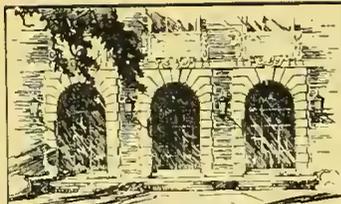




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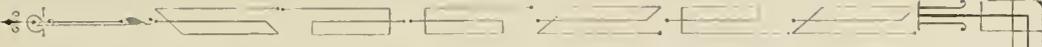
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PORTRAIT AND

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RECORD

—OF—

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Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens

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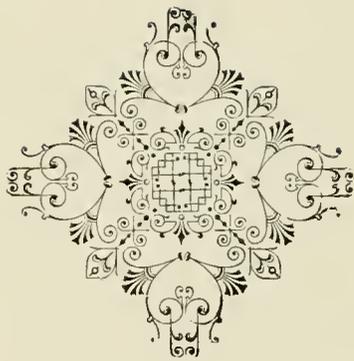
Governors of the State, and of the Presidents

OF THE UNITED STATES.

CHICAGO.

BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING CO

1891.



# PREFACE.



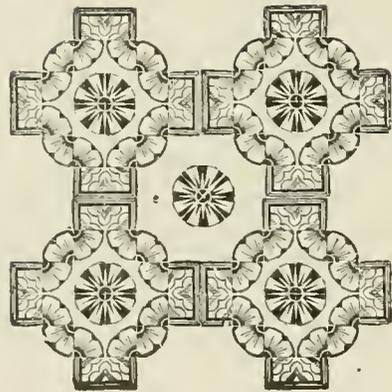
THE greatest of English historians, MACAULAY, and one of the most brilliant writers of the present century, has said: "The history of a country is best told in a record of the lives of its people." In conformity with this idea the PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD of this county has been prepared. Instead of going to musty records, and taking therefrom dry statistical matter that can be appreciated by but few, our corps of writers have gone to the people, the men and women who have, by their enterprise and industry, brought the county to rank second to none among those comprising this great and noble State, and from their lips have the story of their life struggles. No more interesting or instructive matter could be presented to an intelligent public. In this volume will be found a record of many whose lives are worthy the imitation of coming generations. It tells how some, commencing life in poverty, by industry and economy have accumulated wealth. It tells how others, with limited advantages for securing an education, have become learned men and women, with an influence extending throughout the length and breadth of the land. It tells of men who have risen from the lower walks of life to eminence as statesmen, and whose names have become famous. It tells of those in every walk in life who have striven to succeed, and records how that success has usually crowned their efforts. It tells also of many, very many, who, not seeking the applause of the world, have pursued "the even tenor of their way," content to have it said of them as Christ said of the woman performing a deed of mercy—they have done what they could." It tells how that many in the pride and strength of young manhood left the plow and the anvil, the lawyer's office and the counting-room, left every trade and profession, and at their country's call went forth valiantly "to do or die," and how through their efforts the Union was restored and peace once more reigned in the land. In the life of every man and of every woman is a lesson that should not be lost upon those who follow after.

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

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

October, 1881.

BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING CO.

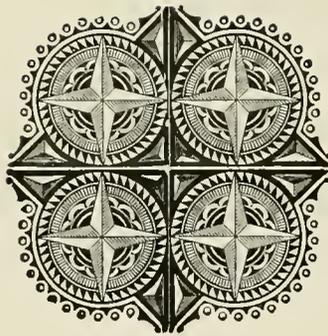


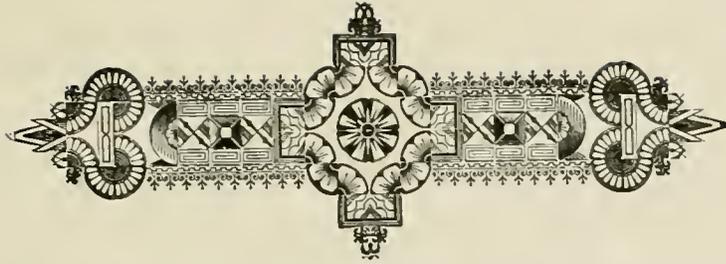
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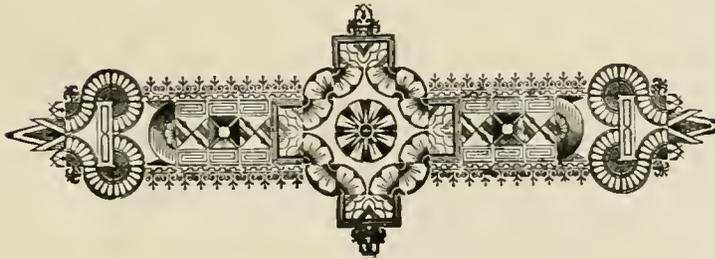
PRESIDENTS

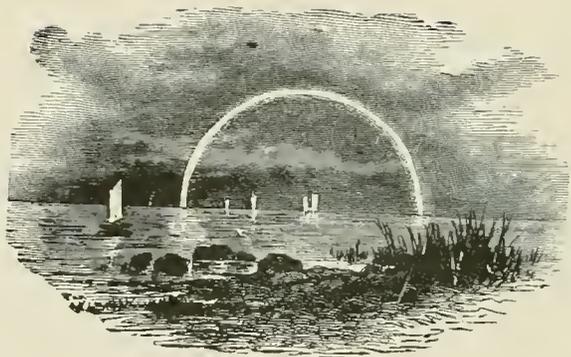
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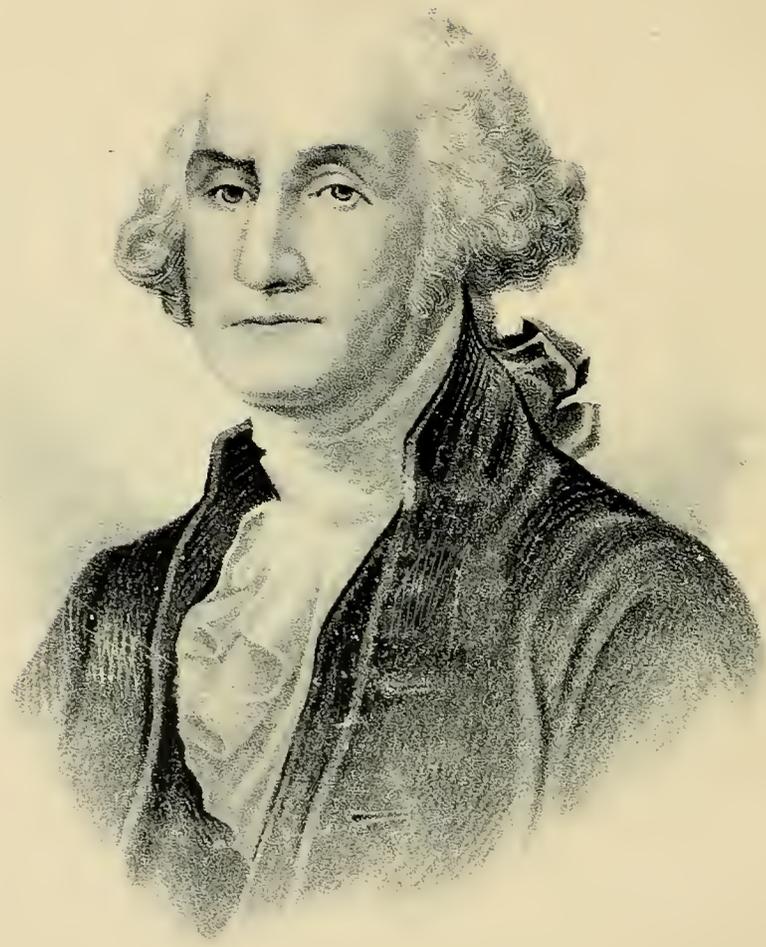


PRESIDENTS.









*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 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 diabelical 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 by 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

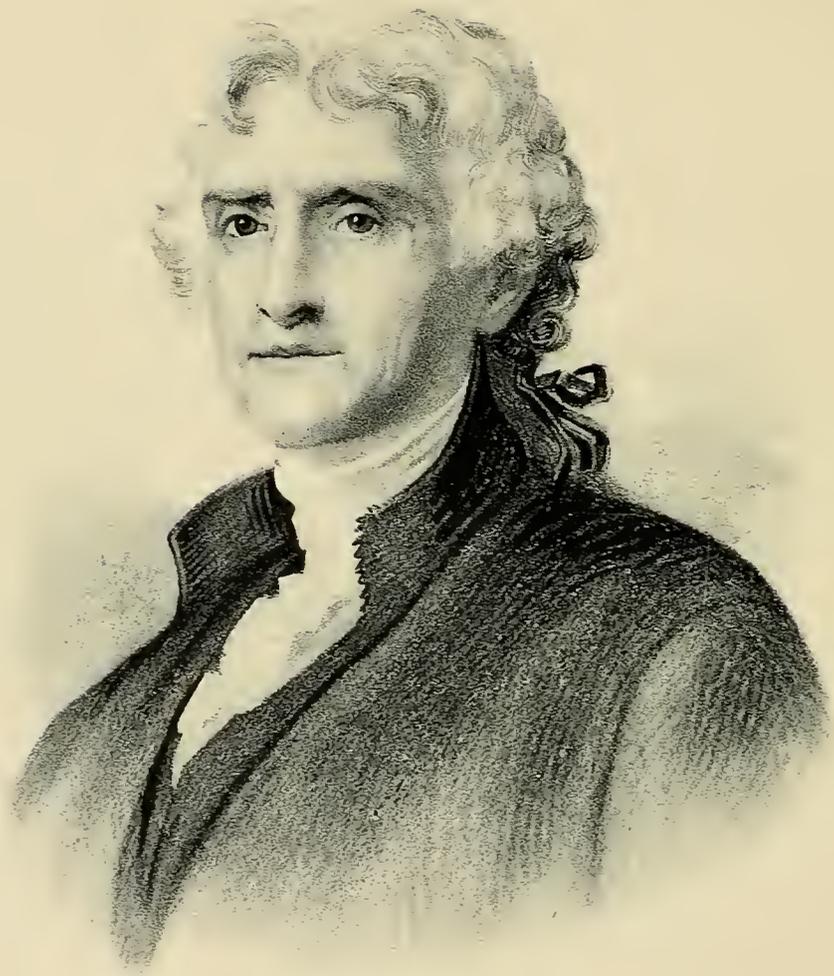
French Revolution shook the continent of Europe, and it was upon this point which he was at issue with the majority of his countrymen led by Mr. Jefferson. Mr. Adams felt no sympathy with the French people in their struggle, for he had no confidence in their power of self-government, and he utterly abhorred 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.





*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 acuteness 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-

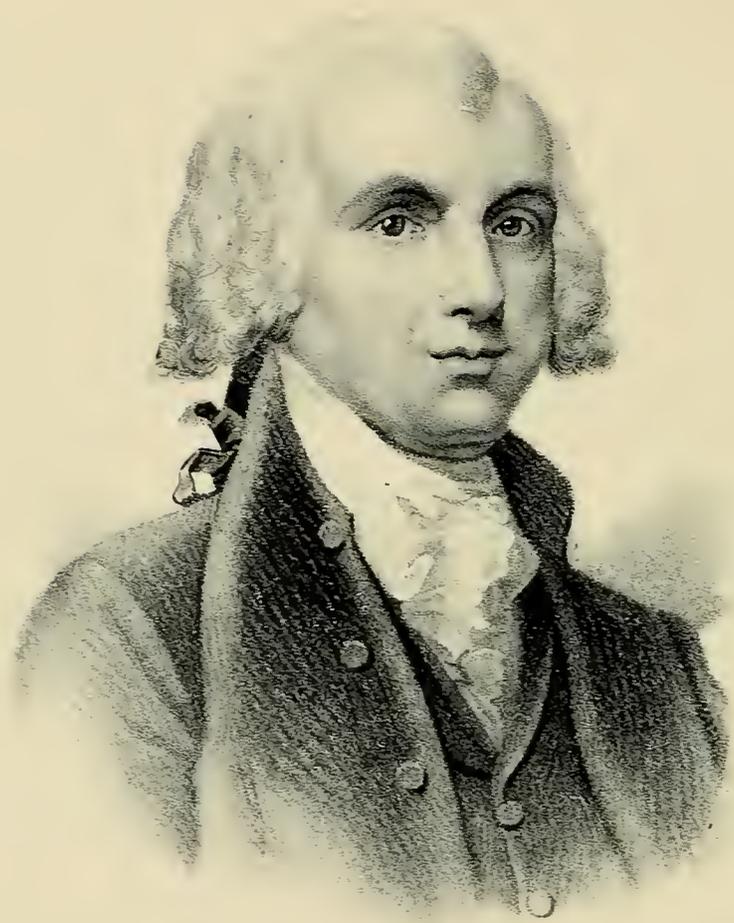
sary of the Declaration of American Independence, great preparations were made in every part of the Union for its celebration, as the nation's jubilee, and the citizens of Washington, to add to the solemnity of the occasion, invited Mr. Jefferson, as the framers, and one of the few surviving signers 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.

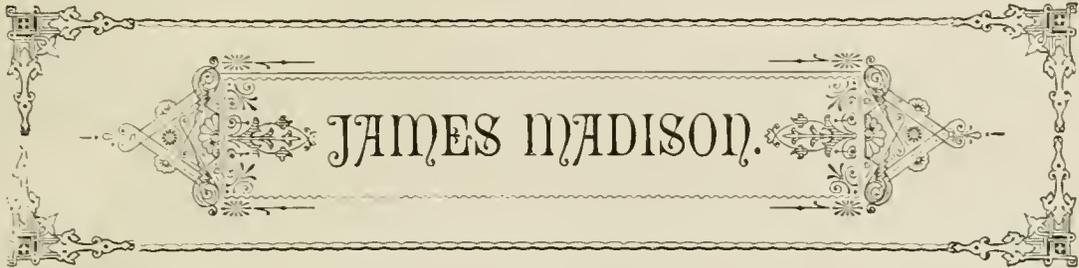
Almost at the same hour of his death, the kindred spirit of the venerable Adams, as if to bear him company, left the scene of his earthly honors. Hand in hand they had stood forth, the champions of freedom; hand in hand, during the dark and desperate struggle of the Revolution, they had cheered and animated 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.

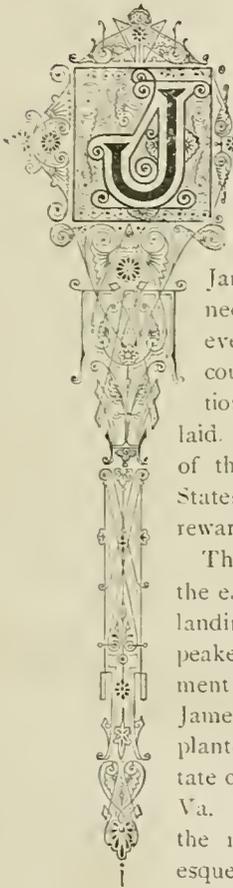




*James Madison*



# 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.

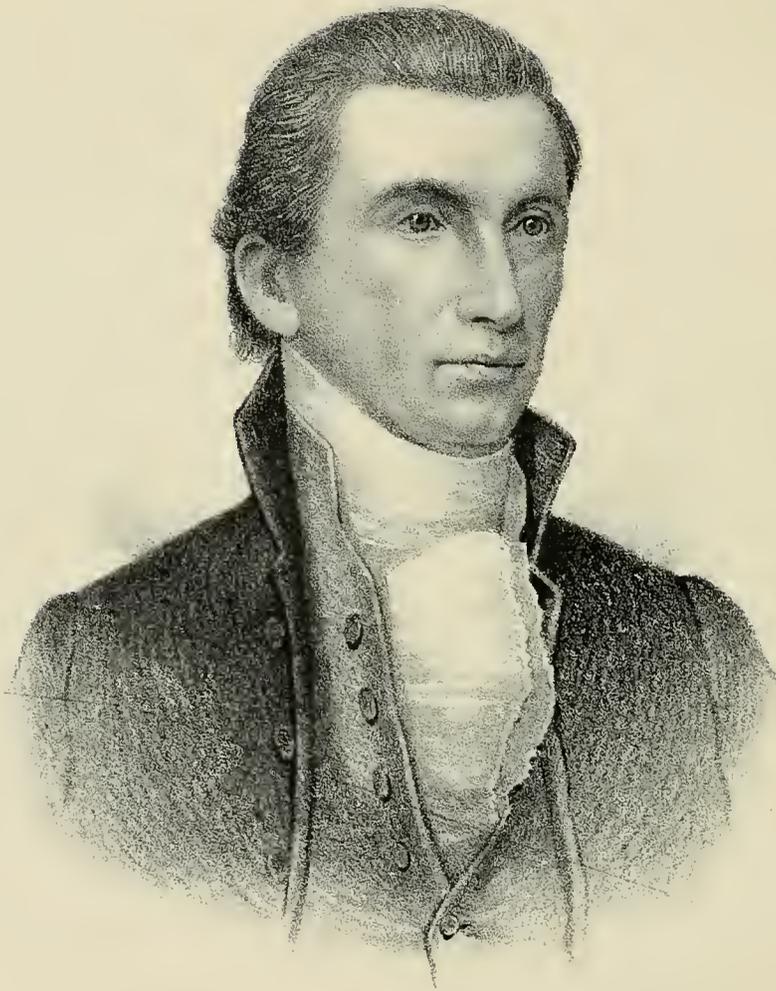
The Emperor of Russia offered his services as mediator. America accepted; England refused. A British force of five thousand men landed on the banks of the Patuxet River, near its entrance into Chesapeake Bay, and marched rapidly, by way of Bladensburg, upon Washington.

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.





*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 Whit 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 Brandy wine, 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.





*J. Q. 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 ennobling 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 acquaintances 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 endowed 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.

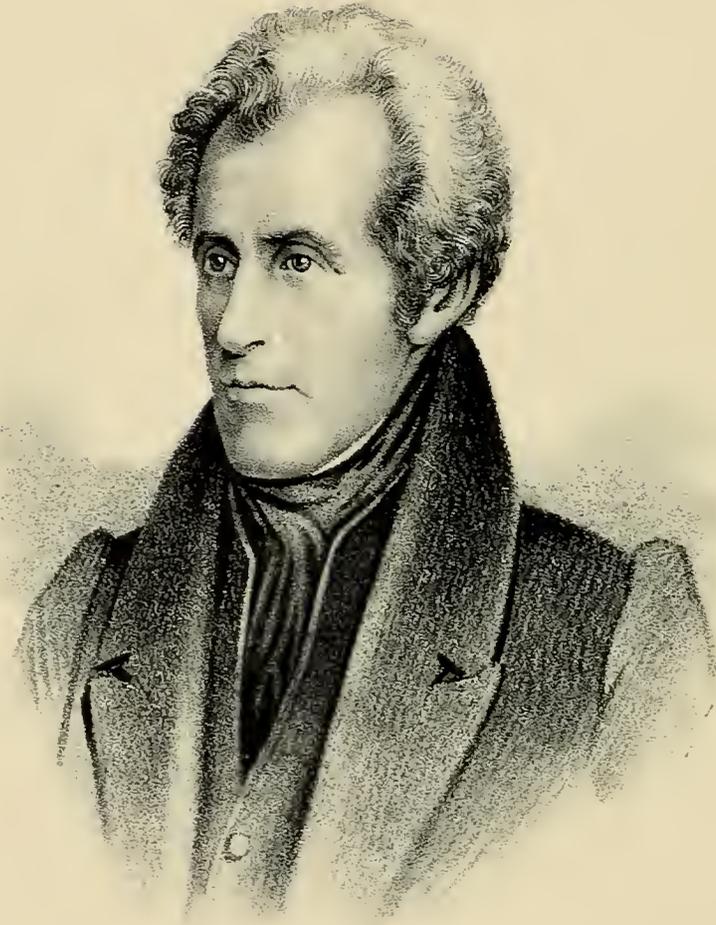
Mr. Adams was, to a very remarkable degree, abstemious and temperate in his habits; always rising early, and taking much exercise. When at his home in Quincy, he has been known to walk, before breakfast, seven miles to Boston. In Washington, it was said that he was the first man up in the city, lighting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

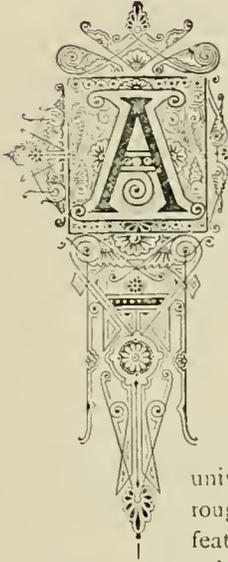




*Andrew Jackson*



## 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 breastwork 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.

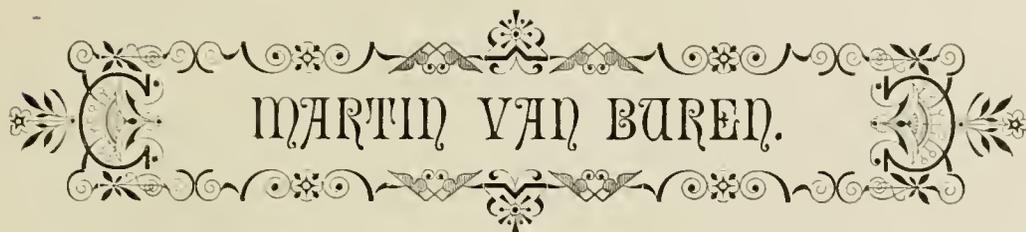
The name of Gen. Jackson soon began to be mentioned in connection with the Presidency, but, in 1824, he was defeated by Mr. Adams. He was, however, successful in the election of 1828, and was re-elected for a second term in 1832. In 1829, just before he assumed the reins of the government, he met with 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.

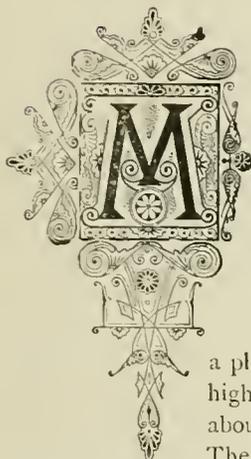




Mr. Van Buren



## 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.

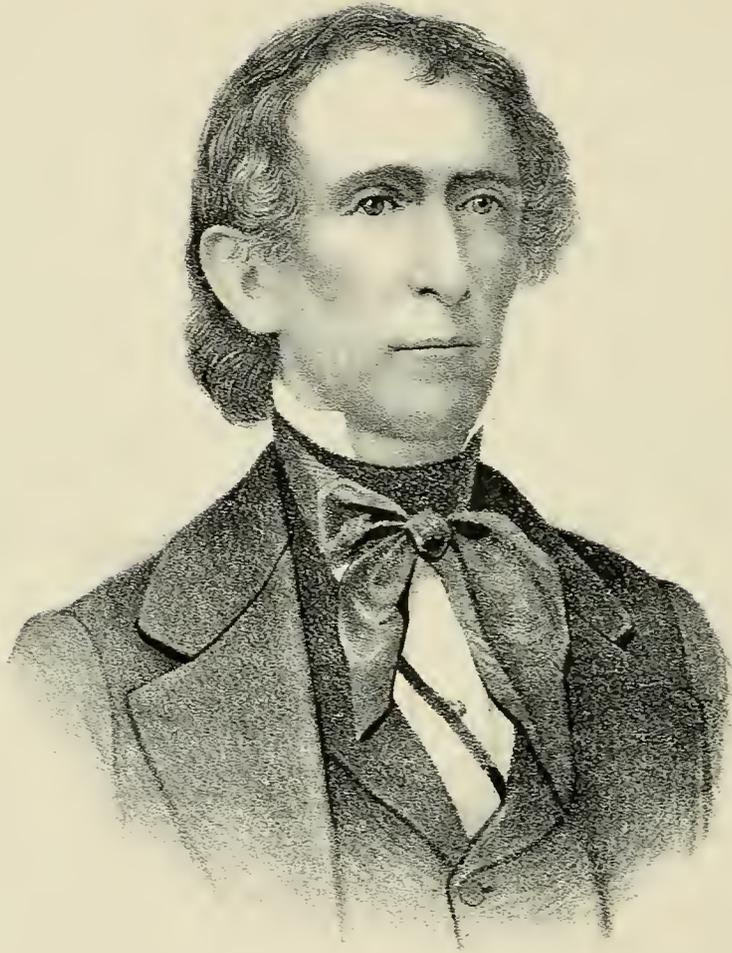
In 1816, Gen. Harrison was chosen a member of the National House of Representatives, to represent the District of Ohio. In Congress he proved an active member; and whenever he spoke, it was with force of reason and power of eloquence, which arrested the attention of all the members.

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.

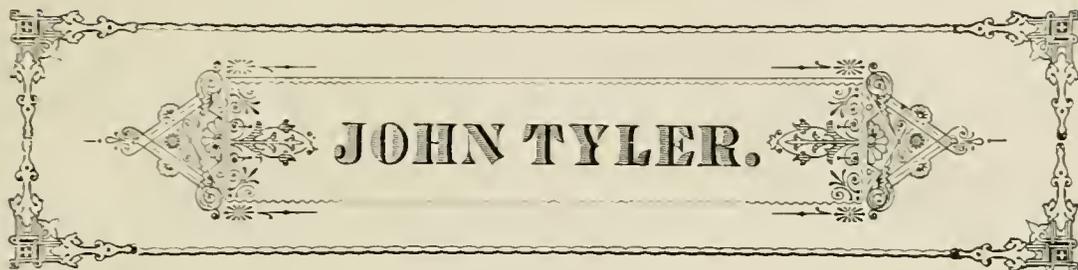
In 1836, the friends of Gen. Harrison brought him forward as a candidate for the Presidency against Van Buren, but he was defeated. At the close of Mr. Van Buren's term, he was re-nominated by his party, and Mr. Harrison was unanimously nominated by the Whigs, with John Tyler for the Vice Presidency. 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.





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.

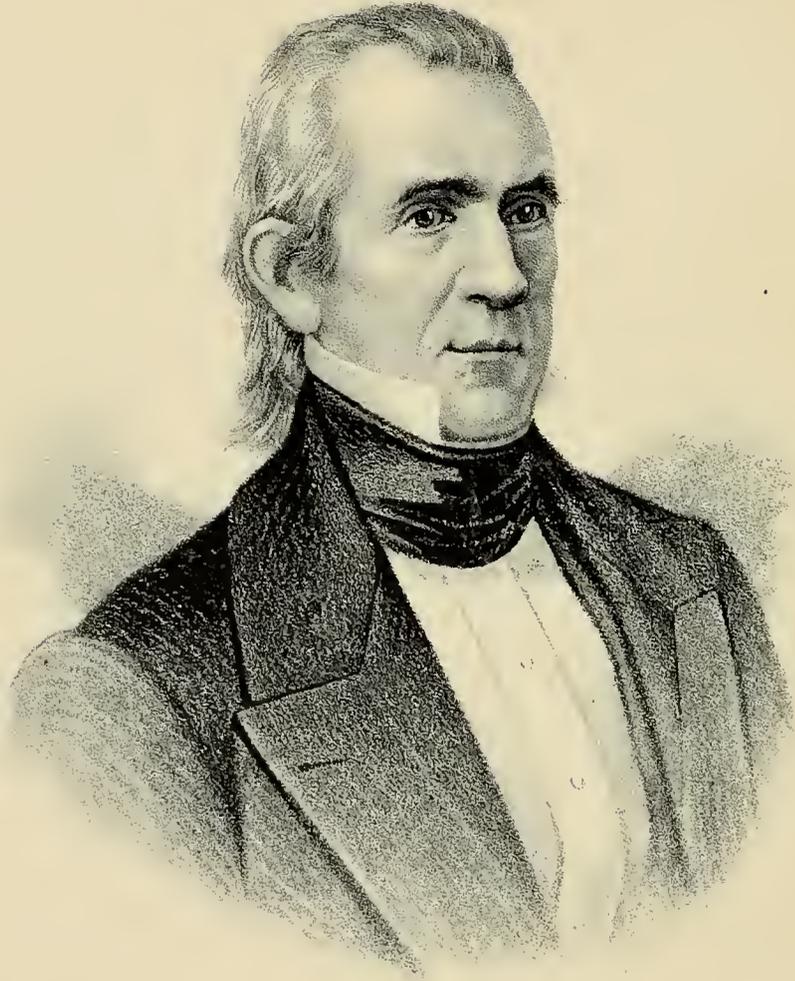
Still the President attempted to conciliate. He appointed a new cabinet of distinguished Whigs and Conservatives, carefully leaving out all strong party men. Mr. Webster soon found it necessary to resign, forced out by the pressure of his Whig friends. Thus the four years of Mr. Tyler's unfortunate administration 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.

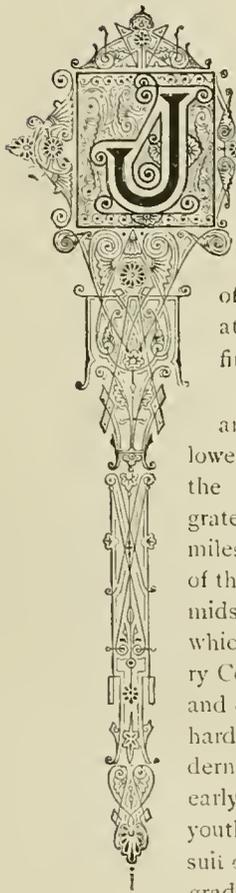




James K. Polk



## 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.





*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-

tellectuat 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, unadorned, 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."





*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 prom-

ise, 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 villiage, 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 hall 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.

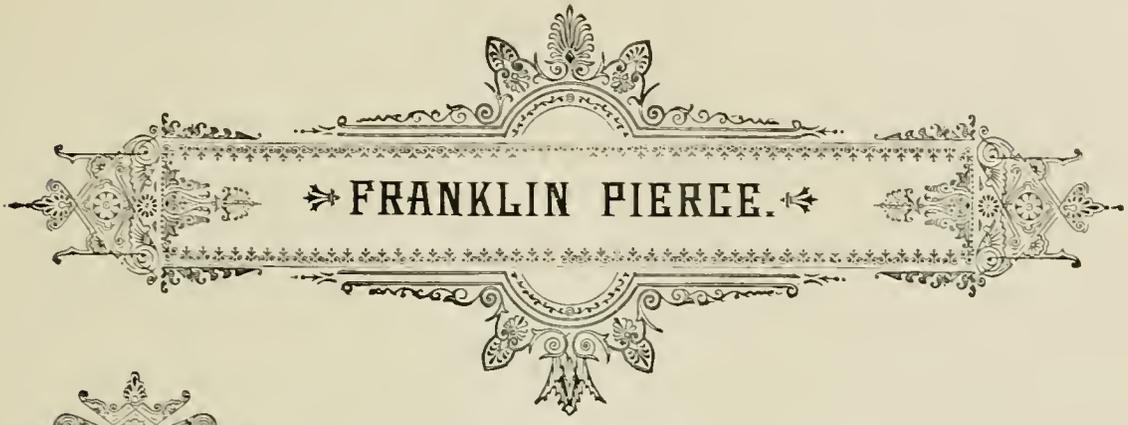
Mr. Fillmore had very serious difficulties to contend with, since the opposition had a majority in both Houses. He did everything in his power to conciliate the South; but the pro-slavery party in the South felt the inadequacy of all measures of transient conciliation. The population of the free States 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.

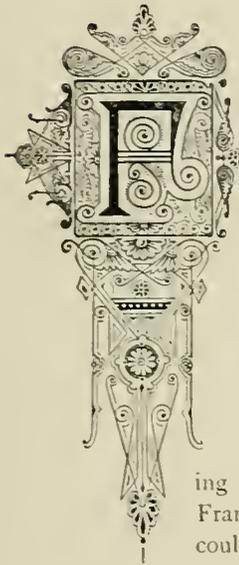




*Franklin Pierce*



## 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.

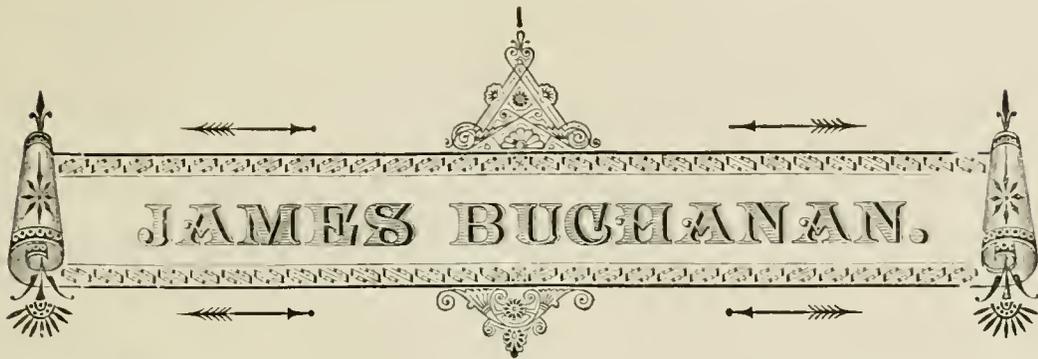
On the 4th of March, 1857, President Pierce retired to his home in Concord. Of three children, two had died, and his only surviving child had been blinded before his eyes by a railroad accident, and his wife, one of the most estimable and accomplished of ladies, was rapidly sinking in consumption. The 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.





*James Pucknett*



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 repre-

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.

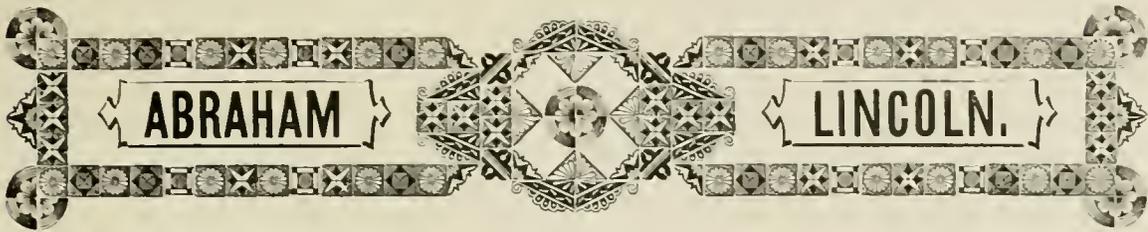
The energy of the rebels, and the imbecility of our Executive, were alike marvelous. The Nation looked on in agony, waiting for the slow weeks to glide away, and close the administration, so terrible in its weakness. At length the long-looked-for hour of deliverance came, when Abraham Lincoln was to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





Your friend & ever  
A. Lincoln



**A**BRAM 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 1835 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

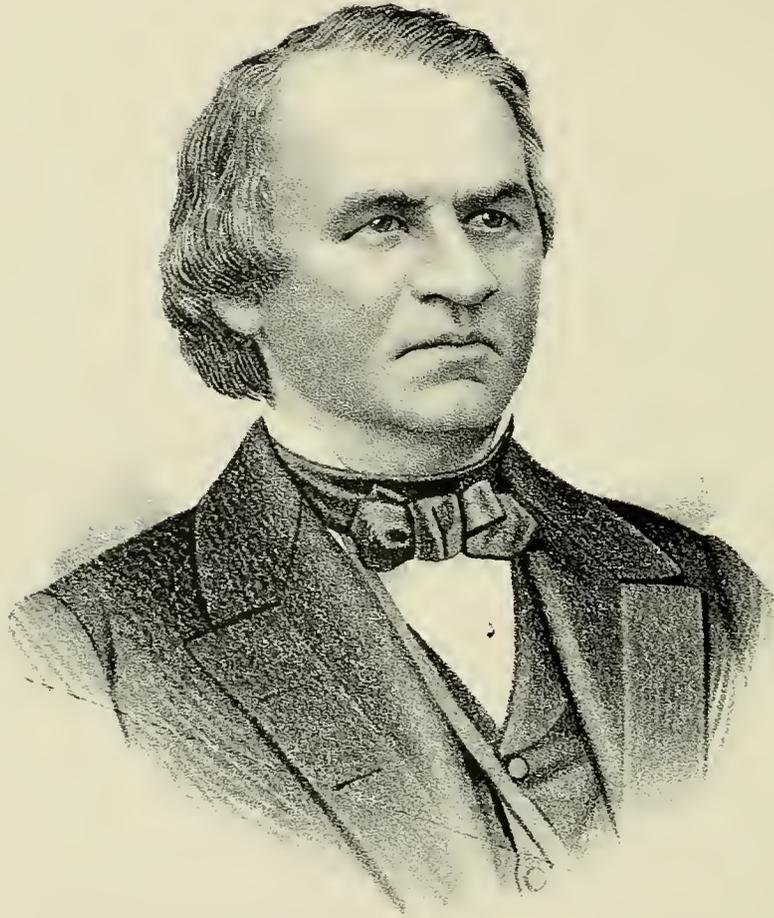
and merciful man, especially by the slaveholders, was greater than upon any other man ever elected to this high position. In February, 1861, Mr. Lincoln started for Washington, stopping in all the large cities on his way making speeches. The whole journey was fraught with much danger. Many of the Southern 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.

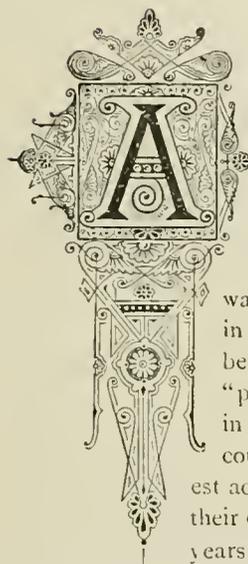
During no other administration have the duties devolving upon the President been so manifold, and the responsibilities so great, as those which fell to the lot of President Lincoln. Knowing this, and feeling his own weakness and inability to meet, and in his own strength to cope with, the difficulties, 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.





*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 abi-

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

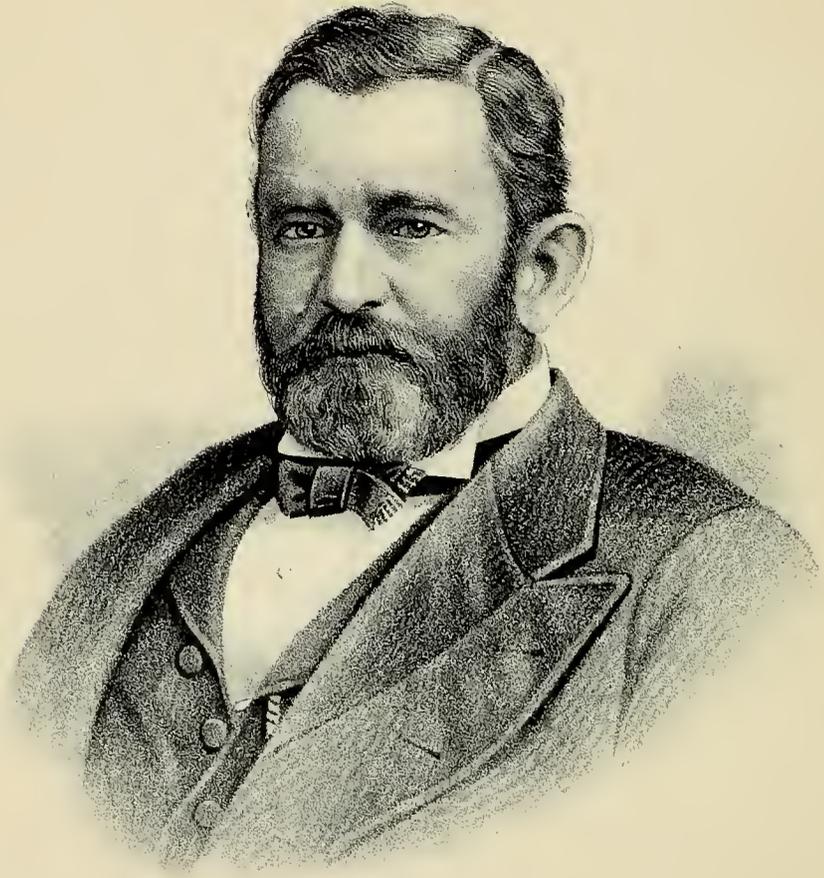
opposition to, the principles laid down in that speech.

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.

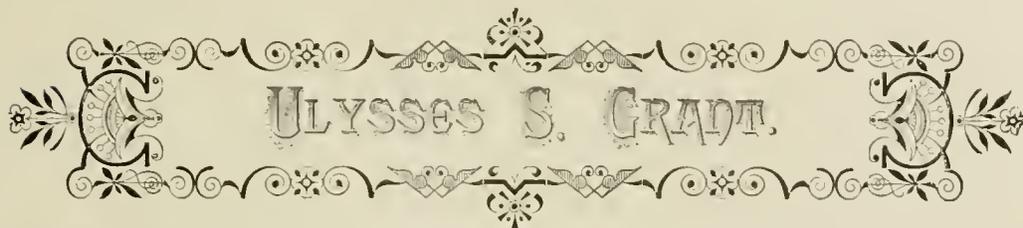
It was very tedious, continuing for nearly three months. A test article of the impeachment was at length submitted to the court for its action. It was certain that as the court voted upon that article so would it vote upon all. Thirty-four voices pronounced the President guilty. As a two-thirds vote 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.





*A. S. 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 sound, 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 Chapultepec.

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.

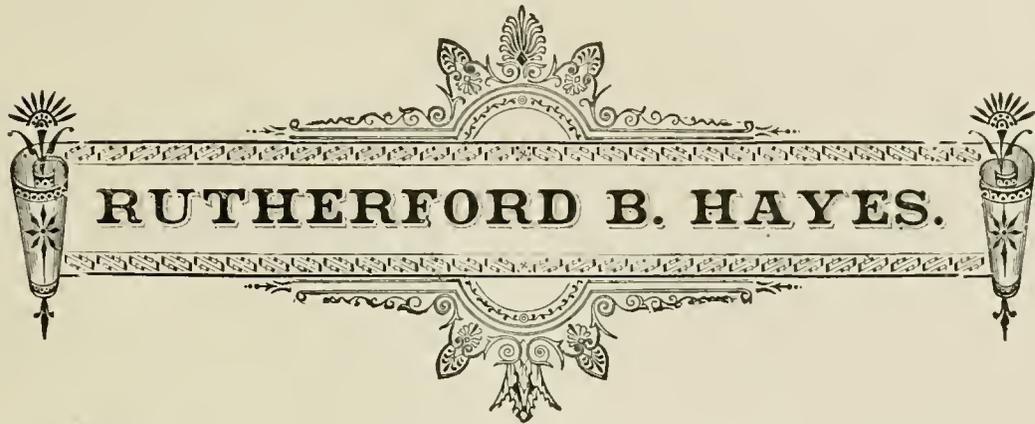
Soon after the close of his second term, Gen. Grant started upon his famous trip around the world. He visited almost every country of the civilized world, and was everywhere received with such ovations and demonstrations of respect and honor, private as well as public and official, as were never before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





Sincerely  
R. 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. Misfor-

lane 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 choose 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.

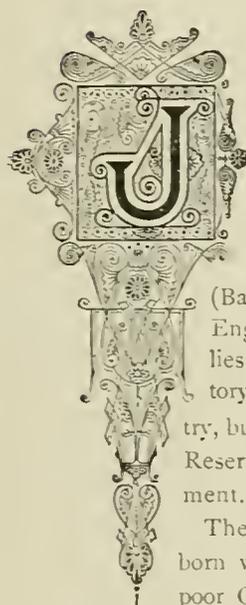




*J. A. Garfield*



# 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 seminar 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."

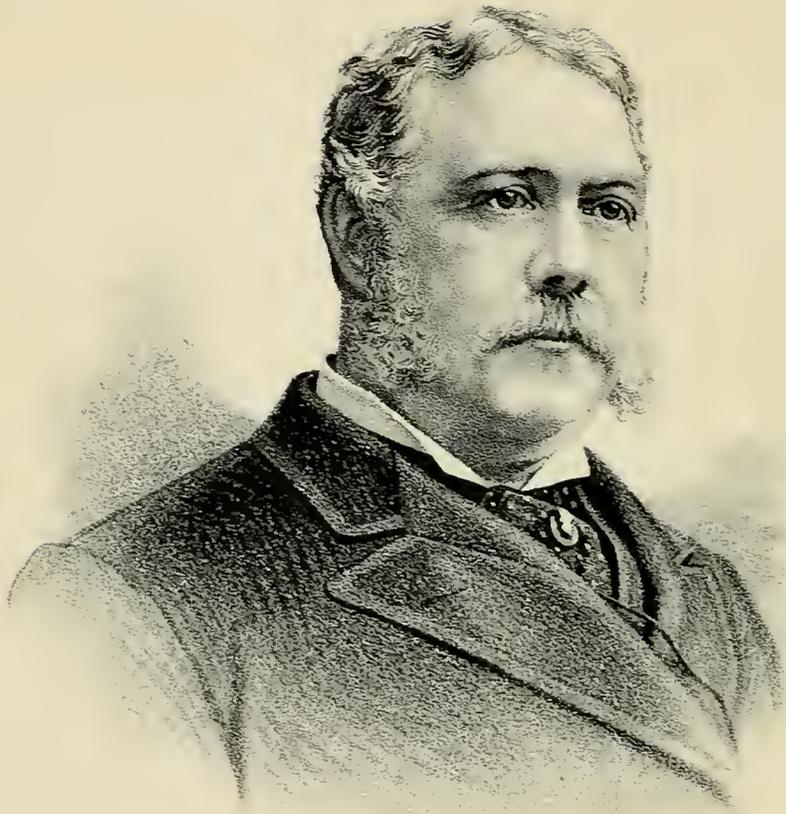
The military history of Gen. Garfield closed with

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 farther 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. For eighty 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.





*C. A. Astor*



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.

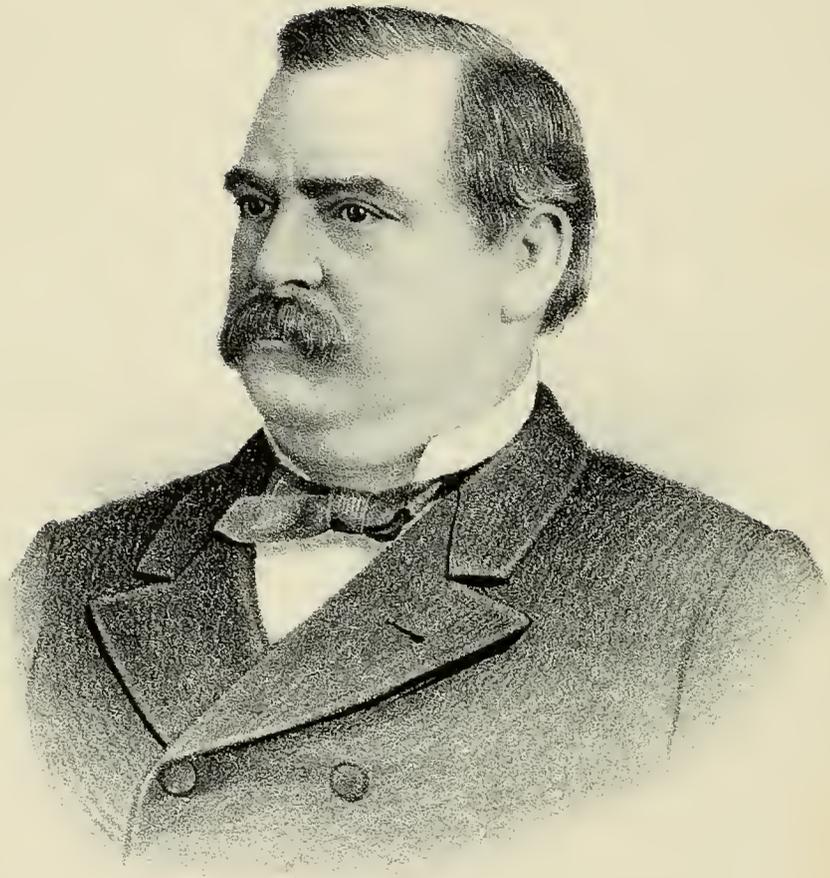
Mr. Arthur was nominated on the Presidential ticket, with Gen. James A. Garfield, at the famous National Republican Convention held at Chicago in June, 1880. This was perhaps the greatest political convention that ever assembled on the continent. It was composed of the leading politicians of the Republican 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 be 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.

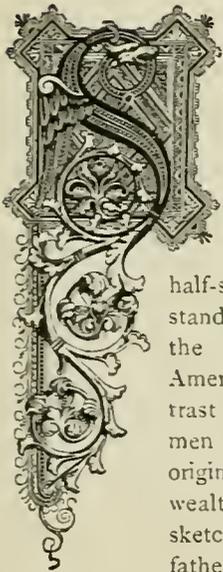




*Grover Cleveland*



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 min-

ister, 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."

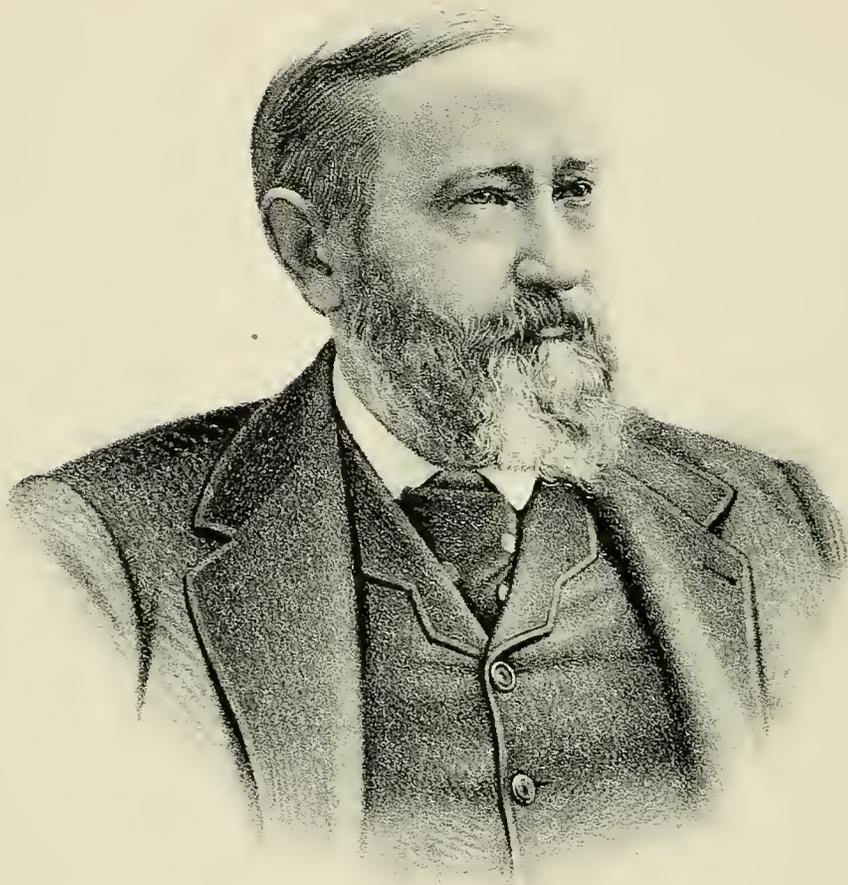
After a long consultation, his uncle offered him a place temporarily as assistant herd-keeper, at \$50 a year, while he could "look around." One day soon afterward he boldly walked into the office of Rogers, Bowen & Rogers, of Buffalo, and told them what he wanted. A number of young men were already 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

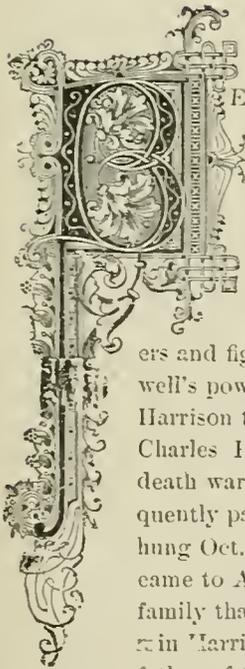
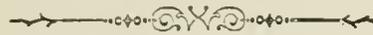
in the administration of the municipal affairs of that city. In this office, as well as that of Sheriff, his performance of duty has generally been considered fair, with possibly a few exceptions which were ferreted out and magnified during the last Presidential campaign. As a specimen of his plain language 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-trying 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.





*Benj. Harrison*



**B**ENJAMIN HARRISON, the twenty-third President, is the descendant of one of the historical families of this country. The head of the family was a Major General Harrison, one of Oliver Cromwell's trusted followers and fighters. In the zenith of Cromwell's power it became the duty of this Harrison to participate in the trial of Charles I, and afterward to sign the death warrant of the king. He subsequently paid for this with his life, being hung Oct. 13, 1660. His descendants came to America, and the next of the family that appears in history is Benjamin Harrison, of Virginia, great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and

after whom he was named. Benjamin Harrison was a member of the Continental Congress during the years 1774-5-6, and was one of the original signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was three times elected Governor of Virginia.

Gen. William Henry Harrison, the son of the

distinguished patriot of the Revolution, after a successful career as a soldier during the War of 1812, and with a clean record as Governor of the Northwestern Territory, was elected President of the United States in 1840. His career was cut short by death within one month after his inauguration.

President Harrison was born at North Bend, Hamilton Co., Ohio, Aug. 20, 1833. His life up to the time of his graduation by the Miami University, at Oxford, Ohio, was the uneventful one of a country lad of a family of small means. His father was able to give him a good education, and nothing more. He became engaged while at college to the daughter of Dr. Scott, Principal of a female school at Oxford. After graduating he determined to enter upon the study of the law. He went to Cincinnati and then read law for two years. At the expiration of that time young Harrison received the only inheritance of his life; his aunt dying left him a lot valued at \$800. He regarded this legacy as a fortune, and decided to get married at once, take this money and go to some Eastern town and begin the practice of law. He sold his lot, and with the money in his pocket, he started out with his young wife to fight for a place in the world. He

decided to go to Indianapolis, which was even at that time a town of promise. He met with slight encouragement at first, making scarcely anything the first year. He worked diligently, applying himself closely to his calling, built up an extensive practice and took a leading rank in the legal profession. He is the father of two children.

In 1860 Mr. Harrison was nominated for the position of Supreme Court Reporter, and then began his experience as a stump speaker. He canvassed the State thoroughly, and was elected by a handsome majority. In 1862 he raised the 17th Indiana Infantry, and was chosen its Colonel. His regiment was composed of the rawest of material, but Col. Harrison employed all his time at first mastering military tactics and drilling his men, when he therefore came to move toward the East with Sherman his regiment was one of the best drilled and organized in the army. At Resaca he especially distinguished himself, and for his bravery at Peachtree Creek he was made a Brigadier General, Gen. Hooker speaking of him in the most complimentary terms.

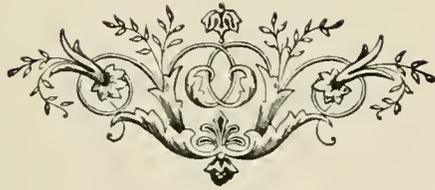
During the absence of Gen. Harrison in the field the Supreme Court declared the office of the Supreme Court Reporter vacant, and another person was elected to the position. From the time of leaving Indiana with his regiment until the fall of 1864 he had taken no leave of absence, but having been nominated that year for the same office, he got a thirty-day leave of absence, and during that time made a brilliant canvass of the State, and was elected for another term. He then started to rejoin Sherman, but on the way was stricken down with scarlet fever, and after a most trying siege made his way to the front in time to participate in the closing incidents of the war.

In 1868 Gen. Harrison declined re-election as reporter, and resumed the practice of law. In 1876 he was a candidate for Governor. Although defeated, the brilliant campaign he made won for him a National reputation, and he was much sought, especially in the East, to make speeches. In 1880, as usual, he took an active part in the campaign, and was elected to the United States Senate. Here he served six years, and was known as one of the ablest men, best lawyers and strongest debaters in

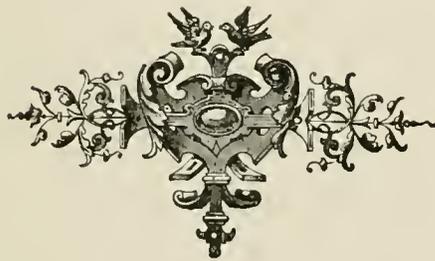
that body. With the expiration of his Senatorial term he returned to the practice of his profession, becoming the head of one of the strongest firms in the State.

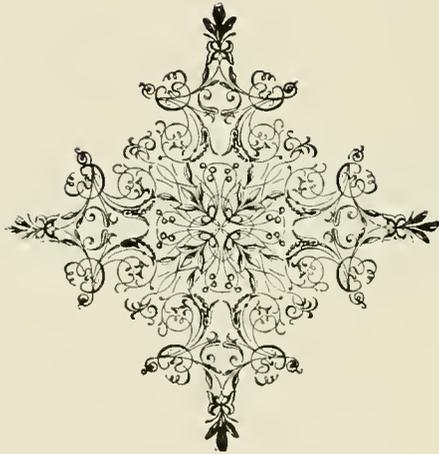
The political campaign of 1888 was one of the most memorable in the history of our country. The convention which assembled in Chicago in June and named Mr. Harrison as the chief standard bearer of the Republican party, was great in every particular, and on this account, and the attitude it assumed upon the vital questions of the day, chief among which was the tariff, awoke a deep interest in the campaign throughout the Nation. Shortly after the nomination delegations began to visit Mr. Harrison at Indianapolis, his home. This movement became popular, and from all sections of the country societies, clubs and delegations journeyed thither to pay their respects to the distinguished statesman. The popularity of these was greatly increased on account of the remarkable speeches made by Mr. Harrison. He spoke daily all through the summer and autumn to these visiting delegations, and so varied, masterly and eloquent were his speeches that they at once placed him in the foremost rank of American orators and statesmen.

On account of his eloquence as a speaker and his power as a debater, he was called upon at an uncommonly early age to take part in the discussion of the great questions that then began to agitate the country. He was an uncompromising anti-slavery man, and was matched against some of the most eminent Democratic speakers of his State. No man who felt the touch of his blade desired to be pitted with him again. With all his eloquence as an orator he never spoke for oratorical effect, but his words always went like bullets to the mark. He is purely American in his ideas and is a splendid type of the American statesman. Gifted with quick perception, a logical mind and a ready tongue, he is one of the most distinguished impromptu speakers in the Nation. Many of these speeches sparkled with the rarest of eloquence and contained arguments of greatest weight. Many of his terse statements have already become aphorisms. Original in thought, precise in logic, terse in statement, yet without faultless in eloquence, he is recognized as the sound statesman and brilliant orator of the day.



GOVERNORS.









*Shadrach Bond.*



## SHADRACH BOND.

**S**HADRACH 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 Keit 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.

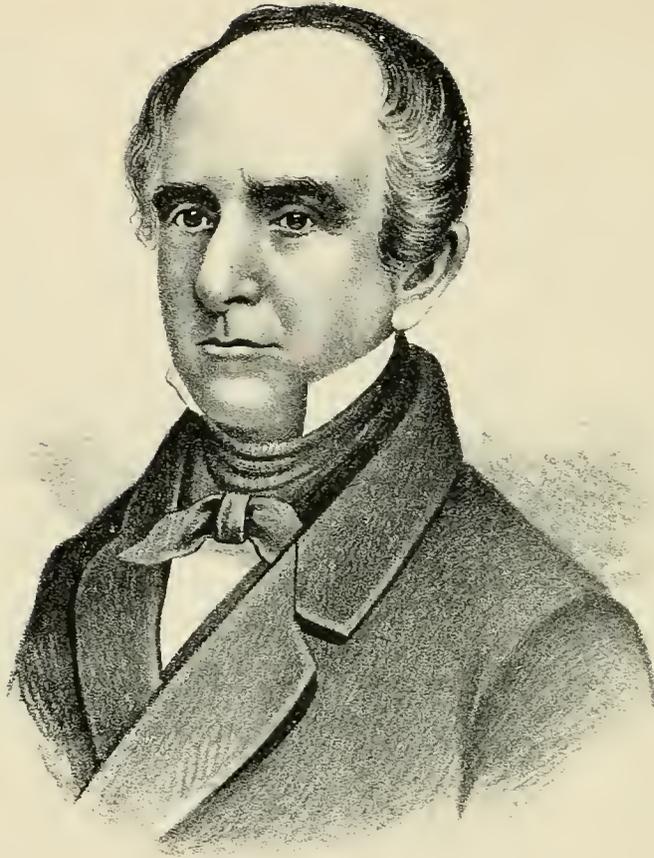
During Gov. Bond's administration a general law was passed for the incorporation of academies and towns, and one authorizing lotteries. The session of 1822 authorized the Governor to appoint commissioners, to act in conjunction with like commissioners appointed by the State of Indiana, to report on the 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.





*Edward Coles*



## Edward Coles.

**E**DWARD 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, Frazewell, 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.





*Norman Edwards*



## Ninian Edwards.

**N**INIAN 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 farther 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 his 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.

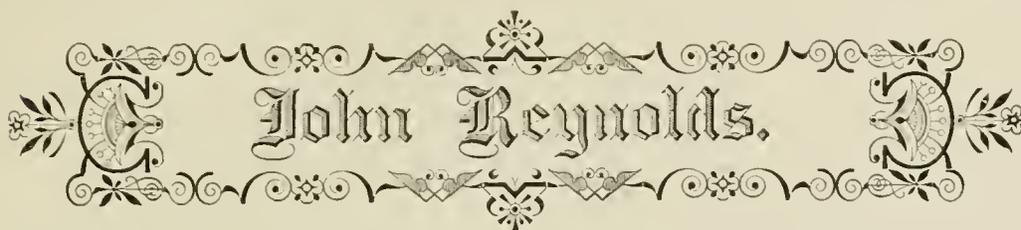
For a considerable portion of his time after his removal to Illinois, Gov. Edwards resided upon his farm near Kaskaskia, which he had well stocked with horses, cattle and sheep from Kentucky, also with fruit-trees, grape-vines and shrubbery. He established saw and grist-mills, and engaged extensively 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.





*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!"

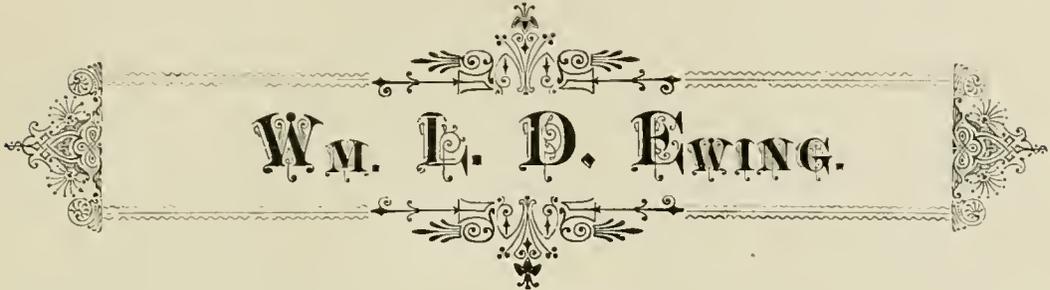
In 1846 Gov. Reynolds was elected a member of the Legislature from St. Clair County, more particularly for the purpose of obtaining a feasible charter for a macadamized road from Belleville to St. Louis, a distance of nearly 14 miles. This was immediately built, and was the first road of the kind in 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.





*Amos A. Phelps*



Wm. L. D. EWING.

**W**ILLIAM 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 strewn 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

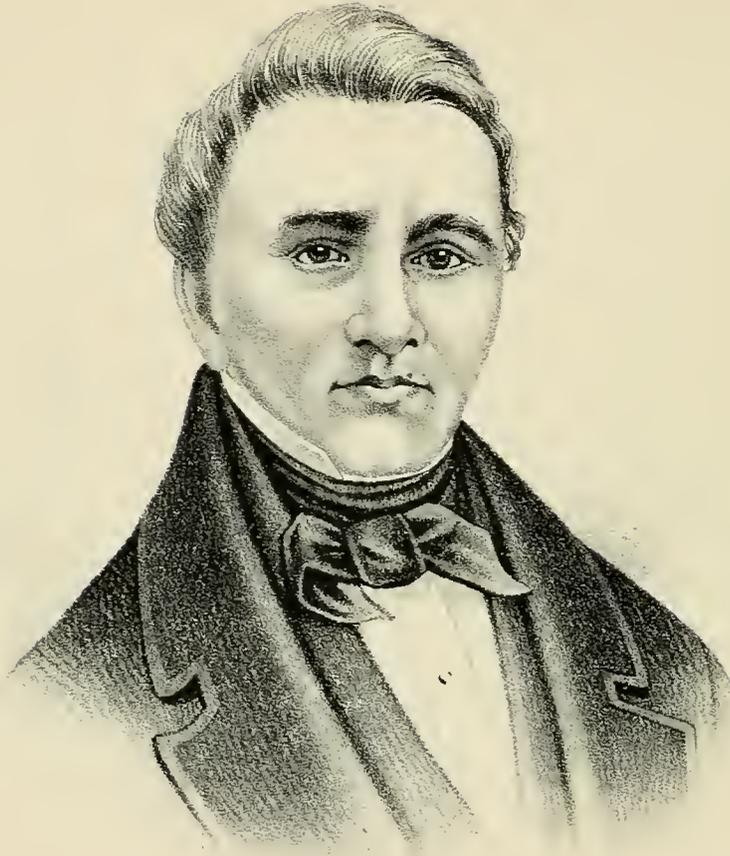
the responsible situation. This is the only time that such a juncture has happened in the history of Illinois.

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.







*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 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.

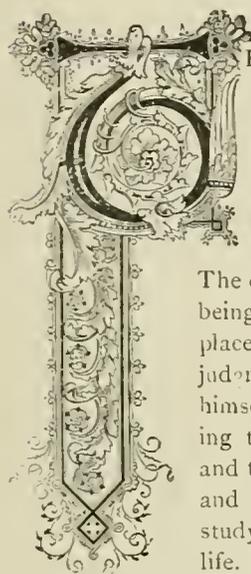
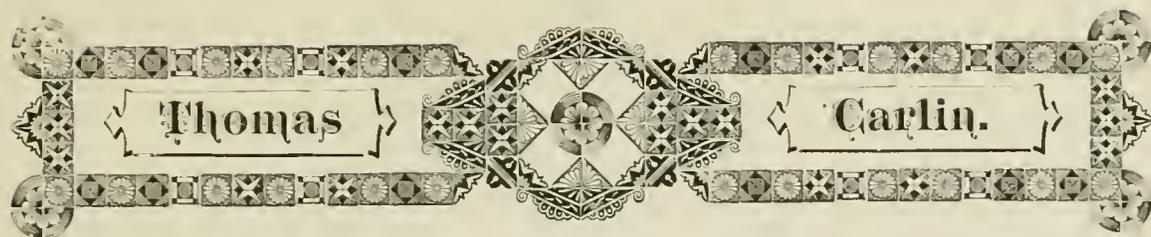
Gov. Duncan was a man of rather limited education, but with naturally fine abilities he profited greatly by his various public services, and gathered a store of knowledge regarding public affairs which served him a ready purpose. He possessed a clear judgment, decision, confidence in himself and moral 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.





*Thos. Carlin*



**T**HOMAS 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 Missouri, where he followed farming, and then removed to Greene County. He located the town site of Carlin'ston, 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 Money, 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. McClernand, 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.

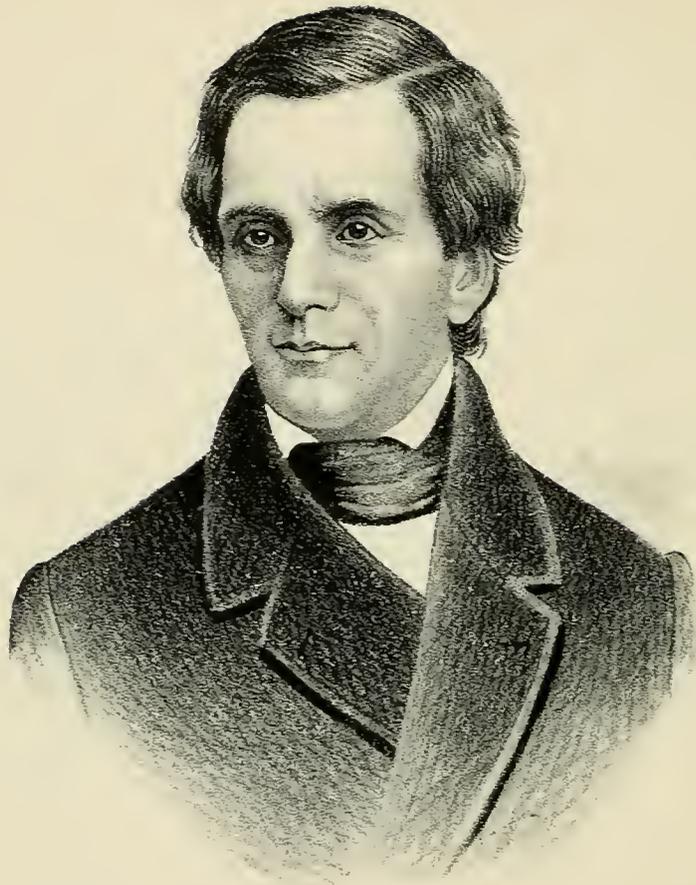
Another prominent event in the West during Gov. Carlin's term of office was the excitement caused by the Mormons and their removal from Independence, Mo., to Nauvoo, Ill., in 1840. At the same time they began to figure somewhat in State politics. On account of their believing—as they thought, according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

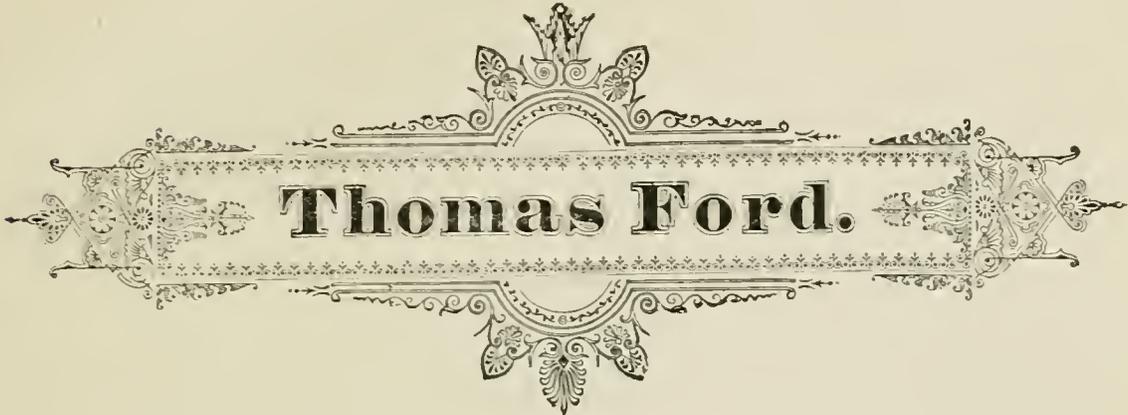
In December, 1841, the Democratic Convention nominated Adam W. Snyder, of Belleville, for Governor. As he had been, as a member of the Legislature, rather friendly to the Mormons, the latter naturally turned their support to the Democratic party. The next spring the Whigs nominated Ex-Gov. Duncan for 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.





Thomas Ford



## Thomas Ford.



**T**HOMAS 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 sound, 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.

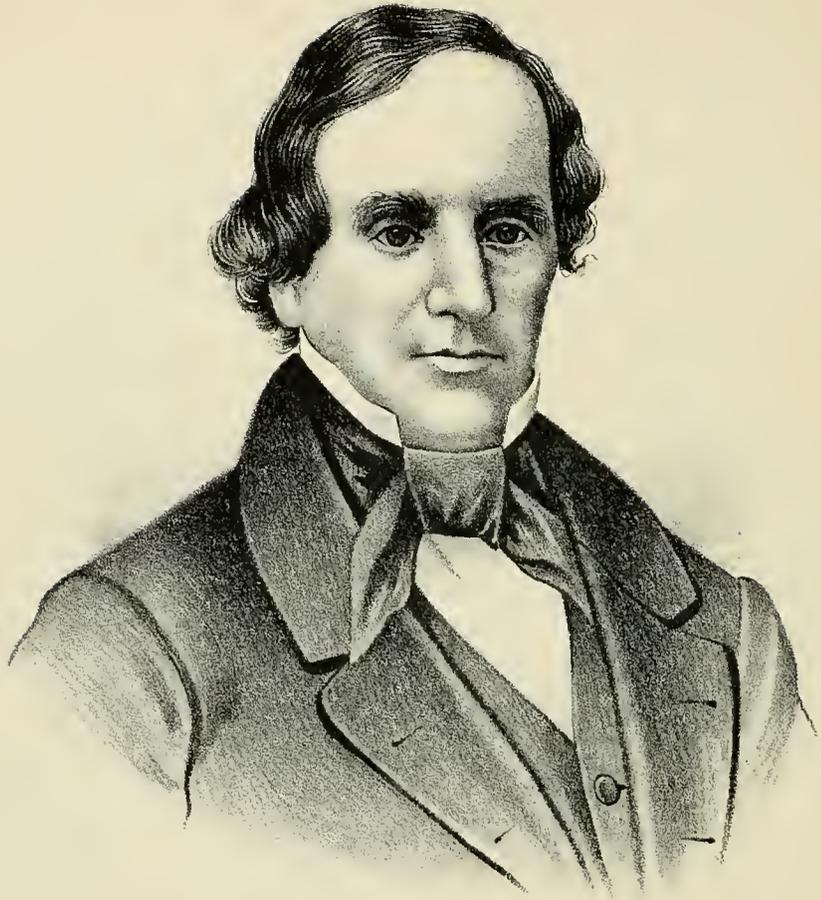
But perhaps the Governor is remembered more for his connection with the Mormon troubles than for anything else; for it was during his term of office that the "Latter-Day Saints" became so strong at Nauvoo, built their temple there, increased their numbers throughout the country, committed misdemeanors, 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 non-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.

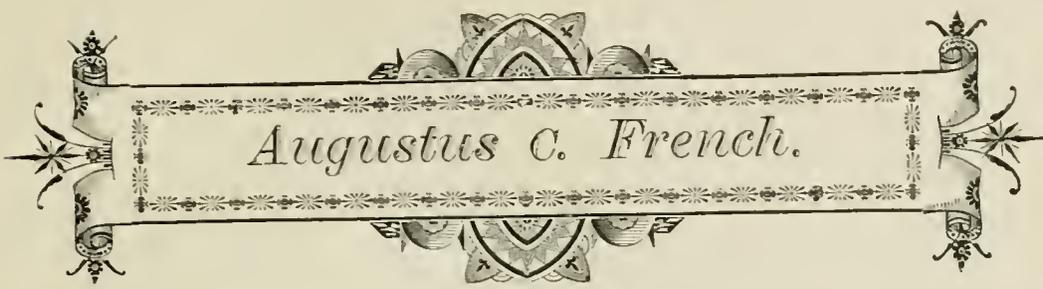
Ford's "History of Illinois" is a very readable and entertaining work, of 450 small octavo pages, and is destined to increase in value with the lapse of time. It exhibits a natural flow of compact and forcible thought, never failing to convey the nicest sense. In tracing with his trenchant pen the devious 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.

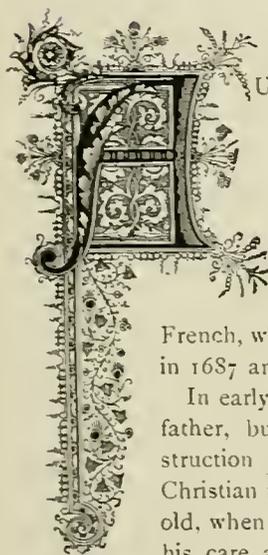




*Aug C French*



*Augustus C. French.*



UGUSTUS 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 Wells, 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 851,477.

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.





*J. 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 principal 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 12

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, J. C. 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 ballotings 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.

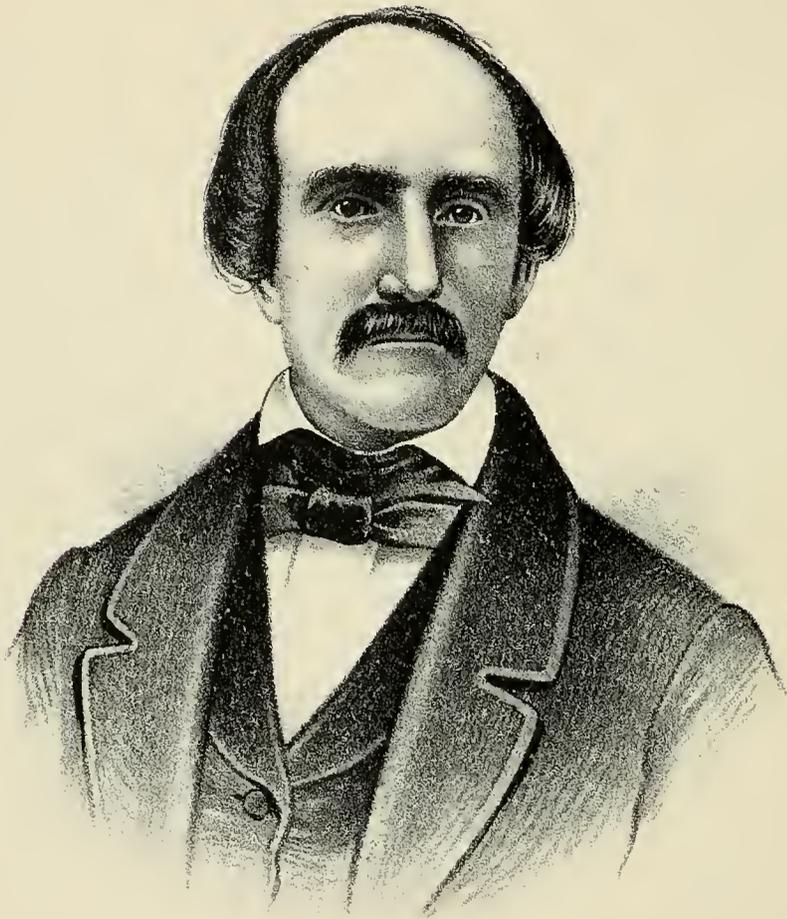
The Legislature of 1855 passed two very important measures,—the present free-school system and a submission of the Maine liquor law to a vote of the people. The latter was defeated by a small majority of the popular vote.

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.

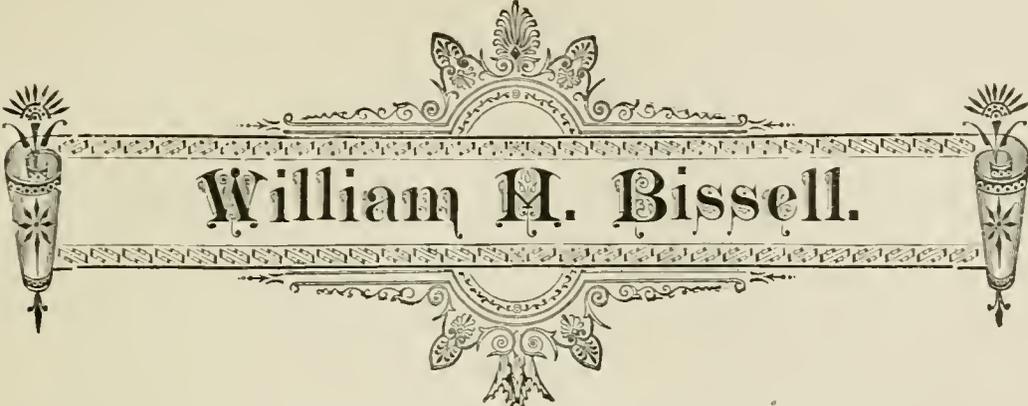
Before closing this account, we regret that we have to say that Mr. Matteson, in all other respects an upright man and a good Governor, was implicated in a false re-issue of redeemed canal scrip, amounting to \$224,182.66. By a suit in the Sangamon Circuit Court the State recovered the principal and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

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

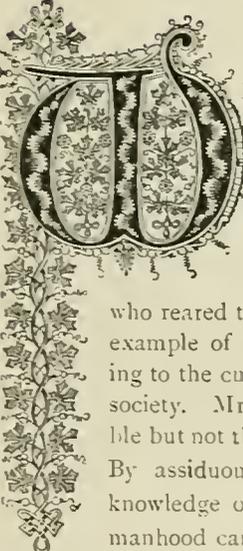




*James A. Russell*



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

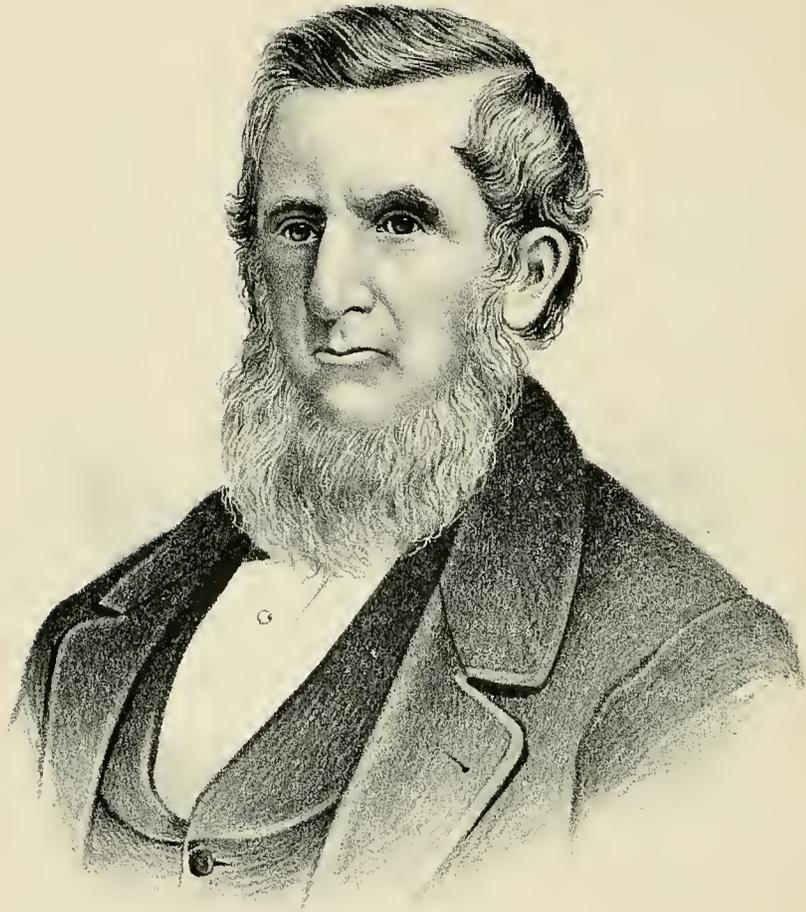
election was a plurality of 4,729 votes over Richardson. The American, or Know-Nothing, party had a ticket in the field. The Legislature was nearly balanced, but was politically opposed to the Governor. His message to the Legislature was short and rather ordinary, and was criticised for expressing the 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.





*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.

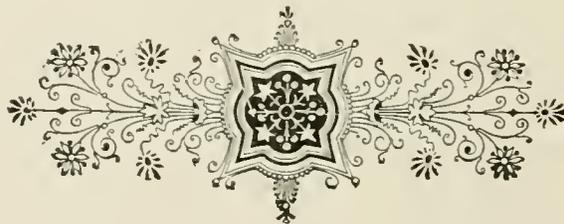
Nothing very marked characterized the administration of Gov. Wood. The great anti-slavery campaign of 1860, resulting in the election of the honest Illinoisan, Abraham Lincoln, to the Presidency of the United States, occurred during the short period while Mr. Wood was Governor, and the excitement and 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

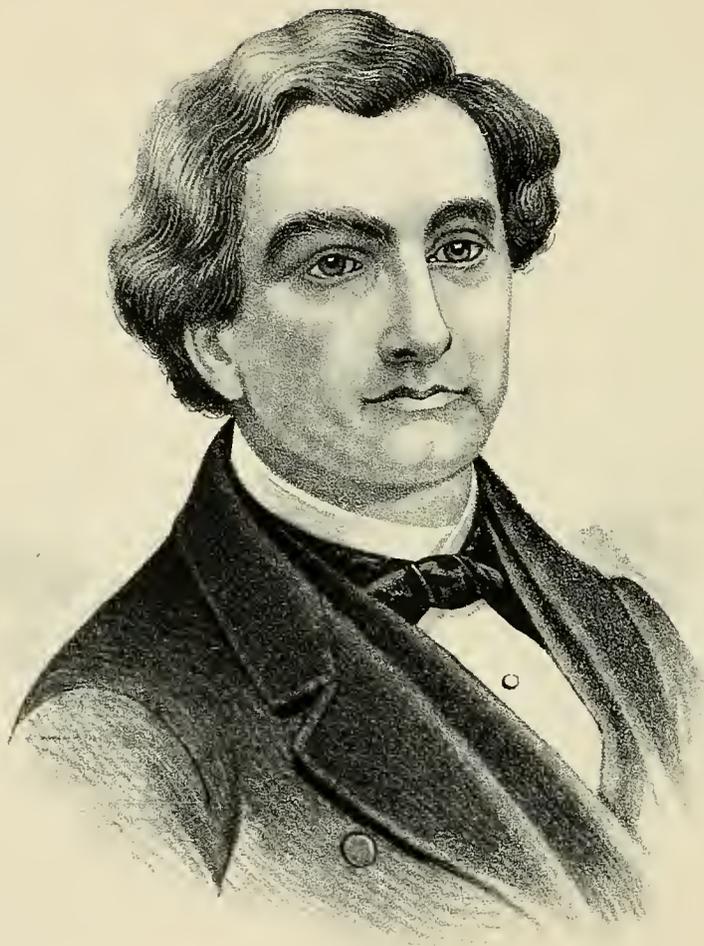
Quartermaster-General of the State, which position he held throughout the war. In 1864 he took command as Colonel of the 137th Ill. Vol. Inf., with whom he served until the period of enlistment expired.

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.







*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 Garrison. 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

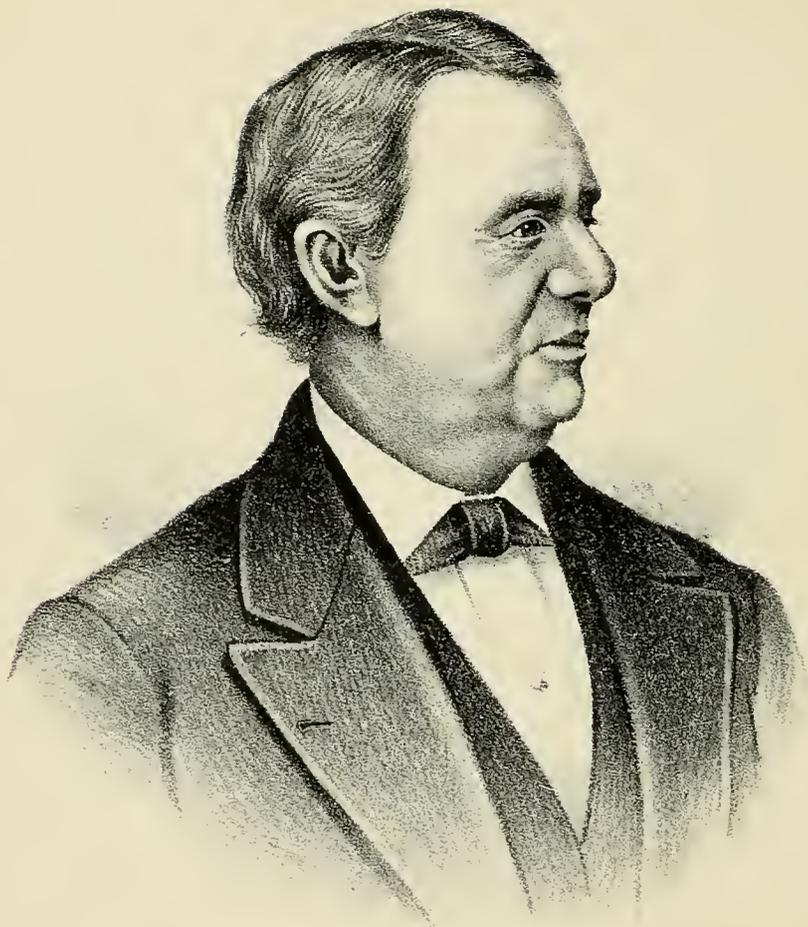
and to the re-establishment of one for the "happiness, prosperity and freedom of the citizens," limited only by the Federal Constitution. Notwithstanding the law calling the Convention required its members to take an oath to support the Constitution of the State as well as that of the general Government, 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.

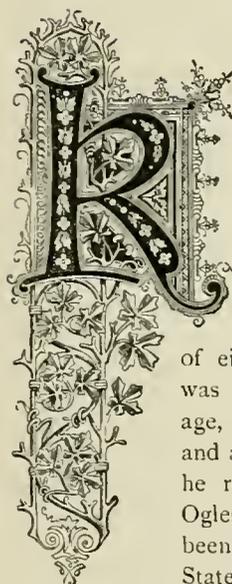




*R. J. Oglesby*



## 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 vehement, 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.





*John Palmer*



*JOHN M. PALMER*

**J**OHN 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 L. 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 4th 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.





*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.

