mr. Ira Cline, and established the business with which he is still connected. This was the first establishment of the kind in this county. Mr. Cline only remained a member of the firm for eight months, disposing of his interests in the business at the expiration of this time to Mr. John H. Swearingen. Mr. S. continued twelve months, and then sold out to Taylor Hoss. The latter disposed of his interest to Messrs. Woodin & Drullinger; the latter withdrawing, left the firm as it now stands.

Mr. Ream, finding that his time was not wholly occupied, purchased a pair of fine Norman horses and began the breeding of draft animals, which he has followed since 1879 with uniform success. In 1880 he added to his stables the fine imported Norman horse, Fairbanks, and now has three of the kind, which for models of symmetry and strength can scarcely be excelled. In order to carry on his breeding operations properly Mr. Ream utilizes a fine little farm of fifty-two acres near the town of St. Joseph, every acre of which is under a high state of cultivation, and supplied with convenient and substantial buildings. Mr. Ream has in the

main fulfilled all the duties of a good citizen, being delinquent in one respect only, that he is still a bachelor. He is a thorough business man, investing his surplus funds in a wise and judicious manner, meeting his obligations promptly, and on account of his reliable traits of character has fully established himself in the confidence of his fellow-townsmen. He meddles little with politics, but casts his vote with the Democratic party.



WILLIAM M. CASH owns and occupies a snug farm of eighty acres, located on section 36, in Sidney Township. His land, through a thorough process of cultivation, yields in abundance the rich products of the Prairie State, and together with its neat buildings forms a model country homestead. The subject of our sketch was born in Boone County, Ind., Feb. 22, 1855, and is the son of John and Celia (Gibson) Cash, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this work.

John Cash, a native of Tennessee, was born June 26, 1828. His parents were Benjamin and Elizabeth (Bennet) Cash. The former, a native of North Carolina, afterward became a resident of Tennessee, whence he removed in 1823 with his wife and four children to Missouri. After the death of his wife, which occurred in 1843, Benjamin Cash returned to Tennessee, where he remained one year, and thence removed to Indiana, in which State his death took place about 1850. The mother of our subject was the daughter of Abel and Celia (Heart) Gibson, and was born in Ohio in December, 1824. Her parents subsequently removed to Indiana, where the mother died. The father afterward came to Sidney Township, this county, where he spent the remainder of his life.

Our subject after reaching years of manhood was united in marriage with Miss Anna B., daughter of D. R. and Mary A. (Keeble) Wilson (see sketch of David Wilson). Of this union there are two children—Carl V., born Sept. 4, 1885, and Ethel C., Jan. 19, 1887. Mr. Cash and his estimable lady are young people who have begun life together under favorable auspices, surrounded by all its comforts, and enjoy the friendship of a large



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Henry Beecher



circle of refined and cultivated people. Mr. Cash keeps himself well posted upon matters of general interest, and is accounted a wide-awake and enterprising citizen, of whom much is expected in the future.

John Cash, the father of our subject, during the late war enlisted in the 100 days' service, being a member of the 71st Illinois Regiment, and was detailed with his comrades for service at Cairo and Mound City. He votes as he was ready to fight during the war, and upon all proper occasions gives voice to his stanch Republican principles.

**H**ENRY BEECHER, one of the early pioneers of Champaign Township, and whose portrait is shown in this connection, after a long and useful business career, is now living in retirement in the village of Savoy upon a comfortable income, honorably secured by the industry and economy of earlier years. During his long residence in this section he has made for himself a record as an honest man and a good citizen, and enjoys in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of hosts of friends and acquaintances.

Mr. Beecher was born in Watertown, Litchfield Co., Conn., Dec. 27, 1820, and was the son of Jared Beecher, a native of the same county. The grandfather, Jared Beecher, Sr., who was born in Bethany, New Haven County, was of Welsh ancestry, and followed farming all his life, spending his last years in Watertown. There his son, Jared, was reared, and inherited the old homestead, where he spent his entire life, dying in September, 1844. In early manhood he married Miss Anna Hickok, who was also born in Watertown, and was the daughter of Jonas Hickok. She also died on the old homestead, in January, 1865. The seven children of the parental family are recorded as follows: Martha became the wife of Benjamin Blakesley, now deceased, and lives in Northfield, Conn.; Henry, of our sketch, was the second child; Sarah married Henry Whitlock, and died in Virginia; Amelia, Mrs. Levi Thrall, died in Guilford, Conn.; Isaac went to California in 1858, and when last heard from was in Nevada; John is a resident of

St. Louis, Mo.; Anna died when six years of age.

The subject of this history, who was the eldest son of his parents, was reared to farming pursuits and educated in the public schools. When twenty-one years of age he inherited a part of the old farm, upon which he lived for five years afterward, then sold, and purchased another in the same town, which he occupied until 1855. In that year he disposed of his property, and coming to this State, rented a farm six miles from Chicago, which is now included in the city limits. He farmed on rented land in that vicinity for two years following, but in the meantime had visited this county, and purchased eighty acres of wild land in Champaign Township, on section 26. Upon this he erected a frame house, and in the fall of 1857 took possession of it with his family. Thereafter, for a period of nearly thirty years, he was employed in the improvement and cultivation of his farm, in the meantime doubling its original acreage. In 1885 he purchased the property which he now occupies at Savoy. Two years previously, however, he had engaged in the manufacture of tile and brick at this place, which business he sold out in 1886.

The marriage of Henry Beecher with Miss Julia Dayton, took place in Watertown, Conn., his wife's birthplace, on the 4th of October, 1843. Mrs. Beecher was born April 6, 1822. Her parents were Truman and Harriet (Tyler) Dayton, the father a native of Litchfield County, and the mother of New Haven County. Mr. Dayton followed the vocation of a farmer, and both parents late in life retired from active labor and made their home in Watertown, Conn., where their decease occurred. Mr. and Mrs. Beecher have become the parents of two children, a son and daughter. The former, Truman, occupies the old homestead in Champaign Township, and Martha, the wife of Merton Dnnlap, resides with her husband in Paxton, Ford Co., Ill.

During the progress of the late war, Mr. Beecher enlisted as a Union soldier on the 1st of January, 1862, in Co. I, 26th Ill. Vol. Inf. He participated with his comrades in all the vicissitudes of war, being engaged in fifty-seven different battles, of which the most important were, New Madrid, Farming-



ton, Iuka, Corinth, the siege and capture of Vicksburg, Jackson and Mission Ridge. He joined the command of Sherman at Chattanooga, and participated in many engagements and skirmishes on the march to Atlanta, being at the siege and capture of that city, whence he afterward marched with his regiment to the sea. Thence they went up through the Carolinas and from Richmond to Washington, where they participated in the grand review, the march in all having embraced 6,931 miles. Mr. Beecher was mustered out of service in Louisville, Ky., in August, 1865. He had suffered, in common with his brother soldiers, the fatigue of wearisome marches, oftentimes making his couch upon the bare ground, suffering with fasting and thirst, and often felt that his constitution was giving way under the trial, but, far more fortunate than many others, he escaped wounds and serious illness, and lived to see the re-establishment of the Union, for whose preservation he would cheerfully have laid down his life. At the battle of Mission Ridge, Nov. 19, 1863, the remnant of his company, consisting of thirty-five men, came out with fourteen missing, who were either killed or wounded. Politically, Mr. Beecher affiliates with the Republican party.

**J**OHAN CASH is the proprietor of a good homestead, including 120 acres of finely improved land, pleasantly located on section 35, Sidney Township. He is the son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Bennet) Cash, and was born in the State of Tennessee. His father, a native of North Carolina, moved first to Tennessee, where he for some time resided, and about the year 1823 emigrated to Missouri, with his wife and four children. Twenty years later, after the death of his wife, which occurred in 1843, Benjamin Cash returned to Tennessee, and remained there one year, when he moved to Indiana, in which State he died about the year 1850.

John Cash, after reaching manhood, was married in 1844, to Miss Celia, daughter of Abel and Celia (Heart) Gibson. Mrs. Cash was born in Ohio in December, 1824. Her parents are now deceased; the mother died in Indiana, and the death of the

father occurred in Sidney Township, this county. Our subject and his wife became the parents of eight children, namely, Mary E. and Sarah, now deceased; the latter and Henrietta were twins; Thomas, William M., J. W., Tabitha J. and Joel M.; the latter is deceased.

During the Civil War Mr. Cash enlisted in the 100-days' service. He was in the 71st Illinois, and detailed for service at Cairo and Mound City. He keeps himself well posted upon matters of general interest in the community, and has held the offices of Road Overseer and School Director in his township. In politics he is a Republican, and in all respects a trustworthy and honored citizen.

**J**AMES M. CRAIG. Among the sturdy and reliable spirits who first braved the dangers and difficulties of settlement in a new country is the subject of this history, who is now reaping the reward of his early struggles and toils in the possession of a fine homestead located on sections 23 and 27, Champaign Township. His farm, which consists of 252 acres, is under a high state of cultivation and admirably adapted to stock-raising, in which he has of late years been actively engaged. Here, surrounded by the friends whom his honesty and uprightness of character secured for him long years ago, and a family of which he is justly proud, he is spending his later days in the consciousness of a well-spent life, in which he has sought to do good as he had opportunity, and further the interests of his adopted county.

Mr. Craig is a native of Armstrong County, Pa., born March 27, 1839. His father, John Craig, was a native of the same county, while his grandfather, Samuel, and his great-grandfather, John, Sr., were both born in New Jersey. The ancestors of the Craig family came from Scotland in the seventeenth century, as nearly as can be ascertained in about 1684. They were among the earliest settlers of Armstrong County, Pa., and became widely and favorably known for their enterprise, industry and honest lives. John Craig, Sr., assisted in the survey of Western Pennsylvania, and was among the



first to take up a tract of land in Armstrong County. His family was among the twelve families who first settled west of the Alleghany River at a place now known as Freeport. They located there when Indians and wild game were plenty, and erected a block-house, which was named Ft. Craig, and within which they all lived for mutual protection and security from the Indians. Outside were the fields wherein they worked together, one field at a time, a sufficient number being retained as sentinels to give the alarm when the enemy should appear. The great-grandfather of our subject became a man of note in that locality, and attained to the ripe old age of ninety-seven years, dying upon the homestead which he had established, in Armstrong County.

His son, Samuel, who was a young boy when the family located in Pennsylvania, after reaching manhood improved a farm for himself, and also spent the last years of his life in Armstrong County. He was there married and raised a family, among whom was John, the father of our subject. The latter was reared to the pursuits of his forefathers, and after his marriage purchased 158 acres of land in Armstrong County, only twelve of which were cleared when he took possession of it. From the balance he cut down a large part of the timber and increased his possessions as time progressed and his means accumulated. In 1886 he rented his farm and removed to the village of Worthington, where he purchased a lot and put up a comfortable dwelling, and now lives retired from active labor, with his aged and faithful companion of more than fifty-four years. The mother of our subject, who was formerly Miss Eliza Huston, was born in Philadelphia, Pa., and is the daughter of Samuel Huston, a native of Ireland, but of Scottish ancestry. The parental household included nine children, of whom our subject was the fourth in order of birth.

James M. Craig was reared on his father's farm in Pennsylvania, and educated in the schools of his native county. He remained under the home roof until sixteen years of age, then went to live with his paternal grandfather, whose farm he operated on shares for ten years following. In December, 1864, wishing to see the Western country, he came to this county, and being pleased with the outlook

rented a farm for one year. He afterward took charge of another farm, which he occupied for two years, then purchased sixty acres in Champaign Township. The following year he rented this and returned to the second farm he had operated. After a year spent there he became a resident of the city of Champaign, where he was variously employed for a year. At the expiration of this time he took charge of the Arthur farm, upon which he remained until 1879, then purchased his present homestead, a view of which is presented on another page of this work. His land is thoroughly drained with tile, and everything about the premises is kept in first-class order.

Mr. Craig chose as his bride Miss Margaret A. Blaine, to whom he was married on the 7th of February, 1861. Mrs. C. was born in the same county in Pennsylvania as her husband, and is the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Wiggins) Blaine. Of this union there are six children, all living: William P. is a student at Wesleyan University, Bloomington, which he entered after graduating from the State Industrial University at Urbana; Hattie E. is the wife of Samuel Harrison, and lives in St. Joseph, this county; John C. is a graduate of Champaign Business College; Nellie B., Roy V. and Jennie A. are at home. Mr. and Mrs. Craig are members in good standing of the Congregational Church, and our subject politically is a staunch Republican.



THOMAS LAVERICK, a worthy member of the farming community of Ayers Township, is of English parentage, and was himself born in Yorkshire, England, Dec. 6, 1844. His parents were Edward and Elizabeth (Smith) Laverick. The father is still living there. The four children of the parental family were Ann, Thomas, Margaret and George.

Mr. Laverick left his native land to seek a new career in this country in 1871, and after landing at New York City, first came to Morgan County, Ill., where he remained ten years. In 1881, having increased his capital, by the exercise of industry and economy, he came to this county and purchased



160 acres of improved land on section 31, in Ayers Township, which he has since brought to a high state of cultivation, and improved with a fine residence and substantial farm buildings.

Thomas Laverick was united in marriage with Miss Milcah Smith, April 1, 1873. Mrs. L. is the daughter of Robert and Mary (King) Smith, and is also a native of Yorkshire, England, her birth taking place Feb. 13, 1855. Her parents, who emigrated to this country about 1865, are living in Morgan County, Ill. There were nine children in their family—Milcah, Ann, Mary, John W., Elizabeth E., Thomas B., Amelia F., Robert and Lena. To our subject and wife there were born five children, of whom but three are now living, namely, William E., Ira F. and Maryetta. Those deceased are Lillie and Annie E.

Mr. Laverick takes a genuine interest in the welfare of his county and community, and holds the offices of Township Collector and School Director. In politics he is Democratic. His estimable lady is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Broadlands, in this township. A lithographic view of Mr. Laverick's residence is shown on another page of this work, and with its surroundings, is sufficient evidence of his thrifty enterprise and the success he has met with in the establishment of a comfortable home.

THOMAS WILSON, one of the prosperous and progressive farmers of Sidney Township, owns and occupies a good homestead on section 30. He is a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, and was born Dec. 13, 1854. His parents, Andrew and Jane (Ray) Wilson, are mentioned in the sketch of George Wilson, on another page of this work. They also were of Irish birth and parentage, and were married in their native country, whence they emigrated a year after the birth of our subject, to the United States. They came directly to the West, and located in what is now known as Old Homer. Thomas grew to manhood, receiving good home training and a fair education, and when about thirty years of age was united in marriage with Miss Lida Parsons. The parents of Mrs. Wil-

son are still living and reside in Philo Village. The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson is a daughter, Ida, who was born April 12, 1886.

The homestead of our subject comprises 120 acres of fertile land, with a fine residence, a good barn and other out-buildings, and all the facilities for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. The farm machinery is valuable and the live-stock comprises good grades of the domestic animals. Mr. Wilson possesses the shrewdness and hospitality characteristic of his family and nationality. Upon coming to this country, and after becoming a naturalized citizen, he identified himself with the Democratic party, the principles of which he has uniformly sustained by his vote and influence.

The view of the homestead, which will be found on another page, sufficiently indicates the character and proclivities of Mr. Wilson, and gives ample evidence of the manner in which he has contributed to the progress and embellishment of his adopted county.



C. STEWART, who in former years was prominently identified with the agricultural interests of this section, now occupies a beautiful residence in Champaign, where, retired from active labor he is enjoying the fruits of early industry and a prosperous business career. He was born in Ohio, Dec. 14, 1821, and is the son of Robert and Esther (Gillespie) Stewart, both natives of New York; the former when young went to Hagerstown, Md., and afterward to Ohio, settling in Ross County, where he engaged in farming until 1855. That year he came to Illinois and located on a tract of land north of Champaign, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits and spent the remainder of his life, dying June 17, 1860. The mother had died in Ohio in 1825.

Robert Stewart was a man of great force of character, and took an active interest in all the moving questions of the day. He was Chairman of the convention which met at Hamilton, Ohio, and carried the anti-slavery question into politics. Upon that memorable occasion there were present Salmon P. Chase, Thomas Morris, Samuel Lewis and



other men of note, who took an active stand against the movement for the extension of slavery. The father of our subject, although mainly Democratic in principles, had become strongly impregnated with the just theories of the Abolition party, and was knocked down by one of his Democratic friends as they were discussing the subject. He swore out a warrant for the arrest of his assailant, who was sentenced to a fine. The prisoner declared himself unable to pay but expressed his regret at what had happened. Robert Stewart took compassion on him and told the Justice he would himself pay the costs. After that they became warm friends, and there was no further occasion for a repetition of the occurrence. Robert Stewart throughout life was an active business man and watched with keen interest the progress of the State and National events. His family included six children, but only four are living, namely, Samuel G.; Margaretta, Mrs. Taylor; Dr. George H., of Cincinnati, and H. C. of our sketch.

The subject of this history was reared on his father's farm and pursued his rudimentary studies in the common schools. He afterward entered Athens College in Ohio, and after completing his studies returned to the farm, where he remained until 1855. In that year he came to Illinois and purchased 200 acres of land north of Champaign, to which he soon afterward added 120 acres. He was engaged in agriculture and real-estate transactions until 1870, when he removed to Champaign to property which he had purchased on West Clark street. After a residence of ten years in that locality, he sold out and purchased his present homestead on Springfield avenue, amidst the comforts of which he is now enjoying the society of hosts of friends and the confidence of all who know him. He has contributed his full share toward the building of the city and has been warmly interested in the establishment and maintenance of schools, serving as Chairman of the Board. He was elected Justice of the Peace in 1869, which he held in the township until becoming a resident of the city.

Mr. Stewart was married on the 24th of December 1846, to Miss Lovina N. Smith, a native of Highland County, Ohio, and the daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Galloway) Smith, both natives of

Pennsylvania. They removed to Ohio at an early day, and located in Greenfield, Highland County, where Mr. Smith engaged in farming for a number of years, then removed to Springfield, where he engaged in the real-estate business until his death, which occurred in 1872. The mother survived him three years, dying in 1875. Of their twelve children only three are now living: William, who is a practicing physician of Hillsboro, Ohio; Mrs. Stewart, of our sketch, and James H., of Springfield, Ohio.

Our subject and his wife became the parents of six children, three now living: Margaret E., Mrs. Robbins, is a resident of Lyons, Iowa, and has one child, Alice M.; Charles W. is engaged as U. S. Engineer on the Mississippi, he being a naval graduate; Samuel S., a telegraph operator, resides in Champaign. Mr. Stewart is Republican in politics, and, with his wife, is prominently connected with the Congregational Church.



**E**DMUND NAYLOR, of Brown Township, and son of David Naylor, a sketch of whom will be found in another part of this volume, was born in Brown County, Ohio, March 10, 1847. He was reared on his father's farm, received a common-school education, and removed with his parents from his native State to Illinois in 1865. He continued under the parental roof ten years afterward, and under the instruction within the household and on the farm, became admirably fitted for the further duties of life.

Upon his marriage, Mr. N., finding no more desirable spot, settled in Brown Township, where he has since resided, and is accounted among its most valued citizens. He is now the proprietor of 200 acres of good land on sections 34 and 35, where he has erected a fine set of buildings, and is carrying on farming and stock-raising after the most modern and improved methods.

Mr. Naylor was married in Doniphan County, Kan., June 14, 1875, to Miss Fannie M. Mider, daughter of John P. and Mary C. (Smith) Mider. The father of Mrs. Naylor was a native of Germany, and the mother of Madison, Ind., although



reared in Maysville, Ky. After marriage the parents first settled in Adams County, Ohio, where they lived until 1874, thence removed to Doniphan County, Kan., where they now reside. Their family consisted of five daughters and three sons, of whom Mrs. N., of our sketch, was the third child. She was born in Adams County, Ohio, June 16, 1854, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of six children—Mary M., Effie E., Winnie M. C., Otterbein L., Royal C. and David W. F.

Our subject, politically, affiliates with the Republican party. Both he and his estimable wife are members of the United Brethren Church, of which Mr. N., has been Class-Leader, Trustee, Circuit Steward, Class Steward and Superintendent of the Sabbath-school. He has devoted a large part of his time to the prosperity of the Church, and is rightfully considered one of the pillars, whose place if made vacant, it would be difficult to fill. Mr. Naylor is now in his prime and in the midst of a useful career, enjoying abundantly the confidence of his friends and fellow-citizens.

The view of the neat residence and a part of the farm of Mr. Naylor which will be found on another page, is, in its appearance of neatness and thrift, a fair exponent of the character of its proprietor.

**W**ILLIAM H. WILLIAMS, of Stanton Township, is a son of Robert Williams, of North Carolina. The latter was born in 1806, and left his native State with his parents when a boy nine years of age. They started on the trip overland by teams, and after arriving in Indiana took up their abode in Orange County, at a time when the country was comparatively unsettled, and they were called upon to endure all the hardships and difficulties of a pioneer life.