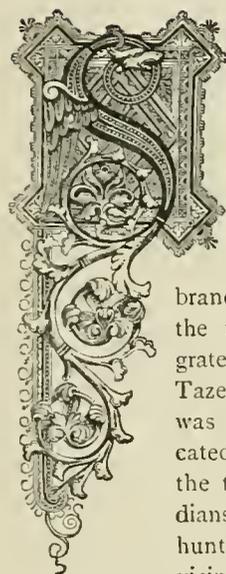
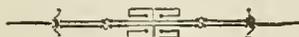
Since the close of his gubernatorial term ex-Gov. Beveridge has been a member of the firm of Beveridge & Dewey, bankers and dealers in commercial paper at 71 Dearborn Street (McCormick Block), Chicago, and since November, 1881, he has also been Assistant United States Treasurer's office in the Government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





*W. Lullom*



**S**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. Practicir;

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.

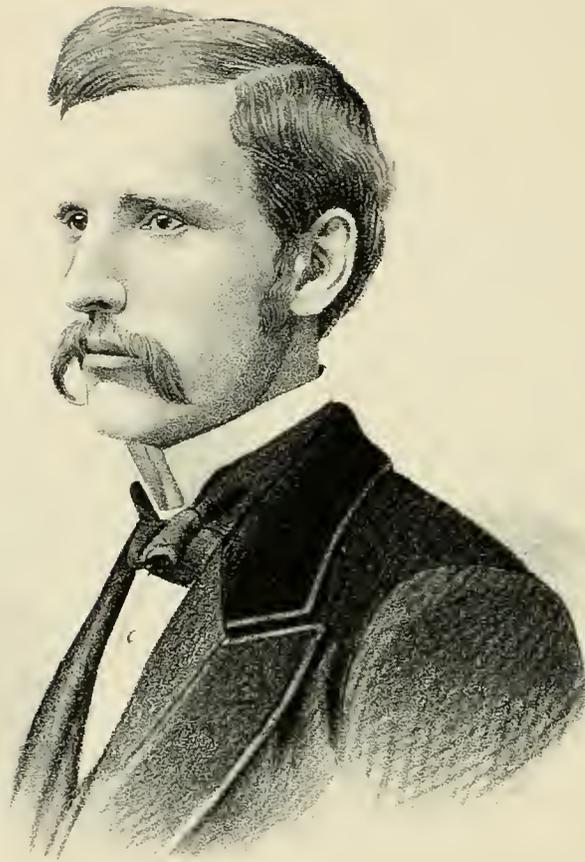
In May, 1880, Gov. Cullom was re-nominated by the Republicans, against Lyman Trumbull, by the Democrats; and although the former party was somewhat handicapped in the campaign by a zealous faction opposed to Grant for President and to Grant men for office generally, Mr. Cullom was re-elected by about 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.





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-

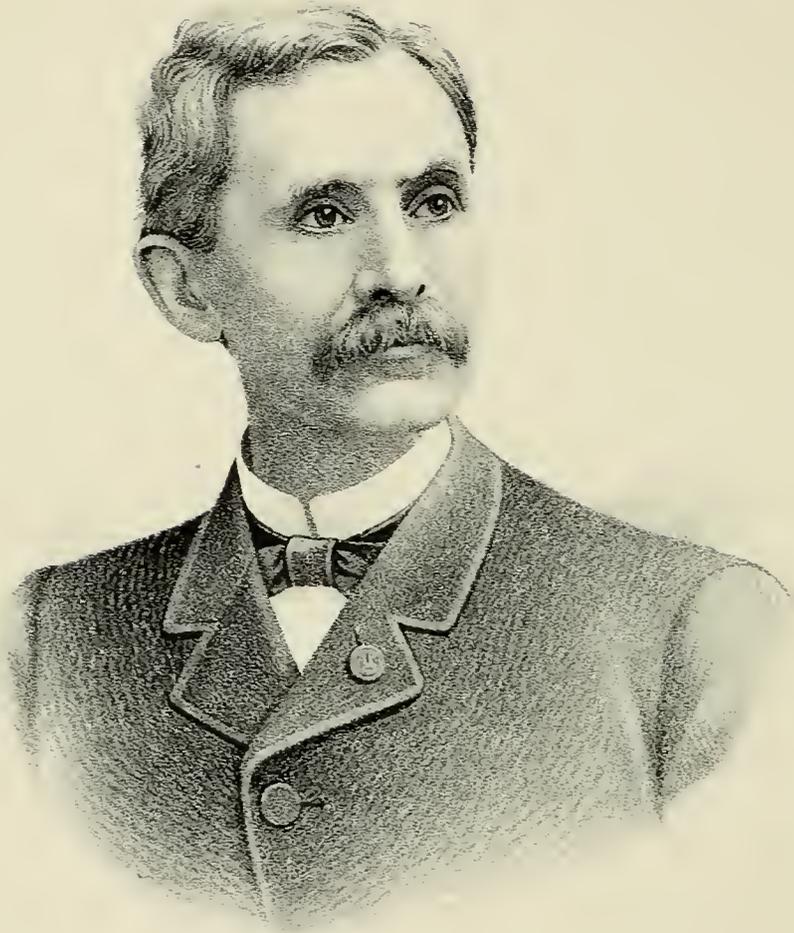
elect John A. Logan, he voted for the war chief on every ballot, even alone when all the other Republicans had gone over to the Hon. E. B. Lawrence and the Democrats and Independents elected Judge David Davis. At this session, also, was passed the first Board of Health and Medical Practice act, of which 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.





J. W. Fisher



JOSEPH WILSON FIFER. This distinguished gentleman was elected Governor of Illinois November 6, 1888. He was popularly known during the campaign as "Private Joe." He had served with great devotion to his country during the Rebellion, in the Thirty-third Illinois Infantry. A native of Virginia, he was born in 1840. His parents, John and Mary (Daniels) Fifer, were American born, though of German descent. His father was a brick and stone mason, and an old

Henry Clay Whig in politics. John and Mary Fifer had nine children, of whom Joseph was the sixth, and naturally with so large a family it was all the father could do to keep the wolf from the door; to say nothing of giving his children anything like good educational advantages.

Young Joseph attended school some in Virginia, but it was not a good school, and when his father removed to the West, in 1857, Joseph had not advanced much further than the "First Reader."

Our subject was sixteen then and suffered a great misfortune in the loss of his mother. After the death of Mrs. Fifer, which occurred in Missouri, the family returned to Virginia, but remained only a short time, as during the same year Mr. Fifer came to Illinois. He settled in McLean County and started a brickyard. Here Joseph and his brothers were put to work. The elder Fifer soon bought a farm near Bloomington and began life as an agriculturalist. Here Joe worked and attended the neighboring school. He alternated farm-work, brick-laying, and going to the district school for the succeeding few years. It was all work and no play for Joe, yet it by no means made a dull boy of him. All the time he was thinking of the great world outside, of which he had caught a glimpse when coming from Virginia, yet he did not know just how he was going to get out into it. He could not feel that the woods around the new farm and the log cabin, in which the family lived, were to hold him.

The opportunity to get out into the world was soon offered to young Joe. He traveled a dozen miles barefoot, in company with his brother George, and enlisted in Company C, 33d Illinois Infantry; he being then twenty years old. In a few days

the regiment was sent to Camp Butler, and then over into Missouri, and saw some vigorous service there. After a second time helping to chase Price out of Missouri, the 33d Regiment went down to Milliken's Bend, and for several weeks "Private Joe" worked on Grant's famous ditch. The regiment then joined the forces operating against Port Gibson and Vicksburg. Joe was on guard duty in the front ditches when the flag of surrender was run up on the 4th of July, and stuck the bayonet of his gun into the embankment and went into the city with the vanguard of Union soldiers.

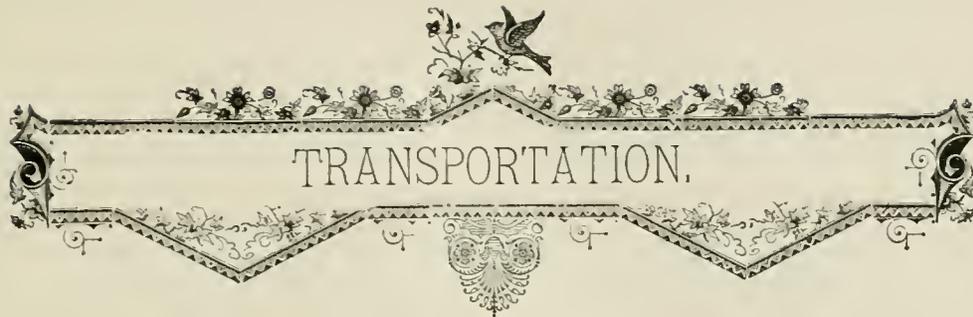
The next day, July 5, the 33d joined the force after Johnston, who had been threatening Grant's rear; and finally an assault was made on him at Jackson, Miss. In this charge "Private Joe" fell, terribly wounded. He was loading his gun when a minie-ball struck him and passed entirely through his body. He was regarded as mortally wounded. His brother, George, who had been made a Lieutenant, proved to be the means of saving his life. The Surgeon told him unless he had ice his brother Joe could not live. It was fifty miles to the nearest point where ice could be obtained, and the roads were rough. A comrade, a McLean county man, who had been wounded, offered to make the trip. An ambulance was secured and the brother soldier started on the journey. He returned with the ice, but the trip, owing to the roughness of the roads, was very hard on him. After a few months' careful nursing Mr. Fifer was able to come home. The 33d came home on a furlough, and when the boys were ready to return to the tented field, young Fifer was ready to go with them; for he was determined to finish his term of three years. He was mustered out in October, 1864, having been in the service three years and two months.

"Private Joe" came out of the army a tall, tanned, and awkward young man of twenty-four. About all he possessed was ambition to be somebody—and pluck. Though at an age when most men have finished their college course, the young soldier saw that if he was to be anybody he must have an education. Yet he had no means to enable him to enter school as most young men do. He was determined to have an education, however, and that to him meant success. For the following

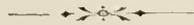
four years he struggled with his books. He entered Wesleyan University Jan. 1, 1865. He was not a brilliant student, being neither at the head nor the foot of his class. He was in great earnest, however, studied hard and came forth with a well-stored and disciplined mind.

Immediately after being graduated he entered an office at Bloomington as a law student. He had already read law some, and as he continued to work hard, with the spur of poverty and promptings of ambition ever with him, he was ready to hang out his professional shingle in 1869. Being trustworthy he soon gathered about him some influential friends. In 1871 he was elected Corporation Counsel of Bloomington. In 1872 he was elected State's Attorney of McLean County. This office he held for eight years, when he took his seat in the State Senate. Here he served for four years. His ability to perform abundance of hard work made him a most valued member of the Legislature.

Mr. Fifer was married in 1870 to Gertie, daughter of William J. Lewis, of Bloomington. Mr. Fifer is six feet in height and is spare, weighing only 150 pounds. He has a swarthy complexion, keen black eyes, quick movement, and possesses a frank and sympathetic nature, and naturally makes friends wherever he goes. During the late Gubernatorial campaign his visits throughout the State proved a great power in his behalf. His happy faculty of winning the confidence and good wishes of those with whom he comes in personal contact is a source of great popularity, especially during a political battle. As a speaker he is fluent, his language is good, voice clear and agreeable, and manner forcible. His manifest earnestness in what he says as well as his tact as a public speaker, and his eloquent and forceful language, makes him a most valuable campaign orator and a powerful pleader at the bar. At the Republican State Convention, held in May, 1888, Mr. Fifer was chosen as its candidate for Governor. He proved a popular nominee, and the name of "Private Joe" became familiar to everyone throughout the State. He waged a vigorous campaign, was elected by a good majority, and in due time assumed the duties of the Chief Executive of Illinois.



# TRANSPORTATION.



**ONE** of the most important factors in the business development and prosperity of a city, county or State, is its railroad communications. A retrospect of the history of Shelby and Moultrie Counties since the advent of railroad facilities, will convince the careful observer of the immense benefit resulting from the introduction of this essential adjunct of commercial enterprise. The following brief sketches of the leading railroads of this section of the great commonwealth will form an interesting feature of this Record. It may be remarked in this connection that the roads referred to are not only the important corporations of Illinois, but stand among the first in the Nation.



## The Wabash.

**T**O the public and our thousands of readers in general:—It will no doubt be interesting to all if we give a brief description of this road. The Wabash, as now known, has been operated under several names from time to time. It is the offspring, as it were, of the first line of road projected in Illinois, then known as the Northern

Cross Railroad, extending from Danville to Quincy. This was chartered in 1837, and upon it the first locomotive was placed in the winter of 1838-39, running from Meredosia, on the Illinois River to Jacksonville. In 1842 the road was completed from Jacksonville to Springfield, and three trips were made per week. The track was of the old flat rail style, which was made by nailing thin strips of iron on two parallel lines of timbers placed at the proper distance apart and running lengthways of the road. The engine as well as the road soon became so impaired that the former had to be abandoned, and mules substituted as the motor power. However such locomotion was destined to be of short duration, for the State soon after sold the entire road for a nominal sum, and thus for a short time was suspended one of the first railroad enterprises in Illinois. But in the West a new era—one of prodigious industrial activity and far-reaching results in the practical arts—was dawning, and within thirty years of the temporary failure of the road mentioned, Illinois had outstripped all others in gigantic internal improvements, and at present has more miles of railroad than any other state in the Union.

The Great Western, whose name has been successively changed to Toledo, Wabash & Western, Wabash, and Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific, and Wabash railroad, and The Wabash, the last of which it still bears, was an extension of the Northern Cross Railroad, above mentioned, and traverses some of the finest portions of Illinois, Indiana and

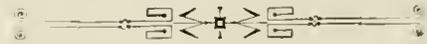
## TRANSPORTATION.

Ohio. It soon became the popular highway of travel and traffic between the East and West. Through a system of consolidation, unparalleled in American railways, it has become a giant among them, and has added many millions of dollars to the value of bonds and shares of the various companies now incorporated in the Wabash system. The road takes its title from the river of that name, a tributary of the Ohio, which in part separates the States of Illinois and Indiana. In looking over the map of the Wabash Railroad it will be seen that the line extends through the most fertile and wealthy portions of the United States, having termini at more large cities than any other Western Road. It was indeed a far-reaching sagacity which consolidated these various lines into the Wabash system, forming one immense chain of commercial activity and power. Its terminal facilities are unsurpassed by any competing line. Its established in commodious quarters in St. Louis. The lines of the road are co-extensive with the importance of the great transportation facilities required for the products of the Mississippi Valley. This line passes through the States of Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan.

The various lines of road may be divided into the following:

	Miles.
St. Louis to Chicago.....	286
Toledo to Kansas City.....	662
St. Louis to Des Moines.....	360
Logansport to Detroit.....	207
Chicago to Laketon Junction....	123
Clayton to Keokuk.....	42
Bluffs to Quincy.....	105
Streator to Forest.....	37
Attica to Covington.....	15
Champaign to Sidney.....	12
Edwardsville to Edwardsville Crossing .....	9
Bement to Altamont and Effingham	63
Brunswick to Omaha.....	225
Roseberry to Clarinda.....	21
Salisbury to Glasgow.....	15
Centralia to Columbia.....	22
—————	
Miles of main line and branches...	2204

From the above main line and branches as indicated, it will readily be seen that the Wabash connects with more large cities and great marts of trade than any other line, bringing Omaha, Kansas City, Des Moines, Keokuk, Quincy, St. Louis, Chicago, Toledo and Detroit together with one continuous line of steel rails. This road has an immense freight traffic of cereals, live stock, various productions and manufactured articles of the West and the States through which it passes. Its facilities for rapid transit for the vast productions of the packing houses of Kansas City and St. Louis, to Detroit, Toledo and the eastern marts of trade, is unequalled. A large portion of the grain productions of Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois and Indiana, finds its way to the eastern markets over the lines of this road. The Wabash has always taken an advanced position in tariffs, and its course toward its patrons has been just and liberal, so that it has always enjoyed the commendation of the business and traveling public. The road bed is one of the best in the country, and is ballasted with gravel and stone, well tied and laid with steel rails. The bridges along the various lines and branches are substantial structures. The depots, grounds and general property of the road are in good condition. The management of the Wabash is fully abreast of the times. The road is progressive in every respect. The finest passenger cars on the continent are run on its lines, and every effort made to advance the interests of its patrons. The passenger department is unexcelled for the elegant and substantial comfort afforded travelers. On several of the more important branches of the system, dining cars are run.



### Illinois Central Railroad.

**T**HIS is one of the largest corporations in Illinois, and with its splendid terminal facilities in Chicago, and its numerous suburban trains has been a potent factor in building up the South Side and South Chicago, while at the same time enriching itself. Its management has always been careful and conservative, and it is not

## TRANSPORTATION.

too much to say that it has been most potential in developing many of the rich agricultural districts of the State, besides fostering and encouraging the growth of towns and cities along its line. As this was one of the early roads of the State it will not be uninteresting to give a brief history of its inception:

In September, 1850, Congress passed an act, and it was approved by President Fillmore, granting an aggregate of two million, five hundred and ninety-five thousand and fifty-three acres to aid in building this road. The act granted the right of way and gave alternate sections of land for six miles on either side of the road. The grant of land was made directly to the State. On the 10th of February, 1851, the Legislature of Illinois granted a charter to an Eastern company to build it, with a capital stock of \$1,000,000. The Legislature in granting the charter and transferring to the corporation the lands, stipulated that seven per cent of the gross earnings of the road should be paid semi-annually into the treasury of the State forever. This wise provision, in lieu of the liberal land grant yields a handsome annual revenue to the State; also that in the event of war, Government transportation should be furnished at a certain reduction from the prices regularly paid by the general Government for such services. The proceeds of land sales have been regularly applied to the redemption of construction bonds, and it is significant that while the original issue of mortgage bonds amounted to \$22,000,000; that amount has been so reduced that in 1891 the whole issue will be practically retired, and the stockholders will own a road in Illinois more than one thousand miles in length, fully equipped, with no outstanding liability other than the share of capital.

It may be noted here that when the general Government donated lands to the States of Illinois, Mississippi and Alabama, it was intended that through the aid derived from these lands a through artery of travel should be established between the lakes and gulf ports. Had the war not supervened the project would then have been carried out in its entirety, and the North and South movement of traffic would have been fully developed, but the enforced delay in carrying out the original pro-

gram was utilized in building up the State of Illinois, and in perfecting the track of this road. Strict attention to local business has always been a marked characteristic of the Illinois Central Railroad management.

By an extensive system of railroad construction and by its leased lines it has termini in many important centers of trade in the Missouri and Mississippi Valleys, as well as the great chain of lakes at Chicago. Through this vast system Chicago is brought into close connection with Sioux Falls, Dak.; Sioux City, Cedar Rapids and Dubuque, Iowa; Lyle, Minn.; Dodgeville and Madison, Wis. At Cairo the Ohio River is spanned by a magnificent steel bridge, from which point south connections are had with the great cotton mart of Memphis and the principal cities of Mississippi, and New Orleans. During the past year a fast or limited train has been put on between Chicago and New Orleans, greatly shortening the time between those points. The train consists of superb and elegant equipped Pullman sleepers, dining and smoking cars. On account of these splendid facilities this has become the favorite route between the North and South. Thus it will be seen that the great metropolis nestling on the lake, by this sinuous artery of iron is brought into close traffic relations with the leading marts in the Sunny South, as well as the semi-Arctic region of Dakota, affording the traveler both in summer and winter unsurpassed facilities for reaching a pleasant clime.



### Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad. (Fig 4).

THIS line was originally known as the Indianapolis & St. Louis. The road bed is of substantial build, well ballasted, tied and ironed. It enters the State of Illinois in Edgar County, and the principal towns which it passes through in Illinois are Paris, Charleston, Mattoon, Shelbyville, Pana, Hillsboro, Litchfield, Alton and East St. Louis. For many years after the road was built it was one of the most potential factors in promoting the material growth of Shelby County

## TRANSPORTATION.

in the central and eastern part. The line is laid through a fertile district and receives a fair proportion of traffic. It is now controlled by the Vanderbilt system and its rolling stock has somewhat improved.



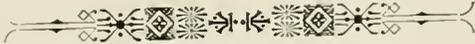
### Chicago & Eastern Illinois

IS now extending its line through Moultrie and Shelby Counties via Sullivan and Shelbyville from Danville, thus increasing the facilities for communication with Chicago.



### The Ohio & Mississippi Railroad.

THE southwest part of Shelby County is traversed by the Shawneetown and Beardstown division of the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad. The principal stations in this county are Tower Hill, Cowden, Lakewood and Holliday. The line at Flora intersects with the main road, running between Cincinnati and St. Louis.



### Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City Railroad.

THIS important road whose termini are at Toledo and St. Louis, enters Shelby County from the east at Neoga, where it crosses the Illinois Central. The two important stations in

the county are Stewardson and Cowden, other stations are Kingman, Mode, Fancher and Herrick. At Stewardson the line crosses the Wabash, and at Cowden the Ohio & Mississippi road. This line has contributed largely to the development of the southern part of the county.



### Peoria Decatur & Evansville

TRAVERSES Moultrie County from a southeast to a northwest direction, crossing the Wabash at Sullivan, the county seat. Other stations in the county are Dalton City, Bethany, Hampton, Allenville and Coles. This road opens up a market for the various products of Moultrie County with Peoria and Evansville and the many cities lying between.



### Terre Haute & Peoria Railroad.

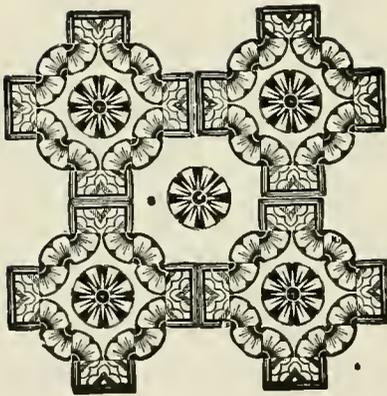
FORMERLY known as the Illinois Midland Road. It was constructed in 1872; it enters Moultrie County from the west, in the northern part of Dora Township and extends due east to Lake City, where it diverges from a straight line in a southeast direction to Lovington, where the Wabash is crossed, the next stations being Williamsburg and Arthur.

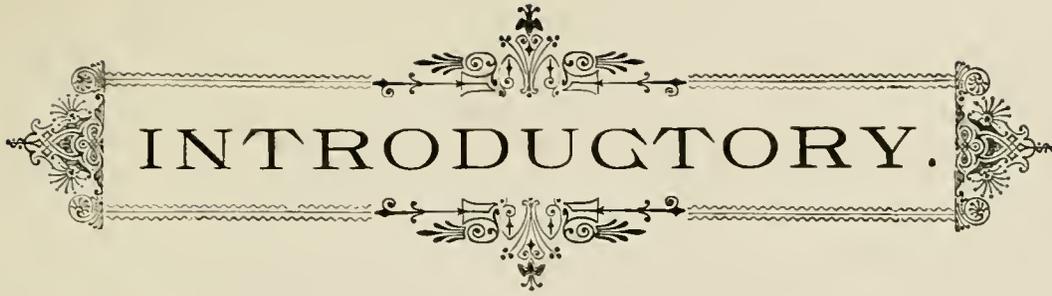




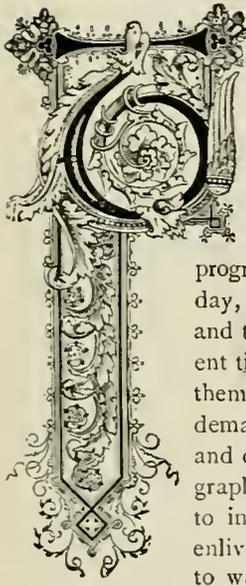
*Shelby and Moultrie Counties,*  
*Illinois.*







# INTRODUCTORY.



HE time has arrived when it becomes the duty of the people of this county to perpetuate the names of their pioneers, to furnish a record of their early settlement, and relate the story of their progress. The civilization of our day, the enlightenment of the age and the duty that 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 biographical 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 country from its primitive state may be preserved. Surely and rapidly the great and aged men, who in their prime entered the wilderness and claimed the virgin soil as their heritage, are passing to their graves. The number remaining who can relate the incidents of the first days of settlement is becoming small indeed, so that an actual necessity exists for the collection and preservation of events without delay, before all the early settlers are cut down by the scythe of Time.

To be forgotten has been the great dread of mankind from remotest ages. All will be forgotten soon enough, in spite of their best works and the most earnest efforts of their friends to preserve the memory of their lives. The means employed to prevent oblivion and to perpetuate their memory has been in proportion to the amount of intelligence they possessed. The pyramids of Egypt were built to perpetuate the names and deeds of their great rulers. The exhumations made by the archeologists of Egypt from buried Memphis indicate a desire of those people

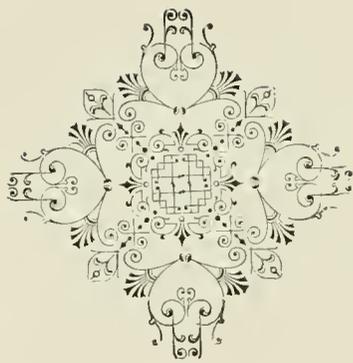
to perpetuate the memory of their achievements. The erection of the great obelisks were for the same purpose. Coming down to a later period, we find the Greeks and Romans erecting mausoleums and monuments, and carving out statues to chronicle their great achievements and carry them down the ages. It is also evident that the Mound-builders, in piling up their great mounds of earth, had but this idea—to leave something to show that they had lived. All these works, though many of them costly in the extreme, give but a faint idea of the lives and characters of those whose memory they were intended to perpetuate, and scarcely anything of the masses of the people that then lived. The great pyramids and some of the obelisks remain objects only of curiosity; the mausoleums, monuments and statues are crumbling into dust.

It was left to modern ages to establish an intelligent, undecaying, immutable method of perpetuating a full history—immutable in that it is almost unlimited in extent and perpetual in its action; and this is through the art of printing.

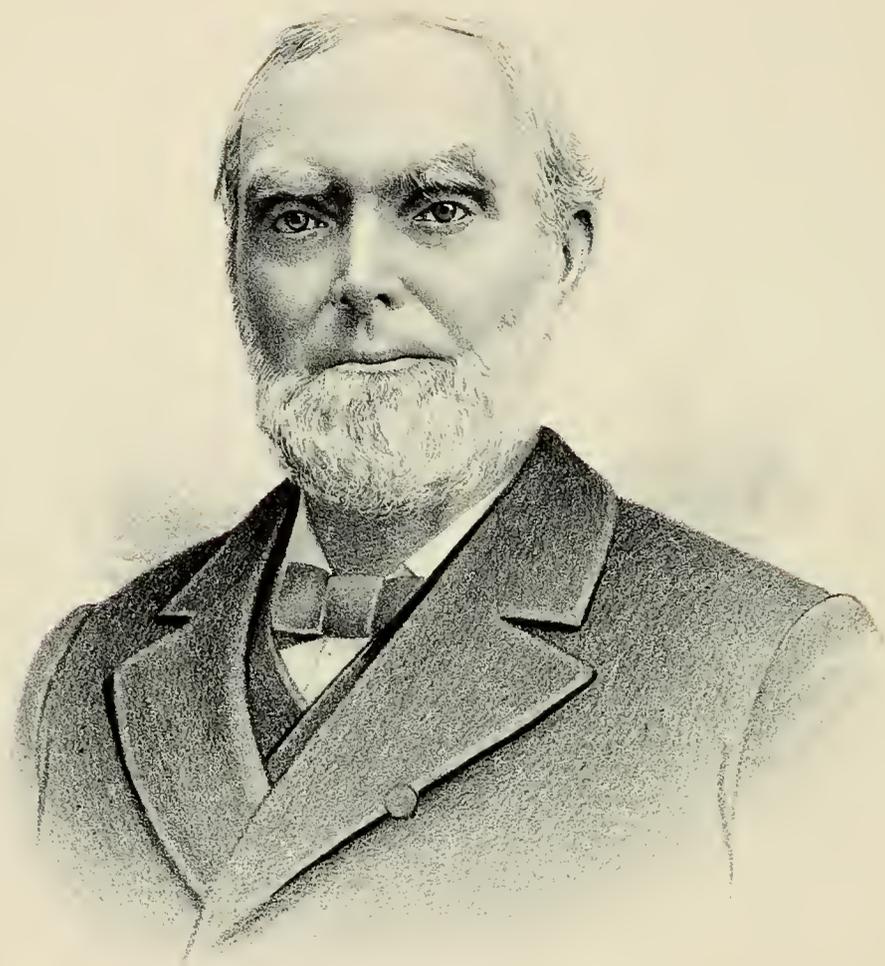
To the present generation, however, we are indebted for the introduction of the admirable system of local biography. By this system every man, though he has not achieved what the world calls greatness, has the means to perpetuate his life, his history, through the coming ages.

The scythe of Time cuts down all; nothing of the physical man is left. The monument which his children or friends may erect to his memory in the cemetery will crumble into dust and pass away; but his life, his achievements, the work he has accomplished, which otherwise would be forgotten, is perpetuated by a record of this kind.

To preserve the lineaments of our companions we engrave their portraits, for the same reason we collect the attainable facts of their history. Nor do we think it necessary, as we speak only truth of them, to wait until they are dead, or until those who know them are gone: to do this we are ashamed only to publish to the world the history of those whose lives are unworthy of public record.



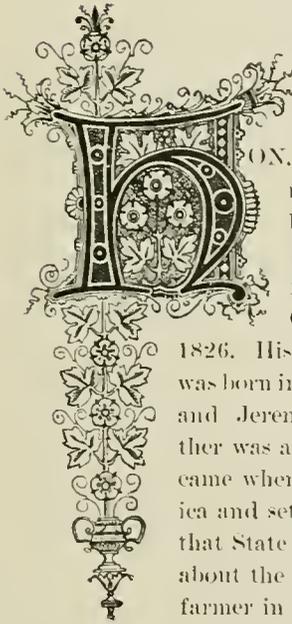




John R. Eden



BIOGRAPHICAL



**B**OX. JOHN R. EDEN, who resides in Sullivan, was born on the banks of the Licking River, eight miles from Owingsville, Bath County, Ky., February 1, 1826. His father, John Paul Eden, was born in Baltimore, Md., in 1796, and Jeremiah Eden, the grandfather was a native of England, who came when a young man to America and settled in Maryland. From that State he removed to Kentucky about the year 1800, and became a farmer in Bath County. There he bought a tract of timber land, which he cleared and turned into a rich and productive farm, making it his home until death called him away.

The father of our subject was reared and married in Bath County, and resided there until 1831, when with his wife and four children he removed to Indiana. The removal was made with teams, and the far-famed prairie schooners, in which were all their household goods. Traveling by slow stages and camping by the way, the family reached Indiana and settled in Rush County. Having entered a tract of Government land, they built a cabin in the wilderness and commenced to clear a

farm. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Catherine Can, and she was born in Kentucky in the year 1800, being a daughter of Joseph Can. In 1835 she was left a widow with six children to care for and she had a hard struggle to maintain them and keep them together. In 1852 she removed from Indiana to Illinois, and spent her last years here with a son Joseph, dying in 1870.

The subject of our sketch commenced when very young to assist upon the farm where his services were much needed. In his younger days there were no railroads, and Cincinnati was the nearest market and depot for supplies. The products of the farm formed the principal living of the family, and the mother made all the cloth which was used in the family, carding, spinning and weaving the raw material into the needed fabrics.

The first school which Mr. Eden attended, was in a cabin built of round logs. The chimney was made of sticks and clay, and the fireplace occupied nearly one end of the building. The only window was produced by a log being taken out through nearly the entire length of the building, and it had no covering of glass, but in cold weather greased paper was used to cover the aperture to keep out the wind. The benches were made of puncheon with wooden pins for legs. Holes were bored in

the logs under the window, and pegs supported a smooth puncheon which served as a writing desk for the older scholars. He was very studious, making the most of the opportunities afforded him and at the age of eighteen commenced teaching, receiving the usual salary of \$20 a month and his board. He taught during the fall and winter for seven years, occupying the remainder of the year in farming, and using every fragment of time not otherwise absorbed, to study law.

In 1852 Mr. Eden came to Illinois, traveling by railroad to Terre Haute, Ind., and thence by stage to Shelbyville, and a few days later was admitted to the bar and commenced practice. He practiced there until the fall of 1853, when he came to Sullivan and since that time has made this place the main field of his work except when absent upon official duty.

A happy and congenial matrimonial alliance was made by our subject in 1856, when he chose as his wife Roxanna Meeker, a native of Bennington Township, Delaware (now Morrow) County, Ohio. This lady is a daughter of Ambrose and Hannah (Hartwell) Meeker, and a sister of the Hon. Jonathan Meeker. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Eden comprises five living children, namely: Emma, Rose, Walter, Belle and Blanche. Rose is now Mrs. J. Martin, of whom a sketch will be found elsewhere in this volume.

Ex-Congressman Eden has always espoused the political views which had their ablest advocate in the author of the Declaration of Independence, and he cast his first vote for Lewis Cass. Ever since he came here he has been a prominent man in his district, as his natural abilities and well cultured mind have given him a commanding influence. In 1856 he was elected States Attorney for the Seventh Judicial District, which office he filled for four years. He represented the Seventh District in the Thirty-eighth Congress, being elected thereto in 1862. This was followed by his re-election, and service in the Forty-third, Forty-fourth, Forty-fifth and Forty-ninth Congresses. During this long period the boundaries, and numbers of the Congressional Districts were changed, and he represented the following counties: Moultrie, Macon, Piatt, Champaign, Ford, Iroquois, Vermilion,

Douglas, Coles, Edgar, Clark, Cumberland, Effingham, Shelby, Jasper, Crawford, Lawrence, Fayette, Montgomery and Macoupin.

The most important committees of which this honorable gentleman was a member during the various sessions, were as follows: During the Thirty-eighth Congress the Committee on Accounts and Revolutionary Pensions; in the Forty-third the Committee on Claims and the Freedmen Affairs; in the Forty-fourth he was Chairman of the Committee on War Complaints, and a member of the one appointed to investigate the Presidential election; during the next Congress he was again Chairman of the same Committee, and during the Forty-ninth he belonged to the Committee on the Judiciary and Revision of Laws. In 1868 he was a Democratic candidate for Governor of Illinois.

In every sphere of life, either professional or as a public servant, the Hon. John R. Eden has proved himself well-equipped and able to meet the serious emergencies which come before a man of affairs. As an attorney he has been successful in his practice, and has built up an extensive clientage, and as a member of Congress he worked honestly and honorably for the prosperity of the entire country and the interests of his constituents.

A portrait of the Hon. Mr. Eden accompanies this biographical notice.



GEORGE W. LONGENBAUGH is one of the old settlers in Pickaway Township, being the owner of a farm located on section 20, at Longenbaugh corners. He early learned the trade of a blacksmith and on his settlement here established his smithy in the fall of 1858. He owns a fine little home on forty acres of land. This he operates in connection with his business. He is a genial, whole-hearted fellow, necessarily well-known throughout the township, and justly popular with his fellow-men.

Our subject first came to the county in 1855, and for two years worked as a journeyman at Prairie Bird, and later he spent a little more than a

year with a partner in Moweauqua. He sold out however, his share of the establishment, and came to Pickaway Township and has here ever since been engaged, having done all the work in his line. On his advent into this county our subject was a single man. He was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, October 21, 1834, and is the son of Jacob and Catherine (Yantis) Longenbaugh, natives of Ohio, who there lived and spent their last days in Pickaway County, passing away at the age of sixty-eight years. Our subject's father, like himself, was a blacksmith and farmer. Mrs. Longenbaugh was a member of the German Reformed Church.

Our subject is the second son and third child of seven children, four of whom are yet living, he of whom we write being the only one residing in Illinois. He grew up at home, learning his trade at his father's smithy. About the time when he became of age he determined to start out in life for himself and came to this State, where he has ever since lived. Politically our subject is a Democrat, using his vote and influence for that party. He has since coming here, been Highway Commissioner and Justice of the Peace for a good many years, and is now Notary Public, having filled that office for several years.

Our subject was married in Flat Branch Township, March 11, 1858, to Miss Eliza Cockrain. She was born in Tennessee and came to Illinois when a young woman with her parents, Robert and Mary (Ray) Cockrain. On coming to the county they settled in Flat Branch Township, there procuring a farm, where a few years later the husband and father died while yet in middle life. His wife survived him for several years, finally passing away on the old farm, being quite advanced in years. They were members of the Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Longenbaugh was one of eight children, three of whom are now deceased. She was educated in her native State in the county schools, and had almost reached womanhood when her parents removed to Illinois. She and her husband are attendants upon the Baptist Church.

Eight children have come to bless the home of the affectionate parents. Of these one died in infancy. The living children are: Mary C., Sophronia J., and Samuel, who are twins, Anthony B.,

Sarah E., William W., and Joseph E. The eldest daughter is the wife of Charles Pogue, who is a farmer in this township. Samuel is a blacksmith at Prairie Bird. His twin sister, Sophronia, is the wife of Robert Hunter, who is a real estate dealer and insurance agent in Decatur, this State. Anthony B. took to wife Miss Julia Pogue, and is the proprietor of a farm in this township. Sarah E. is a teacher here, as have been the other daughters before their marriage. William W. and Joseph E. are still at home and assist their father on the farm. Our subject has given his children every educational advantage that his means would allow. They are naturally bright and easily assimilate the progressive ideas of the day.



**J**OSEPH H. VOILES is the Superintendent of the Shelby County Poor House, which is located on section 4, Rose Township. His father was Giles V. Voiles, and he was born in Decatur County, Ind. He was united in marriage with Lucinda Merritt, a native of Kentucky, and settled in his native county where he spent his days, and passed away in 1863. His wife afterward came to Shelby County where she died in January, 1885. They had a family of ten children of whom our subject was the eldest.

Joseph Voiles was born in Decatur County, Ind., December 28, 1843. His father was a shoemaker by trade, but owned and operated a farm besides following his trade. Our subject grew to manhood on his father's farm. Upon September 15, 1864, this young man who had barely reached his majority, took to wife Miss Maria J. Gentry, who was born in Franklin County, Ind., and who became the mother of ten children. Those who grew to maturity were as follows: Mary L.; Chloe, who died when about eighteen years old; Rosa E., who is the wife of Henry Sherwood; Franklin A., Oscar M., William H. and Perley. Three who died young bore the names of Henry, Alva and Catherine. Mrs. Maria Voiles died in Rose Township, February 12, 1886.

When Mr. Voiles was first married he settled in Decatur County, Ind., and engaged in farming, which business he still carried on after coming from there to Shelby County in 1870. He was married a second time in Oconee, this county, December 27, 1887, to Miss Anna M. Gould, daughter of Stephen and Jerusha (Read) Gould. Mr. Gould died in Shelby County, February 7, 1885. Of a family of seven children Mrs. Voiles is the eldest, and she was born in Union County, Ind., June 7, 1857. She is the mother of one child, Leland C.

In September, 1881, Mr. Voiles was appointed Superintendent of the Shelby County Poor House, in which capacity he has gained the good opinion of every one who understands the workings of the institution. The house is noted for its cleanliness throughout and for its good management. Much credit is due both Mr. and Mrs. Voiles for their excellent care of its inmates; and in their gentle and kindly treatment of them they have truly evinced the genuine Christian character which is theirs. They are both connected with the Methodist Church and Mr. Voiles has always taken an active part in religious work, being Class-Leader, Steward and Trustee. His political views have led him to affiliate with the Democratic party, in whose policy he firmly believes.



**T**HOMAS WOOD. To be an honorable and efficient agriculturist in the State of Illinois, where the soil responds so generously to the hand of him who cultivates it, is to be almost ensured in having a comfortable home and happy and congenial surroundings. The intelligent and praiseworthy people who settled in this State in its early days brought with them such conditions and such institutions as tended to gather about them the best class of emigrants, and they and their descendants have built up such social conditions as have tended to the prosperity and happiness of all.

We find upon section 8, Oconee Township, Shelby County, a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser in the person of Thomas H. Wood, who was

born in Woodburn, Macoupin County, this State, September 11, 1862. He is a son of J. M. and Elizabeth M. (Billiard) Wood, the former being born in Sangamon County, Ill., in 1823, and the mother in the same State in 1826. The mother, who became a widow in May, 1887, after her removal to this county, still resides on her farm in Oconee Township. The Wood family is pleased to count itself as descended from the sturdy English stock which is representative of the people who demanded from King John that noble instrument—the Magna Charta.

Eight sons and four daughters were born to the parents of our subject, namely: Perminda, now Mrs. L. Howell, of Dodge City, Kan.; Mary, who has been twice married, first to James Coffee and after her widowhood to J. C. Lemay, and now lives at Gillespie, Macoupin County; Jennie, the wife of J. S. March, of Oconee; John H., who lives with his wife, Ella Brennan, in Woodburn, Macoupin County; William J., who has been an invalid for the last fifteen years, resides with his mother; Leonard D., who is farming in Gandy, Neb., and is married to Clarissa Holbrook; Luther and Abbie, who died in early childhood; Weston, who resides in Oconee Township with his wife, Sadie Doyle; Thomas, our subject; James M., who married Gilla Combest and resides on a farm in Oconee Township; Walter B., who married Blanche Brown and lives upon the parental homestead.

The subject of this brief life review came to Oconee Township with his parents when a young lad of some twelve years, and here he grew to manhood and has made his home from that day to this. He obtained his education in the district schools of Illinois, which gave him an excellent preparation for his life work, and received thorough training upon the home farm in the practical work of agriculture. February 23, 1883, was the day of days in the life of this young man as it united him in marriage with the lady of his choice, Miss Clara B. Speaker, daughter of David and Abbie Speaker, of Oconee. She was born November 27, 1861, in this township, of Rhode Island parentage. She lost her father when a little child and her mother took a second husband, whose name is Combest. She had three daughters by her

first marriage, Mrs. Wood being the second in age, and the others being Ida M., now Mrs. Bowmer, of Providence, R. I., and Celia A., now Mrs. Murray, of Pana, Ill.

To Mr. and Mrs. Wood two sons were born—Joseph, who came to them December 17, 1883, and the youngest, who was born March 5, 1891, is Cecil. Mr. Wood has always taken an active interest in political affairs and voted with the Democratic party until quite recently when he joined the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association and now works heartily with them for the benefit of the farming community. He holds no church connection, but is an active promoter of all movements which look to the prosperity and improvement of the township, in which he owns two hundred acres of rich and productive land, most of which is situated on section 8, where he makes his home. His farm is finely improved and he lives in comparative ease, reaping the rich reward of the efforts of his earlier years.



**G**EORGE W. RICHARDSON, of Shelbyville, has for many years been closely identified with the agricultural interests of Shelby County, and is regarded as one of its most honorable and reliable citizens. He is descended from good old Revolutionary and pioneer stock, and is a native of the State of Indiana, born in Warren County August 13, 1836. His father, James Richardson, was also an Indianian by birth, born in Parke County, of which his father, John Richardson, was a very early settler.

The grandfather of our subject was a native of North Carolina and the son of a Revolutionary soldier who lost his life in battle while fighting for the freedom of his country. John Richardson passed his boyhood in North Carolina, and was there married to Mary Salers, also a native of that State. In 1800 he left his old home with his family to establish a new one in the forest primeval of the Northwestern Territory. He penetrated to the wilds of what is now Indiana, and was one of the

first white men to settle in that territory, locating in what is now Parke County. When the land was surveyed and came into the market he purchased a tract heavily timbered, from which by hard labor he cleared a farm. He was a resident of Indiana until 1834, when he sold his property there and again became a pioneer, coming to this county and buying Government land in what is now Windsor Township. He improved a large farm, upon which he lived some years, and he then once more changed his residence to still another State, going to Missouri, where he remained a few years ere he returned to this county, where his earthly pilgrimage was at length brought to a close December 31, 1865, he having attained a ripe old age. His venerable wife survived him until 1875, when she died in Big Spring Township.

The father of our subject was reared in Indiana, and in due time took unto himself a wife, marrying in Warren County, that State, Delilah Small, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Knight and Lydia Small. He bought a tract of land in that county and farmed it until 1839, when he, too, imbued with the same spirit that had characterized his ancestry, became a pioneer, coming to this State with his wife and two children, making the entire journey by land, bringing his household goods, and camping by the wayside at night. He settled in what is now Windsor Township, where he entered Government land, besides buying other land, which he has since improved into a fine farm, which is still his home. He and his family first lived in a log house that stood on the land when he bought it, but some years later he replaced that humble abode by a more commodious frame structure, and erected other suitable farm buildings. He is held in great respect by his fellow-citizens as one of the pioneers of the county who has materially contributed to its growth. Death has deprived him of the companionship of the wife of his early manhood. They reared two children—our subject and his brother John, the latter of whom occupies a part of his father's old homestead.

George W. Richardson was but three years old when his parents brought him to Illinois, and it may be said that he grew with the growth of the

county which has ever since been his home, as at that time it too was in its infancy. The country round about their new home was almost in its primitive condition, and the land was mostly in the hands of the Government, which has since disposed of it at \$1.25 an acre, or at a smaller price. Our subject attended the first schools opened in the county, that were taught in log houses. The seats were made of slabs or logs split and one side hewed smooth, and wooden pins were inserted for legs, and there were no backs to the seats. The schoolrooms were lighted by an aperture made by the removal of a log, greased paper serving instead of glass. A slab laid on pegs driven into holes that had been bored into a log in the side of the building was the primitive arrangement for a writing desk for the older pupils. When the family first came to the county deer, wild turkeys and other game in abundance roamed where are now finely cultivated farms and busy towns. St. Louis, one hundred and twenty miles away, was the nearest market to the settlers of this region, nine days being consumed in making the round trip. The people lived mostly on the products of their farms and the women spun and wove the cloth in which their children were clothed.

Our subject remained an inmate of the parental home until he married and established one of his own. After attaining manhood he worked a part of his father's farm a few years and then bought a farm for himself in the same township. In the busy years that followed he greatly increased its value by judicious cultivation and by the many fine improvements that he made, and under his thrifty care it became one of the choicest farms in the township of Windsor. In 1888 he took up his residence at Shelbyville, though he still owns and superintends his farm.

That our subject has a happy home replete with comfort is partly due to the active co-operation of his estimable wife, from whom he has always received a cheerful assistance and helpful counsel. They were united in marriage in 1855. Mrs. Richardson was in her maiden days Mary E. Bland. She was born in Licking County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Joel and Harriet (Dittenhauer) Bland. Her marriage with our subject has been blessed

with children, of whom these three are living: Ebenezer A., Palmyra and Stephen. The latter is a prosperous farmer in Windsor Township. Ebenezer, the eldest son, is one of the leading lawyers of the county. He received his early education in the district school and subsequently attended the Wesleyan University at Bloomington. He studied law with Judge Ames and H. J. Hamlin, was admitted to the bar in 1883, and has since practiced his profession at Shelbyville.

Mr. Richardson is a man of solid worth, possessing those traits that command respect in the business world and win esteem among his neighbors and associates. He and his wife are sincere Christian people as is attested by their every day conduct in all the relations of life that they sustain towards each other, towards their children and all about them. They and two of their children are members in high standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In his political views our subject is a decided Democrat. He has held important public positions with credit to himself and to the benefit of the community. While a resident of Windsor Township he represented it as a member of the County Board of Supervisors, and he was also Justice of the Peace while he lived there. He has likewise been an incumbent of that office since he came to Shelbyville, having been appointed to it in 1889, and he was re-elected to the same position in 1890.



**W**ILLIAM J. CLARK. To the city-bred man or woman who from childhood has heard of the remarkable progress of the Central States and has been constantly reading of the wonderful improvements made by various pioneers whose names wander promiscuously through the alphabet from A to X Y Z, it seems almost incredible that as late as 1871 large tracts of prairie land were taken up, the land being at that time in a perfectly wild and uncultivated state. While the progress of our country and especially the improvements in its agricultural districts are unquestionable, the fact also remains that the country is

one of such magnificent distances that here are yet opportunities for bright and energetic young men to experience pioneer life, although not, perhaps, in the sense in which the settlers of the '30s and '40s experienced it, with its privations, make-shifts and entire absence of congenial society.

Our subject located on his present farm on sections 21, 28 and 29, of Flat Branch Township, in 1871. It comprises one hundred and sixty acres, and at the time of his purchase was in a crude, undeveloped, uncultivated state, its most luxurious product being that enemy of the farmers—field daisies, with a multitude of other prairie flowers. Before securing this farm he had improved one on section 21, having come to the township and county in 1854, with his father. The latter purchased and improved a new farm, upon which he died.

Our subject was born in Warren County, Ohio, on the 29th of October, 1836. He is a son of William R. Clark, who was born in Hamilton County. His early training was that of a farmer lad, and when he reached manhood, like a majority of young men, he took the most important step of his life, that of marriage, his wife's maiden name being Miss Nancy Berger. They were married about 1830. The lady is a native of Virginia although of German parentage and ancestry. She had come to Ohio with her father and mother when quite young and was reared in Warren County.

The original of our sketch, with ten brothers and sisters, came by the overland route with his parents to Illinois in 1854. Their home during the journey hither was in the old-time prairie schooner, and it was after a long and tedious journey that they landed here. They began making their home in the new State on section 21, where the father and mother both afterward died, the former passing away in September, 1889, at the age of eighty-seven years. He was a Democrat in politics and a hearty co-worker in all progressive causes. His wife died four years before her husband, at the age of seventy-nine years.

Our subject is one of a pair of twins. He became of age after coming to this township, and was here married to Ann E. Scott, his marriage taking place in December, 1864. The lady was born in Knox County, Ind., February 1, 1835. She

is a daughter of Charles and Sarah (Weidner) Scott, natives of Indiana and Virginia respectively. They met and married in Indiana, where they spent the whole of their married lives. Mr. Scott died in 1844, at the age of fifty-six. Mrs. Scott survived her husband by a good many years, passing away in 1877. She was born in 1796. Both she and her husband were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mrs. Clark is one of a large family of eleven children. She was reared to womanhood in her county, and there enjoyed very good educational advantages, finishing her school course at Lebanon, Ind. She is the mother of but one child, Charles S., who was graduated at the Valparaiso (Ind.) Normal School, and was later connected with the county offices, holding successively positions in the County Clerk's office, that of County Treasurer and also with the Circuit Clerk. He is now engaged as the operator of a farm, in which he is very successful.

Mr. Clark has for some years past devoted himself chiefly to the raising of horses, mainly roadsters, and has acquired quite a reputation throughout the county for breeding fine animals. Mrs. Clark is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Clark and son are Democrats in politics.



**T**HEODORE F. DOVE, who is practicing law at Shelbyville, Shelby County, has gained distinction in his profession in the courts of this county, where, at one time, he occupied a prominent position as an educator, and during his residence here his name has ever been closely associated with the best efforts of the citizens of Central Illinois to promote its social and religious advancement, and its well-being generally.

Among the pioneers of Ohio who were active in its early development was the Dove family, of whom Henry Dove, the grandfather of our subject, was then the head. He was born in Rockingham County, Va., February 7, 1765, coming of one of the old Colonial families of that State, and there

he grew to manhood and married, taking as his wife Mary Magdalena Altarfer, who was also born in the Old Dominion, January 1, 1775, the date of her birth. Grandfather Dove lived in his native State until 1801, and he then took his wife and the five children that had been born to them across the border into Ohio, making the journey over the mountains and through the intervening rough country with pack horses, and there founded a new home in the primeval forests of Fairfield County, of which he was one of the earliest settlers. He had previously visited that locality in search of a suitable location, journeying on horseback and carrying his silver for the purchase of land in his saddle bags. He invested in a tract of heavily wooded land in what is now Bloom Township, paying therefor at the rate of \$2.50 an acre. There was a log cabin on the land, in which the father of our subject was subsequently born. His father replaced it after a few years by a more substantial hewn log house, 20x30 feet in dimensions, which is still standing and is used as a dwelling. For many years there were no markets for produce nearer than Cincinnati, and consequently stock was very cheap, and horses, cattle and hogs were driven to Baltimore to be disposed of. The highest priced horses would bring but \$40 at Fairfield, large hogs sold there for \$1, and steers were sold from \$6 to \$8 each. The people raised their own food, varying the fare occasionally by a haunch of venison or bear meat, or wild turkey, for all kinds of game then abounded. By years of faithful toil the grandfather cleared a farm, on which he passed his closing years serenely, dying at a good old age in 1856. His wife preceded him in death many years, dying in 1817. She was a notable housewife, was expert in spinning and weaving, and clad her children in garments of homespun.

The father of our subject grew to a stalwart manhood under the pioneer influence that he obtained in his native county in the days when he was young. The school that he attended was taught in a log house, rudely furnished with slabs for seats, which were without backs, and there were no desks such as are in use at the present day. Holes were bored in logs, into which wooden pins were inserted, and a wide plank placed upon them answered the

purpose of a more elaborate writing desk for the large scholars. Mr. Dove resided with his parents until he attained his majority, and he then began his independent career as a farmer by renting the old family homestead. He afterward purchased the interest of the other heirs, and still retains the farm, although he ceased to occupy it in 1883, when he came to Shelbyville, and is living here in retirement at a venerable age. He has always been a devoted adherent of the Democratic party since he cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Jackson more than half a century ago. Religiously, he is a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which he joined in 1829.

Mr. Dove was first married May 21, 1835 to Mary Small, who was born in York County, Pa., March 18, 1814, and was the eldest daughter of John and Elizabeth (Loucks) Small, who were also Pennsylvanians by birth. The mother of our subject died September 1, 1877, leaving behind her the record of a life spent in well-doing, and the blessed memory of a true womanhood. She was reared in the faith of the German Reformed Church, but after her marriage united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which her husband belonged. Of that marriage eight sons and seven daughters were reared to maturity, of whom twelve are living. April 19, 1883 the father of our subject was married to a sister of his first wife, Tarey Hall Small, and in her he finds a devoted companion.

Theodore F. Dove, of whom this sketch is principally written was born on a farm in Bloom Township, ten miles northwest of Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio, April 22, 1846, said farm being also the birthplace of his father, Elijah Dove, who was born there July 27, 1811. Theodore gained the preliminaries of his education in the local district schools, and afterward pursued a liberal course of study at the Fairfield Union Academy, from which he was graduated in 1869, his proficiency in mathematics having won him the compliment of being selected to teach a class in that branch while a student in that institution. He subsequently entered the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, and in due time graduated from that with a high standing for scholarship. He first turned to teaching after he left college, and was thus engaged in

his native State until 1874, when he came to Shelbyville to accept the position of Superintendent of the city schools.

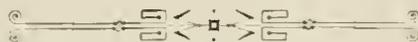
Our subject's work as an educator was, however, but a means to an end, as he purposed to adopt the legal profession, and in preparation therefor he devoted his spare time to the study of law. At the close of the school year in 1875 he returned to Ohio, and was admitted to the bar in Delaware County.

He came back to Shelbyville and resumed the charge of the schools, which flourished under his care, and he held his office until 1876. In that year he again returned to the State of his nativity, and for three months practiced law at Columbus. He next opened an office at Danville, Ill., and was in that city until April, 1877, when he came to Shelbyville to enter into a partnership for law practice with W. J. Henry. He severed his connection with that gentleman in August, 1879, and since then has carried on his legal business alone. He enjoys a good practice, and has an enviable reputation as one of our most trustworthy lawyers, and his clients feel satisfied that he will use his best efforts in their behalf, knowing also that he is well versed in all the technicalities of the common law, and understands thoroughly how to employ his knowledge to the best advantage so as to impress the jury.

The marriage of Theodore Dove with Miss Alta W. Clark was consummated December 27, 1877, and the home that they have established in this city is a cheerful, cozy abiding place, its pleasant hospitalities being one of the social features of the community, where host and hostess have made many friendships during their residence here. Their two sons, Theodore C. and Frank Roy, complete their household. Mrs. Dove is, like her husband, a native of Ohio, her birthplace at Mechanicsburg, and she is a daughter of Dr. John and Elhora (Williams) Clark.

In local affairs, our subject has done good service as a member of the Shelbyville School Board. He is unswerving in his allegiance to the Democratic party, as he believes its policy the best for the guidance of the nation. He is prominent socially as a member of various organizations, the Masonic Lodge of Carroll, Ohio; Modern Woodmen of America; and of Big Four Lodge, No. 436, Order

of Tonti. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, their names being associated with those who are most liberal in its support, and who by the daily example of lives guided by Christian principles have contributed to raise the moral standard of their community.



**LEANDER A. STORM.** Less than thirty years have passed over the head of our subject and yet he has made himself a place and recognized position in commercial life, which speaks well for the inherent qualities that he possesses. There is nothing petty about Mr. Storm's methods of dealing, and we predict that the future will bring him opportunities which he will seize, and which will carry him on the highway to prosperity. Making his headquarters in Strasburg, Shelby County, he is constantly making excursions into whatever part of the State promises a fine return in the staples in which he deals—hay and grain, and thus he obtains not only a perfect acquaintance with his own line of business, but a broad intelligence of the general aspect and condition of the agricultural class in this State.

Leander Storm is a son of Harrison J. Storm. His mother was in her maiden days, Harriet Rankin. They were both natives of Shelby County and experienced the vicissitudes of pioneer life. For a further history of Mr. Storm Sr. see sketch of J. N. Storm in another part of this volume. Our subject was born in Ash Grove Township, Shelby County, this State May 15, 1863, and astrologers would doubtless tell us that his personal and business success and the peace which the country at large is at present enjoying, arise from one and the same cause, the conjunction of certain astral bodies at that momentous period in the history of the war.

The original of our sketch was reared to manhood in Ash Grove and Big Spring Township. He received his education in the common schools. When eighteen years of age, he left home and went to California and was there employed in different ways. He remained, however, in that

State only about ten months and then returned to Big Spring Township, where he stayed until the completion of his twentieth year. He then was united in marriage to Miss Annie Cox, after which he settled in Big Spring Township, and was engaged in farming until the fall of 1888 when he came to Strasburg, where he has since been a resident.

Mr. Storm is now engaged in buying and shipping hay and has given his attention to this business since 1889. His marriage took place in Shelby Township. Two children have come to the young people, Raymond, who died in infancy, and a bright little one who is the joy and pride of her fond parents, and who bears the pretty child name, Flossie. In his political preference our subject is a Democrat. He is the owner of a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, that is very valuable land. He is an enterprising young business man who is sure to make his mark in the world.



**F**REDERICK DOEHRING, The owner of the farm located on section 36, of Richland Township, is a most loyal and appreciative German-American citizen. Full of energy and vitality Mr. Doehring has not allowed himself to be distanced in his agricultural efforts by any of his neighbors. He was born in Germany, September 21, 1821, and he has now arrived at a point where he can look back upon the changes of his own life in relation to the changes that, as a whole, have taken place during nearly three-quarters of a century. He was reared on a farm in his native land and there remained until he was twenty-three years of age when he came to America. He landed in New York and from there went to Ohio.

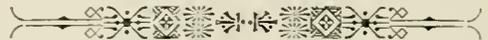
The Bohemian spirit seemed to have possessed our subject at this period of his life, for from Ohio, he removed in quick succession to Kentucky, Indiana, remaining a while in St. Louis, Mo., thence came to Madison County, this State, where he settled and began the serious business of life, remaining there twenty-six years, during which time he was engaged in the business of farming. In the

spring of 1869 he came to Shelby County and settled in Richland Township, where he has ever since been a resident, and to which he has given the efforts and results of his mature and ripened years.

Mr. Doehring has erected a good set of buildings upon his farm which comprises three hundred and twenty acres. He was married in Madison County, this State, about 1848, to Dora Brockmeier, who was born in Germany. By her he became the father of six children, three of whom are living. They are Frederick, Herman and Dora, all names that are associated with some of the greatest productions in German literature. The daughter is now the wife of Lewis Miller.

Mrs. Dora Doehring died January 11, 1889. She was a good and capable housewife, a tender helpmate and fond mother, ambitious for her children, and self-sacrificing to any degree that they might have every advantage. What better eulogy can we give the mother than that she made home pleasant? Mr. Doehring has always followed the calling of farming, in which he has been reasonably successful. In his political relations he is a Democrat, believing that that party works more for the interest and advantages of the people at large than any other.

Mr. Doehring has filled several public offices in the township gift. While in Madison County he held the office of Supervisor for one year, and discharged its duties satisfactorily to its constituents. He, with his family, is a member of the Lutheran Church. The farm upon which he at present lives bears evidence of careful attention, thoroughly well cultivated, its buildings are in excellent order and our subject's home residence is the epitome of comfort and neatness. He is a good man and a good citizen.



**h**A. STEWARDSON, of the firm of Hamm & Stewardson, of Strasburg, Shelby County, is an enterprising and able young business man. The firm of which he is junior member deals in hardware, agricultural implements and furniture, stoves and tinware. Although not yet

thirty years of age he is the owner of some fine land in this county, aside from the position that he holds in the firm, and in which he is building up a reputation for business tact and talent, and a keen foresight in financial matters that make him rank already with the best business men in the township. Mr. Stewardson comes from a good family who are noted among their acquaintances for their practical and common-sense views of the affairs of daily life.

Mr. Stewardson's father was Thomas Stewardson, who is now a resident of Shelbyville Township. His mother in her maiden days was Sarah C. Brady. They were the parents of thirteen children, and of these our subject was the fourth in order of birth of the second set of children. He was born in Shelbyville Township November 25, 1862. (For a fuller history of his parents see sketch of Thomas Stewardson in another part of this volume.) Our subject grew to manhood in his native county. He received a good common-school education in the schools of the vicinity, and he passed his early life in a divided attention to school duties and assisting with the work of the farm until he was twenty-one years of age, remaining during that time under his father's roof. He then for a period of a year and a half engaged in farm labor for other farmers in the neighborhood. At the end of that time he came to Strasburg and was employed by J. N. Storm as clerk in his store for a period of about six years.

On leaving Mr. Storm's employ our subject was for six months engaged in farming and August 1, 1890, he formed a partnership with Martin Hamm, to engage in the business of which they are now proprietors. He has ever since devoted himself to the interests of the firm, which carries a fine stock of implements, and which is doing a good business. He is besides the owner of forty acres of land in Richland Township, which is well cultivated and valuable land. The calling of agriculture, however, is not the one to which our subject feels himself best adapted, preferring to deal more intimately with men.

Our subject left the rank and file of bachelors February 24, 1886, and was united in marriage to Elnora Davis, who was born in this county. Their

wedding was solemnized in Windsor. The young couple have had three children, whose names are Ethel, Mamie and Myrtle. The second child, Mamie, is deceased. Politically he of whom we write affiliates with the Democratic party. He has been Justice of the Peace for about two years and is well qualified to fill any position in the gift of the township. When a man has made such a success of life at Mr. Stewardson's age, the world has reason to expect of him unqualified success in the future. Having already shown his ability, he will be given prominent positions both in public and private affairs.



JOHN W. MIDDLESWORTH. Somebody has said that the most desirable thing in life is to be well born, but there is a different way of construing the expression among different classes of people. The writer's idea of good birth is the endowment of a fine physical constitution, crowned and sanctified by high mental and moral faculties, and having parents in whom shine "high erected thoughts, seated in hearts of courtesy." As Oliver Wendell Holmes says in his charming conversations over the teacups, the selection of parents should be attended to several years before one's coming into the world, and all sociological questions should be carefully balanced. In the case of our subject this last consideration happened naturally and without his interference. He is a son of A. Middlesworth, of Shelbyville, an honorable, upright and worthy man, to whom his son is much indebted, both physically and mentally. A sketch of the gentleman may be found in another part of this volume.

Our subject was born in Shelby County, Ill., September 11, 1860, when the country was in the throes of secession and discussion was ripe over the decision of the Dred Scott affair. However, when he was old enough to understand these matters the strife was ended and the country was resuming its normal condition. Farmers who had left the plowshare to take the rifle and sabre had returned to their homes and resumed the duties of agricultural

life. When John Middlesworth was eleven years old his father removed to Shelbyville in order to give his children better educational advantages. There our subject received his education and continued living under his father's roof until his marriage, which occurred October 10, 1883. His wife's maiden name was Alice Stewart; with her he experienced but one year of domestic bliss as her decease took place July 10, 1884.

Later our subject was united in marriage with Atloe Brooks, their nuptials being celebrated September 28, 1885. The present Mrs. Middlesworth is a pleasing and attractive lady. She is a daughter of Josias W. and Martha D. (Selby) Brooks and one of seven children, there having been three sons and four daughters in her parents' family. Mrs. Middlesworth being the youngest daughter. She was born in Moweaqua, Ill., January 28, 1867. Her interest centers in her home and family, which includes three bright and attractive children. Their names are: Raymond B., William W. and Glen S. He has long followed the calling of farming and is now the owner of four hundred and sixty-six acres of finely improved land. Many valuable improvements have been made upon his farm.

He of whom we write has long taken an active part in political affairs and has been an office-holder in the township in which he has lived. He is an adherent of the Republican party. His townsmen have shown their confidence in his executive ability and sound judgment by giving him one of the most important offices in the township gift, that of School Director. He and his wife are earnest Christian people and members of the Presbyterian Church.



**D**ANIEL KESLER, one of the prominent business men of Cowden, Shelby County, carries a full line of agricultural implements and deals extensively in grain. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, February 20, 1845, his father, John, being a native of the same county, and his mother, Mary (Lear) Kesler, being born in Lancaster, Pa. They were happily

united in marriage in Fairfield County, Ohio, June 1, 1843, and became the proud parents of seven sons and two daughters, six of whom were born in the county just named and the three youngest came to them in Shelby County, this State.

Among the children of John and Mary Kesler, our subject was the first-born. Following him came Isaac who is engaged in the lumber business in Cowden; Samuel who carries on farming in Dry Point Township; Simon who is an invalid and resides with his brother, our subject; John who farms in the township just named, as does also Charles, the next son in age; Laura, now the wife of Albert L. Crumley, who resides in Cowden and whose husband is associated with her brother Daniel in the grain and implement business; William is a telegraph operator and station agent in Edna, Kan., and Alice died at the age of twenty-one after having married Albert L. Crumley who later became the husband of Laura.

The father of this family, with Daniel and Isaac, was a soldier during the Civil War. He was a member of the Fourteenth Illinois Infantry and died of typhoid fever at Louisville, Ky., June 18, 1865. His wife is still living at Cowden. Daniel enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Forty-third Illinois Infantry and served bravely for seven months. Most of his time was spent in the Southwest, as he was assigned to duty in Arkansas. Isaac belonged to the same regiment as his father and served gallantly for nine months, being then discharged on account of peace being declared.

Daniel Kesler chose as his partner to share life's joys and sorrows, Miss Elizabeth Thompson, a daughter of John Thompson, of Ohio. She was born in Pickaway County, that State, where she lost her parents by death previous to coming to Illinois. The marriage took place March 14, 1865, and proved to be a true union and one which led up to a life of more than ordinary domestic happiness and prosperity. They are both earnest and active members of the Free Methodist Church and they find in its communion and duties comfort in the trials of life and broad opportunity for usefulness.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kesler have been born eight children, six of whom are now living. Mary Nettie





*Respectfully Yours*

*E. Roessler*

is married to Lincoln Bechtel and resides on a farm in Dry Point Township; Elmer and Charles who are both unmarried and reside at Pullman, Ill., near Chicago, are in the employ of the Pullman Palace Car Company. The next daughter, Annie, makes her home with her parents, and the younger ones, Harry and Bessie, are still at home. Two lovely infants, John and Lola Belle, were snatched from their parents' arms by death.

He of whom we write is well known throughout the length and breadth of Shelby County as an honorable business man, possessing the esteem and confidence of all with whom he is associated in business. He deals in grain, stock and agricultural implements and has at present the control of the stock business at Cowden. This is a patriotic family who did not hesitate when the call came for volunteers to defend the old flag and the eternal principles of liberty in which they had been brought up. Political matters with them are based upon moral issues and a hatred of slavery and a love for their country became a controlling influence. They cheerfully sacrificed the comforts of home and yielded with resignation to the loss of their father when the time came. During all Mr. Kesler's earlier years he was a Republican in his sentiments and vote, but a few years ago became a Prohibitionist and has since voted with that party on legislative and national issues.



**HON. EDWARD ROESSLER.** In this sketch we present to the attention of our readers a short record of the life history of a man who is well known in Shelby County, not only on account of his honorable war record, but also as the former representative of this district in the Legislature of the State of Illinois. We also invite the attention of the reader to his portrait on the opposite page. His father, Christian Roesler, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and came to America in 1815, locating in Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio. He learned the trade of a wagon-maker in the Old Country and pursued that

business at different places in Europe. A skilled and competent workman, he earned an excellent reputation for thoroughness and efficiency. Upon coming to Lancaster, Ohio, he engaged in business for himself, and his work was noted far and wide for its excellence and completeness. He continued thus employed in Lancaster until 1832, when he sold out and purchased a farm in Fairfield County, where he turned his attention to farming and made it his home until 1849.

During the year just mentioned Christian Roesler sold his farm in Ohio and emigrated to Illinois, settling in what is now Rose Township, Shelby County. There he continued to live until his demise, which occurred in September, 1861. His marriage in Lancaster united him with Elizabeth Miller, who was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, in the year 1799. She lived until July, 1871, when she passed away in Rose Township. Both Christian Roesler and his wife were earnest in their religious life as members of the Lutheran Church. He ever took an active part in local affairs and was efficient in helping to build the old Indianapolis & St. Louis Railroad when it passed through Shelby County, and was a stockholder in that company. He had a family of four sons and two daughters—Reuben, Edward; Regina, who is the wife of B. Christman; Andrew; Philip, and Elizabeth, who is the wife of Charles Pfeiffer.

Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio, is the native town of our subject, who was born January 13, 1825. In that town his early years were passed, and he was about nine years old when his father removed to the farm, where the boy grew to manhood, alternating his attendance at the district school with the healthful pursuits of farm life. He continued to remain at home until he had reached his majority and then enlisted, in 1846, with his brother Reuben, in the United States Army for service in the Mexican War. Edward became a member of Company B, Fourth Ohio Infantry, and was in service all through the war. The most important engagement in which he took part was the battle of Monterey. He was mustered out of the service at Cincinnati, Ohio, and returned to Lancaster, the same State.

The young man had determined to come West, and in the spring of 1849 he removed to Shelby County, Ill., with his father's family. He bought about two hundred and forty acres and his father some five hundred acres, all of it in Rose Township. During the season he set about improving his land and preparing to establish his home in the new country. During the latter part of the summer he returned to the old home in Fairfield County, Ohio, and was there married August 5, 1849, to Anna Stumpf, who was born in Verden, Hanover, Germany, her birth occurring February 14, 1831. She was two years old when she came with her parents to Ohio, her father being Gearhart Stumpf, and her mother's maiden name being Catharina Luehrs. The mother died of cholera in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1848, and the father did not long tarry, but passed away after reaching Rose Township in 1852.

Mr. and Mrs. Roessler are the parents of twelve children, namely: Reuben, who died in infancy; David, who married Charlotte Wetzel; Solomon, who married Susie Kellogg, and is a military engineer in the Regular Army; Charles, a farmer, who married Emma Wetzel, now deceased; John, who took to wife Anna Harbour and is a professor in Valparaiso Normal School; Anna, now the wife of George Wendling; Amelia, who married Edward Wagoner; Clara, who is Mrs. Adolph Reiss; Charlotta, the wife of William Zollinger; Minnie, who is engaged in the Hoopston College, of Hoopston, Ill., as a teacher of vocal and instrumental music, in which she is very proficient; George and Henry.

On the breaking out of the Civil War Mr. Roessler took an active part in forwarding enlistments, and himself raised an independent company, of which he was commissioned Captain. His company was assigned to the Fifty-fourth Illinois Infantry, and he afterward raised two companies, which were assigned to the same regiment. In consequence of his energy and zeal he filled the office of Colonel, although not regularly commissioned, and remained in that position until he resigned in November, 1862.

In the fall of 1870 the subject of this sketch was elected to the Twenty-seventh General Assembly

of the State of Illinois. He filled this responsible position with ability and satisfaction to his constituents, and has continued to take an interest in political matters, especially in local movements. He was elected the first Supervisor of Rose Township, after the organization of that township, and served in that capacity for about ten years, and for several years was Chairman of the Board.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Roessler are prominent members of the Lutheran Church and are active workers in its schemes of benevolence. They are liberal contributors to all church purposes and helped generously in the project of constructing a new house of worship. Our subject's chief business in life has been the pursuit of agriculture and he is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres, upon which he has placed good improvements, including excellent and commodious buildings.



**ABIA CHIPPS.** Located in the fertile valley of Jonathan Creek, is a farm of four hundred acres, located on section 15, of the township which takes its name from the water supply. Picturesque and beautiful are the meadows, pasture, orchard and wood lot of the farm, and happy should be the owner of so fine a place. The fortunate man who is possessor of this land, is he whose name is at the head of this sketch. He settled in the county in the fall, November 26, 1858, and since that time, has here made his residence, applying his time and attention to the up-building and cultivation not only of his own possessions, but also to the improvement and the elevation in tone, of the whole community.

Abia Chipps was born in Harrison County, W. Va., June 8, 1852, and is a son of Asa W. and Melvina E. (Duvall) Chipps, natives respectively of Morgan and Harrison Counties, W. Va. They were married in their native State, in 1851. The family came to this county in 1858, and purchased eighty acres of raw land. This is now beautified and made valuable by a fine walnut grove which was planted by our subject. The mother of the

family died April 1, 1863. She had six children, of whom four lived to be grown. They are Abia, Kate, Addie and Jefferson E. Kate is now the widow of John Landers; Addie is the wife of R. D. Curd, and resides in Des Moines, Iowa; Jefferson E. operates a farm of his own.

Our subject's father was a second time married, this union being with Mrs. Mary S. Adams *nee* Barton, and in 1877, he removed with his family to Columbia, Mo., remaining there for fourteen years and then returned to this county. By her previous marriage, Mrs. Chipps, Sr., was the mother of one son, whose name was James Williams. Politically the father was a Democrat, and held local office.

Our subject was reared on a farm and educated at the Academy of Mount Zion, Ill. A thoughtful young man, fond of study and of original research, he developed a liking for pedagogic work, and engaged for some time in teaching, in which he continued even two years after his marriage, which was solemnized January 1, 1877, his bride being Miss America E. Lilly, who was born in this county. After marriage our subject purchased eighty acres of land, and this amount with its proceeds, he so carefully husbanded, that he is now the owner of four hundred acres of land. He is engaged in the business of stock raising, which he finds very profitable, bringing much of his stock to the metropolitan markets.

Our subject and his wife are the parents of seven children, whose names are as follows: Hallie, Willis; Clifford, who is deceased; Raymond, Earl, Alta and Paul. Politically our subject is a member of the Democratic party. He has been Supervisor of the township for five terms, and has held various minor local offices. Socially he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.



**W**ESLEY M. METSKER. A large and well-improved farm in Tower Hill Township, Shelby County, is owned and occupied by Mr. Metsker, and its possession gives conclusive evidence of the ability with which he has prosecuted his calling. It consists of two hundred acres

on section 17, and is embellished with substantial buildings for the shelter of stock and storage of grain. A passer-by will note with pleasure the orderly arrangement and neatness characterizing the place and the evidences of a pleasant home life that are seen about the residence.

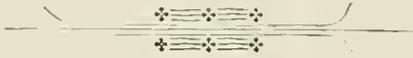
The family of which our subject is an honored representative originally came from Germany. The immediate progenitors of Mr. Metsker were John and Sarah (Mowan) Metsker, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively. There were born to them six children, our subject being the second. The father died in Stark County, Ohio, at the age of seventy-two years; he was an honorable man, whose memory is revered in the hearts of his children. The mother died at the residence of our subject in Tower Hill Township in 1885.

The gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, September 6, 1834 and was reared to manhood in his native place. He lived on a farm although his father followed the occupation of an engineer in a blast furnace. He attended the district schools, where he became practically well informed in ordinary branches of study. Upon attaining to the opening years of a stalwart manhood Mr. Metsker in a few years earned enough to admit of his establishing a home, and accordingly he was married in Canton, Ohio, in November, 1858, to Catherine Heck, a native of Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and born about 1836.

The young couple settled in that county where they continued to reside until 1865. In that year they removed to Illinois, choosing as their home section 17, Tower Hill Township, Shelby County, and here Mr. Metsker has since resided. Six children came to bless the home, a record of whom we give below: John W., married Miss Nellie Dean and is a farmer in Colorado; Martha; Mary, is the wife of Charles W. Wolf, a farmer of Tower Hill Township; Alice married James Bottsford; Emma and Lewis are still at home. The wife and mother died at her home November 4, 1871.

Mr. Metsker was again married, choosing as his bride Miss Elizabeth Heck, the sister of his former wife, and they have three children—Fred, Augustus and Perry. Mr. Metsker has always been en-

gaged in agricultural pursuits and has embellished his farm with good buildings. Politically he casts his ballot for the candidates of the United Labor party, the principles of which he believes will best subserve the welfare of the Government. He has held the important office of School Director and has in other ways been closely identified with the progress of the community. Mrs. Metsker is a faithful member of the Lutheran Church and enjoys the esteem of her large circle of acquaintances.



**J**OHN P. GLASSCOCK. The agricultural community of Whitley Township, Moultrie County, is one of the prime elements in the industrial and financial success of the county. It is notable as being of a superior order, both in intelligence and enterprise and nowhere can be found more efficient farmers or finer-looking farms. Among these capable agriculturists we name with pleasure and pride the gentleman of whom we are now writing.

Asa Glasscock, the father of our subject, was a native of Virginia and his mother, Mary (Penquite) Glasscock was a Pennsylvanian by birth. The Old Dominion was the scene of their marriage and they shortly afterward emigrated to Kentucky settling in Fleming County in 1816 and living there for a number of years. Asa Glasscock finally died in Mason County, Ky., and his wife passed away in Warren County, Ohio. They had eleven children of whom our subject was the youngest.

Fleming County, Ky., is the native home of John P. Glasscock and April 22, 1825 was his natal day. In this county he passed his early years, a little later emigrating to Mason County and afterward to Warren County, Ohio, where he grew to manhood. The varied experiences of his early years and the thorough drill which he received upon the farm added to his natural ability, producing a fine and vigorous young manhood, well equipped to undergo the struggles of life.

In Warren County, Ohio, this young man met the lady whom he chose from all the world to be

his life companion, and he was married in 1845 to Catherine Crosson, by whom he had five children, namely: Mary C., Sarilda, Margaret E., Catherine S. and one who died in infancy. The lovely mother of these children died while the family still resided in Ohio and somewhat later our subject was married in Warren County to Elizabeth Mount, who also became the mother of five children—George G., Ruth A., Martha A., Frances Anna and U. S. Mrs. Elizabeth Glasscock died in Whitley Township in 1887 upon the 12th of September.

It was in 1869 that Mr. Glasscock determined to remove from Ohio to Moultrie County, Ill., and here he settled upon section 16, Whitley Township, where he has ever since been a resident. Upon his farm here he has placed excellent buildings and his home is not only attractively located but is also a place where friendly and social gatherings are held and where neighbors ever feel that they are welcome. Mr. Glasscock has been Highway Commissioner, having filled that office with satisfaction and profit to his township. He has ever taken a fair degree of interest in local politics and is considered one of the sound Republicans of that section of the county.



**I**SAAC HORN. An honorable citizen and a thorough business man, a practical mechanic, and the representative of a worthy family is to be found in Isaac Horn, who is now a farmer and stock-grower residing on section 29, Sullivan Township. He was born in Washington County, Pa., July 30, 1832. His parents John and Mary M. (Gantz) Horn, as well as his paternal grandparents were natives of Pennsylvania, while the great-grandparents on that side came from Germany.

The subject of this sketch worked with his father upon the farm in Pennsylvania until he reached the age of nineteen years, when he worked at the carpenter's trade until 1870, at which time he made his permanent home on a farm in Moultrie County, Ill. It was in 1865 when he came to Illinois and on account of failing health being obliged to stop

his mechanical work he decided to settle upon a farm. For several years past he has done but little more than to superintend his various interests in Moultrie County.

The marriage of Mr. Horn, February 13, 1870, united him with Miss Barbara A. Hudson, a daughter of J. J. Hudson, for whose family history, the reader will please see the sketch of Isaac Hudson upon another page. Of the Horn family there were twelve children born, seven sons and five daughters, namely: Martin, who resides on a farm in Knox County, Ohio; George C., who lives on the old homestead in Washington County, Pa., which was entered from the Government by the great-grandfather of our subject; two girls who died in early childhood; Hugh N., who resides in Henry County, Iowa and is engaged in farming; our subject; Mary M., the widow of W. M. D. Price, who resides in California; Hannah, who married first Eleven Alva, who died in 1868, and is now Mrs. Squire Woodruff; Jacob, who enlisted in a cavalry organization afterward known as the Ringold Cavalry, and having served three years died a few days after the expiration of his term of service, passing away in Clarysville Hospital, Md.; John, who died in Pennsylvania when sixteen years old; Sarah Maria, wife of George Coogle who resides in her native county and William M. who owns a portion of the old homestead in Pennsylvania a fine tract of three hundred and four acres which was divided between George and William.

Isaac Horn was the financier of the family and in his early days undertook the difficult task of saving the old homestead from the relentless hand of a security debt which was contracted by the father. By dint of a tremendous effort and the sacrifice of years of his early manhood the property was saved and he afterward sold his interest, as did the other heirs, to the two brothers. The parents passed away in Pennsylvania.

To our subject and his estimable wife six children came: the eldest, a son, died in early infancy; the second a girl died when nine months old; Leslie C., was born August 3, 1877; Doy O., February 3, 1882; Earl A., April 12, 1884; and Chester July 3, 1886. When Mr. Horn came to Illinois in 1865,

he brought with him the results of his savings at the carpenter's bench and his share from the sale of the old homestead, making in all about \$7,000. This he invested in lands and improvements in Sullivan Township. Mrs. Horn had inherited two hundred and seventeen acres and to this her husband has added at different times by purchase until they now own eight hundred and sixty-two acres of fine farming and timber lands. Fine improvements and good buildings are upon the place. One of their farms, a tract of three hundred and five acres, located near Sullivan, is usually rented out on shares.

This gentleman has ever taken a thoroughly intelligent interest in public affairs and his political convictions have led him to ally himself with the Republican party, but office he has never sought and has often declined, as he prefers home-life and the quiet pursuit of agriculture to the turmoil of the political arena. He has accumulated a fine property, the income from which will afford him and his family a good living during their lives.



**J**OHN R. McCLURE, a successful general grocery man, doing business on the east side of the public square at Sullivan, Moultrie County, has recently erected a fine, two-story brick building, 70x25½ feet with a basement, where he is carrying on an extensive business. His first store was opened in January, 1857, since which time he has been a successful merchant, with the exception of fourteen years, during which time he engaged in farming in Sullivan Township. He has lived in this county since October, 1853, making his home either in Sullivan or vicinity, and ever showing himself an energetic and public-spirited citizen.

Mr. McClure is active in local politics, being warmly attached to the Democratic party, and was at one time an Alderman of the city. He is deeply interested in schools and a promoter of the cause of education. He was born in Franklin County, Ind., August 8, 1835. His father, Lewis D. McClure being also a native of that county and a son of Will-

iam McClure, a Kentuckian who came of Scotch-Irish descent, but whose parents were born in Virginia. They came to Kentucky in the time of Daniel Boone and became pioneers near Lexington.

William McClure became a farmer and was married in Butler County, Ohio, to Miss Phebe Eads, an aunt of the late Capt. Eads who built the great bridge at St. Louis, and also the builder of the Mississippi River jetties. Some years after marriage this couple, about the beginning of this century, removed to Franklin County, Ind., and there spent the remainder of their days, being past middle life at the time of their decease. They were consistent and earnest members of the old-school Baptist Church. Lewis D. McClure, the father of our subject, was born and reared in Franklin County, Ind., and learned the trade of a blacksmith which he followed for a number of years, after which he undertook farming. He was married in Franklin County to Miss Elizabeth Rockefeller, a kinswoman of the great oil speculator. Her parents, John and Mary (Thorp) Rockefeller, were early settlers in Franklin County, coming there in 1805 from Trenton, N. J., and there remaining through life. They were Methodists in their religious convictions.

After the birth of three children Lewis D. McClure and wife left Indiana with a team and wagon and after a long and tedious journey landed in Clark County, Ill., where they settled upon the farm where they now reside, Mr. McClure having reached the age of seventy-eight years and his wife being now eighty-two. They have both been active workers in the Methodist Episcopal Church throughout life and they are enjoying a quiet and peaceful old age.

John R. McClure is the eldest of six children, all but one of whom are still living. When eighteen years old he set out for himself, coming to Sullivan County, where he began life as a poor boy with but little means, and has now accumulated a comfortable but modest fortune. His marriage to Miss Sophronia Tichenor, a native of Sullivan County, Ind., occurred in this county. She died in the prime of life, leaving two children—Edgar who is at home and assists his father; and William, who took to wife Laura Matterson, and lives in Sullivan City, although he also assists his father a part of

the time, but is a printer by trade. Mr. McClure was the second time married in Sullivan, Miss Julia Calkins, who was born in Licking County, Ohio, becoming his wife. Her father, Uranius Calkins, lived to the age of four-score years, and her mother is still living in Licking County, being now about three-score and ten. Mr. and Mrs. Calkins were efficient and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. McClure, like her husband, is a member of the Methodist Church, and is a true and good woman. She is bringing up her five children in the Christian faith and giving them the best advantages possible for an educational and domestic training. Their names are Charlie, Ida, Cora, Flora and Elmer. Mr. McClure is a charter member of the lodge of Odd Fellows, and also of the Masonic lodge at Sullivan.



**R**EV. ELLJAH GOLLOGHER. The work of a minister in the Western States has ever entailed a great degree of severe labor and privation, and the brave men who have undertaken the work of the preacher among new settlements have had abundant opportunity to emulate apostolic self denial and zeal, and have many of them quite undermined their health by the severe efforts which they passed through. Such an one is our subject who now resides in Stewardson, Shelby County, and who was born in Holland Township, March 21, 1841.

Mr. Gollogher is the son of Wesley and Sarah (Middlesworth) Gollogher, who were natives of Fairfield County, Ohio. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Thomas Gollogher, was born in Ireland and came to the United States while a young man. While living in Pennsylvania, he was united in marriage to a lady of German birth and soon removed to Fairfield County, Ohio, where they reared a pioneer family of eight sons and two daughters. Wesley Gollogher was the seventh son in that family, and he like his father, became a farmer by occupation and in 1837 removed to Indiana.

In 1839 the father of our subject came to Shelby County, Ill., and settled in Holland Township, pur-

chasing a small claim and entering some three hundred acres of land. Here he made his home until 1878, when he removed to Shelbyville, where he died January 28, 1880. He and his affectionate and faithful wife had been most harmoniously related in their wedded life and their separation by death was brief, as her passage to the other world took place February 28, 1880, just one month after his. In their religious life they had been connected with the Methodist Church and were valuable and valued workers therein.

The children of this worthy couple are Mrs. Mary J. Allen who resides in Wallace, Neb.; Sarah A. who is now Mrs. S. W. Wilson and resides near Shelbyville; Elijah, our subject; Louisa M., married the Rev. David Gay and makes her home in Decatur; Minerva, whose husband, N. P. Smith, is a physician in Paris, Ill.; Thomas J. who resides in Shelby County, and Lucy M. who married H. B. Smith M. D. of Shelbyville.

Farm training and the life of a school boy in the common schools of Shelby County, filled up the early years of our subject, but he did not take all of his education by any means in the school-house, for he has carried it on through life as he is an extensive reader and a man who delights in the pursuits of literature which is broadening and improving in its effects upon his mind. In 1866 he left the farm and for six years was in the grocery trade at Shelbyville, after which he returned to the farm for five years.

Elijah Gollogher was but sixteen years old when he gave himself to Christ and became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Being a nominal member of the church did not satisfy him as he became at once an active worker in both church and Sabbath-school, and for many years devoted himself to the work of a local preacher.

It was in 1876 when this earnest man became a member of the Illinois Conference, after which he located as pastor at Oconee for two years, at Lovington for two years and one year at Stewardson. Not having had the advantages of a thorough education in his boyhood, he endeavored to supplement this while carrying on his pastoral work, and owing to over exertion his health failed. This obliged him to devote himself again for four years to the culti-

vation of his farm, after which he became pastor for one year at Bismarek, then for three years at Murdock, and one year at Lerna, but on account of throat trouble he was obliged to leave the ministry permanently and in the fall of 1890 he erected a beautiful residence at Stewardson where he hopes to make his home for life. He owns eighty acres of land in Prairie Township, upon which he is carrying on fruit raising.

The Rev. Mr. Gollogher was married May 22, 1862, to Rebecca E. Young, a daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Wertman) Young, who has proved a faithful and true-hearted companion. This lady was born in Christian County, Ill. The Democratic party commanded the respect and vote of our subject in his early life but it was not long before he decided to ally himself with the organization which placed Abraham Lincoln in the Presidential chair. His deep and serious interest in the cause of temperance leads him now to vote for prohibition and to work for its success in both the moral and political field.