Robert Williams remained with his parents until twenty-five years of age, and besides assisting to carry on the farm, had in the meantime learned the trade of a silversmith at Paoli, Orange Co., Ind. He now began to think about establishing a home of his own and supplied himself with one of its chief requisites, namely, a wife and helpmeet,

Miss Mary Harned becoming his wife in the spring of 1829. The mother of our subject was the daughter of William and Margaret Harned, natives of the Old Dominion, who emigrated to Indiana and located among the earliest settlers of Orange County. With them they cut down the forests, drained the swamp land, cultivated the prairie and built up a homestead, where they spent the remaining years of their life. Robert Williams after his marriage, purchased 160 acres of heavy timber land in Indiana, where there was not even space enough to build a log house until he had cut down the trees. The task before him seemed truly an Herculean one, but others were attempting the same and he did not intend that any should be before him in courage or industry. In due time he had succeeded beyond his expectations in clearing the land and opening up a farm. He built one of the finest dwellings in that section, with a barn and other out-buildings to correspond, while at the same time he did not allow his skill as a silversmith to degenerate, but worked at this as opportunity afforded and realized from his labors in this direction a comfortable income. He is now an old man, having reached over fourscore years, and can relate many interesting tales for the diversion of his great-grandchildren. His father was born in North Carolina and he distinctly remembers the time when the family started from that State for Indiana. This was in 1815, and after reaching Orange County they found the neighbors few and far between, the nearest one being nine miles distant from their chosen location. The elder Williams purchased 160 acres of timber land and went through the same process as did his son in later years, and which we have already described. The improvements which he made were perhaps not as pretentious as those which his son Robert effected in later years, but he built up a comfortable home for his family and spent his last days in Orange County, passing away in 1843.

The wife of Robert Williams shared with him the vicissitudes of a pioneer life in a new country, and passed to her rest in 1855, at the homestead which she had assisted in building up. Their nine children were, Margaret, William, Rachel, John, Jane, Josiah, Dinah, Thomas, and one died in in-



fancy unnamed. Rachel and John died when seventeen and twenty-two years of age respectively.


William H. Williams obtained his early education in the subscription schools of Orange County, Ind., mostly during the winter season, and assisted his father on the farm the balance of the year. When nineteen years old, wishing to change his location and occupation, he went to learn the trade of a miller, which he followed afterward for several years during the winter season, and continued on the farm with his father in the summer. He worked three years after his marriage in the mill, then purchased the old farm which had belonged to his grandfather. He took possession of this in 1859, and remained upon it five years. Afterward he rented the farm of his father-in-law, operating that three years. At the expiration of that time, not being quite satisfied with the result of his labors in Indiana, he crossed over the line into Illinois, which involved a journey of seven and one-half days by team. Coming into this county he purchased eighty acres now included in his present farm. It was then mostly wild prairie, with three or four acres broken and a small wooden building unplastered. He occupied it, however, with his young family until enabled to put up a better one. The later dwelling was erected in 1871, and on the premises is also a good barn and sheds for the shelter of stock. Mr. Williams has added to his first purchase, so that he now owns 200 acres, all of which is in a tillable condition, and will bear comparison with the farms around it.

The marriage of William H. Williams and Miss Mary Ann Osborne was celebrated on the 25th of January, 1856, at the home of the bride's parents in Orange County, Ind. Mrs. W. is a native of that county, born Jan. 25, 1837, and is the daughter of Jesse and Elizabeth Osborne, formerly of North Carolina. Her father was a small child when his parents left that State and journeyed overland to Orange County, Ind. He was a feeble infant, and his mother many times feared that he would die on the journey, but he "pulled through" and lived to be of assistance to his parents on the farm which they opened up in the wilderness. After his marriage his father, Abram, gave him 160 acres of heavy timber land, and he proceeded, as others had

done before him, to cut down the trees and to make room enough for the building of a log house. This completed he gradually cleared the ground around it, and after the lapse of years beheld around him a fine farm with good improvements, and the soil prolific of the richest crops of that region. He sold this property in 1864, for \$11,000. He then removed to Parke County, Ind., in the spring of 1864, and purchased an improved farm of 300 acres, upon which he lived until his decease in January, 1870. His remains were laid to rest in the family burying-ground on the farm. His wife, Elizabeth, who was born in Orange County, Ind., in 1816, is still living on the homestead in Parke County. The children of Jesse and Elizabeth Osborne, eleven in number, all lived to mature years and located in Indiana and Illinois.

A record of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Williams, is as follows: Thompson E., born Jan. 6, 1857, married Miss Martha Osborne; Zeno W., born Jan. 24, 1860, married Miss Phillis Hawthorn; John N., born Nov. 2, 1862, married Miss Ruth Osborne; William Edward, born Nov. 20, 1865; Lillie Bell, Jan. 19, 1868; Charles J., March 26, 1870; Mary E., Nov. 7, 1876; Orchis R., April 30, 1877, and Walter O., Sept. 3, 1881. The younger children are at home with their parents.

The Williams family is of Welsh ancestry. Our subject and his wife are connected with the Society of Friends, and politically Mr. W. is an ardent adherent of the Republican party.

 AUGUST S. BUDDEMEIER is the owner of 240 acres of valuable land, occupying a portion of sections 34 and 35, Sidney Township, which he has acquired by that native shrewdness and business capacity for which the German nationality is distinguished. He is the son of Rudolph and Sophia (Buddemeier) Buddemeier, and was born in Westphalia, Prussia, Feb. 18, 1834. His father was a soldier in the Prussian army and came to America in 1856, bringing with him his wife and four children. He died in Cincinnati in 1866, and his widow in 1869, in Franklin County, Ind. Our subject's brother, Frederick,



served as a Union soldier in the late Civil War, enlisting at Dayton, Ohio, in the 13th Missouri Regiment. He was seized with a fatal illness while in the service and died at Pittsburg Landing.

Mr. Buddemeier was united in marriage with Miss Louisa Hamsmeier, the daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Rohlcutter) Hamsmeier, who are still living in their native Germany. Our subject and his wife became the parents of eleven children, who were born and are located as follows: Sophia W. C., born Dec. 17, 1856, is the wife of George Unnawahr, who lives in Ripley County, Ind.; John F., born Feb. 26, 1858, married Miss Eliza Block, and lives in Buffalo County, Neb.; Matilda, born Nov. 10, 1859, is the wife of Henry Unnawahr, living in Decatur County, Ind.; Christian A., was born in December, 1861; Mary, Oct. 17, 1863; Elizabeth, Aug. 29, 1865; Margaretta, born June 19, 1867, is the wife of John Thompson, of Sidney Township; Martha was born May 31, 1869; Henry J., April 4, 1871; Henry W., Sept. 8, 1873, and Samuel, Dec. 21, 1875. Mr. B. is a staunch Republican, politically, and he and his family are regular attendants of the Lutheran Church.



**C**YRUS ARNOLD, a practical farmer of Philo Township, has been a resident of Champaign County since the fall of 1867. He then purchased 160 acres of land on section 35, which constitutes his present homestead, and which he has brought to a fine state of cultivation. To this he subsequently added forty acres, and has the whole well drained with tile, enclosed with neat fencing, and has enlarged and improved the original buildings so that they are now models of convenience and comfort, and bear comparison with any in this section. In addition to the ordinary pursuits of agriculture Mr. Arnold is also engaged in raising fine stock, horses, cattle and swine.

Our subject is a native of Clifton Park, Saratoga Co., N. Y., and was born Sept. 8, 1830. His father, Peter Arnold, was a farmer of good standing in the county where he was born, married and died. Politically he was a Republican, and religiously a Baptist, like his father before him. His wife, before

her marriage was Miss Millie Ostrom, of Holland ancestry. She was also born and reared in Saratoga County, N. Y. Both parents died at Clifton Park, the mother in 1843, at thirty-seven years of age, and the father in 1878, aged seventy-five. Joseph Arnold, the grandfather, was reared in Providence, R. I., whence he afterward removed to Saratoga County, N. Y., and there married Miss Mary Althouse. This lady was the daughter of Peter Althouse, a native of Holland, who emigrated to this country in an early day, and settling in New York, died at Clifton Park after arriving at the age of eighty years. A section of the Arnold family also located in New England prior to the Revolution. Joseph Arnold also died at Clifton Park when seventy-five years old. He was a man of more than ordinary ability, and conducted his farming and business affairs in a methodical and systematic manner.

Cyrus Arnold was the eldest son and second child of a family of three sons and three daughters, all of whom lived to mature years and married. The eldest daughter, Mrs. Mary Van Branken, is deceased. Those living are, Cyrus, of our sketch; Lucinda, the wife of Harvey Taylor, a farmer of Seward County, Neb.; Catherine, Mrs. Cyrus Cole, is a resident of the city of Albany, N. Y.; her husband is a piano manufacturer. George married Miss Caroline Jones, and lives in Yorkville, Kendall Co., Ill.; Emmett married Miss Martha Jones, and is a resident of Burnt Hill, Saratoga Co., N. Y.

Our subject received a good education in the public schools, and remained a member of the household circle until he reached his majority. He then went to Jackson County, Mich., where after a residence of two years he was married, Feb. 2, 1853, to Miss Caroline Francisco; who was born in Washtenaw County, Mich., Aug. 14, 1831. Her parents, Henry A. and Catherine (Overacker) Francisco, were natives of Wells Township, Herkimer Co., N. Y., the father born May 20, 1794, and the mother, Aug. 13, 1796. They were married Feb. 29, 1816, in their native county. The grandfather of Mrs. Arnold, Abraham Francisco, a native of New York State, married Miss Hester Vandercok, in the vicinity of New York City. They located in Ontario County, and both died in Rushville,



that county, the grandfather when about sixty years of age, and the grandmother at eighty.

The parents of Mrs. Arnold, in 1818, removed from New York State to Cuyahoga County, Ohio, locating on a farm which they occupied until 1829. In that year they removed to Washtenaw County, Mich., and in 1833 to a farm in Jackson County, Mich., where the mother died June 5, 1851. In 1854 Mr. Francisco became a resident of the Prairie State, first settling in Geneva, Kane County, and thence removing to Kendall County. Afterward he came to this county, settling on a farm near Philo, in Champaign Township, where he spent the remainder of his days, dying Sept. 2, 1875. Mr. Francisco was Judge of Jackson County from 1858 to 1862. He was of Spanish ancestry, and his wife descended from the German. Both were active members of the Methodist Church for many years.

The children of Mr. Francisco and wife are recorded as follows: Henry E. died at Philo Village Oct. 19, 1878, having been engaged in the grain business there for several years; Nancy became the wife of Aaron Blake, and died in Barry County; Horace married Miss E. Preston, and died in Texas; Hester J. lives with her sister, Mrs. Arnold, of our sketch; Antoinette C. became the wife of H. J. Nash, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this ALBUM; Eleanor married J. H. Wheaton, who was killed at the battle of Champion Hills during the late war; he was first commissioned Captain of a company and afterward promoted Colonel of the regiment. Mrs. Wheaton is now a resident of Decatur, Mich.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold lived for one year in Grass Lake, Mich., whence they removed to McHenry County, Ill., afterward to Kendall County, and from there, in 1867, to Philo Township, this county, taking possession soon afterward of their present farm. Mr. Arnold was collector of taxes in Kendall County; he, with his excellent and amiable partner, is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The children of our subject and his wife, six in number, are recorded as follows: Mary is the wife of John Locke, a successful farmer of Philo Township; Emmet F. married Miss Clara M. Payne, and

carries on a stock ranch at Hot Springs, Dak.; Horace and Cora E. are at home; Clara P. came to her death by being scalded; Henry E. died at the age of nine months. Politically Mr. Arnold is a staunch Republican, and casts his vote with that party.

A lithographic view of Mr. Arnold's handsome residence is to be seen on another page.



JOHN W. HILDERBRANT, of Homer Township, is a native of Ohio, born among the hills of Highland County in the spring of 1822. Twelve years later he went with his parents, David and Annie (Grady) Hilderbrant, to Tippecanoe County, Ind., of which he remained a resident until coming to this State, in 1865. His property consists of eighty acres of some of the choicest land in Champaign County, which has been brought to a fine state of cultivation by thorough drainage and by being managed in a manner calculated to develop its best resources. Mr. H. has pursued the even tenor of his way, extracting much enjoyment from life, having been blest with good health, and never within his remembrance being attended by a physician.

The father of our subject was also a native of Ohio, where he was reared and married. He died on a farm in Peoria County, Ill., of cancer, and was buried in Elmwood. The mother died some years before in Tippecanoe County, Ind., and her remains were laid to rest in Sugar Grove, Ind. The ten children of the parental family were Nancy J., Rachel, Emeline, Martha, James W. (who was killed in the army), Marion, Pleasant, Cyrus, Stanton and John W.

Our subject, who was the eldest child, remained under the parental roof until his marriage, and then united his fortunes with Miss Emily Fowler, April 9, 1862. Mrs. H. was born in Tippecanoe County, April 12, 1831, and is the daughter of Joshua D. and Mary (Hall) Fowler, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Kentucky. The former, who followed farming all his life, died in Fountain County, Ind., in 1871, when seventy-eight years of



age. The mother, who was born in 1799, passed her last years on the old homestead, and died in 1862. The household included eleven children, as follows: Nancy, John H., James R., George R. C., Cyrus M., Rachel, Jessie M., Emily, Ruth, Albina and Ann.

Mr. Hilderbrant may be properly classed among the honored pioneers of this county, and possesses in a marked degree their perseverance and energy. Men of that day were not easily discouraged, and whenever their crops failed or they met with other misfortunes, they lost no time in grieving over their mishaps, but "got up and went at it again." Among other discouragements Mr. H. at one time tended sixty acres of corn three times over, preparing the ground each time himself and alone. In the fall he sold \$1,300 worth of corn, and felt amply repaid for his perseverance. Of late years he has devoted his attention largely to the raising of hogs, which has yielded him a fine income.

The two promising children of our subject, Mary and Levi, are both married and settled in comfortable homes. Mary became the wife of Sylvester Newman, and Levi married Miss Annie Wilson. The residence of Mr. H. is a comfortable and substantial structure, set in the midst of shade and fruit trees, and the barn and out-buildings are amply adapted for the purposes to which they are devoted.

**J**OHAN A. PERRING is Assessor of the township of Rantoul, and one of the partners in the firm of Perring & LaFollett, shippers of live-stock. He is a native of Indiana, and was born July 8, 1850, in Washington County, near Salem. The names of his parents are Isaac and Anna (Hoar) Perring. His father was a native of England, and when a young man came to seek his fortune in America. Our subject's mother was a native of Kentucky, but her parents had moved to Indiana during her childhood, and she was there married to Mr. Perring. After their marriage they established their new home in Washington County, Ind., where they lived for several years. Mr. Perring then moved with his family to Lawrence County, where his death soon afterward occurred.

He owned 400 acres of land and had carried on an extensive farming business. After his death his widow, with her family of seven children, returned to Washington County, and made that place their home for many years.

John A. Perring had received a good common-school education, and upon reaching manhood he resolved to go further West in search of a good business opening. He first went to Marion County, Ill., and remained there over two years. Not feeling satisfied with his prospects there, in 1871 he went to Champaign County and rented a farm. He remained there several years, engaged chiefly in raising grain. In 1878 he embarked in the business of shipping live-stock, which he has since extensively and successfully carried on. He deals in cattle, horses and hogs, and ships great numbers to the Chicago market.

In 1876 Mr. Perring was united in marriage with Miss Mary Jones, of Rantoul. Her family came from Kentucky, where her father died. Her mother is living in Arkansas. Mr. Perring has acquired a fine property through his own energy and application to business. He has twice been elected Town Trustee, and has been Assessor of the township since 1877. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and K. of P., and belongs to the Republican party.

**J**OHAN H. LAFOLLETT. No section of this fertile State raises a better grade of stock than that included in Champaign County. This fact has developed an enterprise which has called in play the genius of some of the shrewdest men in the county. Prominent among them is John H. LaFollett, a member of the firm of Perring & LaFollett, dealers in and shippers of stock. Mr. LaFollett is the son of Isaac and Nancy (Duvall) LaFollett, and was born Feb. 5, 1837, in Putnam County, Ind. His parents were both natives of Kentucky, and at an early day moved to Indiana, and settled in Putnam County on a farm, which they improved and cultivated, and retained as their home for the remainder of their lives. They had a family of seven children, only three of whom are now living.

John H. LaFollett, who was the eldest son, but



fourth child, remained in Putnam County until he reached his twenty-first year. Starting out an inexperienced youth to make a successful career for himself in life, he first went to Missouri, and thence to Edgar County, Ill. He did not remain there long, but came to Rantoul in the autumn of 1871, and opened a meat-market. He continued that business for two years, and then commenced shipping horses in company with Mr. Perring. Finding that promised to be successful they soon extended the business and included cattle and hogs. Mr. LaFollet. has been signally prospered, and has acquired a fine property.

Our subject has been married four times. His second wife, Mrs. Henrietta LaFollett, died leaving two children—William Grant and Mattie. His third wife, Miss Ellen Steward, died leaving him two more motherless children—Nancy and Roscoe. His present wife, Miss Harriet Weaver, is a native of Edgar County, Ill. She is a very estimable lady, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Rantoul. Her husband is a member of the Baptist Church, and one of those solid and substantial men who not only gives weight and standing to the community in which he resides, but prominence and stability to all enterprises with which he is identified.



**S**QUIRE LEE, deceased. The finest tribute perhaps, that could be given to this gentleman, who for many years walked in and out among the people of Pesotum, was that of one who knew him well and who remarked "he lived an earnest, upright life and died a confessed Christian." This practically covers the groundwork of the life and character of the subject of this sketch. He first opened his eyes to the light in Pulaski County, Ky., in the year 1820, and was the son of Charles and Niece Lee, natives of Virginia, and engaged in farming pursuits. He remained at home with his parents on the farm until 1841, and then, having reached his majority, was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Ann James, a native of his own county, whose birth took place Aug. 27,

1821. Mrs. Lee was the sixth child of Joseph M. and Martha (McCalister) James, who were Virginians, in which State they spent the greater part of their lives.

Immediately after their marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Lee settled on a farm in their native county, whence they removed seven or eight years later to Lincoln, where Mr. Lee purchased a farm. Three years later he sold out to remove into Mercer County. After a spring and summer spent there he came North to this State, and located in what was then Coles but is now Douglas County. Soon afterward he purchased eighty acres of land, which, however, did not remain long in his possession and which he sold preparatory to a removal across the Mississippi into Missouri. But circumstances induced him to abandon this plan, and he began to pre-empt and purchase land in what is now Champaign County. He proceeded in this manner until he had accumulated 520 acres.

The land which Squire Lee had thus acquired occupied a part of sections 15, 29, 30 and 31, which he lived upon and improved until it became recognized as one of the finest farms in the whole township. His death occurred on the 21st of March, 1885, when he was sixty-five years old. The friends who at that time gathered around to do reverence to the inanimate clay silently recognized the fact that there had been one cut off from their midst whose place it would be most difficult to fill.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Lee, all living, are Martha Jane, who was born July 17, 1842; Mary Ann, Nov. 23, 1844; George W., Aug. 8, 1845; James H., Feb. 3, 1847; Henry, Feb. 27, 1850; Noah, May 29, 1853, and Sarah E., May 10, 1857. Martha became the wife of John Rice, who died two months afterward, and the bereaved young wife then returned to her parents; of this union there was one child, Emma A., born in 1862, and reared by her grandparents. Martha afterward became the wife of Parker Gregory, a farmer of Pesotum Township; of this marriage there were born three children. Mary Ann became the wife of Arthur Rice, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this volume; George married Miss Ellen Goldman, and follows farming in Pesotum Township, near the parental homestead of his father; J. Har-



vey married Miss Mary L. Cook, and occupies a part of the home farm lying on section 15. Henry first married Miss Jennie Adair, who became the mother of two children and passed from earth; his second wife was Miss Marie Richardson, and to them have been born two children; Noah married Miss Mary Hart, and lives within a few rods of his mother's house. Gertrude remains at home with her mother. Sarah married Thomas Adair, and lives near her mother.

Much of the land belonging to the Lee estate was devoted by its proprietor to stock-raising, and no man took greater pride in the quality of the animals which he purchased and sold. The farm was provided with all the conveniences necessary for this department of agriculture, and his operations in this line yielded him a fine income. Mr. Lee interested himself in the welfare of his township and community, and was frequently elected to the township offices. Politically he supported Democratic principles, but never sought preferment, contented if he could be of service to those immediately about him in his township or town. Although never connecting himself with any church organization, he recognized the importance of establishing and maintaining religious institutions, and contributed liberally of his means to this end. His natural impulses were on the side of right and justice, and the influence which he shed around him will serve as a means of good for years to come.



**E**LISHA N. GENUNG, deceased. The subject of this sketch was one of the pioneers of Champaign County, who made for himself and his family a name whom all delight to honor. Mr. Genung was born Sept. 20, 1816, in or near Newark, N. J. The family are of French extraction. His grandfather was a native of France, but spent the last years of his life in America. His father, who was a blacksmith by trade, removed from New Jersey to Pennsylvania, and engaged in business in the town of Honesdale, where he spent the remainder of his life.

Elisha Genung, our subject, was quite young when

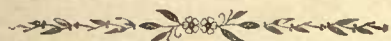
his parents emigrated to Pennsylvania, and lived at home until he was fourteen years of age, when his father, who was a very practical man, apprenticed him for six years to learn the carriage-builder's trade in Newark, N. J. After he had served his time, at the age of twenty-one he emigrated West, spending some time in different places. He was in Ohio for a short time, and then went to New Orleans, where he worked at his trade, but feeling dissatisfied he next went to Terre Haute, Ind., where he remained five years, engaged in the trade of carriage-building. He next went to Tecumseh, where he established a cooper-shop, in which business he continued for five years. In 1855 he came to Champaign County, which place he had visited two years previously, and entered half of section 35, in what is now Ludlow Township, after which he returned home and resumed his business. In the following year he came again and built a house on his land, and in 1855 removed there with his family. He made the journey in primitive fashion, conveying his family and household goods by means of two wagons and six horses. The roads were almost impassable in some places, and many times he was obliged to attach all of the horses to one wagon in order to pull it through a slough, and having successfully accomplished this, to return for the other. After his arrival he immediately commenced improvements. The site of Rantoul was then a cornfield, and during his lifetime grew into quite a village. His death occurred April 15, 1867.

On the 25th of August, 1852, Mr. Genung was united in marriage with Miss Julia A. Shank. She was the daughter of Samuel Shank, and was born in Rockingham County, Va., Nov. 13, 1830. Her family was of German extraction, though for several generations its members have been natives of Virginia. Her grandfather passed his entire life in Rockingham County. In 1835 her parents removed to Vigo County, Ind., where they purchased timbered land, which they cultivated and improved. Her father was a mason by trade, and was engaged in that business most of the time. He died on the homestead in 1843. Her mother, Mary (May) Shank, was also of German descent and a native of Virginia.

Three of the children of our subject and wife are



living: Eliza Helen, the wife of Reuben Roughton; Lou Belle, the wife of Dr. R. Taylor, who lives in Rossville, Vermilion Co., Ill., and Zimri R., the only son, who lives on the homestead and manages the farm.



**F**REDERICK NICHOLS. A large proportion of the successful agriculturists and valued residents of Central Illinois first drew breath on the other side of the Atlantic in modest homes and humble stations, where they were early made acquainted with life and its responsibilities and admirably fitted to cope with its duties and difficulties. Among these the subject of our sketch is a bright example, essentially a self-made man, who commenced without means or influential friends, but who steadily worked his way upward until now we see him occupying an enviable position in his community and holding his own among the able financiers of a great commonwealth.

The early home of Mr. Nichols was near the city of Oxford, in Oxfordshire, England, where his birth took place Nov. 13, 1833. His parents, Richard and Elizabeth (Shorter) Nichols, were also of English birth and parentage, and lived, from his best recollections, upon a small farm, where by strict industry and economy they secured for their family all of the necessities and many of the pleasures of life. The father did not live to old age, and the mother, after his death, emigrated to the United States with her children. After a long voyage on a sailing-vessel they first landed in New York City, whence they proceeded to Montgomery County, Ind., where they took up their abode on a small piece of ground. After a brief illness the mother passed from earth in the summer of 1870 and was laid to rest in the cemetery at Montgomery. The parental household included six sons and two daughters, of whom only three survive, our subject and two brothers. The latter are both living, one in England and the other in Montgomery County, Ind.

The boyhood and youth of Frederick Nichols were passed in his native shire, where he received a limited education and remained until sixteen

years of age. Then, in company with his brother, George D., he sailed for America, landing in New York City in June, 1849. Thence they went direct to Poughkeepsie, Dutchess Co., N. Y., and remained three years. In the spring of 1852, our subject went into Ohio, locating near Lebanon in Warren County, where he resumed his trade for a time and then set out for new fields. He was a wide-awake and ambitious young man and desired to see something of the world before settling down. From the Buckeye State he proceeded southwestward to Mississippi, where he spent one winter and then migrated to Springfield, this State. Here he worked at his trade two years, and the following year took up his abode at Bloomington. Thence he made his way to Alton, and from there four months later crossed the Father of Waters into Montgomery County, Iowa, engaging on a farm near Linden, until 1870.

The State of Illinois, however, had impressed Mr. Nichols more favorably than any other locality, and having now managed to save a sum of money he came to this county, and purchased eighty acres of land in the northwest corner of St. Joseph Township. Here he began farming, and at the same time engaged in bricklaying as he had opportunity, remaining until the fall of 1875. He then sold out and purchased 120 acres on section 21, and began the first improvements in that portion of the township. He proceeded successfully with his farm operations and has now one of the finest country estates in this section. He has at times been largely in debt, and failure seemed inevitable, but he made it a point to do the best he could under all circumstances and finally emerged from his difficulties with flying colors. His stock-raising operations have mostly been confined to hogs, of which he has made a specialty, and in which he has finely succeeded, reaping a rich reward for his labors.

The first marriage of Mr. Nichols was celebrated in Montgomery County, Ind., Nov. 13, 1862, his chosen bride being Miss Susan E. Paddock, who only remained the companion of her husband two short years, dying in 1864, and leaving one son—Perry Franklin, now a resident of Kansas and engaged in farming. The present wife of our subject,



to whom he was married Feb. 13, 1866, was formerly Miss Lucinda Irons, a native of Ohio, and born in 1840. Of this union there are two sons and one daughter—Lancelot T., Nathan and Cora E.

The fine family residence was erected in 1884, and is one of the handsomest structures in the neighborhood. It is situated on a gentle elevation commanding a fine view of the surrounding country, and with its shade trees and adjoining buildings, forms an attractive feature of the landscape. The farm is stocked with good grades of domestic animals, and everything about the premises is kept in good style, reflecting great credit upon the taste and industry of its proprietor.

Mr. Nichols has always taken an intelligent interest in the affairs of his township and been a man generally respected for his clear head and good judgment. He has served as Commissioner, and with his excellent wife is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has officiated as Steward and Trustee for a number of years. He has built up the record of an honest man and a good citizen, and enjoys the friendship and esteem of his neighbors and acquaintances.



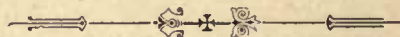
**D**R. SAMUEL N. SIMS, physician and surgeon, of St. Joseph, occupies a worthy position in his chosen profession, and enjoys the confidence of the people of his community. He was born at the home of his parents near Terre Haute, Vigo Co., Ind., Dec. 30, 1855, and is the son of Dr. William B. and Sarah J. (Medley) Sims, who are residents of Urbana, Ill. His father, who was born in Tennessee, left his native State when a boy of four years, and completed his education in the North. Afterward he entered the medical department of Rush College, Chicago, after which he availed himself of a higher course of instruction at Louisville, Ky. He entered upon the practice of his profession in 1869, and became eminently successful as a physician.

The grandfather of our subject, William G. Sims by name, was reared in East Tennessee, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits, and married, rearing a large family of sons and daughters, among

whom the father of our subject was tenth in order of birth. The latter was married in Indiana, and remained there until coming to this State. The parental household included eight children, seven sons and one daughter, of whom Samuel of our sketch was the eldest. He received his primary education in his native township, and completed his studies in the High School at Le Roy, in McLean County. He commenced reading medicine under the instruction of his father, and a year later entered Rush Medical College, of Chicago, where he spent six months, and afterward took his second course in the Medical College at Louisville, being graduated in 1877. He commenced the practice of his profession at St. Joseph in company with his father, who had successfully followed his profession there for a period of thirteen years. After the removal of the latter to Urbana the son succeeded to the business, and bids fair to become as skillful and successful as his father before him.

The marriage of Dr. Sims to Miss Rosa Cusick, of Edgar County, Ill., took place at the home of the bride's parents, in the spring of 1880. Mrs. Sims was born in Edgar County in 1860, and is the daughter of Abraham B. Cusick, Esq., of the latter county. Of her marriage with our subject there has been born one child, a son, Flemmer B.

Of the Doctor's brothers there are three married, the eldest of whom, Joseph M., residing at Veedersburg, Ind., is joint agent for the I. B. & W., the C. & I. C., and the T., C. & K. C. R. R.; the second, William F., a blacksmith by trade, resides in Mayview, this county, and the third, David M., is engineer on the C. & I. C. R. R., making his home at Brazil, Ind.



**I**SAIAH HUMRICHOUSER, a resident of Homer, Ill., was one of the old veterans of the Civil War. He enlisted in Co. C, 25th Ill. Vol. Inf., as Third Sergeant; was enrolled June 1, 1861, sworn in at St. Louis, Mo., and served three years. For some time he was in the Army of the West, but was afterward transferred to the Army of the Mississippi, and thence to the Army of the Cumberland. He was promoted, Nov. 18, 1863, to the rank of



First Lieutenant of Co. E, 14th U. S. Colored Troops. At the battle of Chickamauga, September 19 following, our subject was wounded by a charge of nine musket balls, in the space of five minutes, and was reported among the killed. He lay wounded on the battle-field among the dead and dying until nearly midnight, when he was discovered and immediately placed in the ambulance and removed to Crawfish Spring Hospital, where he remained, part of the time unconscious, for sixty-four hours before his wounds were dressed. The balls had penetrated several different parts of his body. Two had pierced the head, one the right shoulder, one the right arm, three the left thigh and two the right. His face is now somewhat disfigured from the wounds caused by the two balls, which passed entirely through the head, and there can be no doubt that this gallant battle-scarred hero stood with his face to the foe. On one occasion he marched from Jacinto, Miss., to Louisville, Ky., a distance of 970 miles, under a scorching sun.

Lieut. Humrichouser, two weeks after assuming command of his company, and after being wounded, was captured and confined in a rebel hospital about fourteen days, then paroled. After a short time, spent first in the camp at Chattanooga and subsequently at Nashville, Tenn., his brother Henry, of Plymouth, Ind., went after him and took him to his home. While there he received orders to report to his command, when he received his commission of Lieutenant, but on account of being a paroled prisoner of war, he could not be mustered in or do further military service. After being sent to Camp Chase at Columbus, he resigned, and returning to this State, raised Co. K, 133d Ill. Vols., 100-days' men, being First Lieutenant; subsequently he was detailed as Provost Marshal at Rock Island, where about 11,000 rebels were imprisoned.

Isaiah Humrichouser was born in Ashland, Ashland Co., Ohio, Feb. 25, 1842. His early advantages were somewhat limited, but he possessed good natural capacities and gained a good acquaintance with the general methods of conducting business. He became a resident of Illinois in 1856, and nine years later, March 17, 1865, was united in marriage with Miss Detrick, daughter of John and Sophia Detrick. Mrs. H. was born in Pennsylvania,

Aug. 24, 1845, and by her marriage with our subject became the mother of one child, Charles H., who was born April 29, 1867, and is now a promising young man nearly twenty-one years old. The property of our subject includes three farms, two located in Seward County, and one in Woodson County, Kan. Socially he is a member of the G. A. R., belonging to Homer Post No. 263. He is a warm adherent of the Republican party, and on account of his wounds receives a pension from the Government.

The following is a copy of a bill passed for the benefit of Mr. Humrichouser: "Forty-eighth Congress, 1st session. House Resolution 4,419. In the House of Representatives: Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, that the Secretary of the Treasury is directed to pay Isaiah Humrichouser, late a Sergeant of Co. C, 25th Ill. Vol. Inf., the difference between the pay as such Sergeant and that of First Lieutenant of Infantry, from the 18th day of November, 1863, until the 1st of March, 1864."

JOSEPH COBURN, a farmer and stock-grower residing on section 23, Sidney Township, was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., March 12, 1829. He is the son of Joseph and Ann (Halladay) Coburn, and is the seventh child in a family of ten children, whose names are: James, John, Agnes, Ann, Maria, Joseph, Carrie, Robert and Mary Harper. Of these, James, John, Ann, and Sarah J. are deceased.

Mr. Coburn's parents died in New York. His father was a stone and brick mason by trade and carried on that business with energy and success until the last few years of his life, when, on account of poor health, he was obliged to relinquish work, and his death occurred when Joseph was but thirteen years of age.

At the age of sixteen Mr. Coburn obtained a position on board a steamer which was plying between the cities of Quebec and Hamilton. He continued to follow that business for eleven years, and since then has been engaged in farming. In



1856 he removed to Ohio and made his home there until 1867, in which year he removed to Champaign County. He was married in Cleveland, Ohio, Jan. 4, 1851, to Miss Sarah Blythe. Mrs. Coburn is the daughter of Samuel and Mary Blythe. She was born Aug. 27, 1829, and is the eldest of a family of seven children. The names of her brothers and sisters are: Ann, John, James, William, Samuel and Mary J. Her parents have latterly resided in Canada.

Mr. Coburn now has the management of a farm belonging to F. J. Busey, and carries on a successful business in farming and stock-raising. His family consists of eight children: Mary Ann, the wife of Webster Minor, lives in the city of Champaign; Joseph, married to Miss Alice Rissinger, lives in Kingman County, Kan.; Mahala, the wife of David Simms, lives in Brazil, Ind.; Mr. Simms is connected with the railroad business in that place; William R., Melissa B., Lucy S., and Lydia May are single; Clifford died in infancy.

Mr. Coburn is industrious and active in business. In politics he supports the Republican party, and with his wife is a member of the Universalist Church.



**THOMSON RHODES WEBBER**, deceased, came to this county in the early days, and was one of the prominent and efficient men who assisted in shaping its destiny, and bringing it to its present enviable position. He was a native of Shelby County, Ky., and was born Oct. 6, 1807. On his father's side he was of German extraction, and was the eldest of thirteen children, of whom but four are now living, namely, William H., George G., Mrs. Nancy Munhall, of Urbana, and Mrs. Sarah Romine, of De Witt County, Ill.

Thomson R. Webber was twice married. His first wife, who was formerly Miss Martha Thompson, of Shelby County, Ky., died in 1837. Of this marriage there were born three children—Joseph T., William B., and Susan, Mrs. Blaydes. In 1838 Mr. Webber was married to Miss Anna B. Carson, of this county, whose death preceded his several years.

Of this marriage there are two surviving children—Robert A. and James H.

Mr. Webber came to Urbana in 1833, and identified himself with the Democratic party. He cast his first vote for Gen. Jackson, and heartily supported the candidacy of Horace Greeley, as the Democratic presidential nominee. He was a man of fine abilities and enjoyed for many years the confidence and friendship of many eminent men, among them Abraham Lincoln and Senator David Davis. After coming to this locality his talents received ready recognition. He was the first Postmaster in the county, and upon its organization was elected Clerk of both Courts, serving as County Clerk twenty years and Circuit Clerk twenty-seven years. For forty years he acted as Master in Chancery, and upon his retirement from office carried with him the respect and good-will of all who knew him.

Thomson R. Webber, in 1847, was elected to represent Vermilion, Champaign, Piatt and Coles Counties in the Constitutional Convention, and in 1863 represented the same in a similar convention, with the exception of Vermilion County, which was substituted by Macon. He possessed great firmness of character, was decided in his opinions and fearless in the expression of them. His death occurred at his residence south of the city of Urbana, Dec. 14, 1881, when he was over seventy-four years of age. He believed in and practiced the principles of Christianity, although not a member of any Church organization. He possessed a quiet dignity of manner and kindness of heart that was not above speaking kindly to the humblest individual who came within his notice.



**JOHN TRICK**, a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, having by courage and perseverance overcome the difficulties of pioneer life in a strange land, is now the owner of a fine farm on section 36, Sidney Township, of which he became a resident in 1856. The parents of our subject were George and Anna B. (Ruoff) Trick.



The father is still living in his native country, where the mother died in 1876.

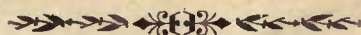
John Trick, who was born Dec. 21, 1834, when twenty years of age, in 1854, started out alone to seek his fortune in a foreign land, and embarked on board the sailing-vessel *William Tell*, plying between Havre and New York. After a stormy passage of thirty-seven days, he reached his destination and proceeded to Miamisburg, Ohio, where he remained employed some three months, and thence migrated to Springboro, Warren County, the same State. There he remained two years, working on a farm, and at the expiration of this time resolved to seek his fortune in the farther West. After coming to this county he spent several months wood-chopping, in Sidney Township, but not being satisfied with the results of his labor there, removed to Urbana, and obtained employment in a sawmill, where he continued ten months. He then returned to Sidney and engaged in farming for Paul Laybourn, with whom he remained three and a half years.

In August, 1861, Mr. Trick enlisted in Co. I, 2d Ill. Vol. Cav., and served in the Civil War for four years and six months. At the end of his third year he re-enlisted as a veteran, remaining in the ranks until the close of the war. He was present at the battles of Champion Hills and Pittsburg Landing, and in all the campaigns in which his command took part. At Liberty, Miss., he received a severe wound in the right thigh from a musket ball, which, together with the rheumatism contracted while in the army, has to some extent made him a cripple. He was mustered out in Texas, and discharged at Springfield, Ill., in January, 1866.

After the close of the war Mr. Trick returned to the scenes of his former labors, and on the 29th of January, 1867, was married to Miss Jeanette, daughter of Abel and Emeline (Tanner) Laybourn. The parents of Mrs. Trick were both natives of New York State, but their decease occurred in Sidney Township, this county. The father rested from his labors on the 6th of January, 1874, and the mother Jan. 11, 1886. Our subject and his wife are the parents of four children, namely, George, born Dec. 27, 1867; John and Nettie, twins, were born May 7, 1874: John died February 10, and

Nettie February 19, of the following year; Mary N., the youngest of the household, was born Nov. 28, 1876.

The property of our subject comprises 120 acres of finely improved land on the home farm, besides about eight acres of timber. He takes great satisfaction in noting the progress of the township, which he has assisted in building up, and has served in his school district as Director. He is a Republican politically, and with his estimable lady is a worthy member of the Methodist Church.



JOSEPH CODDINGTON, a successful farmer, residing on section 12, Sidney Township, is the son of Benjamin and Delilah (Thomas) Coddington, natives of Ohio. His father, who was also a farmer, was born in 1823, and died April 13, 1865, in Sidney Township. His mother was born in 1824, and is still living on the home farm. Joseph was the eldest of a family of nine children, comprising three boys and six girls. He was born in Sidney Township in 1843, and on the 23d of November, 1871, was married to Miss Clara McElroy. Mrs. C. is the eldest daughter of Samuel and Mary A. (Franklin) McElroy, natives of Ohio, but living in Sidney Township, this county. Their family consisted of six children, three boys and three girls, and their daughter Clara was born in or near Marietta, Ohio, July 13, 1853. To Mr. and Mrs. Coddington three children were born—Grant, Essie May and Mary Delilah. The two elder are now deceased.

Our subject, during the late war, enlisted May 14, 1864, for 100 days, and was detailed to guard duty for the Government at Rock Island. After having served more than his full time, he was mustered out at Camp Butler, about Sept. 16, 1864, and returning to Sidney Township, remained there some ten years. In 1874 he removed his family to Mitchell County, Kan., intending to permanently locate there, but a few of the cyclones incident to that region induced him within a few days to return to Illinois, where he has since remained.

Mr. Coddington, socially, is an honored member of the G. A. R., and as a citizen, interested



in the public welfare, he has successfully filled the offices of Road Commissioner and School Director. He owns a finely cultivated farm of eighty acres, with five acres of timber land, and in addition to general farming, gives special attention to the raising of Poland-China hogs. The management of his farm is carried on systematically, and aided by the most approved machinery.

Our subject and his estimable wife are members in high standing of the United Brethren Church, in which Mr. C. is Class-Leader and also Assistant Superintendent of the Union Sunday-school. He is a man of integrity and enjoys the respect and confidence of his community, to whose moral and educational welfare he has always contributed by all the means in his power.

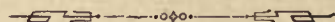


**S** A. PORTERFIELD, a gentleman in the prime of life, and a prosperous farmer and stock-grower of Sidney Township, owns a quarter of section 9, which he has embellished with a home-like country residence, and good out-buildings. He occupies himself profitably in general farming and stock-raising, and is a fair example of the prosperous agriculturist of Central Illinois. Mr. Porterfield was born in Armstrong County, Pa., Nov. 7, 1843, and is the son of R. G. and Hannah (Campbell) Porterfield (see sketch of L. C. Porterfield).

Our subject was a youth of nineteen years at the outbreak of the Rebellion, and in 1864 enlisted in the 78th Pennsylvania Infantry. He gave one year to the service of his country, and then at the close of the war was mustered out at Harrisburg, Pa., and returning home, again took up the implements of husbandry, which he has since followed. He remained in his native State two years afterward, and in 1867 migrated to the West, settling in this county, with whose interests he has since been identified.

In 1871, when twenty-nine years of age, Mr. Porterfield was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Williams. Her parents were natives of Ohio, and came to Illinois about 1865. Their family included six children—Cyrus, Elizabeth, Clara, J.

T., Mamie, and one who died in infancy. To Mr. and Mrs. Porterfield were born four children—Edward, now deceased; Robert Z., Nellie B., and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Porterfield departed this life in 1880. Our subject has held the office of School Director, and is a citizen generally interested in the welfare and prosperity of his adopted county and township. At home he is kind and hospitable, and in every relation in life performs his part in a praiseworthy manner. Religiously he is a member and one of the Trustees of the Methodist Church, and in politics is a straight Republican.



**D** AVID S. MOORE, who occupies the old homestead of his father, on section 36, Hensley Township, has been a resident of this county since a boy fifteen years of age. He was born in Goshen, Hampshire Co., Mass., Aug. 5, 1845. His father, Abner C. Moore, was born in the same town, Sept. 21, 1807. His grandfather, Shepard Moore, was a native of Brookfield, Worcester Co., Mass., whence he removed to Hampshire County during its first settlement. He purchased logs and put up a house, commenced to clear away the timber, and in due time built up a comfortable home. The locality where he settled is now known as Moore's Hill. There he and his excellent wife spent the remainder of their lives.

Of the five children in the parental family, Abner C. was the youngest. He was reared on the farm, remaining with his parents until after his marriage. The young town covered quite an area of ground, and Abner Moore purchased a tract of land within its limits. Upon what was once his property is now situated the reservoir fed from Mill River, which supplies water for the mills which manufacture various cotton and woolen goods. Here also stood, originally, a small saw-mill, which Mr. Moore put in good repair, and subsequently converted the structure into a broom-handle and button factory. The buttons were made of wood, and designed to be covered with cloth. Mr. Moore was a natural mechanic, and invented two valuable machines for the cutting of buttons. In 1851 he sold out his interest in that



vicinity, and decided to try his fortunes in the West. Getting together his household goods, with his wife and seven children, he started for the Prairie State, and after arriving within its limits, purchased a farm in Benton Township, Lake County. He lived there until 1857, when he sold out, and removing to Racine County, Wis., was a resident of the Badger State three years. In 1860 he sold his property there, and coming to this county, located first on a farm near Linn Grove, which he rented one year. The year following he removed to Rantoul, living there on a rented farm for one year, and then purchased the farm in Hensley Township upon which our subject now resides. The land at the time of its purchase by Mr. Moore was entirely uncultivated. The father, however, was cut down in his prime, dying on the 28th of March, 1863.

The mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Luena P. Slack, was born in Northampton, Mass., Jan. 18, 1803, and was united in marriage with Abner Moore in 1829. Her father, David Slack, was born in Killingly, Conn., Dec. 11, 1771, and was the son of Christopher Slack, a native of the same State and one of the first settlers of Northampton. He located in what is now the north part of the city, and died there at a ripe old age. David Slack removed to Southampton in 1807, and after a residence there of thirty years, sold out and returned to Northampton. He afterward came West with his daughter, Mrs. Moore, and died at her home in Racine County, Wis., April 28, 1859. His wife, to whom he was married Jan. 11, 1799, was Anna Pomeroy. She was born May 17, 1774, and died in Northampton, Aug. 16, 1845. They had three children; the eldest died in infancy. Her father was Caleb Pomeroy. His father's family contained five sons and three daughters, all of whom, with the exception of one son, grew to maturity, married, and had large families of their own. The son mentioned, Caleb by name, was drowned when a young man. The surviving children settled around their father in South or Easthampton, and all engaged in farming pursuits.

The Pomeroy, like their ancestors, were very strict in the observance of the Sabbath and other religious matters. Sabbath commenced at sunset

on Saturday, at which time all work was laid aside until sunset on Sunday, when work for the following week commenced. The people went a great many miles to "meeting" on horseback, the men riding on the saddle and the women on a pillion behind, in the days when Jonathan Edwards, who lived at Northampton, was the popular preacher of New England. Their text-books were the Bible, the Psalter, Watts' psalms and hymns, and the Catechism.

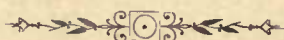
Caleb Pomeroy, the great-grandfather of our subject, settled with his brother, Elijah, in the northern part of Northampton, Mass., in 1760, and there built up a home from the primitive soil, cultivating the land and setting out fruit trees. Elijah became the father of a son, Samuel, the father of ex-Senator Pomeroy, of Kansas. The latter was a second cousin of Mr. Moore of our sketch. Senator Pomeroy was the youngest in a family of seven children, all living but one; he is seventy-one years of age and a resident of Washington City. This distinguished gentleman learned his letters and "spoke his first piece" at the school with Abner Moore, when both were boys together. The first representatives of the Pomeroy family in this country, settled first at Roxbury, Mass., whence, after a few years, they removed to Windsor, Conn.

The mother of our subject was educated in the public schools of Southampton, and commenced teaching when nineteen years old. She first received seventy-five cents per week and "boarded around." While teaching at Goshen, this lady met her future husband, Abner C. Moore. She is still living and in full possession of her mental faculties. Both she and her husband were members of the Congregational Church. They became the parents of seven children, of whom the record is as follows: Fannie C. became the wife of E. O. Stephens, and lives in Champaign; Ann, Mrs. Jewett, is a resident of Coffey County, Kan.; Julia P., Mrs. Mowrey, lives at Philo, Ill.; Chancey is deceased; Edna E., Mrs. DeLong, and Sarah U., Mrs. Hazen, are residents of Sidney Township; David S., of our sketch, was the youngest of the family. The son, Chancey, was born July 1, 1837. During the progress of the late war he enlisted as a Union soldier



in 1863, becoming a member of Co. D., 42d Ill. Vol. Inf. He was fatally wounded at the battle of Lookont Mountain, and died soon afterward, being buried in the National Cemetery at Chattanooga.

Although our subject was but six years of age when his parents removed from his native State, he distinctly remembers his old home in the East and many incidents connected with the removal hither. He was never separated from his parents until the affliction which deprived him of the society of his father, and has lived with his mother since that time. He assisted in the improvement of the homestead in Hensley Township, which they settled upon in 1861, and where he has continuously lived since that time. After reaching his twenty-first year he was united in marriage, Sept. 6, 1866, to Miss Nancy Alice Dunham, who was born in Cass County, Ind., Sept. 6, 1845, and is the daughter of John and Matilda (Griffin) Dunham. The parents of Mrs. Moore were natives of Ohio, whence they removed and were among the earliest settlers of Cass County, Ind. To Mr. and Mrs. Moore there have been born two children—Grace I. and Grant E. Our subject and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically Mr. Moore affiliates with the Republican party.



**M**ORTIMER SMITH, farmer and tile manufacturer at Homer, came to Danville, this State, in 1855, where he remained two years, then took up his abode in the community which now claims him as one of its most valued factors. He is largely identified with its industrial interests, and is also of no small importance as a farmer, being the possessor of 700 acres of land, with good buildings and farm implements. Upon coming here his first purchase consisted of 400 acres of land, upon which little improvement had been made. At that time the city of Joliet was the only point of competition in connection with the manufacture of tile. He established his factory in 1867, and has turned out from twenty to sixty miles of tiling each year, looking first to

the improvement of his own property, which has been thoroughly drained, tile being laid four rods apart all over the farm. In this institution he placed the latest and most improved machinery, and having his work done thoroughly and well, stands second to none in this industry as carried on in the Prairie State. His farming operations also have been conducted upon an extensive scale, much of his attention being given to the breeding of fine cattle, mostly Jerseys. Of these he has fifty head, together with the same number of Poland-China hogs, besides a number of fine horses.

The history of Mr. Smith furnishes an excellent example for young men just embarking in the field of active life, of what may be accomplished by a man beginning poor, but honest, prudent and industrious. Mr. Smith came to Illinois with about \$150 in cash, and the present value of his property is estimated at \$50,000. He has made profitable investments, become interested in remunerative enterprises, and combines strictness of moral principle with energy and decision of character. He is favored with a good physical constitution, mostly due to his temperate habits of life and the consciousness of having gained what he possesses by fair means and in the ordinary course of a successful business life. In viewing the career of such a man we naturally look to the source from whence he drew his origin.

The parents of our subject, William and Julia (Ransom) Smith, were both descendants of excellent families, the former a native of Lancashire, England, and the latter born in the Empire State. The birth of William Smith occurred in the early part of 1801, and that of the mother of our subject in 1806. The former spent the early part of his life in his native country, where he learned the trade of a machinist, afterward engaging in the manufacture of cotton, woolen and silk, and upon coming to this country established a silk factory at Salem, Ind. He died, however, before scarcely reaching his prime, on the 31st of July, 1849, while a resident of Hanover, Ind. The mother is still living, having arrived at the advanced age of nearly eighty-two years, and is in the enjoyment of good health. For many years she has been a member of the Presbyterian Church, and as a wife, mother and



friend has fulfilled creditably the various duties of life.

The children forming the parental household were named, Oliver, George W., Milton, Mary E., William H. II., Francis and Louis. They, together with our subject, were provided with as good an education as the schools of those days afforded, which was necessarily somewhat limited. Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Trisler. Mrs. Smith was born in Danville, this State, and is the daughter of Samuel Trisler, who was formerly a resident of Kentucky, but is now deceased. This union resulted in the birth of eight children, who were named respectively, Julia, William, Mary, Charlie, Jennie, Nellie, Roy and Clara. The latter died in infancy.

Notwithstanding his usually successful career, Mr. Smith, in 1879, met with a severe loss by fire, involving the destruction of a steam flouring-mill, which was valued at \$6,000, with no insurance. With the persistency, however, which is one of the essential points in his character and has been the secret of his success, he lost no time bemoaning his misfortune, but proceeded with his other business, to which he gave his undivided attention, with the result already stated. Politically, Mr. Smith gives his support to the Republican party. He presents in all respects the character of a well-bred gentleman, enjoying the confidence of his friends and the esteem of his neighbors. He has performed the duty of a wise father to his children, providing them with all the advantages of education.

REV. F. A. LUEDECKER, pastor of the German Evangelical Church, the building of which is located on section 28, in Sidney Township, occupies a comfortable country home not far away, on section 33. He is of German birth and parentage, having been born in the city of Berlin, Feb. 7, 1850. His parents were Martin and Caroline (Wellgast) Luedecker, the former of whom died in his native land in 1854, when our subject was a child four years of age. Fifteen years later the mother emigrated to the

United States, and is still living in Kane County, Ill. Martin Luedecker was a cooper by trade.

Our subject received his early education in the common schools, and later attended Mapleville and the Northwestern Colleges, from which he was graduated and admirably fitted for the duties before him. He married Miss Amelie Madenwold, who was born in this county Jan. 24, 1862, and is the daughter of Charles and Minnie (Lange) Madenwold, who were of German birth and parentage and are still living, making their home with our subject. Of this marriage there were born four children—Anna, Fedie, Herbert and Carl.

The church over which our subject presides includes thirty-eight families, making a congregation of about 200. They have a catechism class, with a good attendance, and the day school three months in each year. This forms an excellent community of praiseworthy citizens, and the presiding minister is eminently fitted for his responsible position.

CHARLES W. GIBSON, a valued member of the farming community of Ogden Township, is comfortably located on section 30, where he owns 120 acres of land and is largely engaged in the breeding of Poland-China hogs. He came to this State in 1863, and commenced life in a modest manner, and by the exercise of diligence and industry is now in possession of a good homestead and surrounded by all the comforts of life.

Mr. Gibson, a native of Bates County, Mo., was born Nov. 10, 1854. His parents, John W. and Nancy J. (Hartman) Gibson, were natives respectively of Ohio and Illinois. John W. Gibson was born in 1829, and departed this life at his home in Champaign, in September, 1875. He was a farmer by occupation and served as a Union soldier during the late war, being a member of the 25th Ohio Infantry, and giving three years and seven months to his country. He was mostly in the Army of the Cumberland, and suffered in common with his brother soldiers the privations of army life, by which he contracted a serious illness and was for three years an inmate of the Soldiers' Home at Dayton, Ohio. The mother of our subject was born



in 1836, married in 1855, and is still living. She has been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years. The parental household included four children—John A., Ellen, Emily, and Charles W., of our sketch.

Our subject, after arriving at years of manhood was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Cannon, Feb. 20, 1876. Mrs. G. is a native of this State and was born Dec. 12, 1856. Her parents were John and Keziah (Boone) Cannon, the former a native of Delaware and the latter of Illinois. Her father was born in 1831, has followed farming all his life, and is now a resident of Kansas. He is esteemed a worthy citizen, and is a consistent member of the Christian Church. The mother, who was born in 1839, passed away in 1879. The three children of the parental household were named respectively, Mary, Jennie and Sarah L., and all are married.

Mr. and Mrs. Gibson have three children, namely, Minnie E. F., born in 1876; Frederick, in 1880, and Grace J., Jan. 17, 1883. The homestead of our subject includes a handsome dwelling and good barn, and one of the attractive features of the place is a spring of living water with which the proprietor would not part for hundreds of dollars. His early advantages were extremely limited but he was possessed of much natural ability and has kept his eyes open to what is going on around him. He has now accumulated a good property and can afford to live in comparative ease. He is a staunch Republican in politics, and socially a member of Homer Lodge No. 252, I. O. O. F.



**SEBASTIAN DILL.** The subject of this sketch was born near Nuremburg, Germany, of which, from the many interesting historical events connected with it, a brief reference may not be uninteresting. It was founded in the year 905, and thirty-two years later was the seat of the first German Diet, familiarly associated with the movements of the reformer Martin Luther, whose doctrines its inhabitants embraced at an early day. In 1805, during the wars of the great Napoleon, it became a Province of

Middle Franconia, an old Grand Duchy of Bavaria. It was once the greatest and most wealthy of all the free imperial cities of Germany, standing on a well-cultivated plain and presenting a very striking appearance, its characteristic feature being the venerable air of antiquity which invests it. It is surrounded by walls and battlements, the chief edifices being the Reichsveste, an old imperial castle often occupied by the German Emperors of the middle ages; the Church of St. Sebald, with fine paintings and sculpture, and the churches of St. Laurent and St. Giles. There is also the German National Museum, including a vast number of volumes, with the original manuscript of famous authors, together with ancient coins and other antique objects of interest. The first gun carriages of Germany were constructed in Nuremburg, and the first railway of the Empire was opened from there to Furth, in 1836. It is now the great center of the manufacture of wooden clocks and toys, which are exported to all parts of the globe. It was also honored in being the birthplace of the celebrated painter, Albert Durer, whose personal character was as admirable as his genius.

Our subject was born March 4, 1835, and lived amid the surroundings and scenes of this ancient city until a youth of nineteen years. He was the oldest son of Andrew and Mary (Durr) Dill, who lived in Nederrimbach, Wurtemberg, at the time of Sebastian's birth. His father was a native of Eckqarhofen, Bavaria, and became a soldier and a land policeman. The family consisted of five children. Sebastian remained under the parental roof variously employed until the age we have mentioned, and then upon starting out to earn his own living, decided to seek his fortunes in the New World. He embarked from Havre, Easter Monday, in March, 1854, on a sailing-vessel, and landed in New York City five weeks later. Soon afterward he engaged as a farm laborer in the suburbs, but after eighteen months proceeded to the Province of Ontario, Canada, where he worked on a farm near St. Catherine's for over four years. There also his marriage took place Feb. 28, 1860. His wife was formerly Miss Rosa A. Stricker, a native of Grinschwinden, Germany, born Oct. 12, 1841. She emigrated to America with her parents when



thirteen years of age. She is the daughter of John and Rosina (Kohler) Stricker, natives of Germany, who, after crossing the ocean, located in Ontario, and are now living in Duart, Upper Canada. Their sons and daughters were named respectively, Rosina, Mary, Margaret, Frederick, Frederica, Catherine, John (first and second) both deceased, George, Anna and Ragina.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Dill settled on a farm in Ontario, where they remained five years, and then decided upon a removal to the States. They crossed the Canadian line on the night of April 15, 1865, and the first news that greeted them the following morning was the assassination of President Lincoln. Mr. Dill proceeded westward into this county, and purchased forty acres of wild land on the Illinois Central Railroad, on section 4, in Compromise Township, where he first put up a small house, and as soon as possible began the improvement and cultivation of his land. Not long afterward he increased the amount of his real estate by eighty acres, and occupied this farm five years. Thence he moved into Harwood Township, where he continued farming, and in about 1876, began to deal in grain and coal in the village. This was one of the stations on the Havana, Rantoul & Eastern Railroad, now a branch of the Illinois Central, and Mr. Dill, with commendable forethought, purchased quite a tract of land around, and erected first a store building, and soon afterward an elevator. His merchandising and grain business opened up prosperously, and he soon secured a post-office, which at first was known as Harwood, but in August, 1881, was changed to Dillsburg in honor of our subject. Of this he was the first Postmaster, which office he has held since that time, and is also Station Agent, besides doing the business of the American Express Company.

Mr. Dill added to his estate by subsequent purchase, forty acres adjoining the village, and on a part of which it stands, and has been busily engaged in building up the town and encouraging settlement since that time. It will thus be seen that he has been no unimportant factor among the business interests of Harwood Township, whose citizens hold him in the highest esteem. His political inclinations are with the Republican party, al-

though in township and local affairs he supports the man whom he esteems the best qualified for office. His elections to the offices which he has held have been on the People's ticket. He and his family are regular attendants of the Lutheran Church, of which he has been a member since 1849, and there are few religious, educational or business enterprises in which he has not taken a prominent part and been the leading spirit in their establishment and success.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Dill, eleven in number, were born as follows: Lillie A., Jan. 15, 1861; John was born June 24, 1862, and died September 16 following; Lucy C. was born Aug. 16, 1863; Clara M., Dec. 19, 1864; Andrew, March 10, 1867; Nellie M. was born Jan. 12, 1869, and died Sept. 3, 1879; William H. was born April 28, 1870; Ralph A., Jan. 5, 1882; Rosa B. and Gracie B. (twins), Oct. 9, 1884; G. Clyde, Aug. 17, 1886. The eldest daughter, Lillie, became the wife of John Taulman, who is now deceased; she now makes her home in Kansas City, Mo.; her one child, William H., lives with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Dill. Two of the daughters, Lucy and Clara, attended the Academy of the Sisters of Providence near Terre Haute, Ind., and afterward entered St. Mary's Institute there, where they took a full course of music, drawing, painting and embroidery, acquitting themselves with great credit. Many specimens of their work now adorn the home of their parents and are the admiration of all their friends. The sons, Andrew and William, after their primary studies were over, entered the Business College at La Fayette, Ind., where they completed the full commercial course, and have since learned telegraphy with the intention of following this as a business.

The grandfather of Sebastian Dill was a mason by trade, and lived in Eckqarhofen, where his son, Andrew, the father of our subject, was born Oct. 21, 1799. The latter was a weaver by trade, and was drafted into the Bavarian army Feb. 7, 1821. He served six years to a day, and on the 1st of April, 1827, enlisted in what is known as the Landwehr, and continued as a soldier until April 1, 1833, another period of six years, when he received his honorable discharge. The following year,



March 6, 1834, he was married, and in due time became the father of five children: Sebastian, of our sketch, was the first born; Margaret died when about five or six weeks old; Michael, who was born June 20, 1840, lives on the old homestead; John was born Aug. 6, 1843; Leonard was born Feb. 12, 1849, and emigrated to America, reaching this country July 24, 1869. He made his home with his brother, Sebastian, until October, 1874; then went to California, and after traveling around considerably in different parts of the West, finally settled at Spokane Falls, Wash. Ty., where he owns a half section of land.



**HENRY P. CORNELIUS.** During the early settlement of Central Illinois there came from Kentucky a hardy band of pioneers. That State not only took the lead as to the time of sending its sturdy sons and devoted daughters to settle in the beautiful woodlands which skirted the broad prairies of this section, but in the number of its pioneers it excels all other States. It was the characteristic Kentucky hospitality that won for the pioneers such an enduring reputation in this respect, and made life on the frontier happy. We have as our subject one of these veteran Kentucky pioneers, who, although not an early settler of Champaign County, is a pioneer of this part of the State. He now lives in Brown Township, where he is the proprietor of a good homestead on section 16, and employs the greater part of his time superintending the cultivation of 160 acres of improved land. He took up his abode here in 1882, and although not classed among the pioneers of this township, has by his age, experience and most excellent personal qualities, secured the respect and esteem of all who know him. His head has been whitened by the frosts of eighty-one winters, yet he possesses in a marked degree the energy of character which distinguished him in his youth.

Mr. Cornelius was born within seven miles of Hopkinsville, Christian Co., Ky., March 16, 1806, and is the son of John and Martha (Proffitt)

Cornelius, the former a native of North Carolina, and the latter of Virginia. After marriage they commenced life together in Christian County, Ky., where they reared a family and spent the remainder of their days. The children of the parental family who grew up on the farm in the above county were eight, four of whom are now living. The subject of our sketch removed to Tazewell County, Ill., in 1836, and lived there over forty-five years. He first located in Hittle's Grove Township, where he lived until the spring of 1877, and from there removed to Minier, where he lived five years, and thence removed to Brown Township, this county, locating upon his present farm.

Mr. Cornelius was first married, in his native county in Kentucky, July 17, 1828, to Miss Mary Quisenberry, who was of Southern birth and parentage, her father and mother being natives of Virginia, of which she was also a native. Of this marriage there were born nine children, whom they named as follows: John H.; Edward, deceased; Nancy A.; Gustavus, deceased; Agnes, deceased; Lin; Jesse, deceased, Mary and Levi. The wife and mother, while the family were living in Hittle's Grove Township, folded her hands for her final rest in 1845. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married in McLean County, Ill., in July, 1847, was Miss Catherine Quisenberry, also a native of Christian County, Ky., born July 20, 1826. Mrs. Catherine Cornelius became the mother of eight children, all of whom are living, namely, Ann, James, Charles, Millard, Laura, George M., Ida and Julia. Mr. Cornelius is greatly opposed to the manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors, and in voting upholds the principles of the Republican party.



**GEORGE FREY,** favorably known in Somerset Township as a praiseworthy and law-abiding citizen, is a native of the Grand Duchy of Baden, and was born six miles south of Strasburg, Aug. 16, 1846. His father, John Frey, a native of the same locality, emigrated to America when our subject was a lad, and located in Urbana, this county, in September, 1857. He took up a



small tract of timber land, and experienced the usual hardships of the pioneer settler. His industry and perseverance, however, were in due time rewarded, and he invested his surplus capital in additional land until he became the owner of 150 acres, from the greater part of which he was obliged to clear the timber, and brought the whole to an excellent state of cultivation.

The mother of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Ursula Frank. The parental household consisted of two sons and two daughters. John, Jr., during the late Rebellion enlisted in Co. B, 76th Ill. Vol. Inf., and participated in many of the important battles of the war. He was wounded at the siege of Vicksburg, and died on the boat which conveyed the disabled from the battle-field to the hospital at Memphis, Tenn. Sarah Frey became the wife of Fred Stoth, and they reside near the old homestead; George, of our sketch, was the youngest of the family.

Mr. Frey was united in marriage with Miss Augusta Sehaplin, and of this union there have been born four children, three daughters and one son, all living and at home with their parents. They are named respectively, Etta Augusta, Harmon Albert, Elizabeth and Antonia. Mr. Frey keeps himself well posted upon local affairs, and uniformly votes the Republican ticket. He has served as School Director two terms, and adheres to the doctrines of the Lutheran Church, in which he was reared from childhood. He received a good education in his native tongue, but only attended an English school two weeks. He, however, kept his eyes open to what was going on around him, and ranks among the intelligent and progressive citizens of the county.

**J**OHAN ROUGHTON, a pioneer settler of Ludlow Township, has built up one of the finest homesteads within the borders of the county, to which he came in 1854, settling first in Urbana. He is a native of Derbyshire, England, where his birth took place April 5, 1819. His parents, Gervase and Ann (Pimm) Roughton, were natives of the same shire as their son, and the father followed the trade of a millwright the

greater part of his life. He became an expert in this business, building mills and putting up machinery in the best districts of Derbyshire and Cheshire. He met his death by accident, falling against the fly-wheel of an engine, in 1851, and his remains were laid to rest in his native shire, of which he had been a resident the greater part of his life. The wife and mother, shortly after the death of her husband, emigrated to the United States, accompanied by six of her eight children. After arriving here she made her home with her son, our subject, for a number of years, but died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Lydia Gascoyne, in Ohio.