**T**HOMAS PORTER was born in one of the early pioneer homes of Central Illinois, on a farm fifteen miles southwest of Springfield, April 14, 1831, and consequently has witnessed much of the development of this part of the State from a wilderness. And not only that, but he has aided in its growth by his work as a practical farmer in Shelby County, where he now owns a valuable farm, finely located in Moweaqua Township.

Our subject's father, Henry Porter, was born in Maryland, and came from there to Illinois in 1826. He was one of the first settlers of Sangamon County, and for a few years resided on Lick Creek, where he busied himself in farming the virgin soil. He then became a pioneer of Christian County, and with his limited means he bought forty acres of timber that was partly grown, and after he had built a log house to shelter his family, he commenced to clear his land. He remained a resident of that county many years, living to see it well

developed, and died there at the venerable age of ninety years. In early manhood he married Nancy Bowles, who was likewise a native of Maryland, and she died on the home farm in Sangamon County.

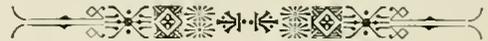
Our subject was but three years old when his parents removed to Christian County, and he was brought up amid pioneer surroundings, as at that time the country was very sparsely inhabited, deer, wild turkeys and other kinds of game being very plentiful where there are now productive farms and busy towns. There were no railways, and the nearest flour mill was in Sangamon County, fifty-five miles distant. People lived off the products of their farms, their limited fare being occasionally varied by the addition of game, and corn meal was the principal breadstuff.

When Mr. Porter was eight years old he went to live with John Campbell on the banks of Lick Creek, and remained with him three years. The sturdy, independent little lad then cared for himself after that, and used to earn his living by working out by the month or day. For some years he was employed in a saw-mill, and in due time he was enabled to marry and establish a home. After marriage he turned his attention to farming in Shelby County, on a farm owned by his father-in-law in Flat Branch Township. He farmed there sixteen years, and at the end of that time bought his present farm, which is classed among the finest in all Moweaqua Township. Its two hundred and eighty acres are admirably tilled and yield large harvests in repayment for the care expended upon them, while its improvements are of a good order, including three sets of commodious frame buildings.

In January, 1857, Mr. Porter was married to Miss Julia Ann Stombaugh, and in her he found all that a true wife can be to her husband. She was a tender mother to their children, of whom there are five living: Mary Catherine, wife of John T. Haslam; Eliza A., wife of George B. Carrington; Sarah Isabelle, wife of Wesley Snell; Dudley, who married Mary Prescott; and Ida G., wife of Eugene Harper. Mrs. Porter who was a daughter of Martin and Catherine (Trauglber) Stombaugh, was born in Tennessee July 27, 1828, and died in the

home in this township that she had blessed so many years March 15, 1891. She was a Christian in word and deed, and was a devoted member of the Protestant Methodist Church.

In this summary of the life of our subject it is shown that he is a self-made man, who began to make his own way in the world at a much earlier age than is usual with boys, and with down-right hard labor, seconded by thrift and prudent management, has become possessed of a comfortable property, so that he is well fortified against poverty, and can pass his remaining years free from the necessity of incessant toil. He is a thoroughly good citizen, a man of sterling honesty, and has led a consistent Christian life since he joined the Protestant Methodist Church in 1861 with his wife. In politics he is a Democrat, tried and true.



**THOMAS L. LEGGITT.** This successful farmer and old soldier who resides on section 7, Whitley Township, is the son of Thomas N. Leggitt, who was born in Licking County, Ohio, and of Evaline E. Kliver, a native of the same place. There they were married and made their first home and thence removed in course of time to Vigo County, Ind., where they resided a year before coming to Edgar County. There they settled and remained permanently for eleven years, after which they returned to Indiana and purchased a farm in Vigo County where they lived for five years. Thomas N. Leggitt then sold out his Indiana farm and removed to Kansas, settling near Independence where he died in 1889. His bereaved widow survives him and is making her home with her children in Kansas City.

Of the fourteen children of this worthy couple our subject was the third in order of age, being born in Licking County, Ohio, August 9, 1842. He was still residing under the parental roof when the Civil War broke out and President Lincoln made his first call for troops, our young man promptly enlisted in the service of his country, the date of his enlistment being April 20, 1861. He joined Company G, Forty-third Indiana Regiment,





Yours Truly  
E. A. Pyatt M.D.

and served until August 29, 1862, when he was mustered out of service.

But this short period of warfare did not satisfy the young soldier and he recruited and was mustered in again in Company B, Seventy-first Indiana Regiment, or Sixth Cavalry, serving in that company until September, 1865, with the exception of three months during which he was in Company E, of the same regiment. He was wounded at Moore's Landing, Ark., the ball going through his left hand. All through this period of conflict he was the same brave, unflinching, intrepid soldier, worthy of trust and reliance and full of enthusiasm for the old flag and the Union. He never felt that he did or could do too much for his native country and its institutions of liberty.

When the war was over our young hero returned to his father's home in Edgar County, Ill., but remained with him only a few months as he had now resolved to strike out for himself. In March, 1866 he came to Moultrie County and began work by the month, afterward going to the home of an uncle and remaining two years.

In Moultrie County this young man found the lady who was to be his companion through life and was united with her in marriage April 20, 1871. She was a widow at the time of her marriage with him, her name being Mrs. Julia A. Whitfield, *nee* Reed. She was a native of Moultrie County, having been born here November 11, 1844. After marriage they settled in Whitley Township where he has since been a resident.

The six children who have been granted to Mr. and Mrs. Leggitt are Thomas L., Clara J., Mary E., Julia E., William A. and Olive A. William A. died when only nine months old but the other children have lived to be the joy and comfort of their affectionate and judicious parents. Mr. Leggitt has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits and is a successful man in his work. One hundred and fifteen acres of rich soil constitutes his farm, upon which he has made excellent improvements. Of his war record he may truly feel proud as it proved the stuff of which he was made and all who knew him in that relation are proud to say that he did good service and his full duty by his country in her hour of need. At the time

he was mustered out he had the rank of First Corporal. The buildings upon his farm are first-class and his home is a delightful one, within the walls of which he and his amiable wife extend toward their friends a gracious hospitality.



**E**LEAZAR A. PYATT, M. D. To attain distinction in any one of the learned professions is the proud ambition of many a man who is struggling through the early portion of his career, but it is looked forward to as the prize to be gained toward the end of the race, and when then gained it may well be accounted as having been worth a struggle. We occasionally, however, know of an instance when a man still young has attained to this high position, and his success is certainly worthy of applause and emulation. Such was the success of Dr. Pyatt, of Bethany, Moultrie County, during the early days of the Civil War, when he was placed in a position of responsibility and trust which established his reputation for all time.

Dr. Pyatt, who located in this county in 1868, and is therefore the oldest physician in Bethany, was born in Yancey County, N. C., October 9, 1832, and is a son of Joseph and Jane (Brooks) Pyatt, both of North Carolina, the latter being of Scotch descent. The grandfather of Joseph Pyatt was born in Coventry, England, of French parentage and came to the United States when only sixteen years of age, just before the breaking out of the Revolutionary War. He immediately attached himself to the cause of political liberty and served all through that period of conflict and shared in the struggles and hardships of Washington's army. At the conclusion of the war he settled in Burke County, N. C., and engaged in farming, though he was a hatter by trade.

The father of our subject was reared a farmer, and having married in his native State, North Carolina, resided there during his entire life, and dying at the age of seventy-four years. He and his worthy wife reared two sons and four daughters and our subject is the fourth in order of birth. He was

the only one to choose a profession, as the others have all been abundantly satisfied with the pursuit of agriculture. Burnsville Academy in his native county gave to him a thorough education and prepared him excellently for the pursuit of his professional studies which he began at a very early age.

When only twenty-five years old the Doctor was prepared to commence practice and located at Poor Hill, Tenn. He subsequently entered Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, and took his diploma from that institution in 1861, soon after which he entered the Confederate army. He was mustered in as a private but as soon as his talents and his professional skill became known he was made Assistant Surgeon-General, having charge of the Eastern Department of the Tennessee during the formation of those forces, some twenty thousand men being mustered into service in that department. After the duties of that position was discharged Dr. Pyatt was appointed Regimental Surgeon of the Nineteenth Tennessee Infantry, where he remained until the close of the war, being especially active during the engagements at Shiloh and Stone River.

After the war Dr. Pyatt went to Virginia and was married October 16, 1865, in Washington County, that State, to Ann E. Mahaffey, daughter of Hugh Mahaffey. She was a native of the county in which her marriage took place, having been born there July 20, 1845. After marriage the young couple settled in Hancock County, Tenn., whence in 1867 they came to Illinois and foreigh months were located at Mt. Zion, from which point they removed to Bethany. Dr. and Mrs. Pyatt have had six children, one of whom died in infancy and another, Mary Grace, married Warren A. Wilkinson and died April 23, 1891, leaving one son, Walter A., who is now deceased. Those who are living of the Doctor's family are: Edward C., a druggist at Brownsville, Ore.; George A., who is now attending Lincoln University; Lulu Pearl and Anna Dorothy.

Dr. Pyatt is a Democrat in his political views, but is not extremely partisan, notwithstanding the fact that he was connected with the Confederate service, but he esteems it his duty to take enough interest in local matters to cast his vote on election

day. In regard to his large and lucrative practice and the handsome property which he has accumulated, he may truly be styled a self-made man, for he had but \$3.00 and a horse when he made his home in Tennessee after leaving his native State, and he was obliged to pawn his horse for six months' board. This, however, was only the beginning, as he at once commanded an extensive practice and was never again in straightened circumstances. He has easily accumulated property, as he has both the professional and business qualities which lead to success, and he now has over nine hundred acres of finely improved farming land, upon which he has placed over \$9,000 worth of tiling. His land is all in Marrowbone Township, near Bethany, and is considered one of the best farms in the township. His residence is said to be the finest in Moultrie County and it is not only beautiful in the exterior and delightfully located, but it is also furnished throughout with good taste and is the scene of cordial hospitality and domestic happiness. He is connected with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, which he has joined since coming to this county, as he had formerly belonged to the Old School Presbyterian Church.

A lithographic portrait of the Doctor accompanies this sketch.



**T**HOMAS H. GRAHAM, Circuit Clerk of Shelby County, is a native of this State and a representative of one of the early pioneer families of Illinois. He is a veteran of the late war, and he is well known and honored as one of Shelbyville's most worthy citizens. He was born in Coles County, April 20, 1839. His father, Martillas Graham, was born at Ft. Harrison, Ind., November 25, 1811. He was a son of Jonathan Graham, who was born in North Carolina, January 12, 1788. He was one of the pioneers of Indiana, where he located in territorial days on a tract of timber land in the vicinity of Ft. Harrison, and he cleared a farm from the wilderness. At the time of his settlement there Indians were more numerous than the whites, and were oftentimes

troublesome, and during the War of 1812 he accepted the advice of Gen. Harrison to retire to the fort. He left the most of his belongings in his cabin, and that night after he had removed to the fort his home was ransacked by the Indians and the block house was fired. He continued to reside at the fort until 1831, when he sold his farm to Thomas Springer, father of the Hon. William Springer, and removed to Illinois. He spent one year in Coles County, and then coming to Shelby County, bought a farm one mile above town on the river. There was a gristmill on the place operated by horse power, and he managed that, while his sons carried on his farm. A few years later he sold that property, and returning to Coles County, bought a home seven miles north of Mattoon and later entered Government land in the same locality. He lived there some years but after the death of his second wife he spent the rest of his life with his children. The maiden name of his first wife, grandmother of our subject, was Annie Hill. She was born November 20, 1786, and she died on the farm in Shelby County.

The father of our subject was reared and educated amid the primitive scenes of the pioneer days of his native State. Later he accompanied his parents to their new home in the wilderness in this State, and followed farming with his father in this county until the family returned to Coles County, when he entered a tract of land from the Government, his claim being located seven miles from Mattoon on the line of Moultrie County. He built a frame house on the place, and at once began the hard work of reclaiming his land from its natural wild condition. There were no railways, and as there was no market for grain he fed his to his stock, which he drove to St. Louis or Chicago to sell. After living there two years he returned to this county, and became prominently identified with its manufactures, purchasing a carding-mill at Shelbyville, which was operated by horse and ox power. He built an addition to the mill, and at the time of his death, which occurred January 25, 1851, he had just introduced machinery to start a fulling-mill. He was a man of much energy of character and enterprise, and his removal while yet in life's prime was a serious loss to the interests of

the county, where his name is still cherished as that of an honored pioneer who helped to lay the foundations of its prosperity.

The parents of our subject were married August 5, 1835, and the maiden name of his mother was Phananda Williams. She was born in Pulaski County, Ky., December 5, 1813. Her father was the Rev. Baylis Williams, a native of Virginia, coming from one of the wealthy old families of that State. He inherited slaves, but as he was opposed to the institution of slavery, he liberated them and removed to a free State. He resided in Pulaski County, Ky., of which he was a pioneer, until 1830, when he came to Illinois with his wife and seven children, journeying thither with teams, bringing along household goods, and driving his stock. For four weeks the family traveled, camping and cooking by the wayside at night and on Sundays, and at length arrived in this county, and settled one mile south of Shelbyville. The grandfather bought six hundred and forty acres of land in that vicinity, three miles south of the town, and there his mortal career was brought to a close in 1831. Thus early the influence of this good man was lost to his community. He was of a strong, versatile character, and besides being a practicing physician, was a preacher of much local fame in the Methodist Episcopal denomination, and oftentimes he preached to his fellow-pioneers in the log court house. His mortal remains were deposited in the Ridge Cemetery. The maiden name of his first wife, the maternal grandmother of our subject, was Elizabeth Bowen. She died in Kentucky in 1817. The venerable mother of our subject still resides in Shelbyville. She retains in a remarkable degree her mental faculties, and is greatly respected for the genuine worth of her character. She has been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since 1832. Her husband joined in his youthful days, and was an earnest Christian and supporter of the church until the day of his death. In his politics he was an old-line Whig, and was opposed to slavery.

The subject of this biographical review laid the foundation of his education in the public schools of this State, and at the age of twelve years entered a printing office to learn to set type. His

employer soon suspended, and the ensuing two years the lad was engaged at various kinds of work, and attended school during the winter sessions. At the age of fourteen he again entered a printing office, and worked therein until 1857. He then accepted a position as clerk in the Circuit Clerk's office at Shelbyville and acted in that capacity until 1859, when he started for the Territory of Kansas, going by rail to St. Joseph, Mo., and thence by stage to Lawrence, which was then a village of about two thousand people. The ensuing year he was engaged there as manager of a sawmill, but in the fall of 1860 he gave up that position to resume his old trade in a printing office, where he was employed until July, 1861. In that month he started with others for the Rocky Mountains, making the journey across the plains with six yoke of oxen. At that time there were but very few white settlers between St. Joseph and the Rockies, and buffaloes and other wild animals roamed in large herds across the sterile plains known as the "Great American Desert."

Mr. Graham roughed it as a frontiersman in the mountains nearly a year, and then retraced his footsteps to Kansas, where in July, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, Twelfth Kansas Cavalry. He was soon detailed to serve in the Commissary Department, and rendered valuable aid in that important branch of the service until after the close of the war. He was honorably discharged with his regiment at Ft. Leavenworth in July, 1865, and returning to Lawrence, he continued his residence in Kansas until 1868, when he came back to his old home at Shelbyville. From that time until 1881 he was a clerk in different law offices, and in that year was appointed Deputy County Clerk. He retained that position until 1886, and was after that clerk in a law office until he was elected to his present office as Circuit Clerk in 1888, for a term of four years. His selection for this important position was a wise one in point of qualification and experience, and he is performing the work connected with it with characteristic zeal and devotion to his duty.

As a gentleman of unimpeachable integrity and high standing in the county where so many years of his life have been passed, our subject is looked

upon with consideration and genuine respect by all who know him. He is sound in his political views, which are in accordance with the tenets of the Democratic party, which has in him an earnest supporter. Socially, he is allied with the Black Hawk Lodge, No. 183, K. of P. He is a Director in the Laborers' Loan Association, and has helped to make it a success.



**E**PHRAIM H. COOK, of Shelbyville, is one of the most popular, keen and wide-awake of the men whose liberal, progressive and far-sighted methods have been potent in the making of this county. He has in various ways borne a part in its upbuilding and in the extension of its industrial interests for more than thirty years, and today is widely known as one who has been influential in the introduction and breeding of fine horses in this section of the state.

In Washington County, Md., is the birthplace of our subject, two miles from Hagerstown, and he first opened his eyes to the familiar scenes of his boyhood October 2, 1834. His father, John Cook, was a native of Franklin County, Pa. He was married at Greencastle, his native State, to Miss Hannah Hoffman, who was born in Baltimore County, Md. and died in Funkstown, the same State, in 1848, leaving five children—John, George, Ephraim H., Eliza and William. The father was a blacksmith, and removing from Greencastle to Funkstown, he followed his trade there for a time and then opened a hotel. He resided there until his death in 1857, and his community was thus deprived of one of its most substantial citizens who was greatly respected.

He of whom this brief life-record is written was educated in his native town, and at the age of seventeen the energetic, self-reliant youth began an apprenticeship at Hagerstown to learn the trade of a carpenter and joiner. He served two years, and having gained an accurate knowledge of his calling he worked at it on his own account at Greencastle, Pa. one season, and at Baltimore, Md., for the same length of time. With characteristic foresight and

business acumen he judged that the more newly settled regions of the great Prairie State offered a wider field to men in his line than the older portions of the country that had long been inhabited, and he resolved to take advantage of such opportunities as he might seize here to build up his fortunes, and in 1855 we find him located at Mt. Morris, in Ogle County. He was actively employed at his trade there until 1859, and in that year took an important step in life in then making this county his future residence, which has accrued to his benefit as well as to that of the community at large. He has ever since made Shelbyville his home. He carried on the business of contractor and builder for some years, was instrumental in introducing a style of architecture useful as well as ornamental, and some of the best buildings here, including the Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches are monuments to his skill. He is a man of large enterprise and by no means confined his attention wholly to his work as a contractor, but branched out in other directions, and at the same time was interested in a flouring mill at Windsor and in a saw-mill ten miles south of the city, also engaged in the lumber business and farming, and for a time was interested in the foundry.

Soon after coming here Mr. Cook bought his farm, which is a valuable and well improved property, advantageously located three miles east of the city. It is admirably adapted to stock-raising purposes, and Mr. Cook devotes it principally to the business of breeding horses, and with such success that he is the owner of some of the finest thorough-breds, draft and trotting horses in the country. At the present time he has four stallions, one of them an imported English draft horse and one an imported Clydesdale. He is the owner of the celebrated "Hazel N." of the Hambletonian and Membrino stock, registered number 11,600. He is a handsome bay with black points, and is considered one of the finest horses in the State. "Cuyahoga Chief", another of his fine horses, is a handsome black, of the Blackhawk, Morgan and Membrino Chief strains.

Mr. Cook was married in 1858 to Ellen Virginia Fouke, a native of Shepherdstown, Va., and a daughter of James and Angelina (Byers) Fouke.

They are very pleasantly situated in one of the well-appointed residences of Shelbyville, whose furnishings and surroundings are luxurious, and the cordiality and good will exercised by its generous host and hostess and others of the household toward all who enter therein is something to be remembered with pleasure. Mr. and Mrs. Cook have seven children, namely: Wilbur; Eva, wife of Charles E. Haydon; John H., Nellie, Harry, Walter and Charles.

Our subject has not stooped to query whether or no "life is worth living", but has made it so by sheer force of an active spirit and an indomitable will, guided by sound sense and high principles and seconded by a judgment in business matters that is unerring and by a masterly ability to accomplish whatever he sets his hand to. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, is liberal in his contributions for its support, and exercises true public spirit in all things that will in any way enhance the well-being of the community. He is a Republican in politics and is devoted to his party.



**J**ACOB GALSTER. As his name would indicate, our subject is of German descent, although born in the United States. His birthplace was Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and his natal day was April 4, 1843. He is now a resident on section 27, and also owns land on sections 22 and 28, Rural Township, having made a settlement in Shelby County in the fall of 1864. His parents were the Rev. Mathias and Rosanna (Haller) Galster, who were natives of Germany, and coming to the United States, were married in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and there resided until 1853, when they removed to Huntington County, Ind., whence in 1861, they came to Illinois and settled in Rural Township.

Mathias Galster, the father of the original of our sketch was a minister of the Evangelical Church for some forty years. He was a zealous worker, and had a special tact and talent in organization, having organized four churches in Illinois.

located respectively at Pana, Taylorsville, Oconee and Rural Township; also several in Ohio and in Indiana. He was born November 2, 1811, in the Kingdom of Wurtemberg, Germany, and came to America with his parents when eighteen years of age. He was converted at the age of twenty-two years, and felt that his mission in life was to preach the Gospel to the edification and sanctification of his hearers. The first services that he conducted were held in private houses. In Ohio, he founded eight new churches, and at Huntington, Ind., four churches.

On coming into Rural Township, our subject's father purchased a half section of land, and here resided until his death, which occurred March 25, 1887. His wife had preceded him by several years, having died March 8, 1880. He of whom we write, is one of five children, all of whom are grown up. Their names are Mathias, Jacob, our subject; William F., Christina and Mary. Mathias fought as a soldier in the Forty-seventh Indiana, and died while in service; Christina is now Mrs. August Postlmer; Mary married William Stanger, and died in 1885. Our subject's maternal grandfather emigrated at an early day from his native land and died in Shelby County.

Our subject came to Shelby County with his family, and May 6, 1869, was united in marriage to Elizabeth K. Mautz, a daughter of George G. Mautz, for a history of whom see sketch of Philip A. Mautz in another part of this volume. After marriage our subject settled with his wife on the place where he now resides. He owns and operates one hundred and forty-two acres of land, which is in first class condition, bearing excellent improvements.

Mr. and Mrs. Galster have had nine children, eight of whom are living. They are Rosene M., George M., Barbara, Rebecca, Elizabeth, Jacob P. F., Anna C. W., John William and Samuel E. C. The children are all vigorous and intelligent young people, who promise to be the pride and comfort of their parents in their declining years. Politically our subject is a Democrat. He has held the office of Town Collector for five years, and the confidence that his townsmen have in his judgment and ability, is evinced by the fact that he has been

elected to the position of School Director for several years. Mr. Galster was, some years ago, the victim of an accident which has made him a cripple for life. While riding he was thrown from his horse, and his foot being so firmly fixed in the stirrup, as to prevent his shaking it loose, he was dragged for some distance and broke his leg in two places. He with his wife and family are members of the Evangelical Church.



**W**ILLIAM PATTERSON, a general farmer and stock-raiser living near the city of Sullivan, Moultrie County, which place has grown from an unbroken prairie to its present populous condition since he came here in the spring of 1836, is one of the old timers of the county, and was a merchant for several years in Sullivan. He came here prior to the winter which is so famous in the annals of the county as being marked by the "sudden change" in temperature, when ice froze several inches thick in fifteen minutes according to the traditions of the old inhabitants.

Mr. Patterson took his farm when it was mostly unbroken prairie, and has achieved success, although at one time he lost a modest fortune. He still owns an excellent farm of more than one hundred acres which is well improved, but most of his property is within the city limits. While he was engaged in the mercantile business he was unfortunate and met with heavy losses, but has recovered from them. He was here before the county was changed from Shelby to Moultrie, and in the early days wild game was abundant, and he says that he has seen as many as forty deer together at one time.

Mr. Patterson is a native of this State, being born in Union County, August 6, 1817. His father, Levi Patterson, was a native of Kentucky, and his grandfather, James Patterson, was a Virginian by birth, and prominent in the War of 1812, fighting with Jackson at the battle of New Orleans, and being one of the regiments that met, defeated and slew Gen. Packingham. He is now interred in the soil of Sullivan County, having spent his last years

in this region and dying in old age. His religious belief had led him to connect himself with the Baptist Church, and his political opinions allied him with the Democratic party.

Levi Patterson was reared in Kentucky, and there married Jane Penrod, a Tennessean by birth and education, and the young couple soon emigrated to Illinois, settling at an early day in Union County, where all their children were born. In 1836 the whole household removed to what is now Moultrie County, traveling a distance of just two hundred miles, which trip, at that time traveling with team and covered wagon, occupied one month. Levi Patterson entered a large tract of Government land which was at that time known as the "Lost Land," the Government's first survey having been lost. Here he lived and died, passing away at the age of fifty-five years, an earnest member of the Christian Church in his religious belief, and a staunch Democrat in politics. He was twice married and both wives brought to him children, and died in this county.

Our subject is the second child by his father's first marriage, and he has all the experience of a pioneer, and loves to tell the story of the log schoolhouse with its stick chimney, puncheon floor and rough seats. After reaching his majority, he returned to Union County to claim his bride in the person of Miss Margaret Carriker, a native of that county where her parents had settled at an early date, coming there from North Carolina. They came of Dutch stock, and belonged to old and highly esteemed North Carolina families and, died in Union County full of years.

For more than half a century Mr. Patterson and his faithful and devoted wife have labored together and she is now in rather poor health, while Mr. Patterson is still robust and active. They were both members of the Christian Church, and helped to organize that body here, being among its charter members, and Mr. Patterson acting as Deacon for years. He had held some local offices of trust and responsibility, and has always adhered to the principles of the Democratic party, and at present the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association claims his allegiance.

A truly patriarchal family, is that of Mr. and

Mrs. Patterson, six children having passed to the other shore, and eight being still upon this side. They are as follows: Daniel, who took to wife Ellen Hoke, and now farms in Sullivan Township; William J., who is in the same line of work, and married Rebecca Lynder; Bushrod, who married Miss Kate Blackwell, who has died, and who now makes his home with his father while managing a farm in this township; George, who took to wife Miss Lyda Glabrook, and now lives on a farm in Whitley Township, this county; Belle, who lives at home; Maggie, who is the wife of Stephen Underwood, and lives on a farm in this township; and Sarah, is the wife of Richard Palmer, and lives in Nelson Township; and Sue A., wife of John Ham, and lives in Washington State.



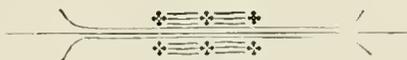
**A**NTHONY GILLESPIE. A country without a nation, a people without a flag, it is not surprising that so many of the warm-hearted, sunny tempered, Celtic race should rally under the stars and stripes, and ally themselves to the American people as loyal and true-hearted citizens of the land in which they are granted, not only freedom, but opportunity for exercising their native keenness and of rising to the positions in both civil and political life for which they are so eminently fitted. Our subject, who is a native of the Emerald Isle, and was early attracted to the United States by the superior advantages that it offered to industry and energy. He was born in County Mayo, Ireland, March 25, 1835.

Our subject grew to manhood in his native county and emigrated to the United States. His landing in New York was made May 15, 1857, and there he remained until the following spring, when he came to this county and was engaged at farm labor by the month for a period of four or five years. He then rented land in Rose Township, which he was engaged in cultivating thoroughly for some six years, after which he purchased a farm in Tower Hill Township, where he has since been a resident. The place of which he is the

happy possessor, comprises two hundred and forty acres of good land upon which our subject has placed valuable and numerous improvements. He has erected good buildings on his farm, and has a very comfortable and attractive residence.

He of whom we write, was married in Shelbyville, this State, April 7, 1861, to Miss Anna Feeny, who is a countrywoman of his own, having been born in County Mayo, Ireland. Their life together has been very happy, as each endeavors to suit the other. Three children have grown up around them. They are John, William and Mary Ann. In his political preferences our subject affiliates with the Democratic party, and under this party he has been awarded several township offices, having held the important position of Highway Commissioner and School Trustee. Religiously he with his wife and family are adherents of the Catholic Church, and are among the most devoted and loyal members of that religious body. Our subject has always been engaged in farming and agricultural pursuits, and is well up in the progress and science of his calling.

The father of our subject was Patrick Gillespie. His mother was Ann Clark Gillespie. They were both natives of the county in which our subject was born and there they departed this life. They were the parents of six children, and of these Anthony was the youngest.



**L**YMAN A. GOULD, who is one of the firm of Gould Brothers, dealers in grain and also Vice-President of the Commercial State Bank of Windsor, Shelby County, is one of the representative men of the place, having first class business ability, and known as a practical, far-seeing manager whose judgment of commercial affairs may be depended upon. His firm is recognized throughout the county as one in whom implicit confidence may be placed, and it may be said of him of whom we write, that he has cultivated "high erected thoughts, seated in a heart of courtesy."

Lyman Gould is a son of David Gould, who was

born in Drummondville, Canada West in 1802. His mother was Sarah (Symonds) Gould, a native of Windsor, Conn. David Gould was a farmer by occupation. He had removed from his native place to Niagara County, N. Y., with his parents when about two years old, and there he spent his life, his decease taking place in the county in which he had lived for so many years, in 1880. The mother still survives (1891) at the age of eighty-one. Nine children entered the home circle, and of these our subject was the fifth in order of birth. He was born in Cambria, Niagara County, N. Y., August 30, 1841. Reared on his father's farm, he remained under the home roof until the spring of 1870.

He early enjoyed the advantages of a good common-school education in the State that prides herself on the thoroughness of her district school system. He was thus fitted for practical commercial life, his native shrewdness and wit helping him out in emergencies. In the spring of 1870 he came to Decatur, this State, and was in the employ of the Wabash Railroad Company for about eight months. In the fall of that year, however, he came to Windsor, and was with his brother, of whom a sketch may be found in another part of this volume, and was engaged in buying grain for the firm of E. & I. Jennings. He was thus engaged for one year, and in the following spring, 1872, in company with his brother, George F. Gould, he built the elevator at Windsor, and since that time, they have been large dealers in the cereals. In 1883, they dissolved partnership, George F. disposing of his interest to another brother, F. D. Gould, and since that time the firm has been known as Gould Brothers. They enjoy the distinction of being the chief grain buyers in Windsor, and indeed, there are not many who deal so extensively in this article of commerce south of Chicago.

He of whom we write is the possessor of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, located in Richland Township. This he rents. He has been Vice-President of the Commercial State Bank since the autumn of 1890. Mr. Gould's domestic life is all that could be desired. His wife is a Cleveland, Ohio, lady. They were there married October 15, 1873. The lady's name in her maiden days was Miss Clara A. Ford. They are the parents of four





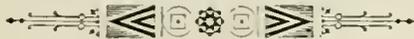
MRS. M. SCHNEIDER.



MICHAEL SCHNEIDER



children, whose names are as follows: Horatio Clark, Kate C., Mary A. and Lyman A., Jr. Mr. Gould has been a member of the City Council for several years and also School Director, in which position he has done efficient work. In his political preference he is a staunch Democrat. The Free Tariff plank in that platform is such as appeals most directly to his business interests. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gould are deeply interested in religious work, our subject having been a member of the church since 1866. First a Congregationalist, since coming to this State he has been connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife has been a member of the Congregational Church from girlhood.



**M**ICHAEL SCHNEIDER, the honored founder of the city of Moweaqua, Shelby County, who is now living in retirement in this beautiful locality, is one of the early pioneers of Central Illinois, and his name is indissolubly linked with its rise and growth. His progressive public spirit and generous benefactions, bestowed with rare judgment and critical discernment as to the future needs of the community and the best way to promote its highest interest, have been instrumental in pushing forward various enterprises that have been of great benefit to this section of the State.

On the banks of the beautiful river Rhine, in Germany, our subject was born in September, 1813. His father, who bore the same name as himself, was born in the same Rhenish province, and was there reared on a farm. He married Mary Bauer, who was a native of that part of Germany, and died there in 1820. In 1824, the father of our subject resolved to emigrate to America, where he hoped to better his condition. He came to this country accompanied by five of his seven children, and first settled at Bethlehem, Pa. In 1827 he removed to Ohio, and for a time resided near Cincinnati. He subsequently identified himself with the pioneers of Brown County, in the same State, and on the

farm that he bought there passed the remainder of his life.

Michael Schneider, of whom these lines are written, was a lad of eleven years when his father came to this country, and he and a sister were at that time left in charge of an uncle, but two years later the father sent for them, and they set sail from Hamburg in May, 1826, landing at New York eighty days later. Our subject went to Ohio with his father, and for a time lived with him near Cincinnati, which was then only a good-sized village. He was a strong, self-reliant, manly boy, and at once commenced to earn his own living, finding employment with Andrew Heredes, with whom he remained some years, and in 1833 he came with him to Illinois, making the journey hither over those great highways of pioneer travel, the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. He located with his employer on Lick Creek, in Sangamon County, and there Mr. Heredes erected one of the first steam grist mills ever operated in the State.

In 1835 Mr. Schneider borrowed \$50 of Esq. Campbell, and entered forty acres of Government land in what is now Christian County, his purchase adjoining the present site of Moweaqua. He bought the claim of Mrs. Denton, and five acres of it were cleared, and a log house stood on the place. There were no railways here for many years after he settled on his land in 1837, and he had to draw all his grain to St. Louis with ox-teams, where he sold it for thirty-seven and a half cents a bushel, and his hogs only brought him \$1.25 to \$1.50 a hundred pounds. Deer were plentiful, and with prairie chickens and wild turkeys, formed a welcome addition to the fare of the pioneers.

Mr. Schneider worked early and late in the up-building of his new home, being greatly assisted by the active co-operation of his wife, and he prospered exceedingly in his efforts to secure a competency. He invested his money judiciously, continually entering and buying other land near his original purchase until he had two thousand acres, all told, of land of surpassing fertility. This included the land upon which the thriving city of Moweaqua now stands. Attracted by the unrivalled beauty of the spot, and the natural advantages for the site of a town, our subject determined to plat the land,

and afterward carried out his plans, which have given to this county one of its brightest ornaments, one of "the prettiest villages of the State," to quote from an enthusiastic admirer, and here center many lovely homes and happy firesides in dwellings of a modern and attractive style of architecture. Its people are cultured, thrifty, prosperous and enterprising; its church privileges and educational advantages are exceptional; its varied industries and business enterprises are ably conducted under sound financial methods. One attraction of the city, though it may be a negative one, is eminently worthy of mention, and that is the fact that there have been no saloons for the sale of liquor here for years, which speaks well for the temperance and sobriety of the citizens.

In 1882 Mr. Schneider removed from Moweaqua, and has since lived retired from active business. He has always taken a deep interest in all that concerns this city, which owes its origin to him, and no man has done more to establish it on a solid basis of enduring prosperity than he, or has been more influential in raising its moral and religious status. All schemes to add to its beauty have met with his hearty approval, and his generous gift of land for a public park in 1882 has greatly increased the attractiveness of the place. He encouraged the building of the railway through here by a liberal donation of land and lots, and to Mr. Eastman he gave land on condition that he would build a mill within the corporation limits of the city.

The blessings of a happy married life have been vouchsafed to our subject, as by his marriage in October, 1833, with Miss Margaret Kantz he secured a true and loving wife, and they have lived in peace and harmony for nearly fifty-seven years. They have reared these seven children to honorable and useful lives.—Michael, Christopher, Margaret, William, Valentine, Adam and Caroline. Mrs. Schneider was born in Baden, Germany, March 21, 1811, and is a daughter of Christopher and Caroline (Lichtenberger) Kantz, who were also natives of Baden. Her father spent his entire life there, while her mother came to America in the latter part of her life and died in Brown County, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Schneider are people of earnest re-

ligious convictions, who lead exemplary Christian lives. Their parents were members of the Lutheran Church, and they were reared in that faith, but early in their married life they united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for more than half a century have been consistent and devoted in their membership with that church, and have borne a prominent part in its upbuilding in this section of the country. In their early life here when they lived in a log cabin, their humble abode was always open to preachers of all denominations, and meetings were frequently held within its walls. They contributed liberally of their means towards the erection of the present house of worship of the Methodists, and are generous in their support of the Gospel. On another page of this volume the lithographic portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Schneider are presented, and it is a pleasure to thus perpetuate the lineaments of this worthy couple.



**H**ENRY RICHMAN. The enterprising little village of Fancher counts among its inhabitants some first-class business men, and among them we are gratified to note the Postmaster and merchant whose name appears in connection with this sketch, and who is one of the really enterprising men of Shelby County. His birth took place in Butler County, Ohio, October 24, 1843. His parents were Samuel and Susan (Hill) Richmond. The father was born in New Jersey, and went to Ohio when he was sixteen years old, going on foot all the way from his native State to Butler County, Ohio. In that latter named county his mother was born, although she was of Southern parentage, her parents being natives of Baltimore, Md.

The parents of our subject had eight children gathered about their fireside and our subject was next to the youngest of this number. After the death of the mother the father again married and had two children by his second union. It was in 1858 that Henry came to Illinois with his father, and located in Shelby County, where the latter died some five years ago. Farming occupied the

young man for about seven years after attaining his majority, but later he engaged in the meat business, owning and operating a meat market at Windsor for five or six years.

About this time Mr. Richman moved on to a farm near Stewardson, in Prairie Township, and remained there about five years and in 1887 he made his final removal to Fancher and entered the mercantile business with William Hilsabeck. This partnership continued for about one year when our subject withdrew from the connection and opened a store in an adjoining building. Mr. Hilsabeck operated his store for about a year after which his stock was sold out and he removed from the place, leaving Mr. Richman in possession of the only store in that line of goods in the place.

This enterprising merchant carried a full line of general merchandise, consisting of dry-goods, groceries, provisions, clothing, boots and shoes, hats and caps, hardware, tinware, patent medicines, notions and millinery. He has a handsome storeroom and it is well stocked with a well selected line of goods and he is doing a very satisfactory business. When he began his capital did not exceed \$400 and his stock is now worth at least \$5,000.

The first marriage of Mr. Richman was his union with Miss Ella Fitzgerald, who died two years after marriage. She had one child which died in infancy. His second wife was, before her marriage to him, a widow, Mrs. Lizzie White, whose maiden name was Hilsabeck. She was born in this county, and has one daughter by her marriage with Mr. Richman, Gertie, now eleven years old. Mr. Richman is the Postmaster at Fancher and has held this position through most of the present administration.

The military record of our subject is of interest to every one who loves his country, as he was a soldier during the Civil War, belonging to Company H, Fifty-fourth Illinois Infantry. This regiment was assigned to the Department of the Southwest under Gen. Banks. He participated in all the labors required of the Fifty-fourth, although his company escaped at the time the rest of the regiment were taken prisoners at Ashley Station, Ark.

The Republican party is the political organization with which Mr. Richman affiliates and he takes a lively interest in political affairs, being

public spirited and enterprising. He is a thorough business man, having the confidence and esteem of all with whom he is associated either in business or in social life. His efficient and interesting companion is an earnest worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**D**R. PATTERSON, of the firm of Meeker & Patterson, attorneys-at-law and real estate and insurance agents of Sullivan, was born in Moultrie County, December 18, 1849.

The family has been prominently connected with this county for many years. The grandfather of our subject, Levi Patterson, was born in Shelby County, Tenn., of American parentage and was one of a large family which was well represented in the War of 1812. One of the brothers was wounded while fighting under Jackson at the battle of New Orleans. Levi Patterson was a young man when he removed to Illinois, locating in Union County, where he grew to manhood on a farm. He married Mrs. Jane Penrod, *nee* Beggs, a native of Tennessee, who had lost her first husband in this State.

After his marriage Levi Patterson settled on a new farm in Union County which he cultivated and improved and which is yet known as the old Patterson homestead. In 1836 he came with his family to Moultrie County, locating in Sullivan Township where he entered Government land and upon the farm which he there developed made his home until his death on the 10th of June, 1849. His first wife died soon after they came to this county and he married a lady of Irish birth, Miss Anna Patterson. After his death she became the wife of a Mr. Simmons and was called to her final rest in 1875 at the age of fifty years. Levi Patterson was a Methodist in early life but later joined the Christian Church and was one of its original founders in this county. Honest and upright, he had the respect and confidence of all who knew him and well deserves mention among the pioneers of this locality.

Jonathan Patterson or "Donty" Patterson, as he was commonly known, was the father of our sub-

ject. When a youth of fourteen years he accompanied his parents to Moultrie County, and in Sullivan Township spent his boyhood days. His school privileges were limited and he bore the usual experiences of pioneer life. Having attained to mature years he determined to make a home for himself and on horseback returned to Union County, Ill., where he married Pearlina Carriker. With his bride he returned, traveling a distance of two hundred miles on horseback and in true frontier style they began their domestic life but by energy, perseverance and good business ability he became one of the wealthiest men in the county.

Public spirited and progressive, Mr. Patterson was a valued citizen and did much the best interests of the community. He built one of the finest homes in the county, erected a large mill in Sullivan, sunk a coal shaft at that place and afterward became a director in a proposed railroad which, however, was never built. He also aided in sinking an artesian well on the square and in those two enterprises lost \$20,000. Any industry calculated to benefit the community received his support. He loved to aid in every good work of improvement and did what he could toward the promotion of every reform. The cause of temperance found in him a warm friend and his labors to suppress the saloons were untiring. He canvassed Central Illinois, making speeches in favor of prohibition and cast his last vote for the Prohibition party. He had previously voted with the Democracy. Some years before his death he became an invalid but as far as possible he continued his works for the best interests of the community. For some years he was Deacon in the Christian Church and died in that faith September 13, 1878.

As before stated Mr. Patterson wedded Miss Carriker, who was born in Union County, Ill., January 12, 1824, and there resided until her marriage. She still lives on a farm near Sullivan and is well preserved for a lady of her years. She, too, is a member of the Christian Church and has many warm friends in this locality. D. R. Patterson was educated in the public schools and for some years engaged in farming. On the 1st of January, 1880, he began reading Blackstone in Judge Meeker's office, where he is now a partner, and after a year

was elected Police Magistrate, which office he yet fills. In the meantime he practiced law in a small way until November, 1890, when he was admitted to the bar, since which time he has devoted his entire energies to the profession. The firm was established in January, 1891, and ranks high at the county bar. Combined with the experience of the older member is the energy and activity of the younger one which insures their success.

Mr. Patterson wedded Miss Ruth Leatherman, who was born in Lawrence County, Ind., in 1813, and when seven years old was brought by her father, Peter Leatherman, to Douglas County, Ill. Her mother had died in Indiana. After following farming for a number of years her father removed to Kansas in February, 1878, and a year later was called to his final rest. Mrs. Patterson became a successful teacher, having passed three years as a teacher in Sullivan Academy, and at one time numbered among her pupils the gentleman to whom she has since given her hand in marriage. Their children are: Oscar L., who was graduated from the Sullivan schools at the age of sixteen years; Harvey and Ernest at home, and Nathan D., now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson and their children are members of the Christian Church and the family are prominent in public and social affairs.



**J**AMES S. WELCH, M. D., deceased. Sullivan, Moultrie County, is proud to name those in her foremost rank who have fallen in the conflict of life, but who have fallen honorably and whose past record makes them beloved and respected by those who knew them and whose example is worthy of emulation by the rising generation. Among such names we present Dr. James S. Welch who died at his home in Sullivan, September 4, 1884. He had lived in the county for a good many years and was formerly a resident of Shelbyville, where for some time he was in the merchantile business. Sangamon County, this State, had been his home previous to his coming to Shelbyville.

Dr. Welch was born in Sangamon County, Ill.,

February 3, 1840, and as he had lost his father when quite young he had been reared to manhood by his mother who has since died in Sangamon County, full of years and in the enjoyment of the respect and affection of all who knew her. Our subject was a student at Ann Arbor, Mich., and later was graduated from the St. Louis Medical College. He practiced his profession for a short time only and then became a druggist, in which line of business he was very successful.

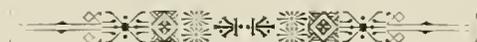
Our subject was prominent in political and social circles, was active in promoting the success of the Democratic party and was identified with the order of Odd Fellows at Sullivan. This order took charge of the funeral ceremonies after his death and he was buried with the honors of the lodge. His intelligence and affability brought him many friends and his business ability commanded the respect of all.

Miss Anna Reeder became the wife of Dr. Welch in Sullivan. She is a native of Warren County, Ohio, and a daughter of George W. and Jane (Thompson) Reeder, natives of Ohio who came of Eastern parentage, being descended respectively from families of Virginia and New Jersey. Mr. and Mrs. Reeder were married in Warren County, Ohio, and at once went to Wisconsin, becoming early settlers near Monroe, Green County, in the days when the Indians were much more numerous than whites. They traveled from Ohio by way of water, taking the river at Cincinnati, going down the Ohio and up the Mississippi to Galena, Ill., and thence with teams to Green County, Wis., where they lived for nine years, transforming the raw prairie into a productive farm which lies two and one-half miles from the present city of Monroe. That city was at one time located upon their land but during a county-seat war was removed an another site. On leaving Wisconsin they returned to Warren County, Ohio, and in the spring of 1865 they came to Illinois, settling in Coles County near Mattoon, where they lived for two years and then came to Shelby County. Six years later they removed to Normal, McLean County, and there Mr. Reeder, died in 1881, being then nearly seventy-two years of age.

Mr. Reeder was a strong Republican in politics

and a leader among men, and was a successful farmer all his life. His wife, who survives him, is now seventy-two years of age and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Welch. She is the mother of seventeen children, ten of whom are yet living. Four of her sons, Joseph H., Allen B., Caleb T. and James C., were soldiers during the War of the Rebellion. The eldest of these fell at the battle of Ft. Donelson by a shot from the enemy's guns. He was a member of the Eleventh Indiana Zouaves; the second son mentioned died from typhoid fever upon a hospital boat after the battle of Franklin, in which he took part; he was a Sergeant in an Ohio regiment. The last two named fought through the war and escaped unhurt, James being now a Kansas farmer, while Caleb F. is a general merchant at Stewardson, Shelby County.

Prof. Rudolph Reeder, another son of this eminent family, is successfully filling the Chair of Training in the Normal School at Normal, Ill., while another, Prof. George W. Reeder, has been Principal of various schools in Kansas and Colorado; their sister, Mrs. Welch, was carefully reared and well educated, completing her course in the Normal University at Normal, Ill., and was for twelve years a teacher, serving both in Mattoon and Sullivan, having been only sixteen years old when she began teaching. She is a Methodist in her religious belief and her mother belongs to the Baptist Church. She is an earnest temperance worker and is active in promoting every movement which will lead to the prohibition of the sale of alcoholic drinks in her town and country.



**J**OHN LUFFERS. The name at the head of this sketch is that of a practical farmer and stock-raiser residing on sections 17 and 18, of Pickaway Township, where he settled in 1851. Since that time he has put a great number of fine improvements upon the place so that it is now a most comfortable and desirable home. He came to Shelby County in 1846 and since that time he has lived here and in Flat Branch Township.

Our subject began life here as a poor man and

has since made all that he now possesses, and is at the present time looked up to as one of the most successful men in the county. He is worth at least \$20,000 and pays annually from \$80 to \$100 in taxes. His farm, which consists of one hundred and forty acres, is in very good condition. He is noted throughout the county for his industry and honesty.

Our subject is of German birth and parentage, having first seen the light of day in the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, January 6, 1826. His parents, who are Germans, were poor but worthy people and they lived and died in their native kingdom at quite an advanced age. They were George and Ellen Luffers and were small farmers, the father adding a carpenter's trade to his stock in store to aid in the support of his family. They were members of the Lutheran Church. Our subject is one of four children, there being three sons and one daughter, all of whom are now in this country. A sister died at an early age in Madison County, Ill. Mr. Luffers was the first of the family to come to the United States, being only eighteen years of age when he left his native land. He took passage on a sailing vessel called the "Little Competitor," and after eight weeks and three days spent on the ocean he landed in New Orleans, coming thence to St. Louis. This little trip occupied ten days. It can now be accomplished in a little over one day. The delay was caused by the ice blockade on the river, for our subject came northward by boat. He then came to Edwardsville, Madison County, this State, where he spent his first year. Here he was married in the township of Pickaway, in October, 1859, to Miss Louisa Smith. She was born in Madison County in 1828, and was a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Tolly) Smith, natives of Kentucky, who came to Illinois in an early day and settled in Madison County, where both parents died while yet in middle life. Mrs. Luffers spent the greater part of her life before her marriage in her native county. She has ever been a true help-mate to her husband and is no small factor in his successful career.

Our subject and his wife have had no children of their own but they have been the loving foster parents of several children. These are Laura Car-

barn, who is now the wife of M. F. Cutler, a farmer in this township; Kate Goodwin and Thomas Goodwin, the latter of whom is deceased. Kate married Hirm Methias and they live on a farm in Flat Branch Township.

Our subject came to his present location from Madison County, Ill., where he had arrived in 1845, spending about twelve months in that place doing what he could in the way of earning money for self support. His wages were but \$7 or \$8 per month at that time. Soon after marriage, however, he obtained the nucleus of his present farm, and since that time has been steadily advancing in his financial position. Politically Mr. Luffers affiliates with the Democratic party. He has held the position of Commissioner of Highways and satisfactorily discharged its duties. He and his wife are charming people, having attained the mellow age at which life is no longer a strife but a waiting period for the better thing that is to come after. They are both attendants upon the Baptist Church and are liberal supporters of the same.



**J**AMES BARTON, Shelby County has an excellent reputation throughout the State for good farms and excellent stock, and those who are carrying on the industries connected with farming and stock-raising, have in almost every case achieved a creditable and satisfactory success. Among the independent farmers in Dry Point Township, we find on section 15, the home of James Barton, a native of the county, born June 7, 1853, in Okaw Township.

David and Mary (Craig) Barton, the parents of our subject, were natives of Bedford, Va., the father being born in 1818 and the mother in 1813. The former passed away from life on the farm where our subject now resides in 1886, and the mother makes her home with her son James. Their family consists of four stalwart sons and three beautiful daughters. William, the eldest, married Mary J. Dihel and resides on an adjoining farm; Rhoda has been twice married, as after the death of her

first husband, John T. Jones, she married C. R. Barton, and resides in this township; Elizabeth died in 1865 at the age of nineteen years, and Charles passed away at the same age in 1867; David married for his first wife Mary A. Reynolds, who died in 1882, and his second marriage was with Mary L. Flanders, and he now resides in this township; the next child in order of age is our subject, and the youngest is Mary E. who married Y. L. Dihel and died in this township in 1881.

Our subject received his education in the common schools of the country districts and in the graded schools at Shelbyville. He early undertook the profession of a teacher, which work he began in 1876 and continued for twelve years. In 1890 he gave up his place at the teacher's desk and devoted himself entirely to agricultural pursuits.

The happy union by marriage of James Barton and Mary V. Finks, occurred May 2, 1878. This lady is a native of this township, of Southern parentage and was here brought up to young womanhood. She was born October 12, 1859, and is a daughter of C. L. and Alpha Finks, natives of Virginia, who became residents of Shelby County, this State, in the early days of the history of its settlement.

Mrs. Barton is the second child in a family of six, her brothers and sisters being James H., who died in this township in 1890; C. W., who married and resided on a farm here; J. M., who married, but died in 1890 of typhoid fever; Silas W., who is married and living in the same township, and Annie, wife of H. L. Austin who also resides in Dry Point Township.

Mr. Barton was elected Supervisor of Dry Point Township in 1888 and has twice succeeded himself in that honorable position, being now on his fourth year in that office, which he has filled to the satisfaction of his constituents. For two years he served as Township Tax Collector and is now serving his eleventh successive year in performing the duties of School Trustee of the township. His beautiful farm of one hundred and sixty acres is in a fine state of cultivation and its chief product is hay.

The household of our subject has been blessed by the birth of two daughters and three sons: Lizzie, born March 9, 1879, John D., March 22, 1882;

Thaddeus W., February 15, 1884; Allie Ella, February 16, 1886, and Chester Roswell, February 5, 1888. These affectionate and judicious parents have the great happiness of still keeping all their little ones about them and seeing them preserved in life and health. They are both earnest and conscientious members of the Separate Baptist Church.

The subject of this life sketch has been a life-long Republican and is pleased to boast that he has never cast any other ballot than that which is endorsed by the Republican party. He is well-known as one of the most public-spirited and enterprising citizens of the township and takes an active part not only in political affairs, but also in all movements which are intended to promote the social and financial prosperity of the community. His brother William fought in the Union army during the Civil War. Mr. Barton has been a member of the Masonic order but at present is not affiliated. Both he and his estimable wife are very active in church and Sunday-school work, taking great interest in the advancement of the cause of religion through that worthy ally of the church, the Sunday-school. One peculiar feature of the Barton family is that every male member of the family for two generations has married a woman whose first name was Mary, and even those who have twice married have observed this rule.



**E**T. BAIL. Among the most active and useful citizens of Sullivan are a class of men who now are able to employ their energies more directly in the line of public improvements than they could in the days when they were more heavily burdened with work. These are the retired farmers who having gained wealth and insured their last days in comfort and competence, have withdrawn from active work and given themselves and their faithful companions the luxury of rest and ease in their declining days.

Mr. Bail, whose name appears at the head of this sketch left his farm in East Nelson Township in 1890. To that tract of land he had come in 1852

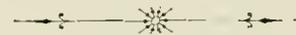
and there he grew to manhood, married and began farming. He now owns three hundred and sixty acres of as fine land as is to be found in Moultrie County and it is all under cultivation. He placed upon it a fine set of farm buildings and has made it his home from that day until he retired from service.

Our subject was born in Pike County, Ohio, November 19, 1842, his father being Joseph Bail, a native of Virginia, and son of a Welshman who died in the Old Dominion. Joseph was still quite a young man when he came to Ohio and was married in Pike County to Miss Elizabeth Divens, a native of Pennsylvania of Dutch stock. She had come when a child with her parents to Ohio and there grew to womanhood. In 1852 the Bail family came to Illinois traveling by team and wagon and camping out on the road. They were some four weeks on the way, and reaching East Nelson Township took up a farm there. It was on this farm they made their home and there Joseph Bail died in November, 1864, having reached the age of seventy-one years. He was a Republican in his political views and Methodist Episcopal in his church connections. His bereaved widow who is now eighty-eight years old, is yet as efficient as many ladies at sixty and makes her home with her son, our subject. She is a great reader, very intelligent and active and an earnest and conscientious Christian, being still counted as one of the pillars in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

E. T. Bail is one of his mother's thirteen children who lived to be grown, and eight are yet living. All through his early and mature years he devoted himself untiringly and persistently to his labors as a farmer. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Wiley, who was born near Leroy, McLean County, Ill., July 12, 1848. She is a daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Brean) Wiley who were born of Protestant stock in the North of Ireland. They were married in their native island and came soon afterward to the United States, settling in Vermilion County, Ill., before coming to McLean County and afterward, in 1849, to Moultrie County. There they took and improved a new farm and there lived and died. Mr. Wiley passed away at the age of seventy years and his wife was taken from him

when she was only forty years old. They were Protestants in their religion as are all of that sturdy class who come from the North of Ireland.

The children who have come to Mr. and Mrs. Bail are Albert S., who died when a little child; Anthony L., who is soon to be admitted to the bar and who was educated in the law school at Valparaiso, Ind. and at DePauw University, Greencastle, Ind. He is a hard student and is fitting himself liberally for success in his profession. The next is Florence, who is the wife of J. D. Goddard, a farmer in East Nelson Township, and Lulu L., who is at home. Both Mr. Bail and his son are earnest and ardent Republicans in their political views and it is their aim to stand by the party which stood by the administration during the Civil War.



**W**ILLIAM McKITTRICK. The name at the head of this sketch is that of one who was a compatriot with the poet Moore, and even yet his heart rebounds at the words of the old song.

“The harp that once thro’ Tara’s hall  
The soul of music shed  
Now hangs as mute on Tara’s wall  
As if that soul were fled—  
So sleeps the pride of former days,  
So glory’s thrill is o’er,  
And hearts, that once beat high for praise,  
Now feel that pulse no more.”

However successful a native of that unhappy land may be in his adopted country he cannot but be saddened at the thought that Ireland is no more what it was in the days of the Kings.

Our subject is in the meridian of life and the best of his successes are before him. He is of Irish parentage as well as birth, his father having been William McKittrick, who was a native of the Emerald Isle, and his mother, Margaret (Quarrel) McKittrick, also of Ireland. They emigrated to the United States in 1858, and the father died after locating in Moultrie County, this State. The mother passed away in this county. They were the parents of thirteen children of whom our subject was one of the youngest; he was born in Ire-

land September 29, 1849, and was about nine years of age when, with his parents, he came to America. They at once located in Madison County, this State, where our subject lived for seven years and then they removed to Shelby County where he has ever since been a resident. He has always been engaged in farming, and has followed this pursuit with a reasonable degree of success.

The marriage of the original of our sketch took place in this county, March 22, 1877. The lady to whom he was united was in her maiden days Laura A. Patton, a daughter of James H. and Lydia (Friezner) Patton, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Ohio. The father's death occurred in this county and he left to his bereaved wife ten children, of whom Mrs. McKittrick was the third; she was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, April 15, 1853. Our subject and wife are the parents of six living children, whose names are as follows: Lydia A., William C., James F., Milo E., Margaret E. and Mark N. The deceased children were taken away in infancy.

A short period of our subject's early married life was spent in Cold Spring Township, after which they settled on section 26, of Tower Hill Township, where they owned two hundred acres of good, arable land. Mr. McKittrick is in his political tastes and favors a follower of the Republican party. He has been a School Director for some time. Neither our subject nor his wife are united by membership to any church, being liberal in their religious belief, still they do their part toward the support of the Gospel and exert and wield a good influence in the community.



**M**RS. MARTHA A. (WOOD) GOODWIN, a native of Shelby County, this State, born near the town of Woodburn, Macoupin County, comes of the old pioneer stock of Illinois, and is a daughter of David B. Wood, a prominent and well-known citizen of her native county. She is the widow of Thomas Goodwin, a former prosperous farmer of Penn Township, and she still occupies the old farm on sections 31 and

32, where she helped her husband make a comfortable home in which the most of their married life was passed.

Mrs. Goodwin's father was born in Kentucky, of which State his father, James Wood, was also a native and a pioneer. The grandfather of our subject came from Kentucky to Illinois and was one of the first settlers near the present site of Bunker Hill, Macoupin County. At that time the surrounding country contained but few white inhabitants, and deer, wild turkeys and other game were still plentiful. There were no railways and for several years Alton and St. Louis were the nearest markets for the pioneers. Grandfather Wood improved a good farm upon which he resided until his demise.

Mrs. Goodwin's father was young when his parents left his early Kentucky home to seek another in the untried wilderness of Illinois. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and the old farm south of Woodburn that his father developed from a state of nature is now in his possession and he still makes it his home. He has arisen to an important place among the farmers and stock-raisers of Macoupin County and is known for the integrity of his character, his sound wisdom and his worth as a citizen. The maiden name of his first wife, mother of Mrs. Goodwin, was Barbara Davis. She died when her daughter was very young. His second wife was Mary Clanton, a native of South Carolina.

Mrs. Goodwin was carefully trained in her girlhood in all useful household duties, and among other things learned to card and spin, and after her marriage she spun the wool to make her husband a suit of clothes. She continued an inmate of her father's household until she was wedded in 1865 to Thomas Goodwin, a most worthy young man of English birth and ancestry. Their union was one of mutual helpfulness and happiness, and among its blessings were the eight children born to them—Jennie, Samuel, Maria, Hattie, John, Rose, George and Daisy. Jennie died when young, and Maria, who was married to William Wyatt and resided in Johnson City, Tenn., died August 18, 1891. The children occupy the old home with their mother. Mrs. Goodwin is a member of the Methodist Epis-

copal Church and in all things is a consistent Christian.

Thomas Goodwin was born at Vale Mills, Stoke-upon-Trent, England, May 1, 1835. His parents were Thomas and Jane Goodwin, and they were also natives of England. They came to America in 1844 and located in Madison County, this State, where the father spent the remainder of his life. The mother passed her last years in Macoupin County whither she removed after the death of her husband.

Mrs. Goodwin's husband was a boy of nine years when his parents brought him to America. He was reared and educated in Madison County and in early manhood adopted the calling of farmer as his life-work. In 1867 he came to Penn Township and bought a tract of wild prairie land on sections 31 and 32, and threw his whole energies into the pioneer task of reclaiming it. He was exceedingly industrious, working early and late to accomplish his undertaking, and in due time his labors were rewarded and the change that he wrought made him one of the best farms in the neighborhood. He placed his land under fine cultivation, erected neat and orderly buildings, and planted fruit, shade and ornamental trees to make his home more attractive. Here he laid down his life ere yet it had passed its meridian, closing his eyes in the dreamless sleep of death February 21, 1884, leaving behind him the record of years well-spent and a tender memory of a kind husband, a good father and a just and true neighbor and friend.



**D**AVID G. SANNER, V. S., prominent and well-known as a wealthy farmer and stock-raiser, residing in Penn Township, Shelby County, has large landed interests in this, Macon and Moultrie Counties, and has contributed extensively to the development of the great agricultural resources of this section of his native State as one of the most enlightened and advanced men of his class within its borders. He is much interested in raising fine road horses, the Hambletonian strain being his favorite,

and he also bears a high reputation as one of the most intelligent and skillful veterinary surgeons of the county.

May 16, 1842, is the date of the birth of our subject, in one of the pioneer homes of Madison County of which his father, Samuel Sanner, who was an early settler. The latter was a native of Northumberland County, Pa., and in early manhood married Barbara Paul, a native of Preston County, W. Va. In 1833 he came to Illinois with his family and located in the wilds of Madison County, nine miles north of Edwardsville. During the many years that he lived there he applied himself busily to pioneer work, and in due time was well rewarded by becoming the possessor of a goodly amount of property. In 1866 he took up his abode in Penn Township and there his remaining days were passed in tranquillity and comfort until he closed his eyes in the dreamless sleep of death. He left behind him a good life-record and a memory that is cherished with reverence in the hearts of those who knew him.

Our subject was the eighth child in a large family of children, twelve in number, and in his childhood he had ample opportunity to acquire habits of industry and steady application that have been of use to him in his after life, as his father wisely determined that his boys should be able to do all kinds of work on the farm, while at the same time he desired they should have an education. Our subject was well equipped in that respect, as in his youth excellent schools had already been established in Madison County, and he attended them whenever opportunity offered, and gained a sound knowledge of mathematics and other common branches. When the war broke out he was scarcely more than a boy, but he was eager to fight in defense of the old flag. Owing to circumstances over which he had no control, however, he was obliged to abandon the thought of enlisting until 1864, when he left the parental home September 3, to enroll as a member of Company A., One Hundred and Forty-fourth Illinois Infantry, commanded by Capt. George W. Carr the regiment being mustered in at Alton. He was disappointed that his regiment was detained at Alton to do garrison duty instead of being sent to the front, some of the men being sent to Missouri so that he saw no active service in the field. He was

soon detailed for service in the regimental band and remained at Alton during the winter of 1864-65. The war closed the following spring, and he was honorably discharged July 11, 1865, and mustered out at Springfield.

Returning to his father's farm after his experience as a soldier Mr. Sanner brought his family from his native county to this county in the spring of 1866. He continued to be an inmate of the parental household on section 21, Penn Township, until he established a home of his own, securing as an efficient helpmate to preside over it, Miss Mary E. Freeland, then a resident of Milan Township, Macon County, to whom he was married in April, 1870. Her father, David J. Freeland, was a native of North Carolina whence he came to Moultrie County this State, when he was a boy of fifteen years. He was engaged in farm work in that and Coles County some years, and then took up his residence in Milan Township, of which he is now one of the extensive land-holders. He married for his second wife Martha Sawyer, a native of Coles County, and Mrs. Sanner is their eldest child.

When he married Mr. Sanner commenced his independent career as a farmer on a half section of land in Milan Township, and resided on that place for six years. At the expiration of that time he came back to Penn Township to take charge of his father's farm on section 21. In 1877 he took possession of his present homestead, a beautiful farm of three hundred and twenty acres, finely located on section 23, Penn Township. He still retains his Macon County farm of half a section, renting that and part of his farm in Penn Township, and he has a thousand acres of land in all, including fifteen acres of timber in Moultrie County and town property in Bethany. He is extensively engaged in general farming, having his farm well stocked, and he pays particular attention to breeding fine roadsters of Hambletonian blood. He has a thorough knowledge of the horse, having made a careful study of the animal for years, and is an acknowledged authority on all questions pertaining to it as but few men observe the good points of a horse quicker, or detect its weak parts sooner than he. He is also a successful veterinary surgeon of twenty-five years standing.

A man of an active temperament, and indomitable will and a large nature, our subject has won his way to a high place among our valued and useful citizens. His has been a busy life, but not by the force of sheer hard work has he acquired his property, his labors having been directed by a clear, well-balanced intellect, by practical business methods and by excellent powers of discrimination and judgment. In all his dealings, he has borne himself with unswerving adherence to the principles of truth and probity, and his reputation is unblemished. The Sanner family are noted for their devotion to the Republican party, and our subject is no exception, he being one of the strongest advocates of the Republican policy in this part of the State, and has been since in early manhood he cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1861. Socially, he is identified with William Penn Camp, M. W. A., and he is also a member of Prairie Lodge K. of H. He is a stock-holder in the Prairie Home Building and Loan Association, and all enterprises to promote the growth of the county find in him cordial support.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanner have been truly happy in their married life, and their home has been gladdened by the birth of children, of whom they have had ten, namely,—Charles Wesley, Carrie Belle, Franklin Ellis (who died in infancy), Samuel Walter, Cyrus David, Orville Arthur, Lawrence Lester, Robert Lincoln, Etta May and Martha Barbara.



**M**ALCOLM D. LANE. One of the patriotic sons of our country, who in her time of peril gladly sprang to her defense and spent almost the entire period of the Civil War in the army, we are proud to name as the brave soldier whose name heads this paragraph. He is now devoting himself to the peaceful pursuits of farming upon section 19, Ridge Township, Shelby County. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, October 26, 1832, and his parents were William and Maria (Griswold) Lane. His father was born in Ohio, and his paternal grandfather in Westmore-

land, Pa., while his mother was a native of Connecticut, whose ancestors came originally to Maryland, and built one of the first houses which was erected on the site which is now covered by the city of Baltimore.

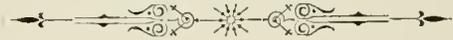
Four sons and two daughters, grew up together beneath the parental roof, and Malcolm was the eldest of the number; Marcus died in this State in 1880; Naomi, Mrs. William Propeck, lives in Denison City, Tex.; Rachel, the wife of Jesse Columer, lives in this county; Henry and James M. now reside in Marshall County, Kan.; and John died at the age of seventeen years.

Our subject was married December 9, 1855, to Miss Melinda Updegraff, of Miami County, Kan., a lady who was born in Clarke County, Ohio, January 3, 1838, and went to Kansas with her parents, Andrew and Margaret (Lowman) Updegraff, who were natives of Ohio, in 1855, where she made the acquaintance of Mr. Lane. The young couple resided in that State for five years after marriage, and after the war made their home in Shelby County, this State.

Malcolm D. Lane enlisted in Company I, Seventeenth Ohio Infantry, in August, 1861, and was made a Corporal. He served with Gen. Thomas in Kentucky, and participated in an engagement at Wild Cat, Ky., Mill Spring, Stone River, Chickamauga, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, and the Atlanta campaign, finally marching with Gen. Sherman to the sea. His regiment then joined in the famous march back through the Carolinas to Washington, D. C., and were present at the Grand Review in 1865. The gallant services of this young man were the cause of his being promoted, first to First Sergeant, then to Sergeant-Major, and finally to the rank of First Lieutenant of his company. He was mustered out of service at Louisville, Ky., July 16, 1865, and returned to Shelby County, Ill., where he taught school during the winters for some fifteen years.

Nine children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lane, namely: Samuel G., Emma A., Milton A. and J. Monroe (twins), Minnie R., George A., Katie M., Ella M. and Walter M. The father of these children is wide-awake to all political movements and earnestly affiliates with the Republican

party. He was three times elected Assessor of his township, and has held the office of Justice of the Peace, also that of member of the School Board as well as other minor offices. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which their religious activities find abundant opportunity for exercise.



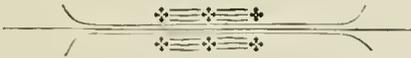
**H**ENRY CROWL. He whose name is at the head of this sketch resides on section 6, Okaw Township, having settled in Shelby County in 1861. He was born in Knox County, Ohio, March 31, 1833, and is a son of John and Nancy (Steinmetz) Crowl, natives of Virginia, near the old Maryland line; it is uncertain whether the mother may not have been born in Maryland. The families of both father and mother removed to Ohio and settled in Knox County, where they were pioneers. John Crowl, the father of our subject, was a soldier in the War of 1812. After marriage he located in Knox County, Ohio. His first wife, the mother of our subject, died in 1844. She was the mother of eleven children, nine of whom lived to be grown. They were, Mary, John, Catherine, Lydia, Henry, George, Hannah, Cordelia and Amanda.

The original of this sketch was the only member of his family to come to Illinois. He was reared a farmer, his father having followed that pursuit all his life, as had his grandfather before him. Our subject received his education in the district schools of his native place, acquiring a knowledge of the branches that are indispensable to a practical business man. He was married October 25, 1859, to Miss Sarah Ann Marshall. The lady is a daughter of Robert and Nancy Marshall, and was born in Ohio, where her parents were pioneers.

Mr. Crowl came to Illinois in 1860, his first stop being in Livingston County, and in 1861 he came to Shelby County and settled where he now resides they having at that time a small tract of unimproved prairie land here. They now own one hundred and seventy-six acres of well-improved land that under the capable management of our

subject is made to yield fine crops. He has erected upon the place a good residence and barns, his place having many of the latest improvement in agricultural implements.

Mr. and Mrs. Crowl have been the parents of seven children. Five of these are now living, viz: Henrietta who is the wife of Samuel Turner; John M., Arthur W., Emery A. and Loren L. He of whom we write is an adherent of the Democratic party, believing that the principles of this party are those most suited to a Government where freedom and personal liberty are supposed to be sovereign. He has held some offices in the gift of the township, having filled the positions of Road Commissioner and School Director to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. Mr. Crowl is a modest, unassuming man, but one who is universally liked by his fellow-townsmen and neighbors because of his amiability and friendliness.



**A**LFRÉD F. ALLEN, County Clerk of Shelby County, is one of our most able and popular civic officials. He is a native of Indiana, born in Sugar Creek Township, Parke County, March 3, 1847. His father, James Allen, and his grandfather, Thomas Allen, were Virginians by birth. The father of the latter who was also named Thomas, served seven years as a spy in the interests of the Colonists during the Revolution. He was a man of a bold, resolute character, fearless and undaunted in time of peril, and his services were invaluable in securing information of the movements of the enemy for his superior officers. He removed from Virginia to Kentucky about 1812, and was a pioneer of that State. In 1822 he went to Indiana to spend his last years, and made his home with his son in Fountain County until death closed his mortal career. His remains were deposited in Wolf Creek Cemetery in Park County.

The grandfather of our subject spent his early life in his native Virginia, and was there married to Elizabeth Summers, who was also of Virginian

birth. In August, 1812, accompanied by his family, he went to Kentucky, and for some years resided in the wilds of that State. In 1822 he made another move and became a resident of Indiana, being among the first to settle on the line between Parke and Fountain Counties, performing the journey thither with teams and pack horses. He entered a tract of land in Parke and Fountain Counties, and built a house on the Fountain County side of the line, in which he lived until his death in October, 1814 removed from that locality one of its most useful pioneers. His wife survived him until 1879, when she too passed away on the home farm in Indiana.

The father of our subject was a lad of twelve years when the family sought a new home in the forest wilds of Indiana, where he grew to manhood on his father's farm. After marriage he settled on a tract of timber land he purchased in Sugar Creek Township, he and his bride beginning housekeeping in a log house, which was the birthplace of our subject. They resided there until 1857, when Mr. Allen sold that place, and coming to Shelby County, bought a farm in Big Spring Township. He lived thereon some years, and then sold it, and removing to Strasburg, is passing his declining years in retirement, well-earned by a long and honorable life of industry, with his children. He was deprived of the companionship of his beloved wife by her death in 1879 at Strasburg. She was a native of Kentucky and bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Nickolls. Her father, John Nickolls, a native of North Carolina, was an early pioneer of Kentucky, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a teacher by profession. The maiden name of his wife was Elsie Wilson. The parents of our subject reared six children, of whom the following are the names: Thomas, Alexander, James F., William, Alfred F. and Robert H.

Alfred F. Allen inherited in a good degree those fine traits of character of the sturdy Revolutionary and pioneer stock from which he is descended, some of our best citizens coming from such an ancestry. When he was ten years old his parents brought him from the home of his birth to Shelby County, and from that time until his marriage he

was of much assistance to his father in the improvement of his farm. He was a thoughtful, studious lad, and in the district schools, which he attended quite steadily during his youth, he laid the basis of a sound education whereby he was well-equipped for the profession of a teacher, and he entered upon its duties at the age of twenty-two years. He taught the greater part of the time the ensuing fourteen years, and then abandoned that calling to accept a position as clerk in a store at Strasburg. He remained a resident of that village until 1886, and during that time was appointed Postmaster at that place, he being the first in the county to receive an appointment at the hands of President Cleveland. He gave every satisfaction as an incumbent of that office, as he managed its affairs after a most business-like manner, and was always courteous in his intercourse with the people of the village, by whom he was well-known, and who appreciated his genial social qualities and the worth of his character.

In 1886 Mr. Allen removed to Shelbyville to assume the duties of County Clerk, to which position he had been recently elected. He has ever since retained the office, and it is conceded on all sides, without regard to party, that no man better qualified in every way could have been selected, as he brings a good understanding of the duties required of him, and a clear, well-trained intellect to bear upon his work, and his books will bear the inspection of the most critical. He is an ardent Democrat, and has been since he cast his first Presidential vote for Horace Greeley, always keeping himself well-informed in politics. While a resident of Strasburg he was an important figure in its public and social life, and held several local offices. He served as Justice of the Peace and Notary Public of that village, was at one time Town Clerk, and also acted as Assessor and as School Treasurer. He is a member of Jackson Lodge, No. 53, A. F. & A. M.; of Jackson Chapter, No. 55, R. A. M.; of Black Hawk Lodge, No. 183, K. P., and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. Allen was first married April 17, 1873, to Miss Mary E. Davis, a native of Moultrie County, and a daughter of Charles Davis. She died in 1879 after a few brief years of wedded happiness,

leaving three children, Ida I. and Maggie and one since deceased. Mr. Allen was married in 1880 to his present estimable wife, formerly Miss Allie J. Storm, a native of Ash Grove Township, this county, and a daughter of John C. Storm. By this marriage two children have been born, Flora and one deceased.



**H**ON. ANTHONY THORNTON, of Shelbyville, Shelby County, ex-Judge of the Supreme Court of Illinois, has distinguished himself on the bench and before the tribunals of this State in the course of a long practice, extending over fifty-five years, and is to-day one of our foremost lawyers, whose learning, personality and character have added lustre to the bar of this county, and have been potent in raising it to its present high position in the judiciary of this Commonwealth.

Judge Thornton is of Southern birth and ancestry, coming of Colonial and Revolutionary stock. He was born on a Kentucky plantation, six miles from Paris, Bourbon County, November 9, 1814. His father, who bore the same name as himself, was born in Caroline County, Va., and was a son of Col. Anthony Thornton, who was also a native of the Old Dominion, his father being a planter and a life-long resident of that State. Col. Thornton took an active part in the Revolution as Colonel of a body of Virginia State Militia, and his commission, which was given him by Patrick Henry, is now in the possession of our subject. Animated by a spirit of adventure, and a desire to avail himself of the superior advantages possessed by the virgin soil of Kentucky, in 1803 the grandfather of our subject pushed forward to the frontier, taking with him his family and his slaves, the latter about a hundred in number, and journeying to the new home across the mountains with teams. His daughter kept a journal, giving the details of each day's journey, and the original manuscript is now in the Judge's possession. For a time after their arrival in the wilds of Kentucky the family lived in Nicholas County, and then the

Colonel bought a large tract of land in Bourbon and Harrison Counties, and in the dwelling that he erected in the latter county his remaining years were passed until his death.

The father of our subject was reared and married in Virginia, and subsequently accompanied his parents and other members of the family in their exodus to the forest wilds of Kentucky. He purchased a tract of partly improved land on Cane Ridge, six miles from Paris, and gave his attention to agriculture, carrying on his farming operations with slave labor. His life was brought to an untimely end when scarcely past its prime, his death occurring on his plantation in the year 1819. His wife survived him only six months, and then she too closed her eyes in that dreamless sleep that knows no waking. She was also a native of Virginia, and her maiden name was Mary Towles.

Thus sadly bereft of a mother's and father's care when he was but five years of age, our subject went to live with his paternal grandparents, who reared him tenderly, and he was given every advantage to obtain a liberal education. He first attended the common schools, which were taught on the subscription plan, and at the age of sixteen was sent to Gallatin, Tenn., to pursue his studies at the High School of that town. From there he went to Danville, and for a time was a student at Centre College. He next entered Oxford College, Oxford, Ohio, and so far was he advanced he was enrolled as a member of the junior class of that institution, and was graduated with a high standing for scholarship in the September Class of '34.

After leaving college our subject entered upon his preparation for the legal profession under the instruction of his uncle John R. Thornton, of Paris, Ky., and in 1836 he was examined before the court of appeals by Judge James Robertson and Judge Marshall, and was admitted to the bar. In the fall of the same year he started Westward with the intention of settling in Missouri, and while on his way came to this county to visit Gen. Thornton, traveling by the most expeditious route at that time, which was by the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Meredosia, thence by stage through Springfield to Shelbyville. He found here but a small village of about two hundred people,

living for the most part in log houses, while the surrounding country was but little settled, and the land was nearly all owned by the Government. With characteristic acumen the Judge soon perceived that here was a fine field for legal talent, and he decided to tarry here, and enter upon his professional career amid its pioneer scenes. Accordingly he opened an office in the village, and as he became known and his ability was recognized, clients began to pour in upon him, and his business steadily grew with the growth of the county, justifying his anticipations of a good practice when he selected this location for a future home.

In 1848 Judge Thornton entered the political arena as a member of the State Constitutional Convention that met that year to revise the Constitution of Illinois, and his legal equipment made his services valuable in the work of revision performed by the members of that convention. In 1850 he was elected to the State Legislature on the Whig ticket, and again he played an important part as a member of that most important of all committees during that session, the one that had charge of railroad legislation, as then the principal railroads of the State were organized and their routes defined. In 1864 the Judge was elected to Congress, served throughout two sessions, displaying in his career as a national legislator broad statesmanship, and so thoroughly satisfying his constituents that they paid him the compliment of re-nominating him to succeed himself. Then was presented the spectacle, rather rare in these days of the multifarious seekers after high places, of a man resolutely declining a proffered office, together with its honors and emoluments. Our subject's refusal to make the race again was actuated by his desire to retire from political life, and to resume once more his beloved profession. In 1870 he was elected to the Supreme Bench, a position for which he was eminently fitted by experience, by his wide and extensive knowledge of law, and by the possession of masterly judicial qualities. He administered justice vigorously, equitably, and with a clear discernment of the merits of each case that came under his jurisdiction.

Notwithstanding the honor of being at the head of the Supreme Court of Illinois, Judge Thornton

preferred his old place before the bar as an attorney, and in 1873 his resignation of the judgeship was tendered, an act unparalleled in the annals of the judiciary of this State, and was received with regret, his retirement from the high office he so adorned, and where he so ably conserved the ends of justice, being considered a loss to the bench. Since that time he has attended strictly to his law business, and devotes himself, heart and soul to the interests of his extensive clientage.

The Judge is a man of strong nature, of a fine physique and distinguished presence, is popular with all classes, and has a firm hold upon the hearts of the people among whom the most active years of his life have been passed, and who delight to do him honor. He is seen at the best advantage amid the pleasant surroundings of his attractive home as a genial and courteous host, a devoted husband and indulgent father. He has been twice married. In 1850 he was wedded to Miss Mildred Thornton, a native of Virginia, and a daughter of William F. and Ann Thornton. Their married life was brief, as the young wife died in 1856, leaving two children, William T. and Anthony, the latter of whom is dead. In 1866 our subject was united in marriage to Miss Kate H. Smith, a native of this county, and a daughter of Addison and Mary Smith. Two children have been born of this union, Catherine P. and Lewis.



**C**OLMADY P. ROBERTS, a citizen well-known in Shelby County (where he has lived for many years) as an honorable and upright man having the confidence and esteem of all who knew him, is always named as one of the most enterprising and energetic business men of Lakewood, that pleasant village situated near what was once the shores of Lake Miantowana. He was born in Wayne County, Pa., October 16, 1844, his parents, John S. and Mary A. (Friggins) Roberts, being natives of Cornwall, England. The father was born in 1807 and the mother the year previous. Their marriage took place in England in 1830.

After twelve years of married life in the old

country John and Mary Roberts migrated to America and located in 1842 in Wayne County, Pa., where they remained for seven years. They removed to Lafayette County, Wis., in 1849, remaining there till 1856 when they came to Shelby County, where they spent the remainder of their days. The death of the father, which occurred in 1878, resulted from a sunstroke and the mother passed away in 1884.

Colmady P. Roberts received his education in the public schools of Wisconsin and of Shelby County, supplemented by attendance at the academy in Shelbyville. He enlisted in the army under President Lincoln's last call for volunteers in 1865 for one year's service and after serving seven months received his discharge on account of the declaration of peace. He enlisted as Corporal in Company K, Fourteenth Illinois (new organization) and was discharged as Orderly-Sergeant of his company. He took part in the race after Johnston with Sherman's army and marched up through the Carolinas in Virginia, to Richmond and Washington and participated in the Grand Review. The regiment gave real service during its short term. It was near Ft. Kearney, Neb., when orders came to be mustered out.

To Shelby County our subject returned after his discharge and engaged in the peaceful pursuits of teaching and farming, following these pursuits for a number of years. Having reached the mature age of twenty-five years this young man decided to agree practically with the scriptural doctrine that it is "not good for man to be alone," and chose for himself a wife in the person of Miss Elmira Carder, a native of this county, who was born here in August, 1850. They were married November 11, 1869. Her parents, Joseph and Frances Carder, were early pioneers of Shelby County and Mrs. Roberts was the youngest in their family of five children, the others being James, Henry, Frances, and one sister who died in early life. Only two of this number now survive. Their mother died in 1851 and the father remarried and had six children by the second union, four of whom are living. The happy home of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts has been blessed by the birth of four children, three of whom still make their home under the parental





*Edward B. Sanner.*



*Naomi P. Sumner.*



roof. The oldest, Edwin A., was born June 30, 1871, and died July 1, 1891; Annie B., born in January 14, 1873, is next in age and Joseph S., born June 3, 1875, is now attending school at Danville, Ind., at an institution under the control of the State. Gracie R., the pet and delight of the family, was born April 20, 1885.

In 1872 Mr. Roberts engaged in buying grain and produce at Lakewood and has continued handling grain and stock in connection with merchandising and farming up to the present date. He and his wife own about six hundred acres of farming land in the vicinity of Lakewood and also some property within the village. He carries a general stock of dry goods, groceries, ready made clothing, boots and shoes, provisions, etc. His store is filled with a well-selected stock and he enjoys an excellent share of the trade of the town.

This gentleman takes a great interest in religious work and especially in Sunday-school, being a member of the Separate Baptist Church for which he often preaches, being ever ready to supply vacancies and attend funeral services. His excellent wife is also an active worker in the same church. He is very useful in the community and is frequently called upon to settle estates and act as guardian for minor children, in both of which capacities he has shown himself eminently worthy of the confidence which was reposed in him. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace and is at the present time a Notary Public. His political views are expressed in the declarations of the Republican party, in the prosperity of which he takes great interest.



**E**DWARD B. SANNER. The student of history finds abundant food for thought in the life record of this gentleman who has materially added to the wealth and importance of Shelby County as one of the leading agricultural centers of the great Prairie State since he identified himself with its most stirring and enterprising farmers and stock-raisers a quarter of a century ago. He has extensive landed interests both in this

and Macon County, and a beautiful home in Penn Township, where he has a model farm. He devotes this estate largely to stock-raising purposes, having here one of the best herds of Herefords in this section, and several fine Cleveland Bay horses among other valuable stock. A view of this fine homestead appears on another page of this volume.

Our subject was born April 29, 1839, in one of the pioneer homes of Madison County. His father, Samuel Sanner, was an early settler of that section of Illinois, who took an active part in its development during the thirty-three years that he resided there. He was a Pennsylvanian by birth, born in Northumberland. He married Barbara Paul, a native of that part of Virginia now included in West Virginia, and in 1833 came with her from Pennsylvania to this State. In 1866 he removed with his family to this county, and here his life was closed in his home in Penn Township in April, 1880, death coming to him after a long and busy career. He left a record worthy of emulation and an untarnished name that is revered by his descendants and by all who knew him.

Edward Sanner grew to manhood under good home influences, and principles of industry and of doing well whatever he undertook were early instilled into his mind and undoubtedly have contributed much to his prosperity since he began his independent career as a farmer. As soon as he was old enough he attended the district school and continued a student there until he became of age, and as he made the best of his opportunities he obtained a sound, practical education. His father intended to send him to college at Lebanon, but his services were needed at home, and the idea of a course at college had to be abandoned. He was living quietly in his father's home in Madison County when the great Civil War between the North and South broke out, and fired with patriotism, he desired to serve his country. But here again his wishes had to give way to his sense of duty, as some of his brothers had entered the army, and he was more than ever needed to help carry on the farm, so he gave up the thought of enlisting in a regiment of zouaves as he had contemplated. But the work that he performed at home in sowing the seed and harvesting the crops was as

necessary to carrying on the war to a successful issue as the hard fighting that the soldiers did at the front, for the wheat and corn raised on the broad prairies of the Middle and Western States to supply the armies with needed food were important factors in suppressing the rebellion and preserving the Union.

The removal of the Sanner family, father and sons with their families, to this county in 1866, was an important event in the life of our subject. In the fall of that year he located on land bought from the Illinois Central Railway Company, comprising the west half of section 20, Township 14, (Penn Township), range 3, east. Penn Township then formed a part of Pickaway, and the prairies of the northern part had been passed by, with but few exceptions, as unfit for settlement on account of the swampy character of the soil. This proved to be a mistaken idea, as since some of the finest farms of the county have been improved here, our subject's among others. With characteristic energy he entered upon the hard task before him of redeeming his land from its wild condition by draining it and placing it under careful cultivation, and to-day there is not a more desirable farm throughout the length and breadth of Shelby County than his, with its well-tilled fields yielding abundant harvests, and its commodious, conveniently arranged frame buildings, including a large and handsome residence of a modern style of architecture, with pleasant surroundings. He has added to his original purchase, and now has one thousand and ninety acres of well-improved prairie land, two hundred and ninety acres of it lying in Macon County, and the remainder in this county. Carrying on an extensive business as a general farmer, Mr. Sanner gives much attention to stock-raising, Herefords, of which he has a valuable herd, being his favorite breed of cattle, and in horses, Cleveland Bays stand first with him, and he has some fine specimens of that blood.

The ceremony which made Miss Naomi Pierson, of Bunker Hill, the wife of our subject was performed November 15, 1865, and in her he has found one of life's choicest blessings. Their wedded life has been productive to them of nine children, named Willie, Albert, Hattie, Clifford,

Ruth, Fanny, Samuel, Quintus and Naomi. Fanny died at the age of twelve weeks. Mrs. Sanner is a native of Jacksonville, Morgan County, Ill., born in 1840, and is a daughter of Dr. Daniel C. and Naomi C. (Nixon) Pierson, natives of New Jersey. Her father practiced medicine in his native State several years prior to his removal to Illinois in 1833, when he became a pioneer physician of Jacksonville.

Nature has dealt generously with our subject and has not only endowed him with a fine physique, but has given him a keen, discerning, well-poised mind, and with these as capital, seconded by decision of character and tenacity of purpose, he could not fail to make life worth living and to achieve whatever he desired to accomplish. He is of an open-minded, fair, generous disposition, and has gathered around himself many warm friends, whom he is ever ready to oblige, and in times of trouble or need they are sure of his sympathy and assistance. Nurtured in the faith of the Republican party, which was organized in his boyhood, and taught to believe that its tenets were the only true ones for the conduct of the Government, Mr. Sanner has always been a devoted follower of the party ever since he began to exercise the right of suffrage by casting his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860.

The attention of the reader is invited to the lithographic portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Sanner, presented in this connection.



**J**OHN HENDRICKS. Among the prominent families who have helped to make the local history of Shelby County, we take pleasure in naming again the one of which our subject is a representative. John Hendricks resides on section 22, Okaw Township, and is a son of Samuel and Mary E. Hendricks. The grandfather of our subject, who bore the name of George Hendricks, came to this State from North Carolina, and settling in Okaw Township, made his home there with his worthy wife and there they resided until they were called from earth by the call which no man

disregards. His death occurred some years previous to that of his faithful companion. He was born in North Carolina, January 29, 1799 and died July 11, 1835, while his wife, who was a native of the same State, had her birth October 26, 1798 and passed away April 21, 1872. They reared to usefulness three sons and two daughters, namely Samuel, John R., Zimri, Amanda, and Losada.

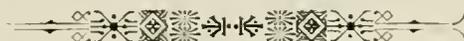
Samuel and Mary E. Hendricks were the parents of eight children, one of whom died in infancy and seven grew to years of maturity, namely: Rebecca A. (Mrs. Charles Turney) John, our subject, David, deceased, Charles, Lawson, Alonzo and Mary E. (Mrs. Lewis Hawk).

Our subject was reared on the farm and received his education in the common schools of Shelby County. He is the eldest son and second child of his parents, being born January 22, 1850. His early choice of an occupation for life was made in favor of farming pursuits, and he was married August 24, 1871, to Anna L. Patterson, a daughter of James and Frances Patterson and a native of Shelby County, Ill., where she was born October 26, 1851.

About three years after marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hendricks settled upon the farm of eighty acres where they now reside. Their eight children bear the names of Minnie F., William E., John E., James A., Carrie E., Rhoda E., Myrtle F., and an infant who is yet unnamed. The political views of Mr. Hendricks are in accord with the declarations and platform of the Republican party but his interest in the welfare of the farming community has influenced him of late to vote with the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. He is an active worker in the Christian Church and a man whose usefulness therein is accorded by all who know him.

David F. Hendricks, deceased, a brother of our subject, is worthy of note in connection with this sketch. He was born July 24, 1853, and died May 15, 1881. Mr. Hendricks was a graduate of Chicago Commercial College and was book-keeper for a leading firm of contractors at Shelbyville. For five years he was chorister of the Christian Sunday-school and for one year chorister of the Royal Purple Temperance Association and also led the singing in church for some time. He was an hon-

ored and beloved member of the Christian Church and was also identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His death was greatly felt in the community where he had made his home from childhood.



JOSEPH E. EDEX, proprietor of the Eden House, of Sullivan, Moultrie County, is numbered among the honored pioneers of the county. Only seven of those living in Sullivan at the time of his arrival are still residents of that place. Probably no man in the community is more widely or favorably known than our subject, who was born in Bath County, Ky., September 10, 1820. His father, John P. Eden, was born in Baltimore, Md., in 1796, and the grandfather, Jeremiah Eden, was a native of England. When a young man he crossed the Atlantic probably locating in Maryland, where he wedded a lady of German descent. After living for a time in that State, they removed to Bath County, Ky., where they spent the remainder of their lives. Both were members of the Methodist Church. The father of our subject was a young lad when his parents removed to Kentucky where he grew to manhood and married Catherine Cann, a native of Bath County, where her parents were early settlers. Their union was celebrated in 1818, and upon a farm in that locality they resided until 1831, when they removed to Rush County, Ind., locating three miles from Rushville. Mr. Eden procured land upon which he made some improvements and died at his home in Indiana in 1835. He was a sound Democrat in politics and twice voted for Andrew Jackson. His wife survived him some years and died at the home of our subject in 1870, at the age of seventy years. In religious belief she was a Presbyterian. The family numbered six children, of whom Joseph E., John, whose sketch is given elsewhere, Mrs. Moore, of Bruce, Ill., and Mrs. Sampson, of Sullivan are yet living.

Our subject was only fifteen years of age when his father died and being one of the older children of the family much care and labor devolved upon

him. He proved the main support of his widowed mother and the faithfulness with which he attended to his duties merits the highest praise. His school privileges were necessarily limited but he would gather hickory bark to make a torch light and during the long winter evenings would read such books as he could get hold of until at length he had acquired a good practical knowledge. The only school which he attended was a log cabin furnished with puncheon floor and slab seats, but so well did he prepare himself that for ten years he was a successful teacher in Rush County, Ind.

During that time Mr. Eden met and married Miss Matilda M. Bussell, who was born two miles from Rushville, Ind., in 1828, and is a daughter of Col. William S. and Maria (Ward) Bussell, who were natives of Kentucky. With their respective families her parents went to Indiana during childhood. Mr. Bussell served as a Colonel in the Black Hawk War and in Indiana occupied the office of County Sheriff. His business was that of a merchant and dealer in live-stock. In 1834, he started for Georgia, with a large drove of horses and while in that State died of spasmodic colic. He was then less than forty years of age. He was a man of commanding presence, fine-looking and his appearance commanded respect. He also served as Colonel in the State Militia. His wife survived him many years and died at the advanced age of eighty-four, in Jasper County, Ind. She was a second time married, becoming the wife of Dr. Knox, who died at the home of our subject.

Mrs. Eden remained with her mother until her marriage, which was celebrated May 14, 1846. By their union have been born four children: William, who wedded Belle Alexander and resides in Fresno, Cal.; Susie, wife of Dr. O. C. Link, a successful physician of Lincoln, Neb., who was formerly Superintendent of the Insane Hospital at Yankton, S. Dak.; J. F., a leading liveryman of Sullivan, who wedded Josie Smizer; and E. B., who married Elizabeth Beverage. He resides in Sullivan and is engaged in the insurance and real-estate business.

In the line of his trade, Joseph Eden has become widely known. He began operations in the hotel business in 1864, and was very successful in his undertaking until 1880, when he suffered quite a

loss by fire. However, on the site of the old hotel he erected a new one, which was completed in 1883, and on the 3d of November of that year was opened to the public. It is situated on the southwest corner of the square and is a three-story brick with basement, containing forty sleeping rooms, besides parlors, three sample rooms, commodious kitchen, dining-room, etc. The house is well arranged and is furnished with all modern conveniences for the comfort and entertainment of guests. Mr. Eden exerts himself to make his patrons feel at home and the hotel well deserves its popularity. In connection he also had a large and fine livery which was burned on the 8th of August, 1879, just one year after it was completed. We thus see that he had met with reverses but with characteristic energy he set to work to retrieve his losses. Altogether his career has been most prosperous. Previous to his embarking in the hotel business he established a general store immediately after his arrival March 7, 1853, and for twenty years engaged in merchandising. In the meantime he purchased land and followed farming and stock-raising for fifteen years. His property was near the city and he still owns a portion of it.

Mr. Eden has lived to see almost the entire development of the county and has done much for its interests. At the time of his arrival there were only about four hundred voters in the county and the work of progress seemed scarcely begun. He held the office of Postmaster of Sullivan under Presidents Pierce and Buchanan, being first appointed in 1853 and was superseded when the Republican party came into power. He was also Justice of the Peace for four years and soon afterward was elected County Judge, filling the office for a similar period. During that time the old county court house was burned and the present structure erected. Judge Eden was the prime mover in securing the sale of the swamp lands, with which funds the new court house was built and sufficient left to purchase the present poor farm of two hundred acres. In this purchase he met with much opposition, as many wished to use the money for school purposes, but he persevered and the poor farm has proved a valuable acquisition, being now self-sustaining and a credit to the

county. When the agricultural society of the county was organized in 1857, Mr. Eden became connected with it and for more than twenty years has been its President, holding that position at the present time. On the organization of the Building and Loan Association in 1887, he became its highest official and is yet its President. In politics he is one of the staunchest advocates of the Democracy and is a leader of his party in this portion of the State. He has been an honored delegate to the State and county conventions and for several years has been Chairman of the County Central Committee. For thirty-seven years he has been an Odd Fellow and for twenty-four years has been a member of the Grand Lodge of the State. He is one of the charter members of the third lodge of Royal Templars in the State, located at Sullivan. We thus see how prominent Judge Eden has been in public affairs. His genial, kindly manner has won him many friends who esteem him highly for his sterling worth. The active part which he has taken in the upbuilding of the county entitles him to mention among its founders and best citizens and it is with pleasure that we present this sketch to the readers of the Record.



**C**HARLES H. McCOY. Centuries ago, the work of an architect only began when the idea, the plans and specifications for his work were impressed upon his mind, and confided to parchment. After that he himself, with a myriad of workmen went into the forests, hewed down the trees that his judgment told him were best adapted for the work in hand, and set about putting them in such shape with his chisel and saw, as could be used in his building. To-day, in architecture, as in every thing else, there are a hundred, yes, more, specialties, to which as many men bring the concentrated power of their intelligence, ability and skill. Of these specialists, no one takes a more important part than he who furnishes the well-seasoned timbers that go to make up the skeleton of a frame work, the odorous, piney shell, and the beautifully grained, marvelously shaded woods

for the interior finish. The trade of a lumber dealer is one in which, if one have any artistic instinct, there is large opportunity for the fullest enjoyment of color, tone and form.

Our subject, who has just reached that age when success begins to be grateful was born in Mifflin County, Pa., February 10, 1851. His father was the late Samuel H. McCoy, a farmer by occupation and a native of Bucks County, Pa. where he was born December 1, 1818. Our subject's mother whose maiden name was Rachael J. Anderson, was born in Mifflin County, Pa. in July, 1832. After their marriage, they settled in the bride's native county, where together they pursued the course of life for many years, and where the father died June 8, 1890. They became the parents of five children, our subject being the second in order of birth. His birthplace was in Mifflin County, Pa. and his natal day was July 10, 1851.

Charles H. McCoy was reared to manhood on his father's farm, and remained under the parental roof until about 1873. After that time and until 1876, he was employed in different occupations in his native State, and at that date, he came to Piatt County, Ill., where for a period of two years he was employed during the summer months at farming and during the winter season he was engaged in teaching in Moultrie County. At this time he formed a partnership with J. C. McCord and launched into the grain and lumber business in Bement. This partnership continued until 1881, at which time the firm dissolved and for about seven months afterward our subject was employed as book-keeper for a coal company in New Mexico. His experience in that territory was new and interesting, but he was not so attracted that his inclinations did not urge him to return to the Prairie State. Coming hither again he engaged in his former occupation, or rather, in the lumber trade, at Atwood, remaining there, however, but for a short time, selling out his business and in the spring of 1883 coming to Lovington, where he resumed the business in which he was formerly engaged but thereafter being sole proprietor, although for the first two years, that is from 1883 to 1885, he was in partnership with his brother, S. E. McCoy.

The original of this sketch enjoys the reputation

of being a straightforward business man honorable in all his dealings, and it speaks well for his credit that he enjoys to the fullest extent, the confidence and esteem of his fellow-townsmen. His marriage took place in Bement this State, December 25, 1879. Mrs. McCoy's maiden name was Susan L. Tabor. Her parents were Edwin and Nancy A. (Boyle) Tabor. She is a native of Kentucky, being born in the metropolis of that State February 25, 1852. Their union has been blessed by the advent of three children whose names are respectively Edwin T., Fred H. and Florence L. They are amiable and lovable young people endowed with bright minds and quick perceptive faculties. Our subject affiliates with the Republican party, and although he is greatly interested, as all good men must be, in local government, he is not in any sense a seeker after office. He has, however, been elected to some local posts, and has filled the important position of School Director with great appreciation of the responsibilities of that office.



**H**ON. SAMUEL W. WRIGHT, Jr., represents the Thirty-third Senatorial District in the General Assembly. From a local standpoint he is an enterprising citizen and a liberal supporter of all worthy enterprises. Personally he of whom we write is modest and retiring, but a thorough business man and a gentleman. He lives on a farm, which he oversees, but as the greater part of his time is given to outside business the term of "gentleman farmer" might with propriety be applied to Mr. Wright. He is the owner, however, of a good farm in Sullivan Township, which, owing to his splendid management, is a model of neatness, order and attractiveness. Like the majority of farmers who do business on a large scale in the State, he deals extensively in live-stock and is a general trader.

The original of our sketch is the only son of James M. and Mildred (Dazey) Wright, and was born in this county June 30, 1850. The family removed, however, to Shelby County in the fall of 1850, and there the lad passed his boyhood days,

He was seventeen years old when the family came to Sullivan, and the young man finished his education at Bastian College, then a noted institution of learning, but now defunct. Like the present leader of the Republican party, the Hon. James G. Blaine, he began his career as a teacher, and doubtless, in forming debating societies for his students, he early learned parliamentary rules and regulations that were of value to him later in his career in public life.

In 1870 Samuel Wright was married, his bride being Miss Angie Powell, who was born in Moultrie County, March 4, 1850. Their nuptials were celebrated in Sullivan, where for a time the young couple made their residence. Mrs. Wright is a daughter of John and Sarah (Harbough) Powell. In 1879 they settled in Moultrie County, where they at present reside. Here our subject is engaged while at home, in stock-raising, being able to boast of some of the finest breeds in the animals that he owns. Politically, the originator of our sketch is an important factor in the local forces of the Democratic party. An intelligent, educated man, and a good speaker, he has done much for his party in the State. He has for three terms held the local office of Township Supervisor, and has also been Chairman of the Board, and has been instrumental in effecting many changes that have benefited the county.

In the fall of 1890 he of whom we write was elected to the State Senate, and was one of the one hundred and one who supported the Hon. John M. Palmer so ably for the United States Senate. His standing in the Legislature speaks for itself in the fact that he was a member of some of the most important committees, serving on ten in all, among which were those on appropriations, banks and banking, corporations, etc. He received the highly complimentary vote of three thousand four hundred majority over his Republican opponents and several hundred over all other candidates, which speaks in most glowing terms of his popularity in the county.

Mr. Wright's domestic and home life is exceedingly happy. His wife is a charming woman, who, while her chief interests are centered in her home and family, presides with great dignity and ele-

gance over the domestic realm. She is a delightful hostess, making rich or poor, great or small, feel at home and easy in her gracious presence. She is the mother of eight children, whose names are as follows: Carrie E., Addie O., Walter P., James A., Minnie May, Edward E., Homer W. and Samuel Palmer.

Our subject is Past Grand Master of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and also a member of the Knights of Pythias. In their religious relations both Mr. and Mrs. Wright are connected in membership with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Our subject is a man whose biographical sketch it is a pleasure to consider. Cultivated, educated and manly, with no inclination to boast of natural advantages or acquirements, he is one who naturally takes his place at the head of affairs and is recognized universally as one of nature's noblemen.



**G**EORGE W. GRISSO. The hospitable and genial owner of the finely-improved farm located on section 12, of Tower Hill Township, is a man whose ancestry and birth tell in his general status, for he is intelligent, well informed, a lover of books and of beautiful things, altogether a manly man and a gentleman. His father was Christian Grisso, a native of Virginia, and his mother Elizabeth (Detrick) Grisso. Both parents were of German ancestry. Our subject's father still survives, but his mother passed away about 1858. They were the parents of a family of eight children, and of these our subject was the fourth in order of birth, having been born in Clark County, Ohio, August 30, 1838.

The original of this sketch attained to manhood in his native county and State, and December 13, 1864, when he felt that he could take upon him the responsibilities and duties of wedded life, he was married to Miss Catherine Mellinger, a daughter of Malchor and Matilda (Bowman) Mellinger, who were residents of Dayton, Ohio, at the time of their death, where they had lived for many years.

They were the parents of ten children, of whom Mrs. Grisso was the second in order of birth. She was born in Richland County, Ohio, February 5, 1840.

After the marriage of our subject, he, with his young wife, settled in Clark County, Ohio, and there lived five years, from which place they came to this county and settled in Tower Hill Township, where they have ever since been residents. Their domestic life has been very happy. Kindly and forbearing, each is appreciative of the intentions and acts of the other. Little ones have come about them, and those who survive have grown to be good and intelligent women, who have taken responsible and honorable positions in society. They are a credit to their parents, and speak well for the years of tender guardianship and care which have been bestowed upon them. The names of the five children are as follows: Carrie M., who died in infancy; Clarence A., who was also taken away while a babe; Emma J.; Cora M., who is the wife of Charles Malone; and Ivella I.

Mr. Grisso has been appointed to service in several local offices, having been Highway Commissioner and School Director; and the compliment that has been paid his judgment and ability has been returned by faithful and efficient service. He has ever taken an active part in local political affairs, striving to have the local government in the hands of such men as will conscientiously discharge their duties irrespective of party power. He fraternizes with the Prohibition element, thus showing his progressive tendencies. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and he himself has ever been a generous contributor to the support of the Gospel.

He of whom we write has found his vocation to be that of a producer and cultivator of the rich cereal treasures of the earth, and in this, although a comparatively young man, he has already been favored with a reasonable degree of success. He is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of good land, upon which he has expended much money and labor in fine improvements. His residence is a cozy and comfortable home, which finds a place for the best influence wrought by books and music and cheerful, animated conversation on

current topics of the day. He devotes the greater part of his attention to the cultivation of small fruit, in which he has been particularly successful, and his farm in the warm days of June, July and August, when the bushes are laden with their fragrant and juicy burdens, is an enticing and delightful place to visit. Socially he belongs to the Order of United Workmen.

During the War of the Rebellion Mr. Grisso enlisted in the army, becoming a volunteer in August, 1862, in Company A., Ninety-fourth Ohio Regiment. He served about eleven months, at the expiration of which time he was discharged on account of physical disability. He was taken prisoner near Frankfort, Ky., and experienced something of the prison life, although he was paroled soon after his capture.



**A**LONZO HENDRICKS. Shelby County abounds in a fine class of farmers who have given to this section of the Prairie State an excellent reputation and have been of help in building its commercial and agricultural interests. To such the county owes a debt which is not easily paid and they will leave to their posterity a heritage which will be their best possession. Our subject, who is such a citizen and who resides on section 29, Okaw Township, where his farm is there tributary to the city of Shelbyville, is the son of Samuel and Mary E. (Sconce) Hendricks, natives of North Carolina and Kentucky respectively.

Samuel Hendricks came to Illinois when a young man and was married in Shelby County, and gave his entire attention to farming, until a few years previous to his death, when, feeling that he had done his share in the work of subduing the soil and adding to the world's riches through its cultivation, he retired from active life and made his home in Shelbyville, where he died in May, 1888, at the age of sixty-two years. His good wife passed from earth in 1881. He was born March 25, 1826, and early became a pioneer of Illinois, coming with his parents to Shelby County in 1831, and thus spent the greater part of his life in this

State. His character was such as to give him the warm regard as well as esteem of his neighbors. He was an honored member of the Christian Church from October 5, 1841, and was a constant and true friend of the Union through all the trying scenes of the Civil War.

The political convictions of this pioneer made him an ardent Republican yet he could not be called a politician in the usual sense of the word, as his intelligence and extensive reading had made him a man of breadth and he was cordially willing that every man should hold to his own opinions, never cherishing any hostility toward those who differed from him. His honorable attention to the affairs which concerned himself and his willingness to allow his neighbors the same privilege added greatly to his popularity. His funeral, which was one of the largest ever known in the county, attested to the high respect in which this honest and hard-working man was held.

Mr. Samuel Hendricks had in his wife a worthy and efficient helpmate, one who made it her aim in life to do good to all with whom she came in contact, and to make her home the happiest place on earth. She was born in Nicholas County, Ky., September 6, 1826, and came with her parents to Shelby County when quite young. Her father died at the age of seventy-five and her mother survived until the venerable age of seventy-eight. Their daughter was an earnest member of the Christian Church and a steadfast worker therein. Her death, which occurred in 1881, was felt as a great blow not only to her home friends but also in the community.

The subject of this sketch was born February 24, 1859, and received in the common schools of Illinois the education which fitted him for life's work. Upon his father's farm he was thoroughly drilled in the practice and theory of farming and undertook that work as his business for life. He was married in 1880 to Luella Hardy, daughter of Thomas and Eliza Hardy. Like himself she is a native of Shelby County, and is now the mother of one bright and promising child, to whom they have given the name of Earl. Mr. Hendricks has resided where he now lives since his marriage and now has in his possession one hundred acres of fine





soil upon which he has placed substantial and permanent improvements. His political views have led him to affiliate with the Republican party and in its prosperity he feels a keen interest.



**J**OHIN P. BRABHAM. Living the life of a retired farmer in the pretty village of Lovington, Moultrie County, where he has a neat and attractive home, our subject has reached that period of life at which he may be pardoned if he exults in his good birth and parentage. In truth he was well born and a native of the State that boasts so many men who have attained great fame as statesmen and orators. Almost contemporary with Jefferson, Lee, Harrison and many others of the men who have enriched the historical pages of their State by valiant word and deed, John P. Brabham, early grew up with a keen appreciation of oratory and statesmanship, for did he not in his earliest infancy breathe in the very atmosphere that created orators?

Our subject's father was John Brabham, who was born in Loudoun County, Va. His mother was Mary Elizabeth Power, also of Virginia. After their marriage they settled in Loudoun County and remained there for a long time. In 1835 they determined to strike out in a new direction and removed to Morgan County, Ohio, where they lived for some two or three years. They next removed to Washington County, Ohio, where the decease of both occurred. It is not remarkable that they did not accumulate much wealth for they had fourteen little mouths to feed. However, as time passed the little ones grew to manhood and womanhood, becoming independent and a source of material help and comfort to the parents. It is a somewhat remarkable fact, that of this large family all reached maturity and had families of their own. The first break in the home circle was caused by the death of the youngest child, a daughter, who left two children.

Our subject was the fourth child in order of birth, first opening his eyes in Loudoun County, Va., his natal day being on the 11th of April, 1818.

With his father and family he went to Ohio when seventeen years of age and continued under the home roof until his marriage, which event took place December 23, 1840, in Washington County, Ohio, his bride being Miss Doshe E. Webster, a daughter of John and Mary (Burries) Webster, the former of whom died in Hardin County, Ohio. After the death of her husband, who was accidentally killed by the discharge of a rifle, Mrs. Webster returned to Washington County and there remained until her death. She had eight children of whom Mrs. Brabham was the third. Her birth took place in Morgan County, Ohio, July 24, 1824.

After the marriage of the original of our sketch and his wife the young couple settled in Washington County, Ohio, and there continued to live until 1867, when he sold out his farm and came to this State and county, settling in Lowe Township on section 17. On that place they continued to live until May, 1889, when he rented his farm and removed to Lovington, of which he has since been a resident. When a young man our subject learned the cooper's trade which he carried on in connection with farming while he lived in Ohio, but since coming to the Prairie State he has devoted his whole attention to agricultural affairs.

Mr. Brabham is the owner of two hundred and forty acres, all of which is well improved. The soil, which is of the best quality, has for years been well tilled and the buildings upon the place are substantial and good. Mr. and Mrs. Brabham are the parents of five children; Diantha C. was first married to John Rigg, in Ohio, in 1864, and of that union three children were born—Vesta, Norton M. and Arthur E. For a number of years she made her home with her parents until in June, 1884, when she again married, becoming the wife of James Jones, and two children have come to bless this union, Walter and Wilda (twins), the latter dying at the age of two years. Her two sons by her first marriage still reside with their grandparents and brighten the homes and lives of the worthy couple. Of the remaining children of Mr. and Mrs. Brabham the following is recorded: Walter H. died when sixteen years of age, just as the golden gate of manhood was opening before him and the prospects within its portal seemed so fair; Francis

M. married Miss Rebecca Deeter; Leonidas died when a lad of eleven years; David G. married Miss Hattie Dougherty.

In political affairs Mr. Brabham has taken a fairly active interest and is a Republican by preference. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace for a long time and has also been School Trustee and School Director. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and have been so connected since 1842. Nearly a half-century of church experience and social relationship is theirs, and they have followed the changes which have taken place in the customs of their church with interest and attention. Our subject has filled various offices in the church, and has been local preacher for years, also Superintendent of the Sunday-school, Deacon and Class-Leader. His wife has been a constant and faithful companion in all his good words and works, and is a woman of beautiful Christian character, whose amiability of disposition, gentleness and kindly spirit, have ever been an example of good to those around her. Mr. Brabham was a lay delegate to the Methodist Episcopal Conference held in Bloomington in September, 1891, and always strives in whatever position placed to advance the cause of religion so dear to his heart.

A lithographic portrait of Mr. Brabham accompanies this sketch.



**J**OHN MOLL. The young gentleman whose history it is our pleasure to here chronicle, is a successful farmer and stock-raiser operating a place on section 20, of Pickaway Township. The tract comprises two hundred and forty acres of good land, which is so well managed as to be the admiration of all who have the opportunity of seeing it. Although a young man to have the care of so large a place he has controlled it for the past two years, having been engaged as a farmer in Flat Branch Township for the five years previous to his coming here.

Our subject was born on the farm which he now

occupies, his natal day being February 27, 1862, and he is the fourth child in the parental family. His parents were Daniel and Caroline (Wolf) Moll, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio, respectively, both of German ancestry. They were married in Ohio and at once came to Illinois, settling in Ridge Township about 1854. Later they came to Pickaway Township and purchased a small farm, a part of which is now covered by the old homestead. This was the nucleus of the handsome property that Mr. Moll subsequently acquired. The farm comprised nine hundred and forty acres, most of which is now highly improved. The dwelling is a large two-story brick house, of imposing style and well located, commanding a magnificent view of the surrounding country.

Six farm dwellings which make good homes for the tenants and workmen about the place have been built on the land. The place has been brought to its present high tone chiefly by the efforts of Mr. Moll Sr., who is now retired from a life of active engagement in agriculture to a beautiful home in Moweauqua, where he and his wife live in quiet retirement at the ages of three score years. They are active and well-known factors in Moweauqua where they hold a prominent social position. Their church relations are connected with those of the United Brethren Church, of which Mr. Moll is a member. They have five living children.

The original of our sketch was reared on the farm which he now occupies. He received the advantages of a good public school education and is well fitted for practical business life. He was married in this township May 4, 1884, to Miss Ida Bell Tolly, who, like himself, is a native of this township, where she was born September 8, 1867. Here she was reared and educated. She is the daughter of Cornelius and Elizabeth (Goodwin) Tolly, who are now living at Moweauqua and are retired farmers. They are old settlers in the county and have been successful in a financial way. Mrs. Moll was well and carefully reared. She is a bright woman, having an unusual conversational talent, an attractive personality and charming manners. She is the proud mother of two children, in whose care and education she is deeply absorbed.

Mr. and Mrs. Moll are members of the old-school

Baptist Church of Flat Branch Township. Our subject is a Republican in his politics as is his father. He is a member of the order of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association.



**J**ONATHAN PATTERSON, familiarly known throughout this part of the State as "Dock" Patterson, belongs to a family of Scotch origin, the grandfather of our subject having been a native of the Highlands of Scotland, where he received thorough training and education and when a young man came with Gen. Lafayette to the United States, where he served as a soldier through the latter part of the Revolutionary War. He afterward settled in Tennessee and there married his first wife, who died while in the prime of life in Marshall County. After her death Mr. Patterson removed to Muhlenberg County, Ky., and there met and married his second wife and came to Illinois in 1828. His son, David, father of our subject, came to Illinois the same year, traveling overland with an ox-team and a horse, the horse being hitched in front of the oxen. They brought their household goods with them and after stopping for a short time in Edgar County, continued their travels in the same way to Moultrie County, which they reached in March, 1833. After visiting in Shelby County they finally settled near Sullivan, this county, and here David Patterson, the father of our subject, began life as a pioneer in the wilds of the new country. He helped to lay out the present city of Sullivan and spent his last years here, dying in October, 1867. His wife survived him for two years and passed away at an advanced age. By her marriage to David Patterson she had four sons and three daughters, four of whom are still living.

David Patterson, the father of our subject, was born in Tennessee in 1806 and he was yet a young man when he came to Illinois, and here he married Polly Harbaugh, whose parents, Jacob and Nancy (Hill) Harbaugh, were of Pennsylvania Dutch stock and came from West Pittsburg, Pa., traveling down

the Ohio River on a flatboat, making the first settlement in Muhlenberg County, Ky. After the marriage of their daughter, Polly, with David Patterson, the family came to Illinois and settled in what is now Moultrie County in the year 1833, and here Mr. and Mrs. Harbaugh spent their last years and died of old age. They were well-known and highly respected among the pioneers of this part of the State.

After David Patterson and his wife settled in this county they took a farm and improved it and spent the remainder of their days here. Mr. Patterson died while on a visit in Marshall County, Tenn., in October, 1866, but his remains were brought home and lie in the cemetery at Sullivan. His wife died in August, 1869. They were members of the Christian Church and personal friends of Dr. Alexander Campbell. Mr. Patterson was a prominent man in the Democratic ranks and for many years served as Justice of the Peace and School Commissioner for a long while. He was County Judge for twelve years and helped to organize the county and to get the bill through the Legislature, and also assisted in locating the county seat.

"Dock" Patterson was the first born of his parents, his natal day being October 1, 1827, and his native place being in Muhlenberg County, Ky. He was thus not quite a year old when his parents came to Edgar County, this State, and was yet a child when they continued their migration to this county. He received a log schoolhouse education and grew to manhood, taking up the occupation of a farmer and stock-raiser. For forty years back he has been the favorite auctioneer at sales of stock all over the county, and indeed throughout this portion of the State. In 1883 he came to Sullivan and bought a livery stable which he is now managing on North Main Street.

Our subject was married in this county to Miss Julia A. Souther, who was born in Kentucky, October 10, 1829. She came north with her parents in the fall of 1833 and received her training and education in this county. She is a woman of unusual ability, a faithful wife and affectionate mother. Of their seven children four are deceased, namely: John, Mary, William A. and Charles H., while those

who remain in this life are Sarah, the wife of Mack D. Phillower, a conductor on the Sante Fe Railroad, residing in Pekin, Ill. and Nancy and Katie who are at home with their parents. The positions of Deputy Sheriff and Constable have for nine years been filled by Mr. Patterson and he has also been Township Collector. His political views ally him with the Democracy and he is a member of the Blue Lodge of Masons, at Sullivan. Both he and his lovely wife are identified with the Christian Church in which he has served as Deacon.



**E**LLSWORTH FOSTER was born in Pickaway Township, Shelby County, December 23, 1863, his birthplace being the farm that he is now so successfully managing, and he has taken his place among the manly, independent, wide-awake young farmers and stock-raisers who within recent years have stepped forward to help carry on the great agricultural interests of this county so well developed by their pioneer sires.

Our subject is a son of John Foster, an old and well-known citizen of this county, now living in honorable retirement at Shelbyville. He in turn was the son of another John Foster, both being natives of Yorkshire, England. In 1843 the grandfather of our subject left his early English home to seek another in this country, bringing with him his wife and six children. The family set sail from Liverpool on the good ship Glasgow, and after a voyage of six weeks and four days, landed at New York, and proceeded directly to Ohio, journeying by the Hudson River to Albany, thence by Erie Canal to Buffalo, from there on the lake to Cleveland, Ohio, and then by canal to Madison County, in the same State.

In 1849 the elder John Foster brought his family to Shelby County, and was one of the first settlers on the prairie of Todd's Point Township, but few pioneers having preceded him to that locality, and they had selected homes in the timber. The country was mostly in its primitive condition, with deer and other kinds of wild game plentiful. Mr. Foster entered a tract of Government land, and

building at once, devoted his time afterward to stock-raising and general farming until his life was rounded out by death at a ripe age. His wife also died on the home farm in Todd's Point Township. In her maiden days she bore the name of Ellen Atkinson. She was a native of Yorkshire, England, and a daughter of Thomas Atkinson. She reared six children, named as follows: Joseph, Mary, John, Alice, Thomas and James.

The father of our subject was a lad of thirteen years when he came to America with his parents, brothers and sisters, and still has a vivid remembrance of his boyhood's home and of the pioneer life that the family was obliged to lead after coming to this country in the newly settled regions where they located in Ohio and this State. He was bred to the life of a farmer, and resided under the parental roof until his marriage. He then engaged in farming in Todd's Point Township a few years. His next venture was to buy one hundred and twenty acres of prairie in Pickaway Township. He busied himself in the years that followed in the improvement of his place, erecting a substantial set of frame buildings, putting the land under admirable tillage, and greatly adding to the attractiveness and value of the farm by planting fruit and shade trees. In 1889 Mr. Foster yielded the management of his farm to the competent hands of his son Ellsworth, and retired from active labor to a pleasant home at Shelbyville, which he then purchased.

John Foster took Rachel Dobson as his wife in 1848, and for more than forty years they have shared life's joys and sorrows together. Mrs. Foster was born in Westmorelandshire, England, and is a daughter of John and Jane (Clark) Dobson, who were also natives of that shire, and came to America about 1836. They settled among the pioneers of Stark County, Ohio, and there spent their remaining days. Both Mr. and Mrs. Foster are sincere members of the Presbyterian Church, and are people of high principle and character. They are the parents of six children, namely: Ann Amelia, J. Williams, Wesley T., J. Ellsworth, Norman H. and Jennie.

Ellsworth Foster grew to man's estate in the home of his birth, and was educated in the local public schools. He was an active, sturdy, self-re-

liant little lad, and even when very young was of much assistance on the farm, and early acquired a thorough familiarity with agricultural pursuits. He lived with his parents until his marriage, and then they removed to town and he took charge of the farm. He is managing it judiciously and with good results, and has already acquired a good reputation for his skill and practicality in carrying on farming after the most approved modern methods. He is straightforward and candid in his dealings, stands well financially, and his pleasant social qualities make him popular with his associates. He is an active member of William Penn Camp, M. W. A. He holds sound and sensible views in regard to politics, and is a true Republican.

To the lady who presides so pleasantly and graciously over his home, and co-operates with him in extending its hospitalities to friends or strangers who may happen beneath its roof, our subject was married in 1889. One child, whom they have named Faith, completes their household. Mrs. Foster was formerly Edith Noon, is a native of Waukesha County, Wis., and a daughter of James and Hannah (Fear) Noon, an extended sketch of whom appears elsewhere. Mrs. Foster is a lady of culture, and in her the Unitarian Church has a valuable member, who is active in its every good work.



**C**APT. HENRY L. HART, who won military honors during the Civil War as an officer of an Illinois regiment, is a prominent citizen of Shelbyville, Shelby County, where he has for some time conducted business as a furniture dealer, and he has also been a conspicuous figure in the municipal government. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, October 20, 1837, a son of Barnhart Hart, who was born in Pennsylvania in February, 1812.

The grandparents of our subject removed from Pennsylvania to the Buckeye State during the first quarter of this century, and were among the early pioneers of Fairfield County, where they both died soon after they located in its primeval

wilds. Their son Barnhart was very small when he was thus orphaned, and he early had to work for a livelihood. At the age of fourteen he was bound as an apprentice to Mr. Beck, a blacksmith, of Lancaster, and served with him seven years to learn the trade, receiving his board and clothes in repayment for his assistance. At the expiration of that time he did journey work for awhile, and then opened a smithy in the village of Jefferson, and carried on business in his line in that place until 1851. In that year he bought a farm in Violet Township, and has since devoted his time to farming, being one of the prosperous, well-to-do farmers of his neighborhood. In early manhood he took unto himself a wife, whose name prior to their marriage was Mary Wooster, and she was born in Germany in 1812. The following are the names of the eight children that this worthy couple reared to maturity: Francis C., Henry L., Anna M., Charles, John, Elizabeth, Susan A. and Irvin M. John, who was a member of Company K, One Hundred and Fourteenth Ohio Infantry, died opposite Vicksburg while bravely fighting for his country.

In the county of his nativity he of whom these lines are written grew to man's estate, and in its schools he gained a good practical education. He remained with his parents until his twenty-second year, affording his father valuable help on his farm, and he then came to this county. He was employed in farming here until 1861, and then the restless spirit of adventure and the prospects of gain sent him to the gold fields in the Rocky Mountains. In company with others, he started in the month of March on the long and tedious journey across the plains, going with a team to St. Louis, and there embarking team and all on a river steamer bound for Atchison, Kan., whence they proceeded across the prairies to their destination. At that time buffaloes were plenty on the plains, and Indians, who were sometimes hostile, had full sway. Denver, which was then in its infancy, had a population of but three or four hundred people.

Our subject engaged in mining until fall, then returned to this county with the proceeds of his labors. In the month of December he volunteered for service in the Union Army, having determined

to join his patriotic fellow-countrymen at the front to help defend the stars and stripes. His name was enrolled as a member of Company H, Fifty-fourth Illinois Infantry, and he went South with his regiment. In all its campaigns, marches and battles, he was an active participant, and on all occasions displayed true valor, coolness in danger, and promptness in action that mark the genuine soldier, which traits finally won for him deserved promotion from the ranks to the position of First Lieutenant, his commission being received in 1864. From that time he had command of his company, although he was not appointed its Captain until February, 1865. His men fought well under the inspiration of his leadership, and did their part bravely in every battle in which they met the enemy, continuing in the service until after the close of the war, when they and their gallant Captain were honorably discharged.

After leaving the army Capt. Hart returned to Shelbyville, and for some years was engaged here in the grocery business until failing health obliged him to wind up his affairs and take a much needed rest. After selling out, he spent one year in the South and in his native State, and he then came back to Shelbyville. He was employed as a clerk until 1885, and then established himself in his present business, in which he has been eminently successful. He has a large and well-appointed store, stocked with a full line of furniture and house furnishing goods, our subject making it a point to carry every article used in the fitting up of a modern home demanded by the needs and tastes of his many customers.

In 1866 Capt. Hart was united in marriage to Miss Isabella Fishbaugh, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Mordecai and Isabella Fishbaugh. Their wedded life has been one of mutual felicity, and has brought them four sons—Francis C., Lewis H., William R. and Walter E.

The Captain is a man of sound business principles, is prompt in his dealings and methodical in the management of his affairs. His fellow-citizens, recognizing these facts, and knowing their value in a civic official, at one time called him to the head of the municipal government, and for four years he served with distinction as Mayor of Shelbyville.

He is a true Democrat in his politics, and in his religious faith a firm Presbyterian, both he and his wife being active members of the church of that denomination in this city.



JOHN N. STORM belongs to an energetic, enterprising family of whom the young men early started out in life for themselves. Our subject is a general merchant in the village of Strasburg, and being thoroughly acquainted in the surrounding country, he has the advantage in both buying and selling. He of whom we write is a son of Hiram J. Storm, who was born in Ash Grove Township, Shelby County, this State. His mother was Harriet Rankin, who was born in Big Spring Township. Our subject's parents after marriage settled in Ash Grove Township. The mother died while her boys were young, passing away in 1868. The father is still living and is employed as a farmer in Big Spring Township. They were the parents of seven children and of these our subject is the fourth in order of birth. He was born in Ash Grove Township, Shelby County, this State, January 13, 1858, and was reared chiefly in Big Spring Township, remaining with his father until he was eighteen years old, when he came to Strasburg and was engaged in wagon making and repairing, and was thus occupied for about two years. He then went into the saloon business but continued in this only a short time and then engaged in the general mercantile business.

The original of our sketch carries a good and well-assorted stock of merchandise and enjoys a good trade. He has filled several local offices. He has been both village and township Constable, Justice of the Peace, Village Trustee and School Treasurer. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity. Mr. Storm's marriage took place in Richland Township. His wife's maiden name was Anna B. Martin. She was a daughter of Jacob Martin, who died in Richland Township. She was born in Indiana. They are the parents of five children, three of whom only are living. Their names are Merton R., Or-

ville and Ivy. Two died when very young. Mr. Storm affiliates with the Democratic party.

Our subject is a man who has a great deal of executive ability, and whose business dealings are on an extensive plane. He is engaged quite extensively in addition to his local business, in shipping eggs and poultry to the New York markets.



**M**ARTIN L. LOWE. Among the successful business men of Sullivan, Moultrie County, we are pleased to mention the name which appears at the head of this paragraph—the name of a prosperous dealer in horses and the head of a livery stable and who also deals in all kinds of farming implements and vehicles. He keeps a fine line of turnouts and horses at his place, which is well equipped and where he has been conducting business since October, 1889. Near the city of Sullivan he also has a good farm, owning about four hundred and fifty-two acres in this township and in East Nelson Township, and also has one hundred and sixty acres in Douglas County. His large property is stocked with about one hundred head of fine cattle and some fifty head of horses and he has among them some fine animals of good grades.

Mr. Lowe bears the reputation of being an excellent business man and a "thoroughly good fellow," and he is well and favorably known to the people of Sullivan in and near which city he has lived for twelve years. His native home was in Harrison County, W. Va., where he was born in 1858. He is the son of John B. Lowe, a native of Virginia who was a farmer by occupation and died in Harrison County in 1876 at the age of seventy-five years. He was the son of Old Dominion parents and our subject was yet quite young at the time of his father's decease. His mother, whose maiden name was Susan Robinson, died some years before. She was during most of her life a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and came of excellent Virginian stock.

Although bereaved of his parents in his youth, Martin Lowe was given an excellent education.

He was one of a numerous family, five of whom are yet living. He was early thrown upon his own resources and became independent and so more quickly fitted for supporting himself and a family. He was married in Harrison County, W. Va., to Miss Elizabeth K. Higginbotham, who was born in that county and came of an old established family. George Higginbotham, her father, is now living at an advanced age in Clarksburg, W. Va., and was bereaved of his wife, whose maiden name was Lydia Griffin, in 1879.

Mrs. Lowe, the wife of our subject, was one of a family of five children who received the best advantages in an educational line and she shows marks of the culture which was bestowed upon her in her youth, for she is a woman of unusual ability and intelligence, is a true wife and a faithful mother and is bringing up her three lovely children—Omar, Georgie and Lulu—in the fear and admonition of the Lord. She is an earnest and conscientious member of the Methodist Church and a valued worker in every good effort. The political doctrines which receive the endorsement of Mr. Lowe are those which are found in the declarations of the Democratic party.



**J**OHAN N. LENOX. Born of parents who are conspicuous for the superior mental power that they possessed and which gave them, wherever they resided, a prominent position in the community, our subject was early trained in a direction of which comparatively few men have more than the suggestion of the true status of the position. Had he lived a little earlier or a little later doubtless our subject's father would have been a confrere with Patrick Henry or with Abraham Lincoln. A Virginian, as was the first named, he possessed all the fire and ardor of the Southern orators, and was an effective speaker on political occasions. As it was, Mr. Lenox, Sr., was representative of the best thought and policy in his part of the country and was advanced to many prominent positions which were unsought by him.

John Lenox, the father of our subject, was born

in Virginia and early learned the fiery speeches of the Revolutionary heroes. His wife was in her maiden days a Miss Nancy Mellinger. At an early day they settled in Shelby County, Ohio, and there they died. Although the old gentleman was a farmer by occupation he was ever involved in public affairs. His ability in legislative matters was such as to inevitably bring him to the front. He was County Judge of Shelby County, Ohio, and served in the State Legislature for one term. The home life was such as to make the children thoughtful and to develop in them a liking for public affairs as well as a knowledge of Parliamentary rules. The family comprised eight children and of these our subject was fourth in order of birth. He was born in Shelby County, Ohio, December 25, 1825, and was reared to an agricultural life.

John Lenox, Sr., was married December 28, 1848, to Rachael Jane Arbuckle, in their native county in Ohio. She was a daughter of Robert and Leatha (Harn) Arbuckle, both of whom were natives of Maryland, where they grew up and were married and welcomed their little daughter Leatha, who was but two years of age when they removed to Ohio and settled in Shelby County, where they died. Mrs. Lenox, our subject's wife, was born near Hagerstown, Md., January 20, 1829. After their marriage they settled in Shelby County, Ohio, where Mr. Lenox was engaged in farming and stock-raising.

In March, 1854, the original of our sketch removed from his home in Ohio to Shelby County, this State, and in the following December settled upon the farm on section 16, where he now lives. They have a beautiful home pleasantly located and surrounded with fine shade trees, and in the fruit season one may regale oneself with the choicest varieties of the fruits common to this latitude. The home has always been the center and the meeting place for the most cultivated people of the vicinity, who are sure of finding in the genial host, an enthusiastic and pleasing talker and a kindly sympathetic listener.

Mr. and Mrs. Lenox are the parents of four children whose names are, Zeru L. A.; Wallace W.; Leatha C. and John M. The eldest daughter is the wife of William H. Shaw, who is ex-Sheriff of

Shelby County. Wallace W. is a farmer and stock-dealer in Richmond Township, and a progressive and thoroughly business young man. Leatha C. is the wife of John M. Sargeant. John N. is a resident in St. Louis, Mo. He of whom we write has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits and in stock dealing which he has found to be very profitable. He is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of finely improved land upon which he has made many valuable improvements.

In politics our subject is a Republican, using his influence in favor of the party which is dear to him by principle and by association with the memories of his younger days. Mr. Lenox has ever been a generous contributor to the up-building of churches and the support of the Gospel, and indeed, every progressive measure has received his encouragement and aid.



**N**OAH SYFERT. This gentleman is at the head of a large family of which he may well be proud, as the younger members show every mark of growing up into as useful members of society as the parents and older children proved themselves. The father of this gentleman, George Syfert, was born in Pennsylvania, and passed away from earth in Fairfield County, Ohio. He had the useful trade of a shoemaker but devoted himself mostly to agriculture. His worthy wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Oberly, was a native of Pennsylvania, who also died in Fairfield County, Ohio. This place was also the native county of our subject, who was born November 13, 1823, being one of a family of ten children.

After being reared to manhood young Syfert resided for a number of years in his native home and then removed to Allen County, the same State and lived there for thirteen years, before coming to Shelby County, Ill. Here he made his home in Ridge Township, in January, 1867 and has been a permanent resident. His marriage had taken place in Ohio, August 2, 1849, his bride being Catherine Fuesner, who was born in Fairfield County, Sept-

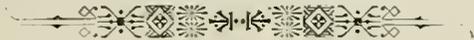




*Gen. A. Smith M. D.*

ember 12, 1831. This day was the beginning of a long life of domestic happiness and prosperity, and this union brought to the happy couple fifteen children: John W. married Emma Askins; Franklin P. took to wife Anna Shumaker; Eliza A. is the wife of Edward McDonald; William B. married Elizabeth Yantis; Andrew J. was married to Emma Stivison. Sarah A. is the wife of William Fritz of whom our reader will find a sketch in this book; Lodema E. is the wife of John Turner; Catherine R. became the wife of Newton Lupton; Lillie B. is unmarried. Lou C. married George Padgett and the remaining children are Ida R., Edward M. and Oliver S. Two little ones, George H. and Emma J. died in infancy.

Agricultural pursuits have absorbed the time and attention of Mr. Syfert, and in them he has achieved success. He has erected good buildings upon his farm and is the owner of one hundred and fifty-six acres. He has served educational interests as a member of the School Board and is an earnest and conscientious member of the society known as the Church of God. In political matters, he is untrammelled by parties, and casts his vote for men and measures which are upheld by his own judgment.



**W**ILLIAM A. SMITH, M. D. One of the older men and physicians in Lovington. Dr. Smith belongs to a family that have experienced pioneer life in its many interesting, as well as trying aspects. His father was Nicholas C. Smith, who was born in Baltimore, Md., in 1784. From there he went to Westmoreland County, Pa., at an early age, and while there he learned the carpenter's trade and on the breaking out of the Patriot's War in 1812, he enlisted in the regular army for five years, and after the battle of Lake Erie he was transferred to the Western frontier. He was one of the first of fifty white men who ever set foot in Rock Island and assisted in erecting the Block House in that place and afterward erected another at Prairie du Chien, Wis. After his time of enlistment had expired he returned and settled in Davis County, Ind., where he was mar-

ried late in the year 1823, to Miss Margaret Boos, who was born near Wheeling, W. Va., and was of Swiss and German ancestry.

After the marriage of our subject's parents they lived in Davis County, until the winter of 1830-31, when they removed to Parke County, Ind., and there continued to reside until the winter of 1836-37. They then removed to Montgomery County, Ind., at which place the father of the family died in the winter of 1849. Our subject's mother died in Tippecanoe County, Ind., about 1862. They were the parents of four sons and five daughters, our subject being the eldest of the family. He was born in Davis County, Ind., September 24, 1825.

Up to the age of twenty, Dr. Smith made his home under the parental roof. At that age he went to Tippecanoe County, Ind., and August 16, 1846, he enlisted in Company K, in the regiment of Mounted Rifles and served through the Mexican War. At the end of the war he returned to Tippecanoe County and entered the employ of a gentleman by the name of Black who was engaged in the tanning business. Thus occupied he continued there until the spring of 1849, when, July 3, he was married in Clinton County, Ind., to Miss Sarah A. Stinson, who was born in Ohio, September 10, 1839. They settled in Tippecanoe County and there they continued to live until the spring of 1860, when the Doctor came to Sidney, Champaign County, this State.

Long having had a taste for medicine, but never having had an opportunity to gratify his inclination in that direction, in the winter of 1849, he embraced a chance which offered itself to begin reading medicine under Dr. Moses Baker, and continued with him until 1857. At that time he attended a course of lectures at the Rush Medical College in Chicago, remaining in that city during the winter of 1857-58. In the spring of 1858 he entered upon the practice of his profession at Odells Corners, in Tippecanoe County, Ind., remaining there until the spring of 1860, when he went to Sidney. Here he remained for one year but in the spring of 1861, removed to Newman, Douglas County, this State, and practiced there until 1878, with the exception of one year (1873)

which he passed at Kansas Station, this State. In 1878, he removed to Ellis, Ellis County, Kan., and there made his home for two years, but Indiana re-asserting her old claim over his affection and loyalty, he returned and settled in Parke County. He remained in that county until 1885 when he came to Lovington, making his advent here in April of the last named year. Being one of the older practitioners, he here enjoys a confidence and regard that many of the younger men could hardly expect to have attained so soon, however able and worthy they may be.

Dr. Smith is the father of six living children whose names are respectively James C., Alice, Moses B., Anna G., Emma E. and Eva. The eldest son is a railroad man being engaged as a conductor on a railroad in Kansas. Alice is the wife of B. G. Bills; Moses B. is also a railroad conductor; Emma E. is the wife of Walter Liston of Decatur, this State, while Anna G. and Eva still complete the family circle and give a tone of freshness and youth to the social circle that would otherwise be marked by the sedateness of advanced years. One child was taken away from them in girlhood, Julia C. was but fifteen years of age when she died and her decease was a great blow to her parents and friends for she was at the loveliest period of budding womanhood, and promised to be a woman of whom her parents might well be proud.

Mrs. Smith is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and has been so connected for many years. The Doctor is liberal in his religious belief. He has for many years been a Mason, having been so made in Laruramie Lodge, Tippecanoe County, Ind., in 1849. He was conspicuously engaged in the Mexican War, during which he took part in all the engagements under Gen. Scott from the landing of Vera Cruz to the capture of the City of Mexico, at which his company was the first to enter the gates of the city after its capture on the morning of September 14, 1847. After having performed heroic service his regiment was discharged by special Act of Congress August 28, 1848.

While in Ellis County, Kan., Dr. Smith met with serious reverses on account of failure of crops. He had invested much of his money in a tract of

land, but having sustained such heavy losses in other directions he was compelled to dispose of his land at a great sacrifice. In spite of the fact that he had at this time passed his youth, he set about retrieving his losses and with an indomitable will and energy succeeded in a great degree in so doing. He is now in the possession of a good practice in Lovington and is much loved among the people of that place.

In connection with this sketch a lithographic portrait of Dr. Smith is presented to our readers.



**W**ILLIAM H. AUGHINBAUGH, prominent in business, political and church circles, as a public-spirited and enterprising man, who does his full share in forwarding every movement to enhance the best interest of his town and county, we may well count the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this paragraph. He is now a dealer in drugs, wall paper, toilet articles, etc., in Oconee, Shelby County, and was born March 3, 1842, in Baltimore, Md.

John and Catherine (Fisher) Aughinbaugh, the parents of our subject, were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Baltimore, and reared a fine family of three sons and four daughters; Amelia was the wife of John Caldwell, and died in Litchfield, Ill.; Annie is the widow of William McEwen, and also resides in Litchfield; our subject is the third in age, and his next brother, Levi, resides at Bushnell, Ill., where he is engaged in business as a commercial traveler; Catherine, who is the wife of John Cress, went to the far distant West, and is making her home at Portland, Ore.; John, who is married, resides at St. Louis, Mo., where he is engaged as a compositor in the office of the *Republican*; Susan, wife of William Davis, makes her home at Litchfield.

He of whom we write was educated at Hillsboro, Ill., having come to that city with his parents in the year 1855, from Huntsville, Ala., to which they had previously removed from Baltimore. After the family had been living in this State for about eight years, the mother died in 1863 in Macoupin

County, but the father who survived and married again, is living with our subject at Oconee.

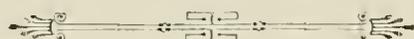
Our subject served for two years during the Civil War in the Quartermaster's Department, being assigned to duty with the armies of the Tennessee and the Cumberland respectively, being in the Post Department in both these connections. After the close of the war he returned to Hillsboro, and engaged in mercantile business, continued in that line successfully until 1867, when he sold out and removed to Oconee, this county. Here he again took up the mercantile business and continued in it for about six years.

William H. Aughinbaugh and Miss Sallie R. Wilmot were united in the sacred bonds of matrimony, in September, 1870. This lady was born in Christian County, Ill., and her wedded life began with a prospect of great happiness, but it was cut short by her decline in health, and she died of consumption in 1873, leaving two little children to mourn a mother's love and care. In January, 1877, our subject was married to his second wife, Miss Mollie I. Wilmot, a sister of the first Mrs. Aughinbaugh, and a native of the same place, where she was born in January, 1860. Two children were born of the second marriage. The little ones who were left by Mrs. Sallie Aughinbaugh, Maud and Guy have both died. The children of the second wife are Arthur J., born June 1, 1879, and Bertha J., November 29, 1883.

Our subject disposed of his mercantile interests some years ago, and about that time was elected Mayor of Oconee, to the duties of which office he turned his attention, adding to it a business in collections, insurance and real estate, also loaning money and buying paper. After nine years in this line of work, he turned his attention to the drug business in which he has continued for eleven years. His first official position was in the capacity of Clerk of Oconee. He was then elected Mayor, serving in that office for eight years. In 1884 he was elected to the office of Supervisor of this township, a position of trust and responsibility, in which he has served in all some three years.

Our subject belongs to the Masonic order, having been made a Mason in Mt. Moriah Lodge, No. 5, at Hillsboro, Ill., from which being demitted, he

joined the Oconee Lodge, No. 392, where he served for twelve years as Master, and represented the same in the Grand Lodge of this State for eight consecutive years. Afterward he served in this same capacity for two years, and is the present Representative for 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Aughinbaugh are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, where they are active in every good work. This public-spirited and enterprising man is wide awake to the merits of the political situation, and affiliates with the Democratic party.



**N**ATHANIEL BRANTON McCLUER. A man who is widely known in Shelby County as being a large and successful farmer and stockman who has done much toward introducing an improved grade of stock into this State and to the West generally, is he whose name is at the head of this sketch. He is a progressive and public-spirited man whose tendencies are all towards an elevating influence, both in business relations and in his domestic life. Mr. McCluer resides on his fine farm on section 8, of Rural Township. His home is one of the most pleasant places in the county and he has spared nothing that money could procure, to make it an ideal place of residence. He also owns land in section 5. His residence in the county dates from 1865.

The original of our sketch was born in Darke County, Ohio, December 29, 1829, and is a son of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Wilt) McCluer both natives of Virginia and each of whom, with their respective families, removed to Ohio at an early day. Samuel McCluer, the grandfather of our subject settled in Darke County in 1812, and was one of the first settlers there. The maternal grandparents of our subject, settled in the same county about 1814. They made their home in the midst of the forest, clearing out as time and opportunity permitted, a space around the log cabin which constituted their home.

Brought up as young people together, the parents of our subject early recognized an affinity and determined to make the journey of life together.

Their marriage took place in Darke County, where they resided the remainder of their lives, upon the farm where they settled at an early day. The father lived to number four-score years. The mother passed away at the age of sixty-six years. They were the parents of six children whose names are as follows: Melinda, Samuel, George, John, Catherine and our subject. Melinda was twice married and died in her native State; Samuel resides in Darke County, Ohio, where his brother George died; John lives in Huntington County, Ind.; Catherine married and died in Southern Illinois. He of whom we write is the youngest of the family. He was reared on the farm and received his education in the district school. In 1864, he enlisted in Company B, of One Hundred and Fifty-second Ohio Infantry, whose men enlisted for one hundred days, but who served for five months. While they were not participants in any of the decisive battles, they took part in a number of skirmishes.

In 1865, Mr. McCluer was united in marriage to Melinda Almonrode. She was born in Preble County, Ohio, September 20, 1842, and was a daughter of John and Mary (Swane) Almonrode. Shortly after their marriage our subject and his bride came to this State and purchased two hundred acres, which was the nucleus of his present farm. At the time he settled here, his place was but little improved, but he took up the calling of farming with such vim, energy and intelligent management, that he is now the owner of nearly one thousand acres of land which is highly productive and which is dotted over with stock of the finest grade. He has been very successful in his agricultural career.

Mrs. McCluer is an intelligent and capable woman. She presides over the beautiful home which her husband has made with an ease and dignity that only native refinement and courtesy can give. Although she is endowed with more than ordinary ability, she has gladly given herself up to love's sweet servitude, her great pleasure being in insuring the domestic comfort of her husband and the rearing and educating of her children. She has sought to combine cultivation of mind and body, realizing that one with weak

physical constitution and endowed with fine mental faculties has not the same chance in this world, whose motto seems to be the survival of the fittest, as one who is equally endowed with both a strong physical and intellectual capacity. Two of the little ones were taken from their parents at a tender age. Four of the children are still living, and filled with vitality and brimming with the intensity for which American children are conspicuous, they are an interesting quartette. Their names are Elmer, John, Charles and Rose E. The beautiful home within which the McCluer family live is surrounded by a large lawn which is kept of velvet smoothness by being frequently gone over with a lawn-mower. His home is handsomely furnished and the genial host and hostess hospitably entertain the many people who are attracted hither socially or by business.



**J**OHN S. EVEY. It is not necessary for the traveler to understand the details of farm life in order to determine the status of the owner of any particular tract of land. It is easy to form a conclusion from the general appearance of the property, the improvements that have been made upon it and the order or disorder that reigns supreme. No one looking at the farm of Mr. Evey on section 21, Tower Hill Township, would have the least doubt that its owner understands his business and is able to obtain good results from tilling the soil. The farm consists of one hundred and eighty fertile acres, in whose pastures good stock is found, in the sheds modern machinery, and in the storehouses farm produce of excellent quality. About the dwelling are the manifestations of the refining hand of woman.

Mr. Evey is a native of Maryland, born in Hagerstown, October 15, 1833. His father, whose given name was Henry, and his mother, whose maiden name was Rebecca Livers, were also born in Maryland. The parents removed to Shelby County, Ill., about 1836, and located near Shelbyville, where she died. After her decease the father came to Tower Hill Township and settled on

section 21, where he died in 1865. He was a good citizen, an upright man and a devoted husband and father. His family comprised three children, our subject being the eldest.

When he was three years old our subject was brought by his parents to this county, where he grew to manhood on his father's farm. He was early initiated into the mysteries of farming and when he became a man he naturally chose agriculture as his life vocation. December 25, 1856 he was married in Tower Hill Township to Miss Caroline M. Jones, a native of Tennessee. This estimable lady was brought by her parents to Indiana, whence, after her father's death, she came to Shelby County with a family named Listen. The congenial union of Mr. and Mrs. Evey has been blessed by the birth of six living children, viz: William E., David H., Captolia, Hattie, Charles F. and John M. William E. is a farmer in Kansas; David H. is a successful dentist at Momouth, Ill.; Captolia follows the profession of teaching.

A man of striking common sense, keen foresight and marked capability, Mr. Evey has been selected by his fellow-citizens as one well qualified to fill public offices of importance. He formerly took an active part in politics and in his political affiliations is independent, voting for the man whom he considers best fitted to serve the interests of the people. He has been Highway Commissioner several years, in which position he has accomplished much for the good of the community. Socially, he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Farmer's Mutual Benefit Association.



**H**UGH NELSON WALDEN, a well-known stock-raiser and farmer residing on section 31, Windsor Township, Shelby County, was born just a quarter of a mile south of his present residence, January 19, 1830. His father, Hugh Walden, was a native of North Carolina, and his mother, whose maiden name was Mary Montgomery, was born in Kentucky. They both came to this State before marriage, and were united near Shawneetown, and became residents of Illinois Ter-

ritory in those early days prior to its admission as a State. It was in 1827 that this young couple came to Shelby County, and settled in Richland Township, and there they spent the remainder of their days, the father being called hence in 1869, and the mother surviving him for ten years.

Every one of the five sons and five daughters of this worthy couple lived to attain maturity, marry and establish families of their own, but eight of the ten have now passed away, seven of them dying of that dire disease, consumption. The only surviving brother of our subject is Leonard V., the youngest of the family. He lives on the old homestead, which is now a portion of his brother's large farm.

Our subject has been twice married, his first wife being Maria Davis, to whom he was united March 17, 1853. Seven children were born of this marriage, of whom three are now living—Mary M., Nancy Ivy and Harlan, all of whom have grown to maturity and are living with their father. Their mother passed away March 6, 1874. Mr. Walden was married a second time, April 13, 1875, and was united at that time with Theoda D. Hazen, who was born in Bridgeton, Me., April 11, 1842. She is a daughter of John and Esther (Libbey) Hazen. Her father died in his native State April 14, 1877, and the mother still resides in Bridgeton. Only one of her three sons and three daughters have passed away, and Mrs. Walden is her eldest. By this marriage Mr. and Mrs. Walden have had three children, all of whom are deceased, two dying in infancy. Abbie Hazen, who was born October 2, 1877, died March 12, 1890; she was a bright, beautiful girl of thirteen summers, whose place can never be filled to her sorrowing parents, and who was sincerely mourned by many admiring friends and playmates.

Go to thy rest fair child,  
 Go to thy dreamless bed  
 While yet so gentle, undefiled,  
 With blessings on thy head,  
 Ere sin hath seared thy breast,  
 Or sorrow waked thy tear,  
 Rise to thy throne of changeless rest  
 In yon celestial sphere.

If any man may be called a pioneer of Shelby County, Mr. Walden is pre-eminently one, as it has been his home for sixty-one years. Six hundred splendid acres constitute his farm in Windsor and

Richland Townships, and upon them he has excellent buildings and fine improvements, the whole estate being in fact an ideal country home. Mr. Walden has always been a Democrat in his political views, and he says he expects to die a Democrat. He is a Universalist in his religious belief, although he holds no church connection. His excellent wife joined the Cambridge Baptist Church in Massachusetts, when she was only seventeen years of age, and she has ever maintained her membership with that organization. The township of Windsor has honored both itself and our subject by giving him at various times every office within its gift. He served seven years as Supervisor, ten years as Highway Commissioner, one term as Assessor, and School Director and Trustee for nine and ten years each.



**A**RTHUR G. LEE. The name at the head of this sketch is that of a man who enjoys to the utmost, the confidence of the people in the community in which he lives. This is shown by the fact that from among the best financial men in the place, he has been elected to the responsible position of President of the Commercial State Bank of Windsor, Shelby County. Our subject was born in Oshawa, Ontario, July 7, 1865. He was reared on a farm until about fourteen years of age, and in the calm pursuits of agriculture the mental fibre of his mind developed. Unrestrained by fine-spun theories, he saw life as it was and this practical view and keen insight into affairs has ever characterized his business dealings and has carried him on to the success which he so eminently merits.

Arthur Lee received the foundation of his education in the common schools of his native place after which he attended the High School from which he was graduated. He then began life for himself and was employed for a period of two years with Steel Brothers & Company, merchants in Toronto, Canada, as clerk. In 1886, he came to the States, and resided in Chicago until July, 1889. He was employed as manager and had charge of

the seed department for H. Sibley & Co. In July, 1889 he came to Windsor and organized the Commercial Bank, and November 14, of the same year it was re-organized as a Commercial State Bank, under the State law. On its first organization, he was Cashier of the bank and since its re-organization under the State law, he has been its President. Our subject's brother, Sidney J. Lee, holds the position of Cashier in the bank. The institution transacts a good banking business, and is one that was greatly needed in the community, now affording an opportunity for commercial exchange with much less trouble and expense than before its organization.

The parents of our subject are George and Lucy (Curry) Lee. They were born in Canada. The father died a victim of typhoid fever, October 9, 1882, in Ontario. He was a farmer by occupation but had retired from the active pursuits of his calling at the time of his decease. They had three children, of whom our subject was the eldest. Mr. Lee was married in Windsor June 9, 1890 to Miss Minnie Shaffer, who is a native of this county and they have a very pleasant home located on the principal residence street in Windsor. His charming young wife attracts the best social element of the place. They have one child, an infant son. Our subject, though yet less than thirty years of age, has won the entire confidence of the community by his devotion to his business, and his broad-laid and carefully-executed plans. He is a natural financier and has a peculiar faculty for seeing where investments can be made with the greatest prospects of large returns. In his political views, Mr. Lee favors the Democratic party. In his religious views he is a Liberal. Socially, he of whom we write is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and has been a member of the Odd Fellows since about 1886. He is one of the leading members and occupies a prominent position.

It is not out of place to say something of the ancestors of our subject at this point. The life of a good man who leaves an exemplary example is always worth reading. The paternal grandfather of our subject was George Lee. He was drowned in the Straits of Belle Isle, being caught there in a field of ice. He was not addicted to the use of any

form of intoxicants or tobacco and was a Methodist minister. Our subject's maternal grandfather was James Curry, who was also a Methodist clergyman. He died at the age of eighty-five years.



**W**ILLIAM N. WOOD, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser residing on section 17, Sullivan Township, Moultrie County, is a native of Hardin County, Ky., where he was born February 25, 1847. His parents, N. H. and Elizabeth (Lyon) Wood, were natives of Kentucky. They came to Illinois in 1852, bringing this son with them and located at Charlestown, Coles County, where they staid for two years, removing thence to Tuscola, Douglas County, where they remained until they passed from earth, the mother in January, 1855, and the father in January, 1865. The family is of English origin, although the grandparents of our subject were natives of Vermont, and became pioneers of Kentucky. Of their family our subject is the youngest of two sons and four daughters.

The household in which Mr. Wood was reared, consisted of the following children: Martha R., who became the wife of W. L. Parker, a jeweler of Kansas City, Mo.; Mary died at the age of twenty-three, in March, 1863, in Tuscola; James Stratton married Susanna Thompson, of Douglas County, and now resides in Carlisle, Ark.; Sarah Jane is unmarried and resides at Lovington; William N., and Elizabeth E., wife of J. M. Durbrow, is living in Champaign County.

He of whom we write attended the public schools near his home, and also took instruction at Lee's Academy in Stockton, Ill. He taught school for two years before engaging in farming in Douglas County, and was married March 14, 1875, to Miss Margaret C., daughter of Peter and Mary Evans, who was born in Licking County, Ohio, October 25, 1854.

Mrs. Wood is the youngest in a family of eight children, whose parents came to Illinois in 1856, and located in Moultrie County, where they both died, the father October 20, 1873, and the mother

October 21, 1876. Of this family only two are living: Mrs. Wood, and Annie who became the wife of Felix Weaver, and resides at Adrian, Mo., her husband being engaged in the stock and commission business at Kansas City. The Evans family are of Weish and German ancestry.

The farm where Mr. Wood now resides became the family home in the fall of 1875. One hundred acres of this land came to his wife by inheritance, and to it he has added by purchase until he has a fine tract of two hundred and thirty-five acres, upon which may be seen a tasteful and attractive home and capacious and commodious farm buildings. Of their six children five are now living, their eldest daughter, Mary, who was born September 1, 1876, being taken away March 1, 1878. Those who are living, are: Elizabeth, born October 12, 1877; Norman H., June 11, 1879; Charles, May 5, 1881; Homer Howard, October 13, 1883; Adeline, November 11, 1886. These children are all being thoroughly educated, but remain under the parental roof during their school days. Mr. Wood takes an interest in public affairs, and is a Democrat in politics, while his worthy wife espouses the principles of the Republican party. He has held various offices in his township, and is a member of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association.



**A**BSALOM PATTERSON, A number of the large landowners of Sullivan Township, Moultrie County, who have passed through hard struggles and by their industry and perseverance have attained the point where they may rest from labor, are retiring from business and making their homes in Sullivan, than which no place is probably more delightful in which to seek comfort. Our subject, who is a retired farmer, came to the city from his farm in 1890, having been for many years a stock buyer and shipper and still owns eleven hundred and forty acres in Sullivan Township, most of which is improved, the remainder of it being well stocked and used as pasture land.

Mr. Patterson is a native of this township, being

born here when it was known as a part of Shelby County, his natal day being September 28, 1836. All of his fine estate was prairie land when he took it and he has himself brought it to its present splendid condition and has been a successful man in every endeavor of his life.

David Patterson, the father of our subject, came to this part of Illinois in 1833 after having lived for a few years in Edgar County. Later in life he returned to his native home in Marshall County, Tenn., where he died in 1867 at the age of sixty years, being followed two years later by his wife. She was a native of Pennsylvania, Polly Harbaugh by name, and her parents belonged to that class known as Pennsylvania Dutch. They removed to Kentucky and later to what is now Moultrie County, becoming pioneers and living here to a green old age.

David Patterson and his wife were members of the Christian Church, and they were always successful in life. Mr. Patterson was a Democrat in his political views and at an early day under the old law he had been Associate County Judge and also held other local offices. Our subject is the fifth in a family of seven children, four of whom are yet living, are married, and reside in this county. The first marriage of our subject united him with Naomi Henry, who died leaving him one child, Mary, who followed her to the spirit land within seven days. This young wife was a native of Shelby County and made her home in Illinois through life.

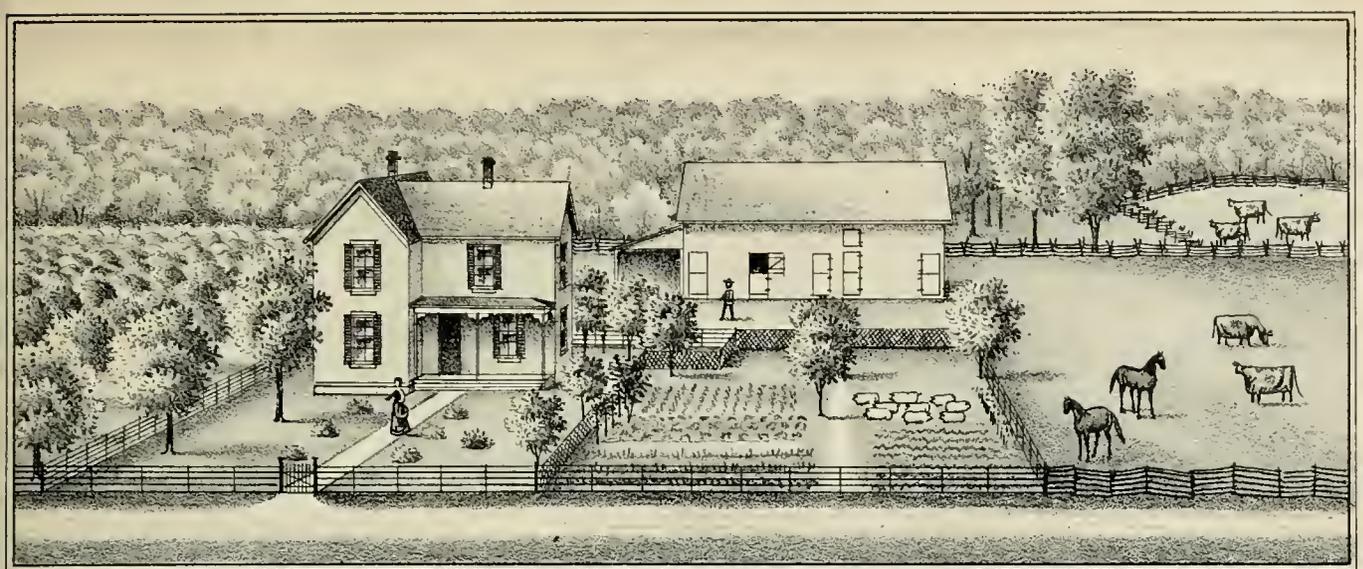
The second marriage of Mr. Patterson took place in Moultrie County and gave to him as a companion Miss Matilda Souther who was born in this county and who also died while young, leaving one child, Carrie, who grew to be an attractive and beautiful young woman and married Elias Woodruff. She, like her mother, died during her early wedded life, passing away in the summer of 1890, leaving one daughter—Ethel by name. The present Mrs. Patterson was known in her maidenhood as Miss Susie Ireland. She is a native of Kentucky and came when a young woman to Illinois where she met and married Mr. Patterson. She is the mother of four children, namely: Wesley, who took to wife Miss Florney Wagoner, and lives

upon a farm in Sullivan Township with his wife and two children—Montie and Ora; the three other children are still beneath the parental roof and bear the names of Gertie B., Levi L. and Louie G. Mrs. Patterson is a member of the Christian Church of Sullivan and is an active and earnest promoter of all Christian work. Mr. Patterson has been three terms the Supervisor of Sullivan Township and has held other local offices. He takes a genuine interest in political movements, being a decided Democrat in his convictions and an earnest worker for the prosperity of his county.

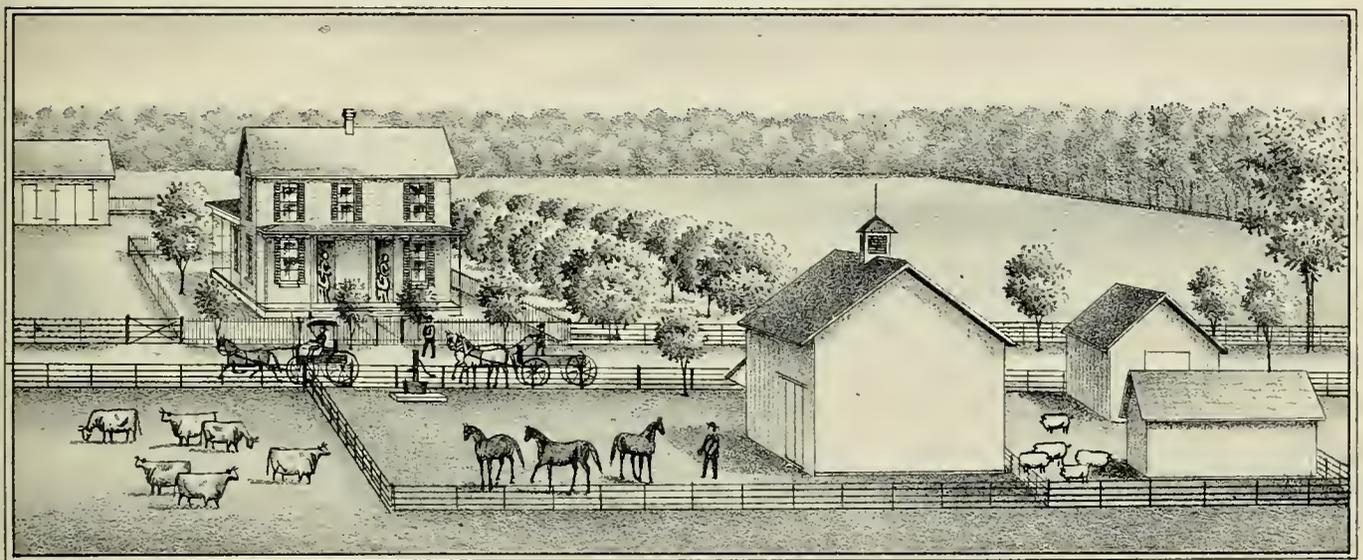


**F**RANCISCO RUFFNER. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch, is the owner of a good farm located on section 33, Moweaqua Township, Shelby County, and a view of which is shown elsewhere in this volume. He came hither in 1877, and has since been a resident in this place, giving the township the benefit of the improvements that he has made, and of his own genial presence with that of his amiable family. Mr. Ruffner was born in Licking County, Ohio, October 1, 1839. He was only thirteen years of age when he went with his parents to Allen County, Ind., where he remained for fourteen years. Later he came to this State and located in St. Clair County, where he was the proprietor of a farm for a period of five years. From there he removed to Clinton County and five years later came to this county, where he has since lived.

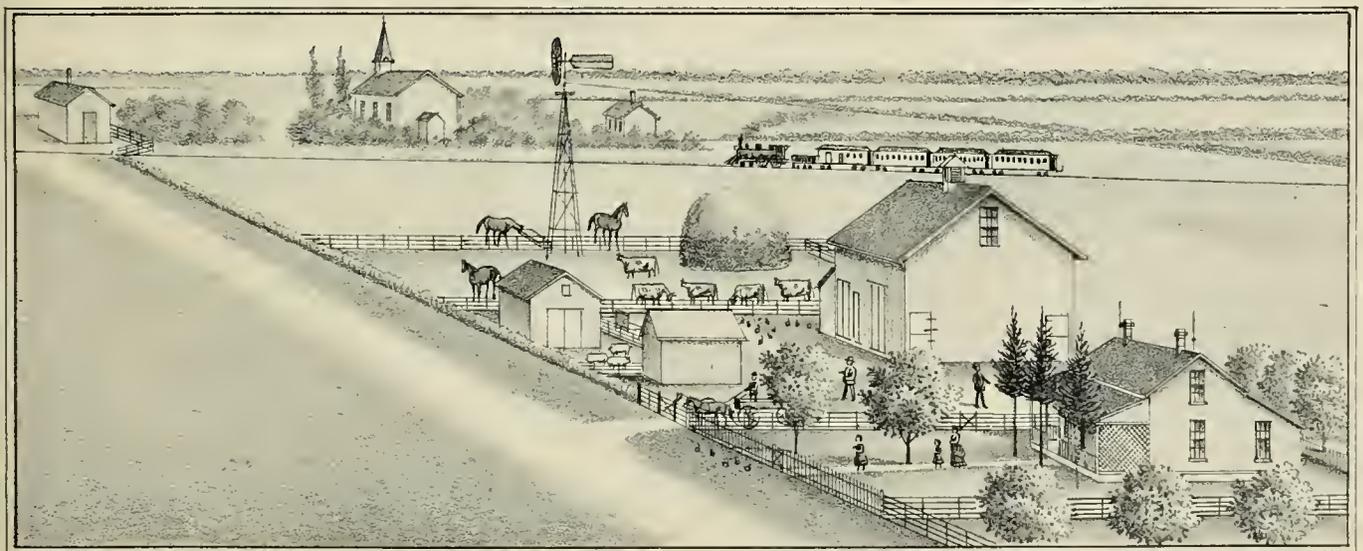
Our subject has always been engaged in agricultural work, his father before him having been a farmer. His father was Benjamin Ruffner, a native of Ohio, and a son of Benjamin and Ann (Coffman) Ruffner, both natives of Virginia. After marriage they removed to Ohio and settled in Fairfield County, which was at that time in a state of wild unbroken beauty, with virgin forests in which were found game of every description belonging to the latitude. As can be imagined, the country was then sparsely settled, and the educational advantages were not what they now are. It was there



RESIDENCE OF FRANCISCO RUFFNER, SEC.33., MOWEAQUA TP., SHELBY CO., ILL.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN C. BROWN, SEC.27., RIDGE TP., SHELBY CO., ILL.



RESIDENCE OF J. F. KULL, SEC.3., PRAIRIE TP., SHELBY CO., ILL.



that their son Benjamin, Jr., was born, the father of our subject. There also our subject's grandfather spent his last years, passing away from this life while yet in middle age. His wife survived him for some years and settled in Champaign County, where she died at the good old age of seventy-seven years.

Benjamin Ruffner, father of our subject, was one of fourteen children, of whom two are yet living. He was educated a farmer, and one can imagine the social breaks in the monotony of pioneer farm life such as corn husking, barbecues, spelling school and singing matches. From among the maidens of the county in which he lived he chose his wife, who was before marriage a Miss Mary Lamb, a native of Ohio, whose parents were from Virginia like those of our subject. Her father was William Lamb, and her mother Catherine (Cupp) Lamb. They lived and died in Fairfield County, where they were well known as among the earliest and most respected pioneer settlers. They died full of years and honor. They, like our subject's grandparents, were members of the old school Baptist Church. Mr. Lamb served as a soldier in the War of 1812. There were ten children in this family, all of whom are living except our subject's mother. Mr. and Mrs. Lamb each lived to be over eighty years old.

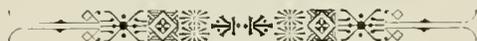
After their marriage, our subject's parents settled in Fairfield County, Ohio, where they remained until after the birth of their first child. They then removed to Licking County, there devoting themselves to clearing up and improving a farm upon which they built a large brick house and laid out many valuable improvements. Later they removed their family, in February 1853, to Indiana, settling in Allen County, but afterward they returned to Ohio living for one year in Miami County.

A spirit of unrest seemed to possess the family of Ruffners, for after the many changes they had made in residence, they returned to St. Clair County, this State, and a short time after located in Clinton County, where the father died at the age of sixty-six years. His wife passed away at the home of her sons in this township and county, eight years later, in 1874. She was at the time of her demise about seventy years of age. She and

her husband were devoted members of the Baptist Church.

The original of this sketch is the second in order of birth of eight children, six of whom are yet living, all having entered the marital relation with the exception of one. Our subject reached his majority in Allen County, Ind., and when he made his advent into Illinois, he was still a single man. His first marriage took place in Kentucky, where he was united to Miss Anna E. Coffman. She died in the prime of her life, after the birth of her first child, which also yielded its little life with that of its mother. She was only thirty-four years of age at the time of her death.

Mr. Ruffner again married, inviting to be mistress of his home Miss Mary J. Ramsey. Their marriage was celebrated September 27, 1888, in Lancaster County, Pa., of which place the lady was a native, being there born August 30, 1842. She is of Scotch and Dutch ancestry. Her mother, whose maiden name was Lucy Goelman, is yet living in her native town. The father, Samuel Ramsey, died in Pennsylvania while in the meridian of life. He also was a farmer. Mrs. Ruffner is a noble woman, having the best of qualities. She is kind, hospitable and sympathetic, and interested in all that interests her husband, to whom she is a great help.



JACOB F. KILL. Among the prominent agriculturists of Prairie Township, Shelby County, who have helped to give this county its present proud position in the State is the gentleman whose name appears at the opening of this paragraph. His home is located upon section 3, is quite near to the village of Strasburg, and his settlement in the county dates from September 6, 1854, when he first purchased forty acres of land on Robinson Creek in Ridge Township. Here he tilled the soil for two seasons and then removed to the region where he now lives, and purchased one hundred and ten acres of his present property on which at that time the principal improvements were a log cabin and the broken soil of a very few

acres. He now owns about two hundred and thirty acres of land upon which are splendid improvements, and he has platted some additions to Strasburg which he has sold off from his farm. A view of his pleasant homestead may be found elsewhere in this volume.

Hocking County, Ohio, was the native place of Mr. Kull, who was born January 31, 1836, being a son of Christopher F. and Johanna (Weidner) Kull, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. In their native land they had grown to manhood and womanhood, were united in marriage and one child was born to them before leaving their Fatherland. In 1830 they came to the United States and made their first short stop at Baltimore, Md., then went on to Ohio, settling on the prairie in Fairfield County. When the family arrived in the Buckeye State the father had \$50 which he thought would be sufficient to keep them in frugal comfort until he could earn more, but the ague was then prevalent throughout that region, and the family being sick for some time the \$50 were spent for quinine. This disgusted Christopher Kull with prairie life and removing to Hocking County he settled among the hills and woods. His father, Jacob F. Kull, with his wife made his home there, also four sisters and a brother, Jacob F., Jr., who died in Hocking County.

The father of our subject was fond of hunting and found plenty of game in that hilly region. As his health improved there he was well pleased with Hocking County and made it his permanent home and reared a family of fourteen children, twelve of whom grew to maturity. They were: Magdalena, who married John Kircher and died in Shelby County; Christian who died in this county; Charles, our subject; Mary, wife of G. Pieffer; Caroline, wife of John Ruff; Minnie, now Mrs. J. F. Baur; Amelia, wife of Christ Bruney; Emanuel, Adam; Matilda, wife of J. F. Mautz, and Julius. The parents of this large family came to Shelby County in 1865 and settled at Strausburg, where they remained until called hence by death.

Jacob F. Kull was reared among the woods and hills of Hocking County and there grew up to a sturdy and intelligent manhood. In 1858 he decided to take to himself a wife and was married April 13,

to Elizabeth Niller, who was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, February 18, 1839. She became the mother of eight children and died in this county June 11, 1877. The children who survive her are named as follows: Ferdinand J., Johanna A., wife of John Pieffer; C. Louisa, wife of C. Martin Rieger; Caroline Rosetta, wife of Charles Nipp; Matilda E. W.; William and Tobias.

The second marriage of our subject took place February 3, 1878, he being then united with Catharine M. Clump who was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, August 15, 1857. Of their six children four are now living—Joseph B., John D., Caroline W. and Anna S. J. The religious belief of this family is in accord with the doctrines of the Lutheran Church with which they are connected, and the political views of Mr. Kull have led him to ally himself with the Democratic party.



**L**EWIS BAUMGARTEN. The German-American citizen who has done so large a share of leveling forests, breaking the soil and subduing wild prairies to a state of cultivation are among the most valuable and sturdy citizens of our country. They have proved themselves one of the essential elements in the building up of our country and to them we give the honor due to a class of men of integrity, industry and thrift.

Our subject whose birth was across seas, resides within the limits of the village of Stewardson and his residence in Shelby County dates from 1868. He was born in Germany, December 15, 1827, being a son of Frederick and Elizabeth Baumgarten, the family came to this country in 1847, when this son was not yet of age and they settled in Sullivan County, Ohio, where the parents died, the mother at the age of seventy-six years and the father after he had reached the venerable age of eighty-five.

Of the eight children of this worthy couple, Louise, the eldest, died in Germany, when about twenty years old. Following her came Lewis, our subject; Edward who resides in Shelby County, Ohio; Rosa, now Mrs. Henry Roegner who makes

her home in Miami County, Ohio; Thessa who married Conrad Uppermann and died in Pickaway, Ohio; Caroline afterward married Conrad Uppermann; Johanna became the wife of Frederick Hummel and resides in Decatur, Ala. and Frederick resides in Shelby County, Ohio.

He of whom we write came to the United States with his father's family, and in 1856, he was united in marriage with Cony Brehm who was born December 23, 1838 in Baden, Germany, her parents being John A. and Margaret Brehm who brought their family to the United States in 1846 and settled in Shelby County, Ohio. There the father died at the age of seventy-two years and there the mother is still living, having reached the age of seventy-nine years during the month of July, 1891.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Brehm all grew to maturity and were as follows: Frederick who died in Shelby County, Ohio; Catherine became the wife of Fred Madernsides and lives in Hall County, Neb.; Cony, the wife of our subject; Margaret, married Lewis Neth and lives in Pickaway, Ohio; Barbara is the wife of Andrew Madernsides and lives in this county; Elizabeth married Antonia Augast and died in Shelby County, Ohio; Mary married Charles Buarnd, and died in Toledo, Ohio; and Rachel is the wife of Martin Hiegel and makes her home in Saline County, Neb.

After marriage our subject resided for some years in Ohio and purchased eighty acres of timber land which he proceeded to clear and had about one-half of it free from trees when he sold out and came to Illinois, where he purchased two hundred and sixty acres of land in Prairie Township, this county, very little of which was improved. There he made his residence and upon it erected excellent buildings and put it in first-class condition. In June 1881 he removed to Stewardson and settled where he now resides, having forty acres of fine land there, besides his original farm. His Stewardson land is very finely improved and in a handsome condition.

In the mutations which have been the fate of political parties of late years, it has been the lot of many men to be tossed about from one party to another so much, perhaps, that they have been fickle in their political belief and attachment but

on account of the changes which have really taken place in the standards of political parties. In this way, our subject who was once a devoted adherent of the Republican party is now as warmly attached to the Democratic. In religious belief the family are earnest and consistent members of the Lutheran Church. Of the ten children who blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Baumgarten three only have passed away. The living are: Rachel (Mrs. John Bauer), John, Frances (Mrs. Andrew Bauer), Fred, Edith, Edward and Lewis.



**W**ILLIAM C. MILLER, ex-County Treasurer of Shelby County, occupies a conspicuous place among its native-born sons who have done so much within the last generation to advance it to its present high standing as a rich and prosperous community. He is one of the principal farmers and stock-dealers in this section and conducts an extensive and profitable business in his line in Flat Branch Township, where he has a large farm that is complete in its appointments and is a valuable property.

Our subject is a son of Christopher Philip Miller, an old and well-known resident of this county, still living on the homestead farm that he developed from the wilderness on Robinson Creek, Ridge Township, where William was born in his pioneer home February 16, 1812. The father is of German birth and origin, born twelve miles from Hesse-Cassel, October 10, 1803, a son of John Christopher and Hannah Francisco (Strallmann) Miller, who were also natives of the same locality as himself. In 1804 the grandparents of our subject left their old home in Germany to emigrate to the United States of America, voyaging across the waters in a sail vessel and landing at Philadelphia. The family settled in Chester County, Pa., and went from there in 1817 to Ohio with a pair of horses and a wagon. They were among the first to settle in Fairfield County, that State, where the grandfather, who was a shoemaker, used to ply his trade, going from house to house as was the custom in those days. He died in that county in 1825.

his wife having preceded him in death the year before. They reared nine children.

Christopher P. Miller was one year old the day he landed with his parents in Philadelphia. He remained with them in Pennsylvania and Ohio until his mother's demise, though he was but a boy when he began to earn his own living. He lived in Hickory Township, Fairfield County, Ohio, until 1839, and then with his wife and the four children that had been born to them there, he came to Illinois, the journey being performed with a pair of horses and a wagon. He spent his first winter in this State in Shelbyville and in the spring of 1840 selected a suitable location on the banks of Robinson Creek and became one of the first settlers of Ridge Township, where he has ever since made his home on the place that he then purchased. During the half century and more that it has been in his possession he has wrought a great change, improving it into a fine farm. When he settled on it the prairies were but sparsely settled and deer and other kinds of game were abundant. There were no railways here and for some years St. Louis, one hundred and ten miles away, was the nearest market and depot for supplies.