The brothers and sisters of our subject are located as follows, himself being the eldest: Harriett Milner still resides in England; Thomas, during the late Civil War enlisted in Co. G, 76th Ill. Vol. Inf., and died at Natchez, Miss., while in the service; Lydia married Abraham Gascoyne, and lives near Jackson, Ohio; Mary died in England, and Henry in Streator, Ill.; William served as a Union soldier in the 25th Illinois Infantry, and was wounded at the battle of Chickamauga; he recovered from this, and lived to be mustered out of the army, but after returning home, was killed by a kick from one of his own horses; Charles is a resident of Camden County, N. J.; Samuel lives in Urbana, this State.

John Roughton, when thirteen years of age, was apprenticed to a blacksmith, whom he served until reaching his majority. He was kept steadily at work from five or six o'clock in the morning till late in the evening, receiving but his board and lodging, while his father furnished his clothing, and his mother kept this clean and in repair. When twenty-one years old he commenced life for himself, without a cent in his pocket. He secured employment at his trade, receiving at first but eight English shillings per week, and the highest wages he ever received in England was but one guinea, or about \$5 per week, out of which he boarded himself. Not being satisfied with his condition or prospects, he determined to seek his fortune in the New World. Accordingly, in the month of April, 1850, he set sail from Liverpool, and landed in New York City after a voyage of thirty days. He proceeded directly to Ohio, locating at Cuyahoga Falls,



Summit County, his entire wealth consisting of three sovereigns, and he was comparatively alone and among strangers. His first business, of course, was to seek employment, which he obtained at \$1 per day.

Our subject's early experiences, although seeming hard to the people of this day and age, were a good school and established an independence of character and self-reliance which served him well in all his after life. His master had compelled him to do his work well, and he had learned the whole business thoroughly, being an expert horseshoer as well as a skilled machinist. He worked as journeyman one year in his new location, then purchased an interest in the shop of his employer and continued in business at "the Falls" until 1853. He then sold out, and engaged with a contractor at Piketon, Ohio, where he removed and remained some time, and then coming to Urbana, in this county, worked as a "jour" seven weeks and repeated his experiment in Ohio by purchasing an interest in the shop of his employer. A year later he abandoned blacksmithing to engage in the grocery trade, which he followed until 1855.

During the year last mentioned, the land reserved by the Government for the Illinois Central Railroad to select their grant from, was thrown upon the market, and it was found that a great many claims had been made by men who purchased in order to become actual settlers. Speculative "land sharks," as they were usually called, were hired to enter these lands and dispossess the settlers. In this strait the Supreme Court of Illinois was appealed to, which decided in favor of the speculators. The pre-emptors then met in Champaign County and organized a protective association. Mr. Roughton was one of the three appointed to select a case to carry up to the United States Supreme Court, and a tax of twenty cents an acre was levied on the land of all the pre-emptors in order to raise a fund to meet the expense of the suit. Mr. Roughton was appointed to visit these parties and take their notes. The case was carried up and decided in favor of the pre-emptors.

In the fall of 1855 Mr. Roughton pre-empted the land he now owns and occupies. It was then included in Pera Township. He took possession of


this the following year, and about the same time the little settlement which had been named Rantoul was incorporated a village. Mr. R. put up a small house on his land, but soon afterward was persuaded to move to Rantoul and establish the pioneer blacksmith-shop of that section, which he carried on until 1860, when he sold out. After this he repaired to Big Grove and established a shop which he operated until 1862. After vainly waiting in hopes that the attack upon Ft. Sumter would soon be followed by the dawn of peace, he enlisted in Co. G, 76th Ill. Vol. Inf., and gave his services to assist in the preservation of the Union. Much of the time he was on detached duty in the ordnance department, and to whatever post he was assigned acquitted himself in a faithful and creditable manner. He participated in the siege and capture of Ft. Blakesley and was in many other important battles and minor engagements. His services as a soldier terminated in August, 1865, when he was mustered out at Galveston, Tex. Immediately afterward he set out on his return to his old home in Champaign County, and locating at Big Grove as before, carried on blacksmithing there until removing to Urbana the following year, where, in company with his brother Henry, he purchased a machine-shop and foundry, selling out his interest two years later and removing to the farm, where he has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits. Through his excellent judgment and wise superintendence, this has become a model country estate, improved with fine buildings, and on all sides giving evidence of the good taste and prosperity of its proprietor.

Mr. Roughton was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Gilbert at Thurlaston, Leicestershire, England, in August, 1842. Mrs. R. is a native of the same shire as her husband, and the daughter of John and Ann Gilbert, who were born, married and died in England. Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Roughton only one survives, a son, Reuben, who was born in Yorkshire, England, and was but two years of age when his parents emigrated to the United States. He was reared in Ohio and this county, and married Miss Ella, the eldest daughter of Elisha and Julia A. Genung. They have three children—Ada M., Roy John and Hazel M.



John Roughton and his excellent and worthy wife became members of the Universalist Church at Urbana, and while living there Mr. R. was Superintendent of the Sunday-school. He has been a Republican since becoming a voter, casting his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln. He has served as Justice of the Peace ten years, and been Commissioner of Highways six years. In 1880 he served as Census Enumerator for Ludlow Township, and the Board of School Directors would scarcely know how to get on without him, as he has met with them in rain and shine for a number of years. Besides being Overseer of Highways for many terms he has supported and encouraged every enterprise calculated for the public good. During the Grange movement he was identified with it, and is now President of the Farmers' Alliance of Rantoul, and also President of the Rantoul Permanent Road Improvement Society, besides acting as Superintendent and Secretary of the Rantoul Maplewood Cemetery Association. Socially, he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, as a member of Rantoul Lodge.

In 1886 Mr. Roughton took a trip across the water to the home of his childhood, and spent several months visiting among old friends and relatives. This episode in his life he reverts to with pleasure, but claims that there is no country equal to the United States for the freedom of its people and the excellence of its institutions.

 WILLIAM CALDWELL, one of the most thrifty farmers of Philo Township, occupies a pleasant homestead on section 21. His property includes 120 acres of land, thoroughly drained with tile and supplied with all needful and convenient farm buildings. He became a resident of this county in the spring of 1881, although he has lived in the Prairie State for nearly thirty years. He first located in Kendall County, to which he had removed in 1858, from Wheeling, W. Va., where he was born April 24, 1831.

The father of our subject, Alexander Caldwell by name, is also a native of the Old Dominion and of substantial Scotch ancestry. He married Miss

Amy Whetsell, of Franklin County. John Caldwell, the paternal grandfather of our subject, during the early settlement of Virginia owned a large portion of the land upon which the city of Wheeling now stands, and upon which the old block-house was built. He lived to see the development of the country around him, followed farming successfully, and died at a ripe old age. He had married a West Virginia lady, who also died at the old homestead, a part of which remains in possession of Ezekiel Caldwell, an uncle of our subject.

Alexander Caldwell inherited the substantial traits of his father, and became a prominent citizen of Wheeling, near which city he is still living, and is now eighty-one years of age. The mother died there in December, 1869. She was an own cousin of the famous hunter, Lewis Whetsell, who revenged his father's death by hunting down the redskins at every opportunity and slaying them. His father had been shot while peacefully fishing on the river bank, and before he expired had asked his son to thus avenge his death. The consequence was that Lewis Whetsell became one of the most crafty and successful foes of the Indians.

William Caldwell was the fifth of the children born to his parents, whose family included six sons and six daughters, who are all living and married. The early life of our subject was spent under the parental roof and in attendance at the public schools. After reaching manhood he was married, Oct. 14, 1857, in his native county, to Miss Mary Shepherd. This lady became the mother of seven children, and died at her home in Lisbon Township, Kendall County, in 1870. Their two eldest sons, John and William, still continue in Kendall County, and are engaged in farming. Amanda is the wife of James Cunningham, who is employed in the War Department at Washington, D. C.; Addie married Wilbur Lovingfoss, and is residing in Philo Village; Minnie, Josie and Bertie are at home.

The present wife of our subject was formerly Mrs. Katie (VanBuskirk) Scofield, who was born in New York State and removed with her parents to Kendall County, Ill., when a child ten years of age. She was married there to Charles Scofield, who died and left her with one child, a son, Charles, Jr. Of her union with our subject there has also



been born one child, a daughter, Maude. Mr. Caldwell is an uncompromising Republican, politically, and his estimable lady is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church.



**J**OHN W. LENEY, a fine representative of his substantial Scotch ancestry, is one of the most prominent residents of Ogden Township, and owns 249 acres of finely cultivated land, with a handsome farm residence and all the out-buildings required for the prosecution of his chosen calling. He, however, only superintends the operation of his farm, as he some time ago retired from active labor and invested a portion of his spare capital in a stock of agricultural implements and road vehicles. His career has been distinguished as that of a wide-awake and thorough business man, and he has been no unimportant factor in developing the resources of this section.

Mr. Leney was born on the other side of the Atlantic, on the Carlisle Road near the city of Glasgow, Scotland, March 28, 1824. His parents, John and Mary (Wallace) Leney, were natives of Scotland and born near Edinburgh. Our subject left home when a lad twelve years of age, and set out alone on the long voyage across the Atlantic. He landed in the city of Philadelphia, whence after a residence of three months he proceeded to the banks of the Brandywine, and for a time was employed in a cotton-mill, and afterward, during the construction of a railroad from Wilmington to Dover, drove a team and made himself otherwise useful. From there he migrated to Pottsville, where he received a position as foreman over a gang of hands in the construction of the Bear Gap Railroad, and in that region spent six years. Then, going to Wilmington, he was variously employed until he started on his journey to Ohio. Wherever he went he found but little difficulty in securing employment, and in the Buckeye State was occupied in a similar manner as before, around freight-houses and locomotives. He finally left the town and repaired to the country, where he was employed on a farm, and in September, 1853, started for the farther West. The day after reaching Urbana he was engaged by

a farmer, with whom he remained about six months, and was then employed by M. D. Coffeen at Homer to feed cattle during the winter.

Afterward Mr. Leney resumed farming, and finding that he could without trouble make a comfortable living, decided to take unto himself a wife and helpmeet. The lady of his choice was Miss Mary M., daughter of Allen Poague, who became his wife on the 3d of June, 1859. Mrs. Leney was born in 1844, and was but little over fourteen years of age at the time of her marriage. The young people began life together on a rented farm, and two years later our subject purchased a quarter section of land upon which the village of Ogden is now standing. With an early eye to business he laid out a portion of his purchase in town lots from which he afterward realized a handsome profits.

In August, 1862, after the outbreak of the Rebellion, Mr. Leney enlisted in the 51st Illinois Infantry, and gave to his adopted country his best service until the close of the struggle. He was promoted Sergeant, and in the second day's fight at Murfreesboro was captured by the rebels and held from the 1st of January until May. After being exchanged he, with his comrades, was sent to Annapolis, Md., and from there to Benton Barracks, Mo. He was now detailed to the invalid corps, which was subsequently ordered to Indianapolis and assigned to the duty of guarding the rebel prisoners at Camp Morton, where he remained until the close of the war, and much of the time acted as Quartermaster and had charge of the entire camp. Upon returning from the army Mr. Leney embarked in the grain business at Ogden and erected an elevator and flouring-mill at great expense. He finally sold the elevator, and the mill was destroyed by fire. He then abandoned the grain trade and established himself in the business in which he is now interested, in Ogden.

Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Leney, Mary E. died in infancy; George T. is married; Dora A. was married, and is now deceased; Millie A., Olive M., Frank J. and Flora S. are at home with their parents. There were also born twins who died unnamed. The parents and two daughters are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Ogden, in which Mr.



Leney holds the offices of Steward, Class-Leader and Trustee. He has also officiated as Superintendent of the Sunday-school many years. Politically he votes the straight Democratic ticket. Socially he belongs to Lodge No. 754, A. F. & A. M., in which he has held some of the most important offices for several years.



**H**IRAM LENOX, Harwood Township. This gentleman chiefly employs his time in raising the finest crops on one of the best farms in Champaign County. The main points in his career, which embraces a period of about forty-six years, are substantially as follows: He was born in Shelby County, Ohio, July 24, 1839, and was seventh in a family of ten children, the offspring of James and Sallie (Wilson) Lenox. James Lenox, who is supposed to have been a native of Virginia, was one of the early settlers of the Buckeye State, where, in near proximity to his wife's father, he cleared a farm of his own and purchased the farm of the latter, both of which he cultivated afterward until his death. The town of Sidney, which gradually grew up, was finely located about five miles away, and became the seat of Shelby County.

The elder Lenox was one of the leading farmers of that time and locality, and was noted for his thorough knowledge of public affairs and his earnest support of the Union at the time of the Rebellion. He was an extensive reader and possessed a remarkable memory, which served him well during a time when the various political and social questions of the day greatly agitated the minds of men. His ready intelligence and large fund of information caused him to be singled out as a counselor and advisor in both private and public matters. His family and the Wilson family, into which he married, were regarded as the most substantial people of Shelby County. During the war he gave three of his sons to his country's cause, and the Lenox family was represented by seventeen soldiers, who were noted for their bravery and fidelity. The father of our subject rested from his earthly labors at the age of seventy-one years, and left to

his descendants a record which they may justly look upon with pride and satisfaction.

Hiram Lenox left the parental roof when twenty-two years of age, and first spent a short time on the farm of his brother not far away. A year later he was united in marriage with Miss Mattie M. Davenport, the wedding occurring Oct. 31, 1862. Mrs. Lenox was the daughter of Anthony S. Davenport, and she and her husband played together when they were children. They settled not far from the old home of each, and our subject cultivated a tract of land belonging to his uncle for about six years. They then migrated farther westward to this county, and Mr. Lenox purchased eighty acres one mile south of Gifford, in Compromise Township. He there established a comfortable home, and there the wife and mother died on the 7th of June, 1869, leaving two children, namely, Dora Bell and Lulu May. The latter died on the 23d of June, 1882. Dora became the wife of James Barnes, who is carrying on a farm about three miles from the Lenox homestead. The wife of our subject was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church from childhood, and one of the most earnest Christian workers in the community, which, by her death, lost one of its brightest lights.

Mr. Lenox contracted a second marriage, April 18, 1872, with Miss Mary Barnes, daughter of Philip and Nancy (Seifers) Barnes, natives of New Jersey, and of German descent. Her grandfather Campbell, was a staff officer of Gen. Washington during the Revolutionary War, and as his name implies, was of Scotch descent. Mrs. Mary Lenox was born in Iberia, Ohio, April 11, 1851, and when a child two years of age came with her parents to Warren County, Ill. In 1865 they removed to this county. Three of her brothers were in the Union army, and subsequently located upon a farm near Gifford, where they remained until 1881, but are now residents of Harwood Township. The seven children of Mr. and Mrs. Lenox were named respectively, Herbert Claude, Elbert Ellsworth, Edna Olive, Alice Mabel, Ollie May, Minnie Myrtle and Mary Elizabeth. Two are deceased, and those surviving are at home with their parents. Elbert died when a lad nine years of age. He was



an exceptionally bright boy, fond of his books, and a child of whom his parents had great hopes for the future. Their little daughter Edna, died when two years of age.

Our subject and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. L., politically, votes the straight Republican ticket. He cares little for politics, but at the solicitation of his townsmen has served as Road Commissioner and School Trustee.

**J**OHN I. CLARK, of Harwood Township, is a native of Wheeling, W. Va., where his birth took place Nov. 28, 1851. He was the fifth child in a family of seven born to William and Dorothea (Metcalf) Clark, who were born in England near Newcastle-on-Tyne. William Clark entered the mines at an early age, where he was occupied until 1854, when he emigrated to the United States, and coming to Marshall County, Ill., continued the same business until 1869, in the meantime being prosperous and accumulating a good property. He then sold out and purchased 120 acres of unimproved land three miles southeast of Rantoul, where he occupied himself in farming until his death, which took place June 24, 1877. The mother is still living, and a resident of Urbana. She is now seventy-four years of age, active in mind and body, and takes pride in the fact that she can still perform her household duties as of old.

William Clark was a peaceable, law-abiding citizen and a consistent Christian gentleman. He joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in England and continued his membership with that church until his removal to Marshall County, where there was no society of this denomination. He then united with the Congregationalists. During the war he was a staunch supporter of the Union, and his influence was always exerted in behalf of truth and justice.

John I. Clark, our subject, left home in the spring of 1877, after having been married January 22, to Miss Virginia Nixon. This lady is the daughter of John B. and Ann (Henwood) Nixon, of Virginia, and was born Aug. 24, 1853. She came West with her parents two years later, and they first settled near Woodhull, in Henry County. Her father

served as a Captain in the regular army, and is now living in retirement. Mr. Clark and his bride located first on rented land in Rantoul Township, then removed to Texas with the intention of following farming there. After one year's residence in the Lone Star State they returned to Illinois and located on section 24, in Harwood Township, where they now reside. The household circle was completed by the birth of four children, namely, William Leslie, Bessie Arkle, Henry Earl and John I., Jr. They are all living and at home.

Mr. Clark has been quite prominent in local affairs; was School Trustee in Compromise Township, Road Commissioner in Rantoul Township, and has served as Supervisor of Harwood Township for two terms, being elected on the People's ticket. He is independent in politics, aiming to support the men whom he esteems best qualified for office. Religiously he is connected with the Christian Church, near Rantoul, in which he has officiated as Assistant Superintendent of the Sabbath-school.

The farm stock of Mr. Clark is of excellent description, including Norman horses, Durham cattle, Poland-China hogs, and a fine flock of sheep, embracing 240 head. He recently sold 150 of the latter. He is particularly fond of horses, and has two valuable thoroughbreds, both imported animals and registered under the names of "Jacques" and "Captain Jenks."

**P**ROF. JAMES H. BROWNLEE, M. A., occupies the Chair of Rhetoric and Oratory in the Illinois University, to which he was called by reason of his eminent fitness, and the duties of which he has fulfilled with the dignity becoming his high position. Prof. Brownlee is a native of New Albany, Floyd Co., Ind., was born Dec. 29, 1846, and is the son of Rev. James and Lovina (McClurg) Brownlee, natives respectively of Ireland and Kentucky, and of Scotch ancestry. The father was finely educated and a graduate of the Theological College at Hanover. After completing his studies he at once entered upon his duties as a Presbyterian clergyman. In 1857 he



removed to Kansas, and was occupied in ministerial duties there until 1865, during which year he took up his residence at Carbondale, Ill., where he spent his declining years, his death taking place in 1887, at the age of seventy-five. The mother had died in 1864, aged forty-seven years. Of five children of the parental household, four are now living, viz., Mary J., Mrs. Marcum, of Oregon; Ann M., Mrs. Denning, of Michigan; Addison M. and James H., of this State.

Our subject first attended school in his native town, and after the removal of his parents West, entered first an academy in Kansas, and subsequently took a course in McKendree College, St. Clair County, Ill., from which he was graduated in 1870. He then commenced teaching and was thus employed in the Normal School twelve years before connecting himself with the State University. He was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Carey, of Grayville, White County, on the 25th of December, 1874. Mrs. Brownlee is the daughter of Capt. Abner Carey, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of two daughters—Bessie E. and Mary L.

Prof. Brownlee during the late war enlisted in a Kansas regiment and was promoted Sergeant. He is a straight Republican, politically, and socially belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the G. A. R. He is President of the Teachers' Association of the State of Illinois, and an attendant at the Presbyterian Church.

**J**OHAN C. GRABBY, a retired German farmer, and at present a resident of Philo Village, came to this county many years ago, and by his industry and thrift assisted materially in the development of its resources. He is a native of Sleswick-Holstein, and first opened his eyes to the light some sixteen years before the breaking out of the war between his native country and Denmark. He became thoroughly trained for active service, and was destined to play an important part in the impending struggle. Upon entering the ranks he was first assigned as private in a band of sharpshooters, but on account of his bravery and fidelity was soon promoted, and eventually reached

the rank of First Lieutenant and was placed in command of a squadron. He took part in some of the hardest fought battles of that struggle, and at one point was under fire for a period of eighteen weeks; finally, much to the regret of himself and comrades, they were obliged to abandon the siege and leave the city in possession of the Danes. During this period Lieut. Grabby received an honorable wound which, however, was of slight moment.

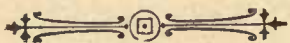
After the struggle was ended Mr. Grabby set out for the United States and landed first in the city of Chicago. Shortly afterward he repaired to Edgar County, Ill., where he was employed in farming, but upon the call for troops to put down the Rebellion he again entered the ranks, identifying himself with the 54th Illinois Infantry. Their regiment was assigned to the Army of the Southwest, and operated first around Little Rock, Ark., meeting the enemy subsequently in the battle at Humboldt, Tenn., where our subject was captured and carried to St. Louis by the rebels. In a few weeks, however, he was exchanged and joined his regiment at Little Rock, whence they repaired for their final discharge to Ft. Worth, in the winter of 1865. He participated in the fight at Brownsville, Tenn., and met the enemy in various other minor engagements and skirmishes.

After retiring from the army Mr. Grabby returned to Edgar County, and a year later was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Johnson, who was born near Cleveland, Ohio, May 24, 1844. Her early childhood was passed in her native State, and her education completed in Edgar County, Ill. She was a lady possessing all womanly virtues, proving herself the affectionate and faithful helpmeet of her husband during the many years which they spent harmoniously together. Her kindness of heart was proverbial, and she was highly esteemed by a large circle of warm friends. She departed this life in 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Grabby had no children of their own, but performed the part of parents to a foster child, whom they christened Frank, and who is now a resident of Urbana. Mr. Grabby after becoming a naturalized citizen identified himself with the Republican party, and has since been one of its warmest supporters.