The father of our subject was first married September 24, 1829, to Miss Amanda Carpenter. She was born near Lancaster, Ohio, and died in that State November 28, 1834, leaving two children, of whom Ezra, a resident of Assumption, is the only survivor. The maiden name of Mr. Miller's second wife, mother of subject, was Catherine Spear. She was born in Dauphin County, Pa., and died on the home farm in Ridge Township, February 28, 1869. There are six children living of that marriage, namely: Amanda, wife of Sam Yantis; Henry M.; William C.; Mary, wife of Alvin P. Weakly; Eliza, wife of G. W. Townsend, and Henrietta, wife of William H. Bickner. James C., the oldest child, died at the age of fifty-eight years.

He of whom this biographical sketch is written was carefully reared under good home influences in his native township. The first school that he attended was held in a typical pioneer log school house that stood in the woods on the bank of Robinson Creek. The building was heated by a large fireplace which occupied almost the entire end of

the school room, and the furniture consisted of slab benches and a writing desk of the same material supported on pins of wood that were driven into the wall. September 3, 1863, our subject was the victim of a serious accident whereby he lost his right arm just above the elbow. This loss changed the tenor of his life to a great extent as it determined him to secure a higher education than he had already acquired, and the same fall before his arm was healed he enrolled his name as a pupil in the seminary at Shelbyville. He studied in that institution diligently for a year and in January, 1865, entered the profession of a teacher, taking charge of a school in Flat Branch Township. As soon as that term closed he was called to teach a school in Ridge Township near his old home, and after that he taught a two month's school at Assumption. He then immediately returned to Ridge Township to teach there again, and his services were in such constant demand, so successful was he in imparting knowledge, showing himself to possess in a full degree the best requisites of an educator, that his time was almost wholly given to his vocation with scarce an intermission for an entire year. He was afterward engaged in teaching in Ridge, Flat Branch and Tower Hill Townships for several winters. In the summer he devoted his time to raising hedge plants and was thus employed for eight seasons with good financial returns.

For some years prior to his marriage Mr. Miller became a resident of Flat Branch Township and here he bought his first land, and after he was married he located on a farm on section 33. At the close of his second term as County Treasurer, in the fall of 1877, he located on his present farm which is situated on section 24, Flat Branch Township. He has six hundred and fifty-five acres of choice farming land which he is cultivating assiduously besides carrying on a lucrative business in trading in stock. He is a man of large enterprise, keen foresight, possessing a good understanding of the best ways of conducting his business so as to make the most money out of it, and has a taste for speculation in which he is invariably successful, combining boldness and caution in due proportion in his operations.

The same traits that have made our subject one

of our solid business men have also given him weight and influence in the public and political life of the county and gained him distinction as an office holder. He has always affiliated with the Democrats and has generally supported that party in State and national issues, although he has sympathized with the National Greenback party where questions of finance and currency are concerned and shared its prejudices in regard to monopolies. When the farmer's movement was at its strongest in this county he was one of the most active leaders, and in the summer of 1873 was honored by nomination to the office of County Treasurer at a convention held at Shelbyville composed of the supporters of the Farmer's movement. There was no opposition candidate and Mr. Miller was, of course, elected, and after looking after the finances of the county two years to the perfect satisfaction of all concerned, irrespective of party, he was again a candidate on the people's ticket. Though opposed by the nominee of the Democratic party, so popular was he, he polled sixty-six more votes than his opponent, and that, too, in a county that is usually overwhelmingly Democratic.

Mr. Miller was first married July 13, 1871, to Miss Mary Chadwick, a daughter of William Chadwick, and a native of Flat Branch Township. She died June 10, 1878, after a brief but happy wedded life in which three children had been born, of whom these two survive, Ada May and Charles Cyrus. The youngest, Bertie Sylvan, died after its mother's death at the age of nine months.

Our subject was married a second time February 2, 1881, to Mrs. Nancy (Armstrong) Goodwin, daughter of John Armstrong and widow of Joseph Goodwin. She was a consistent member of the Christian Church and is in every way worthy of the respect of the community that she shares with her husband. Mrs. Miller was born in her father's pioneer log cabin in what is now Penn Township, July 18, 1835. Her father was born in Warren County, Ky., April 1, 1803, his father, Aaron Armstrong, a native of South Carolina, being a pioneer of that section of the country. He resided there until 1809, when he came to Illinois which was in that year organized as a territory by an act of Congress. He located in Madison County, being

one of its early settlers, and lived there during the War of 1812, having to live in a fort a part of the time. He improved a farm in that county and made it his home until death closed his earthly pilgrimage.

Mrs. Miller's father married in Madison County, Jennie Roach, a native of Kentucky, and in 1826 he, too, became a pioneer, coming to Shelby County to build up a new home in the wilderness that then prevailed here. He made claim to a tract of Government land including the southwest quarter of section 6, of township 14, range 3, east of the third principal meridian, now known as Penn Township. He occupied a log cabin on his land and for a time his nearest neighbor was ten miles distant. Deer, wild turkeys, wolves and other wild animals were plentiful in this then uncivilized region which the hand of man had done but little to reclaim. Mr. Armstrong entered and bought other land besides his homestead and resided on the farm that he improved until after the death of his wife in 1875. He spent the last eight years of his life with his daughter, Mrs. Miller, dying at a venerable age August 10, 1883.

Mrs. Miller developed into a vigorous womanhood in her parental home and was taught all useful household duties, including the art of carding, spinning and weaving cloth. She was first married in 1870 to Joseph Goodwin, a native of Tennessee. He was a farmer by occupation and passed his last years on his farm in Penn Township, dying in 1875. By that marriage Mrs. Miller has one child, Flo Goodwin. Mr. and Mrs. Miller's children are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They are being carefully educated and all are students at the State Normal School, at Normal, Ill., at the present time.



**W**ILLIAM H. RAGAN, although among the younger members of the bar, has an excellent reputation as a criminal lawyer. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, September 30, 1830, the son of James W. and Ellen (Springer) Ragan. His paternal ancestors were of Irish ex-

traction his great-grandfather being born on the Emerald Isle. The maternal ancestors were of German and Swedish blood but came to this country in the early Colonial days and one of his great-grandfathers served as a soldier all through the Revolutionary War. Fairfield County, was the native home of his parents and there they were married and reared their family, but removed to Illinois in 1867, and located first in Clark County, next in Effingham County, whence they came to Shelby County. The mother, who still survives, is a widow, her husband having died in 1886 at the age of sixty years.

James W. Ragan, the worthy father of our subject, was a soldier in the Union army during the Civil War, being a member of Company C, One Hundred and Fourteenth Ohio Infantry. After the battle of Haines Bluff he was detailed as nurse on a hospital boat which bore the name of the "City of Memphis" and went up the Mississippi River to Paducah, Ky., at which place he was injured by a fall, while unloading the dead bodies of the brave boys who had fallen in conflict. In consequence of this accident he was placed in the hospital at St. Louis, from which he was in due time discharged, but he never entirely recovered from the injury, and his sufferings from it hastened his death.

There were eight children in the family of the parents of our subject, namely: Laura A., now Mrs. John J. Gallagher; William H. our subject; Silas A., Eber A., George W., James F. and Joseph A. (who was drowned at the age of five years, in a small creek near their home in Fayette County, Ohio) and Addison A.

The early life of William Ragan was passed upon the home farm and at the age of fourteen he hired out as a farm hand at \$5 a month, and served in this capacity until he reached the age of eighteen years. He then saw the need of an education and so for a number of years we find him attending school and teaching and he finally became a teacher in the High School at Shelbyville. He studied law in the office of Hamlin & Holloway and in 1884 was admitted to the bar. After practicing for one year he entered the Union College at Chicago, which college is the law department of the North-

western University at Evanston. Since taking his diploma in 1886 he has given his entire attention to his profession at Shelbyville. He has a general practice but gives particular attention to criminal practice.

The domestic life of Mr. Ragan is a very happy one, as he was married July 1, 1877, to Mary C. Gallagher, daughter of Jacob and Sarah Gallagher, who was born in Shelby County, where her parents are among the pioneers. They have had three children gather about their fireside, the eldest, Jennie, dying in infancy, but Elza M. and Maude A., remain to be the joy and comfort of their parents. He is deeply interested in political movements and espoused the cause of the Republican party until 1888 at which time he supported the Democratic ticket, stumping the State and making brilliant and effective speeches in sixty different places. He has never sought office and prefers to give his attention to private practice. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity and has been an earnest and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since he was fourteen years of age.



**ALFRED REED.** The sons of the pioneers have indeed reason to feel proud of their honorable ancestry. The early settlers in Illinois were a class of men and women who came to the New West not alone for personal aggrandizement but mainly for the benefit of their posterity. They cheerfully endured hardships and wrought gladly with their hands that they might provide a future for those who are dependent upon them. Our subject was born in Shelbyville Township, Shelby County, August 8, 1839, where he now resides, his parents being Moses and Ruth (Fortner) Reed. The father was born in Tennessee, March 3, 1807, and there married a lady who was born in North Carolina, March 12, 1808, a daughter of Micajah Fortner.

This young wedded couple came to Illinois and settled in Shelby County about the year 1825, when there were no houses between them and Vandalia and only two or three houses anywhere in

their vicinity. Indians still abounded in Shelby County, deer and other game were plenty and wolves came about the dooryard.

Moses Reed entered land and settled on section 23, where he also purchased other land and dealt in real-estate more or less, having generally six hundred acres of land in possession at a time. He made his permanent home where he first settled and remained there until his death in November, 1884, at the age of seventy-seven years. His widow died August 13, 1890, at the very advanced age of eighty-three years. Their ten children are Lucinda, now Mrs. Jackson; Edward; Elizabeth, deceased; Eliza, now Mrs. Henry Hilton; Artimesia, now Mrs. Manning; Moses; Alfred, our subject; Elisha and Marion, deceased; and one who died in childhood.

Having grown to manhood in Shelbyville Township, and undertaken as his work for life agricultural pursuits, our subject decided to establish a home for himself and in 1862 he married Rebecca, daughter of Jacob Kensil, who became the mother of five children and died in 1873. Two only of her children are now living, namely: Sarah, now Mrs. Bazel Haywood and Mary J., the wife of Lewis Manning. In 1877 Mr. Reed married Alzira Hoard, daughter of Andrew J. and Mary J. (Highland) Hoard. This lady was born in Union County, Ohio, October 14, 1856, and came with her parents to Illinois in 1868. They settled in Shelby County, and here this young girl grew up into a lovely young womanhood and received a training in the useful arts of housewifery, in which she became expert. Her beloved mother is still living and her worthy father died July 4, 1886, at the age of sixty-four years. One child only of the second marriage is now living, a daughter Zula; a little one died at the age of eighteen months some years ago.

About three hundred acres of land now form the home farm of this successful and thorough-going farmer. He prefers to devote himself largely to stock-raising of which he makes a specialty, and in which he is very prosperous. His political views have led him to ally himself with the Democratic party, and he firmly believes that the principles endorsed by "Old Hickory" are the reliable ground

for political action now-a-days. The high esteem in which he is held by his neighbors has often led them to urge his acceptance of various local offices, but the only position which he has ever felt willing to accept was that of a member of the School Board in which he has been very useful and has aided materially in forwarding the educational interests of his township. Socially he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.



PROF. WILLIAM E. McCORMICK. No resident of Tower Hill, Shelby County, has pursued a more honorable career or been of greater value as a citizen and public servant than the gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs and who is well known throughout Shelby County. His life and character are well worthy of imitation by those who, like himself, must be the architects of their own fortunes and destinies to a great extent. His habits are unostentatious, his judgment impartial, his convictions strong and his benefactions, like his labors, constant and unremitting. In 1888 he was appointed Principal of the public schools of Tower Hill, since which time he has advanced the grade of scholarship, deepened the public interest in educational matters and brought the school to the front rank among the academies of learning in the county. Recently he has been invited to take charge of the school at Windsor in this county.

Prof. McCormick is of Irish parentage. His father, Edward McCormick, was born in County Galway, Ireland, of which county his mother, Jane (O'Brien) McCormick, was also a native. After their marriage in Ireland they emigrated to America during the latter part of the '50s, and coming directly to this State, settled on a farm near the village of Tower Hill, of which they have since been residents. They became the parents of four children, of whom our subject is the eldest. He was born in County Galway, Ireland, April 1, 1858, and was about three years of age when he was brought by his parents to this country. He grew to manhood in Tower Hill Township and received

a good education in its graded schools. Later he became a student in the Central Normal College of Danville, Ind., where he fitted himself for the profession of a teacher.

Since 1877, when Prof. McCormick taught his first school, he has been engaged in his chosen profession and has become well-known as a splendid disciplinarian and one thoroughly able to impart knowledge to others. He was married in Pana, Ill., September 13, 1883, to Miss Minnie R., daughter of Samuel Milliken. This estimable lady was born in Shelby County, Ill., June 1, 1860 and is a lady of recognized worth of character and kindly disposition. She and the Professor are both consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has been a Trustee. He has also served as Superintendent of the Sunday-school, and takes an active part in religious and benevolent work. In politics he is a Democrat and has served the township as Clerk and Assessor. He owns two hundred acres adjacent to the village of Tower Hill, a portion of which lies within the corporation.

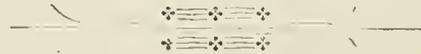


**F**RANKLIN D. GOULD. Our subject is one of the firm known as Gould Bros., dealers in grain, who have a wide reputation for honor and integrity, and enjoy the confidence of the community in which they are living by virtue of their fair and upright dealing. He of whom we are writing was born in Cambria, Niagara County, N. Y., April 22, 1847. He was reared on his father's farm and was engaged in farming in his native county until 1883, when he disposed of his farm and came to this State, settling in Windsor, and soon after launched into the grain business in partnership with his brother, Lyman A. Gould.

For two months after coming to this State Mr. Gould was employed by E. & I. Jennings at Mattoon, Ill., in buying grain. He went to Decatur, at which place he remained four months, being there employed by the Wabash Railroad Company. He was married in Cambria, N. Y., February 28, 1872, to Miss Agnes C. Colt, who was a native of the same county and State as himself

Mrs. Gould is a refined and womanly woman and makes a pleasant home for her husband and children, of which she has had four. They are: Elmer W., Clara M., Florence and Grace A. It was a great blow to the parents when their eldest child and only son, and was taken from them in February, 1890. He was at the full bud and promise of manhood, being seventeen years of age at the time of his death. He was a victim of that dread disease—La Grippe, which made vacant so many places in families throughout the country, suffering severely before his decease. The second daughter, Florence, died when a small child, being only four years of age.

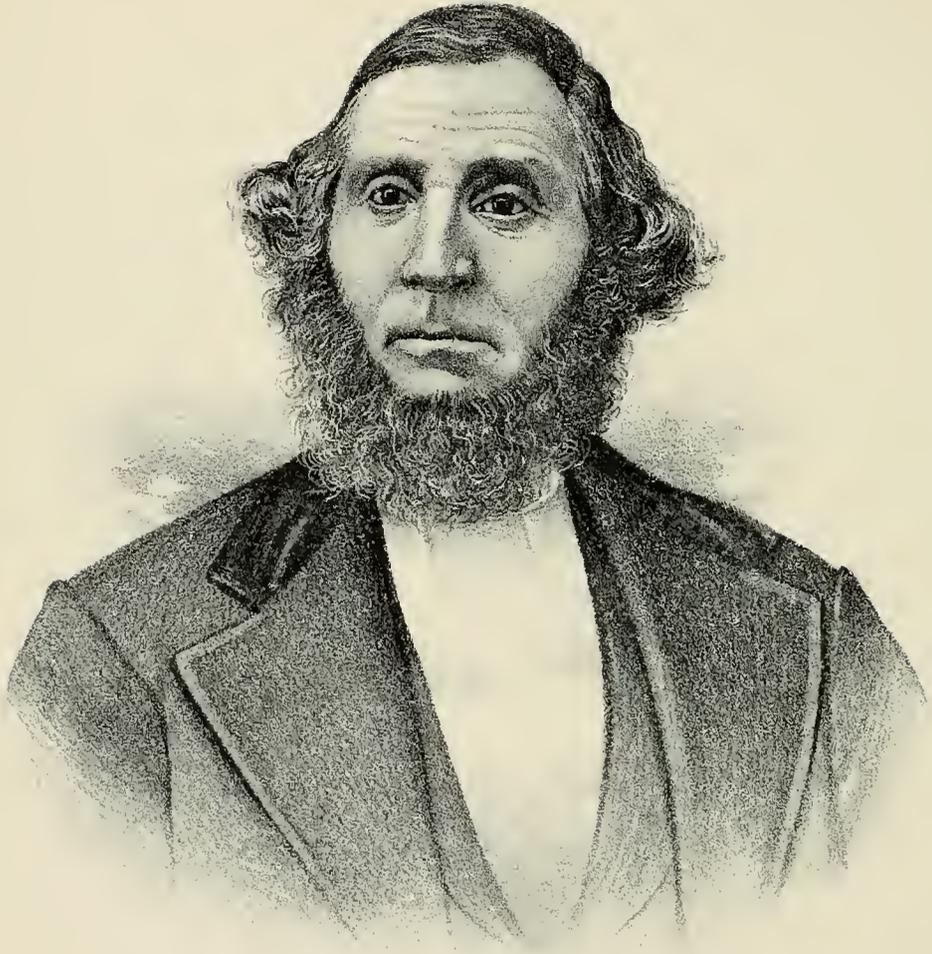
Although not an office-seeker in any sense, Mr. Gould, like most of the fresh, vigorous young men in our country, cannot but be interested in political life. He has allied himself with the Democratic party. Both our subject and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, he having been so connected since 1866, and his wife's church relations dating from childhood. Mr. Gould is a modest and unpretentious man, whose first consideration is attention to his business. He is, however, a favorite in both commercial and social circles, and is highly esteemed as one of the representative men of the town.



**G**EORGE A. SMITH, M. D. A successful and enterprising member of the medical profession, residing in Henton, in Ridge Township, is a son of the late John B. Smith, who was born in Butler County, Ohio. His mother, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Munson, was born in New Jersey. The father was a farmer by occupation and after his marriage with Miss Munson made his home in Franklin County, Ind., whence he came in 1860 and settled in Ridge Township, Shelby County, where he completed his mortal career August 13, 1890. He left his faithful wife to mourn his loss.

Our subject is one of seven children of the parental home and is the third in order of age. He





THOS. STEWARDSON .

was born in Franklin County, Ind., October 30, 1855, and was reared to manhood upon his father's farm in Shelby County. His earlier education was taken in the common schools and at Shelbyville. He entered the St. Louis Medical College at St. Louis, Mo., in 1876, and graduated in the Class of '79, receiving his diploma at that time. He began his professional work at Henton and has now built up an excellent and broad practice. His marriage, which occurred April 29, 1891, united him with Miss Ida M. Stanley, daughter of Leroy and Elizabeth (Ward) Stanley.

Dr. Smith has taken an active part in all local movements and is an energetic and progressive citizen. His political views have led him to affiliate with the Democratic party, in the progress of which he feels a keen interest. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and is also identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. His excellent judgment and genial nature commend him to his fellow-citizens.



**T**HOMAS STEWARDSON, one of the early pioneers of Shelby County and a man who has made his record for industry, hard work, perseverance and integrity, has a pleasant home on section 24, Shelbyville Township, where his residence dates from the fall of 1849. He was born in the North of England, March 18, 1818, and is the son of William and Mary (Nicholson) Stewardson. The mother died when the subject of this sketch was but a small boy, leaving seven children, of whom Thomas was the eldest. Those who followed him were: Robert, who died in Shelby County; Samuel, went to the West Indies and there died; Isabella, married Mr. Brewster and died in Shelbyville; William; John, who resides in Texas, and Mary, who died in Indiana in 1844. The father of our subject came to the United States, and settling in Illinois, lived in Shelby County until his death. He took up the land for this son two years previous to our subject's coming here.

Thomas Stewardson was reared a farmer, and

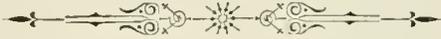
when a young man of some twenty-three years came to the United States, settling in Ohio in the year 1810, and there married three years later the lady whom he had chosen from all the world to be his companion through life. She was Elizabeth Parnell, a native of England and a daughter of John and Agnes Parnell. After marriage they resided in Ohio for some nine years with the exception of one season, which they spent in Northern Indiana. Elizabeth Stewardson became the mother of six children, but was called from them by death in 1856, leaving them to mourn a mother's loss. They are all now grown to manhood and are occupying positions of responsibility and honoring their parents by lives of usefulness and worth. They are as follows: John, who resides in Sac County, Iowa; Thomas, who lives in the State of Washington; James, Robert and William P., who live in Shelby County; and Samuel, who makes his home in South Dakota.

In December, 1856, our subject was married to Sarah Brady, a daughter of Thomas and Martha (Vaughn) Brady, and a native of Shelby County, where she was born October 20, 1839. Her parents were of Southern birth and came to Illinois in the pioneer days, taking up and improving land here. Their death occurred in Shelby County, and they left six children, as follows: William, deceased; Jane, the wife of Perry Reed, who resides in Butler County, Kan; Samuel, deceased; Sarah, Mrs. Stewardson; Nareissa A., who married Hiram Brown and died in Shelby County; and James, who is also deceased.

The first possession of Mr. Stewardson in Illinois was forty acres, and he now owns two hundred and sixty, all excellent and well improved land, bearing upon it good fences, excellent barns and a substantial home. He followed sheep-raising for a number of years very successfully and has the qualities which lead to success in that department of work, as he is prudent and attentive to the needs of his stock. He now pursues general farming. Mrs. Stewardson is a member of the Hard Shell Baptist Church and has brought up her seven children in the faith of the Christian religion. They are named: Martha Jane, wife of John Richardson; Edward; Douglas; Henry; Mary, now Mrs. Ben-

jamin Field; Eliza, the wife of Mathew Bainbrig; and Albert. The political views of our subject have brought him into sympathy with the Democratic party, for whose success he is desirous, but he is not at all an office-seeker, although he has filled successfully the position of School Director.

Elsewhere in this volume the reader will find a lithographic portrait of Mr. Stewardson.



**J**OHAN W. BEERY, a prominent and successful farmer residing on section 5, Ridge Township, Shelby County, and a man who is ever active in political and church circles, is the son of Josiah Beery, a native of Rockingham County, Va., where his mother, Ann Jacobs was also born. They had thirteen children, and our subject was among the older members of the family, being born September 9, 1844, in Rockingham County, where he was reared upon a farm.

At the time of the breaking out of the war, this young man was conscripted when only sixteen years old, into the rebel army. He served in the ranks but a few days, and then was detailed to work in a shoe shop, where he served between three and four years. When Gen. Hunter made his famous raid up the Shenandoah Valley, all the detailed men were called out and given guns. The enemy was routed and our subject took leave of his brethren in arms against the Union without the consent of his commanding officer, and coming to Fairfield County, obtained employment at farm labor.

Here Mr. Beery remained until his marriage September 2, 1869, to Miss Rebecca Swartz, a daughter of Henry and Sarah (Beery) Swartz, both of whom were natives of Fairfield County, Ohio. The mother died in that county, and the father in Pickaway Township, Shelby County, Ill., where he had settled in December, 1870. The wife of our subject was one of the younger members in a large family of twelve children, and was born in Fairfield County, July 22, 1847.

The young married couple continued to reside in Fairfield County until the fall of 1872, when

they removed to Shelby County and made their home in Pickaway Township for ten years, after which they removed to Ridge Township, and settled on section 5, where Mr. Beery owns a farm of eighty acres upon which he has placed good improvements.

The children who have come to bless the home of our subject are: Thomas C., Mary A., Laura C., Elmer C., Docie E., Lulu E., John O. and Onie B. Elmer, John and Onie have passed to the better world. The father of these children is an intelligent and public-spirited man, who has always taken an active part in public affairs, and is an ardent and progressive Republican. He has been School Director for five years, and in this capacity has done much to forward the educational interests of the Township. In the spring of 1890 he was elected Highway Commissioner, which office he has filled to the satisfaction of his constituents and the benefit of the roads. He has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits, and has made them a success. The Evangelical Association is the religious body with which he and his good wife are connected, and in its work they are ever ready to take part, and to do good. He has been in this connection Class-Leader, Trustee, Sunday-school Superintendent and exhorter. Mr. Beery is a member of the Modern Woodmen, and is also identified with the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association.



**S**AMUEL W. MORTILAND. Himself a lover of a fine horse, our subject understands the needs of the traveling public so thoroughly as to keep all grades and styles of animals to suit each whim and taste. For the young man who loves a level stretch of country and a good gait, he has in his stables roadsters that can keep up with any in the county. For the old physician who cannot get along without his forty winks as he goes from one place to another, he has the staid and reliable animals that will land him at his destination safely, without so much as a pull at the lines, and to the nervous lady who is afraid

of a good, fast gait, and yet wants to travel behind a horse with some style, he gives a beautiful little mare with glossy mane and tail, and tender eyes that promise of themselves the utmost sedateness united with elegant dignity, for Mr. Morthland is a livery man and caters to the traveling public of Lovington, Moultrie County.

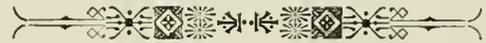
The parents of our subject were Joseph T. and Alice (McCardle) Morthland. The former was a native of Pennsylvania and the latter emigrated in her young womanhood to the United States from Ireland. They were married in New York City and came from there to Decatur, Ill., in the year 1859. Two weeks after his arrival in the last-named city Joseph Morthland died. His wife followed him a good many years later, passing away from this life in Moultrie County, August 17, 1889. They were the parents of five children, and of these our subject was the eldest. He was born in New York City, January 11, 1850, and was nine years of age when he came with his parents to Decatur, this State.

Mr. Morthland early knew what it was to take care of himself for in his young days he worked out for his board and clothing, spending four or five years in this way in Macon County, his mother having removed to Moultrie County and married again a man by the name of Levi Misenhelter. Our subject went to live with his mother and made his home under her roof until his marriage which took place in Lovington, December 18, 1872. His bride was Rebecca McCravy, who was born in Tennessee.

After marriage the young couple resided in Lovington for several months and then removed to Lowe Township, where our subject was engaged in farming for a period of about four years. At the expiration of this time he returned to Lovington and purchased a livery business in July, 1878, and has since continued giving his attention to this business. Mr. Morthland is a genial, whole-souled fellow who is a hail fellow well met with all the best spirits of the town. He is deservedly popular with all classes of people and enjoys the confidence and respect of the community.

Our subject and his wife have had their domestic life enriched by the advent of one daughter therein.

Her name is Ida M. and she is the pride of her parents whose ambition it is that every talent that she possesses should be cultivated in the highest degree and that she should be an accomplished and intelligent woman. Mr. Morthland has served on the Village Board for several years and has filled the office of Township Clerk most acceptably. Socially, he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and both an Odd Fellow and a Knight of Pythias. In connection with his livery business he also makes a specialty of Normans and roadsters, being engaged in breeding horses. He also sells many buggies and vehicles of all descriptions. Besides his business in the village he has a general oversight of his farm in the township which comprises one hundred and twenty acres and which brings him in a handsome revenue.



**J**AMES AVERY WOOD. A pleasant gentleman whom Moultrie County may well be proud to claim as a son and native, is he whose name is at the head of this sketch. Born here March 31, 1848, his parents were Joseph M. and Parletha (Patterson) Wood. Our subject's paternal grandfather, Avery Wood, came to this county before 1840, and entered a large tract of land upon which he made some improvements before his death, which occurred in Sullivan Township, where his body lies interred. The father of our subject was the only boy in the family to attain the age of maturity. He was a farmer and died in Sullivan Township in the fall of 1852, having before his death acquired a handsome property. Our subject's mother, married a second time, a gentleman by the name of Montgomery, and by this union three children were born which were reared with him of whom we write.

The parental family consisted of three children whose names are as follows: Sarah J.; James A., our subject, and John W. Mr. Wood's only sister married William Hodge; she died in Sullivan Township, without issue. James A. was married in 1869 to Mary A. Hoke, a daughter of Samuel and Amanda Hoke. She was a native of the same

county and State as her husband being here born April 18, 1849. Her death occurred June 6, 1890, and her loss is deeply felt not only by her immediate family but by many who have been the recipients of her kindly sympathy and aid in times of trouble. She lived in Sullivan Township all her life.

Mr. Wood is a progressive farmer and although he is comparatively a young man, has acquired a good farm which comprises one hundred and sixty acres of as fertile and well-located land as there is in the county. Upon this he has put valuable improvements, and has here a pleasant home. He devotes himself chiefly to general farming, but has some fine stock. The original of our sketch is not content to accumulate alone earthly riches, but realizes that for himself and family there are treasures of learning and wisdom to be had for the getting. His home boasts many books by standard authors and the latest current literature finds its way to his reading table. He is a thoughtful reader, forming his ideas from his own deductions, rejecting ready-made opinions upon any line of thought, whether it be political or otherwise.

Five children comprise the family of our subject, whose names are: Zolla Newton, Estella May, Sarah Jane, Samuel A. and Lora Edith. Politically, Mr. Wood's sympathies and interests center with the Democratic party and this receives the weight of his vote and influence. Religiously he is a member of the United Brethren Church, and seeks to live in his daily life, the lessons taught by the life of the Divine Man.



**F**RANK M. LOVING. Among the prominent citizens of Dora Township who has lived in this section for more than a quarter of a century, we are pleased to mention the name which appears at the head of this paragraph. Mr. Loving is a farmer who settled in Moultrie County in the fall of 1867, and whose pleasant home is to be found on section 22, Dora Township.

He is a native Illinoisan, having been born in McLean County, April 14, 1855, a son of Jasper D. and Maria J. (Messer) Loving, natives of Indiana and Illinois, respectively.

Taylor Loving, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of North Carolina who came to this State and located in McLean County about the year 1835, locating near Normal, but later removing to Gridley Township, where he became the owner of some five hundred acres of land upon which he passed his remaining years, dying at the age of about fifty. He left a family of four sons and one daughter, John, Philip, James, Jasper and Nancy, which latter became the wife of George Cox. Jasper Loving was only about eighteen months old when the family settled in McLean County and he was educated in Bloomington and chose husbandry as his pursuit in life. He was married in McLean County to Maria, a daughter of John Messer, an early pioneer of the county.

After marriage the newly wedded pair settled in Gridley Township on land which Taylor Loving had entered from the Government. He remained with his parents and assisted them while his brothers went to California during the gold excitement, and after the death of the father Jasper fell heir to a portion of the land and purchased the interest of some of the heirs, and thus became the owner of a fine farm.

Jasper Loving, in 1867, sold his farm in McLean County and coming to Moultrie County, purchased from the Illinois Central Railroad Company two hundred and forty acres of unbroken prairie to which he somewhat later added by purchase one hundred and twenty acres more, all of which he improved. In 1882, on account of his wife's feeble health, he sold a portion of his land and went to Montgomery County, Kan., where he purchased two small farms, but the change of residence did not bring as much improvement to Mrs. Loving's health as had been hoped, and she left him for the spirit world in 1884. One year later he returned to Illinois and died June 7, 1888, in Dora Township. He was an earnest Republican in his political views and at different times held various local offices. The Christian Church was the religious body in the communion of which he found comfort and strength.

He and his good wife had seven children, four of whom lived to years of maturity, namely: Frank M., Mary C., wife of John O. McMullen, John T. and Lewis V. The latter was born June 18, 1867, and resides with our subject.

Frank M. Loving came with his father's family to Moultrie County in 1867, and six years later chose for himself a bride in the person of Eliza, daughter of John and Nancy McMullen. She was born in Ohio, June 22, 1855, and became the mother of two children, John J. and Sylva E. The old homestead forms the residence of our subject, and he is the owner of eighty acres of finely improved land. His political views incline him to endorse the action of the Republican party, yet he is independent to a considerable extent and never allows himself to be trammled by party ties. In the membership of the Christian Church he and his excellent wife find themselves in a religious home which is in accordance with their faith and sympathies.



**J**OHIN M. CUSAAC. It is contrary to the principles of true political economy to encourage celibacy and discourage marriage, and the historian regrets the necessity of occasionally chronicling the fact that a man of noble life, integrity and honor, has been content to live a life of single blessedness and has not made for himself a true home by placing at his side a companion who would double his joys and halve his sorrows. Yet when a single life has been conducted so nobly and unselfishly as has that of our subject, the writer willingly touches lightly upon this dereliction from duty and is willing to paint in light colors the life of this worthy man.

Our subject was born in Perry County, Ohio, in 1825, being the son of Andrew Cusaac, a native of Pennsylvania, and Jane Shaw, who was born in the same State. His parents settled in Perry County, Ohio, in 1813 and there made their home through life. Of their eight children two died in infancy. William died in Perry County, Ohio, and Jane, who married Mr. Ensminger, resides with

our subject. Caroline married Jacob Dial and her death occurred in June, 1890. Two children, James and Celia survive her. Mary married Cornelius Axline and died in Muskingum County, Ohio, leaving two children, William and Matilda. Lucinda is the wife of Robert Yost and Sarah M., an unmarried sister, resides with our subject. Mr. Cusaac has ever been a kind and affectionate brother to his sisters and their comfort and support in times of trial.

Mr. Cusaac first located on section 29, Shelbyville Township, when he came to this county, and he here purchased nearly eight hundred acres of land. In this he was joined by his brother, A. J. About the year 1861 he purchased the farm upon which he now resides and upon which he has erected a pleasant home, excellent barns and other substantial and handsome improvements, so that it is now counted as the best improved farm in Shelbyville Township, and comprises some four hundred acres of land. His political views bring him into affiliation with the party which is proud to claim the names of Jefferson and Jackson, but he is not a politician nor wire puller and has steadfastly declined to accept office. He is a supporter of the Presbyterian Church to which his sisters belong and is warmly interested in the cause of Christianity, although not a church member. His industry, economy and thrift have placed him upon a substantial footing and given him the respect of his fellow-citizens. He settled in this county in 1866, and his pleasant home is located just outside the city limits of Shelbyville.



**D**ANIEL SMITH, who resides on section 19, Ridge Township, Shelby County, is a citizen of superior ability and intelligence. His father, Nathan Smith, and his grandfather, Daniel, Sr., were born in Maryland. The father of our subject was a farmer by occupation and married, while living in Nicholas County, Ky., Mary Killam, who was born in Nicholas County, December 2, 1799. After marriage this young couple settled in Nicholas County and remained

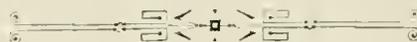
there until death in the early prime of life, August 15, 1830. His bereaved widow, who was the mother of five sons and one daughter, removed the following year to Shelby County, Ill., and passed away January 30, 1880.

The subject of this writing was the second in this family, being born September 21, 1821, in Nicholas County, Ky., where he spent the early years of his life. The father died before the boy had completed his ninth year and when he was ten years old he came with his mother and the family to Shelby County, and lived for some nine or ten years in Rose Township. Since that time he has made his home in Ridge Township. He received thorough training in the practical work of farming in his boyhood and undertook that as his life work.

Daniel Smith and Sarah A. Wagoner were united in the sacred bonds of matrimony in Rose Township, August 3, 1843. The bride is a daughter of Jacob and Drady (Sargent) Wagoner, both of whom were Virginians by birth and first settled in Kentucky, afterward in Indiana and then pursued their pioneer life in Illinois, settling in Rose Township in 1833. The mother died in 1810 and the father passed away in Ridge Township, in 1857. They were the parents of eight children, five sons and three daughters, and Mrs. Smith, who was born in Washington County, Ind., July 1, 1823, was the sixth in order of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have passed their married life in Ridge Township and here their family of five children have been born. George W. is a resident of Shelbyville; Mary, who became the wife of Samuel Brownback, who died in Rural Township in 1872, leaving one child, George, who has been reared by his grandparents; Russell is a farmer in Rural Township; and John J. carries on a farm in Ridge Township. The remaining child is Olivia. Three little ones died in infancy. Mr. Smith has been Highway Commissioner and School Director for a number of years. His political convictions have led him to ally himself with the Democratic party and he cast his first vote for James K. Polk. His wife is an earnest and active member of the Christian Church. Mr. Smith bought his land from the Government and has a fine estate of four hundred and sixty-seven acres upon which he has

erected a delightful home, commodious barns and other excellent outbuildings. These are situated upon the home farm which covers some one hundred and fifty acres. This intelligent gentleman and genial neighbor has made his mark in the community where he lives and is worthy of the generous estimate which is every where accorded him.



**R**ODNEY ADKINS. There is probably no place in the wide world where a man can so readily wrest from the soil a handsome competency and put himself in a financial condition to retire from active labor, as within the bounds of the rich Prairie State. Throughout its confines, north and south, east and west, we may find thousands of farmers who have, by hard toil and enterprise, secured a degree of wealth which allows them to rest during their later years, and among these we are pleased to mention the still active and enterprising gentleman whose name we have given above.

Rodney Adkins, who resides on section 6, Lovington Township, Moultrie County, dates his residence in this county from 1865, and in Illinois from 1852. He was born in Ross County, Ohio, August 21, 1825, being a son of Staunton and Anna (Timmons) Adkins, natives of Maryland. This excellent couple have removed from their native State to Ross County previous to their marriage, Mr. Adkins at the date of that event being thirty years old, and his young bride but fifteen. Subsequent to their marriage they removed to Pickaway County, in the same State, and there settled on a farm. Mrs. Anna Adkins became the mother of thirteen children, and died at the age of forty, but her husband survived and reached the very extreme age of ninety-one years.

The subject of this sketch was the fourth in this large family of the parental household, and received his early training upon a farm and through the active exercise and healthful manner of life incident to agriculture, he gained a sturdy and healthful young manhood. He was married in Pickaway County, Ohio, March 18, 1847, his bride being Lo-

vena Eskridge, daughter of George and Sabrina (Bryder) Eskridge, early pioneers of Pickaway County and natives of the little State of Delaware. Their daughter, Lovena, was born in Pickaway County in May, 1824.

The removal of our subject to Illinois was made in 1852 with three teams. This was a long, wearisome journey, but was taken leisurely, the party camping out at night and picnicing along the road. The principal expense which had to be incurred was the payment of toll at the toll-gates. Upon reaching the Prairie State, Mr. Adkins located in Cumberland County, and became the owner of two hundred and forty-six acres of land within two miles of Toledo, the county-seat. For this he paid at the rate of \$9 per acre and upon it he proceeded to make good improvements, and had it in excellent condition before the exigencies of the Civil War called him from his home and fireside.

Mr. Adkins enlisted in the service of his country in August, 1861, and was mustered into service in Company A, Fifth Illinois Cavalry, which regiment was ordered to the Southwest, and saw service in Arkansas. He was taken prisoner near Helena, that State, in October, 1862, and while under guard of six men, a captain of a company of guerillas, who also laid claim to being a Methodist Episcopal preacher, rode up, and without leave or license shot him in the arm. This ball, which he still carries, so disabled him as to cause him to be honorably discharged in February, 1863.

Our subject returned to Cumberland County, and in the fall of 1864 sold his land at \$10 an acre and proceeded to prospect in various parts of the State, spending one season farming in Ford County before coming to Moultrie County. Here he purchased eighty acres of his present farm, which was then but little improved but was considered of more than ordinary value, and even then commanded \$30 per acre. He now owns over one thousand acres of land, seven hundred and fifty of which are in one body. He has erected a pleasant home, excellent barns and other good outbuildings. Most of his prosperity may be attributed to his thorough, systematic and intelligent stock-farming, together with his dealings in live stock.

To Mr. and Mrs. Adkins have been born three

children, and they have been so favored as to retain these children in life until now they are mature, and are taking their places in the world, being fitted to shine as members of society and to be truly an honor to their worthy parents. They are by name—William S., Mary E., (wife of Henry Layman), and Luranna, who resides at home. For four years past Mr. Adkins has rented his farm and now lives a retired life. He is a staunch Republican in his political belief, and deems it the duty of every patriot to exercise the right of suffrage with which he is endowed by the laws of his land. He takes an intelligent interest in political movements, but has never held office, as he has preferred to devote his energies to his private business.



**L**ORENZO D. EVANS. Our subject is one of the thousands of brave and loyal men who came forward in the time of their country's trial and threw their lives in the balance with the chances of war that the Union might be preserved and the brotherhood which is now becoming an accomplished fact between North and South, re-established. He is at present a general farmer owning one hundred and fifty-three acres on section 4, Flat Branch Township. He is the happy possessor of some of the best land in the township and can view his acquisition with pride, as it is the result of his own industry and energy.

Mr. Evans was born in Montgomery County, at Mt. Sterling, Ky., December 11, 1825. He comes of Maryland stock. His father, John Evans, who was a native of Wales, when young, came to the United States and lived near Baltimore with his parents for some years. The family, however, removed to Montgomery County, Ky., and there William Evans remained for some time. He returned to Baltimore, Md., where he died and was buried by the side of his wife who had there passed away before the removal of his family to Kentucky. William Evans lived to be an old man. He served through the War of 1812 and was a brave soldier. His sons inherited from him his valor, for all of them later served through the late

Rebellion, and one who had been Provost Marshal of Mt. Sterling, was later killed by an enemy, who in a cowardly manner, shot him in the back, while entering a store. Much enmity grew out of this and the family feud even endangered the different families in the vicinity, nor did our subject escape these dangers, for he had many a hair-breadth escape from the enemy.

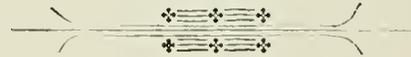
After the coming of John Evans to Montgomery County, Ky., he received training in a farmer's life, and lived and died in his adopted State, being quite an old man at the time of his decease. He had there taken unto himself a wife whose maiden name was Miss Ann Beecraft, who was born near Baltimore, Md., her parents being Benjamin and Elizabeth Beecraft. They came from Wales to this country and after living for some time in Maryland, they settled in Kentucky. Their deaths, however, took place in Indiana. The daughter, Mrs. John Evans, after her marriage passed her life in Montgomery County, Ky., and there died. Our subject and a sister are all who are now living of this family. He inherited the fibre of his sturdy Welsh ancestors and grew up full of the energy and determination known to but few men of his day.

When the call was made for volunteers to fight for liberty and freedom, Mr. Evans enlisted in the Thirteenth Regiment of Illinois Infantry. He served under Gen. Sherman and was in the engagement against Gen. Johnson at Charlotte, N. C., and saw active service until the close of the war, when he received an honorable discharge for his services in 1865. He served as a private but had been a true and brave man and for his loyalty and valor no better record could be referred to than his Colonel, Mr. Lawrence, of Madison, Capt. Jones, of the same place and Lieut. Lewis, of Mumsey, Ind.

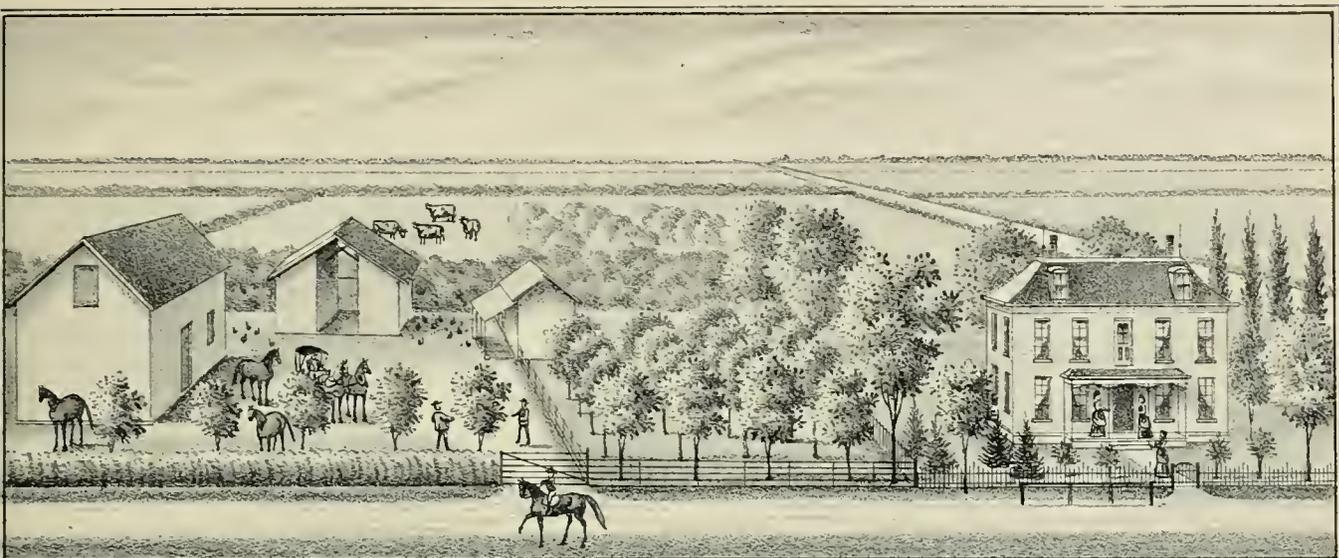
Our subject has ever been a close student of human nature, it having been one of his greatest pleasures to study character as found in his travels throughout the country. This knowledge of human nature has given him a great advantage in his dealings with men. He is a man who has experienced much that is known to develop the sternest characteristics of one's nature. His early experi-

ence in Kentucky when involved in the feud that threatened himself and family, taught him vigilance and caution, while it developed daring and recklessness. When Mr. Evans was a young man the hot blood of the Southerner of Kentucky was even more pronounced than now, and a man took his life in his hands, when by a word, he acquired the hostility of an acquaintance.

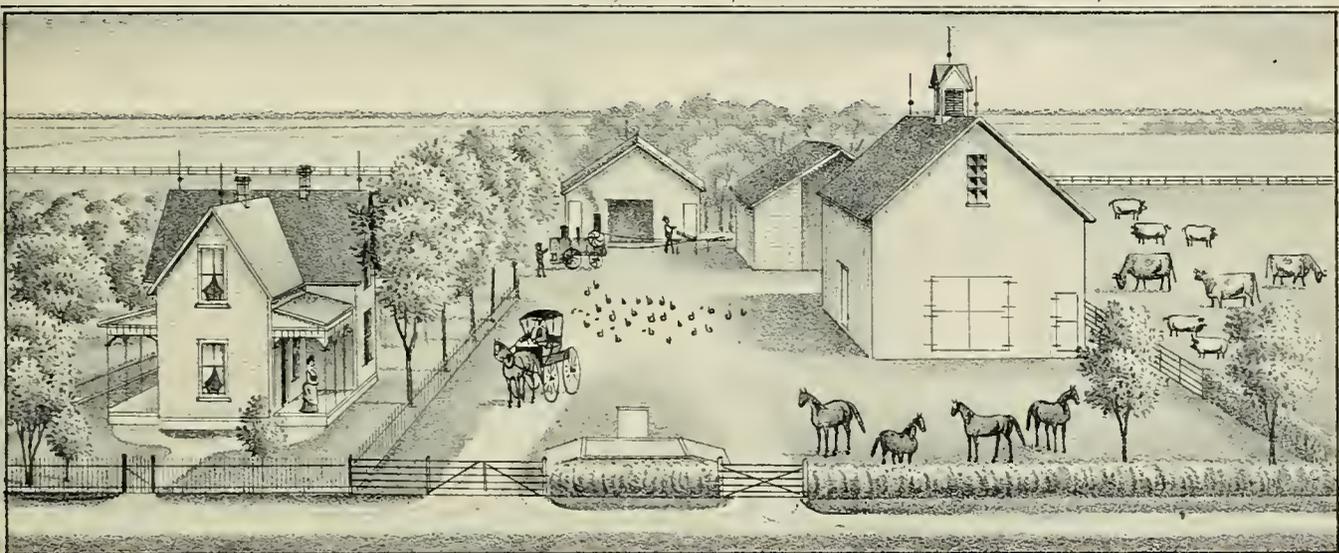
Mr. Evans was married in 1848 while in Kentucky, to Margaret Reibland who was born and reared in that State. She is the mother of eight children, four of whom are now dead, having passed away in early years. Those who have a monument in the hearts of their parents, are Anna, Margaret, Mary E. and Wallace. The living children are Sarah J., Jennie, John W. and Lorenzo D. Sarah is the wife of William Simpson, who is proprietor of a farm in this township. Jennie is the wife of Jerome La Don and lives on a farm in Moweaqua Township. John W. took to wife Elizabeth Gordon, and now lives in Donovan, Ill. Lorenzo D. is a farmer in this township.



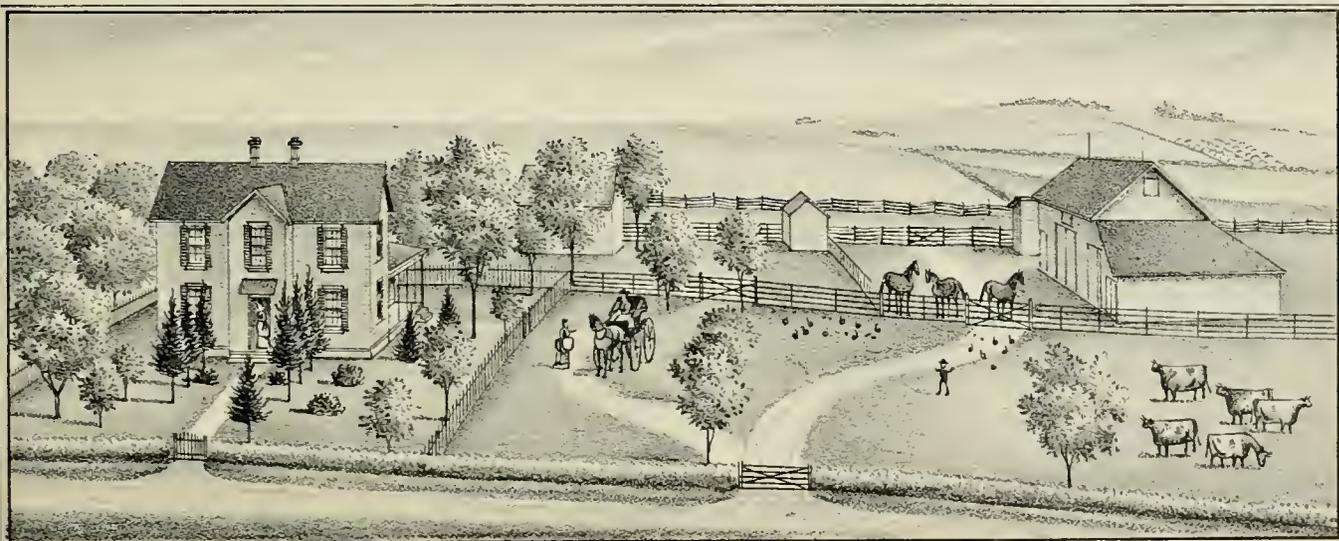
**L**AURENCE WARREN. No family in Shelby County has been more closely identified with the development of its vast resources than the gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs. He is the proprietor of a beautiful and well-appointed farm, picturesquely situated on section 9, Tower Hill Township. The estate, which comprises one hundred and sixty acres, slopes toward the south and with its attractive residence, substantial farm buildings and cultivated fields forms a picture not easily forgotten. It is our pleasure to present on another page a view of this fine place. Step by step Mr. Warren worked his way until his worldly affairs were placed on a substantial basis, and to-day he is numbered among the well-to-do men of the county. While advancing his financial interests he has not neglected the better things in life, but has discharged in an able manner the duties of citizenship, and helped to elevate the intellectual and moral status of the section in which he has made his home.



RESIDENCE OF A. J. LEWIS, SEC. 6, LOWE TP., MOULTRIE CO., ILL.



RESIDENCE OF L. C. FLEMING, SEC. 29, EAST NELSON TP., MOULTRIE CO., ILL.



RESIDENCE OF LAWRENCE WARREN, SEC. 9, TOWER HILL TP., SHELBY CO., ILL.



For the history of the parents of Mr. Warren the reader is referred to the sketch of J. R. Warren on another page of this volume. Lawrence Warren, who was the fifth in a family of six children, was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, May 14, 1829. In his native place he passed his childhood and youth uneventfully, attending the district schools during the winter season and aiding in farm work during summer. He has made agriculture his calling in life, although he has followed carpentering to some extent.

When ready to establish a home of his own, Mr. Warren was married, August 24, 1854, to Miss Mary Ann, daughter of John and Catherine (Reinhammer) Stout, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Stout were married in the Keystone State, whence they removed to Pickaway County, Ohio, and there the father died. The mother survived him a few years and passed away in Sandusky County, Ohio. They had six children, the eldest dying in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Warren, who was the third, was born in Walnut Township, Pickaway County, Ohio, January 1, 1832, and was reared to womanhood under the parental roof, acquiring a good education and a knowledge of housewifely arts.

Immediately after their marriage Mr. Warren brought his wife to Illinois, making the journey in an emigrant wagon and locating in Christian County. After a sojourn there of two years, he came to this county and purchased the farm in Tower Hill, which is still his home. Of his union ten children were born whose record is as follows: James M., who died at the ages of twenty years; Emanuel F., who is a professor in the Western College at Toledo, Iowa; John, a farmer; Nelson, who married Miss Anna B. Rosenberry and is a farmer; Lewis H. and George W., farmers; Mary L., who died when nineteen years old; Nora J.; Otis W., and Edward N.

Every measure calculated to contribute to the progress of the community finds a firm friend in Mr. Warren, who is well known as a public-spirited citizen. In politics he is a Prohibitionist. He was the first Township Clerk in Tower Hill, has served as Highway Commissioner and held various school offices. Religiously he is a member of the Metho-

dist Church, while his wife belongs to the United Brethren Church. Of a genial and hospitable nature, it is not strange that his position among the citizens of this section is an influential one, and that he numbers his friends among the worthiest wherever he is known.



**L**ESTER C. FLEMING. Every traveler who passes along the highway is led to admire the farm buildings of Mr. Fleming on section 29, East Nelson Township. These are still new enough to have retained their pristine freshness and the impression made by their attractive appearance is re-inforced by a thorough examination of their convenient and commodious arrangement. This farmer appreciates fully the true economy of being saved from the wear and tear which are incident to a poor home, illy-arranged barns, leaky sheds and tumble-down fences, and he has provided generously for both his family and his stock.

Isaac Fleming, who was the father of Lester, was born in Cumberland County, Md., in 1818, and married Miss Kittie A. Hilton, who was born in the same county in 1817. Their early married life was spent in Knox County, Ohio, and they came thence to Moultrie County, Ill., in 1864, settling in East Nelson Township which has continued to be the family home with the exception of three years spent in Whitley Township. The father passed from this life in 1888 on the 27th of October, but the mother still survives. Of their family our subject was the seventh in order of age and was born in Knox County, Ohio, June 28, 1848.

Lester C. Fleming came with his parents to Illinois and resided under the parental roof until his marriage, which took place in 1874 in Moultrie County, his bride being Miss Mary B. Mathers, who bore to him one child, James I. Mrs. Mary B. Fleming did not long remain to enjoy her home, but died in September, 1877 in East Nelson Township. The second wife of our subject bore the maiden name of Anna B. Mallory and she also became the mother of one child, Mattie A., and died

December 18, 1886. Some time subsequent to this sad event Mr. Fleming was married in Charleston, Ill., to Rosa Maxedon, who now presides over his pleasant home.

For six years Mr. Fleming was engaged in operating a sawmill but aside from that and also during most of that time he gave his attention to farming which has been his chief business through life, as he thoroughly cultivates his eighty acres of land. In the spring of 1890 he became the Supervisor of East Nelson Township and so well did he serve his constituents and transact the business of his county that he received his re-election to the same office in the spring of 1891. As School Director he has worked conscientiously to advance the schools of East Nelson Township and they are year by year rising to a higher plane. The platform of the Democratic party receives his hearty endorsement and in general intelligence he keeps abreast with the march of events and the world's history.

Elsewhere in this volume appears a view of the home where Mr. Fleming and his family are comfortably domiciled.



**A**ARON J. LEWIS. As a fine type of the citizens who have contributed to the prosperity of Moultrie County, the gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs deserves especial mention. His splendid farm comprises one hundred and two acres on sections 6 and 7, Lowe Township, and is embellished with every necessary and convenient structure, good stock being kept and improved machinery used. The residence, a view of which appears on another page, is a home-like structure, in which good cheer for mind and body is always to be found. During an honorable career as a sagacious agriculturist Mr. Lewis has displayed those solid traits of character that are needful to the attainment of fortune in any calling, and in his dealings with all he has ever shown himself to be a man of probity.

The immediate progenitors of our subject are James T. and Paulina (Hotstetler) Lewis. The

father, now deceased, was born in Kentucky, but when quite young removed with his parents to Orange County, Ind., where he grew to a vigorous manhood amid primeval scenes. When ready to establish a home of his own he was married to Paulina Hotstetler, a native of Indiana, where after their union they settled in Orange County. This continued to be the home of the father until he closed his eyes to the scenes of earth September 22, 1852. The mother still survives at the advanced age of eighty-one years, and makes her home in Indiana. She is a noble-hearted woman, whose children may "rise and call her blessed." She carefully reared her children, of whom there were eight, to fill positions of usefulness and responsibility, and in working for their welfare her hands never wearied.

The subject of this notice is now in the prime of life, having been born March 23, 1839, in Orange County, Ind. He was reared on a farm and early acquired a practical knowledge of agriculture, and having a natural aptitude for this avocation, he chose it for his life calling when the time came for him to start out in life for himself. At the age of twenty-four years he was married, March 23, 1863, in Lawrence County, Ind., to Miss Martha J. Coward, the daughter of William and Eliza (Martin) Coward. Mr. Coward is supposed to have been a native of Tennessee, while the mother was born in Washington County, Ind. They settled in Lawrence County, Ind., where the faithful mother died in 1854. Twenty years later the father came to Moultrie County, Ill., of which he has since been a resident. Mrs. Lewis, who was the fourth among seven children, was born in Lawrence County, Ind., November 7, 1844, and by careful training at home she became well prepared for the responsibilities of her married life.

Immediately after the marriage of our subject he brought his young bride to Moultrie County on a visit, and both were so well pleased with the appearance of the country that they concluded to make it their home. Accordingly, in the spring of 1864, they came hither to locate permanently, and this has since been the scene of their active labors. Having from youth been engaged in agricultural pursuits, Mr. Lewis is a practical

agriculturist, and the air of thrift about his homestead indicates to every beholder that he is a man of enterprise and good management. He settled on his present place in December, 1875, and here he and his estimable wife have reared to maturity their seven children, whom they named as follows: Benjamin F., Anna E., Mary E., William C., H. C., Gertie M. and Jessie L. Mr. Lewis has never been an office-seeker, but uniformly casts his ballot for the candidates of the Democratic party, whose principles he believes to be right.



**THOMAS M. WILMER.** Many prosperous farmers and stock-raisers are to be found within the bounds of Oconee Township, Shelby County, and perhaps no one of them is more notable for general intelligence and worth both in his person and his family than he whose name appears at the head of this paragraph. He was born in Warren County, N. J., August 25, 1835. His parents were William A. and Catherine (Morrell) Wilmer. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Philadelphia in 1805 and the mother was born the same year in Essex County, N. J. Five children came to cheer this home, of whom our subject is the eldest.

The brothers and sisters of our subject are as follows: William R., born in 1838, enlisted as a private in Company B, Seventy-third Illinois Infantry. He was promoted to be Hospital Steward of his regiment and afterward Adjutant of the regiment and was killed in battle at Franklin, November 30, 1864; Francis M., born in 1840, enlisted in Company G, Fifth Illinois Cavalry. He participated in many maneuvers and engagements but died at home in 1864, of sickness while on a furlough. He had been promoted to the office of First Sergeant of his company; Theodocia R., born May 25, 1841, was also one of the victims of the war. Her affianced was the Captain of a company in the Fifth Illinois Cavalry and died in service. Miss Wilmer, never very strong, took to her bed upon hearing the news of his death and never re-

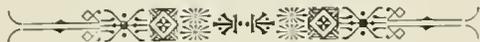
covered from the shock but died in September, 1865; Lambert, born November 9, 1844, married Miss Maggie McConnell in Shelby County in 1867, and engaged in farming. He had a bronchial or lung trouble and removed to Colorado in 1881, hoping for relief but died at Ft. Morgan in that State in 1887.

The removal of our subject from New Jersey to Illinois, occurred in March, 1857, and he was then a young man under the parental roof, which was located on the farm where he now resides. His father was an itinerant minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Thomas Wilmer was married in September, 1865, to Miss Lydia A. Reed who was born in Mercer County, N. J., June 3, 1847. Her parents came from New Jersey to this county in 1857 and located in Oconee Township where they died, both in one year—1883. In their family there were eleven children, namely: John, Abram, Winchester B., Achsa, Lydia A., Alice, Willard, Charles, George, Mary and Emily.

To Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer five children have been born: Catherine M., who first saw the light March 2, 1867, has been a teacher in the public schools of Shelby County, for several years; Anna E., born March 4, 1869, is also following the same profession; Francis, born December 17, 1871, is also qualified as a teacher, having passed a successful examination; Clara G., born August 10, 1874, and Classena, born February 6, 1880, are at home.

Mr. Wilmer has always followed the business of farming, although he was educated for the profession of a surveyor. He is a Republican in politics and takes an interest in public affairs, making an effort to keep himself informed on the current events of the day. He is a thorough and systematic reader. Mr. Wilmer is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, although his preference is for the Congregational body. Both the paternal and maternal grandfather of our subject were soldiers in the Revolutionary War. The maternal grandfather, Thomas Morrell, held the rank of Major in the Fourth Regiment of New Jersey Continentals and was wounded at the battle of Long Island and left on the field for dead. Clinton B. Fisk in the New York *Independent* states that Gen. Washington detailed four soldiers to

carry Maj. Morrell to his father's house at Elizabeth, N. J. On recovery he rejoined the army and remained with it until after the battle of Brandywine when his wound broke out afresh and he was compelled to leave the service. He spent twenty years of his later life as a Methodist minister. He was born in New York City in 1747 and died in Elizabeth, N. J., in 1838.



**W**ILLIAM H. SNELL. The gentleman of whom we write, although deceased, still lives in the esteem and affection of his family, friends and neighbors, having, although modest and retiring in his temperament, always held an unimpeachable reputation for integrity and honor, and being one whose adherence to principle gave an elevating influence to those with whom he came in contact. He passed away from this life bidding his friends a last goodnight, that he might enter into God's upper light, from his home on section 19, Flat Branch Township, Shelby County, October 7, 1890. He was one of the pioneers of State, having located here in 1840, at which time he settled on a tract of new, unbroken land.

In 1842, he located on section 19, of Flat Branch Township, where he improved one hundred and sixty acres of land, converting it from its virgin wildness, until it became a garden spot, luxuriant with waving grain and dotted with mild-eyed kine. Here he spent the most active part of his life. He was born in Warren County, Ohio, October 19, 1816, where he remained until he became of age. A full history of his family may be found under the biographical sketch of Fred P. Snell.

Our subject was first married in his native county to Thisby J. Briggs, who was born and reared in New Jersey. She was of New England parentage and came to Ohio when a young woman. She was engaged in the work of teaching before her marriage with Mr. Snell. With her husband she came to Illinois in 1840 and bravely assisted him not only by her prudence and economy, but also in a material way, in getting a start in life. She died here while yet in the prime of life,

leaving six little children to her husband to mourn her decease, three of whom have since died. The living children are Sally, Fred M. and Mary D. Sally became the wife of Joseph McGrath, and now resides on a farm in Flat Branch Township. Fred M. took to wife Mary Certin, and now lives near Day, Kan., where he is engaged in farming. Mary D. is the wife of Charles Mazy. They also are farmers in Flat Branch Township.

Our subject was a second time married, his nuptials taking place in Flat Branch Township, and the lady who consented to be the sharer of his joys and sorrows, was Miss Louisa J. Washham. She was born in the East, having come West while a young woman, and died in middle life on the old home place. She left a family of four children who are, Daniel B., Pugh E., Cornelia A. and Edward M. The eldest son took to wife Jane Wolf and lived on a farm in Kansas. The second son was united in marriage to Lois E. Worley and resides in Ridge Township, on a farm. Cornelia A. is the wife of Samuel Haverfield, and lives at Assumption, this State; her husband belongs to the army of noble men and women educators. Edward was united in marriage to Lulu Proctor, and lives in Assumption.

Our subject was a third time married. The ceremony took place in Buell Township, Shelby County, the lady being Mrs. A. Catherine Black, *nee* Summers. She was a native of Washington County, Md., where she was born August 1, 1832. She is a daughter of Adam and Nancy (Himes) Summers, natives of Tennessee and Maryland. Her parents were married in Washington County, Md., and there lived until middle age. They were old residents of the county when they died. They were of German stock, and Lutherans in religious preference.

Mrs. A. Catherine Snell was only a small child when her parents died. She had but one sister, Mrs. Delano, now Mrs. Eckton, of Washington County, Md. Mrs. Snell was reared by an uncle, Jacob Himes and was eighteen years of age when she came with him to Illinois. Her first marriage took place in Shelby County, her husband being Josiah L. Black who was a native of Pennsylvania and came West when in middle life, passing from

this life at Prairie Bird, this county. He left one child, Andrew D., who took to wife Minnie Spregg. They make their home with Mrs. Snell at Moweaqua. By her marriage with our subject, Mrs. Snell is the mother of eight children, six of these are deceased, those having passed away being Lillie B., Thomas, Myrtie M., Russell P., Ora O., and Emma, who died eighteen months after her marriage. The living children are Alice D. who is the wife of Hiram L. Goatley. Their home is in Moweaqua; William lives with his mother at the old homestead.

Mr. Snell was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in which he had been a Steward for some time. His deceased wives and his widow were one with him in his religious preference. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Snell has made her home in Moweaqua. She is an amiable and womanly woman and although advanced in years, retains perfectly, all her faculties.

Mr. Snell was a charter member of the order of Masons in Moweaqua.



**C**HARLES M. LANE. He who views the panorama of humanity with a broad and far-seeing vision finds much to interest him in the prospective greatness of young men. He loves to note the characteristics, habits and ambitions which point in this direction and to prophesy in regard to those who give promise of prominence. The future is of course hidden from human eyes, yet a shrewd reader can feel free to foretell much. Among those residents of Sullivan, Moultrie County, whose future is thus of interest is the young man whose name appears at the head of this paragraph.

Mr. Lane is doing a general law business in Sullivan, having been admitted to the bar in 1888. Upon November 22 of that year, he was examined at Springfield by the Appellate Court in session there and received his license from the Supreme Court during the January following. He had formerly been a student in the law office of R. Peadro, whose biography is to be seen elsewhere in

this volume. He has been all his life a resident of this county, as he was born in Sullivan Township, October 2, 1865, and received the training of a farmer's boy and a common-school education.

Our subject is the son of Archie and Esther (Lewis) Lane, both natives of Illinois, having been born and reared in Coles County, but coming to Moultrie County where they afterward met and were married. They made a fine farm here and the mother was taken away in the prime of life, dying June 2, 1871. She was a member of the old school Baptist Church and was universally esteemed for her beautiful Christian character, her broad charity and genuine friendliness. She left six children and two had preceded her to the other world. Their names were Margaret and Elizabeth and a son William passed away immediately after his mother's departure.

The five children of Archie and Esther Lane who are yet living, are Louisa E., the wife of C. P. Martin, a farmer in Whitley Township, this county; James L., who married Mary E. Martin and is farming in East Nelson Township; Lucinda J., who is the wife of W. H. Steven and lives upon a farm in Palmyra, Mo.; our subject, and Archie A., who took to wife Martha Miller and is farming in Whitley Township.

The father of these children contracted a second matrimonial alliance, choosing as his wife Miss Nancy E. Mehan. She was born in Illinois and reared in Shelby and Moultrie Counties. Since this marriage Mr. Archie Lane has been farming in Moultrie County and now lives in Whitley Township. Both he and his wife are active members of the old school Baptist Church and Mr. Lane is a thorough-going old-fashioned Democrat who has held various local offices and served as Justice of the Peace for years in Sullivan and East Nelson Townships.

Our subject is a bright and promising young man, well known as possessed of good habits and excellent character. His aspirations are for the best and highest ideals and his honorable intention and thorough integrity mark him as one who will ever have the confidence of his fellow-men. His political views have led him to affiliate with the Republican party and he is progressive in his ideas

in regard to public matters. He is still living in a state of single blessedness and his best friends predict that when he does take the step which will double his joys and halve his sorrows he will make an alliance that will be a credit to his judgment and his heart.



**H**EZEKIAH WAGGONER. The gentleman whose name is at the head of this sketch is the owner of a fine farm located on section 23, of Whitley Township, Moultrie County. He is a native of this county, being born here June 5, 1838, and a son of George and Bethaney (Haney) Waggoner, who came to this State in April, 1828, and settled on Whitley Creek in what is now known as Whitley Township. The parents of our subject were natives of North Carolina, in which State they were married and whence they came to Illinois. At the time of their coming hither there was quite an exodus from their native town, several other families accompanying them and all came through in two one-horse wagons.

George Waggoner entered land in Whitley Township, and started out in life without a dollar. In the early days of their settlement here in order to get some flour or meal ground, he was obliged to journey to Vandalia with his wheat or corn and patronize a mill run by horse power. The nearest market was St. Louis, and at that time the butter, eggs and other produce of the farm had to be taken thither by wagon and sold in exchange for the necessary commodities of farm life. These were the inconveniences of pioneer settlement, but in many respects life was not hard, for game was plentiful, and the ground easily tilled and astonishingly fertile and productive. Indians, it is true, were numerous, but were also friendly. Although Mr. Waggoner was all his life an industrious, hard-working man, he remained a poor man. He lived to the age of four-score years and died June 12, 1875. Our subject's mother had died some years previously at the age of fifty-one years.

The old people reared a family of twelve children, their names being as follows: Alvin, Robert

and Cecilia are deceased; Sarah, William, Isaac C., Elizabeth, Isaiah, Hezekiah, Narcissa, Hannah and Ira. Elizabeth married John B. Dougherty, she died in this county in November, 1889; Isaiah is a Baptist clergyman in Nebraska; Hannah is the widow of Thomas S. Dougherty. Our subject's parents were members of the old-school Baptist Church. He of whom we write was reared on a farm and received such early educational advantages as could be attained at the school which the district afforded in those early days.

He of whom we write was married in March 22, 1863, to Cornelia Bullock, a daughter of Stephen and Lavina (Hoyek) Bullock. She was born in Delaware County, N. Y., September 22, 1846 and came to this State with her parents in 1857, her family settling in Whitley Township on a farm. Mrs. Waggoner's parents died in 1879, her father having attained the age of three-score years and ten, while the mother was seventy-one years of age at the time of her death. The lady is one of seven children who were born to her parents and all first saw the light of day in the State of New York. One girl died in childhood in the Empire State and six came to this State with their parents. John died in this county; George resides in Lowe Township, as does also Reuben; Elisha lives in Greenwood County, Kan.; Cornelia is Mrs. Waggoner, wife of our subject; Milton resides in Lowe Township.

After marriage the original of our sketch settled on the farm where he now resides. There was originally but forty acres in the tract which he purchased and this was entirely unimproved land. He is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of land, all of which is under most excellent cultivation. Mr. Waggoner has followed mixed husbandry and has been reasonably successful. He and his wife have made a pleasant home that is the rendezvous for the best class of people in the neighborhood. They are the parents of eight children, seven of whom have lived to be grown. Their names are Milton, Narcissa F.; Quincy, who is the wife of U. G. Armentrout; Newton, Ruth, Cornelia and Richard. They are all bright, energetic and progressive. Those who have grown to be men and women take hold of the duties which lie

nearest them and fulfill them to the best of their ability, which in itself, secures success. Mrs. Waggoner is a member of the Predestinarian Baptist Church. Politically he is a member of the Republican party, being a firm believer and adherent of every tenet and plank of its platform.



**S**AMUEL YANTIS is a farmer located on section 30, of Pickaway Township. He pays particular attention to the breeding of Polled Angus cattle and is the owner of a fine farm comprising one hundred and sixty acres, all of which is under a high state of cultivation. He has redeemed this land from crude unbroken prairie and has made it prolific to an astonishing degree. He has occupied the farm since 1858, having thereon a fine residence that is not only comfortable and conveniently arranged, but is attractive and elegant. There are also barns that are filled to bursting with the products of the place.

Mr. Yantis' farm bears an orchard in which are two hundred and fifty trees which are good fruit-bearers. The place is well watered and stocked. Our subject has lived in this township and county since his boyhood. He was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, April 20, 1834, and is the eldest son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Longenbough) Yantis, natives of Ohio, being there reared and married. In 1853 they came as a family to Illinois, traveling thither by the overland route and living a camp life on the way. They finally located in what is now Pickaway Township, this county, and here they began. They were in reduced circumstances but soon secured some new land and began the work of making new homes. The tracts which they secured proved to be the best land in the county and they have ever since made this location their home.

The father of the large family of which our subject is the eldest, is still living and enjoying the afternoon of life, serene in the knowledge that he has earned his rest by early toil. Here it was that our subject grew up, lovingly cared for by his parents but early learning the rigors of pioneer life.

He remained under the home roof until he became of age, and has since been working on his own account. He procured one hundred and sixty acres of fine land upon which he still lives. Mr. Yantis is one of the substantial men of the township, and a genial, good-natured fellow who is loved and respected by all who know him.

Mr. Yantis' marriage occurred in this township and county, November 5, 1857. His wife's maiden name was Miss Amanda E. Miller. She was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1836, being the daughter of C. P. Miller, of whom see the biographical sketch of W. C. Miller. When only four years of age Mrs. Yantis came with her parents to Illinois and settled on Robinson Creek, this county, where she was reared and educated. She is the eldest of the family and is an intelligent and capable woman, being one of the energetic, ambitious representatives of her sex in this township where she has become well known and much liked.

Our subject and his wife are the parents of ten children, three of whom are now deceased; Catherine was the wife of S. B. Cole; she died leaving one child, now also deceased. William and Henrietta died early in life. The living children are: George, Mary A., Lydia J., Ellen, Harvey and David. Of these the first mentioned took to wife Emma Friez, and is engaged in farming in this county; Mary A. is the wife of George M. Longenbough, a farmer in Colorado owning an extensive ranch; Lydia J. is the wife of Stephen Cole, a farmer in this township; Ellen married Harry Hunter who also owns a farm in this township; the two youngest sons are still under the home roof.



**D**ANIEL WEIDNER. Twenty odd years of residence in such a county as Moultrie gives a man an opportunity to show what is in him in the way of industry, enterprise and integrity. He must by that time have gained for himself a reliable reputation for either good or ill, and have established himself among his neighbors. Our subject has thus lived in Dora Township, where he resides on section 20, and he

has proved himself a thoroughly good neighbor, a successful agriculturist and a man of standing among his fellow-citizens.

Mr. Weidner purchased eighty acres of land, which he found but slightly improved and entirely unbroken, when he first came into the county, and he has added to it by purchase until he now possesses two hundred and ninety-three acres, upon which he has placed substantial improvements. He was born in Hocking County, Ohio, December 10, 1843, his honored parents being Frederick and Catherine Weidner, natives of Germany, and his paternal grandfather being George Weidner, who came many years ago to the United States and settled in Fairfield County, Ohio, where he remained until death called him hence. He had reared a family of four sons and two daughters, namely: Frederick, John, Godfred, Solomon, Phebe, Christina and Barbara.

Frederick Weidner, the father of our subject, was married while residing in Ohio, and made his first home as a man of family in Hocking County, where he pursued farming, clearing up land in the woods and remaining there until his death, being snatched away in the prime of life at the age of forty-seven years. His bereaved widow survived him for many years and reached the age of fourscore and two years. She and her worthy husband were the parents of eleven children, seven of whom are still living, namely: George and John reside in Hocking County, Ohio; Solomon is living in Fairfield County, the same State; Daniel, our subject; Phebe, who married William Fletcher and died in Dora Township; Catherine married David Ashbaugh and resides in Van Wert County, Ohio, and Barbara, who is the wife of William Walker and lives in Hocking County, Ohio.

The ordinary life and training of a farmer's boy was given to Daniel Weidner in his youth and he grew up to a robust and active young manhood, and set about establishing himself both in his life work and in his life home. It was in 1867 when he was united in marriage to a lady who has been to him a congenial and helpful companion. Her maiden home was Mary A. Beery and she was born in Hocking County, Ohio, December 13, 1846, being the daughter of Abraham Beery. She has

been the mother of eleven children and has had the sorrow of laying five of her little ones in their graves. The six who survive are: Nannie, wife of Augustus Reeder; Frank, Lilly, Hettie, John and Elmer.

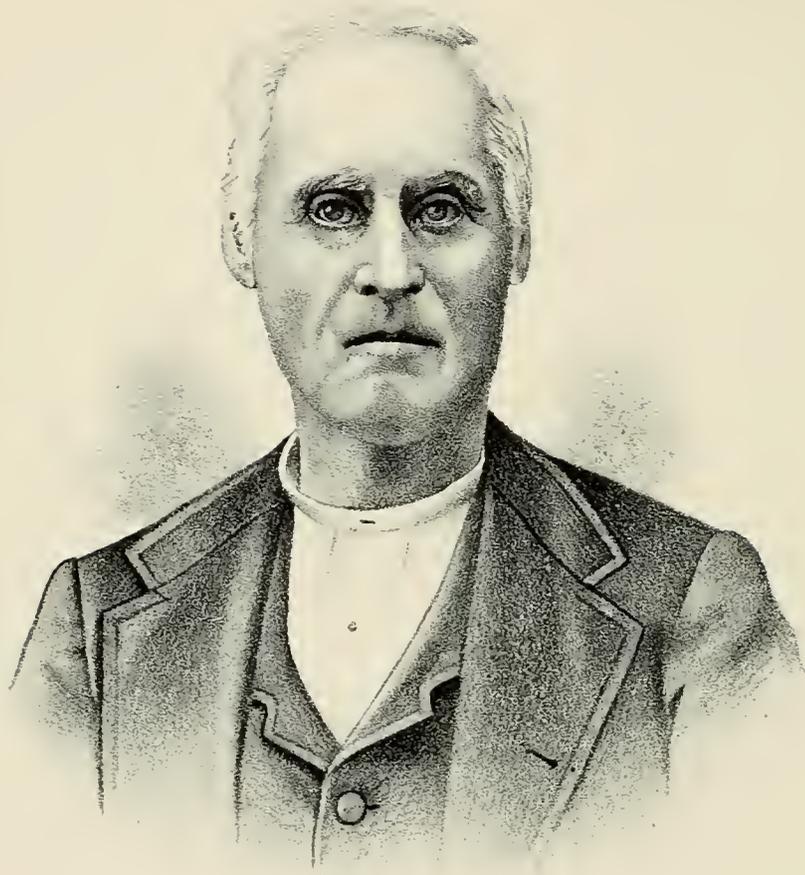
The political views of our subject were formerly in accordance with the doctrines of the Democratic party, but he is now independent of party ties. Both he and his excellent wife are earnest and active members of the church of the United Brethren, and in its communion and services they find a broad field for influence and work. Their standing among their neighbors gives them an influence which is always exerted for good, and the success of Mr. Weidner in the cultivation and development of his farm has earned for him the good opinion of all who know him.



JACOB G. HOLDERMAN is the junior member of the firm of Scott & Holderman, proprietors of the Bethany Roller Mills, which are noted throughout the State for both quantity and quality of the farinaceous product which they prepare for use. Our subject was located at Bethany where he engaged in business in September, 1887, and has since been a member of the above mentioned firm, which is broadly known as one upon whose word and judgment the greatest reliance may be reposed. Their dealings have always been conducted on such a basis as to win the confidence of all with whom they are connected.

He of whom we write was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, January 6, 1850, and is a son of Joseph and Amanda (Wampler) Holderman, natives of Ohio and Maryland, respectively. He is the third in order of birth in a family of four children. His early life was passed on a farm in his native county. It was not his privilege to enjoy an extended education, though he was fond of books and made excellent use of his time at school. At the age of twenty years he went to the city of Indianapolis where he learned the milling business with the Gibson Milling Company. He re-





J. L. JENKINS.

mained in the employ of this company for four years, after which he went to Cincinnati and was in the employ of Root & Co., for one year.

Thus fully drilled and equipped with a knowledge of the business which he had chosen as that to which he should devote himself, our subject came to Decatur, Ill., where he was in the employ of D. S. Shellebarger & Co., millers. After that he came to Bethany, Moultrie County, and became associated with A. B. Scott as partner in a milling business of their own. His career was begun by a thorough and complete overhauling of the entire mill, and in this work Mr. Holderman showed himself to be master of the mechanical workings of the business. When his work was finished the place was in first-class shape and besides being engaged as manufacturers they carry on a merchant and exchange business. The firm also deals largely in grain.

Our subject was married in 1879 to Miss Maggie Campbell, at the time of their marriage a resident of Indianapolis but a native of Scotland, and a daughter of Andrew Campbell. With her Mr. Holderman enjoyed but four years of marital felicity, her decease taking place in 1883. She left one little daughter whose name is Marjery. Five years later Mr. Holderman was again married, taking as his companion a sister of his first wife, whose given name is Mai. Their marriage was celebrated November 14, 1888. Mrs. Holderman is an intelligent and bright woman whose wholesome presence animates and invigorates those who are brought into communication with her.

In his political life he of whom we write is a Democrat. Socially, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and also of the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Holderman is liberal in his religious belief; his wife, however, is a member of the Presbyterian Church, in which she is an energetic and ardent worker, both for the support of the local organization and spreading of the Gospel teachings.

The father of our subject, Joseph Holderman, pursued farming as a business until the breaking out of the Civil War, when he entered the service with a regiment from Indianapolis and served four years as trainmaster. After the war he was en-

gaged as a contractor and builder at Indianapolis, during which he led a busy life. He is spending his declining years at Troy, Ohio. Our subject's mother died at Bunker Hill, Ind., in 1857. Of the parental family John M. was a soldier in the Union army during the Civil War, and was thus engaged for three years, in which time he did honorable and effective service. After leaving the army he became a railroad man, being yardmaster at Lorain, Ohio, where he died when about forty years of age; George H. is Superintendent of the fire alarm and telegraph at Indianapolis, Ind., and Orlando is a farmer at Bunker Hill, Ind.

The paternal grandparents of our subject came from Pennsylvania at an early day and settled on the site now occupied by the National Soldiers' Home at Dayton, Ohio, the grandfather pursued the calling of farming and was also a butcher and cattle dealer. Jacob G. Holderman, our subject, has been very successful thus far in his career and, being a comparatively young man, he has a right to expect a greater degree of success to crown his plans and efforts for the future.



**JACKSON L. JENKINS.** On the opposite page is presented a portrait of this gentleman, who is a prominent farmer of Rural Township, residing on section 14, and his residence in Shelby County dates from April, 1856. He was born in Delaware County, Ohio, June 30, 1825. His parents were Jonathan W. and Rebecca (Rosecranz) Jenkins, natives of Pennsylvania. His father, Jonathan Jenkins, went to Ohio in 1816. He there married, and in 1835 removed with his wife to Ogle County, and settled upon a farm, being one of the early pioneers in that part of the State. Rebecca Jenkins was the mother of ten children, eight of whom lived to be grown, and of these our subject is the eldest.

The father of our subject married a second time Mrs. Mulkins becoming his wife. He still resides at Oregon, this State, and has attained a good old age, his natal day having been January 27, 1802.

Our subject was but a boy when the family removed to Ogle County, and at that date there were at least ten Indians to every white man. Here our subject grew to manhood, and had a personal acquaintance with every man in Ogle County. He carried the first mail that was sent between Dixon and Oregon, and the first mail bag that he ever saw was one that he got at Dixon. He later extended his mail route from Oregon to Buffalo Grove. At that time the mail was carried on horseback. He also carried the first mail pouches that were conveyed by wagons between Oregon and Rockford. He was thus employed about four years.

Our subject's father resided in town, but as he owned a farm near the village, young Jenkins tilled the soil. In 1836 his father built the first cabin in Oregon, having passed the winter of 1835-36 at Dixon. In 1856 our subject came to Shelby County, having previously purchased eighty acres of land, for which he paid \$100. This he improved and sold, and since then his residence has been in Rural Township. The lumber for the first house which he built in Ogle County, our subject hauled from Chicago, a distance of one hundred miles, but when the dwelling was erected, its magnificence outshone anything in the county. He now owns two hundred and sixty acres of land in Rural Township.

Mr. Jenkins has been twice married. July 7, 1850, he was united to Harriet L. Van Loon, who was a native of Delaware County, Ohio. She removed with her parents, Mathias and Elizabeth Van Loon to Ogle County, at an early age. She died in Shelby County in 1861, being only thirty-four years old at the time of her death. She left four children—Rebecca, John, William and George R. The eldest daughter is now the wife of V. J. Sevier and resides in Missouri. John and George make their homes in Rural Township, while William resides in Ridge Township.

In 1863 our subject married Mrs. Sarah A. Travers *nee* Downs. She was a daughter of Daniel and Mary E. Downs, and married Alex Travers in 1856. He died in 1862, leaving four children, all of whom passed away under twelve years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins have had eight children, seven of whom are living. They are Alice, who is the wife of Arthur Engle; Frank; Emma, who

married William Mose; Chester, Effa, Edith and Lloyd.

Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Christian Church. Although in his political inclination Mr. Jenkins was formerly a Democrat, of late he has transferred his allegiance to the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. He is a man who is greatly interested in all progressive movements, the subject of education being one which is nearest and most important to him, for in it he realizes the influence that is strongest for good in our country. He has held the position of School Director for thirty years, and has been a Road Commissioner for fifteen years.

Of a kindly and genial temperament, Mr. Jenkins is beloved by all his fellow-townsmen, and having seen so many changes through which the country has passed since the days when he carried the mail over the prairie on horseback, he is a fertile source of information to those who are interested in the history and advancement of their State.



**J**OHAN R. BEAN. Among the representative men of Jonathan Creek Township, Moultrie County, who are prominent in business, farming, social and church circles, we are pleased to mention the name which appears at the head of this paragraph. Although still a young man Mr. Bean has proved himself in every sense of the popular word a "hustler". He is aggressive in his methods of conducting business and has in him enough "go-ahead-iveness" to stock two or three ordinary farms. His beautiful farm, finely equipped with fences and all buildings necessary for the successful prosecution of work, gives abundant testimony to his thoroughness and success.

James Bean, the father of our subject, was born in Monroe County, Ind., and the mother Elizabeth (Collins) Bean, who was a native of Tennessee, died in Moultrie County, in September, 1880. They first settled in Monroe County, Ind. and resided there until 1860, when they came to Moultrie County, and made a permanent settlement in Sullivan Township. They had seven children of whom

our subject was next to the youngest in age and he was born in Monroe County, Ind., Sept. 24, 1851. He was consequently about six years old when his parents left Indiana and moved to Illinois and it was in Moultrie County that he grew to the vigorous and active manhood which we here recognize. James Bean removed to Kansas in 1887, and for two years resided in Clay County.

Men who have had in their youth every educational advantage, whose parents have been able to give to them a college and university training can hardly appreciate the feelings of a man who has had to struggle single-handed to attain his intelligent knowledge of letters and of the world which every ambitious man craves. To those who have thus educated themselves great credit is due and the accomplishment of their laudable desire should receive its just meed of praise. The educational advantages offered to John R. Bean were extremely limited and he may well be called a self-made man.

This young man resided under the parental roof up to the age of fifteen years, when he began life for himself by working for two years in a sawmill and afterward being employed at farm labor. Farming has been his chief business in life and to do it he has devoted unceasing effort. He was married in Moultrie County March 6, 1877, his wife being Miss Nancy Drew, who was born in this county January 5, 1851. This respected couple have been called upon to lay one child in the grave—Frankie C. who died in infancy. The three bright and promising children who are still with their parents are Ida A., Walter C. and Edna M.

Every enterprise which concerns the industrial and social progress of Moultrie County finds an efficient and active promoter in Mr. Bean, and he is one of the five incorporators of the Moultrie County Board of Agriculture. He is a stockholder in this institution and for seven years he has belonged on its Board of Directors. He has also held the office of School Treasurer, and with his noble wife is an active member of the Christian Church. He possesses a beautiful farm of one hundred and twenty-eight acres, upon which he has erected excellent farm buildings and where he has made other substantial improvements. Every movement which has for its object the welfare of the farming com-

munity is of importance in his eyes and he is prominently identified with the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. In politics he is a Republican and he has been Chairman of the Jonathan Creek Township Republican Committee for six years.



**M**ICHAEL E. SNYDER is a farmer and stock-raiser of Moweaqua Township, who is contributing his quota to the preservation of its prosperity as a rich agricultural centre. He was born April 1, 1839 in a pioneer home in Brown County, Ohio. Jacob Snyder was the name of his father, and he was born in one of the Rhine Provinces in Germany. His father, who bore the same name as our subject, was born in the same locality as his son, and resided there until 1824. In that year he came to the United States with five of his seven children, and he lived in Pennsylvania until 1827, when he became a pioneer of Ohio. He resided for a time at Cincinnati, but he finally bought a farm in Brown County, where he made his home until his mortal career was ended by death.