The parents of Mr. Grabby spent their entire



lives in the land of their birth. Frantz Grabby, the father, also a native of Holstein, was a weaver by trade, in which he attained great skill. He was of commanding presence, and married a very intelligent lady of his native Province, Miss Catherine Bealfoot, who was the descendant of a prominent and influential family of that section. Her father, Herning Bealfoot, was prominent in local politics and connected with most of the offices of the Province.



MICHAEL D. COFFEEN, proprietor of the elevator and flouring-mill at Homer, came to Champaign County in 1853. In 1870 he purchased 160 acres of land in Sidney Township, which he occupied until 1874. He was afterward engaged in merchandising in Decatur and Danville about three years, and farming the balance of the time until 1878, during which year he went to Vernon County, Mo., making the trip of about 500 miles in the dead of winter with his wife and two little children in a two-horse wagon, camping out during the whole trip. During their short stay there they lived in a one-room log cabin, raised a crop which was burned up by drouth, and which he sold for \$25, and returned in the fall by the same conveyance to Homer. He there established himself as a grain-dealer, with a borrowed capital of \$9,200, and three years later erected the large flouring-mill which he has since operated. This is fitted with ten pairs of rollers and has a capacity of 125 barrels per day. The investment has proved a very successful one, which is doubtless altogether due to the intelligence and good business management of the proprietor.

In 1885 Mr. Coffeen incorporated his business under the name and style of the Coffeen Mill and Elevator Company, of which he is President and principal stockholder. He makes a specialty of high-grade flour, which has won universal favor in the culinary departments of the homes throughout Eastern Illinois. This is the only mill in this section having the centrifugal system of dressing the flour. In connection with this mill Mr. Coffeen handles probably 1,000 carloads of flour and grain annually. Besides his mill and elevator property

he is the owner of sixty-five acres of good land in the town limits, and is in all respects one of the well-to-do citizens of a community uniformly prosperous and composed of the best class of people in the commonwealth of Illinois. In 1885 Mr. Coffeen organized the Texas Mill and Elevator Company, of Corsicana, Tex., it being one of the largest establishments of the kind in the State. He built and operated this successfully for over a year, and in which he still retains his interest, it being under the management of his brother-in-law, John H. Knox.

Mr. Coffeen was born in Warren County, Ind., Aug. 28, 1846, and is the son of Alvah P. and Olive E. (Martin) Coffeen, the former a native of the Dominion of Canada, and the latter of New York State. Alvah P. Coffeen was born July 17, 1811, and traced his ancestry back to the Isle of Man in the Irish Sea. He learned the cabinet-maker's trade early in life, and when a young man came to the West, locating in this county in 1853, and engaged in farming. He was for the last forty years of his life a zealous member and Elder in the Christian Church, and politically, a Free-soil Democrat. Afterward he was a staunch Abolitionist in the days of Birney and Fremont, and Republican during the war. He then drifted into the ranks of the Greenbackers, and took an active part in the Grange movement during the early part of the '70's. The great characteristic feature of his life was his earnest advocacy of reformed movements in society. His last years were spent in Homer, his death occurring May 16, 1880, when he was sixty-eight years of age.

The mother was born Aug. 1, 1813, and was married to Alvah P. Coffeen on the 25th of December, 1832, in Warren County, Ind.; she is still living in Homer. Both parents were orphaned at an early age; and received but a limited education. Realizing its advantages, they have exerted themselves greatly to provide their children with better school facilities than they themselves enjoyed. Of their sons and daughters the record is as follows: Alvah M. married Miss Mira Gaines, and resides in Champaign, Ill; Henry A. married Miss Hattie M. King, and lives in Wyoming Territory; Damie C. married Richard S. Hopkins, and they also are



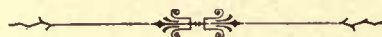
living in Wyoming Territory; Michael D., of our sketch, was the fourth child; Sarah E., Mrs. John Knox, is now a resident of Texas. Three children died in infancy. The children and grandchildren of Alvah P. Coffeen are distinguished for temperance in all respects, never using spirits or tobacco in any form.

The earliest years of Michael D. Coffeen were spent with his parents in farming. Afterward, he and his brothers and sisters received a collegiate education, completing their studies in different colleges. Our subject graduated from Ann Arbor University, Mich., in the law department, which profession he was engaged in about five years. After having matured his plans for the future, he was united in marriage with Miss Mellie Burton, on the 4th of April, 1871. Mrs. C., a native of Indiana, was born Jan. 12, 1850, and is the daughter of James and Mary (Shirk) Burton, of Woodford County, Ill. Her father followed farming pursuits during his life, most of the time in the latter county, and rested from his labors May 2, 1865. The mother is still living, making her home with her daughter, Mrs. Dr. Lakin, of Eureka, Ill. The household circle included eight children. Of these, Louisa died when twenty-one years of age; Sarah married Rev. B. B. Tyler, a minister of the Christian Church in New York City; Tighlman, deceased; Mellie, the wife of our subject, was the fourth child; Ellen, the wife of S. A. Marney, is a resident of Miles City, M. T.; Mr. M. is editor and proprietor of the "Stock-growers' Journal." Joseph H. is in Texas; Olive, Mrs. S. W. Lakin, resides at Eureka, Ill., and James F. at Miles City, M. T.

Mr. Coffeen has been connected with the Christian Church for a period of twenty-five years, in which he was Elder for some time. Politically, he is independent, aiming to cast his vote for the men whom he considers best qualified to hold office. He connected himself with the Masonic fraternity in 1886, and has taken the Chapter degrees.

On the 17th of January, 1872, there was born to Mr. and Mrs. Coffeen a son, whom they named Charles B., and on the 21st of January, 1875, a daughter, afterward christened Olive B. One daughter died in infancy. The home of Mr. Cof-

feen and his family is frequented by the best people of the community. Our subject, as a citizen and business man, occupies an enviable position, and is esteemed no less for his personal qualities than for his straightforward business transactions and his worth as an important factor of the industrial element of this section. A lithographic view of his mill and elevator is shown on another page of this work.



**H**ON. ABEL HARWOOD, after the vicissitudes of a long and busy life, in which he was more than ordinarily successful in accumulating a share of this world's goods, is now living in retirement at Champaign. He has been a prominent figure in the affairs of this county for the last thirty years, being a man of great force of character, whose footprints upon the sands of time will be noted long after he has been gathered to his fathers.

Mr. Harwood was born in North Brookfield, Mass., Nov. 23, 1814, and worked on his father's farm until a youth seventeen years old. He received a good education, graduating from Amherst College in 1841, and intended to follow the profession of a teacher. Soon after graduating he married Miss Mary D., daughter of Deacon Tyler Batcheller, also of North Brookfield, and expected to move at once to Edwardsville, Ill., to take charge of the academy there. He started for the West with his bride, but changed his mind, and went into Shelby County, Ky., and with his wife engaged in teaching and was thus occupied until failing health compelled him to seek other employment. He afterward engaged in the shoe business successfully, and at about the time of the construction of the Illinois Central Railroad, caught the land fever and purchased nearly 3,000 acres in McLean, Champaign and Piatt Counties, which he secured at about \$1 per acre. He subsequently added to his landed interests by purchases of 2,000 acres from private parties.

Mr. Harwood, in February, 1853, established himself in Bloomington and resumed his occupation as a shoe merchant. In 1856 his wife died, leaving him with six young children, and two years later he



married Miss Isabella D. Boyd. Mr. H. has been very happy in his domestic relations and claims that his success in life has been due in a large measure to the counsel of the two excellent women who shared his fortunes and rejoiced in his successes. Of his later marriage there were born five children.

Mr. Harwood was a member of the Convention which framed the present constitution of this State and in which body he was one of the ablest and most influential men.



**M**RS. MARY H. SMITH, widow of William H. Smith, late of the city of Urbana, is the daughter of Augustus and Eliza Herndon, natives of Virginia. Her father upon engaging in business for himself located at Lexington, Ky., and carried on the manufacture of rope and bagging, by which he accumulated a good property. The latter part of his life was spent in retirement, and his death took place in October, 1868. The mother had preceded her husband to the silent land more than twenty years, passing away in 1844, at their home at Lexington. Mary was their only child, and remained with them until her marriage.

William H. Smith was born March 15, 1819, and was the son of John J. and Esther Smith, of North-castle, Westchester Co., N. Y. He received a good education and in early life was engaged in teaching, and as a railroad conductor. He was married to Miss Mary Hannah Herndon, of Lexington, Jan. 22, 1855, and they became the parents of four children, namely, William H., Jr., Edward H., Mary Esther and Jay H. The place made vacant in the family by the decease of their infant daughter was eventually occupied by their adopted daughter, Miss Kate Weaver. The eldest son is now engaged in the manufacture of lumber at Hazleton, Pa. Edward H. married the daughter of Prof. Moore, Principal of the West Side High School, of Champaign. These two sons are graduates of Yale College.

William H. Smith for twenty-five years was prominently identified with the great railroad interests of the United States, and attained a national

reputation. He was the first conductor on the New York & New Haven Railroad, both of which he had assisted in building, and was also chiefly instrumental in the construction of the R. R. I. & St. L., the Texas & Pacific and the Buffalo & Washington roads. He came to Urbana in 1868, and afterward built the I. B. & W. R. R. from Danville to Pekin. Subsequently he was appointed receiver of the I. B. & W. extension, now the Havana branch of the great Wabash system, and in May, 1880, became President of the Western Car Company, with which he was connected from the time of its organization. He was emphatically a public-spirited man, and his charity and generosity became proverbial. He ministered to the poor and needy in their distress, was ardently devoted to his family, and was in all respects the model man and esteemed citizen. He rested from his earthly labors at the age of sixty-four years, on the 5th of April, 1883, dying of Bright's Disease, at his home, Herndon Place, in Urbana.

Mrs. Smith, a lady held in high regard by a large circle of friends, possesses more than ordinary intelligence and has been finely educated. She belongs to the Art Club and Shakespeare Class, and is prominently connected with the Presbyterian Church.



**D**AVID MOSER, a prominent and successful farmer of Philo Township, is pleasantly located on section 8, where he is engaged in the careful cultivation of eighty acres of valuable and fertile land. Of this he took possession in March, 1869, and has since effected great improvements, having now a fine set of farm buildings and a goodly assortment of live-stock. To the latter he has given especial attention, and exhibits some of the best animals in this part of the county. His land has been thoroughly drained with tile, and is admirably adapted to the various products of the Prairie State.

Mr. Moser was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, March 21, 1827. His father, a mechanic, was a native of Pennsylvania, and of German descent. He married Miss Elizabeth Shick, of similar ancestry, and they began life together in Mus-



kingum County, Ohio, to which both had removed in their youth. Here the elder Moser spent the remainder of his days, his death taking place in 1861, when sixty-six years of age. He was a good man in the broadest sense of the term, upright and honorable in all his dealings, kind and indulgent in his family, and a member of the United Brethren Church. Upon the organization of the Republican party he identified himself with it, and ever afterward gave to it his warmest support. The mother, after becoming a widow, went to live with her children in Monroe County, Iowa, and there died about 1875, after reaching the advanced age of seventy-one years.

Our subject was the fifth child of his parents, whose household included seven sons and two daughters. He was reared principally in Pike County, Ohio, and received a fair education in the common schools. He remained under the home roof until reaching his majority, then learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner, and after serving his apprenticeship was united in marriage with Miss Rachel A. Brill, in April, 1857. Mrs. Moser was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, in 1828, but like her husband, was reared principally in Pike County, where her parents, Henry and Catherine Brill, lived upon a farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Moser became the parents of two children—Lettie, who remains at home, and Jeremiah G., a teacher in the schools of Champaign County, and who, in this calling, has been more than ordinarily successful. Our subject, politically, votes the straight Republican ticket, and is a member of the Christian Church. Mrs. Moser belongs to the United Presbyterian Church.



**N**ATHAN PATTON, although of Southern parentage, is a native of Vermilion County, this State, where his birth took place in Georgetown, Jan. 9, 1830. His parents, Israel and Hannah (Mills) Patton, were natives of Tennessee, where his grandfather, Israel Patton, first opened his eyes to the light, his birth taking place in 1800, in the eastern part of the State. His family were mainly engaged in farming pursuits, and Israel

Patton after his marriage spent a short time in his native State, where his two eldest children were born, then, in 1825, emigrated to Vermilion County, Ill., of which he was among the earliest pioneers.

The father of our subject, however, had learned the hatter's trade in his native State, which he followed for a time in Vermilion County, but later abandoned it and took up the pursuit of agriculture. He built up a good home in Elwood Township, carefully trained his children and gave them the best advantages for education which the period and the place afforded, and closed his eyes upon the scenes of earth in the month of March, 1864. The mother only survived until December, 1865. Their ten children all lived to mature years and six still survive.

Nathan Patton was the fourth child of the parental family, his birth taking place five years after the removal of his father from East Tennessee. He remained under the home roof until reaching his majority and subsequently served an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, which he followed in his native county for a number of years. His childhood and youth were comparatively uneventful, and the most important step which he took after becoming of age was his marriage, when twenty-four years old, to Miss Mary E. Beverlin, which took place in his native county, Sept. 25, 1854. His bride, the daughter of William and Rebecca (Commons) Beverlin, was a native of Wayne County, Ind., born June 21, 1837.

The young people after their marriage crossed the Mississippi into Iowa, locating in Hardin County. While in that State Mr. Patton enjoyed an elk hunt. There came about 100 elk from Minnesota into Iowa, and the few people living there joined the sport and followed the herd until all were captured, our subject carrying off five elk as trophies of the chase. Returning to Illinois, our subject engaged in farming in Vermilion County until after the outbreak of the late war. In the spring of 1862, feeling that he had a duty to perform in assisting to preserve the Union he enlisted in Co. A, 79th Ill. Vol. Inf., and for three years afterward followed the fortunes of a soldier. He met the enemy in many of the important battles of the war, including the engagements at Per-



ryville, Stone River, Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville, and in June, 1865, after the surrender of Lee's army, received his honorable discharge, and returned to his home and family. He had been remarkably fortunate in his army experience, receiving no serious wound and never being captured by the rebels.

Mr. Patton continued in Vermilion County until 1870, and then removed to Stanton Township in this county, where he located on a tract of land and commenced building up from the uncultivated prairie the homestead which he now owns. He labored incessantly for five years thereafter, breaking the sod, putting up fences and buildings, and in due time had provided comfortably for himself and family. After twelve years, thinking that a change of scene would be beneficial both physically and mentally, he sold off his stock, rented his farm, and took a trip to California. He remained on the Pacific Slope eight months, and returned greatly improved in health and spirits. He decided then to retire from active labor, and selecting a snug little home in St. Joseph, took up his abode there, where he has since lived, surrounded by all the comforts of life. Mr. and Mrs. Patton have no family, but have cared for and supplied the place of parents to seven orphan children.

Our subject since coming to this vicinity has closely identified himself with its local interests, being first chosen one of the Drainage Commissioners for Union District, which comprises an area of about six miles square. He has served as Commissioner of Highways, School Trustee, and in various other offices where his cool head and ripe judgment were of excellent service in adjusting township affairs and shaping them for the best good of the people. He is an active member of the G. A. R., belonging to St. Joseph Post No. 220, and with his estimable wife has been in communion with the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years. They, in 1876, visited the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia and later took another trip to California, riding over a large portion of the State by private conveyance, which enabled them to visit and view many interesting places not easily accessible to travelers depending

upon a railroad train. In this respect Mr. Patton has wisely disbursed several hundred dollars, affording himself and wife a pleasurable and profitable experience.

**D**AVID T. NICHOLS is familiarly known throughout Newcomb Township as one of its most thriving farmers, and has operated in that section since the fall of 1875. His property includes 200 acres of highly cultivated land, with good buildings and all the appliances required by the modern agriculturist. Our subject is the son of Obadiah and Lovica (Thomas) Nichols, natives respectively of New Jersey and Ohio.

The parental household included three sons and four daughters, and David T. was the second in order of birth. He was born in Licking County, Ohio, March 24, 1836, and remained under the home roof during his boyhood and youth, receiving a fair education in the common schools. He began teaching when nineteen years old, and two years later left his native State to investigate a portion of the farther West. The spring of 1857 found him across the Mississippi, and he afterward spent six months engaged in brick-making in Iowa. He went to Kansas in the spring of 1866, and prepared to permanently settle in Greenwood County, but about this time came on the troubles which made a residence in that State at least very unpleasant to those who were friendly to the Union, and our subject, with others, after experiencing much annoyance and considerable danger from the hostile element, returned to the more peaceable boundaries of his native State. He purchased a farm in Licking County, where he remained two years, then sold out and migrated to Coles County, Ill., where he engaged in merchandising two years, then disposed of his stock of goods, and finally invested his capital in land in Newcomb Township, this county, where he has since remained.

Mr. Nichols while a resident of Greenwood County, Kan., was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Smythe, on the 8th of January, 1862. Mrs. N. was born in Missouri, and by her marriage with our



subject became the mother of one child, a daughter, who died when four months old. The mother died the following year, in March, 1863. After returning to Ohio Mr. Nichols was again married, in Licking County, April 24, 1867, to Miss Hattie W. Eager, a native of that State. Of this union there were born four children, namely, Maude, Frank, Anna and Bertha. Mrs. Hattie W. Nichols departed this life in Newcomb Township, this county, July 25, 1882.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in Condit Township, July 2, 1885, was formerly Miss Martha J. Lennington, a native of Ohio. Both are members in good standing of the M. E. Church, and our subject, politically, is a Prohibitionist of the first water. He has been quite prominent in local affairs, and represented Newcomb Township on the Board of Supervisors during the year 1886. Socially he is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men. While a resident of Kansas Mr. Nichols joined the State Militia, and was commissioned First Lieutenant by Gen. Lane. The unsettled state of the country, however, caused the regiment to be disbanded, but he afterward served as scout, and was subsequently appointed Sheriff of Greenwood County, being the first official to serve there in that capacity. He was afterward re-elected twice and also served as County Clerk, which office he abandoned to return to the Buckeye State.

**W**ILLIAM C. CUSTER, proprietor of a good livery stable in the town of Homer, is carrying on business successfully, keeping about twelve head of good roadsters, with a choice assortment of buggies and carriages. He is a native of the Buckeye State, and was born in Fayette County, Jan. 8, 1841. His parents, Jacob M. and Elizabeth (Ocheltree) Custer, were natives of Virginia, whence they removed to Ohio early in life and thence, in the fall of 1848, to Vermilion County, this State. They lived there until the spring of 1856, then came to Homer, this county, and the father erected the first hotel building in the town, which was known as the "Homer House." He

officialated as "mine host" three years, and in 1859 purchased a farm near the town limits, to which he retired and spent the remainder of his life.

Our subject was the fourth child of his parents, whose family circle included six sons and three daughters, named respectively, Margaret J., Martha E., Mary E., William C., John M., James F., George O., Jacob A. and Benjamin M. One daughter and two sons are now deceased. Young Custer remained under the parental roof during his boyhood and youth, and at the outbreak of the Rebellion had not quite reached his majority. On the 10th of August, 1862, he enlisted in Co. F, 26th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served as a private and non-commissioned officer until April, 1865, when he was made Second Lieutenant. At the expiration of his first term of enlistment he re-entered the ranks as a veteran and served until the close of the war. His first introduction to the rebels was at the battle of New Madrid, Mo., and he next engaged with them at Point Pleasant. From there the regiment proceeded by steamer to Pittsburg Landing, and Mr. Custer was afterward present at the siege of Corinth.

The wife of our subject was formerly Miss Maria L. Noble. They occupy a snug dwelling, and enjoy the respect and confidence of many friends.

**W**ILLIAM McCLELLAND, who is a resident of Hensley Township, is pleasantly located on section 11, where he has a good farm of eighty acres, which he purchased in 1876. Upon this he has made great improvements since he took possession of it, having enlarged the dwelling and brought the land to a fine state of cultivation, so that it now yields in abundance the products for which the Prairie State is universally known.

Our subject was born in Erie County, Pa., Dec. 10, 1852, of which county his grandfather, Robert McClelland, was one of the earliest pioneers. The latter was born in Cumberland County, Pa., May 17, 1774, and when a young man went into Erie County and pre-empted a tract of Government land in the wilderness, from which he cleared a good farm, established a comfortable home, and



there spent the last years of his life. He died June 9, 1838. He had married and reared a family, among whom was Thomas, the father of our subject, who was born three miles from the city of Erie, in 1802. He was reared on the farm and inherited 150 acres of land from his father's estate. He possessed in a large degree the energy and enterprise for which Robert McClelland was noted, and carried on farming operations successfully until about eighteen years ago, when he removed to the city of Erie, where he and his wife are passing the declining years of their lives in the enjoyment of a competency. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Mary Fisk, a native of Oneida County, N. Y. She is a lady of great personal worth and well fitted to be the companion of such a man as her husband.

William McClelland spent his childhood and youth after the manner of most farmers' boys, attending the district schools in winter and assisting his father on the farm in the summer. He remained under the home roof until eighteen years of age, and then entered the employ, first of the Philadelphia & Erie Railroad Company, and later the Lake Shore. After three and one-half years occupied in railroading he came west to Illinois, and purchased the farm on which he now resides.

Mr. McClelland was married first in 1873, to Miss Mary Brailey, who was born in Erie County, Pa., and was the daughter of William and Louisa (Cogle) Brailey. This lady became the mother of three children—Bert, Louisa and Gardie—and departed this life Oct. 9, 1880. Our subject was the second time married, Feb. 22, 1882, to Miss Nettie, the daughter of William and Mary (Barney) Hensley. Mr. McC. is Republican in politics.