The father of our subject was reared in the land of his birth, and was there married to Elizabeth Shilp, who was a native of the same locality as her husband. In 1824 Mr. Snyder came to this country, bringing with him his wife and two children that had been born to them in their old home. For a time he was a resident of Pittsburg, but he subsequently removed to Cincinnati, which was then only a small place, and he bought farm land now in the heart of the city. A few years later he removed to Brown County and bought four hundred acres of fine land, located two and one-half miles from Carlyle, and three miles from Arnheim. There his years were busily and profitably passed until death released him from life. He and his good wife repose peacefully side by side in the pleasant Lutheran churchyard at Arnheim. They reared twelve children to lives of industry and to right living.

The early life of their son Michael, who forms the subject of this brief sketch, was passed in his native county, and his education was conducted in

its public schools. In 1865 he left Ohio to take up his residence in Illinois, where he shrewdly conceived that a young man of sufficient enterprise and capability could do well in agricultural pursuits. His brother Daniel came with him, and together they bought a farm in McLean County, near the town of El Paso. In 1875 he disposed of his share in that place at a good price, and coming to Moweaqua Township, purchased eighty acres of land on section 32, which has since been his home. He has bought other land, and now has one hundred and forty-eight acres, that is admirably tilled, and yields abundant harvests in repayment for his hard toil.

On May 18, 1875 was the date of the marriage of our subject to Miss Maggie Nottbook, a native of Moweaqua Township, and a daughter of William and Wilhelmina Nottbook, of whom a biography appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have been blessed with the following four children—Annetta, Willie N., Elizabeth and Minnie. Our subject and his wife are found among the most respected members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and their place in the community is among the people that are held in the highest consideration for kindly and upright lives. Our subject was formerly a Democrat, but he is now a staunch Prohibitionist in word and deed.



**E**MERSON RHODES, a respected and worthy citizen of Cushman and one of the prominent business men of that village, being engaged in merchandise and the transfer of grain, was born in what is now Moultrie County, Ill., June 29, 1837. He is a son of John and Rachel (Centony) Rhodes, the former being a native of North Carolina, born in 1808, and the latter being born in Kentucky, in 1811. It was in 1829 when this couple were married in Indiana, and three years later they came to Shelby County, Ill., in February, 1832, and became pioneers here. Both died in Moultrie County after the division of counties was effected, the mother dying in 1879 and the father in

1887. This departed couple were the parents of nine sons and one daughter, and five of these still survive. The children are, namely: Margaret, now Mrs. Souther, resides in Texas; Levi, died in 1862 from the effect of measles while in the army, leaving a widow; William was twice married and lives at Anna, Ill.; our subject; one who died in early infancy; Francis Marion died in 1862 while quite young; Loren and John who also died in early childhood; Hilery is married and lives on a farm in this county and Alfred, who is married and living in Bethany, Ill.

The gentleman of whom we write was united in the bonds of marriage upon New Year's Day, 1857, with Miss Matilda Roney, who was born in this county in 1835. Her parents, Joseph and Elizabeth (Henderson) Roney, were very early settlers of Illinois and both of them natives of Kentucky. Soon after marriage Mr. Rhodes went South taking a tour for his health, and decided to make his home in Texas for seven years. It was in 1866 when he returned to his native county and three years later he returned to Texas, where he remained until 1883. While a resident of the Lone Star State he was a stock-dealer most of the time, and during a portion of his residence there he was on the Buffalo Range. In the fall of 1873 he built a mill, Caddo Johnson, Texas, investing several thousand dollars in this enterprise, which resulted in very serious embarrassment two years later by reason of its destruction by fire. He was a frontiersman for many years and had frequent encounters with hostile Indians. Upon December 28, 1879, he had the misfortune to lose his companion by death.

In the fall of 1883, Mr. Rhodes returned to his native county and married Maria Selby, who was born in this county in 1842, and whose parents were pioneers in the early days and still reside here. Her paternal grandfather, Joshua Selby, came to this county in 1830, and her parents, Nicholas and Sarah (Goodman) Selby, were natives of Indiana. Immediately after his second marriage Mr. Rhodes returned to Texas and brought his family to Moultrie County, where he has since resided.

The nine children by the first marriage are all living, namely: Theodore, Serilda J., Barton, Mar-

garet, John, William, Minnie, Charles and James. Five of them are residents of this county and four live in Johnson, Tex. To the second marriage one child was born, October 12, 1885, Gracie Gertrude by name. After his return to Illinois Mr. Rhodes was a farmer and operated a sawmill for about three years. He then engaged in buying grain and afterward combined that business with merchandising. He carries a full stock of general merchandise, groceries, provisions, farm machinery, hardware, etc. Mrs. Rhodes has been the Postmistress at Cushman for about a year, and her husband was honored with the Deputyship. This lady is a worthy and consistent member of the Christian Church. Mr. Rhodes is a Democrat in politics and takes an active interest in political affairs, serving as School Director.



ISAAC RICHEY, a farmer and stock-raiser residing on section 13, Sullivan Township, Moultrie County, was born in Bedford County, Pa., May 7, 1845. His parents were Abraham and Elizabeth (Bollman) Richey, and were natives of the Keystone State. The father died in this county in 1881, and the mother, who still survives, resides in Jonathan Creek Township, this county. She is now in her eighty-third year and has been the honored mother of nine children, five sons and four daughters. Of the latter only one remains on earth, but the sons are all living.

Our subject came to Illinois with his parents in 1866, and settled in Jonathan Creek Township as his father had purchased a farm there, on which the mother now lives. Mr. Richey has been twice married, his first wife being Ruth Homan, a native of Kentucky. They were married in that State in 1879, and the young wife was called from earth about a year later. Our subject was a second time married, taking as his wife Miss Anna A., daughter of David Kirkpatrick. Mrs. Richey is a native of Kentucky, and was born in January, 1859. Her parents still reside in the latter State. To this happy union four children were born, of

whom one, Oliver J., is deceased. The remaining sons are: Clarence D., Jessie Earl and Clyde L.

The business of farming has been the vocation to which Mr. Richey has devoted himself with energy and enthusiasm throughout life. He owns a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, with good improvements and in a high state of cultivation. A beautiful park surrounds his home and gives to it a charm which few houses can boast. The refinement and culture which is implied by thus beautifying one's abode is a delightful acquisition to any neighborhood.

Mr. Richey is liberally inclined both in politics and religion. He has always voted for Republican candidates for President, but in State and local matters he uses his own judgment in selecting the best man for the place and is governed in this by purely business principles. He never made any profession of religion, yet gives liberally of his means to the support of the Gospel and other religious and benevolent enterprises. He at one time belonged to the Patrons of Husbandry, but is not now connected with that body. The estimate in which he is held by his fellow-citizens is shown by the fact of his being twice elected to the office of Township Collector of Taxes, and his having been called upon to serve as Supervisor of Roads.



WILLIAM J. EDDY, a leading physician of Shelbyville, Shelby County, his native city, was born October 13, 1857. His father, the late William Eddy, a former well-known citizen of this county, was a native of the county of Cork, Ireland. His father was born in the same county as himself, and was derived from Scotch ancestry. He was a shoemaker by trade and spent his entire life in Ireland.

The father of our subject early acquired the shoemaker's trade of his father, and followed it in his native land until his emigration to this country in 1847. He landed at New Orleans, and coming directly to Illinois, located at Galena, and was actively engaged in the manufacture of shoes in that

city for several years. In 1856 he came to Shelbyville and worked at his trade here until 1876, when he removed to his farm near Lakewood, and was prosperously engaged in agricultural pursuits from that time until death closed his busy career in August, 1890, and deprived the county of a most worthy citizen, who had contributed his quota to its advancement. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and as a man of upright character was in every way deserving of the respect accorded to him. He was twice married. The maiden name of his first wife, mother of our subject, was Mary J. Roberts. She was a woman of many excellent qualities, and was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Her birthplace was in Cornwall, England, and she was a daughter of John S. Roberts, who was a native of the same shire as himself. He came to America with his family in 1840, and first settled in Pennsylvania, after a residence there of a few years became one of the pioneers of Grant County, Wis. In 1856 he came from there to this county, and identified himself with its farmers, buying a farm in Dry Point Township, on which he made his home until his death. The mother of our subject departed this life in 1865. The father married a second time, and by each marriage had four children.

Dr. Eddy was given every advantage to secure a liberal education, laying a solid foundation in the city schools of Shelbyville. Three years' attendance at the Normal School, one year at Valparaiso, Ind. and two years at the State Normal at Carbondale, Ill. still further advanced him in his studies. During that time he taught two terms of school, and employed his leisure hours in studying medicine. He further prepared himself for the profession that he proposed to adopt for his life-work by becoming a student in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, at Chicago, from which he was graduated with a high standing in 1885. He at once opened an office in his native city, where he is well-known and popular, and soon won favor in his professional capacity, as he showed in his practice that he possessed in a full degree the requisites of a true physician—a sound knowledge of medicine, skill in diagnosing a case and in applying remedies, and true tact and courtesy in his

intercourse with his patients. He is a member of the Shelby County Medical Society, and also of the Illinois State Medical Society, the American Association and of the Central Illinois District Medical Society. Religiously, he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Doctor was happily married in September, 1888, to Miss Carrie Chafee, a native of Ypsilanti, Mich., and a daughter of Dr. Noah F. Chafee, a well-known physician of this city, with whom our subject is associated in practice. We are pleased to incorporate in this sketch a brief account of the life of Dr. Chafee. He was born in Vermont, February 6, 1833, a son of Daniel and Miranda (Haven) Chafee, who were also natives of the Green Mountain State. His father was a farmer, and died in his native State in 1839, leaving a widow and three sons. The mother removed with her children to Wayne County, N. Y., and three years later took up her residence in Monroe County, Mich., where she married again.

Dr. Chafee grew to manhood in Michigan, and in 1862 came to Illinois. He stopped during the summer at Shelbyville, where, in the fall of 1862, he enlisted as assistant Surgeon in the Fourteenth Illinois Infantry, he having previously graduated from the Medical Department of the Michigan University in the spring of 1862, and he therefore went to the front well prepared for his duties, and there gained a valuable experience amid the trying scenes on Southern battlefields and in army hospitals during the two years that he remained in the service. In 1863 he was with Gen. Sherman. In 1864 he was in Georgia, and at Atlanta was taken prisoner while in the performance of his duties in caring for the wounded and dying, and was held in Libby Prison three weeks. After that he was returned to Springfield, Ill., and as nearly all the men in his regiment were still prisoners, he was discharged.

After the war Dr. Chafee returned to Michigan, and practiced medicine in Lenawee County until 1884, when he came again to Shelbyville, and for some years has been associated in his profession with his son-in-law, Dr. Eddy.

In April, 1864, while on a furlough, he was married to Miss Josephine McMath, a daughter of

Samuel and Caroline McMath, and a native of Michigan. They have had five children, three of whom died in childhood, and the others are Carrie, wife of Dr. Eddy, and Laura, who lives with her parents.

Dr. Chafee is a sound Republican, and always takes interest enough in public affairs to vote, but does not give much time to politics. Religiously, he is of the Methodist Episcopal faith. He is a thorough temperance man, and is in all respects a person of high character and standing as a physician and a citizen. His record as a Surgeon in an Illinois regiment during the war is commemorated by his connection with the Grand Army of the Republic.



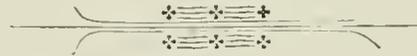
**J**B. TITUS. We are pleased to present to our readers a biographical sketch of one of the prosperous citizens, thoroughly educated gentlemen and old settlers of Sullivan, Moultrie County. He is one of the best known characters in this part of the county, and after having been an active and successful attorney, is now leading a retired life and looking after his real-estate interests in the place. He has been a resident of the place since 1856, and one of its attorneys since 1862. The well known attorney, Hon. John R. Eden, and Judge Meeker, have been his partners.

Some of the most valuable buildings in Sullivan have been put up by Mr. Titus, notably the Opera House Block, which he owns, and he has in the county some twelve hundred acres of land, most of it being in Sullivan Township, and all of it being finely improved. He is one of the large property owners of the county, and the improvements upon his land have been mostly placed there by himself. He was County Clerk from 1865 to 1869, and while Supervisor of Sullivan Township, was Chairman of the Board. He has always been a live Democrat, and is frequently a delegate to State conventions.

Our subject was born in Brookville, Franklin County, Ind., and received his education in Miami College, being graduated in the Class of '58, and

receiving the two degrees of Bachelor of Arts, and Master of Arts. While in that institution, one of his instructors was Prof. David Swing, who is now so notable as a preacher in Chicago. After leaving Miami he entered the Law School at Cincinnati, and was graduated at the Cincinnati Law College in the Class of '60. He then spent two years in a law office in Cincinnati before coming to this place and also spent some time in teaching. He is a notable linguist, being the master of five different languages, and stands high among scholarly men.

Mr. Titus has two children—a son, William R., who is a practical farmer in Sullivan Township, and a daughter Winnie, who is still at home with her father attending school and studying music, in which latter branch she is quite skillful. As a public-spirited man, a broad thinker and a progressive citizen, Mr. Titus is a prominent figure in Sullivan.



**S**AMUEL WILSON. Many of the best characteristics in every branch of social and commercial life, are the outcome of the brawn and sinew of what is frequently called the middle class of society; in reality, the best class, for in it is usually found a common sense and practical view of affairs that is often wanting in both the highest and lowest classes. Our subject, although having filled a humble position in the ranks for some time, is one who by perseverance, energy and native ability has acquired much that many a richer man, and one who is pleased to think himself of a better class, is wanting in. He is the owner of a neat little farm in Rural Township, having been a resident of Shelby County since 1875.

Mr. Wilson was born in Delaware County, Ind., February 28, 1848. He is a son of William and Lydia (Antrim) Wilson, natives of Pickaway County, Ohio. They were married however, in Indiana, and resided in that State the remainder of their lives. The father died in 1863 at the age

of forty-five. They were the parents of nine children, eight of whom lived to be grown. They were: Sarah, Robert, Samuel, Emma, Alva, Lizzie, Martha and Florence. Of these Robert and Alva are deceased.

After the death of our subject's father, his mother married a second husband, but there were no children by this union. She is still living in Delaware County, Ind., and is the object of the filial affection and care of her children. Our subject's advent into this State was made in 1875. He worked by the year on a farm until 1877, when he was united in marriage to Mary Ann Beckett, a daughter of William Beckett. She was born in Utica, N. Y. Our subject and his wife have two children, Anna and Lenora, who are the pride and hope of their fond parents. Politically he of whom we write feels that his interests are best furthered by a union with his class, and he is a member of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association, although formerly he was a Republican. In his religious connection he is united with the Church of God, as is his wife. He operates eighty acres of land.



**B**ARNABAS W. FULTON, a well-known and influential citizen of Moultrie County, bears a prominent part in various local affairs. He has an established reputation as a good farmer, and an upright man, and were it for no other reason save his valiant services as a soldier in the late war he would deserve representation in this volume. In agricultural affairs he has been very especially successful and is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of as fine land as is to be found in the county. This goodly tract is located on section 5, Lowe Township, and is well developed and is supplied with a full line of farm buildings.

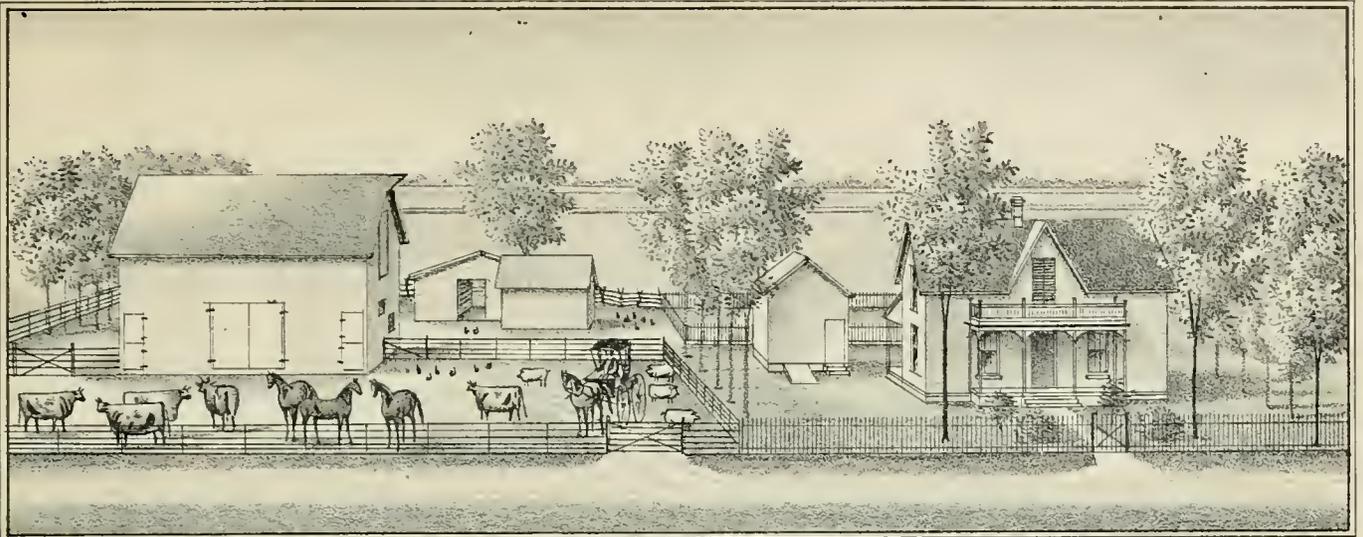
The parents of our subject were among the earliest settlers of Moultrie County, coming here in 1832 shortly after their marriage in Kentucky. Both were natives of Kentucky and bore the names of John B. and Amy (Hagden) Fulton. Upon their arrival in this county they located in Jonathan

Creek Township, where they improved a tract of wild land and passed their remaining years. During the first years of their residence here they endured all the hardships of pioneer life, but by unflinching perseverance and indomitable energy they conquered adversity and in their declining years were surrounded by the comforts for which they had labored so arduously in earlier life. All who love their country and are interested in its development, will hold in reverence the names of John B. Fulton and his good wife.

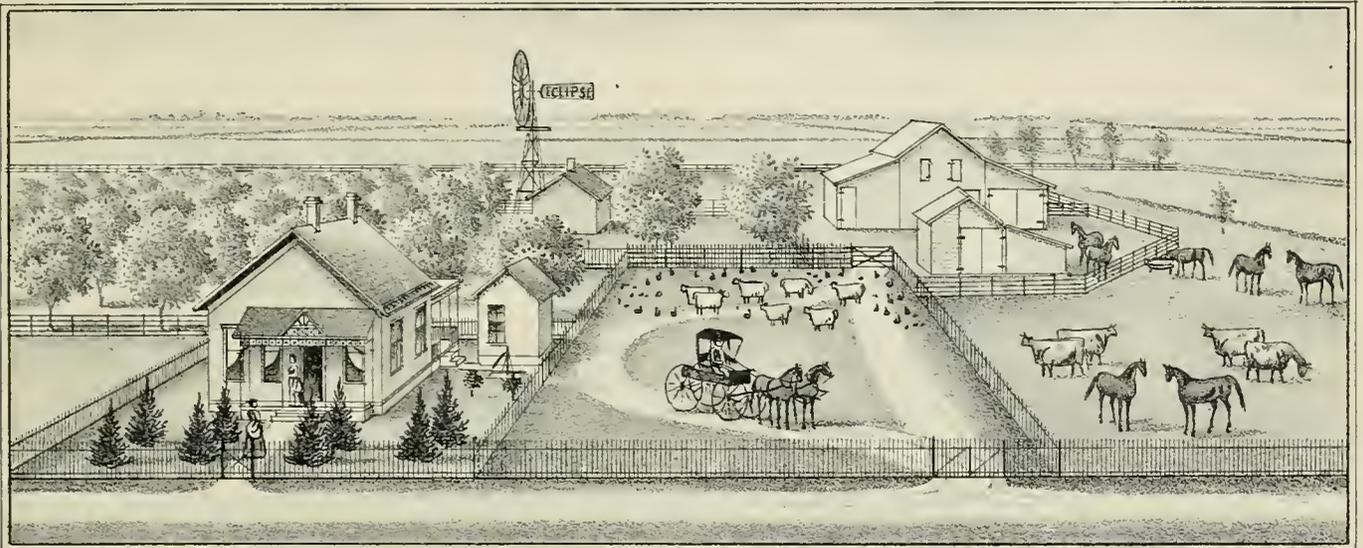
The sixth in a family of eight children, our subject was born in Jonathan Creek Township, this county, April 19, 1810. His earliest recollections are of the scenes of frontier life and he has not only been an interested witness of the growth of this section, but has contributed his quota to its progress. He deserves especial mention not only as a pioneer but also as a brave defender of the Union. He was in his early manhood when the war broke out and all the enthusiasm and patriotism of his nature were fired in behalf of the Government. Accordingly he enlisted in August, 1862, in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and served until the close of the war.

When the Government had no further need of his services he returned to Jonathan Creek Township and resumed farming, to which he has ever since devoted his attention. He was married in that township in November, 1868, to Elizabeth Maston, a native of Coles County, Ill., and their union was blest by the birth of two children—William, who died when one and one-half years old, and Barnabas, who is still under the parental roof. The wife and mother passed from earth at her home in Jonathan Creek Township, October 28, 1873.

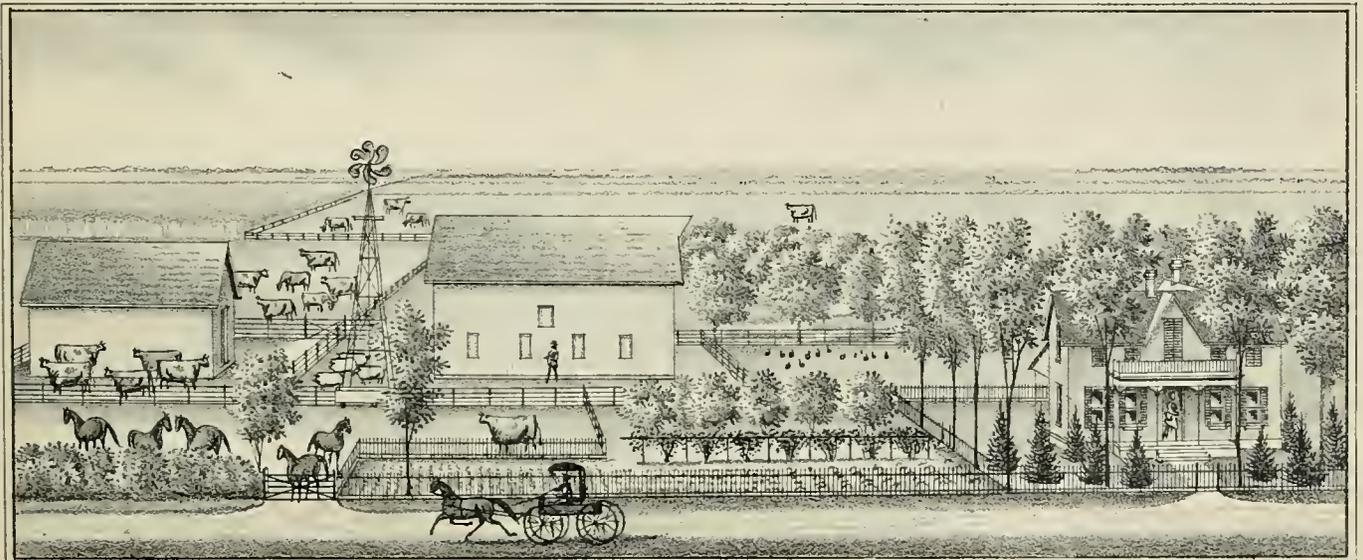
The cozy home of Mr. Fulton is presided over by a lady of intelligence and refinement, whose maiden name was Sarah Maston and who was born in Jonathan Creek Township, September 12, 1854. Her parents were James and Mary (Campbell) Maston, the former of whom died in this township. The marriage of our subject and his estimable wife was solemnized March 23, 1874, and the congenial union has been blest by the birth of one child—



RESIDENCE OF ANDREW SENTEL, SEC. 9, LOWE TP., MOULTRIE CO., ILL.



RESIDENCE OF C. W. CROUDSON, SEC. 2, EAST NELSON TP., MOULTRIE CO., ILL.



RESIDENCE OF B. W. FULTON, SEC. 5, LOWE TP., MOULTRIE CO., ILL.



a son—Isaac W. Mr. Fulton continued to reside in Jonathan Creek Township until 1875, when he came to Lowe Township and settled on section 5, of which he has since been a resident. Politically Mr. Fulton is a Democrat, believing that the principles of that party are best calculated to advance the interest of the nation. Socially he and his wife are highly esteemed for their hospitality and many noble attributes of heart and mind.

The attention of the reader is invited to a view of the commodious residence and other prominent buildings on the farm of Mr. Fulton.



**A**NDREW SENTEL. The soil of this county being very fertile and the market facilities excellent, a great number of agriculturalists secure a competence by the cultivation of a moderate acreage. One of these successful farmers in Moultrie County is he whose name introduces these paragraphs. He owns and operates eighty acres in Lowe Township on section 9, and by close attention to his business, wise management and industry, he makes of his farm a more remunerative piece of property than do some who have many more acres. In all his enterprises he receives the cheerful co-operation of his amiable wife, to whom his success is largely to be attributed.

The natal day of Andrew Sentel was March 7, 1836, and he was born in Ross County, Ohio. He is the son of the late John Sentel, a native of Pennsylvania, and Catherine (Reedy) Sentel, who was born in Ross County. In the fall of 1845 the parents removed from Ross County, Ohio, to Coles County, Ill., whence five years later they came to Moultrie County and settled in Sullivan Township. Their family comprised eight children, our subject being next to the oldest. He passed his younger years in Ross County where he gained the rudiments of his education. Later he attended school in Coles County, although his educational advantages were limited to the district schools of those days.

Mr. Sentel was first married January 3, 1858, to

Miss Mary Montgomery, a native of Ross County, Ohio, who died July 22, 1884, in Lowe Township. The present congenial companion of Mr. Sentel, who has been his devoted helpmate, was born in England January 1, 1848, and was known in maidenhood as Anna Dalton. She was first married to Joseph Winskill and by that union became the mother of one child—John D. Mr. Sentel and his estimable wife were united in the holy bonds of wedlock in Sullivan, Ill., September 19, 1882, and their union has been blest by the birth of one child, a son, Elmer A.

When Mr. Sentel began life for himself he settled in Sullivan Township, this county, where he lived several years. Next we find him operating a farm in Douglas County, but after sojourning there four years, he returned to Moultrie County, and settled in Lowe Township on section 9, which has since been his home. In his political affiliations he is a Republican and has served the people in various official capacities, although he prefers domestic quiet to the turmoil incident to a public life. He is greatly interested in the cause of education and everything pertaining thereto, and has served acceptably as School Director. Public spirited and enterprising, it is not strange that his position among his fellow-citizens is an enviable one and that he is regarded as one of the most prominent agriculturists of the community.

The attention of the reader is invited to a view on another page of the attractive residence and rural surroundings on the farm of Mr. Sentel.



**C**HARLES W. CROUDSON. A traveler through the farming lands of Moultrie County will be pleased to observe the large number of well-improved farms and the numerous evidences of prosperity. In East Nelson Township an estate of eighty acres, which is admirably adapted for both farming and stock-raising, is owned and operated by the young gentleman above named. A visitor here will see everything that is necessary in the way of farm buildings.

machinery and all the modern appliances of agriculture. During his residence here Mr. Croudson has effected many improvements upon the farm and by a proper rotation of crops has brought the soil to a high degree of fertility, so that it is fittingly classed among the best farms of the township. A view of this place appears on another page.

Douglas County, Ill., was the native place of Mr. Croudson and his eyes first opened to the light July 28, 1862. He was the only son in the family circle and has two sisters, Sarah M., now the wife of J. W. Bailey, and Lida J., who is still at home. The parents, William and Lucinda (Lawrence) Croudson, were natives of England and Ohio, respectively, and passed the greater part of their lives in Douglas County, this State, where they both died. They were people of steady habits and high principles, doing as they would be done by in the various relations they sustained toward others, and the record of their lives is unblemished and worthy of emulation.

The education of our subject was gleaned from the schools in the vicinity of the parental home, and his youth was passed in mingled work and play, his study developing the powers of his mind, while his recreation and boyhood sports developed a stalwart physique. Having been reared to farming pursuits, when the time came for him to chose a calling in life, he naturally selected agriculture and in his chosen avocation he has been more than ordinarily successful. Although still quite young he is very comfortably situated and the future undoubtedly contains many honors for him. He takes an active part in political affairs and is a Democrat in his views, believing the principles of that party are best calculated for the national welfare. He is greatly interested in educational affairs and has held the office of School Director, during which time he materially advanced the cause of education in the community.

A very important event in the life of our subject was his marriage February 14, 1886, in Moultrie County, Ill., to Miss Margaret, the daughter of William and Sarah Wiley. Mrs. Croudson was born in this county, where she has passed her entire life and where her parents still reside. She has a cultivated mind, a sympathizing heart and

adds thereto the housewifely knowledge which is necessary for all who make their homes attractive and comfortable. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Croudson one child has been born, a daughter, Osa, whose birth occurred March 22, 1890. As a farmer Mr. Croudson is enterprising and industrious, well informed regarding things connected with his work and ranks high among his fellow-citizens.



**J**EREMIAH HINTERLY. Among the most valuable factors in the settlement and up-building of Illinois has been that portion of its population which is descended from natives of the German's Fatherland. Their frugal, industrious, thrifty manner of life and their steady devotion to agriculture have aided greatly in developing that portion of the Prairie State where they made their homes, and have given a reliable character to the neighborhoods in which they live.

Mr. Hinterly resides on section 24, Ridge Township, Shelby County, and his settlement in this county dates from 1858. His native home was in Fairfield County, Ohio, where he was born December 9, 1836, being the son of Jacob and Rachel Hinterly. Jacob Hinterly, Sr., the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Germany and became one of the earliest pioneers of Fairfield County in the days when that part of the country was a wilderness inhabited only by savages and wild beasts.

Our subject had the severe misfortune of losing his mother by death when he was but a babe, and he was her only child. His father subsequently married Rachel Fairchild, and by this union two sons were born—Nathaniel and William Henry, both of whom still make their home in Fairfield County, Ohio, where they are respected and useful citizens. The younger of these two was a soldier in the Civil War, and being a member of an Ohio regiment was under Sherman's command, and was with him in the famous "march to the sea."

The first affliction of Jeremiah Hinterly was followed seven years later by the death of his

father, and he thus became at a tender age a double orphan. The sorrowful child was taken care of by an uncle, with whom he passed the remainder of his early years, remaining in his native county until he attained his majority. While with his uncle he received training upon the farm and also spent two years as an apprentice to the trade of a blacksmith.

It was in the fall of 1857 that he made his first visit to Illinois, but he did not tarry long upon that occasion as he returned to Ohio for the winter, but the following spring brought him again to Shelby County, where he rented land and prepared to establish a home. He chose a bride from the daughters of Ridge Township, Shelby County, and upon Christmas Day, 1860, he was united in the happy bonds of matrimony with Sarah M. Killam, a daughter of Isaac and Nancy Killam, who was born April 23, 1844. Her father was a Kentuckian by birth, and having been reared as a farmer, pursued that line of industry and was married in that State to Nancy Lee, a lady of Maryland.

After marriage our subject settled where he now resides, his wife receiving one hundred acres of land from her father. To this he has added one hundred and fifty acres more, and has placed upon it all good and substantial improvements. It is now one of the finest farms in Ridge Township, being thoroughly cultivated and giving an excellent yield. To Mr. and Mrs. HINTERLY have been born three children—William H.; Nancy O., who died at the age of ten years; and Cora Ann. The son and daughter who are left to them are making a fine record and are proving both an honor and comfort to their worthy parents. The religious connection of the family is with the Christian Church, in which they are highly useful and valuable members, being active in every good word and work, and willing to aid in every movement, both religious and social, which looks to the advancement of the community.

In political matters Mr. HINTERLY is, and always has been to a good degree independent, as parties have changed and new issues have arisen he has felt at liberty to take his stand according to his convictions and according to what he considered

the needs of the country and the policy of wisdom and good judgment. He was reared in the political belief of the Democratic party, to which he adhered until the formation of the National Greenback party, the doctrines of which he judged to be the best for the financial success of our country. His interests being identified with those of the agricultural community, he has now allied himself with the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association, and works in accordance with that society for the upbuilding and prosperity of the farmers.

Jacob HINTERLY, Sr., the grandfather of our subject, was married before he came to the United States, and, as we have said, settled in Ohio in the very early days. He reared two sons and two daughters—John, Jacob, Mary, Mrs. Telweiller; and Elizabeth, Mrs. George Parkenson.



**S**QUIRE WOODRUFF, a retired farmer living in a pleasant home on Jefferson Street, left his farm in Sullivan Township some three years ago and for fourteen months made his home in Decatur before coming to Sullivan, Moultrie County. He purchased land in Sullivan Township when he first came to this county in 1854 and was remarkably successful in general farming and stock-raising, so that he now owns four hundred and sixty-seven acres of as fine land as there is in the county, three hundred and thirty-seven acres of which is under the plow and subdrained with tiling. One hundred and sixty acres of this land was obtained by his father, Moses, from the Government in 1837 and has never been deeded outside of the family. Mr. Woodruff has had unusual success in breeding the best grades of sheep, swine, cattle and horses. He was born near the county seat of Fountain County, Ind., July 29, 1827, his father, being a native of New Jersey and a son of Samuel A. Woodruff of the same State, but descended from old New England stock.

The grandfather of our subject learned the trade of a tailor in New Jersey, and married Miss Joan

Potter and after the birth of their children they emigrated with their family to Ohio, settling at Shakers' village and joining that peculiar sect, and lived there until her death. Somewhat later her husband came to Indiana and died in the home of his son Aaron Woodruff in Fountain County, being then past seventy-four years of age. He adhered to the Shaker faith till his death, although his sons Moses and Aaron, when young men broke away from this faith and came to Indiana, there beginning life as farmers. This was just after the marriage of Moses Woodruff with Miss Margaret Petro, a native of Pennsylvania who came to Ohio when ten years of age. They were married in Monroe County, Ohio, after which they came to Indiana and made a settlement in the woods in Fountain County. They were without means and did genuine pioneer work in that new region, and there Moses and his wife lived and died. Moses passed away in 1838 when less than forty-two old, and his faithful wife survived him more than twenty years and died November 11, 1860, at the age of about sixty-eight years. Moses Woodruff was an Universalist in his religious belief and his wife died in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Squire Woodruff is the first born of his parents and he and his brother Martin, a farmer near Sullivan, are now all that remain of the family, as their sister Mary A. died in infancy. The first marriage of our subject took place in Fountain County, Ind., he being then united with Miss Asenath Marvin of that county, who died in Moultrie County, Ill., January 5, 1857, at the early age of twenty-six years. The second wife of Mr. Woodruff to whom he was united in this county bore the maiden name of Mary Heffelfinger. She was born in Pennsylvania and came when quite young first to Indiana and later to Illinois, and when thirty-one years old passed away from this life March 6, 1869. The third marriage of Mr. Woodruff united him with Mary A. Yakeley. His fourth wife was formerly Miss Elizabeth Kepler. She died September 12, 1882. Our subject was again married to Hannah Horn who was born in Washington County, Pa., and came to Illinois after her first marriage. Mr. Woodruff had

children by four of his wives and nine of them are living, namely: Ethan A., Mary E., Elias P., Martin A., Asenath, Cora B., Helen, Margaret A. and Edith D. The last three are unmarried and make their home with their father.



**W**ILLIAM VOGEL. The substantial farmers of Shelby County are a class to whom all right minded citizens feel that they owe a debt for their share in effecting the prosperity which makes this county so popular as a place of residence and business. Were their work subtracted from the records of the county, little would remain to show its value. Such an one is our subject, who resides on section 12, Prairie Township, and who has been a citizen of this county from the spring of 1862, being one of the first to settle on the prairie. He had purchased eighty acres of prairie land and forty acres of timber land, the previous year, and made his home upon them in the spring, since which time he has devoted himself unceasingly and indefatigably to the work of forcing the rich soil to give forth its wealth.

William Vogle was born in the Kingdom of Prussia, Germany, July 22, 1831, and is a son of Charles Vogel. Two brothers and two sisters of our subject are in the United States, namely: Fred, who resides in Holland Township; Herman, whose home is in Wisconsin; Augusta; and Minnie, the wife of August Wilke. Our subject is the first one of the family to come to the United States, as he crossed the ocean in 1857, and first made his settlement in Cook County, this State, where he worked as a farm hand until he decided to come farther South and devote himself to the culture of the soil in Shelby County. Three hundred and sixty acres of rich and arable soil now constitutes the farm which he has transformed from a wild prairie to a well cultivated estate, and upon which he has placed beautiful buildings.

The marriage in 1862 of William Vogel and Elizabeth Lutz, united a couple who were destined to have a happy and harmonious life together. The lady, like her husband, was born in Germany, but

had been in this country for a number of years. To them have been born four children, namely: August W., Harmon C. F., Albert H. and Ida. These children are becoming what their parents would have them be, honorable and worthy citizens of the Prairie State, which has become to them a dearly loved home.

American politics have proved a subject of interest to Mr. Vogel, and he has informed himself intelligently in regard to them, although he does not feel bound to govern his vote by the dictates of any party organization. In regard to local matters he casts his ballot for the man and the measures which seem to his judgment conducive to the peace and prosperity of the commonwealth, but upon national issues he usually votes the Republican ticket. Both he and his efficient and excellent wife are earnest and active members of the Lutheran Church, in which they were brought up. Stock farming has largely engaged the attention of our subject, and he has been successful in its prosecution, as any one must be in Illinois, if he understands this branch of agriculture, and devotes himself to it with assiduity. The worthy lives of Mr. and Mrs. Vogel and their family are a standing reproach to all who complain of hard times and poverty which they have incurred by their own lack of principle and a disregard of the industrious application of their time and strength.



**W**ILLIAM S. SHIREY. Our subject belongs to that class of people that have formed the brawn and sinew of the social and business life in America. A farmer himself, residing on a beautiful tract of land on section 36, of Lovington Township, Moultrie County, his father was a mechanic and manufacturer, and such were his resources, the quickness of perception of his keen mind and shrewd look, that had he been placed on a desert island he could have built up a small village for himself, with all the accessories necessary to civilized and refined life. Our subject's father was the late Samuel Shirey, who was born in Frank-

lin County, Pa., April 26, 1806. His mother, Miss Barbara Ann Shade in her maiden days, was born in Pennsylvania, April 21, 1808.

Samuel Shirey was a wagonmaker by trade and this business he followed throughout his early life, afterward being engaged in farming. The first part of their married life was passed in Greencastle, Pa. Thence they removed to Maryland, and then returned to Pennsylvania, where they continued to live until the spring of 1861, when they determined, for the sake of their growing sons, to remove to a State where there was a broader field and better chances for young men. They came to Moultrie County and settled in Lovington Township, where the father died June 20, 1870. The mother survived for some years, her decease taking place April 2, 1889. They had a family of ten children of whom our subject was the ninth in order of birth.

William Shirey was born in Greencastle, Cumberland County, Pa., January 26, 1846. He came to the Prairie State with his parents in the spring of 1861, and continued under his parental roof until he became of age and was ready to take upon himself the responsibilities of a home. He was married in Macon County, April 5, 1866, to Miss Mary C. Coe, a daughter of John and Rachael (Kaylor) Coe. The father passed away in Macon County, this State. The mother died in Lovington Township at the residence of her son William. Mrs. Mary C. Shirey was born in Ross County, Ohio. After the wedding the young couple settled first in Macon County, where they continued to live until the spring of 1869, when Mr. Shirey came to Moultrie County and settled in Lovington Township, where he has since been a resident.

It is not every man who has concentration of purpose and patience enough to be a farmer. While there are always any number of details about a farm to be worked out, the principal work of planting and waiting for the outcome, is one of weary patience that is frequently tried to the uttermost by the thousand and one drawbacks that are inevitable to agriculture—drouth, flood, rust, grasshoppers, early or late frosts, are only a beginning of the trials that one might mention, that a farmer must endure patiently and uncomplainingly,

and for which no one is to blame. He of whom we write has placed excellent improvements on his farm and is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of good land, well located, watered and drained. The latest improvements in agricultural implements are in use upon the place, and every acre is made to produce to the uttermost. He is engaged in general farming. Their home is an ideal one in point of comfort and attractiveness from a domestic point of view: not hung with the richest tapestries, boasting no paintings by great masters, it is yet the abiding-place of content, and a pleasant assurance that each member of the family is the recipient of the affection and loving confidence of the others. Mr. and Mrs. Shirey are the parents of four living children, whose names are John Alpha, Willis B., Myrtle M. and Gracie Alice. Other little ones have come to the parents as buds of promise, but drooped and withered in their infancy and were gathered up by the Divine hand, and now shed the sweetness of their spirits in a higher world.

Mrs. Shirey is an amiable and womanly woman, a discreet and wise mother, who studies the interests of her children, not from an envious or vainly ambitious standpoint, but seeking to help them to be men and women whose principles of right and honor shall be so high and perfect and whose intellects shall be so developed, that they will be honorable additions to whatever phase of life they may be placed.

He of whom we write has held many of the township offices, in local political life. He has been elected Highway Commissioner, in the smaller places an important office, that is not always so conscientiously attended to as it should be, but Mr. Shirey's constituents have no reason to complain of him in this respect, for he fully realizes that the public highways are the veins and arteries through which flow the wealth of the nation. He has also held the position of Treasurer of Lovington Township, and that even more important post, that of School Director. This is, indeed, an almost sacred office, for the selection of our teachers and the government of school affairs is one which should be given the most minute attention and wisest judgment. In his political relations he is a

member of the Republican party and the tenets and doctrines of that body are to him vital, by both association and inherited opinion. Mrs. Shirey is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while her husband is liberal in his religious belief. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and also fraternizes with both Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias.

The indomitable spirit that our subject inherits from his father is apparent in all his dealings. While living in Maryland, Samuel Shirey met with a severe loss by the burning of his wagon shop, and also his blacksmith shop, which was connected with the first-named. In this catastrophe he lost nearly all he had, but was undismayed and manfully set about retrieving his position.



**J**OLIN SIMS, is a general farmer on section 27, of Flat Branch Township, Shelby County, and here owns one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land, and forty acres on section 26, which is covered with small timber. His home was originally procured as a homestead claim. It was almost all unbroken in 1855, and Mr. Sims has since made it a good farm, placing many valuable improvements upon it. His success in an agricultural direction has been attained mostly through general farming and stock-raising. He came to this county from Macoupin County, where he had settled in 1838, being one of the earliest to locate there.

On his advent into Macoupin County, he procured a farm, upon which he placed some improvements, he later came in 1855, to this county. He was born in Madison County, this State, five miles east of Edwardsville, January 19, 1820. His parents were natives of Kentucky. His father, Austin Sims was however, born in North Carolina, but removed at a very early age to Kentucky, with his parents, and was there reared. He is of Southern parentage, although his ancestry is for the most part Scotch. The father of Austin Sims, Sr., who was born and reared in North Carolina, from which State he served through the Revolutionary War,

he having fought at the battle of Cowpens. He later went to Kentucky, and then proceeded to Southern Illinois; afterward to Morgan County, where both he and his wife died, he at the age of eighty-three years, and she eighty-one years old. Mr. Sims and wife were, early in life, members of the old school Baptist Church.

Austin Sims, Jr., was reared to manhood in Kentucky, and there married his wife. The lady's maiden name was Jennie Nivens. She was born and brought up in Kentucky, being a member of an old and highly esteemed family in that State. After the birth of two children Austin Sims, Jr., and wife removed in 1818, to this State locating on some Government land in Madison County. In 1828, Mr. Sims went with his family to Morgan County, and entered some land here, being one of the first pioneers of that county. There he and his wife spent the active years of their life, and there Mrs. Sims died and was buried. Later her husband came to Christian County, this State, and died there at the age of eighty-six years, his wife was not so old by twenty years at the time of her decease. They were leading members of the Christian Church and were among the first adherents of that reform in Kentucky, becoming interested in it at first through the preaching of Dr. Alexander Campbell, who was a personal friend. They followed his teaching of the New Testament with great care and zeal.

Our subject was one of a family of six children, of which he and his sister, now Mrs. Polly Wileo, of Blue Mound, Macon County, are the only surviving members. He was reared to manhood in Morgan County, and there married Catherine Weller. The lady was born in Kentucky in 1818, and was young when her parents came to Morgan County, where she was reared until her marriage. She died at her home in this township, October 26, 1881. She was a worthy woman and a kind and tender mother, highly looked up to, not only by the members of her family, but all those who knew her. She was a devoted member of the Christian Church.

Our subject was one of ten children born to his mother; four of these died, namely, Joel, Robert, Alexander and Samuel. The living children are

Lorinda, George W., John F., William J., and Henry. Lorinda is the widow of Samuel Tulley, and resides in this county; George W. took to wife Emma Tulley and they reside in Union, Ore.; John F. occupies the father's farm, his wife being Luey Ransford; William J. married Juliana Tulley, and resides on a farm in this township; Henry remains at home with his parents and runs a part of the farm. Mr. Sims is a member in good standing of the Christian Church. He is a sound Democrat in politics.



**W**INDSOR, CHARLES VORIS. The town of Windsor, Shelby County, is conspicuous for the number of young men that take a leading part in commercial life. It is comparatively a young town and fresh, vigorous young blood sustains its interests, and the moderation of middle age receives the reverence that is due it. Our subject is one of the men of more advanced years, who holds the important position of Postmaster in the town of Windsor. He was born in Summit County, Ohio, March 21, 1838, where his early life was spent on a farm. When about eighteen years of age, he left home to take a position in life for himself. At this period, the most sanguine time of youth, all things seemed possible to him, and the golden possibilities seemed just beyond his reach, lying waiting for him to stretch out his hand in their direction.

Mr. Voris' first venture was in Galesburg, Knox County, this State, but there he only spent about six months, and then worked for a while on a farm. Minnesota was next in the way of his periprinations, and there he lived about six months, when he returned to Galesburg, residing there a short time. He next went to Taylor County, Iowa, and there was engaged in opening up a farm. To this he devoted three years, and in February, 1860, he came to Windsor and engaged in the grain and lumber business, and in connection with this, in 1862, he opened a dry-goods store. He continued

in the lumber business about two years; while engaged in this line, carrying a very good stock, his mercantile business was conducted under the best auspices. He continued in the grain trade for fourteen years, and during that time he also was engaged in the banking business with J. D. Bruce, with whom he was also in company in his other lines of commercial life. The firm was known as Bruce, Voris & Co. They dissolved partnership in 1873 and since that time Mr. Voris has been engaged in the real-estate business and in farming. He has always been an active agent in the affairs of town and county.

He of whom we write was elected to the General Assembly in 1866, re-elected in 1868, and in 1870, received the honor of election to the Senate from the Seventh District, and in 1872 was again returned from the Thirty-first District. During this term he was Chairman of the special committee on stock-yards, and acted on other important committees. During his services as Senator, he did efficient work in gaining advantages for his district. He served on the Railroad and Penitentiary Committees, and on Corporations. He was also a member of the committee on the rules that should govern the Senate.

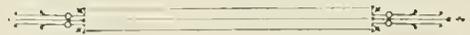
Mr. Voris has served in various local offices, and for some time has been a member of the City Board. His appointment as Postmaster was confirmed in July, 1889. It is hardly necessary to say that he has taken an active interest in political affairs as he had been so identified with the Government of the State. He is an ardent advocate of the principles of the Republican party. He has been solicited by the Central Republican Committee to assist in the present campaign in Ohio.

He of whom we write obtained the charter for the Bloomington and Ohio River Railroad, now known as the Wabash, running from Bement to Effingham, and of this road he was the first President. For ten years he was engaged in the milling business in Windsor, and during that length of time, the reputation that he had previously built up as a business man of sterling integrity and unquestioned honor, was confirmed. His products were always of the best character, and his dealings with all parties was characterized by an upright-

ness and sense of honor that could only redound to his favor.

Mr. Voris' marriage took place in Shelby County, his nuptials being celebrated November 6, 1860. His bride was Miss Mary Jane Templeton, who was a native of the county in which she was married. Only two children were born of this union: Annette and Julia, the latter deceased.

Our subject, on his mother's side, has a complete family record comprising over eleven thousand names from the landing of the "Mayflower" to 1874; and over seven thousand names on his father's side, from 1638 to 1883.



**N**IMROD TAYLOR. One of the well-known farmers residing on section, 11, Lowe Township, Moultrie County, is a son of James and Sarah Taylor. The father is still living, but the mother passed away some time since in Douglas County, this State. They had a family of eleven children, of whom our subject was the eldest, and he was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., May 2, 1842.

Our subject was eight years old when his parents came to Illinois and settled in Douglas County, where this son was reared to manhood and received his education and training upon the farm and in the district school. He remained under the parental roof until he reached the period of manhood and was married in Moultrie County, March 4, 1864, his bride being Mary J. Nelson, a native of Virginia. After living upon his father's farm for a few years he removed with his wife to Texas, but not being satisfied with life in that region, he remained there only about eighteen months.

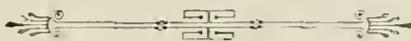
Returning to Illinois, Mr. Taylor settled on the tract of land where he now resides—a fine farm, well improved and comprising some eighty acres. Six children have been granted to this worthy couple, three of whom died in infancy and the three who survive are James E., Norah and Harvey. The principles of the Democratic party embody the political views of Mr. Taylor, and he is interested in the progress of that party, although





JOSEPH WALKER.

not an active politician. The office of School Director has been well filled by him, and while an incumbent of that position he did much to forward the educational interests of the township. Both he and his good wife are earnest and active members of the New Light Church, and he ever takes a prominent part in religious movements.



**J**OSEPH WALKER. Although our subject makes his residence in the town of Windsor, Shelby County, and thus enjoys the advantages of town life, he is actively engaged in farming. Mr. Walker is an omniverous reader, and being a thoughtful man who judges and weighs for himself, he has the advantage of some of his fellow-men, whose views of general matters and current topics are only those of some one else. Original to a refreshing degree, our subject is very pronounced in all his views. He is a progressive man although not readily attracted by every new idea that for the moment is paramount, being practical in all his affairs.

The original of our sketch was born in Fayette County, Ohio, March 10, 1814, and thus it is seen that he had lived a long and eventful life. The early part of his life was spent in the woods during which time he was engaged in clearing, and in his native county, and he repeated the same experience in Fayette County, Ind., where he went when about nine years of age. In 1837 he came West and spent two months engaged in trading, visiting different parts of what was then considered the far West. At the end of that time he returned to Fayette County, Ind., and launched into the business of buying and selling cattle and hogs, finding his market in Cincinnati. They were not shipped as now, by rail, but our subject was obliged to drive them over the public highway.

September 20, 1847, Mr. Walker was united in marriage in Fayette County, Ind., with Miss Sarah W. Dorsey, and with her he began the journey of life, with a realization of the responsibilities that he had taken upon him. By this marriage he became the father of two children, whose names are

respectively Sophronia and Amos W. The daughter became the wife of James Hartsel, of Ash Grove Township. Amos W. is a teacher and has attained a wide reputation as an educator of advanced and progressive methods and theories.

Mrs. Sarah W. Walker died in Fayette County, Ind., about three years after their marriage and after his bereavement Mr. Walker returned to Illinois and settled permanently in Shelby County, in 1859. Prior to this he had lived here in 1842, but his stay had been comparatively short. In company with another man he had purchased twenty-thousand acres of land in Kansas. In 1866 he settled in Windsor Township and was from that time until 1884 when he removed to the village of Windsor, engaged in farming. He owns about six hundred acres of land in the county and considering his various possessions, must be accounted a wealthy man.

Although Mr. Walker is a farmer and has been such for many years, he has never bound himself down to the drudgery of agricultural life, trading in live-stock having been his chief occupation. Politically he is in sympathy with the promoters of the Greenback party. He is highly esteemed in the community of which he is a citizen and his opinions are regarded with a great deal of respect. His portrait is presented in connection with this brief biographical review.



**H**ON. CHARLES L. ROANE, who is now living a retired life in Sullivan, Moultrie County, has made his home in this locality since 1854, and in the years which have come and gone has occupied a prominent place in public affairs. He has been prominently connected with both the business and official interests of the county and is widely known throughout this part of the State. The story of his life is as follows:

Charles L. Roane was born in Loudoun County, Va., October 3, 1820, and is the son of James and the grandson of William Roane. The latter, a native of the Old Dominion, belonged to the F. F. V.'s; he spent his entire life in Virginia and

died when well advanced in years. The father of our subject was born and reared in Virginia and became a contractor and builder of turnpike roads. In Loudoun County he was joined in wedlock with Mrs. Mary Bartlett, daughter of Col. Timothy Taylor. The Colonel was born in Bucks County, Pa., and came of one of the old and highly respected families of the Keystone State.

Mr. Taylor removed to Loudoun County, Va., and after some years, on the breaking out of the War of 1812 he enlisted and became Colonel of the Fifty-sixth Regiment of Virginia Volunteers. His two sons were also in that service, one serving as Colonel, the other as Adjutant and the old Colonel commanded a regiment engaged in protecting the city of Washington against the British forces. Father and sons escaped uninjured and Col. Timothy Taylor spent his last days in Virginia. The daughter Mary grew to womanhood in her native county and when she had attained to years of maturity gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Bartlett who died, leaving two children. She afterward became the wife of James Roane and unto them were born four children, of whom our subject and his sister, Mrs. Clark of Virginia, are now living. The latter is a widow of Leonard Clark, a Union soldier of the late war who laid down his life on the altar of his country. James Roane and his wife continued their residence in Loudoun County, Va., for some years, the husband there dying in 1832, when past middle life. His widow spent her last days in Harrison County, W. Va., where she lived to a ripe old age. An intelligent and cultured lady, she had many friends and was highly respected by all who knew her.

The subject of this sketch is the eldest of the parental family. After his father's death he was tenderly cared for and reared by his mother until able to care for himself. He is truly a self-made man and deserves no little credit for the success which has crowned his efforts. As before stated he came to Moultrie County, Ill., in 1854, and soon afterward, his fellow-townsmen having recognized his worth and ability, was appointed Deputy County Clerk. A short time elapsed and he was elected to the position of County Clerk, which he filled acceptably four years, then in January, 1862,

embarked in the general merchandise business, establishing a store at the southeast corner of the square in Sullivan where he carried on operations for twenty-three years. Mr. Roane possesses good business ability, is energetic and enterprising and soon won a liberal patronage which constantly increased until his large trade netted him a good income and he became one of the substantial citizens of the community. His success was truly deserved for he tried to please his customers and honesty and fairness characterized all his dealings.

In the meantime Mr. Roane was nominated, in 1883, on the Republican ticket for the Legislature and when the election returns were received it was found that he had been elected by a good majority to represent the district which includes Moultrie, Shelby and Effingham Counties. He was appointed on several important committees, including those of Banking and Drainage, and was one of the members sent to visit and report on the State charitable institutions. His course as a member of the House won credit for himself and his constituents and he formed many pleasant acquaintances among the prominent men of the State. As before stated Mr. Roane continued in the mercantile business for twenty-two years, at the expiration of which time he sold out. Later he built and operated a tile factory for a few years, but it was subsequently destroyed by fire. He has now retired from business life but is still interested in Decatur and Sullivan property.

In the city where he yet makes his home, Mr. Roane was united in marriage with Miss Lucy Garland, a native of Bedford County, Va., and a daughter of Nicholas A. and Mary (Mitchell) Garland. The family came to Sullivan at an early day and Mr. Garland built the first mill at that place, operating it for more some years. Subsequently he and his wife removed to Springfield, Ill., where he engaged in merchandising. He was also Deputy Sheriff of the county for some time and with his wife spent his last days in the capital city. Mrs. Roane is one of quite a large family. She has been a true wife and her union has been blessed with five children, four of whom are yet living, namely: Lucy, wife of W. A. Cash, a commercial traveler residing in Decatur; Fannie, wife of John K. Mun-

sey who is employed as book-keeper for the firm of Stratton & Bird, wholesale grocers of Cairo; Charles, who wedded Eva Woodruff and is now engaged in the lumber business in Campbell, Franklin County, Neb., and Austin at home. One daughter, Mary, is now deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Roane are members of the Presbyterian Church and are people of worth who rank high in social circles and are widely and favorably known throughout the community.



**W**ILLIAM V. CARR, who has been appointed by Uncle Sam to take charge of the postal service at Stewardson, Ills., was born in what is now Dry Point Township, Shelby County, October 9, 1844. He is a son of Elias and Nancy (Siler) Carr, natives of North Carolina and Tennessee respectively. The father of our subject was born in 1804. His father having died in Tennessee, his mother, with a family of four children, three of whom were girls, came to Illinois in 1816. The family first lived one year on Sand Creek, Shelby County, they then settled in Dry Point, and were thus the first settlers in that part of the country, and in fact, as early as any who located in the country.

Here the father of our subject grew to manhood pursuing farming for a living. He passed his remaining years in Dry Point Township and died in the year 1848. He was a prominent member of the Methodist Church, being a Class-Leader at the time of his death. The mother of our subject came with her parents to the State of Illinois and the family settled in Cumberland, where her father, Benjamin Siler, passed his remaining years. While a young woman she married Mr. Carr, whose death she did not long survive, following him in a few months, her decease taking place in 1849.

The original of our sketch is one of nine children, five of whom are still living, all being residents of Shelby County. Martha is the wife of the Rev. Mr. Middlesworth. Mary married George Huffer. Jefferson W.; John and our subject,

William V. was only four years of age when he was left an orphan and his young life was spent with various persons. His sister, Mrs. Huffer, was a foster mother to him for six years which he spent in her household.

Educational advantages in those early days were limited and our subject was enabled to attain only the common branches. When there was school, held in a log house, after he had attained the age of nine years, he was obliged to walk three miles in order to reach it. While a mere lad he was obliged to work his own way, doing whatever he found to do in order to get a living. In these days when children are so tenderly cared for and enjoy the comforts, even among the poorer class, that were considered the most refined luxuries at the time our subject was a boy, it makes one sad to think how little youth he had.

The three brothers in our subject's family, all enlisted and each served faithfully during the Civil War. William V. Carr enlisted in 1863 as a private of Company A., Fifty-fourth Illinois Infantry. He served until the close of the war, being mustered out November 16, 1865. He was a participant in the battles that occurred at the siege of Vicksburg, was with the Red River expedition, and was at the capture of Little Rock, Ark. While near that place, in August, 1864, he was taken prisoner at Batesville, where he remained until January, 1865. He then joined his command at Hickory Station, Ark., where he remained until he was mustered out at Ft. Scott. After the war our subject resumed farming in Prairie Township and continued this occupation until 1888, when he removed to Stewardson, and in April, 1889, was appointed Postmaster.

In 1867, the original of our sketch was united in marriage to Miss Deborah Blue, a daughter of Erasmus Blue. She was born in Fairfield County, Ohio. By this wife our subject is the father of one daughter, Drotha, who is bright, intelligent and winsome. Politically Mr. Carr is a Republican in party preference, using his influence and vote in its favor and having all confidence in its platform. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and finds much pleasure in recounting with an old comrade, common experiences

incident to the war. He still owns his farm of sixty acres upon which is a good tenant, he also has a handsome property in Stewardson.

John Carr, a brother of our subject was born in Shelby County in 1842. He enlisted in 1861, in the Thirty-fifth Illinois Infantry, in which he served until 1866, having re-enlisted in the regular army. During his military experience he was never either wounded or taken prisoner. After the war he returned to Shelby County and has since been engaged in farming in Ridge Township, where he owns two hundred acres of land in a fine state of cultivation. He invited Caroline Downs to be his life partner, sharing with him its pleasures and burdens. They are the parents of eight children.



**S**AMUEL D. WEST is a prominent and well-known citizen of Moweaqua, Shelby County, who has held important civic positions in the city government. For many years he was among the leading mechanics of the county, and conducted a good business as a blacksmith here until he retired October, 1890 in favor of his son Frank. Our subject was born at Sempronius, Cayuga County, N. Y., August 12, 1821. His parents were Thomas and Rhoda (Dunbar) West, and they were natives of Oneida County, that State.

Mr. West was reared in Wayne County, N. Y., whither his parents removed in 1827. As soon as he was large and strong enough to handle the tools he began to work with his father in his smithy, and thus early acquired a good knowledge of the blacksmith trade. At the age of twenty-one he rented his father's shop at South Butler, Wayne County, and carried on his calling there some years. In the spring of 1854 he came to this county, as with characteristic shrewdness and foresight he saw that skilled mechanics would be in demand in a new and growing country. He came hither by rail to Chicago, and from there by the same means of transport to Springfield and Decatur, and from the latter place with a team to Moweaqua, which he had selected as a suitable loca-

tion to begin his new life. He bought a small shop in the village and at once went to work at his trade, which he increased from year to year, until he was conducting a flourishing and paying business as blacksmith at the time of his retirement.

Our subject was married in May, 1844 to Miss Emma Baggerly, a native of Ontario County, N. Y., and a daughter of Peter and Jane Baggerly. For forty-six years they walked together through the sunshine and shadow that lay across their pathway, and then Death parted them, removing the faithful wife from the home that her presence had gladdened so long. She and our subject were blessed with two children, Frank B. and Jennie. The former married Mollie Weakly, and they have four children—Mabel, Bertha, Della and Samuel. Jennie married Joseph B. Longevan, and they have two children living, Claud and Dwight.

Mr. West was a Republican from the time the party was organized until 1888, and since then he has been a Democrat and a Prohibitionist. His fellow-citizens, appreciating his worth as a man of exemplary habits, unswerving honesty and truthfulness in every word and act, and his capability, have often called him to responsible positions. He has served as a member of the City Council, and as President of the Board, and also as a member of the School Board. At one time he was elected Police Magistrate. He was also Justice of the Peace three terms, and has been Notary Public for upward twenty years.



**H**ENRY DIEPHOLZ. The gentleman whose name is at the head of this sketch and of whom it is our pleasure to give a short history in outline, is a native of Germany, being there born September 11, 1810. Up to his fifteenth year he passed his boyhood days in his native land being engaged upon a farm and in school work, which in Germany is obligatory upon all the subjects of the Emperor. Thus he was in a manner fitted for the duties of manhood, although it must have taken him some time to adjust himself to American manners and customs and ways of

thought, on coming to this country. On leaving home, he came to America landing from a German steamer at Baltimore, Md., and from there went to Cincinnati, Ohio. He was first employed near Cincinnati in the mixed duties of attending to a brick yard, and farming, and was thus engaged for four years, after which he came to Madison, this State.

While in Madison County, our subject was employed as a farm laborer and continued work in this way for four years. On his marriage, he rented land which he operated for four years and at the expiration of that time, came to Shelby County and settled in Richland Township, where he has since been a resident. Here he is the owner of three hundred acres of finely improved land. Upon this tract he has erected a good and substantial set of buildings. His home is comfortable and pleasant and his barns adequate for the large crops which are annually his farm products.

Mr. Diepholz was married in Madison County, Ill. to Miss Caroline Wirth, who like himself, was a native of Germany, but who had emigrated to America at an early age. Our subject and his wife are the parents of four children, whose names are Fred L. Henry, Caroline and Hermann. He of whom we write is an honorable and upright man who is highly regarded by his neighbors and fellow-townsmen. He has been elected to fill several important offices in the township government and has been Assessor of Richland Township for three years, also Highway Commissioner for one term and has done efficient service as School Director. In politics, the original of our sketch is a Democrat. Religiously he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran Church of their township, and have ever been generous supporters and faithful adherents of that religious body.



**H**ENRY C. FISHER, an influential farmer residing in Lowe Township, Moultrie County, was born in Loami Township, Sangamon County, Ill., January 31, 1846. He is the son of John B. and Nancy D. (Webb) Fisher, natives of Kentucky, who were married in Harrison

County, that State. At an early day they removed to Illinois and settled in Sangamon County, where they reared a large family of children, eleven of whom lived to attain to maturity. At the breaking out of the Civil War the father enlisted in an Illinois regiment and served until the Government had no further need of his services. Being honorably discharged he returned to his home and resumed operations on his farm, where his death occurred after a long and useful life.

Henry C., of this sketch, was reared to maturity on a farm and received a practical education in the common schools. Until he was married he spent his time under the paternal roof, with the exception of four years spent in different places. A very important event in his life and the source of great happiness to him, was his marriage March 14, 1877, in Douglas County, Ill., to Miss Mary Alice Reeder. This estimable lady was born in that place July 10, 1857, and is the daughter of John and Mary (Harter) Reeder, also natives of Douglas County. Mr. and Mrs. Reeder were natives of Ohio, and reared a family of eleven children, Mrs. Fisher being the eighth.

The first home of our subject after his marriage was in Loami Township, Sangamon County, whence after a residence of one year he removed to Christian County, Ill., and sojourned there for one year. Next we find him in Piatt County for two years and then in Douglas County for six years and finally in the spring of 1887 he settled in Lowe Township, this county, and he has been so well satisfied with his purchase here that he has decided to make it his permanent home. He owns eighty acres on section 17, and is also the owner of one-half section of land in Iowa. His farm buildings are first-class, while modern machinery and improvements are all to be found here.

Five children have come to bless the congenial union of Mr. and Mrs. Fisher, named as follows: John E., Minnie M., Lulu, May Olive, and Willie. As a School Director Mr. Fisher has aided in bringing about the present efficiency of the neighboring schools and in his present position of Clerk of the School Board he is spoken well of for his capability in that position. He is identified with the Republican party and never fails to cast his vote and ex-

ert his influence for the principles in which he believes. As a neighbor he is cordial and friendly, in domestic life affectionate, and in his business relations to be relied upon. He is therefore regarded with respect and has many warm personal friends. He and his amiable wife are active members of the Christian Church.



**HON. JONATHAN MEEKER.** The little city of Sullivan, in Moultrie County, counts among its citizens a number of men of unusual intellectual grasp and acumen, whose experience in life has been such as to bring them prominently before their fellow-men and prove the sturdy and stanch material of which they are made. Among such whose professional ability as well as personal qualities commend them to our readers, we are pleased to mention the gentleman whose name appears at the opening of this paragraph. He is a lawyer of more than ordinary ability and a man of massive frame and commanding presence.

Our subject was born in Bennington Township in that part of Delaware County which is now included in Morrow County, Ohio, July 25, 1831. His father, Ambrose Meeker, was born in Orange, N. J., and Grandfather Meeker was a farmer and spent his last years in New Jersey. His wife's maiden name was Miss Tompkins.

The father of our subject was but two years old when his parents died and he was cared for by his maternal uncle, and at the age of fifteen was made an apprentice to learn the trade of a blacksmith at Newark, N. J. After completing his apprenticeship he started for the then far West, walking over the Alleghany Mountains to Ohio and settled in in that State at Newark, Licking County. Here he opened a shop and followed his trade for a time before removing to Delaware County, where he bought a farm and for one year attended to cultivating it. He then returned to Newark and resumed business as a blacksmith, remaining there until 1832, when he carried on the same business

at Etna after which he became a pioneer at Maysville, Union County.

The young man bought a tract of timber land and erected a shop, carrying on blacksmithing and farming together until 1847, when he went to Hancock County, Ill., making the removal by teams. There were five families in the colony and they prospected first in Nauvoo, then in Clark County, and in February, 1848, they came to Sullivan, which was then a small hamlet in a sparsely settled country with no railroad facilities. The land about here was then owned by the Government and Mr. Meeker purchased some property in the village besides forty acres of partly improved land and two hundred and forty acres of wild prairie land. Customers came to his shop from as far away as Douglas and Platt Counties, and his business prospered, making him content to remain here for the remainder of his days. His death occurred in 1881, when he was eighty-two years old.

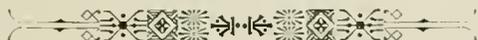
Hannah Hartwell Meeker, the mother of our subject, was a native of Plymouth, Mass., her parents being descended from the first settlers of Plymouth. She had two children, our subject and his sister Roxanna, the wife of the Hon. John R. Eden. Her death took place in February, 1848. The pioneer school of Ohio afforded all the advantages which these children received in their early days, and the log schoolhouse, the punchon seats, the wide fireplaces and the unglazed windows were familiar to their childhood.

Jonathan Meeker began work upon the farm while still quite young, and after coming to Illinois worked with his father in the blacksmith shop and attended the academy in Sullivan, and in 1858, at the age of twenty-six, having devoted himself to the study of law, was admitted to the bar and commenced practice in Sullivan, which has been the scene of his labors from that day to this. Besides his professional duties he has been somewhat interested in farming, and has made this his recreation from intellectual effort.

The young lawyer soon began to think of establishing himself in domestic life and in November, 1860, he married Nancy Parker, a native of Rush County, Ind., and a daughter of Robert and Mary Parker. Five children came to bless this union.

namely: Gertrude, Estella, Clara Belle, Raymond and Grace. To these children their parents are giving the very best advantages for a liberal education. Clara Belle and Raymond are graduates of Butler University, in Indiana.

The public career of the Hon. Jonathan Meeker began as early as 1852, when he was elected as one of the village Trustees, in which office he served for several terms. Soon after this he was elected Justice of the Peace and he has represented the township as a member of the County Board of Supervisors. He was elected as Representative to the Illinois State Legislature in 1870, and placed upon the bench of the County Judge in the year of 1877, which honorable office he held for nine years. At the beginning of the present year he formed a professional partnership with D. R. Patterson, Esq., which bids fair to be a business alliance which will benefit both parties and increase their efficiency. This honorable gentleman will no doubt continue to augment his already fine reputation as a member of the bar and as a public-spirited citizen for many years yet to come.



**J**OHN W. WOOD. The acquisitive faculty is one which some men possess in a high degree, and in which others are almost totally deficient. We frequently associate characteristics which are not admirable with one who is thus endowed. This, however, is neither just nor correct, for this faculty is as distinctly a gift of the Creator as is a mechanical, musical or poetical genius in people whom we cannot laud too highly for the results of their work. The name that heads this sketch is that of a man who possesses the acquisitive faculty in a large degree, and at the same time, he is generous and open-hearted to a fault. He is a prosperous, well-to-do farmer, owning four hundred and fifty acres of fine land upon which are the best improvements, a pleasing and attractively built house, good barns and granaries, sheds and outbuildings for the shelter and protection of his stock.

Our subject was born in Moultrie County, Ill.,

February 28, 1850. His parents were Joseph M. and Parletha (Patterson) Wood, natives of Kentucky and Illinois, respectively. For a further history see sketch of J. A. Wood in another part of this volume. He of whom we write was reared on a farm, and received the educational advantages common to boys of his age and position in life. On reaching manhood he was attracted by the charms and virtues of Miss Mary J. Kirkwood, and November 2, 1871, their nuptials were celebrated at the home of the bride's parents, who were James and Ann J. Kirkwood. Mrs. Wood was born in Ross County, Ohio, December 31, 1852.

The married life of Mr. and Mrs. Wood was blessed by the birth of seven children, two of whom were taken into the fold by the Good Shepherd, while yet in the purity of infancy. Five of their children reached years of maturity: Minnie S., died February 22, 1891, at the age of seventeen years. The living children are: M. Rosella, Joseph W.; James A. and Freeda E. Our subject in his religious belief is non-sectarian, which does not, however, indicate that he is either infidel or atheist, as he believes fully in the goodness and mercy of a Divine Creator and Father. In political affairs he is an ideal follower of Tolstoi, making no active opposition to any political party or measures, and in consequence favoring no party. He does not vote because it is contrary to his religious belief to do so, leaving all political matters to solve themselves by natural evolution, that is guided and governed by God.



**W**ILLIAM WEAKLY. Among the best farms on section 34, Ridge Township, Shelby County, will be noticed by every stranger or passer-by the finely cultivated acres and good, neat buildings of the excellent farmer whose name appears at the head of this paragraph. His father, Benedict Weakly, was born in Maryland, March 24, 1787, and his mother, Margatha Mathews, a native of the same State, was born May 1, 1797. They were married December 22, 1816, and made their

first home in their native State, removing afterward to Fairfield County, Ohio, and in the summer of 1843 emigrated to Illinois and settled in Ridge Township, Shelby County, where they spent the remainder of their days; the father was called hence November 11, 1858, and the mother followed him to the grave April 15, 1878.

This worthy and venerated couple had ten children: Robert, Rebecca, Nancy, John, Henry, James, Margaret, Mary, William, and George. Robert is a farmer in Kansas; Rebecca was the wife of David Ewing and died in Ridge Township, September 16, 1843; Nancy married Richard Keirn and died in Assumption, Ill.; John died in South Dakota, July 25, 1888; Henry is a clergyman and farmer residing in Ross Township; James died in Kansas, in Harper County in July, 1889; Margaret was the wife of Samuel Smith and passed away in Tower Hill Township, September 21, 1885; Mary died in infancy; William is a farmer in Ridge Township; and George died in infancy.

William Weakly was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, August 5, 1835, and was about eight years old when he came to Shelby County with his parents and here in Ridge Township, where he grew to manhood he has made his home from that day to this. He has always followed agricultural pursuits and is the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of land which are highly cultivated and in a splendid productive condition. In his political views he is strongly inclined to believe in the doctrines which are promulgated in the platform of the Republican party.



**J**OEL T. WALKER. The name at the head of this sketch is that of one of the firm of Walker & Co., who are dealers in grain and owners of the Mowequa elevator, which has the capacity for storing six thousand bushels. They have besides cribs for sixty thousand bushels of corn and fifty thousand bushels of oats. Mr. Walker has had the management of the elevator for the past three years. Under the present management the firm buy and sell from two

to four thousand bushels annually. They deal chiefly in corn, and their business in this direction is the largest of any in the county. Our subject brings to it a judgment and executive ability that could not fail of success.

Prior to coming to this place, Mr. Walker engaged in business at Lawrence, Kan., dealing largely in grain and live-stock. He came to this county in June, 1888. Our subject was born in Madison County, Ill., October 13, 1835. He was only three years of age when his parents, Edwin and Rebecca (Chance) Walker, removed to Lebanon, St. Clair County, where he was reared and educated. There he was married to Miss Eliza Alexander. She was born and reared in our subject's adopted county, and her parents David and Mary (Thomas) Alexander were early settlers there. Her father, Mr. Alexander, went there from Pennsylvania when quite young. His wife was a native of the county and a sister of Col. John Thomas, who is yet a resident of Belleville, having attained an honorable old age.

After marriage, our subject and his wife lived in St. Lawrence County on a farm for a period of three years, and then moved to Macon County, settling in Blue Mound Township, at a very early day on an unbroken farm which was a part of the railroad lands of that State. By unceasing efforts they improved it and made a fine place on which they lived for some years. Later they purchased a farm near the present village of Walker (so named in honor of our subject). This place they also improved but sold on going to Kansas, in August, 1873. While in Kansas he spent some months of each year in the mining districts of Breckenridge, Colo. On leaving Kansas he came to this place where he has since been a resident.

Since Mr. Walker's advent in Mowequa he has been President of the Village Board for one year and is ex-Mayor also of the town. While in Kansas he was Probate Judge in Anderson County for one term, less a year, at which time he resigned to go to Lawrence County, Kan. While in Macon County, he was for four years Supervisor of Macon Township. His first vote after reaching his majority was cast for President Lincoln and since that time he has been an active and ardent Republican.





*Truly Yours*

*F. W. Risser M.D*

Mr. Walker met with a bereavement in the loss of his first wife who died in Macon County, in June 1863, being at the time only twenty-seven years of age. She left three children, Lawson L. Bertha and Mary E. Lawson is now engaged in business with his father, and the same traits that have made his father successful are apparent in the son. Bertha is the wife of Henry Nougle and living in Blue Moundville, Macon County. Mary E. is the wife of Wesley Langley. They reside in Lawrence, Kan.

Mr. Walker was a second time married. The lady whom he prevailed upon to become the mistress of his home was Mrs. Amelia A. Patton, *nee* Mason, a native of Lowell, Washington County, Ohio. She came West when a young lady, as a teacher but was soon married to William Patton in Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Walker are religiously inclined, Mr. Walker being a member of the Methodist Church and his wife, a Baptist. They are both united however, in their sympathy for everything that relates to the well being of their fellow-men. They are one, also, in their love for home and home enjoyments.

Mr. Walker's mother is still living, making her home with her son Elijah in Mason County; she was born in March 1812. Her husband's natal year was 1819. He lived until 1849. Our subject is one of four children; John W., Elijah, Edwin and Joel T.



**F**REDERICK W. RISSER, M. D. The healing art is one that has many disciples, but comparatively few capable followers. Each spring season sees hundreds of young men turned out from our medical colleges with the degree of M. D. A few of these are at once so fortunate as to step into a good practice. Others spend a short time in seeking for a location, and not being able to wait for the happy chance that shall give them an exercise of their healing ability, turn to some other profession or business. Still others patiently woo fortune in their chosen calling until that fickle lady smiles upon their efforts. Our subject has been one of the fortunate ones, for although yet a very

young man, his ability and devotion to his calling have been recognized and he has charge of a good practice in the place which he has chosen for his home.

When engaged in making mud pies and distilling queer concoctions when a boy, Dr. Risser showed small promise of being the wide-awake and able young physician that he now is. He was born in Troy, Madison County, this State, January 1, 1863. His father, Henry A. Risser, was by birth and parentage a German, but emigrated with his uncle to America when about seven years of age, his parents having both died in Germany prior to his coming to America. On reaching manhood he was married in Chillicothe, Ohio, to Miss Cecelia Zanders, who was born in the Buckeye State. After marriage they began their life together in St. Louis, Mo., where they remained about one year and then settled in Troy, Madison County, this State, of which they have since been residents. The father was engaged there as a merchant.

Our subject was brought up in the village of Troy where he remained until he had attained to manhood. He received his education in the Troy schools where he studied until sixteen years of age, after which time he was engaged for three years in teaching school, but during vacations and in the interims of his work he was pursuing his medical studies to which he had determined to devote himself. In the fall of 1882 Mr. Risser entered the St. Louis Medical College and pursued his course for a period of four years, during which he did excellent work. In 1886 he was graduated from the college and received his diploma.

Looking about for a good place in which to locate, our subject was charmed with the village of Strasburg and its surrounding country and determined to here build himself up a profession, and in this place he has been ever since the commencement of his career as a professional man. He enjoys an extensive practice and ranks among the best physicians of Shelby County. Broad minded and progressive, he does not recognize any pain or suffering that it is not within the realms of science, at least, to alleviate.

He of whom we write was married in Strasburg, October 10, 1888, to Miss Mary Doehring, a daugh-

ter of Ernst F. and Mary (Wirth) Doehring, who are residents of Prairie Township. Mrs. Risser was born in Madison County, this State, September 18, 1865. Dr. and Mrs. Risser are the proud parents of one child who bears the sweet Southern name of Nita. She was born August 5, 1889. Our subject and his wife are both members of the Lutheran Church. They are popular young people in Strasburg, taking readily the social position to which their culture and natural advantages entitle them. A lithographic portrait of Dr. Risser is presented on another page of this volume.



**W**ILLIAM ELDER, now a retired banker, living in Sullivan, was engaged in business here from 1870 until 1885, during which time his bank was known as the Farmer's and Merchants' Bank, but it was operated by our subject as a private bank, and is now run in the same way by Mr. William Steele. William Elder came to this county in the fall of 1831, and has since made his home in what is now Moultrie County, with the exception of four years when he resided in Dallas County, Iowa. After coming here he took an interest in agriculture and improved three or four farms, taking them as raw Government land in their prairie state and transforming them into finely cultivated estates.

Our subject came to this county from Morgan County, where he had lived with his parents for a short time only. He was born in Jefferson County, Tenn., May 17, 1824, his father being of Tennessee birth and coming of Southern stock. The Judge in his early days was a farmer, and while pursuing that calling was united in marriage with Miss Didana French, a native of North Carolina, who had her early education in Tennessee.

After marriage James Elder and his wife lived for some years in Jefferson County, Tenn., and in the spring of 1833 they set out for Illinois, coming according to the fashion of that day, with teams and wagons overland, cooking their meals by the roadside and camping out at night. They made their first settlement at what is the present site of

Waverly, Morgan County, where they remained for some eighteen months, after which they journeyed on to this section, where they secured and improved a new farm in East Nelson Township, Moultrie County. After a short time James Elder established a store in that part of the county and was one of the first merchants in this county and his trade extended throughout almost every township, few of the pioneer families of the county failing to be included in his list of customers. In the fall of 1845 he sold out his store and coming to Sullivan, built an hotel on the present site of the Eden House and also put up a store on an opposite corner. His executive abilities were now severely taxed, as while carrying on the store and hotel he was also cultivating a farm. He finally closed out his business interests in the town and for a while devoted himself exclusively to agriculture.

The first bank which Sullivan ever saw was the Elder Bank which was established by Judge James Elder in 1868, and which is perpetuated in the present existing bank. He operated this until 1870 when, upon January 6, he passed away, being then well along in years, as he was born in December, 1803. He had served the county for a number of years as County Judge and has represented this district in the State Legislature for some years. He was a prominent man in the county for years, and highly respected in the Republican party, to which he attached himself after abandoning the old Whig party of his early days. His excellent wife survived him for several years, dying in 1882, having reached the limit of three-score years and ten. Throughout all her long and godly life she has been a member, and a consistent one, of the Baptist Church of which her husband had also been a member during his earlier years, although later in life he identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

He of whom we write is the eldest surviving member of the children of his parents. One sister of his, Mrs. Dr. Lewis, lives in Texas; another sister, Mary, is the wife of W. P. Corbin, a furniture dealer in Sullivan. The lady to whom Mr. Elder was united in marriage bore the name of Louisa Ewing and she was born in White County, Ill.,

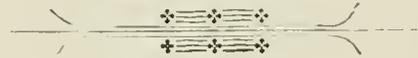
May 11, 1828. Her father, Judge R. B. Ewing was reared in Kentucky although a Tennessean by birth, and came to White County, Ill., where early in the '20s he married Miss Elizabeth Culberson, after which he removed to Logan County and afterward to Moultrie County. He was for years Judge of both Moultrie and Logan Counties and for many years held the office of Justice of the Peace. He was a leading man in that vicinity during the early days. He had been a merchant and farmer for years and came to Sullivan in its pioneer days, in fact before the organization of the county.

Judge Ewing was a Representative in the Legislature of Illinois and served his constituents well. He was from early manhood prominent in the Republican ranks and also a leading member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, filling the office of Class-Leader for many years and preaching as a local minister on this circuit and in the county for many years. Many funerals in all parts of this county have demanded his services, and he was a leading man in every way. He was born in 1801, and died June 8, 1875, being full of years and honors. His widow still survives, and now in her eighty-fourth year makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Bristow.

The wife of our subject is one of the five surviving members of her parents' family. Three of her brothers were soldiers in the War of the Rebellion and all lived to see the old flag triumphant and to return to their homes, two of them having since died. Mrs. Elder is a bright and very intelligent lady and is prominent in Sullivan church and social circles. Mr. Elder has filled most of the church offices and is now Trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a Republican in his political views and a staunch advocate of the principles and policy of the party which placed "Old Abe" in the Presidential chair. He has met with some financial reverses but has never allowed a misfortune to place him where he could not hold up his head as an honest business man who is determined to deal with his fellow-citizens on the basis of integrity.

The two children of our subject were Belinda Estella, a bright and beautiful daughter who died

at the age of sixteen years, and James W., who is at present the Mayor of Sullivan and a stock-buyer in business. He is a highly respected and prominent citizen of this city and is united in marriage with a lovely and intelligent companion who bore the maiden name of Julietta Newcome, and whose early home was in Mattoon, Ill. Nine children have been born to them, two of whom, Louisa and James, have passed on to the care of the Good Shepherd above. Those who are living are: William O., Arthur, Degratia, Belinda, Loanna, Lavina and Richard.



FREDERICK SCHUETZ, a prosperous farmer residing on section 29, Lowe Township, made his first settlement in Moultrie County in March, 1877. He was born in Prussia, Germany, January 19, 1810, being the son of Frederick Schuetz who lived and died in his native land. This son Frederick is the only one of the family who has ever come to the United States. He left his native land in 1864 and soon landed in New York Harbor where he at once took cars for the Great West, coming on without stopping to Bloomington, Ill. He was now utterly alone and among strangers, as there was not a man, woman or child in the United States who was known to him, but he found that although in an alien land he was not outside the bounds of human kindness and friendliness, and it was not long before he felt at home even among strangers. He first served as a farm hand but finally decided to be more independent and having learned the methods of agriculture employed in this country, rented land and began to work it.

The land which Mr. Schuetz first rented and which he took charge of in 1866 was located in McLean County, and he continued in that county for some seven years, after which he went to Piatt County and rented land there and afterward removed from there to Moultrie County. He was now prepared to purchase property and bought the land which he now owns, which was at that time but very little improved, being nearly all raw

land. He now has most of this under the plow and in a richly productive condition and has placed upon his farm a pleasant, commodious residence.

The marriage of our subject took place February 26, 1867, that united him with Mary Railing, who was born in Prussia, Germany, March 9, 1844, and came to the United States alone, being the only one of her family in this country. To this worthy couple have been born ten children, namely: Minnie, born October 2, 1867; Otto February 11, 1869; Emma, November 22, 1870; Mary, October 19, 1872; Fred, June 30, 1874; Sophia, August 6, 1876; Lizzie, July 27, 1879; Willie, December 6, 1881; Edward, May 27, 1885, and Lydia, December 5, 1887.

Mr. Schuetz has a handsome farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which is now in fine condition and very productive. It is in fact an ideal Illinois farm and well worthy the notice of the passerby. This worthy family are prominently identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which they are ever ready to assist in every good work and cast their influence upon the right side. The declarations of the Republican party embody the political belief of our subject and he casts his vote with the candidates of that party.



**W**ILLIAM P. MCGUIRE belongs to one of those Tennessee families who emigrated to Illinois many years ago and found upon the prairie the air of liberty and the institutions which they desired for their children. The year 1850 is the date of his first coming to Moultrie County, and he has been in the business of merchandising most of the time since 1853.

Our subject was born in Jefferson County, Tenn., September 17, 1829, and is the son of Thomas and Rachel (Ashmore) McGuire, Tennesseans by birth, of whom more is told at length in the biography of their son, Joseph H. McGuire, upon another page of this book. In 1840 the family removed to Illinois and made their first home in Coles County, where they resided until they came to this section.

The early life of William McGuire was spent upon a farm and he assisted his father until he started out for himself. He thus gained a thorough knowledge of farm work and a sound and hearty constitution as well as invaluable habits of industry and application.

Margaret Ashmore, a daughter of Alfred Ashmore, became the wife of our subject in 1856. She was born in this county and had been brought up here and by the judicious training and education which had been given her she was well fitted to fill the position which she occupied. The ordinary trials of a young wife and housekeeper, were supplemented within four years after her marriage by the cares and anxieties which befell the wives of soldiers, for in 1861 her husband enlisted in the service of his country, being mustered into service with Company F, Forty-ninth Illinois Infantry.

The regiment with which our subject was connected was commanded by Col. William Morrison, and Mr. McGuire served under him, until 1863, when he received an honorable discharge on account of a wound received in the battle of Ft. Donelson. This wound had very serious effect upon his constitution as the injury resulted in partially paralyzing his left side. After recruiting from this injury Mr. McGuire engaged in the business of merchandising at Bethany and has since that time continued in this line of work.

A truly patriarchal family of twelve have clustered around the fireside of our subject, and nine of this number are living, whose names are as follows: James L. an implement dealer in Bethany; Thomas a druggist of Bethany; William who is in the store with his father; Clarence, Claude, Mary E., wife of Thomas Lytle of Decatur; Rachel A., Cora and Nannie. The members of the family seem to inherit the ability and characteristics of their parents and although still young the sons and daughters are adding to the family reputation by their good judgment, business qualities and attractive traits of character.

The Republican party in its declarations embodies the political principles which our subject considers a safe guide for State and nation. He has been a member of the Board of Supervisors for some fifteen years and Justice of the Peace for the

same length of time and still holds this latter office. For more than forty years he has been a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and for a number of years, has served as Elder therein. He is identified with the Knights Templar and also with the Grand Army of the Republic, in which latter organization he has been Commander of the Washington Alexander Post No. 176. Aside from his business in Bethany he was for one year carrying on mercantile business in Dalton City.



**J**AMES GAVIN, an early settler of Moweaqua Township, Shelby County, and one of the substantial, well-to-do farmers of this county, was born in County Monaghan, Ireland, November 4, 1817, to Michael and Anna (Higgins) Gavin. His parents were also natives of that county, and his mother spent her entire life there. The father and five of the children came to America, and the former passed his last years in the home of our subject.

He of whom we write was reared to agricultural pursuits, and carried on his occupation on his native soil until 1852, when he came to the United States, sailing from Liverpool and landing at New Orleans after a voyage of nine weeks. He came from there to Naples, in this State, by the way of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, and from there went to Exeter, Scott County. His means were very limited at that time, and he sought employment on a farm to earn his living. He worked by the month for a year, and then farmed as a renter the following five years. He was industrious and frugal, and at the end of that time had money enough saved so that he could purchase land of his own, and he became the possessor of ninety acres on section 28, Moweaqua Township, and has resided here continuously since. He has provided his homestead with a fine set of frame buildings, and has added to his farm by further purchase so that it now comprises three hundred and sixty acres of choice land, that is well improved. Besides this he owns four acres of land in the village

of Moweaqua, and fourteen acres of land adjoining the village, which constitutes a valuable property.

In 1868 Mr. Gavin took unto himself a wife in the person of Mrs. Ellen (Roche) Harty, who looks well after his comfort, and has materially aided him in the acquirement of his possessions. She was born in Limerick, Ireland, in 1833. Her parents, David and Ellen Roche, came to this country in 1852, resided in the State of New York until 1858, and then came to Illinois. They lived in Decatur for a time, and then bought a farm in Macon County, where they dwelt some years. Disposing of that place, they removed to Moweaqua, where they passed their remaining years.

Mrs. Gavin was first married to John Harty, a native of County Armaugh, Ireland. He died in 1866. Mr. and Mrs. Gavin have two children, Maria and James. The family are members of the Catholic Church, and are much esteemed in the community. Mr. Gavin is a true Democrat in politics. He is an intelligent man, who is well read and posted on all general subjects, and in the management of his affairs has shown himself to be possessed of sound discrimination, foresight, and an excellent knowledge of his calling.



**C**URTIS W. BROWN. The center of a great grain producing country, the commercial populace abounds in middlemen who deal exclusively in the chief products of the State. Our subject, Mr. Brown, is one of these operators, being a large grain dealer, buying from the farmers and finding a market in the eastern metropolitan cities. He has displayed such quickness of perception, knowledge of the resources of the country and influences upon the trade, that he has gained the confidence of both factions or classes of people with whom he deals. The farmers know that in selling to him, they get a reasonable price, and eastern buyers and elevator owners are aware that the grains they get of him are the best that the country produces, and are willing to make concessions in his favor.

Like most of the inhabitants of the Central and

Western States even yet, our subject is of Eastern parentage, and also of birth. His father was Job Brown, a native of New Jersey. His mother was Phoebe Williams, who was probably born in New York. They first settled in New Jersey where they continued to reside for five years. He was a carpenter by trade and was constantly so employed in his early home. They removed from New Jersey to Ohio, and settled in Butler County, where they remained about two years, and then settled in Johnson County, Ind., in the village of Edinburg. There they lived for nine years and then came to Illinois early in 1860 and settled in Clay County, where they remained until their decease.

Our subject is one of eight children, the family comprising five sons and three daughters. Of these, he of whom we write was the eldest, having been born in New Jersey, August 18, 1842. He made his home with his parents until he was about twenty years old, coming with them to this State early in the '60s, and with the exception of the time spent in the war, he has ever since here made his home, early engaging in business for himself and acquiring business ways and knowledge.

When that terrible period in our country's history began, at the firing of the first gun of Ft. Sumter, Mr. Brown responded to the call for volunteers and enlisted in the army in 1862, joining Company C, of the Ninety-eighth Illinois Regiment. He served until the close of the war, seeing much hard fighting and a great deal of both good and bad on both sides. He took part in the battles of Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, and was through the siege of Atlanta, Ga., at the battle of Selma, Ala., at Montgomery and Macon, Ga. He was so fortunate as throughout his service to have escaped sickness and bore the hardships of army life with fortitude and an admirable spirit that made the best of all discomforts that could not be remedied. He received his discharge at Springfield, this State, after which he returned to Clay County, Ill., and engaged in farming, remaining there from 1869 until the fall of 1872, when he came to Moaltrie County.

Upon settling in this county, the gentleman of whom we write engaged in farming and stock

raising, his residence and place of business being in Dora Township. He was thus occupied for nearly seven years, when he removed to Lovington Township, and has here resided for two years, during which time he was engaged in farming. The next change was made to the village of Lovington, and here he has been engaged in active commercial business. He has sold agricultural implements and dealt largely in stock, the grain business, however, occupying the greater portion of his time and attention.

Curtis W. Brown left the bachelor ranks when in Clay County, Ill., and February 3, 1866, was united in marriage to Miss Minerva Price, who was a native of the same county in which their marriage was solemnized. Mrs. Brown is an admirable lady and has been a true helpmate and companion to her husband. The rearing of her family has not left her a great deal of time for social pleasures, for she has had the care as well as maternal duties, of ten children. Their names are as follows: Elma, Mollie, Guy, James, Inis, Charles, Albert, Emma, Ida and William. Most of the children are sturdy and original young people, with a strong vital energy, and having ideas of their own regarding their individual and personal rights.

Politically, our subject casts his vote with the Republican party, having great faith in the leaders and executives that in the wisdom of the party have been placed at the head of the nation. That his fellow-townsmen have reposed the greatest confidence in his judgment and intelligence and ability as a manager, is evidenced by the fact that he has been appointed to many local offices in the gift of the township. While in Clay County, for two years he held the office of Collector, and also served as School Director and Highway Commissioner. Since coming to Lovington Township he has filled most acceptably the chair of Supervisor for a space of one year, and has also been a member of the Village Board. In his social relations he is a member of the Masonic fraternity and also belongs to the Lovington Post of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Brown is a public spirited and generous man and has always shown himself ready in any time of emergency

either for the country at large, or the locality in which he resides, to become an active and responsible party in the upholding of the principles of right and justice.



**S**AMUEL F. GAMMILL. There is no broader field for a man to become familiar with the phases of human nature, than in the business of a merchant, nor can one gain a more intimate knowledge of family life, unless it be in the legal profession, and a broad-souled man who is in sympathy with his fellow-creatures has in this calling an unparalleled opportunity for doing good. Especially is this true of one engaged in general merchandise, for one will make many sacrifices of pride and self-respect if one family is in need of the necessities of life, and happy is the man whose position enables him to respond to his generous impulses and relieve these necessities.

The gentleman of whom it is our pleasure and privilege to here give a short biographical sketch is a general merchant in the village of Gays being the oldest merchant here who has been thus engaged. He was born in Whitley Township, this State, June 20, 1841, and is a son of Andrew and Jane (Whittes) Gammill, both natives of North Carolina, who with their respective families, moved to Tennessee. Our subject was but two years old at the time of his emigration to that State, having been carried thither on horseback from North Carolina to Tennessee, in which county the young people married, and after which in 1832, they emigrated to this State, settling in Whitley Township, being among the first settlers on Whitley Creek. There they entered some land and pursued their calling of farming. They continued to reside here, with the exception of the years 1847 and 1848, when they lived in Coles County, one year of which time they made their home in the house built and formerly occupied by Thomas Lincoln, father of Abraham Lincoln.

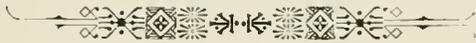
The father of our subject died in 1867, at the

age of sixty-seven years. The mother passed away in 1876 at the age of seventy-four years. For years they had been consistent and conscientious members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Eleven children clustered about their fireside and board. One of these died in childhood and ten lived to be grown. They are by name Adaline, Caroline Lucinda, William James, James Newton, Madeline, Louisa, Samuel F. and Nancy L. and Elem W. Adaline married Joseph Hendricks, and died at Ottumwa, Iowa. Caroline married John Shoemaker, of Coles County; Lucinda was united to J. H. Whetstone, of Pomona, Kan. William resides in Woodford, Cal. James was a member of Company E. of the Fifth Illinois Cavalry, and died of small pox, while in service. James Newton is a resident of Hickman, Neb. Madeline is the wife of John T. Alexander, of Ottawa, Kan. Louisa has been three times widowed, her first husband was George Curry, the second was James Renner, and the third Joseph Hayden. She now resides at Pomona, Kan. Elem W. is the wife of Thomas Kimball of Whitley Township.

Our subject was reared upon a farm. His school days were limited but being an ambitious boy and fond of reading, he made up by outside work, many of the deficiencies of his school life. During the early part of the war, soon after the firing of the first gun, our subject enlisted, September 7, 1861, and was mustered into service with Company H. of the Seventh Illinois Cavalry. He was mustered out November 4, 1865, having re-enlisted in 1864. He entered as a private, but was advanced to the post of First Lieutenant, having filled all the ranks below, except those of Orderly Sergeant and Second Lieutenant. That long period of bloodshed was one in which our subject lived a life-time of adventure and experience, most of which was of a bloody and terrible character. He was a participant in the following engagements: that of Madron, Mo., Corinth, and was in the lead of Grant's army to Coffeyville, Miss., on the Grierson raid from LaGrange, Tenn., April 16, 1863, and landed at Baton Rouge, La., May 2, 1862. During this march they covered eight hundred and fifty-three miles and the raid is

memorable in the memory of him of whom we write as being the hardest trip taken during the war. He was also present at the siege of Ft. Hudson, a participant in the battle of Collierville, Tenn., Campbellville, Tenn., and was with Gen. Smith in Mississippi, starting with his army in February of 1864. The battle of Nashville, Tenn., September 15 and 16, 1864, has left a deep and lasting impression on the memory of our subject. He also took part in several minor engagements.

On returning home, Mr. Gammill resumed farming and in 1869 came to Gays and established his present business house. His marriage took place in 1873 when he was united to Margaret C. Wilson, a daughter of John and Charity Wilson. She was born in Ash Grove Township, Shelby County. Four children have been the outcome of this marriage. Their names are Mack, Tola J., Stella May, and one who died in infancy. Mr. Gammill affiliates with the Republican party and in recognition of his loyalty as well as his fitness as a man of intelligence and firm standing in the community, he was appointed Postmaster at Gays, which position he held for twelve years. In his religious preference, he with his wife, is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He is one of the thinking ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic, being a veteran who thoroughly enjoys, when at reunions, a recital of the striking experiences that he or other comrades had while in the war. Not slow to recognize bravery in friend or foe, many a piquant and spicy story is at his tongue's end.



**W**ILLIAM KANITZ. One of the substantial farmers of the township and a man who, having had experience in two countries in his chosen calling, and having profited by the example and results in original experiments among the Germans in an agricultural way, Mr. Kanitz has been enabled to make a success of bucolic life, that while it has not been void of pleasure and beauty, has been an advantage to him pecuniarily. He is now a resident on section 34, of Lowe Township, Moultrie County, whereon he

has a fine farm that boasts of the best improvements. It is as fertile and prolific as constant cultivation and intelligent care will make it.

Mr. Kanitz is a native of Germany, as his name would indicate, having been born in Saxony, March 26, 1830, and being a son of Godfried and Theresa Kanitz. There were seven children in the family, four sons and three daughters, and of these three sons were attracted to the United States by the superior advantages that it offered young men who are industrious and ambitious to acquire homes and fortunes for themselves. The three who came hither are Charles, who is a farmer in Moultrie County, Edward, who, however, was killed by lightning in Christian County, this State, and our subject.

The original of our sketch passed his boyhood on the farm in his native land, and in addition to the manifold duties of the farmer's lad, which he early learned, he acquired the miller's trade, and having this for his main resource, in 1853, accompanied by his brother Charles, he came to the United States. Their passage hither was made in a sailing vessel which landed in New Orleans, and in that strange cosmopolitan city, they met many of their own countrymen, and divers were the advices given the young men as to the best place to locate, but with a customary German confidence in one's own judgment, they determined to decide that important matter for themselves. They went to St. Louis and were occupied in that city as common laborers. At the time, our subject was afflicted with that dread disease which attacks many foreigners who have not yet become acclimated, and many a time, while shaking with ague, has he longed for his native land, but he was in the position of the general who had burned his bridges behind him, for he was without money, and so obliged to remain here.

In 1854, he of whom we write came to this State and located in Sangamon County, where he was engaged for several years as a farm hand. From there he went to Marion County, and four years later, in 1871, he came to Moultrie County, first settling in Arthur, where he purchased some land, a part of which, however, he donated for railroad purposes. In 1871 he traded this land for that





*Daniel Yantiz.*

which he now owns in Lowe Township. He is now the proprietor of three hundred and sixty acres of good land which bears fair improvement. Although he is a general farmer, for some years he has followed stock-raising and in that specialty has made great advancement in the breeding of fine stock.

Mr. Kanitz, while in St. Louis, took upon himself the responsibilities and obligations of married life. In 1856 he was married to Caroline Hines, who was born in Lowenstein, Germany. She came with our subject and one brother to this country, and the friendship that was formed on the way over ripened into an affection that ended in a wedding. Mr. Kanitz's brother, with whom she came hither, was by name Frank Hines who died later in Montana.

Mr. and Mrs. Kanitz are the parents of nine children whose names are Richard, Frank, Henry, Joseph, Charles, Emma, Josephine, Ella and Anna. They are all bright and intelligent young people, who are bound to make themselves a place in the world. Politically our subject is a Democrat, his early training preparing him for a recognition of the merits and advantages of that party. In his church relations, he with his amiable and admirable wife who has ever been a loving and tender help-mate to him and a fond and careful mother, is a Baptist.



**D**ANIEL YANTIS. The mind of a man who has lived four-score years, is to him a kingdom in which he can send out the messengers and servants of thought, memory and reflection, and live over the pleasures of the past that have grown intense under the magnifying influence of time. He realizes in a subdued way the pains which at the time of their experience, seemed tragedies, modified and made interesting by the lapse of years. Content has come to gently round off the afternoon with its golden glow of sunset. Our subject, who has ascended the sunlit heights, looks back over a broad expanse of ex-

perience in a land where experiences are ever fresh and invigorating.

On the opposite page appears a portrait of Mr. Yantis, who is an old settler and successful farmer and stock-raiser living on his homestead, located on sections 29 and 30, of Pickaway Township, Shelby County. This fine farm is the same which he secured from the Government in a raw, prairie state, comprising two hundred and forty acres. His purchase was made in 1853, and since that time he has bent every effort to making the farm a model of agricultural neatness and productiveness. Our subject came here from Pickaway County, Ohio. He was born September 15, 1811, in Frederick County, Md. His father was Henry Yantis, a native of Maryland and his paternal grandfather was John Yantis, who came to America from Germany prior to the Revolutionary War and made settlement in Maryland. As far as our subject knows, his grandfather did not, however, take part in the war, but after the death of his wife, he went to Ohio with his sons, where he remained until his death. His wife was a native of Maryland, who lived and died there at an advanced age.

It was about 1815 when John Yantis, our subject's grandfather, came with his grown sons to Pickaway County, and there he lived for a time in the unbroken wilderness. After a time he went with his son William to Franklin County, Ohio, at which place he died when past ninety years of age. His death, however, was caused by an accident while he was assisting his son in rolling logs. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian Church and politically he was a Democrat. Henry Yantis, the father of our subject, was probably the eldest of his father's children, of whom there were seven, four sons and three daughters. He attained his growth and manhood in Frederick County, Ohio, and was married to Miss Catherine Yantis, an own cousin, whose father had emigrated from Germany. The parental family comprised five children, namely: Lydia, Solomon, Elizabeth and Catherine, besides the subject of this notice, the latter being the only one now living.

Our subject's family settled in Pickaway County, Ohio, when he was but a lad and they there began life as pioneers in the woods. Henry Yantis and

his two sons cleared three farms in that county and there our subject's father died when at the age of eighty-seven years and nine months. His wife had preceded him to a better world some time at the age of seventy-five years. They were members of the Presbyterian Church and were good, true, unaffected pioneer people. Our subject became of age in Pickaway County and there in 1833 married Elizabeth Longenbach, a sister of Isaac Longenbach, a history of whom may be found under the biographical sketch in another part of this volume.

Mrs. Yantis was reared in Pickaway County. The young couple took up the burdens and joys of life together and after the birth of all their children but one, they left Ohio, coming with teams by way of the overland route and living a camp life on the way. They made the journey one of pleasure instead of discomfort and enjoyed the trip probably more thoroughly than do we of to-day, who are hurried from one end of the country to another in the space of a few hours. They reached their destination without accident, and at once settled on the tract which Mr. Yantis had secured previous to bringing his family hither, having made a journey on horseback and reconnoitered the country well in order to select a good location. They began life in their new home on an entirely unbroken farm, and although there were many privations and inconveniences in living so far from neighbors, they made the conditions as pleasant as possible and the children grew up knowing that they held resources within themselves irrespective of others.

After securing their home, our subject and his wife took pleasure in bringing about them comforts and even luxuries of life. They put up good buildings on their place and as they were the representative people of their township and leading citizens thereof, they were naturally the center of social life. Mrs. Yantis passed to the other world February 16, 1890, after having lived with her husband in a close and tender companionship for fifty-seven years. She was born December 2, 1809. She was a noble woman being of the fiber of which heroines are made, and her character was beautified by a lovely temperament and genial, kindly manners. She was a good wife and mother and a kind,

thoughtful neighbor. She was the mother of fifteen children, six of whom, however, died. They were Mary, David, Mary, Sarah, Lydia and Jacob.

The living are: Samuel, George, Henry, Solomon, Elenore, Isaac, Daniel, Barbara and John W. George W. is a farmer in this township, and made mistress of his heart and home. Miss Lucinda Tolly, who died, and he later married Mrs. Mollie Smith. Henry is a merchant in Yantisville, this township, and married Barbara Longenbach. A biographical sketch of Solomon may be found in another part of this volume. Elenore is the wife of Nathan Killam, and now resides in Elk County, Kan., on a farm. Isaac took to wife Emma Pogue, and lives in Moultrie County. Daniel is the proprietor of a livery stable at King City, Mo. He took to wife Mary A. Klar. Barbara is the wife of James Murcer and they live on a farm in Texas County, Mo. John, who is a resident of Shelbyville, first married Lucy James, who died, and afterward took to wife her sister Cordelia.

Mr. and Mrs. Yantis have for years been members of the Reformed Presbyterian Church and are highly regarded among the people. He has been the Assessor of the township for three years and has had other local offices. He is an adherent of the Democratic party both by tradition and conviction, for, as will be seen above, his father and grandfather before him were followers of that party. Our subject cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Jackson.



**B**ENJAMIN F. McMENNAMY, M. D. The life of a country physician is one of many trials and hardships and yet of real satisfaction in consideration of the fact that the one who fills this place is of value to a large community of families. To him they appeal in times of distress and sorrow. He is the first one to whom they turn for sympathy when a new life begins and an old one passes away and his is the kind hand which administers relief during days and weeks of suffering and languor. One who worthily appreciates his opportunities for in-

fluence in this capacity can do perhaps more to establish a proper standard of living in a country community than any other man, not even excepting the spiritual adviser. Such an opportunity has been appreciated and improved by the worthy gentleman whose name appears at the head of this paragraph, and whose pleasant home is at Bethany, Moultrie County.

Dr. McMennamy came to Bethany in 1876, and is a native of Macon County, this State, where he was born October 21, 1847, being a son of John H. and Nancy (Hill) McMennamy. John McMennamy, the grandfather of our subject, located in Macon County at a very early date, settling on a farm there, and when the county was organized he was made its first Sheriff. He subsequently removed to Texas where he died in Grayson County.

The father of our subject was born in Tennessee and came with the family to Illinois, and there married a Miss Clark, after which he removed to Texas where his wife died. Subsequent to this he returned to Macon County, this State, and married Nancy Hill who became the mother of our subject and two other children, none but Benjamin, however, having survived. Their mother died in Macon County in 1849, and in 1876 the father again removed to Texas and there died the following year.

The early life of our subject was passed upon the farm and he received his education at a seminary which was then located at Mt. Zion, and so well did he avail himself of his opportunities for instruction that he was soon fitted for the profession of a teacher, which he pursued for a number of years. In 1869, after he had reached his majority, he took up the study of medicine with Dr. N. G. Blalock, then a well-known practitioner of Mt. Zion, but now making his home in Walla Walla, Wash., and in 1872 graduated from the Chicago Medical College. The first place at which the young doctor hung out his professional shingle was at Mt. Zion, but after he had attained a little more experience he decided to come to Bethany, as he believed that he would here find a better field for the fulfilment of his ambition.

The same year in which our subject took his degree he was united in marriage upon the

28th of May to Anna E. Smith, daughter of S. King Smith of Mt. Zion. This lady was born in Princeton, Ky., September 7, 1852, and to her have been given four children, the two who are living being Francis Earl and Clifford Dale. Besides the practice of medicine the Doctor carried on a drug business in Bethany from 1877 to 1886.

The declaration and platform of the Democratic party express the political views of Dr. McMennamy, but although he has held some local offices he takes only a modicum of interest in political movements, especially upon the local stage. He, however, believes it to be the duty of every loyal citizen to cast his vote upon every occasion when a question comes up for decision or a name is presented for office, as only by doing so can the rights of citizenship be maintained.

An excellent and extensive practice has been built up by this worthy physician and as it is founded upon his devotion to his profession and to the humane interests of his calling, and has been carried on with unflinching interest and enthusiasm, coupled with true research and scientific study, it is a practice which will continue to improve in both quality and extent for many years. Both he and his lovely and capable companion are members and active workers in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and their pleasant home is the scene of many social reunions among the best circles of Bethany. The Doctor is also identified with the Ionic Lodge, No. 312 A. F. & A. M. He is also a member of the Central District Medical Society and the Illinois State Medical Society.



ALEXANDER WARD. Whether it is that Shelby County is especially notable for the longevity of its inhabitants or not, the writer is not certain. It is a fact, however, that almost all of the gentlemen whose history it has been our pleasure to write, have passed the meridian of life and the majority of them are pioneer settlers who can look back upon the growth of the county from the earliest occupancy, when deer, and wild turkeys were much more fre-

quently seen than the face of a neighbor. Our subject is one of the many whose experience includes the changes through which his vicinity and county have passed. Now residing on section 1, Ridge Township, he was born April 24, 1833, in Okaw Township, and is a son of John and Catherine (Lohr) Ward.

The grandfather of our subject, James Ward, resided in Kentucky, and thence three of his sons, namely, William L., John and James, came to Shelby County. Of these, William L. first came, his advent being in 1828. He located in what is now known as Todd's Point, where he entered a tract of land upon which he resided until about 1856, when he removed to Pickaway Township, residing there until his death, which occurred in July, 1872. James Ward came to the county in 1845 and resided in Okaw Township. Later he removed to Dry Point where he died about the year 1866. John Ward was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, but when very young his parents removed to Kentucky, where he grew to manhood. He first came to Illinois in 1830, stopping for a time in Shelby County and then went back to Kentucky, but in 1832 he again returned to Shelby County, and in August, that year, was united in marriage to Catherine Lohr, who was reared in the same neighborhood with her husband in Kentucky. At the time of her marriage her home was in Morgan County, Ill., where her family were early settlers.

After marriage the young couple located in Okaw Township where they entered land and experienced all the ups and downs of pioneer life. He was, however, successful and became the owner of over two thousand acres of land, a large proportion of which he himself entered. He followed stock-raising principally, being especially interested in the breeding of cattle and mules. He died in March, 1880, being over seventy years of age. His wife died in 1870. He was always interested in politics, both national and local. At first belonging to the old-line Whig party, he afterward became a Republican. He was a member of the Christian Church, being a generous supporter of the same. He was a broad-minded, public-spirited man, interested in all public enterprises that promised to be to the

advantage of the people. He was well and favorably known throughout Shelby County as a man of unstained honor and integrity.

John and Catherine Ward were the parents of eleven children, one of whom died in infancy, one in childhood and one daughter was accidentally killed when ten years of age. Eight of the children lived to be grown; of these our subject is the eldest; James W. lives in Decatur, Ill.; Lucinda is the wife of James Sudduth and resides in Springfield, Mo.; John W. died in Okaw Township; Charles resides in Shelbyville; George W. died in the latter place; Elizabeth is the wife of George A. Roberts and lives in Shelbyville, and Benjamin F. makes his home in Lincoln, Neb.

Our subject grew to manhood in his native township and he distinctly remembers pioneer days when deer and other game were plentiful. He attended such schools as were provided and in September, 1859, was married to Cordelia Van Hise, a daughter of James H. and Sarah Van Hise. She was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, December 2, 1838. The first home of the young couple was upon the place where he now resides. It then, however, comprised only ten acres of ground, hemmed in by a rail fence, their first dwelling being a log cabin which was primitive, indeed. Four years after marriage the log cabin gave way to his present residence, and since that time he has made many changes in his home and placed many substantial improvements upon his place. Mr. Ward is now the owner of six hundred acres of land, three hundred and seventy-three acres being located in Shelby County, and the balance in Moultrie County, on which he has good buildings.

Five children are the fruit of the union of our subject and his estimable wife. They are, Abraham L., Catherine, Edward S., George A. and Ulysses G. Mr. Ward is a staunch Republican in politics and always votes at general elections for the man he believes best fitted for the office. He himself has never been ambitious to be an office-holder. Socially he is a member of the Association of United Workmen. Our subject is especially interested and engaged in the stock business, buying, breeding, shipping, etc., stock to the metropolitan markets. His history in itself is an apt illustration

of what a man may accomplish in the fertile lands of the Middle States, by his own efforts, alone and unaided, but with ambition, industry and perseverance.



**C**HARLES W. DICK. Among the prominent agriculturists of Lowe Township, Moultrie County, who had their birth across the seas but who have brought to their adopted country the valuable characteristics which belong to the men of their native land is the resident on section 8, whose name appears at the head of this sketch. His parents, Charles and Fredericka (Hinnak) Dick, were born in Germany and spent their days in their native land. Our subject was the only child by this marriage and was born in Zeitz, Germany, December 18, 1825.

After receiving the ordinary education provided for the German youth, our subject upon reaching manhood learned the trade of a weaver and became a journeyman, working at his trade in various parts of the country. He emigrated from Germany to America in 1854, landing in New York in September of that year. Traveling West he came to Columbus, Ohio, where he found employment in Pickaway County, Ohio, busying himself at farm labor at the wages of \$8 per month, working for such wages two years.

The marriage of our subject took place in Pickaway County, Ohio, June 10, 1856, his bride being Miss Anna R. Herrmann who was born in Shwelewalte, Germany, December 19, 1832. Her parents were Gottlieb and Eva R. (Schnyder) Herrmann, both of German birth and who died in the old country. Mrs. Dick came to America in 1855, making her home in Pickaway County and lived there and in Madison County, Ohio, until 1862, when they came to Illinois and settled in Moultrie County. They tried various parts of Moultrie County, living for two years in Lovington Township then in Lowe Township where they have since been residents.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick have been the happy parents of seven children, two of whom they were called

upon to resign to the Good Shepherd. Those still living are: Henry L. who married Dora Koken-doffer; John W.; Samuel who married Hattie Mor-row; Sarah M., wife of James A. Hook, and Louisa A. who is an accomplished lady and school teacher. Since coming to America this gentleman has de-voted himself entirely to agricultural pursuits as he found this more profitable upon our fertile soil than the pursuit of his trade. He owns one hun-dred and sixty acres and has made excellent im-provements upon his farm. He has filled and filled well some of the local offices in the township and is highly respected not only by his neighbors but by all with whom he came in official relations. Mr. and Mrs. Dick are members of the German Baptist Church, and in their religious connections are highly honored for their true Christian lives and earnest helpfulness in every good cause. Mr. Dick is a public-spirited man and an earnest pro-moter of every movement looking to the progress of Lowe Township and Moultrie County.



**J**OHAN BUSHART. It has with too many been the belief that if a man is once a farmer he must always continue to be a drudge, and that his working days would only end with his call to the grave; but many are finding that this is not so, and that by hard work, enterprise and thrift in their early days and through the strong period of middle life they may so arrange their affairs as to take comfort during their declin-ing years. This has been the case with the retired farmer whose name appears at the head of this writing, and whose residence in Moultrie County, dates from 1855.

Mr. Bushart was born in Perry County, Ohio, November 15, 1822, his worthy and respected par-ents being Jacob and Magdalena (Croomrine) Bushart, both of them natives of Pennsylvania. They resided on a farm in Perry County, Ohio, for some years after their son John came to Illinois, when they followed him and made their home with

this son, until the death of the father at the age of nearly ninety years, and that of the mother at the age of eighty-two.

The seven children of this excellent couple were our subject; William, who was a soldier in the One Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, and was mortally wounded at the battle of Vicksburg; Samuel, who is a farmer in Moultrie County; Elizabeth, who married Charles Tharp and resides in Allen County, Ohio; Sarah J., who married Joseph Smutz and lives at Cerro Gordo, Ill.; Jacob, who was a soldier in an Ohio Regiment and was killed at Murfreesboro; and Eliza, who married John Goetz, of Moultrie County.

The subject of this sketch is the oldest of the family, and was reared upon the farm, his school days being very limited. When quite young he engaged as a farm hand, working by the month, and early struck out for himself. When twenty-two years he resolved to establish a home of his own and took to himself a wife in the person of Catherine Patterson, daughter of Alexander Patterson. She was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, where Mr. Bushart was residing at the time of their marriage, his parents having removed to that county when he was but a boy. After marriage he worked at farming with the exception of three years when he was in other business.

In 1855 John Bushart came to the Prairie State, and as he was still a poor man and unable to purchase a farm, he rented land and worked as best he could. About two years after coming to Moultrie County, he had accumulated some money and purchased forty acres of raw land, going in debt for a part of it. He worked hard to pay off this indebtedness, and before he had completed the payment, he purchased more. By great exertion and due economy he succeeded in his endeavors. He continued farming until the fall of 1889, when he retired from active life, being then the owner of four hundred and fifty-nine acres of land, upon which he had placed good improvements, and in which he has laid over fifteen miles of tiling. In 1887 he purchased fourteen acres of land in Bethany, on which he erected one of the handsomest and most comfortable homes to be found in Moultrie County. This is situated in grounds which

have been adorned and beautified, and here he and his interesting wife find a happy home.

While on the farm, Mr. Bushart paid considerable attention to stock-raising, and also bought and sold live stock. All but one of the seven children of this family are still in life and health. They are as follows: Mary E.; Eli, who died at the age of thirteen years; George W., a farmer in Missouri; John J., Sarah J., Laura, the wife of N. B. Allison, of Mattoon, Ill.; and Tunis V., who married Lydia Hagerman.

The political belief of Mr. Bushart is in accordance with the declaration of the Republican party, in the prosperity of which he feels great interest. Before removing to Bethany he resided in Dora Township, and while there held various local offices, which he always filled conscientiously and with benefit to the community. He is a man of deep religious convictions, and has long been a member of the Christian Church.



**M**ARTIN LANDGREBE. The great commonwealth of Illinois is the home of many self-made men, but none whose lives afford a better example of untiring industry, faithfulness and zeal in personal affairs, than can be found in the subject of this brief biographical notice. He owns and occupies a farm in Moultrie County, consisting of one hundred and twenty acres pleasantly located on section 10, Lowe Township. He has erected thereon a comfortable and substantial dwelling, good barns and other out-buildings, and is successfully carrying on mixed farming. He and his faithful wife have done much hard work, and their home is the result of labor upon which they may well look back with mingled feelings of sorrow and joy.

Germany is the native home of Mr. Landgrebe, and he was born June 28, 1839. His parents, also natives of the Fatherland, bore the names of Jacob and Christine (Fisher) Landgrebe. After their marriage in Germany they settled first in their native land, whence they removed in 1857 to America. Their first home in the United States was in

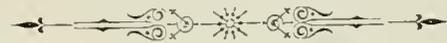
Sangamon County, Ill., where they sojourned until 1866, being employed as farmers. Thence they removed to Moultrie County and settled in Lowe Township, where the mother died August 3, 1878. The father still survives and makes his home in Lowe Township. Through his unceasing efforts he has become well-to-do, and better than worldly prosperity, has by his honorable dealings and upright life, gained the confidence of all.

The birth of Martin Landgrebe took place in Germany, June 8, 1839, and he was the third of the eight children born to his parents. When his father and mother crossed the broad Atlantic to make a home in America, he accompanied them and with them located first in Sangamon County, and later in Moultrie County. His youth was passed in much the usual manner of farmers' boys at that early day, and the education which he gleaned from the ordinary text books of the times, while not extensive, was very thorough. Through subsequent reading he has become well informed on all subjects of importance, and being a pleasant conversationalist, is very popular.

The presiding genius in the home of Mr. Landgrebe is the lady who became his wife October 1, 1863, and who was known in maidenhood as Sarah Ann Harbur. She is the daughter of Levi and Mary (Sawyer) Harbur, who died in Sangamon County, Ill. Mrs. Landgrebe was born in Sangamon County, February 16, 1845, and received not only a good common-school education, but also that careful home instruction which fitted her for the duties of wifehood and motherhood, and have given her a prominent place in the society of this locality. Of the eleven children born to them, six are living, viz: Mary C., born August 5, 1865, and is the wife of John Schable; Jacob L., born December 17, 1866, who married Ruth Shonkwilea; Lana E., born April 3, 1871; Joseph W., September 6, 1873; Benjamin F., December 29, 1877; and Daisy D., February 16, 1882.

Mr. Landgrebe dates his arrival in this county from the year 1867, when he settled on section 10, Lowe Township. He has embellished his farm with all modern improvements and buildings, and has placed the entire tract under good cultivation. He has taken an active part in local affairs, votes the

Democratic ticket, and has held the offices of Highway Commissioner and School Director a number of years, and is now School Trustee to the satisfaction of all concerned. A devout Christian, his membership is in the Missionary Baptist Church, where he is a Deacon. He holds a prominent place among the people of this section, and is generally respected for his honorable dealings and good character. Our subject is one of the first settlers in this township, and when he first came here the land on the southeast corner of section 10, was at that time a large lake of water, and he says he could travel from his place to Bement across the prairie.



**W**ILLIAM H. TAYLOR. The business men of Dalton City are well-known throughout Moultrie and adjoining counties as worthy of high esteem on account of their thorough going integrity, their active enterprise and their promptness in responding to the necessities of a business life. They have brought forward the financial interests of Dalton and made the young town one of mark in the county and throughout this portion of the State, and it is well for the rising generation to study not only their methods but their characters, as they are worthy of emulation.

The lumber merchant whose name appears at the head of this writing, located in Dalton in 1881, establishing the business which he has since conducted continuously. He was born in Wayne County, Ill., May 23, 1853, being a son of Robert and Mahala (Hawk) Taylor, both natives of Ohio, who settled in Wayne County in 1853 and are still residents there where the father is carrying on a farm.

The subject of this sketch is the third in a family of seven living children, there being nine in the number originally. He was reared upon the farm and educated in the district schools, and in March, 1875, he went to Macon County and pursued farming until 1880, when he began work in a lumber yard. In the fall of 1880 he came to Dalton City and took charge of the lumber business for S. D. Moore, becoming in 1883 a partner in the

business, and two years later assuming the proprietorship and establishing also a trade in agricultural implements.

Mr. Taylor was married in January, 1881, to Anna Bottemfield, daughter of John and Maria Bottemfield, of Macon County, Ill. Her nativity was in Ohio, January 30, 1857. She has two lovely and interesting children, Edna Verne and Lynn. A number of local offices have been filled by Mr. Taylor to the satisfaction and profit of the community. He is a Republican in his political ties and an earnest advocate of the principles announced in the platform of that party. The Methodist Episcopal Church forms the religious home in whose communion and labors Mr. Taylor chooses to place himself.



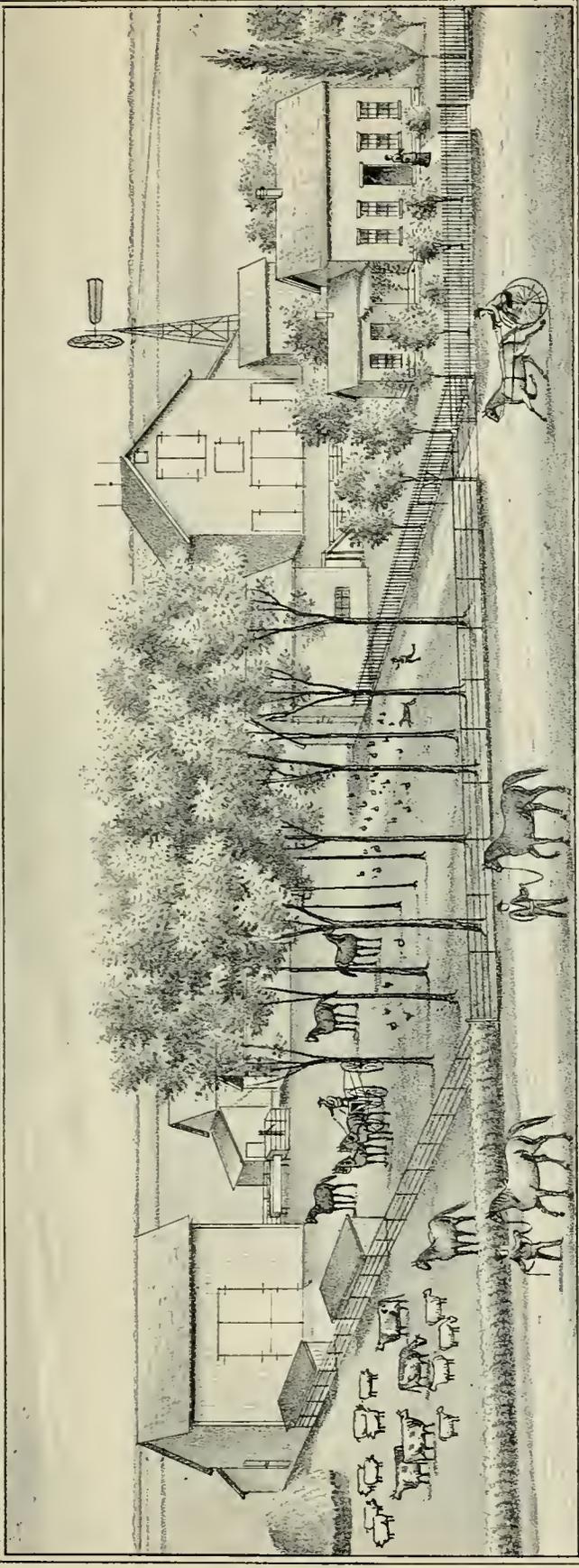
**O**RSON SWEET, a general farmer and stock-raiser of Penn Township, Shelby County is ranked among the most thrifty and enterprising men of his class in this section of the county. He was born in Russell, Geauga County, Ohio, February 19, 1841. He comes of one of the pioneer families of that State, where his father, Daniel Sweet, was also born, his birthplace being in Ashtabula County. He, in turn, was a son of Louis Sweet, who was born and reared, and married in the good old New England State of Connecticut. In the prime and vigor of manhood he had emigrated from that section of the country to Ohio and was one of the early settlers of that State. He resided for a time in Ashtabula County and then cast in his lot with the pioneers of Geauga County, locating in Russell Township, where he cleared a farm from the forest, upon which he lived until death terminated his earthly career. He served with credit in the War of 1812, and was a pensioner the last years of his life. The maiden name of his wife, grandmother of our subject, was Betsey Woodbury.

The father of our subject was but an infant when his parents took up their abode in the wilds of Geauga County, where he was reared to a sturdy manhood under pioneer influences. In his youth

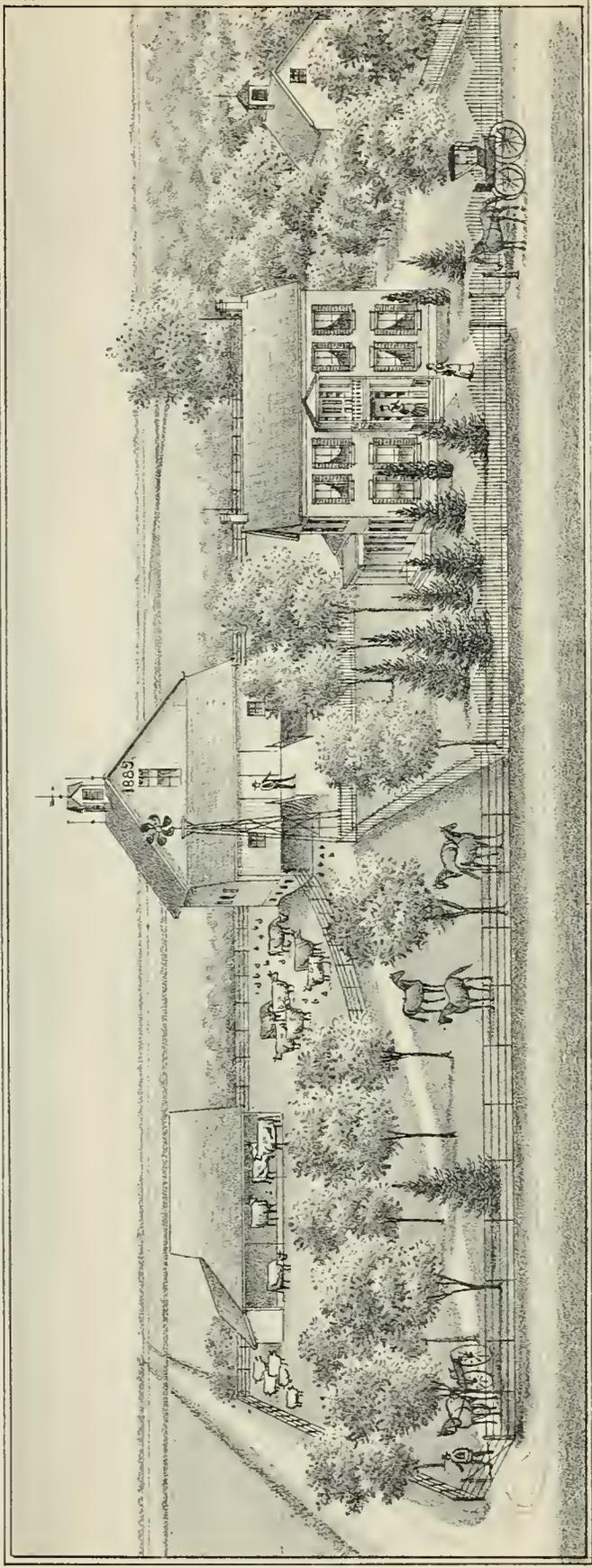
the country surrounding his early home was still mostly in its primitive condition and bears, wild turkeys and other kinds of game roamed through the forests which have since given way to rich farms and busy towns and cities. For many years there were no railways and the pioneers had to market their produce and obtain their supplies at Cleveland. Mr. Sweet early learned the trade of a carpenter and was prosperously engaged at that for several years. He still resides at Russell and is well known in that part of the country where the most of his life has been spent. The name of his wife was Philena Millard, and she was born in the town of Kirtland, Lake County, Ohio. Her father, Brazil Millard, is thought to have been born in Vermont, and was a pioneer farmer of Ohio. He spent his last years with his son in Michigan. The mother of our subject died in August, 1890, leaving behind her a record of a life well-spent. But two of her eleven children are now living, our subject and his brother Edwin, the latter residing on the old homestead at Russell, Ohio.

Orson Sweet, of whom this biography is written, was reared to agricultural pursuits in his native county and made the best of his opportunities to obtain an education at the public schools. When thirteen years old, the manly, resolute young lad began to earn his own living by working on a farm by the month, receiving at first but \$8 a month. This was a hard training for a boy, but he obtained a good insight into the best methods of carrying on farming while he worked out, which he continued doing until his marriage. He then bought forty-two acres of land in Chester Township, in his native county. There was a small frame house and barn on the place, and about thirty acres of the land were under cultivation.

In 1869 our subject sold his Ohio farm as he had decided that the Prairie State afforded a wide-awake young farmer superior opportunities for carrying on agriculture, and coming to this county he bought the farm where he now resides on section 33, Penn Township, and a view of which is shown elsewhere in this volume. He had devoted his whole energies to the betterment of his farm and to the business of stock-raising, and already occupies an important place among the principal



RESIDENCE OF ORSON SWEET, SEC. 33., PENN TP., SHELBY CO., ILL.



RESIDENCE OF THOMAS H. CROWDER, SEC. 15., MARROWBONE TP., MOULTRIE CO., ILL.



stock men of this vicinity. He makes a specialty of raising thoroughbred Short-horn cattle, Percheron and Hambletonian horses and Chester-white hogs.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Ervilla Pelton took place in 1860. Mrs. Sweet is also a native of Russell, Ohio and is a daughter of G. S. and Lydia (Bailey) Pelton. To her and our subject has been born one daughter, Iona. She married Jacob L. Fryar, of Maysville, Mo., and is the mother of these six children—Herbert Orson, Arthur Lee, Mark Herman, Ada Blanche, Nellie Grace and Walter. Mr. and Mrs. Sweet are members in high standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church and regarded as among our best people socially. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, but in politics he is unswerving in his allegiance the Republican party.



**THOMAS H. CROWDER.** Perhaps there is no family in Marrowbone Township whose various members are more prominent in social, political, agricultural and religious circles than that represented by the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this writing. Such a circle is broadly and thoroughly influential in upbuilding the material interests as well as the social and moral characteristics of a neighborhood. A more complete history of the parents of our subject will be found in the sketch of David M. Crowder, which appears upon another page of this RECORD.

In a family of ten children our subject is the fourth in order of age, and was born in Jennings County, Ind., March 31, 1835. He was about three years old when his parents came to what is now Moultrie County, Ill., and his life to manhood was spent upon his father's farm in what is now known as Marrowbone Township. He resided at home until his marriage, which event took place in Sullivan, October 11, 1855.

The lady who became Mrs. Thomas H. Crowder, bore the maiden name of Mary McCord and is a

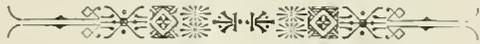
daughter of John and Elizabeth McCord, who died in Marrowbone Township. She was born in Jennings County, Ind., December 18, 1834. Her two children are John R. (who married first Miss Dora Hampton and subsequent to her death was united with Miss Katie Mott) and a daughter, Mary E., who is the wife of F. D. Henneigh. Mrs. Mary Crowder had but a short experience of married life, as she died at her home in Marrowbone Township, March 15, 1860, leaving a wide circle of friends to mourn her loss.

The second marriage of Mr. Crowder took place in Marrowbone Township, June 20, 1860, his bride being Miss Louvina Bosley, who was born in Shelby County, this State, February 1, 1837. Seven children have crowned this union—Sarah B., who died when young; William E., who married Miss Nellie Jordan; Mattie M., the wife of W. H. Logan; Andrew who died in childhood; Armilda R., Viola G. and Thomas H., Jr.

Farming and stock-raising in Marrowbone Township have fully employed the energies and enterprise of our subject and he has employed the wise plans and shown the absorbing attention in business which have brought success. Upon his farm he has erected an excellent set of buildings suitable for carrying on the work and sheltering his stock, and he is the owner of between four hundred and five hundred acres of excellent land. His well known reputation as a judicious and intelligent gentleman has led his fellow-citizens to twice elect him to the office of Supervisor of Marrowbone Township. He is considered a leader in the Republican ranks and takes an active part in local politics. For more than twenty years he has been an Elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in which his wife is also a member and where they are esteemed as conscientious and devoted helpers in every good work.

The introduction of Short-horn cattle in this section of the country may justly be credited to this enterprising gentleman, and he is in the possession of the only full set of American Herd Books in Shelby and Moultrie Counties. He also makes a specialty of South Down stock as well as carriage, coach and draft horses. He takes a great interest in every phase of the subject pertaining

to fine stock and is thoroughly informed in regard to this matter, being considered the fountain head of information on the subject. The beautiful buildings upon his farm and his delightful residence, a view of which appears on another page, speak forth their own praise of the systematic, conscientious and cultured gentleman whose estate they crown.



**J**OHAN R. SHELTON, a farmer residing on section 2, Lowe Township, was born in Chatham Township, Sangamon County, Ill., April 28, 1833. His father, the late William Shelton, was a native of Virginia, while his mother, whose maiden name was Prudence Neal, was born in Kentucky. They came to Illinois early in life, and after their marriage in Sangamon County, settled in Chatham Township, where after a long and honorable life, the father died about 1878, at the age of seventy-two years. The mother survives at an advanced age and makes her home in Sangamon County.

The seven children born to this worthy couple were named as follows: William, John R., Amarine, Daniel M., Zarilda, James and George. The second son, John R., the subject of this biographical notice, was reared to manhood in Sangamon County, his youth being passed in much the usual manner of farmers' boys of that period. He gleaned the rudiments of his education from the primitive text books still in use in the district schools, and this knowledge has been enlarged and broadened through subsequent study, until he is now thoroughly informed on all events of local and general importance, and an agreeable conversationalist with whom many a pleasant hour may be passed.

When ready to establish a home of his own, our subject left the parental roof, and with his bride, began life on a farm in Loami Township. He has ever received the cheerful co-operation of his wife, with whom he was joined in the holy bonds of wedlock in Loami Township, Sangamon County, November 30, 1854. Mrs. Shelton bore the maiden name of Eliza J. Kinney, and was the daughter of

the late Henry and Margaret (Dorronce) Kinney, natives respectively of Madison and Oneida Counties, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Kinney passed the first years of their happy wedded life in Loami Township, whence after a sojourn of many years, they removed to Chatham village and there the mother died in September, 1883. The father afterward made his home in Springfield and also with our subject until his death in Springfield, April 2, 1889. His family comprised five children, namely: Daniel, Clarissa, Caroline, Eliza J., and Rebecca M.

The birthplace of Mrs. Shelton was Loami Township, Sangamon County, and her natal day October 9, 1834. Under the careful training of her parents she grew to a noble womanhood, well fitted to take charge of a home of her own. Her first home after marriage was in Loami Township, but later she and her husband settled in Chatham Township. This was not their permanent home, however. In September, 1874, they came to Moultrie County, where they purchased a farm on section 2, Lowe Township, and here they still remain. The farm comprises one hundred and nine acres, and he has a neat set of buildings, including a commodious, conveniently-arranged residence, where comfort reigns supreme and hospitality abounds.

Seven children have been born of the happy wedded life of Mr. and Mrs. Shelton; William and Lewis are deceased, the former dying at the age of one year and the latter when seven years old; William (2d) died in Lowe Township in 1876 when seventeen years old; Richard is a farmer in Colorado; Luella is the wife of Frank Kagey; Charles and Caroline M. are still at home. Mrs. Shelton is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church, to which she has belonged since 1865. Her maternal great-grandfather was a surgeon in the Revolutionary War and lost his life at Ft. Duquesne. On her father's side Mrs. Shelton is of English extraction, and on the maternal side of Irish descent.

When the preservation of the Union was threatened Mr. Shelton was deeply devoted to her welfare and enlisted in her behalf in August, 1862, in Company B, One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois Infantry, serving three years until the close of the war. During this time he was on constant duty

and the hardships and exposures so undermined his strength that he has since never regained his former health. He participated in the following important engagements: Magnolia Hill, Champion Hills, Jackson, Miss., Vicksburg, Ft. Blakesly and Spanish Fort, besides numerous skirmishes of minor importance though not less dangerous. He was with the One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois from the time of his enlistment until May 6, 1863, when he was detached and joined the Mercantile Battery of Chicago. After remaining with this battery one year he rejoined the regiment with which he had originally enlisted. This was consolidated with the Seventy-seventh Illinois Infantry, of which it was an integral part until peace was declared.

As might be expected Mr. Shelton is a prominent member of Harker Post, No. 189, G. A. R. In politics he is a firm Republican, but has never been an office-seeker, preferring domestic pleasures to the turmoil of public life. He is a fine type of our self-made men, as he entered upon his career as a farmer with but little means and only by the exercise of ambition and industry coupled with practical economy and excellent business judgment, has he worked his way up to a position of importance among the most substantial citizens of Lowe Township.



**J**ACOB H. DUMOND. Although an American by birth, education and association, of which fact he is proud, our subject is of French parentage and ancestry, and all his business dealings have been carried on with a dash and vivacity for which his ancestors have always been noted. Now, at the zenith of his career, he is a farmer and stock-dealer residing in Lovington, Moultrie County, but his interests have been so large and varied for the past twenty-five years, and his exploits in commercial fields have brought such sudden and rich returns that one hesitates to set him down as a farmer. His name is one that is most frequently met with in the environs of Paris.

Our subject's father was William Dumond, who

was of French parentage. His mother was Martha Housel, who was born in Steuben County, N. Y. There they were married and settled on a farm, whence they came to Edgar County, this State, in 1810, where they lived until their decease. The father passed away September 24, 1850. The mother's decease occurred in June, 1884. He was a farmer by occupation and brought up his sons to a thorough knowledge of agricultural work. They had six children, three sons and three daughters, and of these our subject was the eldest. He was born in Steuben County, N. Y., March 18, 1835, and came to this State with his parents in June, 1840. Here he grew to manhood, being reared on his father's farm, and although educational advantages were not of the best, he managed to acquire a good and practical education. He lived at home with his mother until he became of age, early shouldering the responsibilities and cares of the family as his father had died when the son was but fifteen years of age.

After leaving home, our subject was engaged in a saw and grist mill in Oakland, Coles County, for a period of four years, whence he went to Vermilion County, this State. His attention was attracted thither by the fact that a severe wind-storm or cyclone passing through a heavy belt of timber in Vermilion County laid low many thousands of the monarchs of the forest that had only to be drawn to a convenient place to be sawed into timber. Borrowing the money with which to carry out his plans, he erected a sawmill in a central location and began the work of transforming the logs into merchantable shape. Although he got the very small amount of sixty-five cents per hundred for his work, he paid the amount loaned him and had remaining quite a handsome interest. He continued there about two years, when he traded his interest in the machinery for one hundred and twenty acres of land near Oakland, Cole County, and upon this he settled, engaging in farming. There he remained for three years, at the end of which time he traded his farm for one hundred and sixty acres in Moultrie County without seeing it. Besides this he received \$300 in cash, and this Mr. Dumond considered one of the best trades he has ever made. The land

was located in Lowe Township, to which place our subject removed and continued to live until the spring of 1886, when he retired from active farming and came to Lovington, where he has since resided. He is now the owner of eight hundred and five acres, seven hundred and sixty of which are in one body.

When quite a young man Mr. Dumond took upon himself the responsibilities of married life, taking as his wife Elizabeth Kerns. Their nuptials were celebrated in Oakland, Coles County, this State, November 19, 1859. Mrs. Dumond was a native probably of Pennsylvania, although Ohio may have been her birthplace, as her parents lived there when she was very young. This marriage was blessed by the advent of three children, whose names are: Hattie A., the wife of Thomas Randolph, of White County, this State; Henry P. is a farmer in Lowe Township; and Kulista died in infancy. Mrs. Elizabeth Dumond's death occurred in Lowe Township June 16, 1869. She was an admirable woman, her chief interest being centered in her home and family.

Our subject's second marriage was to Mrs. Elizabeth Hunsinger, the widow of Simon Hunsinger, who was born in White County, Ill. By her first marriage she was the mother of two children—Mary and Willie, deceased. By her union with Mr. Dumond she became the mother of one child—Arabella. Mrs. Dumond was a member of the Baptist Church and a most estimable woman. She died July 15, 1885.

The paternal grandparents of our subject were William V. and Eliza Dumond, both natives of France. The maternal grandparents were Jacob and Sarah Housel, natives of New York State. Jacob Housel was one of the settlers in Edgar County and locaters of the old State road which runs from Springfield to the State line, and joining with the road going on to Indianapolis. He located many of the early settlers of Edgar County, this State. To Mr. Housel is due the credit of being one of the promoters of the old Terre Haute and Alton Railroad, now known as the "Big Four," running at the present time from Indianapolis to St. Louis, and in his efforts and zeal for the success of this road he so involved

himself financially that he lost all his property, but during the years that have since elapsed he recovered to a great extent his financial standing.

The original of our sketch is a man whose natural abilities and pleasing presence have pushed him to the front in local public life. He has filled the office of Supervisor of Lowe Township upwards of seven years, and for several years was Chairman of the Town Board. Mr. Dumond has taken an active part in political affairs, being a devoted and enthusiastic adherent of the Democratic party. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity and has held many of the chairs in that society.



**CAPT. JOHN ANDREW FREELAND.** To be descended from an honorable ancestry and to trace one's lineage from men and women of past generations who lived noble lives and served their country and their God is a just subject for pride and self-congratulation. And such a record is his whose name appears at the head of this paragraph.

Capt. Freeland, who resides upon section 17, Marrowbone Township, Montrie County, is the son of the late John J. Freeland, who was born in Orange County, N. C., upon New Year's day, 1798. John Freeland, the father of John J., was born in the same county in 1762, and his father, James (the great-grandfather of our subject) first saw the light within twenty miles of Londonderry, Ireland, in 1730. The father of this ancestor, whose name is unknown, is said to be one of the Huguenot refugees who fled from Pickardy, France, and settled near Londonderry, Ireland. The persecutions of those days sent out from their native homes hundreds of valuable citizens whose worth was not appreciated by the Government under which they lived, but those lives in foreign lands proved the seed-corn from which sprang religious and political liberty.

James Freeland, the great-grandfather of our subject, came about the year 1725 from Ireland and settled on the Schuylkill River, in Germantown,

which was afterward the site of a notable conflict and is now probably the most elegant suburb of Philadelphia. After the Revolutionary War he removed to North Carolina where his son, James, made a matrimonial alliance with Sally, daughter of Gov. Dinwiddie, who was Governor of Virginia under the British Crown. The great-grandfather of our subject took a very active part in all important movements and was one of the prominent men of that day. His last days were spent in Alamance County, N. C., where he died at the age of eighty-five.

John Freeland, the grandfather of our subject, was born, as before stated, in 1762, and was Deputy Sheriff at an early age under his father, and like him was an active and prominent man. He passed the last years of his honorable career upon his plantation in Orange County, N. C., where he, like his father, reached the advanced age of eighty-five years. He was an independent soldier in the Revolutionary War and carried on "bushwhacking" against the British.

John J. Freeland, the father of our subject, resided in North Carolina and was the proprietor of a plantation and numerous slaves and was also engaged in the mercantile business. The Governor of the State appointed him Judge of the County Court, besides which he held other important positions. He was prominently identified with the Masonic order and for many years was Master of the lodge and attained the Thirty-second degree of Masonry. In his religious life he carried out the principles of his Huguenot ancestry.

The new West attracted the attention of John J. Freeland and he emigrated hither and settled at Freeland's Point which was named for his brother James. It was in 1856 that he came to this State with his wife and the younger members of the family and here he engaged in farming and passed the remainder of his days, dying in July, 1877, at Freeland Point, Marrowbone Township.

The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Mary Craige, was born in Orange County, N. C., June 6, 1801, her parents being Col. David and Retty (Burroughs) Craige, who were natives of the same county where they spent all their days. Eleven children were born to John J. and Mary

Freeland. These five sons and six daughters are Charles J. who is a physician at Rogers, Ark.; Betty, is the wife of Dr. S. D. Schoolfield of Macomb, Miss.; Catherine, a resident of Moultrie County; Caroline, who was the wife of J. B. Knight, and died in Marrowbone Township about the year 1875; Francis M., died in infancy; Capt. William J. of whom we will speak more at length; Mary, is the wife of Rev. Clark Loudoun of Pierre, S. Dak.; Thomas J., of Dalton City, whose biographical sketch will be found elsewhere in this volume; Sarah J., who resides in Moultrie County; Capt. John Andrew and Emma T., who is the wife of James A. Roney, a grain-dealer of Decatur, Ill.

Capt. William J. Freeland, the brother of our subject, was an officer in the Confederate army where he played an important part, as he commanded the provost guards of Whitney's division of the army, and at the request of Gen. Whiting, the right wing of the Union Army at the first battle of Bull Run was attacked by him and captured the battery known as Old Betsey. He was mortally wounded and captured at Fair Oaks and dying at Fortress Monroe, was buried there with Masonic honors. Before the breaking out of the war he was filling the position of General Superintendent of the North Carolina Central Railroad.

John Andrew, who was next to the youngest in this large family, was born in Orange County, N. C., October 31, 1839, and his early life was spent there until he came to Moultrie County, Ill., with his father in 1856. He was living at home when the war broke out and at once enlisted under the Union flag, May 1, 1861, being one of the first volunteers in Moultrie County. He became a member of Company E, Twenty-first Illinois Regiment which was afterward known as Grant's Regiment and to whom was given the honor in 1891 of unveiling the magnificent equestrian statue of that hero which has been erected in Lincoln Park, Chicago. The young man was mustered into the United States service at Springfield, Ill., June 28, 1861, receiving the commission of Second Lieutenant. He served in that capacity until November 20th of the same year when he was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant and received further promotion February 17, 1863, when he was given

the commission of Captain. This position he held until July 5, 1861, when he was honorably discharged and mustered out of service at Chattanooga, Tenn.

Our young hero was in the battle of Fredericktown, Mo., which was the first Union victory during the Civil War and remembers being an eye witness to the death of the rebel Gen. Lowe, who was instantly killed in that engagement. For several weeks he was engaged with others in driving the rebel General, Jeff Thompson, known as the "Swamp Fox," across the White River into Arkansas. He took part in the siege of Corinth and saw the smoke of battle at Perryville, Knob Gap, Stone River, Liberty Gap and Chickamauga. For seventeen days and nights he was under fire on Johnston's retreat from Kingston to Marietta, Ga.

After being mustered out of the service Capt. Freeland returned to the peaceful engagement of agriculture, devoting himself assiduously to farming and dealing in stock. Previous to the breaking out of the war he had been married in Moultrie County, his wedding day being February 5, 1861, and his bride Miss Elvira Roney, a native of this county, who bore to him two children—Alice, who died when about five years old and William, who was snatched from the arms of his parents when a babe of five months. The mother of these children passed to the other world April 30, 1866.

Our subject was again married in Moultrie County, July 1, 1867, to Miss Lyda J. Langton, who was born in Lewiston, Pa., August 13, 1845. They have had eight children: William C., John H., Joseph L., Ella B., May, Maude, Harry L. and Homer. May died when she was fourteen months old. The family resided in Marrowbone Township until 1871, when they removed to Sullivan and here the Captain undertook the study of law, being with Eden & Clark for two years and being admitted to the bar in Kansas in 1877. In the spring of that year he removed to Kinsley, Edwards County, Kan., and practiced law there for two years, during which time he was elected County Judge for one term and in 1879 returned to Illinois and again made his home in Marrowbone Township, since which time he has paid his almost undivided attention to farming and raising fine horses and cattle.

Upon his fine farm of two hundred and sixty acres Capt. Freeland has made valuable improvements and within his hospitable home he and his lovely and intelligent companion are ever ready to extend gracious welcome to every friend who seeks their door. One who visits this household can but feel that he is the guest of a true gentleman and a genuine gentlewoman and those who know the public-spirited course which the Captain always pursues in regard to affairs of public import, are assured that he is a disinterested citizen of his county. He is prominently identified with the Washington Alexander Post, No. 176, G. A. R. and has repeatedly been Commander of the post and has been President of the Regimental Association of Grant's old regiment. He is a Royal Arch Mason and in politics is a Republican and formerly took an active part in political affairs.



**W**ILKINSON BROS. The union of the family interests in business enterprises has long been made prominent both in the old country and in America. Many prominent firms have for generations borne the family name and it has been the pride of those thus connected to maintain these business relations and to build up an honorable record as a commercial family. So strong has been this feeling in some notable instances as to compel any who joined the firm as members to legally adopt the family name. This union of the family affection and business interests is well illustrated in the record of the well-known firm whose name appears at the head of this paragraph.

The Wilkinson Bros., dealers in lumber, tile and coal at Bethany, Moultrie County, established business under the present firm and style in 1882. The members of the firm are four brothers, namely: Jasper N., John J., Warren A., William W., all of them natives of Vinton County, Ohio, and sons of Jacob and Mary (Morrison) Wilkinson. The parents were also natives of Vinton County, were there married and reared their family, removing to Illinois in the fall of 1861, and passing the winter at Millmine. The following year they lo-

ated at a small town (now defunct) which bore the name of Dawtown, and the father of the family worked in a sawmill there as his business in Ohio had been in the line of operating sawmills and gristmills.

The family removed in 1868 to a farm near Argenta, Macon County, Ill., and there they rented land and afterward purchased a farm of three hundred acres, tilling and improving it and placing upon it fine stock. There the parents still reside and the father who has made a success of stock-raising, is now engaged in breeding red-poiled cattle. These faithful parents who have succeeded in bringing up to maturity so fine a family are people of true Christian character and prominent members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Twelve children blessed this frugal pioneer home and nine of the number are still living, namely: Jasper N., Warren A., John J., William W., Mary E., George E., Charles E., Arthur L. and Luella J. Mary is now the wife of Walter L. Williams; Jasper N. was born in 1851 and early distinguished himself in local circles by his studious disposition, fitting himself for teaching at the early age of fifteen. In 1874 he was graduated from the State Normal University at Normal, Ill., and he is now a Professor in the State Normal School at Emporia, Kan. He has formed a congenial marriage with Miss Nellie Reynolds, of Buda, Ill.

Warren A. was born December 11, 1857, and was reared upon a farm until 1881, when he came to Bethany and engaged in the manufacture of tile, being associated with his brothers; he built a tile factory, which they still own and operate, and thus was inaugurated the successful business which bears their name. His marriage with Grace, daughter of Dr. E. A. Piatt, brought him three beautiful children, all of whom are now deceased; his wife also passed to the other world in 1891. Warren A. resides at Bethany and gives his whole attention to the business of the firm. John A. was born September 23, 1859, and, like his eldest brother, is a graduate of the State Normal University at Normal, Ill., being a member of the Class of '85; he also gives his attention to teaching, being the Principal of the grammar school at Springfield, Ill., and having held the principalship of the Lovington schools

from 1885 to 1889. William W. was born September 1, 1861, and when he had completed his elementary education he devoted himself to the study of book-keeping and commercial law at Lincoln, Ill., and later attended Bryant & Stratton's Business College at Chicago. After completing his studies he became a useful member of the firm of Wilkinson Bros. in 1882. He and his brother Warren are the active members of the firm and the efficient and capable managers, making their home at Bethany.

This honorable and intelligent family have shown themselves capable both in the intellectual and business world and the parents of these sons have abundant reason to rejoice, not only in their success in life in their respective fields and in the respect which is meted out to them by all who know them, but also in their admirable Christian characters and in their efficiency in church work as they are all workers in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, with which most of them are personally identified.



**T**HOMAS E. MAYES. The wonderful success which has crowned the efforts of thousands of farmers who came to Illinois in poverty, is worthy the annals of the historian. The wealth in the soil of the Prairie State like the gold hidden in the dross, responded magically to the alchemy of the earnest effort, enterprise and industry of the pioneer farmer, and astonished the world by its splendid results. The farming community of Dore Township, Moultrie County, gives many instances of this success in agriculture and one of its farmers who resides within the limits of Dalton City, is the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch.

Our subject owns fifty five acres of land within this corporation, besides two hundred and forty outside. He settled in Moultrie County in the spring of 1865, and has since been a resident of Dore Township. He was born in Mifflin County, Pa., April 7, 1837, being a son of Matthew T. and Martha (Ewing) Mayes, the father of our subject

being a tanner by trade. The paternal grandparents came from Maryland, and the parents of our subject lived and died in Pennsylvania, and during their later years resided on a farm, where the father died August 31, 1845, being then only forty-two years old, while the mother survived until the spring of 1869, and passed away at the age of sixty-seven.

The four children of Matthew and Martha Mayes are as follows: James, who is a resident of Lewiston, Pa.; Eliza, who married Mr. G. W. Sault, and resides on the old home in Mifflin County, Pa.; William E., who resides in Strawn, Kan., and our subject, who is the third in order of age. His early life was passed upon the farm, and after taking a public school education he received instruction in the academy, and in 1857, took a business course at Pittsburg, Pa., after which he clerked in different business houses.

The marriage of our subject took place December 26, 1861, and he was then united with Isabel Laughton, who was born in Pennsylvania, and is a daughter of Joseph L. and Catherine Laughton. They continued to reside in Pennsylvania until 1865, when they came to Illinois and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of slightly improved land, and proceeded to carry on the business of stock-raising. In 1871, Mr. Mayes removed to Dalton City, as he had been some time prior to this movement appointed station agent, and he was also carrying on the lumber business. He continued as station and express agent for two years, after which he was for three years not employed in the former capacity, but in 1878, he took the position again and still continues in it. At the same time he has carried on his farm successfully, but in May, 1875, he disposed of his lumber business.

Mr. and Mrs. Mayes have had seven children, one daughter, Harriet O., having died in her thirteenth year. The others are as follows: Martha C., wife of Lowell A. Smith, of Macon County; Anna M., who now has charge of the railroad station at Dalton City; Eliza E., wife of James Freeland, of Macon County; Joseph L., Matthew T., and James W., who are at home. In 1875, Mr. Mayes erected upon one of the prominent sites of the town a fine store building, and established a drug

business which he conducted for some three years. He has held a number of local offices and is a devoted adherent to the principles and policy of the Democratic party. He is identified with both the Knights of Honor and the Masonic fraternity. Mrs. Mayes is a woman of devoted Christian character and a leading member in the Presbyterian Church. Her pleasant home is the center of a true social life and her gracious hospitality affords a hearty welcome to every guest.



**M**ICHAEL ERHARDT. Among the German-American citizens who have contributed so largely to the development of Moultrie County and have been so prominently connected with its progress, conspicuous mention belongs to Mr. Erhardt who owns and operates a fine farm on section 10, Lowe Township. A worthy representative of the class of farmers upon whom the prosperity of the world depends, he is pursuing his chosen avocation with energy and skill. In every movement that is likely to advance the material or moral welfare of the citizens, he is ever ready to bear what part he can, and he and his estimable wife are ever to be relied on when there is need of neighborly service or friendly advice.

Mr. Erhardt is the son of the late George Erhardt, a native of Germany, who was married in his native land to Barbara Erhardt, who was of the same name but no relative. In 1854 the parents emigrated to America and directly after landing came to St. Louis, Mo., whence, after a residence of one year, they removed to Sangamon County, Ill. Several years afterward they came to Douglas County, where the father died in 1872. The mother survived him many years and passed from earth in Moultrie County in 1886. Our subject, who was the youngest among five children, was born in Germany, November 28, 1850. He was only about four years old when he was brought by his parents to this country, of which he has ever since been a resident.





Capt  
P. J. Simmons

After passing the early years of his life in Sangamon County, Ill. and gaining the rudiments of an education in its district schools, Mr. Erhardt accompanied his parents to Douglas County. There he was married June 11, 1874, to Miss Catherine E. Hoover, daughter of Benjamin and Nancy Hoover. Mr. Hoover resides in Arthur, Ill. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, Mrs. Erhardt being the third, and she was born in Pennsylvania December 26, 1851. After their marriage our subject and his wife located in Douglas County where they lived until 1881.

Upon coming to Moultrie County in 1881 Mr. Erhardt located on section 10, Lowe Township, where he now owns one hundred and twenty acres of good land. Having followed farming pursuits from his youth he has acquired a thorough practical knowledge of all its departments and has become known as one of the most enterprising and successful farmers of the vicinity. He is a firm believer in the principles of the Democratic party and supports its candidates with his ballot and influence. He has held the offices of Highway Commissioner and School Director and has done efficient service for the public in both capacities. He and his wife are both active members of the Christian Church, in which he has held the office of Elder. They are the parents of four children, Benjamin, George, Freddie and Alfred. George and Alfred are deceased. The surviving children are receiving excellent educations and bid fair to hold responsible positions in life.



**C**APT. JOHN J. SIMMONS, who resides on section 18, of Tower Hill Township, Shelby County, was born in Troy, N. Y., May 7, 1811. When he was very young his father removed to Covington, Ky., and lived there about two years. From there he removed to Switzerland County, Ind., where he remained for seven years, then he removed again to Cincinnati, and with his family occupied the first house in Cincinnati, Ohio, which was built of logs. From the time our subject was a lad of fourteen years of age until his parents' death, he

made himself their protector and provider, supplying them with all the comforts of life that it was possible for him to give them. After he was fourteen years of age he was employed in steam boating on various rivers and was thus engaged for fifty years.

In August, 1874, the gentleman whose philanthropic life it is our pleasure here to chronicle, and whose portrait is also presented to his many friends, came to Shelby County and settled in Tower Hill, where he has since been a resident. He is the owner and proprietor of two hundred and seventy acres of land, upon which he has erected a very good series of buildings. His residence, to which he has given the very suggestive name "Happy Home" is located at only a short distance from the meeting of two roads and as the traveler approaches he sees the name of the place in large letters on the house; of course it attracts much attention. It is, in fact and deed, a happy home.

Capt. and Mrs. Simmons, at the present writing, (May, 1891) have been married about fifty-seven years, and during all this time not an unpleasant word has passed between them. Everything within and without denotes happiness and comfort. Capt. Simmons, who is at an advanced age, is at the present time in feeble health, and is the object of the solicitude and kindest attention of each and every member of his family. His marriage took place in Cincinnati, Ohio, October 8, 1835, and the ceremony was solemnized by the father of Benjamin Harrison, present President of the United States. Mrs. Simmons was Miss Elizabeth Gunning, and was born near Cincinnati, January 11, 1817. Ten children were born to this worthy couple and instead of being cares and sources of trial to their parents, as is unhappily too frequently the case, they have been welcome, and grown up both loving and beloved among themselves and bearing a tender regard for the authors of their being. In name they are as follows: Alonzo, Caroline, Albert, John J., Temperance J., Moses E. and Charles. The deceased children died in infancy. Alonzo was married to Mary Newbold. Caroline was the wife of Monroe Taylor. Albert was united to Lucinda Frailkill. John J. married Anna Custer. Temperance J. is the wife of Marshall Hipes. Moses

E. married Elizabeth Elliott. Charles was united to Ella Fluekey.

Capt. Simmons has ever been a supporter of the Gospel and he and his wife are members of the Christian Church. Socially he has been united with the Masonic fraternity, for many years, and is also an Odd Fellow. His Masonic connection extends over fifty years, and his alliance with the Odd Fellows for the same length of time. It is a commentary upon the effect of the use of stimulants that Capt. Simmons, who has attained an age a good many years transcending that which is usually allotted to man, has never used tobacco in any form, and although, having been a river captain for many years and associated with men who have the reputation for indulging in stimulants to an alarming extent, he scarcely knows the taste of intoxicants.

Capt. Simmons is the proud possessor of a fine orchard covering thirty acres. For this he was offered \$100 an acre, by D. James, who is a prominent nurseryman in Christian County. The fruits that are the outcome of this orchard are as luscious as any that come from the Golden State. The father of our subject was John W. Simmons, who was a native of New York City. He died in 1859 while on a visit to Wisconsin. Our subject's mother was Dolly (Ginison) Simmons, who was born in Boston, Mass., and died in Kokomo, Ind. The parents of Mrs. Simmons were Robert and Temperance (Cox) Gunning. They were born in Knoxville, Tenn., and died in Indiana.

The position of chief engineer as well as that of Captain was held by Mr. Simmons who is the possessor of fifty sets of Government licenses. He served through the war, taking part in the marine conflicts on different gunboats, sometimes changing from as many as five different boats in a single day, although he had not enlisted in regular marine service. His daughter, Mrs. Caroline Taylor, at whose instance this sketch is written is the mother of two children, John S. and Frank S.

The venerable old gentleman, whose picture would serve as a happy representation of the beloved follower of the Master, is revered by all. All his fads and fancies are quaint and benevolent and show a generous spirit. He has provided a good comfortable room in an outbuilding, which he pre-

pared especially for tramps or homeless people, knowing all to be God's people, and believing it to be incumbent on all who are prospered, to care for the helpless, the homeless, and the unfortunate. He is a dear old gentleman, and makes one better and gentler to come in contact with him.



ROBERT McCLUNG. Among the old residents of Moultrie County and numbered among her brave boys who were sent forth to defend the flag of our Union we are pleased to name the progressive and intelligent farmer, whose prosperity we here record. Mr. McClung resides on section 30, Lowe Township, and his residence in the county dates from 1859, during which year there were but seven voters in the township and of that seven our subject is the only one now remaining within its bounds.

This gentleman was born in Union County, Ohio, July 12, 1836, his respected parents being Thomas and Elizabeth (Danderson) McClung, who had their birth in the Old Dominion and the Buckeye State respectively and who met and married in Perry County, Ohio. The first wedded home of this couple was established in Logan County, that State, where they were early settlers before moving to Union County.

"Westward the star of Empire takes its course," and following this beacon the family undertook a removal with team and wagon from Ohio to Iowa. Arriving there in 1844 they prospected for a while, but being dissatisfied with the Hawkeye State they turned back as far as Vigo County, Ind., where they remained for some time and where the mother died in 1846. She had been the mother of eleven children of whom seven grew to years of maturity. The father eventually returned to Ohio where he remained for several years, but his final end came in Vigo County, Ind., while he was making a visit.

The early orphanage of our subject by the death of his mother when he was ten years old led to his making his home with an uncle and both at his father's and at his relative's he was thoroughly trained in farm duties and prepared for a practical

life, but in various ways his schooling was interfered with and his book education was limited. His first coming West was in 1852 and his first settlement was at Monticello, Ill., where he made the acquaintance of the Piatt family with whom he made his home and served as a farm hand. In 1859 he left this family (for whom the flourishing county of Piatt was named) and came to Moultrie County where he rented a farm, but his patriotic impulse did not permit him to remain here following the pursuits of peace. He enlisted in 1862 and was mustered into service in Company A, One Hundred Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry under command of Capt. Van Fleet. This company served through three years of fatiguing marches, severe engagements, numerous skirmishes and gained for themselves an enviable renown.

After the war our subject returned to Moultrie County and purchasing eighty acres of rich but unbroken prairie soil started in to make his fortune. In his effort he has been unusually successful and now owns four hundred and eighty acres of as fine land as can be found in Moultrie County and upon it he has placed an excellent farm residence, good barns and all the appurtenances which belong to a first-class farm. Stock farming has been the department of agriculture which he has pursued and which has proved profitable to him. The happy wedding day of our subject was July 7, 1872, and his bride, Cordelia Gaul, who was born December 15, 1837, is a daughter of Jacob Gaul who came to Moultrie County in 1865 and settled upon section 4, Jonathan Creek Township.

The father of Mrs. McClung is a native of the city of Philadelphia where he was born June 9, 1811, being the son of John T. and Dorothea Gaul, natives of Germany, who came to America in an early life and were married in Pennsylvania. They made their home in Philadelphia the remainder of their lives. The mother completed her three-score and ten years and the father lived to the advanced age of eighty-six. John T. Gaul was twice married, his first union bringing him eight children and his second giving him four children—Simon, Adam, Jacob and Sarah. The son Jacob learned the trade of a basket-maker which he followed in his native city before remov-

ing West. He removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1852, and subsequently resided in Chicago for some eighteen months, after which he followed farming for a short time in Clermont County, Ohio. In 1865 he came to Moultrie County where he had previously purchased land and where he now owns a handsome farm.

The mother of Mrs. McClung bore the maiden name of Rebecca Clarke and was a native of New Jersey. Her marriage to Mr. Gaul took place in Philadelphia in 1835 and her death occurred in Moultrie County, Ill. She was the mother of five children, namely, Susannah, who married Samuel Smith and died in Cincinnati, Ohio; Cordelia, the wife of Robert McClung; Edmund; Rebecca, who married William Merritt and Jacob who died in Moultrie County. The mother of these children was an earnest and active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mrs. McClung has three children with her in this life and one who has passed before to the spirit land. The living are Isaac, Rebecca and Myrtle A. The political views of Mr. McClung have led him to affiliate with the party whose most notable exponent was the author of the Declaration of Independence.



**G**OTTLEIB F. SILVER. Although born in a land far distant from this, Mr. Silver is a staunch defender of the interests of his adopted home and there is within the bounds of Moultrie County no more patriotic citizen than he. From early childhood he has had his own way to make in the world and he has done well, for he has risen from poverty to a position of importance among his fellow-men. Nor has he been successful in accumulating a competency only, but in the best sense of the word he has been successful in gaining the respect of his associates, in justly winning a name for uprightness and honor, and in being numbered with the representative citizens of the county.

Wurtemberg, Germany, was the native place of

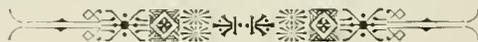
our subject and February 10, 1828, the date of his birth. His immediate progenitors were John G. and Christina Silver, natives of the Fatherland, who came to America in 1832, seeking a home in this new country. They settled in Morgan County, Ohio, where the mother died in 1836. The father survived many years and passed from the busy scenes of earth in 1874, in Hocking County, Ohio. They had four sons and four daughters, who attained to maturity, and our subject was among the younger members of the family.

Mr. Silver remembers few of the incidents of the voyage across the broad Atlantic, for he was only four years old when his parents emigrated to America. He passed his youth in Morgan and Hocking Counties, Ohio, assisting his father upon the home farm in the summer while during a few months of the year he attended the common schools of the district. He was united in marriage October 20, 1851, in Hocking County, with Elizabeth Moutz, daughter of Gottlieb and Catherine (Fritz) Moutz, both of Germany. Coming to America in 1832 they settled in Pennsylvania and after about two years spent there, they removed to Muskingum County, Ohio, where she died in the city of Zanesville. He passed from earth in Cincinnati, Ohio. Of their large family of children, Mrs. Silver is one of the younger members and she was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, November 16, 1829.

Hocking County was the first home of Mr. Silver after his marriage, and thence after several years spent there, he removed to Morgan County. Two years afterward he returned to Hocking County and sojourned there until 1873, engaged in farming operations and becoming known throughout the community as a thrifty agriculturalist and an honorable citizen. He came to Moultrie County in 1873 and settling on section 8, Lowe Township, proceeded at once to improve and cultivate the tract of land which he purchased there. He owns three hundred and twenty acres of fine land, which yields him yearly a tribute of golden grain. Farming has been almost his life pursuit, although for about ten years in Ohio he was a carpenter.

Five children came to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Silver and their record is as follows: Mary,

the wife of David Van Curen; John E., who died when young; Elizabeth, who became the wife of S. E. Grant; John G., and William, who married Miss Nettie Buxton. In his political affiliations Mr. Silver is a Republican, and has served the people efficiently as Highway Commissioner three years. He and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he has been Superintendent of the Sunday school. They are genial, hospitable people, whose influence upon the community is apparent for good, and whose interest in the welfare of humanity is great.



**M**ICHAEL H. WARREN. Public-spirited citizens who are broad enough to take an interest in the affairs of the community in which they live and sufficiently shrewd and far-sighted to force opportunities for its improvement, are the richest heritage of any community, and Moultrie County is not poor in such. Among her sons who have thus shown the nobility of their natures and their ability to forward the welfare of the county, we are pleased to mention Michael H. Warren, a retired farmer and Notary Public residing at Arthur.

Our subject has been a resident of the county since May 19, 1859, and is by birth a Virginian, being born in Harrison County, that State, August 9, 1820. His parents, Abijah and Sarah (Shields) Warren, being natives of the Old Dominion, remained there until about 1840, when they removed to Athens County, Ohio, and made their homes at Nelsonville. About a year after their migration, Abijah Warren passed from earth and in 1844 the family returned to Virginia. In 1853 the mother came to Illinois and settled in Jonathan Creek Township, Moultrie County, upon a raw prairie farm. There she made her home and cared for her children until 1865, when her death occurred. There were nine in the family, all of whom grew to mature years and all became residents of Illinois.

Michael Warren was reared to farm work, but

after he attained his majority he learned the trade of saddlery and harness-making and pursued this calling until he came to Illinois in 1859, when he purchased land in Jonathan Creek Township and carried on a farm for some years. In the meanwhile he had purchased more land—some eighty acres—upon which the west half of Arthur is now located. He early foresaw the necessity for a good system of transportation to bring Moultrie County within reach of the great markets of the world and was liberal in his gifts to secure the location through Arthur of a railroad, giving some twenty acres to the railroad to secure this end. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres on Section 25, Lowe Township, but has made his residence in the village of Arthur since 1873. He opened the first mail bag which was thrown off at this station, as he was then acting as Deputy Postmaster. The receipts of the office were then \$12 per annum. During the Cleveland Administration he had the position of Postmaster.

Mr. Warren was married in 1818, in Barbour County, W. Va., to Eleanor A., daughter of Daniel Bartlett. This lady is a native of Virginia and is the mother of thirteen children, all of whom reached the years of maturity. They are as follows: Sarah J., wife of A. H. Dolin; Winfield S., who resides in Nebraska; Sarah Elizabeth, who married C. W. Fleming; Millard F., a druggist at Arthur; Americus F., a carpenter; Mary Margaret, the wife of S. H. Dehart; Caroline Virginia, the wife of Daniel Evans, of Nebraska; John D., a harness-maker at Arthur; Martha; Rosa A., who was the wife of D. M. Huckelberry, and has died, leaving one child; Lilly, the wife of William Preble, a barber at Arthur; Eva Lee and Mamie.

Our subject has, since coming to Illinois, affiliated with the Democratic party, though while in Virginia he counted himself a Whig, though not a voter because unmarried, for in Virginia an unmarried man could not vote. He has here held some positions of trust and responsibility, having been County Surveyor for seven years and Justice of the Peace for twelve years.

Millard F. Warren, one of the sons of Michael H. Warren, who is now a prominent citizen of Arthur, was born in Harrison County, Va., August

29, 1853, and came with the family to Illinois in 1859, and thus grew to manhood in Moultrie County. He was educated in the common schools and assisted his father in tilling the soil. In 1873 he came to Arthur and for five years conducted a photograph gallery, after which he established a restaurant business, and in July, 1889, engaged in the drug trade.

This gentleman was twice married, the first time in 1873, to Alice, daughter of John and Permelia Gerkin. This lady, who was a native of Moultrie County, was both amiable and accomplished and well fitted to make a happy home, but her married life was not of long duration, as she died in 1882, leaving one daughter, Nellie. In 1884 Mr. Warren was married a second time, then uniting his life with that of Ella Luce, daughter of William Luce. She was born in Arcola, Ill., and has two children, William M. and Katie May. Like his father, this young man is a Democrat in his political preferences and has filled the offices of Assessor and Township Clerk. He is a man of warm social qualities and is identified with the Arthur Lodge, No. 742, I. O. O. F.



**G**EORGE W. SHIREY, who resides on section 25, in Lovington Township, Moultrie County, is a son of the late Samuel and Barbara Ann (Shede) Shirey, of whom a fuller history may be found under the sketch of our subject's brother, William S. Shirey, in another part of this volume, and of a family of ten children the original of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, thus, in his childhood days, he had plenty of playmates and childish sympathizers with the youthful peccadillos in which he found himself. He was born in Clear Spring, Ind., August 7, 1839, and now has attained that period of manhood when speculation and experience go hand in hand and thus wedded, bring the best results to their possessor.

His removal to Illinois was made when his father came hither and with him he lived until 1862, when he himself set up a household, placing over

his home as mistress, Miss Mary J. Bear. They were married in Bloomington, this State, in June, 1862. The lady is a daughter of Samuel Bear, who died in Macon County, this State. The mother is also deceased. Mrs. Mary J. Shirey was born in Cumberland County, Pa., April 17, 1841. She bore her husband eight children, whose names are Georgia A., Almeda, Samuel B., Leonora M., Charles, Homer, Gertrude, and Frankie. The eldest daughter is the wife of Orange Behan. Almeda married Oliver O. Dawson. Leonora M. is the wife of J. H. White. Frankie died when one and a half years old.

Mrs. Mary J. Shirey departed this life March 28, 1891. She was a true Christian and a conscientious, God-fearing woman, a member of the Lutheran Church and an interested, ardent worker. After marriage our subject settled first in Macon County, this State where he lived until 1874, when he removed to Moultrie County and settled in Lovington Township, finding this climate and country pleasant and adapted to his methods of agricultural employment. He has always been engaged in farming and upon the place where he at present resides there are many and valuable improvements there made by his own hands. He has a delightful home that, while neat and attractive exteriorly, interiorly presents the comforts and refinements that are so necessary to the enjoyment of life. Books abound, and the current literature of the day is found upon his shelves and tables. The domestic management is apparently without a flaw and the inner man is provided with the most toothsome delicacies. He here owns one hundred and forty-four and one-half acres.

A Democrat is his political preference, our subject is first of all an adherent of the principles of honor and right. Party is little to him, irrespective of the purposes and plans that it matures and executes for the benefit of the masses of the people. He has held several important offices in the gift of the township, having been Highway Commissioner for a number of years. He is also School Trustee, and in this direction his desire is to be thoroughly abreast with the times in educational matters and to procure for the young people of this district such advantages that they will never have occas-

sion to look back with regret upon the days spent in school. Socially he of whom we write is a member of the Masonic fraternity, becoming thus connected about twelve years. On the breaking out of the war, he enlisted in the Union Army, in August, 1862, and was mustered into Company B. of the One Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois Regiment, with which he served for a period of six months, at the expiration of which time, he was discharged on account of disability. Mr. Shirey is a man who is not satisfied with mediocrity in any way. He is not ambitious to possess great tracts of land, but does care that that of which he is owner, should be cultivated to the fullest possible extent.



**T**HOMAS J. FREELAND, a dealer in grain, located in Dalton City, Moultrie County, came here in 1871, and was the first man to engage in business in the place. He shipped the first grain and the first cattle from that station, and has since continued in this line of business here, thus constituting himself the pioneer and the oldest business man in Dalton. He was born in Orange County, N. C., June 29, 1838, his honored parents being John J. and Mary B. (Craig) Freeland, both of whom were natives of North Carolina. James Freeland, an uncle of our subject, came to Illinois in 1835 and settled in what has since been known as Freeland's Point. To that place he was followed in 1856 by the parents of our subject, and there they undertook the business of farming, and made it their permanent home until death called them to another and better world, which call came to the father in July, 1877.