**D**R. JOHN D. MANDEVILLE was the fourth and youngest son of Elijah and Huldah (Denton) Mandeville, there being ten children in the family, six girls and four boys. Seven are now living, one son having died in infancy, one, Clinton J., in the War of the Rebellion, and one daughter, Sarah, in middle life.

Elijah Mandeville, the father of John D., was of

German descent, and was born in Seneca County, N. Y., Dec. 9, 1802. In 1825 he was married to Huldah Denton, of the same county, and they resided there until 1858, when they removed to Champaign County, Ill., where they lived the rest of their days. She died Oct. 15, 1860, aged about sixty, and he died Oct. 10, 1885, having nearly completed his eighty-third year. Religiously, they were Congregationalists, and were active, consistent members of that church for nearly sixty years, being close Bible students and firm believers in all the promises contained therein.

Politically he was a Whig and later a Republican; He was known far and near for his strong anti-slavery views, and he lived to see the shackles torn from 4,000,000 bondsmen, and his views endorsed by a large majority of the American people. He gave two of his sons, Clinton J. and John D., to the service of their country in the late War of the Rebellion, the former dying at Carrollton, La.

His son, John D. Mandeville, the subject of this sketch, was born Dec. 18, 1844, in the town of Romulus, near Ovid Village, Seneca Co., N. Y. He resided there until he was fourteen years of age, when he removed with his parents to Champaign County, Ill., where he has since resided, attending and teaching school, and pursuing the study of medicine under Dr. W. H. Hess, of Homer. He entered Rush Medical College at Chicago, in the fall of 1867, and graduated from there in the spring of 1875. In the spring of 1882 he returned to the same college, and took a post-graduate degree. In the spring of 1887 he took a post-graduate course in New York City. He began the practice of his profession in the village of Philo, Ill., in March, 1868, and has continued it till the present time.

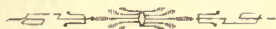
Dr. Mandeville enlisted twice as a soldier in the service of his country during the War of the Rebellion, and offered his services the third time but was rejected. He first served in the 67th Illinois Infantry, and afterward in the 133d Illinois Infantry.

Dr. Mandeville was married to Elizabeth W., daughter of Henry and Lydia Michener, of Homer, Ill., May 7, 1868. She was an excellent and amiable woman, and beloved by all who knew her. Two daughters, Myrtle O. and Libbie E., were born to them, the mother departing this life Dec. 31, 1876.



On June 12, 1878, he was again married, this time to Martha A., daughter of Ames and Relief Burr, of Worthington, Mass. Two daughters, Helen Ruth and Hazel Denton, were born to them, and they continue to reside in their pleasant home in the village of Philo.

Our subject's religious views are of the Presbyterian faith and order, and since his residence in Philo he has been connected with the Presbyterian Church there.



**J**OHAN PENFIELD, of Rantoul, is held in the highest respect by his entire community as one of its most reliable citizens. His life and character have been such as to command the friendship and admiration of all who know him, being a kindly, genial gentleman, faithful to his friends, of strict integrity as a business man, and of the highest value as a citizen.

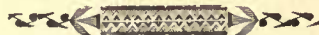
The earliest years of our subject were spent in Rutland County, Vt., where he was born, Sept. 23, 1824. His father, Horace Penfield, was a saddler by trade, and married Miss Caroline Chandler, a native of his own State. Some years later they removed to Kalamazoo, Mich., established a permanent home, and there his death occurred in 1864. The mother of our subject is still living, being an intelligent old lady of eighty-three years. Of the ten children of the family, only four are now living.

Our subject completed his education at St. Alban's Academy, and at an early age engaged in teaching. He afterward took up the trade of his father and worked as a harness-maker for about ten years, mostly in Kalamazoo, Mich. He became a resident of this county in 1856, locating first upon land which was subsequently platted and became a part of the town of Rantoul. Upon coming here he purchased a considerable extent of land and carried on farming and stock-raising for a number of years. He afterward became largely interested in the Narrow-Gauge Railroad, which has proved a valuable investment. He was the first permanent settler of Rantoul, and seems to be indispensable to its happiness and best interests.

Mr. Penfield was married first at Kalamazoo,

Mich., to Miss Lydia Hays, who was a native of that city, and who became the mother of one child, a daughter, Annie C., now the wife of Charles Estep, of Rosedale, Kan. Mrs. Penfield departed this life in March, 1857, and our subject, in the fall of 1859, was married to Miss Lucy E. Wigh, of Whitehall, N. Y. The four children born of this marriage were Eugene W., John H., Lucy B. and Fred W.

The home of our subject in Rantoul is the resort of the cultivated people of the city, and its hospitable doors open to a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. and Mrs. P. are members in good standing of the Episcopal Church, in which the former has held the office of Senior Warden for many years.



**J**UDGE J. W. SIM, of Urbana, was born in Knox County, Ohio, Nov. 1, 1831, and is the son of Joseph W. and Catura (Mercer) Sim, natives of Maryland. The father was a harness-maker by trade, and in May, 1831, removed from his native State to Ohio. Finding but little call there for the products of his trade, he engaged in farming, and remained for over twenty years. In the spring of 1854 he sold out, and coming to this State purchased a farm near Urbana, which he occupied until 1863, then moving into the city remained there until his death, in 1864. The mother survived her husband five years, dying in 1869.

Joseph W. Sim was originally a Henry Clay Whig, but later a Republican. The parental family included eleven children, of whom only five are now living, namely, Mrs. Cassandra Marriott, of Somer Township; Mrs. Mary A. Reed, of Champaign Township; William S., a druggist at Urbana. Judge J. W. of our sketch, and Mrs. Catura Heisler, of Blunt, Dak.

Our subject remained on the farm with his parents until twenty-two years old, and supplemented his common-school studies by attendance at a seminary. When nineteen years of age he commenced teaching, and was thus employed two winters in Ohio. After coming to this State he had charge



of the public schools in Urbana for six months, and the following spring commenced reading law with Col. W. N. Coler. He was admitted to practice in the spring of 1856, and formed a partnership with his preceptor, which continued two years. He remained alone for two years following, until 1860, and then associated himself with Judge Cunningham for a year, when he abandoned law and engaged in farming adjacent to the town limits until the fall of 1867. He was then elected Judge of the County Court for a term of four years, after which he resumed his law practice, in which he has continued since that time. He was elected Mayor of Urbana in 1864, which office he held two terms, has been Alderman three terms, and is at present a member of the County Board of Supervisors. He has been prospered in his various undertakings, has a good farm in Urbana Township and property in the city. He affiliates with the Republican party, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the I. O. O. F.

Judge Sim was married, June 25, 1857, to Miss Sarah A., daughter of Col. W. M. and Elizabeth (Bush) Busey, who were natives of Kentucky. Of this union there have been born four children, all living, namely, Cora A., Mrs. McClurg, of Urbana, Catura E., Mary E. and Annie M. The family residence is on Green street, where its hospitable doors are open to the best residents of the city.



**H**ENRY D. CORLIES, late an extensive farmer of Rantoul, is now retired from active labor, and occupies a comfortable residence in the town, where he is enjoying the fruits of his early labors and the society of many friends. His earliest recollections are of a modest home in Shrewsbury, Monmouth Co., N. J., where he began life on the 15th of June, 1841. His father, Henry D., Sr., was a native of New York City, and his grandfather, Benjamin F. Corlies, was born in New York State and was of English ancestry. He carried on the business of a merchant many years in his native county, and finally removed to Shrewsbury, N. J., where he spent his last years in retirement. His death took place at the home of his son

in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He was distinguished by his kindly Christian character and his benevolence, which was illustrated in his assistance given to the poor and needy. He belonged to the Society of Friends, and possessed in a marked degree the peculiar characteristics of that sect. He was greatly prospered in his business affairs and retired upon a competency. Before his death he had distributed a large portion of his property among the poor.

Henry D. Corlies, Sr., the father of our subject, grew to manhood in his native city, and early in life evinced a love for the sea, which he followed in his earlier years as commander of a vessel. He died on shipboard in the Gulf of Mexico in 1841. He had married, in early manhood, Miss Abigail Hall, who was born in New York State, and now resides in the city of Auburn. The four children of the parental family were: Benjamin F., now a resident of New York City; George, who lives in Ohio; Charles, a resident of Thackery, Ill., and our subject. The latter was but an infant when his father died, and was nine years of age when his mother removed from his native city to Cuyuga County, N. Y. He there grew to manhood, in the meantime attending the district school and also the Friends' Academy at Long Island.

Our subject remained a member of his mother's household until twenty years of age, then repaired to Crawford County, Pa., where he engaged in farming three years. He then decided to seek his fortune in the farther West, and in 1865 came to this county and secured possession of 1,136 acres of land, located partly in Harwood Township. It was wild, uncultivated prairie, but he immediately commenced its improvement and erected a good set of buildings on section 36. In time he had brought the entire tract to a good state of cultivation and planted eight miles of hedge. In addition to general farming he also engaged quite extensively in stock-raising. He lived upon this place, however, but eighteen months, then took up his residence in Rantoul, where he has since resided and has turned over the cultivation of his land to other parties.

Mr. Corlies was married, Oct. 8, 1862, to Miss Salina Smith, who is a native of Middlefield, Worcester Co., Mass., and was born May 9, 1841. Her



father, Sylvester Smith, was a native of the same State and was a farmer by occupation. He removed from Massachusetts to Pennsylvania in 1842 and located on a farm in Crawford County, where he still resides and which he has now occupied for forty-five years. His wife in her girlhood was Miss Julia Stevens, also a native of the Bay State. Their six children were named respectively, Edson, Fidelia, Julia, Amanda, Sylvester and George. Five of these died in infancy, Mrs. Corlies being the only one living. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Episcopal Church, and Mr. Corlies, politically, is a staunch adherent of the Republican party.

**J**OHAN E. LITTLER, one of the rising young men of Urbana, was born Nov. 22, 1863, in the county where he now resides. Horace Greeley once said, that to be born in New York State and afterward become a pioneer of Illinois made a man great. Had he lived to the present time he might have realized that to be born in Illinois conferred an equal honor.

The subject of this sketch is the eldest son of Samuel and Sarah M. Littler. His father was born Nov. 8, 1811, near Circleville, Highland Co., Ohio. In 1852 he removed to Sacramento, Cal., but on his return eastward, in 1855, located in Urbana and engaged in the cabinet and furniture business. He was united in marriage with Miss Sarah M. Busey, Dec. 2, 1858. Of this union there were born six children, namely, Florence G., Laura M., John E., Frank H., Charles R. and Willis B. Of these, two are deceased: Florence G., who died of typhoid fever, Sept. 1, 1867, at the age of eight years; and Charles R., who was drowned while bathing in a creek near home, July 12, 1885, aged fifteen years and ten months. He had been accustomed to the water, but the current at this time proved too strong and he was swept down the stream beyond the reach of help. Charlie was a member of the Baptist Sunday-school, and a bright and promising boy who was held in high esteem by both old and young.

The father of our subject, in 1868, removed his family from Urbana to the farm situated one mile

east of town, where he engaged in general agriculture and stock-raising until resting from the labors of life. His death occurred Dec. 23, 1880, from diphtheria. Mr. Littler was one of the early settlers of Urbana Township, and a man whose straightforward and upright life won for him the regard of the entire community. He was a devoted husband, a kind father, and a consistent member of the Baptist Church.

Mrs. Sarah M. Littler, the mother of our subject, was born June 10, 1834, and was the daughter of Mathew Busey, who came to Illinois in 1830, from Shelbyville, Ky. He located two miles east of the present site of Urbana, then known as the "Big Grove," securing twenty-two eighty-acre lots. Mathew Busey was a native of North Carolina, but in early life removed to Kentucky, where he was married to Miss Sarah Fible, in 1814. Mrs. B. was born in Germany, April 28, 1791; her parents moved to Kentucky when she was two years of age. She died at the old home two miles east of Urbana, May 13, 1887, aged ninety-six years. She was the mother of eleven children, all of whom were present at the funeral, the youngest child fifty-one years old. Her descendants now include 137 grand and great-grandchildren.

In contemplation of the mournful fact that the old pioneers are fast passing away, those who remain to recall their lives and labors reap comfort in the belief that—

There is no death; what seems so is transition;  
This life of mortal breath  
Is but a suburb of the life elysian,  
Whose portal we call death.

After the death of Samuel Littler, his sons, John E. of our sketch, and Frank H., assumed the management of the farm, and although but mere boys, kept up the homestead in an admirable manner and evinced rare judgment in their operations.

**T**HOMAS J. DAVIS. The progenitors of a large portion of the residents of Champaign County originated in the Keystone State. Among these was Morris Davis, father of the subject of this biography, who was born near Harrisburg, Dauphin Co., Pa., on the 7th of September,



1811. His parents died while he was a small child, and thus left an orphan, he was reared by Mr. Morris Howe of that same county, and passed his time until eighteen after the manner of most farmers' boys, attending school in the winter, and assisting in sowing and reaping the balance of the year. At the age mentioned he concluded to change his occupation and went to Harrisburg to learn the trade of a hatter.

From the latter place Mr. Davis was gone about a year through New Jersey and New York City, working journey work, and in the summer of 1830, left his native State and "footed" it to West Liberty, Ohio. He followed his trade there a few years with Mr. Andrew Wood, who afterward became his brother-in-law, as he was married to Miss Rachel Wood a few years later. After this event he went into partnership with Mr. Wood, and they operated a hat manufactory under the firm name of Davis & Wood, several years, when our subject purchased the interest of his partner and operated alone.

After accumulating a little capital Mr. Davis entered 160 acres of timber land in Stokes Township, Logan Co., Ohio. In 1850 he embarked in the grocery business at Huntsville, Ohio, and had only been established a short time when his dwelling and contents and hatter's stock were destroyed by fire. He had no insurance. Afterward he joined his brother-in-law in Miami County. In the meantime he had deeded eighty acres of his land to John M. Johnson, upon the condition that the latter should clear three fields of ten acres each. Upon this he built a log cabin 16x22 feet, which he occupied and engaged in farming for a few years. After his death, the cabin was replaced by a handsome country residence. His death occurred Oct. 25, 1853, and his remains were buried in the Seceder's Cemetery, near Huntsville.

The mother of our subject in her girlhood was Miss Rachel Wood, who was born Nov. 19, 1815. She became the mother of six children, and survived her husband about twelve years, remaining on the old homestead until her death, which occurred April 2, 1865. Her remains were laid by the side of her husband. The children of the parental family are recorded as follows: John, the eldest, was killed at the battle of Chickamauga,

Sept. 20, 1864; M. J., who also served three years in the army, has a family and is living in Harper County, Kan.; Thomas J., of our sketch, was the third child; Minerva became the wife of Rev. M. L. Comer, of Bureau County, Ill., and Florence L., who married David Besore, in April, 1873, and departed this life on the 10th of July, 1884; Robert died when four years of age.

The Davis family is of Welsh ancestry. The paternal grandparents of our subject, William and Margaret (Wood), were natives of Pennsylvania. The former removed to Ohio, and died there in February, 1840, when sixty-eight years of age. His wife died in October, 1846, when seventy-one years old.

Thomas J. Davis was born July 7, 1841, at West Liberty, Logan Co., Ohio. He was twelve years of age when his father died, and remained with his mother until her death, in 1865. He had become accustomed to farm labor and received a common-school education. From the time he was eighteen years old until twenty-four he had suffered greatly from ill-health, and having nothing to keep him in Ohio, determined upon a change of climate. He accordingly set out on horseback to Illinois, but after riding a few days found himself unequal to the undertaking and abandoned his horse for the railroad. After reaching Ford County, in company with his brother, M. J., he rented a tract of land near Paxton, which they operated for two years. In the fall of 1867, our subject came to Urbana, and after working on the I. B. & W. R. R. a few months, purchased eighty acres of railroad land on section 8, in Stanton Township, for which he paid \$9 per acre. The following spring he began improving it. He now has a quarter section and this well tiled and under a good state of cultivation. He has arrived at the point where he is living comfortably and with something laid up for a rainy day. He has enjoyed in a large measure the confidence and esteem of his fellow-townsmen, having served as School Director for twelve years; Tax Collector three years, besides being Road Commissioner and Supervisor the same length of time. Politically he is a full-fledged Greenbacker.

Our subject married Miss Susan J. Harper, Nov. 19, 1868. She has become the mother of five



children, born as follows: Frances S., Sept. 5, 1869; Charlie M., Nov. 9, 1871; Nancy J., May 14, 1875; Thomas H., Jan. 3, 1878, and one infant died unnamed. The remaining four are at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are members of the United Brethren Church.

The parents of Mrs. Davis, Francis and Jane (Reed) Harper, were natives of Ohio, the former born in Pickaway County, May 26, 1800. He was twenty-eight years of age at the time of his marriage and became an active and prosperous farmer in Fayette County. In 1864 he came to the Prairie State. In 1853 his wife died, and he was accompanied by his five motherless children. He purchased 160 acres of improved land in Vermilion County, which he occupied until 1868, when he retired from active labor, spending the last years of his life among his children. His decease occurred Oct. 4, 1875, and his remains were laid to rest in the Blue Grass Chapel burying-ground in Vermilion County. The death of the mother took place in Fayette County, Ohio, and she was buried in the old Presbyterian churchyard. Their ten children included four sons and six daughters, of whom four died in infancy. Those surviving are: Nancy, the wife of W. F. Hopkins; William, Mary Ann and Susan J. Alexander was married and died in Cissna Park, Iroquois Co., Ill., June 16, 1885. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Davis, Alexander Harper, was a native of Pennsylvania, who removed first to Kentucky and thence to Ohio, becoming a resident of the latter State in 1800. He married Miss Nancy Tate, of Kentucky. The following brief sketch was written by one who knew him well:

"Alexander Harper departed this life at his residence in Ross County, Ohio, Feb. 18, 1843, aged seventy-five years. He was born in Path Valley, Pa., in 1767. When twelve years old he removed with his widowed mother and family to Kentucky at a time when danger from the Indians was great. The family landed at Spring Garrison, near the Falls of the Ohio; after various moves through imminent danger they reached McConnella Station, where they remained five years before they were safe in venturing to settle themselves.

"The subject of this narrative, though young, was

frequently with scouting parties in defending the settlement, and passed through many conflicts with the Indians, a thought of which is enough to make one shudder. At the age of twenty-two he volunteered in the militia of Kentucky, and was also with Gen. Harner in his campaign against the Indians at what is now called Ft. Wayne, Ind., and fought hard during the dreadful massacre that took place there and called Harner's defeat. His brother, Francis Harper, was killed by the Indians in the battle of the Blue Licks. Alexander removed to Ohio in 1800, settled near Pickaway Plains, remained there two years, and from thence removed to Ross County, Buckskin Township, where he resided until his death. In 1812, during the war with the British and Indians, he volunteered and went against the Indians on the Wabash, under Maj. W. M. Trimble. In April, 1813, he went in the company commanded by Capt. Robert Harper, his brother, and since Maj. Robert Harper, to the defense of Ft. Stephenson. A part of this tour of duty was performed after he had arrived at the age of forty-five. He could have secured his discharge, but so great a hero was he that he would not leave the field until his company was regularly discharged. In battle he was never known to flinch from his post.

"He was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church for thirty-two years. He was looked upon as one of the patriarchs of his day, and was a devoted, praying Christian. The writer of this narrative knew him well, being a member of the same church, Pisgah, and can say he never heard Alexander Harper speak ill of anyone, nor anyone speak ill of him. He was ever willing to engage in every good work and always willing to relieve the distressed when in his power. His seat in his church was never vacant when his health and the weather would suit for his venturing out. His relations and neighbors can truly say that, though dead he yet speaketh to us. The great esteem in which he was held by his neighbors was manifested in their kindness during his late illness. All seemed to anticipate and feel the loss the church and society would sustain in his death. The writer asked him, the day before he died, respecting his hopes hereafter; his answer was 'All is well. Christ, my



Savior, did not endure all the agonies of the cross for nothing; no. He died for poor, lost sinners such as I, and I know He will keep securely for me that which I have committed to His care.'

"Mr. Harper married when young, in Kentucky; he had eleven children born to him, nine of whom are now living, five sons and four daughters. He lived to see them all become respected members of the Presbyterian Church. His own brothers and sisters, though several in number, are all gone to rest excepting two brothers and one sister: Maj. Robert Harper, of Ross City, Ohio; James Harper, near Logansport, Ind., and Mrs. Clark, of Ross County, Ohio. As a husband and father he was kind and affectionate. It is the lot of few fathers to have and to enjoy the affection of their children to the same extent that he did. As a neighbor he was kind and obliging, ever ready to assist in time of need. He commanded their esteem to such an extent, that although the day of his burial was very inclement, yet the concourse that followed him to his grave was very great."

**R**ASMUS PETERSON, pleasantly located on section 30, in Rantoul Township, is a native of Norway, and was born April 9, 1843. His childhood and youth were spent in Scandinavia, where he attended school and assisted in farm labor. When a youth of eighteen he set sail, in May, 1861, for America, landing first at Quebec, whence he came directly to this State, stopping first in Grundy County. At the outbreak of the war he enlisted in Co. C, 53d Ill. Vol. Inf., and afterward participated in many important battles, meeting the rebels at Pittsburg Landing and Corinth, where was some of the hardest fighting of that campaign. He only served, however, until 1863, and was discharged on account of disability.

Mr. Peterson, after retiring from the army, resumed farming in Grundy County for a time, and came to Rantoul Township in 1876. He had in the meantime, by the exercise of industry and economy, saved a snug little sum of money, which he invested in a part of the land he now owns. He has a good set of farm buildings which are sur-

rounded with choice fruit and shade trees and a quarter section of land under a good state of cultivation.

Mr. Peterson was married in 1866, to Miss Rhoda Johnson, a native of Grundy County and of Norwegian parentage. Of this union there were born seven children, namely, Peter, Delia, Lena, Rasmus, Rosa, Gilbert and Bertha. Our subject and his estimable lady are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church, and Mr. P., since becoming a naturalized citizen, has uniformly voted with the Republican party. He is held in high respect by his neighbors, and is one of the self-made men of this county who have built up for themselves a most creditable record.

**I**SAAC LAYMAN, of Condit Township, is a native of Union County, Ohio, and was born Aug. 31, 1840. He is the son of Henry and Elizabeth (Kretsinger) Layman, who are mentioned in the sketch of Lewis Layman, elsewhere in this volume, and was but an infant when his parents removed from his native State to Indiana. A few years later they came overland to Illinois, in which manner they had also traveled from Ohio to Indiana, and the father purchased forty acres of land in Logan County, in which he was one of the earliest settlers. Our subject remained under the parental roof until 1862, then enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. D, 85th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served until the close of the war, participating in many of its important battles, and receiving a wound in the left arm and shoulder. He remained with his comrades, however, and with them was mustered out at the close of the struggle, and returning to Illinois resumed farming in Logan County.

Mr. Layman came to this county in 1869, and purchased a quarter section of wild land, which is included in his present farm. It is now all enclosed with fences and other improvements, including a convenient and substantial dwelling, ample sheds for the shelter of stock and all other necessary buildings. The soil, under his wise manipulation, has become exceedingly fertile, and yields in abundance the fine crops of the Prairie State.



Our subject, in 1867, was united in marriage with Miss Bessie Fletcher, a native of England, and the daughter of Joseph and Naomi Fletcher. Of this union there were born three children, namely, Joseph, Charles and William. Mrs. Layman departed this life in 1873. Our subject was married the second time, March 27, 1878, to Miss Martha J. Penney, a native of Sangamon County, and the daughter of William G. Penney, who was born in Virginia, and came to this State in the pioneer days. During the late war he enlisted in the 106th Regiment, and died in the service at Little Rock, Ark., in May, 1864. His wife, in her girlhood, was Miss Eleanor R. Duff, a native of Kentucky, and the daughter of Ebenezer and Sarah (McClure) Duff, natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky. Mrs. Duff died in Logan County, this State, in 1868. Mr. and Mrs. Layman have five children, namely, Bruce, Pearl, Chester, Carrie and a babe unnamed. They are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Layman, politically, is a decided Republican.

**J**AMES S. SHAFFER is the owner of 160 acres of excellent, highly improved land, located on section 25, Sidney Township, where he carries on an extensive farming and stock-growing business. He was born in Frankfort, Ky., Sept. 15, 1840, and is the son of Joseph and Mary (Roche) Shaffer. His parents were both born in France. At an early day, the date of which is unknown, they removed from France seeking a new home in America. They first settled in Pennsylvania where his father was a teacher in the public schools. From there they removed to LaFayette, Ind., where his father died in 1856.

His mother having previously married the second time, to a man by the name of Alfonso Berlin-court, came to Illinois with her only child, James S. Shaffer. Her death occurred in 1882, at Burlington, Kan. James was left at an early age to make his own way in the world. The truism "some are born to greatness, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them," may also

apply to prosperity. It was his destiny to achieve by his own intelligence, foresight and courage, and he has successfully contended against many difficulties and obstacles.

In 1871, he was united in marriage to Elizabeth Jones, the daughter of William and Mary J. (Brown) Jones. Her parents, who were natives of Kentucky, now reside in Danville, Ill. Mr. James S. Shaffer and his wife have reared a family of eleven children; their names and dates of birth are as follows: Ida B., March 6, 1872; Lonis, Sept. 11, 1873; Ira, Sept. 13, 1874; William, Dec. 19, 1875; Mary, May 11, 1877; John, April 19, 1878; Joseph, Nov. 15, 1880; James, May 9, 1882; Oscar, Jan. 28, 1884; Alice, June 31, 1885; Charles, March 17, 1887. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church. His wife is a Methodist. In politics he is a Republican.

**h**ON. WILLIAM B. WEBBER is well known throughout this county as an attorney of more than ordinary ability, and prominent in the political affairs of the county and State. His acquaintance with legal matters began early in life, he having when a youth of seventeen, been appointed as Deputy Circuit Clerk of Champaign County under his father, who was the Clerk-in-Chief. Six years later he began the study of law under the instruction of Judge Somers and Capt. John C. Moses, and was admitted to practice in 1863. For six years afterward he was a partner of Judge Somers, practiced two years alone, and then became associated with Judge Cunningham, they continuing together five years. In 1877 he was a candidate for County Judge, and ran 300 ahead of his ticket, being defeated only because the county was strongly Republican. His duties as a Legislator commenced in 1884, when he represented the counties of Champaign, Piatt and De Witt in the State Legislature. During the term, which he served with acceptance to his constituents, he was at the head of various important committees and in all respects distinguished himself as a man of more than ordinary ability.

The subject of our sketch was born in the city



of Urbana, Oct. 31, 1837, and is the son of Thomson R. and Martha (Thompson) Webber, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this work. His parents came to Illinois in the pioneer days, and Thomas Webber, identifying himself with the Democratic party, became prominent in the political affairs of the State. He served as Clerk of Champaign County twenty years, and was Circuit Clerk twenty-seven years, and Master in Chancery forty years. In the meantime he was also conservator of other important interests. He was widely known as a kindly Christian gentleman, illustrating in both his public and private life the highest type of manhood. The son, William, has inherited in a marked degree the characteristics and talents of his honored father. He is recognized as an able attorney and safe counselor, and stands high among his professional brethren in this locality. He is Democratic in politics, and socially belongs to the A. F. & A. M.

The marriage of William B. Webber and Miss Sarah Barnett, of Shelby County, Ky., took place Sept. 1, 1864. Mrs. W. is the daughter of Allen and Drusilla (Newton) Barnett, also natives of Kentucky. Our subject and his highly esteemed wife occupy an attractive home within the city limits and enjoy the friendship and association of the cultured people of Urbana.



**J**OHAN GERE, Jr., is believed to be the oldest merchant doing business in Champaign County, and one of the old landmarks of Urbana. In personal appearance he is of large stature and sinewy frame, and tradition says that in his younger days he was an athlete with whom no ordinary man would venture to compete. He possessed, both mentally and physically, the elements necessary to the settling of a new country, and he has grown with its growth, taking a personal interest and pride in its development and progress.

Mr. Gere was born in Seneca County, N. Y., Feb. 11, 1811, and is the son of John and Polly (Clark) Gere, natives of Vermont. His grandfather, Asa Gere, served in the Revolutionary War

and yielded up his life while a prisoner on the old ship "Jersey," the name of which is never recalled without a shudder, in view of the atrocities practiced upon it. The family was of English ancestry, and some of its members fled from their native country in 1735, on account of religious persecution. The father of our subject moved with his family, in 1836, from the Empire State to Indiana, and a year later to Vermillion County, this State, later removing to Clark County, where he died in 1844. The mother afterward came with her son, our subject, to Urbana, where her death took place in 1860.

Our subject received a limited education and remained under the parental roof until twenty-two years old. Upon starting out for himself he engaged in the brick business at Alexandria, N. Y., which pursuit he followed until the fall of 1836, when the family came West. Here he first engaged in farming near Darwin, but some years later came to Urbana and commenced dealing in horses, purchasing in this county and shipping to points East and North. Afterward he and his brother, James S., established a dry-goods store, in which they continued together for several years. In the meantime they varied their occupation by contracting to furnish 15,000 cords of wood, and a large quantity of ties for the Central Illinois Railroad. The brothers finally dissolved partnership, and John purchased an interest in the Urbana Woolen Mills, with which he was connected three years. The brick store which the Gere brothers built was destroyed by fire Oct. 9, 1871, involving a loss of from \$25,000 to \$30,000. Mr. Gere rebuilt that same year, and has continued business uninterrupted since that time. He gives employment to three clerks and has a generous patronage among his old friends, while new customers are never backward in making their purchases at the old stand.

Mr. Gere has invested his surplus funds in real estate in the country. His present wife, Miss Harriett A. Cressey, is a native of his own State, and their only child is a son, George W., an attorney at Champaign. The two sons of his second wife are Warren M., who is with his father in the store, and Frank M., in the post-office at Urbana.



**H**ENRY TREVETT, of the firm of Trevett & Green, Champaign, is, with his partner, carrying on a lucrative trade in hardware, agricultural implements and coal, and is located at the corner of Main and Walnut streets. He is numbered among the wide-awake and enterprising men of the county, and has aided materially in building up the business interests of the city.

Our subject was born in Cook County, this State, Feb. 3, 1844, and is the son of Oliver and Sarah (Hayward) Trevett, natives respectively of Albany, N. Y., and Clare County, England. The maternal grandparents of our subject were Thomas and Elizabeth (Rider) Hayward, who came to Cook County in 1837, and farmed there until 1860. They then retired to Chicago, where the death of the father occurred in 1874. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Dr. Oliver Trevett, was a native of Maine and a practicing physician of note who spent his entire life in his native State. His son, Oliver, Sr., learned the trade of a baker at Albany, N. Y., and subsequently engaged in farming near Leyden, Cook County. He entered a tract of land from the Government in about 1837, and remained in that section until 1850. He then went into the city and set up in the bakery business, which he continued there until 1856. The following year he came to this county, of which he was a resident at the time of his death, in 1864. The mother had died twenty years before, in Cook County. There were but two children—Harriet E., and Henry, our subject.

Young Trevett attended school until fourteen years old, then engaged as clerk in a hardware store ten years, after which he took up book-keeping and had charge of his employer's business. In 1868, in company with Mr. Rupert, he set up in business for himself at the corner of Market and Walnut streets, where they were burned out sixty days later, and Mr. Trevett lost the savings of ten years. He went into business again and was again burnt out in 1871. The structure was re-built and the firm of Trevett & Green occupied it until 1877, then purchased the brick building where they are now doing business, and have become the largest merchants in the hardware trade in the county.

Mr. Trevett was married in 1869 to Miss Mary C., daughter of John Marey, Circuit Judge, and a

resident of Royalton, Vt. The five children born of this union are Katie, Harry M., Mary S., Edith and Sarah. Mr. Trevett is Democratic in politics and a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity. He is President of the Kaskaskia Club, and holds the same position in the water-works and the manufacturing companies of Champaign. He was elected Mayor of the city in 1875, serving a term of four years and has also served as Alderman. The family residence is pleasantly located at the corner of New and West Park streets, and its inmates are surrounded by all the comforts of life.

**W**D. SOMERS, a retired attorney, and one of the pioneers of the county, was born in North Carolina, Jan. 21, 1812. His parents were Waterman and Winifred (Durham) Somers, who were residents of Rockford, Surry Co., N. C. In 1850 they came to Illinois and settled near Urbana, in Somer Township, which afterward received its name in his honor. His father died in 1855, and his mother in North Carolina in 1832.

W. D. Somers was brought up on a farm, working during the summer and attending school in the winter until he was fourteen. He was then employed for four years as clerk in the County and Circuit Courts, after which he became Master in Chancery for one year. After this he began the study of medicine and commenced practice in 1836. He came to Illinois in 1840 and settled in Urbana, where he opened an office and continued practice three years. While practicing as a physician he made the acquaintance of several distinguished lawyers of the State, among whom were Judge David Davis, Abraham Lincoln, John H. Brow and Ashael Gridley. Owing to ill-health his friend, Judge Davis, advised him to change his profession and read law, which he did, and in 1846 was admitted to the bar. He was often afterward engaged with Lincoln in trying cases, sometimes as assistant counsel, and at others on the opposite side. He was local attorney for the Illinois Central Railroad for several years, and it was due to his influence that the Industrial University was located at Urbana. He was Supervisor of the township for



a number of years, and most of the time Chairman of the County Board. On the occasion of Abraham Lincoln's first political address in Champaign County Mr. Somers introduced him to the audience. He was then a Whig, but at present is a member of the Democratic party.

In 1842 Mr. Somers was married to Miss Catherine P. Carson, a native of Philadelphia. They had a family of five children, all of whom are now living.

During his more active life Mr. Somers was the owner of 1,000 acres of land. He began his business career when a mere boy, and after a long and useful life is now spending its evening in comparative retirement at Urbana.



**J**OSEPH C. PICKARD, M. A., well known as a prominent educator, is Professor of English Literature in the University of Illinois. Prof. Pickard is the son of Samuel and Sarah (Coffin) Pickard, and was born in 1826 in Rowley, Mass., of which place his father was a native. His mother was a native of Newburyport, of the same State. His father spent the early part of his life in mercantile pursuits, but later engaged in manufacturing.

Prof. Pickard received a careful education at home while a boy, and afterward attended Bowdoin College in Maine, where he graduated in 1841. After his graduation he taught two years at the academy of Fryeburg, Me. From there he went to a theological seminary in Bangor, where he was most of the time engaged in teaching. He remained there four years and then, in 1852, entered the Illinois College at Jacksonville as tutor, which position he also occupied four years. He was then offered a professorship in the university at Madison, which position he retained four years, and afterward was engaged in teaching in the cities of Chicago and Milwaukee. In 1873 he accepted the professorship in the University of Illinois, which he has since continued to hold.

In 1853 Prof. Pickard was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Storer, a native of London, England. They have a family of five children—

Charles E., William S., Annie A., Edward W. and Ethel M. Prof. Pickard has the respect and confidence of the county and State, both as an educator of unquestioned talent and ability, and as a man of broad culture and high moral worth. Although not actively interested in politics he always votes with the Republican party.



**G**EORGE W. HARTSOCK. The following is but a brief history of one of the most honored pioneers of Harwood Township, who was born in Greene County, Ohio, Nov. 6, 1839. He was the son of David and Sarah Jane (Cornell) Hartsock. His parents removed from New Jersey to Ohio during the early settlement of the State, and remained there until their death. His father served as a soldier in the War of 1812; was an active, energetic man, and keenly alive to what was going on around him.

Our subject came West in August, 1869, and coming into this county purchased eighty acres of land on section 26, Harwood Township. Becoming tired of keeping "bachelor's hall," and having formed the acquaintance of Miss Imogene J. Soper, he, in the early part of 1871, celebrated his marriage with her.

Mr. Hartsock and his wife, soon after this event, took up their abode on their own farm, which they have occupied since that time. Here, where their united labors commenced, they have become almost an indispensable portion of the community, and here the six children who came into the household were all born. Of these five are still living, and the record is as follows: Sylvanus L. was born Dec. 25, 1871; Olive May, April 30, 1873; Asa Newell, born Dec. 6, 1874, died Aug. 8, 1876; David Orange, born Jan. 1, 1880; Sarah Ann, April 12, 1882; Caroline E., July 25, 1884.

The homestead of our subject embraces 160 acres of highly cultivated land, neatly fenced and provided with a handsome set of frame buildings. The farm has been principally devoted to the raising of grain and stock, the favorite cattle of Mr. Hartsock being the Galloways, and the horses, Norman. He raises Poland-China hogs in large num-



bers, and his animals include some of the finest specimens of Central Illinois. Among his thoroughbred swine are Lady Nash and Bravo, who have quite a reputation in this vicinity, and the head of his cattle herd is a magnificent thoroughbred named Rattler. As a farmer and member of the community, no man is held in greater esteem than Mr. Hartsock.



**W**ILLIAM M. PHENICIE, the descendant of an excellent Pennsylvania family, and born in the Keystone State, Feb. 26, 1836, took up his residence in Stanton Township in 1865. He purchased 120 acres of wild land with the determination of making for himself a permanent homestead, and he has not been disappointed. The ground is now enclosed with neat fences and graced with a fine residence, and the proprietor will be pardoned if he views the result of his labors with a feeling of pride and satisfaction. Of late years he has given much attention to stock raising and feeding, making a specialty of Norman horses and Short-horn cattle. His stables and yards contain some of the finest animals to be found in Central Illinois.

The parents of our subject, Joseph and Susan (Conner) Phenicie, were natives of Franklin County, Pa., and are now deceased; the mother died in July, 1880, and her companion in 1886. They were held in universal respect and for many years connected with the Lutheran Church. They were the parents of seven children, named respectively, Stephen L., Elizabeth, Henry C., William M., Mary E., Susan, and one who died in infancy.

Mr. P. spent his earlier years on the farm in Franklin County, Pa., and upon reaching manhood he was there married to Miss Margaret Besore, the wedding taking place in December, 1861. Mrs. P. is the daughter of John and Mary (Mown) Besore, who were also natives of Franklin County, where her birth took place. Of this marriage there have been born six children, viz., Stephen H., S. Della, George B., Emma, Evra and William O.

The grandparents of our subject had thirteen

children, seven sons and six daughters. The father of these, John Phenicie, was a native of England, and emigrated to the United States, locating in Franklin County, Pa., where he spent the remainder of his days.



**T**HOMAS STEPHENS, deceased, entered upon the stage of life in Greene County, Pa., June 11, 1807, and after having lived worthily and as became a man invested with grave responsibilities, passed from the scenes of earth at the age of nearly eighty years, March 6, 1887. He was the son of Edward and Hannah Stephens, natives of New Jersey, and spent his early years on his father's farm. His early education was quite limited, but being a close observer became admirably fitted for the struggle of life in its various phases. He remained a member of the parental household until 1832, when he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Cotton. After some years his wife died, leaving two children.

Mr. Stephens for years was actively and extensively engaged in the stock business. The lady who became his second wife was formerly Miss Catherine Parcels, to whom he was married Aug. 11, 1841. She was the third child of Peter and Hannah (Kerns) Parcels, natives of Pennsylvania, but the mother descended from Irish ancestors, who left an estate of many millions in their native country, which now lies to their credit, and forms an estate upon which settlement has never been made. Peter Parcels was the first publisher and editor of a paper in Chillicothe, Ohio.

After his marriage Mr. Stephens located on a farm in Fairfield County, near Lancaster, and which comprised nearly a half section of land. Here he followed farming and stock-raising extensively, and one season contracted to furnish a Baltimore firm with 5,000 head of hogs, which, through the negligence of the railroad company, caused him a loss of \$18,000. After this calamity Mr. Stephens scarcely knew which way to turn. He carefully canvassed the situation, when he received unexpected relief in the form of a proffered loan of \$5,000 from a banker at Lancaster. He could not give security, and declined the generous proposi-



tion, but twelve or fifteen of the most responsible men of the county came to his aid and became his security for the money. Then, taking with him his new capital, and in company with two nephews, Lindsey and Edward Corbly, he set out for Missouri.

In the latter State Mr. Stephens purchased 400 head of cattle, and leaving the young men in charge of them, returned to Ohio on horseback to settle up some business matters. Thence he came to Illinois, and it being in the fall of the year he purchased a large quantity of corn near Sadorus Grove, where he made ready to winter his stock. Writing to the young men to start the drove he pushed forward to the Mississippi River, and found his deputies swimming the animals across. The passage was made in safety and all returned to Sadorus Grove, where they remained with the stock until early in the winter, and then drove them through to Philadelphia, where they were sold. Our subject then began to buy land warrants, and eventually secured 1,500 acres in Saline County, Mo., and 5,000 in Illinois, at the head of the Sangamon River in Champaign and Ford Counties. His intention at first was to settle in Missouri, purchase slaves and go into hemp-raising. This State, however, presented greater attractions, and he abandoned his original plan to settle here. The outbreak of the war proved the wisdom of his choice in abandoning the idea of slave labor.

During this time the family of Mr. Stephens had been living in Ohio. After determining upon a settlement in this State he put up a hewed-log house and sent for his family, establishing them in their new home as comfortably as possible. Some years later, he having accumulated sufficient means, erected a splendid residence at a cost of \$11,000, which was the admiration of all the country around.

In the spring of 1867 Mr. Stephens had on hand

800 head of cattle, but being engrossed in home affairs, left the management of his stock principally to his son, who had been his partner. The latter entered into a contract with a commission merchant of Chicago for 1,000 head of Southern cattle, which proved to be an unsuccessful venture, owing to their falling below the stipulated average. Another speculation proved a failure on account of Texas fever breaking out in his herd; however, he was not the man to be discouraged under difficulties, and consequently soon rallied and all went on well as before.

The children of Mr. Stephens were at this time still at home, but soon afterward married and settled down in life. He then divided his property among them, stipulating that his son Thomas J. should take care of his parents during the remainder of their lives. The children afterward, however, purchased a snug piece of property in Gibson City, where they fitted up a neat and comfortable dwelling in which they placed their parents and looked after their welfare from that time on. Here occurred the death of our subject. His widow still resides there with her daughter Julia, the wife of Thomas Ross, a grain dealer of Gibson. The five children of Mr. and Mrs. Stephens, all living, are Benjamin F., Peter, Thomas J., Hannah C., and Julia A. The family has always been remarkable for its mental vigor and physical strength, and until the decease of the father, no death had occurred among them for a period of forty-five years.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephens became connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church early in life, and ever afterward continued worthy and consistent members. After the organization of the Republican party Mr. S. became one of its warmest supporters, but later identified himself with the Greenbackers.





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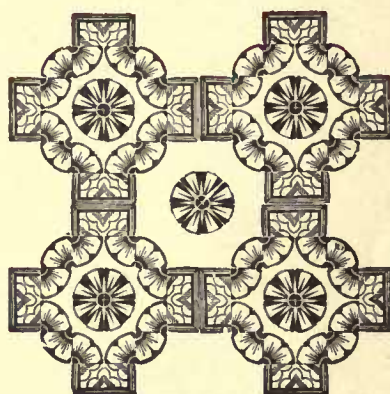
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