All but one of the eleven children of John J. and Mary B. Freeland grew to reach their majority, and are named as follows: Charles J., who is a member of the medical profession, and resides at Rogers, Ark.; Elizabeth C., married Dr. S. D. Schoolfield and makes her home at Macomb, Miss.; Catherine J. resides in Moultrie County; Carolina married J. B. Knight, and died in Moul-

trie County: William J. was Major in the Sixth North Carolina Infantry, and was mortally wounded at Fair Oaks, dying at Fortress Monroe; Mary A., who married the Rev. Clark Loudon, a Presbyterian clergyman of Pierre, S. Dak.; Thomas J., our subject; Sarah J., who resides in Moultrie County; John A., who was Captain in the Twenty-first Illinois Infantry, and now resides in Moultrie County; Emma T., wife of J. A. Roney, of Decatur.

The father of our subject was a Whig in his political views, and while living in North Carolina was Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Orange County, and Mayor of the town of Hillsboro, where he engaged in the mercantile business, and was a slaveholder. He was an Elder in the Presbyterian Church, which in those days and in that latitude was not considered inconsistent with holding in bondage his fellow-creatures. After coming to Illinois he became a Republican, and ever stood by the political doctrines of that party.

Our subject had very good school advantages in his native State, and came with the family to Illinois in 1856. In 1862 he raised a company of volunteers to fight for the old flag, but being taken sick, was unable to accompany this company to the seat of war. Later he enlisted as a recruit, and was assigned to Company C, Fifty-ninth Illinois Infantry, under the command of Gen. Henderson. He served until November, 1865, and was present and took part in the battles of Franklin and Nashville, but most of the time was detailed in the field hospital department.

After the war this young man engaged in farming and trading in Moultrie County until he established his present business, and was associated with Mr. J. A. Roney as partner for some ten years, after which he undertook business alone. He has been successful in his efforts, and is accumulating a handsome property, as he now owns ninety acres of land, besides some excellent property in Dalton and Decatur. He was married in 1875 to Cora S. Dickey, daughter of J. W. and Nancy Dickey. This lady was born in Marshall, Ill., where she received her early education and training, and she has become the mother of one child, John F. Like

the father, our subject has become devotedly attached to the Republican party, and although he usually gives all his time to private business, he took time during the early days of Dalton to serve the village as the first President of the Village Board. He is identified with the Knights Templar, and is a prominent and useful member of the Presbyterian Church.



**A**LFRED R. SCOTT, Moultrie County owes much to her thorough, plucky, pushing, persevering business men who are an important element in the alchemy which through various processes, turns the wealth of the soil into the gold of commerce. The philosopher's stone of the ancient traditions is nothing to compare with them. Without their intervention which brings into contact the producer and the consumer, the farmer would be overloaded with the products of the soil and the consumers might starve for lack of sustenance. Such a man is he whose name appears at the head of this present writing.

Mr. Scott is not only the proprietor of the Exchange Bank, but also is a miller and a dealer in grain, and he has been a resident of Bethany since 1853. In addition to his other lines of business he was engaged for quite a period (beginning in 1868) in general merchandising. Ten years later he sold out this interest in order to devote himself more thoroughly to the grain trade, but in 1884, he again purchased the store and carried it on until 1886. It was in 1887 when he established the Exchange Bank and he had built the roller mills in 1881. This latter industry he has carried on successfully and has now entirely remodeled the establishment. He owned and operated the mill along until 1887 when he associated with himself, as a partner in the business, Mr. J. G. Holderman,

He of whom we write was born in Macon County, Ill., June 27, 1815. His worthy and honored parents, Joseph and Ethealind (Ashmore) Scott, were natives of Tennessee, who were married after coming to Illinois, as each had come to

Moultrie County in early life. The paternal grandfather of our subject, James Scott, brought his family to the Prairie State, about the year 1830, settling at Mt. Zion in Macon County, where he undertook farming, which he pursued until he was called to the better land.

In 1853 the newly married parents of our subject located on a farm at Bethany, where the mother is still living, having become a widow in 1856. Her four children all grew to years of maturity, namely: James, who was a soldier in the Fifth Cavalry and subsequently re-enlisted and died in 1865; Elizabeth J., who married James McQuire and died in 1883 and Alfred R., our subject who is now the only surviving child of his mother's little flock.

The farm, the district school and the Mt. Zion Academy formed the scenes of the early training and discipline of our subject. He left school in 1867 and the following year engaged in business at Bethany, having previously carried on for one year the buying and selling of live stock. His happy married life began in 1868, he being then united with Mary J. Smith, daughter of Samuel King Smith. This lady was born in Kentucky in 1850 and is the happy mother of eight children who bear the names of Ida, Hugh, Etha, Troy, Samuel Joseph, Augusta R., Smith Wilson, and Marie.

This successful business man and banker had but a small capital upon which to base the beginnings of his present expanded business. His abilities, especially in the line of finance, have brought him to the front and he has accumulated a handsome property and is now building a fine residence which will be the pride of Bethany. Besides his enterprises at Bethany, he has also carried on from 1886 to the present year a general store at Cerro Gordo, which is not only a credit to that town, but also a source of income to the proprietor.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Scott are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and in its communion they are active workers. The Knights Templar also claim this gentleman as one of their prominent members. His political views are in accordance with the platform of the Republican party and it is his earnest desire that none other

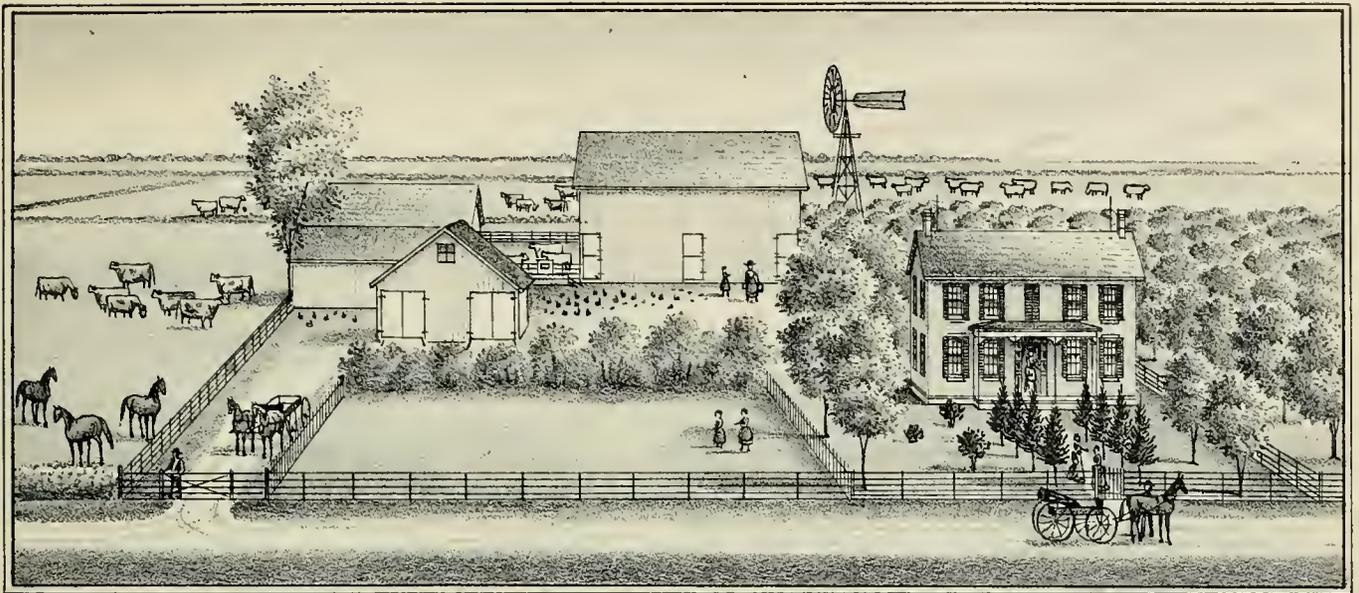
than a Republican shall ever fill the Presidential chair. As Supervisor of Marrowbone Township he was during his incumbency of that office the prominent promoter of every movement for the welfare of its citizens and the prosperity of the community.



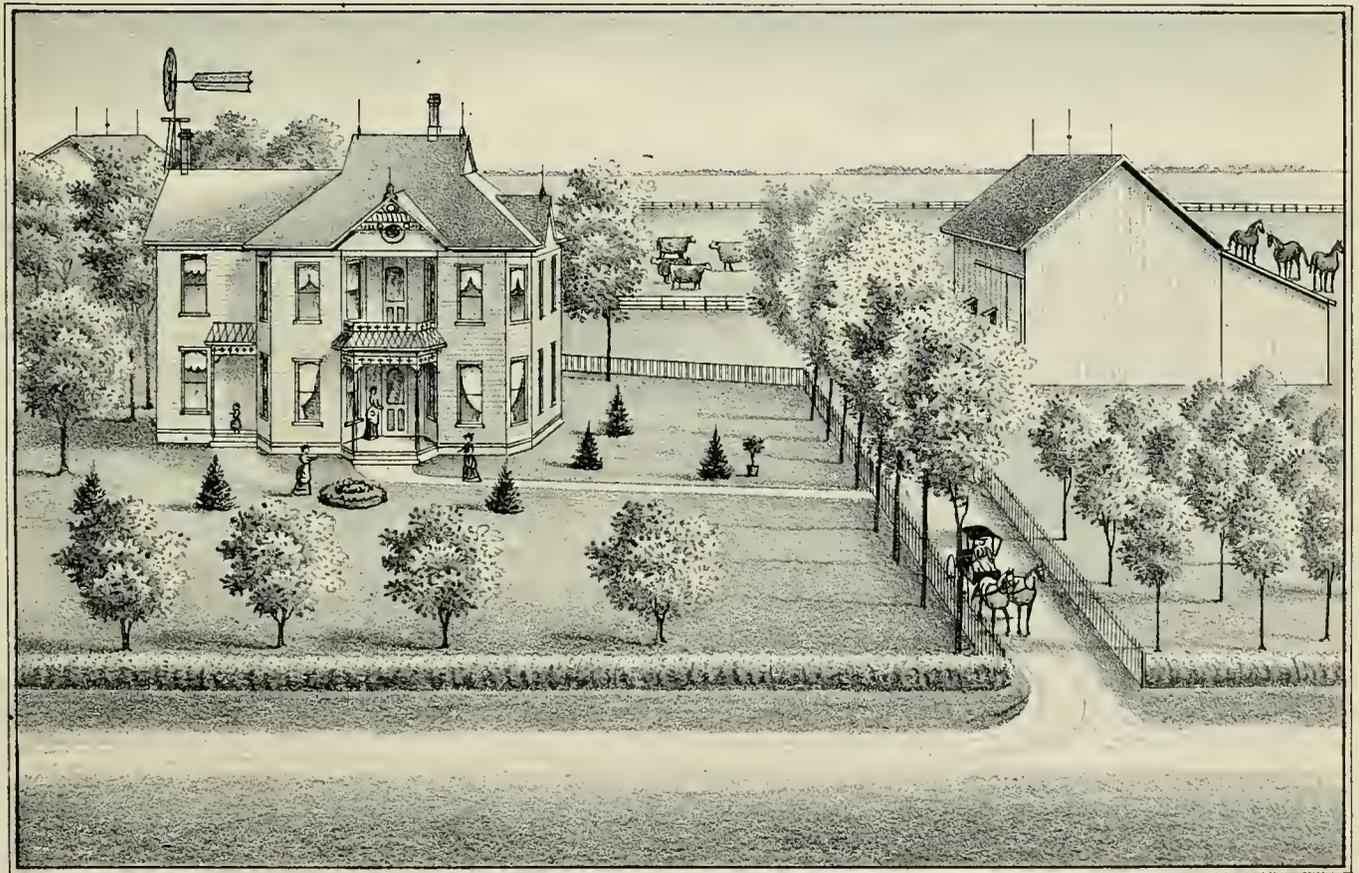
**AUGUST OTTA.** A fine representative of the foreign element that has been so potent in developing the varied resources of this county. Mr. Otta has won an important place among its most intelligent farmers and stock-raisers. He has extensive agricultural interests in Moweaqua and Penn Townships, his home being in the former place. He was born in Brunswick, Germany, February 13, 1844, to Henry and Elizabeth Otta, who were likewise natives of Brunswick. The father of our subject spent his entire life in his native land, dying there in 1818, leaving a widow and six children. Henry, the eldest son, still resides in Brunswick; William was a soldier in the Fourth Kansas Cavalry during the war between the North and South, and gave up his life for his adopted country; Fred died in Illinois; Minnie and Lena are the names of the two daughters of the family.

Our subject was the youngest child of his parents. He was but four years old when his father died, and his mother cared for him until he became self-supporting. She lived for several years after coming to the United States with her children, and died at the home of a daughter in Madison County, in 1876. August attended school steadily until he was fourteen and obtained an excellent education in the schools of his native land. He was afterward employed on a farm by the year until 1861, when he came to this country with his mother and other members of the family, setting sail from Bremer Haven on the vessel "North America" in September, and landing in New York after a voyage of seven weeks and two days.

After his arrival in this country Mr. Otta came directly to Illinois and staid for a time in Madison



RESIDENCE OF AUGUST OTTA, SEC. 24, MOWEAQUA TP., SHELBY CO., ILL.



RESIDENCE OF E. B. SANNER, SEC. 20, PENN TP., SHELBY CO., ILL.



County, where he was employed on a farm at \$50 a year. In 1863 he went to Macoupin County, and was engaged there as a farm laborer by the month until 1867, when he came to Shelby County and entered upon his career as an independent farmer. He first bought eighty acres of land on section 24, of Moweaqua Township, on which stood a small log house. He soon erected a more commodious log house which the family occupied some years, and then erected the substantial and conveniently arranged frame house in which they now live. A view of this residence may be found on another page. In his farming operations he has met with more than ordinary success and has added to his original purchase from time to time until he has five hundred and eighty-five acres of well-improved land, lying in Moweaqua and Penn Townships.

In the acquirement of his property Mr. Otta has received valuable assistance from his wife, to whom he was wedded in the fall of 1866. Mrs. Otta, who was formerly Miss Augusta Durfrer, was born in Poland, and came to America with her parents when she was a child of four years. To her and our subject have been born ten children—Henry, William, Annie, Lizzie, Caroline, Emma, Minnie, Clara, Bessie and Hattie.

Mr. Otta has a clear intellect, cool judgment and sound sense, and these traits, no less than a good capacity for work and ready business tact, have gained him the honorable place that he occupies to-day among his fellow-farmers and makes him a good example of our self-made men. He is well-informed, has a good general knowledge of politics, and in that regard holds himself independent of all parties, preferring to use his own judgment in voting for men and measures. Religiously he was reared in the Lutheran Church, and still holds to that faith.



**V**ACHEL D. MULLEN. It being the purpose of the biographical writer to record for the benefit of posterity the names and deeds of those worthy of remembrance, he would fail in his purpose were he to omit from this volume some

account, however brief, of Mr. Mullen, who now represents Lowe Township on the Moultrie County Board of Supervisors. He has been the recipient of this honor, as well as others, from his fellow-citizens, who have recognized his sagacity and ability, and have often called upon him to assist in the management of public affairs.

The family of which Mr. Mullen is an honored member included six children, as follows—Harriet, Vachel D., Isabella, Harry, Mary and Edwin. The parents were Francis C. and Nancy (Dean) Mullen, natives respectively of Delaware and Indiana. They were married in Vigo County, Ind., where they first settled and whence they removed to Illinois in 1850. They settled in what is now Douglas County, of which they have since been residents. The father follows the avocation of a farmer, and is honorable and conscientious in his dealings with those about him, considerate and kindly in social and domestic life, and with his good wife enjoys the esteem of the community where they reside.

Our subject, the eldest son in the family, was born September 28, 1845, upon an island in the Wabash River, in Vigo County, Ind. In the home of his birth he spent the first five years of his life, and was then brought by his parents to Illinois. He grew to a stalwart manhood in Douglas County, where he attended the common schools of the district and learned by experience many lessons even more valuable than those conned on the rude benches of the temple of learning. He began his career a poor boy, but put his shoulder to the wheel with so much energy that his present property is the result.

For twenty years Mr. Mullen has received the active and devoted assistance of a faithful wife, who has shared his joys and sorrows, his hopes and disappointments, and who with him can now reap the harvest of the efforts of former years. This estimable lady bore the maiden name of Catherine Crist, and was born in Mullenberg County, Ky., February 22, 1848. The ceremony which united her in marriage with Mr. Mullen was performed in Douglas County, Ill., March 2, 1871, and after that important event the young couple settled in Lowe Township on section 4, of which they have

since been residents. Their family comprises five children—Myra B., Alfred H., Eddie N., May and Winona.

In his chosen life work, farming, Mr. Mullen has been greatly prospered, and one hundred and twenty acres now pay tribute to his care and cultivation. In political affairs he takes a lively interest and is a prominent member of the Democrat party. He has held the office of School Director, a position for which he was well qualified by education, deep interest in the cause and energy of character. He was elected Supervisor of Lowe Township in the spring of 1889, and in that responsible position is doing much to advance the interests of his community. In his religious views he is liberal. He is one of the most enterprising and public spirited of men, and without neglecting his personal affairs finds time to do much to advance the common welfare.



REV. JAMES H. CROWDER. The peculiar characteristics of social and industrial life in Marrowbone Township, Moultrie County, have been largely shaped by the noteworthy family one of whose honored representatives is the gentleman whose name appears at the opening of this sketch. Their influence, which is broad and aggressive, is felt in every department of life and is ever exerted to promote all movements looking to the upbuilding of the township. The honored parents of our subject are spoken of more at length in a sketch of Mr. D. M. Crowder, which appears elsewhere in this volume.

The reverend gentleman of whom we write is the seventh in order of age in a family of ten and was born in Marrowbone Township, Moultrie County, but then Shelby County, March 1, 1812. Here he received his early training both upon the farm and in the district school, and afterward attended Mt. Zion Academy, being for two years under the valuable tutorship of Dr. A. J. McGlumphy. His father's farm remained his home until the occurrence of a most important event in the life of the young man—his marriage, which

took place in Taylorville, this State, August 13, 1862. He had taught in the meantime two winters and one summer in Marrowbone Township and then enlisted in the service of his country July 31, 1862, joining Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry, in which he served until August 1, 1865.

The wedded pair, so soon called to part by the exigencies of war, bade each other farewell and the young private marched away under his country's flag. He was soon promoted to a Sergeantry and was detailed as private secretary and confidential messenger to Gen. Nathan Kimball in command of Second Division, Sixteenth Army Corps. He took part in the siege of Vicksburg and at the battle of Satareia June 6, 1862, he suffered from sunstroke. He also took part in the Arkansas expedition, the capture of Little Rock and the battles of Clarendon and Saline. In all of this experience he proved himself a valiant soldier, a loyal and devoted friend of the Union and an officer upon whom reliance might safely be placed.

"When the cruel war was over" the soldier returned to his wife and home in Marrowbone Township and resumed farming and stock-raising, in which he was engaged exclusively until 1873, when he took upon himself the vows of a Christian minister. He first settled in Casner, Macon County, and later at Elwin, in the same county. After one year there he spent a year at Loest Grove, Shelby County, and a year at Pleasant Grove, Logan County, after which he returned to Casner for a year and was at Shiloh, DeWitt County, for three years. He was then located in Springfield, Ill., for two years, and for two years at Oakland, Macon County, of which church he is the present pastor. During ten years of this period of his ministry he continued to reside upon his farm, which is a fine tract of five hundred acres, upon which he has erected a beautiful home and excellent farm buildings.

The maiden name of Mrs. Crowder was Maggie A. Wear, and she is a daughter of J. M. and Jemima Wear, now deceased. She was born in Fayette County, Ill., October 11, 1845, and was given by her parents the best available opportunities for

an education. As a wife and mother she is faithful and judicious, as a neighbor is warmly appreciated and as a minister's wife is a true helper in the work of the Lord. She has seven children, namely: Ora J., the wife of Thomas Stables; Effie B., now Mrs. T. N. Hunt; Robert M., who married Miss Lilla K. Wellman; Della and Earl. One child died in infancy and a little daughter, Katie J., was taken from her loving parents when she had reached the age of seven years.

The Rev. Mr. Crowder has been a successful minister of the United Brethren Church, and under his preaching, which has been of an evangelistic nature, he has reason to believe that as many as fifteen hundred souls have found the way of life. He is a member of Post No. 176, G. A. R., and has been Chaplain of his post and a delegate to the State Encampment. In this connection he conceived the idea of organizing all the posts in the county, and as the result of his movement Moultrie County is thus organized. He is not only a devout Christian but a broad-seeing and earnest man of public spirit, who is ever ready to sacrifice his personal ambition for the welfare of the community.



**J**ACOB JONES. Although the competition in the agricultural business is vastly more year by year, new and improved methods and the aid which science has extended to the farmer, with the carrying facilities offered by railroads which are stretching out in every direction in an intricate net work that covers every needy agricultural region, make the production so much greater, and the choice of markets so much easier that the virgin freshness of the prairie soil an early advantage is more than counter balanced. There is not so much drudgery in the life of a farmer now as formerly. He can live and enjoy it having time to perceive about him the beauties of nature, and to enter into sympathy with every branch of his calling. Our subject is one who appreciates the new method of agricultural propri-

etorship, and the farm of which he is owner, located on section 25, of Lovington Township shows evidence that he has put into practice his theories upon this subject.

The original of our sketch is the son of David Jones who was a native of Cumberland County, Ky. His mother was Elizabeth Fiscus, also a native of that county. They removed at an early day to Morgan County, Ind., and there lived for forty years. Their decease took place at their homestead. Our subject was the second in order of birth in the parental family, which comprised eight children. He was born October 2, 1837, in Morgan County, Ind. and was reared in his native place, remaining under the home roof until he came to Illinois in 1862.

Upon his advent into this State, he of whom we write at once came to Moultrie County and settled in Lovington Township, where he has since been a resident. The next most important event in his career, was his marriage, which took place in the village of Lovington, July 26, 1863. His bride was Miss Mary E. Clore, a daughter of Allen Clore, for whose history see biographical sketch in another part of this volume. Mrs. Jones was born in Lovington Township, May 1, 1844, and until her marriage lived at home, learning the accomplishments that were then fashionable for young ladies. But two children have come to gladden the home and be the prop and comfort of their parents' declining years. They are by name Stanton A. and Lucy E.

The original of our sketch has always devoted himself to the calling of a farmer and before he came to this State, while as a young man he had been well trained in the processes and methods by which agricultural life could be made financially successful, and since then by the introduction of improved machinery, he has learned how it can also be made pleasant and not so arduous as formerly. He is the owner here of eighty acres of land which is under good improvement. It is well located and fenced, and has a good class of buildings. The home is built for comfort rather than for show, and serves its purpose well. He has good barns and a fine grade of stock. Politically he is an adherent of the Republican party

and the lines of argument in governmental affairs are such as appeal to him as being the most reasonable and those that will conduce to the general growth of every department of life in the United States. He has held several local positions in the Township, having been School Director, which position has been most satisfactorily filled. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are both members of the Christian Church, and are a warm hearted, generous people, ready to assist in any measure that promises to benefit either needy individuals or the general mass of humanity.

Mr. Jones enlisted in the War of the Rebellion, March 1, 1865, in Company H, of the Eighteenth Illinois Regiment. He first entered the army as a private and was soon promoted to the position of Corporal. He was engaged in service for one year and was mustered out at Pine Bluff, Ark., after which he returned to his old home in Moultrie County, where he has ever since been a resident. He is a member of Post No. 354 of G. A. R. in Lovington. A quiet and unpretentious man, our subject is one whose example and precepts cannot but have their weight in any community, and it is needless to say that they have been felt for good here in Lovington Township. He and his family are among the most highly respected residents in the Township.



**H**ENRY C. SHEPARD. A native of the Green Mountain State, our subject early imbibed the spirit of Yankee shrewdness which distinguishes the "down Easters," modified and blended by the influence that his father as a professional man brought into the family. His mother was a typical New England woman, with a large degree of ability, and deeply versed in all branches of the culinary art, one who governed her household with a firm hand, and at the same time was gentle and mild. His father was Dr. Roswell Shepard, a native of Barry, Vt., and his mother was Lydia (Sprague) Shepard, who was born in Brimfield, that State. The father practiced his profession in Vermont, Massachusetts and New York,

and from the last named State removed to Pickaway County, Ohio, where he lived until his decease, which occurred in Palestine, that county.

The widow of Dr. Roswell Shepard, came to Moultrie County and spent her last days with our subject, who had previous to this, settled here. He was the third child in order of birth in a family of five children, three of whom are living; Neman died when two years old, and Hamblin died after reaching maturity; he was killed in Shreveport, La. Henry C. was born in Montpelier, Vt., May 11, 1826, he was thirteen years of age when his father went to Pickaway County, Ohio. There he grew to manhood, continuing to live under his father's roof until 1841, when he determined to strike out in a new direction for himself, and to see what the world contained for a young man with strength, energy and ambition. He engaged in various kinds of business, and for a time was employed by A. McCrea in the dry-goods business, during which time he farmed two hundred and fifty acres of land. This was in 1854, the dryest year known up to the present time.

After his advent into this county, our subject was engaged for a period of three years in farming and dealing in stock, at the expiration of which time he returned to Pickaway County, and there remained until 1879. He was engaged in trading, and during the war, was occupied as sutler in the army for two or three years. After that he went to Franklin County, Ohio, and was there married, December 11, 1862, to Miss Jennie Armstrong, who was born in Columbus, Ohio. She was a daughter of William Armstrong. This gentleman died at the age of ninety-three years. By this marriage he of whom we write became the father of two children: Harry D., a resident of Columbus, Ohio; and William A., who lives on his father's farm in Lovington Township. Mrs. Jennie Shepard died August 22, 1867, deeply mourned by husband and sons.

In 1879 Mr. Shepard returned to Moultrie County and settled on section 2, Lovington Township, where he has since been a resident. Since his return he has been engaged in general farming, and has made a specialty of the breeding of fine horses, having some thoroughbreds upon his place that

have been registered. He also is the owner of some fine Short-horn cattle, and breeds the same. He is the proprietor of two hundred and forty acres of land which boasts the best of improvements. His buildings are first class, and the appointments of his place show him to be a thorough farmer and general manager.

Politically Mr. Shepard has always fraternized with the Democratic party, and although personal worth is more to him than party favor, he recognizes the fact that divided allegiance does not tend to the strengthening of government. He has filled the office of Highway Commissioner most acceptably.

After his marriage, the original of our sketch purchased a large farm in Pickaway County, Ohio, which he carried on in connection with stock breeding and dealing. Although a portion of his time spent in Ohio was passed in Columbus, which was the city of his residence, he carried on general farming for the greater portion of his time. In 1875 he undertook the management of a larger tract of land, comprising about one thousand acres, at the same time operating his own farm. He also had charge of ten miles of turnpike, and settled three estates which entailed no small amount of work and time. In 1855, when our subject first came to Moultrie County, he rode on horseback from Pickaway County, Ohio, to Lovington, and although the journey must have been tedious and tiresome, no such idea of the resources and nature of the land can be gained now-a-days in our whirls by night and day over hundreds of miles, as in the equestrian journey, enjoyed at that time, by our subject. A man of many resources, Mr. Shepard has been able to meet and disarm every unfavorable barrier to his progress in life. He is a successful farmer and an intelligent man, possessing personally, great advantages. A fine conversationalist, his experience with men and his dealings in various fields, have given him a knowledge of human nature that enables him to enjoy it in all its phases. No rascal so smooth or finished but who, to him, has some redeeming trait. No man so good, but that he has his frailties that are to be condoned. Although he has been so largely engaged in business, with so much to occupy his time and atten-

tion in the various periods of his career his passport to success has ever been thoroughness and an adherence to the principles of rectitude and honor. His sons are men grown, who have taken upon themselves the responsibilities of life, and have established homes of their own. Harry D. married Miss Nora Shirey, and is the head of a pleasant home; William A., who married Miss Marietta Marks, is a farmer in Lovington Township, and young as he is, has already acquired a reasonable degree of success.



**J**AMES H. VADAKIN, M. D., Ph. G., is a practicing physician at Bethany, well-known in this part of the State as for ten years he has been here an extensive merchant. He was born in Sullivan, Ill., March 30, 1861 and is a son of Henry F. and Aseneth (Clemmons) Vadakin. The former was a native of the Green Mountain State where the Vadakin family has lived for several generations, the paternal grandfather of our subject being there a miller at an early day. Philip Vadakin, grandfather of him of whom we write, came to this State in an early day and settled in East Nelson Township, Moultrie County, where he was about the first settler. He it was, who platted and laid out the town, which was intended originally to become the County Seat of Moultrie County, he having settled previous to the formation of the county. There he passed his remaining years and his remains lie interred in East Nelson Township.

The father of our subject was but a boy when the family came to what was then the far West, but young as he was, he performed the duties of driver, from Vermont to Illinois, his beasts of burden being a yoke of oxen. He was studious and fond of books, and was his own teacher to a great degree. He entered the public schools as a teacher and saving the money that he earned in this way, he was enabled before a great while to engage in business at Sullivan, about the time that place became the county seat. His first effort in a business

way was made in general merchandise, and later he engaged in the drug trade, although the last business with which he occupied himself was that of a grocer. Some years before his death he retired from active business life, being enabled to live comfortably on the interest of what he had accumulated, having been successful in business. His death occurred in 1888.

The mother of our subject was born in Shelby County, she being a second cousin of Samuel Clemmons, better known under his nom de plume of Mark Twain. She died in 1873. Both parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and were deeply interested in the spread of the Gospel work. Politically the father was a Democrat and during the latter part of his life held the post of Coroner of this county. They were the parents of five sons and two daughters. Three of the sons, however, died in infancy, and only four children are now living (1891), namely: Dora, Mrs. Kilner, of Sullivan; Aggie is the wife of W. B. Townsend and resides in Shelbyville; James H. our subject, and Edward Lincoln who is the editor of the *Forest City Times* at Forest City, Ark.

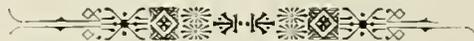
The original of our sketch received his early education in the public schools of Sullivan and is a graduate of the Rockford High School and also of Becker's Business College at Rockford, Ill., after which he entered the School of Pharmacy at Carbondale, this State, from which he was graduated in 1882. Thus fitted for active life, in the same year he established a drug business at Bethany, having previously clerked in a drug store at Sullivan. To this business he added a general stock of goods and carried on a large and successful trade. During these years he also engaged in the manufacture of patent medicines, among them being "Casterole," "Vadakin's Instant Relief," "Sticky Fly Paper," and some fifty other things, and being a thorough business man and a liberal advertiser at that time, his remedies soon became known.

Throughout his business career, he had been constantly engaged in reading medicine and in 1890 entered the Kentucky School of Medicine. That same year he graduated in microscopy, surgery and chemistry. In 1891 he graduated in the

full medical course, receiving the degree of M. D. with highest honors. A diploma for bacteriology was also conferred upon him. During his college course he acted as assistant demonstrator in surgery, microscopy and pathology, assisting Dr. Matthews in treating diseases of the rectum. On leaving the college he was the recipient of fine testimonials from his preceptors.

In 1891, our subject sold his general business at Bethany and gave his entire attention to his profession. In 1883 Dr. Vadakin was united in marriage to Nora M. daughter of W. L. T. Meacham, a merchant at Waverly, Ill. and successor to the Doctor in his business at Bethany. Mrs. Vadakin was born in Waverly this State, May 1, 1864. She has presented her husband with three children: Diamond is the only one living, and is a sunny tempered child of seven years; the two youngest whose names were Ruby and Pearl, died in childhood. The latter was but five years of age when her death occurred at Louisville, Ky., June 13, 1891. The little thing was bright and had a remarkable voice for one so young.

Politically the original of our sketch is a Democrat although he gives but small attention to politics, except to perform his duties as a citizen. Both he and his wife are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Socially he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and also of the Modern Woodmen of America, being Camp Physician of said fraternity. He is also local surgeon for the Peoria, Decatur & Evansville Railroad.



**S**AMUEL S. ANDERSON. A beautiful farm on section 19, Lovington Township, is the home of Mr. Anderson and his interesting family. His estate consists of one hundred and twenty acres all under cultivation, supplied with a complete set of farm buildings and fittingly adorned with trees and shrubs. The perfect tillage of the broad fields, the good arrangement of the buildings and the appearance of home comfort which is manifest, make the farm one of

the most attractive seen by a passing traveler. Mr. Anderson gives his attention to general farming in which he is more than ordinarily successful.

Mr. Anderson was born in Licking County, Ohio, March 10, 1834, and is the son of William and Elizabeth (McKibben) Anderson, natives of Washington County, Pa. The parents first settled in Washington County removing thence to Licking County, Ohio, where the father died in 1840. The mother survived many years, coming West to Moultrie County and dying in the village of Lovington August 3, 1885. They had a family of ten children, of whom our subject was the seventh in order of birth. He was reared to manhood in his native place, receiving the advantages of a good common-school education and assisting his widowed mother in the maintenance of the family.

In September, 1856, Mr. Anderson removed from the Buckeye State to Illinois, locating in Moultrie County and entering upon farming operations. He had been reared upon a farm and having a natural aptitude for agriculture, naturally chose it for his life work. He has been successful in his chosen avocation and has received in every enterprise the cheerful co-operation of his wife, with whom he was united in marriage in Lovington Township, June 9, 1859. Mrs. Anderson bore the maiden name of Phebe Bushfield and is a daughter of the late George and Mary (McKeever) Bushfield. She was born in Perry County, Ohio, in January, 1841, and accompanied her parents to this county. Her refinement and culture win for her warm friends wherever she is known, while her hospitality and kindness of heart are well known.

Whitley Township was the first home of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson after their marriage and there they remained two years, improving their farm and becoming known as good neighbors and estimable citizens. Their next home was in Lovington Township where they have since resided, and where, as above stated, he has become the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of fine land. His estate with its commodious residence and substantial out-buildings shows what may be accomplished by unceasing perseverance and good business management. He may, in the truest sense of the word, be called a self-made man, for when he started out

for himself he had no capital save good health and untiring energy. Now his finely improved farm stands as a lasting monument of his efforts.

Politically Mr. Anderson is a Democrat although in voting for local elections he is independent and always casts his ballot for the candidate whom he thinks will best represent the people. Mrs. Anderson is a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a believer in and supporter of the doctrines of Christianity. He possesses in a full degree those sterling traits of character which mark a good man and a worthy citizen, who is always true to himself and to others, and conscientiously discharges every duty that devolves upon him.



**J**OHN T. LOVING. We are pleased to mention among the prominent families of Dora Township, Moultrie County, the Loving family, which has been, in its various members, identified with the interests of this county for many years. A brother of our subject appears in another biographical sketch in the pages of this RECORD and the one of whom we now write, who is the Supervisor of the township, residing on section 22, dates his residence in the county from the year 1867. He is a son of Jasper D. and Maria J. (Messer) Loving and was born in McLean County, April 19, 1863, being upon the same day when his grandfather, Taylor Loving, expired. Fuller details of the history of the family reaching back to previous generations will be found in the biography of Frank M. Loving.

Our subject was but four years old when the family came to Moultrie County, and here he received his education in the district schools and grew up to undertake the arduous but pleasant pursuit of a farmer. Laura F. Harper was the maiden name of the lady who united her fortunes with his in marriage, December 29, 1881. She is a daughter of David and Mary Ann (McMullen) Harper and was born in Ross County, Ohio, December 18, 1864. She made the acquaintance of our subject while on a visit to Moultrie County,

and they were married after her return to Madison County, Ohio. They have had one son, Clyde, who was taken from their arms by death at the age of twenty-two months.

Mr. Loving owns eighty acres of land, the same being a portion of the old homestead. In the spring of 1884 he removed to Montgomery County, Kan., where he remained until 1889, when he returned to Illinois, although he still retains his ownership in the eighty acres of land which he acquired while there. He has made all the improvements which have been placed upon his home farm, and his residence is a pleasant one and delightfully situated. In political matters he is independent of party ties and is now serving his second term as Supervisor. Both he and his good wife are prominent members of the Christian Church in which they are counted as faithful helpers.



**H**ENRY C. WOOD. It has been said that merit is the only distinction, and none will deny that those who have been industrious, frugal and honest, are deserving of recognition by their fellow-men. These qualities have characterized Mr. Wood in his dealings with mankind, his labor for personal advancement and his connection with social affairs. He has for many years been numbered among the influential farmers of Moultrie County, having a goodly tract of land on section 10, Lowe Township. He raises on his two hundred acres crops of various grains, equal in quality and quantity to any in the neighborhood, and has also erected good barns and commodious out-buildings for the storage of grain and shelter of stock.

Mr. Wood is the son of Eli and Nancy (Moon) Wood, natives of North Carolina and Virginia respectively. Very early in life they came to Indiana, whence they removed to Illinois in 1847, locating in what is now Douglas County. They there remained until called hence by death. The father was an energetic and upright man, univer-

sally esteemed and respected. The parental family included five daughters and two sons, our subject being the sixth in order of birth. Knox County, Ind., was his birthplace and his natal day November 9, 1845. When he was one and a half years old he was brought to Illinois by his parents and grew to a vigorous manhood amid the pioneer scenes of Douglas County.

When our subject was about fifteen years old he was bereaved by the death of his father, after which he made his home with an uncle, Martin Wood, for two years. He then worked out as a farm laborer for three years and gained a practical knowledge of the best way of carrying on a farm. He was less than twenty when he enlisted, April, 1865, in Company F, Eighteenth Illinois Infantry, and served until the close of the war. When peace was declared he returned to Illinois and once more resumed the pursuits of civil life. He first located in Piatt County and for one year worked out by the month, after which he engaged in agriculture on his own account in Moultrie County, of which he has since been a resident.

On October 20, 1866, in Piatt County, Ill., Henry C. Wood and Miss Ann Shultz were united in the holy bonds of wedlock. This lady, who was a native of Kentucky, died in Lowe Township, August 26, 1885. Their four children were named as follows: Ida M., now the wife of George H. Erhardt, Eva, Lucy B. and Robert W. Mr. Wood was again married, choosing as his wife Miss Martha A. Thurman, who was born in Pulaski County, Ky., August 15, 1845. The marriage was solemnized in Somerset, Ky., November 10, 1889, and has proved a congenial union. Mrs. Wood is a lady whose intelligence is universally recognized and whose hospitality and geniality are well known.

A man of unblemished reputation and sound understanding, Mr. Wood occupies a place in the community among the very best citizens. He is a member of the New Light Church, to which his first wife also belonged. His present wife is a member of the Baptist Church. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat and has served as School Director two terms. He has always followed agricultural pursuits and in his chosen avo-





*Joseph Chesshire*

education has accumulated the means which enable him at the present time to surround himself and family with the comforts justly the reward of those who work industriously and studiously.



**J**OSEPH CHESSHIRE. The noiseless and inaudible foot of time has so stealthily passed over the sixty-six years that our subject numbers since his natal day, that he is only aware of its passage by seeing grown up about him sons and daughters who have reached manhood and womanhood, and who have families of their own. At sixty-six a man is in the prime of his vigor, and to hear the little grandchildren pertly telling of things that have come within their young knowledge that are new to the man seems an encroachment upon his rights and perquisites. It is not the years that makes us old. It is the little ones that crowd us.

Our subject resides on section 20, in Rural Township, Shelby County, his residence in the county dating from the spring of 1866. He was born in Hampshire County, W. Va., September 6, 1825, and is a son of Obadiah and Sarah (Switcher) Chesshire, who were natives of Hampshire County, W. Va., the mother being of German descent. The parents lived and died in their native State, having pursued the calling of agriculture from their earliest efforts at making a living for themselves. The mother died about 1857, the father following her about 1867.

Our subject is one of fifteen children, of whom twelve lived to reach years of maturity. Two of these, our subject and one sister, Margaret, came to Illinois and made themselves homes. Joseph Chesshire was reared on the home farm where he remained until his marriage, which took place December 4, 1850. His bride was Miss Ruth Lupton who was born in Hampshire County, W. Va., April 16, 1831. In the fall of 1855 Mr. Chesshire with his family came to Illinois, first stopping in Sangamon County.

The winter of 1855-56 was very severe and Mr. Chesshire resolved that he would not stay long in

this State, but when spring came and under the fervid sun the spring flowers starred the prairie with a thousand colors, the aspect of the country was entirely changed and he concluded that in so fertile a land he could endure an occasional drawback in the way of a severe winter. They settled in Sangamon County and there remained about four years, then went to Christian County where they staid six years. At the end of this time they came to Shelby County where they purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land from the Illinois Central Railroad Company. The land was then raw prairie, but as the years have passed and the efforts of his labors appeared in fertile fields and orchards of fine fruit trees, it has become a first-class farm, upon which there is a comfortable dwelling that is provided with all the appliances for making life as pleasant as possible.

Our subject and his amiable wife are the parents of eight children, of whom six lived to be grown. They are Frances, Jane, Rachael, Lucinda, Sarah A. and Michael W. Frances is the wife of Samson Shivers; Jane was twice married and now resides in Nebraska; Rachael is the wife of William Heimes; Lucinda was married to John McDonald and resides in Rural Township. Politically, our subject favors the Independent party, although he was originally a Democrat. He has filled several local offices, having been Road Commissioner and also School Director. He is associated with the best men in the township in working for the elevation and improvement of everything that can give tone to the locality.

In connection with his biographical sketch the attention of the reader is invited to a lithographic portrait of Mr. Chesshire, presented elsewhere in this volume.



**B**YRON CHEEVER. One of the best characteristics of a true gentleman is gentleness and kindness to the beings that are dependent upon him for care and protection. Especially is this true when dumb brutes are the objects of the care. He of whom we write is a

lover of horses with all which that beautiful word implies as to tenderness and protective care of the objects of his affections. While he breeds upon his fine farm of two hundred acres located on section 27, of Lovington Township, Moultrie County, some very fine horses, he is not satisfied with this alone, but so cultivates the best traits in the horses under his care that they are almost human in their understanding of the sympathy of the higher animal.

Our subject is a son of Nathan Cheever, a physician who was born in Delaware County, Ohio, April 13, 1818. Our subject's mother was Mary Ann Hubbard in her maiden days and she was a native of Pickaway County, Ohio, where she was born April 16, 1828. They were married in the last named county and State, September 22, 1842, and settled in Franklin County of the same State, where they resided over three years, from there removing to Waterloo, Fayette County, Ohio, where they made their home for eleven years, during which time the father was engaged in the practice of his profession. From that place they removed to Jefferson County, Iowa, where Nathan Cheever entered eight hundred acres of land and purchased eighty acres of improved land, upon which they settled. During the time that they remained in Jefferson County, he was engaged in the practice of his profession in which he continued until 1857, when the family removed to this county, and settled in Lovington, where the old gentleman continued to practice until 1875, then he retired from active professional life. He continued to reside in Lovington until his death, which occurred November 23, 1884.

The maternal grandparents of him of whom we write were Jacob and Hester Ann Asher, both of whom were natives of Ohio, the former passing away in Pickaway County, Ohio, and the latter dying in this county and State. The parents of Byron Cheever saw grow up about them six children and of this family our subject was the only son. He was born in Fayette County, Ohio, September 22, 1848, and was almost nine years old when his parents came to Lovington where he grew to manhood. The young man was educated in the common schools of the district in which he lived.

Like most boys, he was brimming with mischief, but managed to acquire the branches that were most valuable to him in a business life and his mind continued to develop until he became a well educated and cultured gentleman.

The original of our sketch continued to make his home with his father until he was twenty-two years of age. At this time he was married, his wedding being celebrated October 20, 1870, and his bride being Miss Eliza V. Nichols, a daughter of James H. and Hester (Wingate) Nichols, the former probably being a native of Maryland, and the latter of Delaware. Mrs. Cheever's parents were married in Delaware and made their first home in Maryland, the father being engaged in the occupation of carpentry. They came to this county and State in 1862, and settled in Lovington, where he followed his trade and resided until the time of his decease. The mother passed away from this life January 27, 1863. The father died May 14, 1869. They had five children and of these Mrs. Cheever was the youngest. She was born in Caroline County, Md., March 16, 1850.

After marriage our subject and wife settled in Lovington and for the first year thereafter he was engaged in farming, and then engaged in the mercantile business for a period of seven years, after which time he devoted himself to the grain business, in which he dealt extensively, buying and shipping to the Metropolitan markets. He also was the proprietor of the hotel known as the Central House, continuing in the charge of this for two years. He then removed to his farm just north of Lovington, to the cultivation and improvement of which he has since devoted himself. His farm is devoted mostly to breeding purposes and some of the finest horses that are raised in the county, may be seen here.

Mr. and Mrs. Cheever are the parents of six children whose names are as follows: Will L., Herbert E., Frank B., Lillie E., Henry O. and Adah F., all of whom are bright and interesting young people, promising to be the comfort and solace of their parents' declining years. Mr. Cheever has always taken an active interest in political affairs the Republican party being the object of his faith and devotion and receiving from him his influence

and vote. He has occupied a number of the local offices, having filled the office of Justice of the Peace since the spring of 1890, and having also satisfactorily discharged the duties of many other township offices. Socially our subject is a member of the Masonic fraternity and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. He is, besides, a member of the Knights of Pythias. He of whom we write is at the present time just approaching the best and most mature portion of his life and the fine business qualifications that he possesses insure for him the privilege of enjoying all the comforts that good financial position insure.



**J**AMES ELLARS. Illinois gave freely of her wealth and of her men to the defense of the Union when the call came from President Lincoln for troops to suppress the War of the Rebellion. All over her broad prairies you may now find men living in quiet retirement upon whose breasts may be seen the modest decoration of the Grand Army of the Republic, or who, perhaps unbadged, still keep in their hearts the memory of their days and nights upon the battlefield and upon the march. Such will ever find cordial recognition and a hearty approval from every patriotic man or woman, and among them we are pleased to mention the prosperous farmer and stock-dealer residing at Arthur, Moultrie County, whose name we have placed at the head of this paragraph.

Mr. Ellars settled in Lowe Township in the spring of 1868, and at that time purchased two hundred and forty acres of land on section 24, where there were but few improvements. Madison County Ohio, had been his birthplace, October 18, 1842, and the excellent couple who gave him his birth and training were Benjamin and Priscilla (Harrison) Ellars.

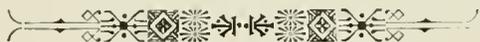
The family came to Illinois in 1852, settling upon a tract of unbroken prairie in what was then known as Coles County, but which is now included in Douglas County. At that date settlers were

few in that section, but deer were abundant and could be seen grazing upon the prairie as plentifully as the cattle of to-day. There the father of our subject improved three hundred and twenty acres of rich prairie soil and remained for two years. In 1851 he decided to prospect about a little more before settling for a permanent home, and started for Iowa, traveling overland with his team. The first night of his journey he stopped at Monticello, Ill., and as he was taking a loaded gun from a wagon it was accidentally discharged and the shot penetrated his lungs. This accident crippled him so that he gave up his journey and finding that he was unable to do farm work he sold his land and undertook the management of a small country store. He then purchased a store in Bourbon, which he carried on for a number of years until his health was sufficiently recovered for him again to undertake agricultural pursuits. He resided in Missouri from 1870 to 1881, after which he returned to Illinois and died in Douglas County in 1882, at the age of sixty-seven years. His faithful wife, who was the mother of ten children, had been taken from his side by death some years previous to his demise.

He of whom we write was eight years old when the family settled in Illinois and the Prairie State has been his home from that day to this. In 1861 he entered the service of his country, enlisting in Company F, Second Illinois Cavalry, and did brave service for two years and six months. When his term of service expired in the Second Cavalry he re-enlisted, and was then commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the Fourth United States Cavalry, with which he fought until December, 1864, when he resigned and went home. He returned to Douglas County, and since the war has devoted himself to farming and dealing in live stock, carrying on this double avocation with such success that he now owns eight hundred and eighty acres of excellent land, and is looked upon as one of our prosperous farmers. Since January, 1875, he has made his residence in the village of Arthur.

A happy wedded life began for our subject in January, 1867, when he was married to Harriet P. Reeder, a daughter of John A. and Mary Reeder. This lady was born in Ohio, 1843, and there re-

ceived an excellent education as well as practical training in home duties, both of which have fitted her to be what she now is, not only a leader in social circles, but a capable and notable housewife, a faithful wife and a judicious mother. One son only has blest this marriage, namely: Orla L., who has established a home for himself, having taken as his bride Miss May Crumbar. The declarations of the Republican party embody very fully the political belief of Mr. Ellars, and he consistently casts his vote for the candidates of that party. He is not in any sense a politician or a wire-puller, but believes it to be the duty of every citizen to speak his mind through the ballot in regard to all matters of public interest.



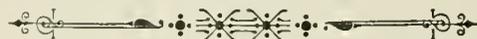
**A**NDREW WILSON SCOTT, the leading merchant of Bethany, Moultrie County, has been in the business in this place since 1876. He was born in Mt. Zion, Macon County, Ill., September 25, 1848, and is a son of Jehu and Mary (Wilson) Scott, natives of Tennessee, and the paternal grandfather bore the name of James Scott. More will be learned of this excellent and prominent family by consulting the biography of A. R. Scott.

Among the very early settlers of Mt. Zion were the parents of our subject, who came from Tennessee to Illinois, and located one mile south of Mt. Zion, where they proceeded to cultivate the land, and passed their remaining years. They became the owners of some eight hundred acres of land, and placed upon them substantial and handsome improvements. They were both earnest members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and are now both deceased. Two children only of their number grew to man's estate, of whom our subject is the older, and his brother, Alexander B., is a farmer at Mt. Zion and a partner of Andrew in business, the firm name being A. W. Scott & Bro.

Thorough and systematic training upon the farm, and drill in the common school of Mt. Zion, was supplemented in the case of our subject by a

course of study which he took in the university at Lincoln, Ill. After leaving school he came to Bethany and engaged as a clerk in the store of A. R. Scott, and in a few years became a partner in the business under the firm style of A. R. & A. W. Scott. Some three years later he became sole proprietor of the business, and afterward associated with him as a partner Mr. J. L. McCoy, the firm then being Scott & McCoy, but in March, 1891, this was succeeded by the firm of A. W. Scott & Bro. Ever since its inception this store has been the largest and the leading business place of Bethany, and it has had its own effect upon the mercantile life of the place.

Mr. Scott was in 1874 united in marriage with Sarah J. Mott, daughter of Joseph Mott, of Princeton, Ky., which was the place of her nativity. One son, Walter, blessed this union. He was a very promising boy, and at the time of his death he had charge of the books of the firm, and was at the same time carrying on his studies. He would have graduated from the schools at Bethany with the Class of '92, but he was snatched from this happy home by death, April 15, 1891, at the age of fourteen years.



**W**ILLIAM M. RICHARDS, who owns the fine farm located on section 32, of Richland Township, is a son of P. F. Richards, a native of Pennsylvania. His mother was Elizabeth (Mechling) Richards and was born in Perry County, Ohio. After marriage the parents settled in Ohio but removed to Missouri, and in 1861, just previous to the breaking out of the Civil War, they came to Shelby County, this State, where the mother died in Prairie Township and the father passed away in Richland Township. They were the parents of thirteen children and of these our subject is the second in order of birth.

William M. Richards was born in Perry County, Ohio, October 27, 1840. When he was but two years of age his parents removed to Allen County, Ohio, and there they settled upon a farm. Here he passed the greater part of his boyhood life,

remaining with his father until he was about twenty-five years of age. During this time he was engaged in agricultural labors on the home farm and in the intervals of that work was occupied by the application to school studies, and being apt at his books, he acquired a good practical knowledge of the branches that are most essential to a business man.

He of whom we write was married in Prairie Township, July 4, 1865. His wife's maiden name was Miss Mary J. Renner. She had, however, been previously married and at the time of her marriage with our subject, was Mrs. McMillen. She was born in Prairie Township, November 6, 1813. After marriage they made their home in Prairie Township for two years and then purchased the farm whereon they now reside in Richland Township. His farm at the present time comprises four hundred and sixty acres and upon it he has made good improvements. He is a prosperous farmer who is justly successful in his chosen career and calling. The latest improvements in machinery and farm implements are employed in the cultivation of the place. His stock is of the best class and his buildings are good and substantial. His dwelling is located on a slight eminence that commands a charming view of the surrounding country. It is surrounded by fine shade and fruit trees. The interior arrangement is made with a sole view to the comfort and convenience of the occupants.

Mr. Richards and his wife became the parents of eight children, whose names are as follows: Nancy M., Samuel C., Elizabeth F., John P., Simon A., Mary C., Franklin W. and Ann B. The eldest daughter is now the wife of Rev. John B. Webb and is a great assistance to her husband in his work. Samuel C. married Miss Elizabeth Duncan and has a pleasant home of his own. Elizabeth F. died when sixteen years of age, when life spread before her so promising a prospect.

Mrs. Mary J. Richards died in Richland Township December 27, 1890. Since girlhood she had been a member of the Baptist Church, and was an ardent worker in the spread of the Gospel. Mr. Richards is also a member of the Baptist Church. Our subject has always been engaged in farming

and agricultural pursuits, and although he has reached the meridian of life is not so set in his opinions that he cannot progress with the times. Since the formation of the Prohibition party he has allied himself with it, believing in the purity of its principle and purpose. For many years he has held the office of Deacon in the Baptist Church.



**W**ILLIAM CALVIN HOLTON, a retired farmer residing at Arthur, became a resident of Moultrie County, in 1871, at which date he settled on section 2, Lowe Township. He was born in Claiborne County, Tenn., February 20, 1835, his honored parents being James W. and Martha (Goines) Holton, both of whom had their birth in Tennessee. In 1847 the family removed from that State to Pulaski County, Ky., where the mother was called from them by death some thirty years ago. The bereaved father remained there with his family for many years, but in 1888 came to Illinois and died in Moultrie County, not long after his removal to this State. He had a truly patriarchal family of nine daughters and three sons, William being the eldest of the sons.

Our subject was twelve years old when the family settled in Kentucky and he there grew to a vigorous young manhood, receiving a practical drill upon the farm which has ever been of benefit to him both physically and in a business way. Amanda J. Thuman, a lovely young Kentucky lady, became his bride January 14, 1855, she was born in December 25, 1835, and is the daughter of Marshall Thurman, who was well known in that region.

Young Mr. Holton came to the Prairie State ten years after his marriage and renting land in Douglas County continued there until 1871; when he removed to Moultrie County and settled upon a beautiful tract of unimproved land, to which he gave his undivided attention and which he brought from its wild condition to its present productive and highly cultured state. He is now the owner of two elegant farms, comprising some two hundred and thirty acres in all and upon each of them

he has placed excellent improvements. In the spring of 1889 he removed to the village of Arthur although he still continued to carry on the farm until 1891 when he placed it in the hands of a tenant. He is now enjoying the pleasant home which he built for himself in Arthur and without the care of a farm is receiving the benefits of his former labors and enterprise. The five children who have blest this home are John R., Lucy (wife of George Ketzell), William, Hattie (Mrs. A. Kinney), and Cordelia. The principles of the Republican party very clearly define the political views of Mr. Holton and his earnest efforts and advocacy are given to securing the success of this party.



**J**OHAN GOETZ. Many a man who is now a prosperous and successful farmer in Illinois began life as did the subject of our sketch, without means in a material sense and with no endowments except those of his own personality. John Goetz was possessed in boyhood of sturdy health, a determination to succeed and indomitable energy, pluck and perseverance. With these he has achieved a success which is an honor to himself and worthy the consideration of the biographer.

Our subject was born in Germany on Christmas day, 1830, and he had his training and education in his native land and there spent his youth and early manhood until he was twenty-three years old. He had heard much of America as a land of freedom and a country where a broader opportunity awaited a young man of enterprise and he resolved to come to this land, and left home and friends in the spring of 1854, landing in New York City and coming directly West. He had learned shoemaking in his native land and in Chicago he spent between three and four years working at this trade.

He finally decided that he preferred country to city life and finding an opening for the employment of his abilities at his trade in Sullivan, Moultrie County, he removed here in the spring of 1858 and was thus employed for about fourteen years. Agricultural pursuits now presented themselves to him

as a broader and more promising field of operations, and he purchased a farm on section 34, Marrowbone Township, and removing his family here began its cultivation. Here he has found content and prosperity and now owns five hundred and sixty-seven acres, all in Moultrie County.

It was not until after Mr. Goetz came to Sullivan that he entered into a matrimonial alliance. He was here united with Elizabeth Cratz, who was born in Moultrie County, Ill., and who brought to her husband three children. Two died in infancy and the one who is living is Mary, now the wife of Ammon Davis. After the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Goetz her husband was united in marriage in Marrowbone Township to Mrs. Isabella Daisy, who bore her husband one child, Andon, who died in Marrowbone Township. Mr. Goetz's third wife bore the maiden name of Angie Westfall and her one child was named Perry E.; she also passed from earth in early womanhood and Mr. Goetz then married Eliza Bushart.

Excellent buildings and all the appurtenances necessary for the successful prosecution of farm work have been placed upon Mr. Goetz's farm. He is a member of the Christian Church, and in his political views is in sympathy with no party but is governed in his vote by his own judgment and casts his ballot for the best man for the place. He is public spirited and ever active in the promotion of any movement which looks to the upbuilding of the community either socially or industrially.



**L**ORENZO H. TURNER. The majority of men who have attained high position either in public affairs, commercial life, or literature, have spent the early part of life in the enjoyment of bucolic peace and quiet. The mind is like a field, which having been allowed to lie fallow for a time produces the richest harvests. Our subject, Lorenzo Turner, who was brought up on a farm has become one of the most influential men in the State of Illinois, and in mental calibre he

ranks well with the representatives of any State. The years passed upon his father's farm were full of development to the lad whose eager mind absorbed each fact, and in the crucible of his reasoning powers he has distilled the pure waters of truth. Early acquiring the habit of studying human nature, he has found it to be of great use to him throughout his career. Men to him are as open books, to be read at pleasure.

Born of Southern parents, our subject inherits the suavity and gallantry for which the Virginians are noted, and also their eloquence in speech. His father, James Turner, was born in Buckingham County, Va., in 1799. His mother was Elsie (Pendleton) Turner, also a native of Buckingham County, and born about 1795. There they were reared and there they married, settling in their native county, but about four years after their marriage they emigrated to Wilson County, Tenn. This was about 1823, and in 1830 they came to Effingham County, where they died on the place which they had entered from the Government.

Our subject was born while his parents were residents of Wilson County, Tenn., his natal day being May 14, 1826. He was only four and a half years old when his parents removed to what is now Effingham County; there on his father's farm he matured, his young mentality growing broader and stronger as he looked out upon the vast prairies. There was plenty of work, however, for the young man to do, for the days of his boyhood were the pioneer days in this State. He, with others who have since become famous in the history of the State, were ripening for the events that lay before them. He continued to live with his father until 1845. After having entered a farm from the Government, which they improved quite extensively, they both died, the mother in the fall of 1858 while earth was golden with the yellow of autumn, and the granaries were filled to repletion with golden grain. The father followed her a good many years later, his decease taking place February 3, 1888.

Our subject has always followed the pursuit of agriculture, paying special attention to the raising of fine stock. In 1845 he was married to Miss Cynthia Field, their marriage being solemnized Sep-

tember 23 of that year. The lady was a daughter of Abraham and Grace (Rainey) Field. The former was a native of Kentucky where he was born December 27, 1793. The latter was born in South Carolina, July 31, 1797. Their marriage took place in Gibson County, Ind., March 8, 1815. They settled in the same place where they were married until the mother's death which occurred March 30, 1863. The father followed her April 12, 1870. Mrs. Turner's parents were farmers by occupation. They had ten children, and our subject's wife was one of the eldest members of her father's family. She was born in Gibson County, Ind., December 25, 1825, and there she lived until her marriage.

After marriage our subject and his bride settled in Effingham County, Ill., and in April, 1864, came to Shelby County, locating in Richland Township, where he has since resided. He has now retired, however, from active farming, having disposed of all his property with the exception of two hundred and fifty acres upon which he lives. Mr. Turner has made many improvements upon his farm and in all his business undertakings and enterprises has been exceedingly successful. He and his wife are spending the afternoon of their lives in quiet enjoyment of the home comforts that his early efforts have provided. They are the parents of six children, all of whom have reached manhood and womanhood and are the heads of families. It is a commentary upon their parents' government that they are all honored and respected members of society. James B. married Emeline Renner and resides in Shelbyville; Nancy J. is the wife of John M. Storm; Lewis W. married Florence Carmain; Charles A. B. was united to Sarah Jackson; Sarah E. is the wife of Seymour Grove; Arthur is the husband of Annie L. Field.

Mr. Turner was formerly allied with the Democratic party and did active service for his party in his part of the State. More recently, however, he has allied himself with the Prohibitionists, believing that to be one of the most important issues of the near future. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace for seventeen years and has also been Township Trustee for several years. In their religious relations our subject and his wife have been members of the Missionary Baptist Church

since 1851, and he of whom we write has been Deacon of this church for upwards of thirty-five years. Their children also are all professors of religion. Mr. Turner has been a member of the Masonic fraternity since 1863. He is also a member of the Farmer's Mutual Benefit Association and by his wide experience and broad intelligence, is able to make many suggestions to that body that are of great value. The original of our sketch has a very good and comfortable residence, well located and surrounded by fine trees. It is perfectly adapted to the declining years of a man with a philosophic turn of mind.



**J**OHAN R. WARREN. A prominent position among the agriculturists of Shelby County is held by this gentleman, who resides on section 28, Tower Hill Township. He is now passing his declining years quietly in the enjoyment of the comforts accumulated through long years of toil. A native of Ohio, he was born in Pickaway County, February 17, 1820. His parents, Silas and Sarah (Riley) Warren, were natives of Delaware, the former born April 9, 1787, and the latter January 31, 1791. Both came to Ohio in youth, and after their marriage, which was solemnized in Pickaway County, they located in that place and made it their home until 1857.

In the above-mentioned year the parents of our subject came to Illinois, settling in Shelby County and purchasing a farm on section 29, Tower Hill Township. The family was soon called upon to mourn the loss of the devoted husband and father, who died November 17, 1857. The widowed mother survived until January 29, 1867. This worthy couple held an enviable place in the regard of their neighbors, and although they left to their children little of this world's goods they bequeathed to them what is far better—the priceless heritage of a good name. They had a family of six children, of whom five now survive.

Upon the home farm in Pickaway County, Ohio, our subject passed his youth and at an early age became familiar with agricultural pursuits. His edu-

cational advantages were limited to the district schools, but by subsequent reading he has become well informed upon all topics of general interest. Upon arriving at years of maturity he engaged in farming on his own account and has made this his life work. A very important event in his life was his marriage in Pickaway County, Ohio, September 21, 1843, when Miss Minerva A. Anderson became his wife. Her parents, Thomas and Delilah (Scot-horn) Anderson, were natives respectively of Indiana and Virginia. The father died in Fairfield County, Ohio, November 21, 1836, and the mother afterward came west to Shelby County, Ill., where she died at the residence of our subject October 22, 1860.

Mrs. Warren, who was the second among six children, was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, February 9, 1822, and was reared to maturity under the parental roof. After their marriage our subject and his wife located in Pickaway County, Ohio, where they continued to live until the fall of 1849. At that time they came to this State and made their home in Tower Hill Township, Shelby County. There the wife died April 7, 1880. She was a religious woman, and had been connected with the church for many years, and was a member of the United Brethren Church at the time of her death.

On February 23, 1882, our subject was again married, choosing as his wife Mrs. Elizabeth J. Dum, the widow of Samuel Dum, who died in Fairfield County, Ohio. Mrs. Warren, who is a sister of the first wife of our subject, was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, November 21, 1825, and by her first marriage became the mother of six children, viz: Israel, Thomas, Edie A., Samuel, William and Homer. The ceremony which transformed her into Mrs. Warren was solemnized in Christian County, Ill., and the union has proved of mutual happiness. The various members of the family are honored in society and are noted for hospitality and kindness of heart.

The farm upon which Mr. Warren located after coming to Shelby County was entered from the Government and comprises eighty acres of fine land. Mr. Warren has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits, and has converted his orig-





yours truly  
C. H. Carr, M. D.

inal purchase into one of the best farms in the county. He has retired from the more active duties associated with farm life, and in the midst of his happy family circle, finds rest from the cares of earlier years. A member of the Democratic party, he has always taken an active part in political affairs and has served the people in several local offices. For fifteen years he was Justice of the Peace and he has filled the office of Supervisor of Tower Hill Township for several terms. He takes great interest in educational affairs and has served the community acceptably in school offices. Religiously, he belongs to the United Brethren Church of which he has been a consistent member since 1811.



**C**LARK H. CARR, M. D., a physician and surgeon of Cowden, was born in Kenawha County, W. Va., August 25, 1834. His parents, John K. and Margaret (Wyant) Carr, were natives of the East, the father being born in Greenbrier County, Va., in 1812, and the mother in Lawrenceburg, Ind., in 1818. The father has been living since 1852 in DeWitt County, this State. The mother died September 1, 1891. Nine of their large family of six sons and seven daughters are still living, of whom our subject was the eldest.

The brothers and sisters of our subject are Violetta, wife of James Darby, a farmer in Minnesota; John, who first married Mary Lloyd and afterward was united with Ellen Swan, with whose assistance he is now carrying on farming in Sumner County, Kan.; Julia Ann, who was the wife of Stephen Webster, and died in DeWitt County, Ill., in 1872; Isaac L., a farmer near Humboldt, Iowa, who married Mary Day; Mary, who married William Stewart and died in Minnesota in 1871; Jane, the wife of Philip Shellenberger, a farmer who lives in Piatt County, this State; Sarah E., who first married William Stewart, a cousin of her sister Mary's husband and afterward became the wife of George Hitchen, of Gibson City, Ill.; Michael M., who married Sophronia Barr and lives in Piatt County; Leonard S., who married Elizabeth McLann, and

resides in DeWitt County, and two children who died in early infancy.

The subject of this sketch accompanied his parents from West Virginia to Indiana, thence to Missouri and in 1852 located with them in DeWitt County, Ill., where the father now resides. He received his education in the public schools of this State and was about twenty-five years old when he began to read medicine. In 1866 he commenced the practice of his profession in Christian County, but in 1873 came to Cowden, where he remained for two years and then went back to his old place in Christian County. In the spring of 1880 he returned to Cowden where he has since remained.

Dr. Carr has been twice married. His first wife was Mary C. Green, who was born in Preble County, Ohio, in 1836, and married the Doctor in Indiana in 1856. One child was born of this marriage, Millard Fillmore, whose natal day was August 18, 1857. On October 31, of the same year, Mrs. Carr passed from earth, and her son was tenderly reared by his paternal grandparents.

The second marriage of our subject took place October 13, 1859, when he was united with Catherine Johnson. She was born December 17, 1833 in Ross County, Ohio. The six children born of this marriage are all living: Mary C., born September 1, 1860, is now Mrs. James E. Orendoff, and lives in Hall County, Neb.; Laura E., born January 22, 1863, married Alfred E. Gross, and lives in Davis County, Neb.; Samuel C., born December 4, 1864, is engaged in the study of medicine; Margaret E., born July 2, 1867, married William G. Banning and resides on a farm in Dry Point Township, Shelby County; Ida F., born February 22, 1868, and Catherine J., born April 10, 1871, are at home with their parents.

Dr. Carr has established a fine reputation as a practitioner and enjoys a large and lucrative practice in Cowden and vicinity. He is regarded in the community as the leading physician. He attended lectures at the Missouri Medical College at St. Louis, Mo., at which popular institution he made a creditable record. He has always been a close student and has labored hard to gain the standing which he now holds in his profession. Realizing that old age is creeping on, the Doctor

has inspired his son Samuel with the desire to receive the mantle of his sire when he shall drop it, and thus to perpetuate the family name in the profession. The Doctor is a worthy member of Joppa Lodge, No. 706, F. & A. M., at Cowden, and a staunch Republican in politics having always voted that ticket, and being regarded as the local leader in his party.

In connection with this biographical notice the reader will find a lithographic portrait of Dr. Carr.



**W**ILLIAM L. DONNEL, one of the most prominent and intelligent gentlemen residing in Shelby County, who is thoroughly public-spirited and capable of being a leader of thought and action in his township, resides on section 21, Ridge Township. His father was John M. Donnel, a native of Tennessee, as was also his mother, Elizabeth Jerregan. After marriage this couple settled in Rutherford County, Tenn., and thence emigrated to Montgomery County, Ill., about the year 1827. They afterward made their home in Vandalia, this State, where the life of Mrs. Donnel terminated near that place. Her husband who survived her, died in Williamson County, this State.

He of whom we write was the eldest in a family of twelve children, and was born in Rutherford County, Tenn., January 22, 1820; he came to Illinois with his father who was in limited circumstances and in order to assist his parents he worked out when he was a boy doing farm labor. During the winter of 1839-40 he moved the goods and press of the editor of the *State Register* with whom he had pleasant relations, as the older man appreciated the bright qualities of the boy. In March, 1840, he came to Shelby County, Ill., and engaged in farming upon his own account in Ridge Township. In June, 1846, he settled on section 21 of the latter township where he has since been a resident.

Mr. William Donnel was married January 6, 1842, to Miss Mary Ann Roys, a daughter of Daniel and Hannah (Roys) Roys, both natives of Ken-

tucky. Daniel Roys passed away from life in Ridge Township, but his widow still survives him and is now at the advanced age of eighty-seven years and makes her home with our subject. Mrs. Donnel was born in Rush County, Ind., April 13, 1825. Mr. and Mrs. Donnel have had eleven bright and interesting children, three of whom died in infancy. The surviving children are: Elizabeth J., the wife of John H. McDonald; Mary Ann, who married J. J. Himes; Sarah H., the wife of Charles Small; William L. Jr., who took to wife Miss Nettie Busby; George W., a clergyman of the Missionary Baptist Church in Oregon, whose wife bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Neal; James W., who married Sarah Killam; Charles H. and Dora E. are at home.

Our subject has held the office of School Trustee for seventeen years and during that time has been very efficient in forwarding the educational interests of the township. He has also taken an active part in political affairs, casting his first Presidential vote for James K. Polk and being a worker in the Democratic ranks. In his religious connection he was formerly identified with the United Baptist Church but is now a member of the Christian Church. He has always been engaged in farming and stock raising and has erected upon his farm a first-class set of buildings and has two hundred acres in fine shape. He is a man keenly alive to the necessity for progress in the affairs of the neighborhood both social and industrial, and is truly appreciative of all good things whether intellectual or material.



**F**RANK TRAINER, the editor and publisher of the *Echo* at Bethany, became a resident of Moultrie County in 1887, and on April 14 of that year issued the first copy of the *Echo*, which is now a seven-column folio, and is published as an independent local newspaper, devoted to the interests of Bethany and its vicinity. This gentleman was born in Meigs County, Ohio, September 28, 1862, his parents being Samuel and Amanda (West) Trainer, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio

respectively. They were married in Ohio and settled in Meigs County, on a farm, where the mother died January 27, 1876, at the age of fifty-three years, and where the father still resides, enjoying a green old age, as he is now seventy-seven years old, having been born in June, 1811.

The ten children of this worthy couple were equally divided between sons and daughters, and our subject was next to the youngest in age. He was reared upon the farm and educated in the common schools. In 1881 he came to Illinois and taught school in Macon County, and in 1885 he entered a printing office in Macon City and there learned "the art preservative of all arts," after which he again engaged in teaching. It was in 1887 when he located at Bethany and established the paper which he has since owned and edited.

Mr. Trainer had married in 1885, before coming to Bethany, Miss Hala Bricker, daughter of Aaron and Louisa Bricker. She was born in Fayette County, Ill., and is now the mother of two beautiful children, Arthur and Alva Dean. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church is the religious body with which the young couple are identified, and their influence is ever cast in the direction of morality and Christianity. Although Mr. Trainer has not been a resident of the town long, he is a young man who is universally liked and well spoken of by the older members of the community, and he bids fair to make his mark in the future history of Moultrie County.



**J**OSEPH ROLLER is a typical farmer whose practical knowledge of agriculture and business-like methods in managing his affairs have placed him among the foremost men of his class in Penn Township, where he owns a large and well conducted farm that is considered one of the finest in the county.

Mr. Roller was born near Little York, York County, Pa., September 3, 1830. His father, whose

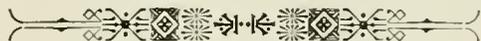
given name was John, is also supposed to have been a native of the same county where he passed his early life, and where he was married. He was a distiller by trade in his young days, but removing to Centre County, Pa., in 1840, he bought a farm on Buffalo Run and devoted his remaining years to agricultural pursuits, dying there in 1874 at the ripe age of seventy-one years. His wife, the mother of our subject, preceded him in death many years, her demise occurring on the old farm in 1852.

He of whom we write was reared to the life of a farmer, receiving a careful training in all that pertains to agriculture, so that by the time he attained manhood he was well versed in the calling that was to be his life work. He continued to live with his father until he was thirty-one years of age, affording him valuable aid in the management of his farm. He then rented land in Centre County a few years. Wisely thinking that on the fertile soil of the Prairie State he could make more headway in his calling, he left his native commonwealth in 1865 to avail himself of the superior advantages offered to skillful and wide-awake farmers in Shelby County. He made a judicious selection of two hundred and forty acres of wild prairie land in Penn Township which is now included in his pleasant farm. The price of it was \$9 an acre and he went into debt for the greater part of the purchase money.

At the time of his settlement here this part of the county was but little developed and Mr. Roller had to do a great deal of pioneer work in bringing his farm to its present fine and highly improved condition. His labors have been well rewarded, however, as his homestead is a valuable piece of property, supplied with ample and well arranged buildings, and its carefully tilled fields and rich pastures yield a good income. He has also bought other land at different times and now his farm comprises four hundred and forty acres. Mr. Roller is well liked in this community as he is a just and fair man, kindly of heart and honest of purpose, and has shown himself in every respect to be a worthy addition to the citizenship of this place since he took up his residence here more than a quarter of a century ago. His wife also shares with him the regard in which he is held and both

are among the most worthy members of the Presbyterian Church. In politics he sides with the Democrats.

Mr. Roller has been three times married. His first wife, to whom he was united in 1853, was Matilda Ross, who was a native of Centre County, Pa., and a daughter of William and Mary Ross. She died in 1873 leaving these six children; John W., Laura J., Sally J., Joseph R., Ida and Robert H. Laura married Charles Lutz; Sally is the wife of M. W. Marshall; and Ida is the wife of Tom Gedes. Our subject's second marriage, which took place in 1876, was with Isabella Hunter, a native of Centre County, Pa., and a daughter of Robert Hunter. She departed this life May 18, 1885. In 1887 Mr. Roller was wedded to Miss Annie Dale, his present wife, a native of Pennsylvania, born in Centre County, and a daughter of Felix and Lucy Dale.



**M**ARTIN V. PIERCE. The gentleman who is our subject is the owner and resides on a fine farm located on section 1, Rural Township, where he devotes himself to the calling of agriculture, being very successful in this direction, as he has bent his energies and intelligence to the subject for many years. His residence in Shelby County dates from the spring of 1869. He is a native of Sullivan County, Ind., where he was born March 16, 1838. His parents were Jesse and Keziah (Harris) Pierce.

The original of our sketch was but a small boy when his mother died and when only thirteen years of age the father died. The mother left thirteen children and the father was married a second time, by that marriage becoming the parent of two children. After the death of his father Martin resided with his uncle until he grew to manhood and assisted in tilling the soil. Doubly orphaned, the youth's early years lacked all that makes the remembrance of childhood pleasant to one. We cannot but sympathize with the lad whose sorrow was only stunned by the hard toil which he was compelled to accomplish.

In 1860 our subject was united in marriage to

Emily Ernest, a daughter of Jacob and Susan Ernest. She was born in Sullivan County, Ind., and is one of a family of four, having three brothers. After marriage our subject became the owner and operator of a small farm in Sullivan County, where he remained until 1869 and then came to this State, renting land for one season and then purchasing the place whereon he at present resides. At that time it was but very little improved, the only attempt at redeeming it from native wildness was a log hut. In 1876 Mr. Pierce removed to Shelbyville on account of poor health and two years later, much improved in this respect, he returned to his farm and resumed his bucolic employment. He is the owner of eighty acres of land, which is in a good state of cultivation.

Our subject and his wife have been the parents of five children, three girls and one boy dying in infancy; only one son, Charles, is living. A nephew, however, whose name is Homer Ernest, is a member of his family and enjoys the affection and privileges of a son. Formerly our subject affiliated with the Democratic party, but of late he has transferred his allegiance to the Prohibition party, convinced that the evil of intemperance is one that most seriously threatens the well-being of our country. He of whom we write has filled the position of Township Commissioner to the entire satisfaction of those who elected him. In his church relations Mr. Pierce is a member of the Baptist denomination. He has been Deacon and Treasurer in the church of which he is a member for a number of years. Simple and unaffected at all times, our subject enjoys the confidence and trust of the men in his township in all stations of life.



**D**AVID M. CROWDER. To be the son of worthy parents is a matter both for honorable pride and devout thankfulness, and he who can make this boast does well to carry still further the honorable standing of the family by making good his claim to be worthy of

such parents. The father of our subject, the late Robert Crowder, was born in Buncombe County, N. C., July 17, 1807, and his mother, who bore the maiden name of Barbara Prater, was born in Greene County, Tenn., April 15, 1807. The first two years of their married life was spent in East Tennessee, upon a farm, after which they moved to Indiana and settling in Jennings County remained there about two years and then emigrated to Missouri, where they settled near Boonville, and lived there for one year.

Robert Crowder brought his family to Illinois in January, 1838, and settled in what is now Marrowbone Township, Moultrie County, where they continued to live until called hence by death. Our subject is the eldest of their ten children and his birth occurred in Eastern Tennessee, November 18, 1828, so that he was thus about nine years old when he came with his father to what is now Moultrie County, where he grew to manhood and has made his home from that day to this.

Under the parental roof this young man made his home until that important event took place which was celebrated in Marrowbone Township, August 30, 1848, when he was united in marriage with Susan E. Mitchell, daughter of George and Jane W. Mitchell, who were of Southern birth but became early settlers in Moultrie County, Ill. Mrs. Susan E. Crowder was born in Tennessee, July 9, 1831. The family home of this wedded couple has been ever since their wedding day upon section 15, Marrowbone Township, with the exception of one year which they spent in Bethany. Farming has been Mr. Crowder's pursuit through life and in it he has been successful, which success may be attributed to two reasons. In the first place he has been thoroughly intelligent, energetic and enterprising, and in the second place he has had a richly productive farm such as is to be found only in the Prairie State. His tract of two hundred and fifteen acres has been excellently improved and upon it will be found all the conveniences and appurtenances which belong to a first-class farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Crowder rejoice in the possession of seven children, namely: Sarah J., who is the wife of William H. Hoskins; Margaret A., who married F. T. Scheer; Mary A., now Mrs. Joel A.

Yeakel; Barbara E., who was the wife of W. F. Logan, and died April 3, 1890; Dora S., married J. E. Scheer; and two sons who died in infancy. The principles of the Republican party command the respect and allegiance of our subject and although he is not an office-seeker he is earnestly devoted to the prosperity of his party and works for its supremacy. Both he and his excellent wife are earnest and devoted members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

A biography of David M. Crowder would be incomplete did it not include a fuller resume than we have already given of the life of the parents whose honorable record is his dearest possession. It was in the fall of 1828 that Robert Crowder removed to Indiana, and after first settling in Ripley County, Ind., removed as we have said, to Jennings County, where he settled in New Marion. In the fall of 1836 he removed, as has been stated, to Missouri, and there remained until January, 1838, when he came to Moultrie County, Ill. His wife, whose maiden name was Barbara Prater, brought him ten children, namely: David M., William A., Sarah J., Thomas H., Mary S., Robert S., James H., Andrew W., John A. and Marshall M. Robert enlisted in Company E, Twenty-first Regiment of Illinois Infantry, taking rank as First Sergeant, and was killed in the battle of Chickamauga, in September, 1863; Andrew W. was a member of Company B, Forty-first Illinois Infantry, and was killed during the siege of Vicksburg, in June, 1863, when about sixteen years old. The brave and noble record of these loyal sons of a loyal father awaken a sympathetic response in every patriotic heart, and the memory of these brave boys is cherished by their brothers and sisters and handed down to their posterity for they believe that

"Brave hearts are more than coronets,  
And simple faith than Norman blood".

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church was the body with which Robert and Barbara Crowder were connected, and in its service and communion they found both comfort and opportunity for Christian work. Their genuine Christian charity and uprightness mark them as worthy both of trust and emulation, and their influence will not die

out for many generations to come. Robert Crowder passed from earth September 22, 1877, and his bereaved widow survived him until January 25, 1890, when she too made her transit to a better world. The handsome property which Robert Crowder left to his children is but a small portion of the precious heritage which they have received from him and their venerated mother.



**J**OH N B. HUGHES, a well-known and highly respected druggist of Oconee, Shelby County, a man of broad experience and excellent attainments, who has added to the material prosperity of his village by his energy and enterprise. He is a public-spirited citizen, who is ever wide awake to help forward every movement which tends to the prosperity of the place. His parents were Thomas W. and Catherine (Burke) Hughes, both natives of Ireland, the father being born in County Carlo in 1801, and the mother in Loughrea, County Galway, in 1843. The father emigrated to America in 1838, and the mother in 1851, and here they met and united their fortunes in marriage.

The father of our subject located in Pennsylvania and made his home there for some three years, but the Western fever had not been assuaged by his removal across the ocean, and he decided to come to the Mississippi Valley. St. Louis was his destination, and he remained there until 1852, but in that year removed to Pana, Ill., where he resided until his death in 1887. The mother still resides in the latter place.

Mr. Hughes was educated in the public schools of Pana, where he received excellent drill and advantages, and he took his professional training at the Chicago College of Pharmacy, from which institution he graduated in 1883. For eleven years he worked in a drug store in Pana, during which time he attended the college and received his diploma. After graduation he went West and made a tour of California, Arizona, Old and New Mexico, Indian Territory, Colorado, Utah and Wyoming. His trip covered a period of three years. During

a portion of this time he was occupied in mining and upon a ranch, and worked in a drug store for awhile in Denver, Col. Returning home he soon after went into business on his own account at Oconee, where we now find him. He carries a full line of staple drugs, wall paper, glass, paints and oils, toilet articles, jewelry, clocks, watches, cigars, school supplies, etc., and has an excellent trade in these various lines.

On May 28, 1889 was the happy wedding day of our subject with Miss Ida M. Morris, a daughter of William Morris of this place. This lady, Mrs. Hughes, was the only child of her parents being born in Oconee, April 15, 1867. One child, Marietta, died in early infancy. Mr. Hughes is a Republican in his political views, and has always advocated principles of the party which placed Abraham Lincoln in the Presidential chair and supported his hand during the trying years of the Civil War. He has served for two years as Township Clerk of Pana, and is a member of Oconee Camp, No. 1312 M. W. of A., of which he was a charter member, and where he has held the office of Worthy Advisor. He is a member, as were his parents before him, of the Roman Catholic Church, and his good wife is identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The parents of our subject had five sons and three daughters, five of whom now survive, namely: William L., who is the eldest and resides in Pana, Ill., carrying on the drug business; Mary F., the wife of Thomas Scott, a barber in Pana; Martin F., who is married and is carrying on the coal business in Pana; Thomas P., who is engaged in the hotel business in Decatur; and the deceased members of the family are Ella, Edward and Anna, all of whom died while the family were living in Pana.



**J**OSIAH BERRY, is the senior member of the firm of Berry & Clark, the best known dealers in lumber, house trimmings and general builders' supplies, in Moweaqua, Shelby County. The firm was established under its present title in September, 1889, having succeeded

Gregory Bros., who established the business some years before. A sketch will be found in another part of this Record, of the history of our subject's partner, Mr. Clark. The firm have already attained a foothold in the community and vicinity, that speaks well for their business principles in dealing.

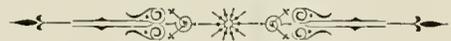
Mr. Berry was formerly engaged as a farmer in Mowequa Township, having been for many years very successful in his calling. He came here in 1873 and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he still owns. He expended a large amount of capital in putting this farm under perfect cultivation, and it is so pleasant and attractive a place that we almost wonder at Mr. Berry's relinquishing it. He came to Shelby County in 1868, spending his first five years here on a farm in Penn Township.

Mr. Berry was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, November 1, 1839. He was there reared and received the ordinary common-school education, and there remained until he had reached his majority. At the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion, like all true men, his patriotism was fired, and he ready to do or die for his country. He enlisted in Company B, of the Seventeenth Ohio Regiment, in the month of August, 1861, Col. J. M. Connell and Capt. J. W. Stinchcomb, the latter being followed by Capt. Weakly, now of Shelbyville, Ill., commanding officers. After the organization of the regiment, they advanced to the field of disturbance and were assigned to the Fourteenth Army Corps of the Cumberland Army under Gen. Thomas. The regiment was brought into contact with the enemy at Wildcat, Ky., and again met them at Mills Spring, Corinth, Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, and were with Sherman in his celebrated march from Atlanta to the sea. Our subject was veteranized by re-enlistment in December, 1863, and he continued in service until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged at Louisville, Ky., and mustered out at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio, having served nearly four years. He was always on duty and saw a great deal of active service and hard fighting. He had the good fortune to escape wounds and capture, never having seen the inside

of a hospital. Mr. Berry served as Sergeant of his company for some time.

On his return home to Ohio he of whom we write was engaged as a farmer until he came to Illinois in 1868, since which time he has been one of the leading men of the township where he has resided, being much looked up to because of his energy and progressive ideas. Our subject was married in his native county to Miss Lucretia A. Ruffner, whose birthplace and early home was in Fairfield County, Ohio. She was tenderly reared, and had many advantages in an educational way, denied many of her sex. She is the mother of two children, Ruffner A. Berry, who is a clerk with Moffit & Co., ice dealers in Decatur; and Nellie, who lives at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Berry are the leaders of the best class of social life in Mowequa. Their pleasant home is the meeting place for the culture, intelligence and refinement of the town. Mrs. Berry is a lovely woman, who presides over her home with the dignity and grace that come only from a naturally delicate and finely balanced nature. Politically Mr. Berry is a Republican, taking much interest in local politics. He is a member of the J. V. Clemings Post, G. A. R. He is also a member of No. 1013 Chapter, K. of H., of Mowequa, being Dictator in the latter lodge. He has filled all the offices of the Grand Army Post to which he belongs but that of Commander.



**M**ARSHALL M. CROWDER. Many families are notable only for some one distinguished member, whose reputation is far superior to that of his brothers and kinsmen, who must ever be content to shine in reflected glory, but in the family which is represented by the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch, it is hard to select one member who is pre-eminent above the others, as the reputation of every one as energetic, enterprising men and public-spirited citizens is acknowledged by all in this section of the country.

Our subject is the youngest in a family of ten

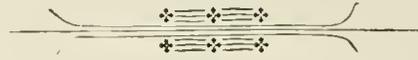
children all of whom are worthy representatives of an excellent family. The parents, who had the honor to bring into the world and rear such valuable citizens, are spoken of more at length in the biographical sketch of David M. Crowder. He of whom we write was born in Marrowbone Township, March 12, 1851, and was reared to manhood on his father's farm, receiving his education first in the district schools and afterward attending Mount Zion Academy for two terms. After this he taught school for six months in Moultrie County but with that exception remained under the parental roof until his marriage.

That interesting event took place in Sullivan Township, May 22, 1870, the bride being Miss Lydia S. Shockey, who was born in Zanesville, Ind. She received careful training and an excellent education and was thus admirably fitted for her future work as wife and mother. Three children called her mother, viz.: Olive B. (the wife of Chesley W. Kennedy), Walter R. and Florence L. Mrs. Lydia Crowder died in Marrowbone Township, November 6, 1886, and her memory is revered by all who knew her as a true-hearted woman and a faithful and devoted Christian.

The second marriage of Marshall Crowder took place in Dalton City, Ill., August 17, 1887, he being then united with Miss Mollie E. Black, a native of Mount Zion Township, Macon County, Ill. She was there born May 26, 1867, and reared to womanhood receiving the best educational advantages which her parents could command. She, as well as her husband, are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, where they are highly esteemed for their true Christian character and their intelligent promotion of all movements for the betterment of the community.

Our subject has always been engaged in farming pursuits, although for one year he was employed as clerk in a store in Bethany. For many years he was a member of the Glee Club of that village and musical matters always command his sympathetic approval and encouragement. The platform of the Republican party expresses his views in regard to political policy and principles and he is an ardent worker for the prosperity of that party. Two hundred acres are comprised within the limits of Mr.

Crowder's farm and upon this tract he has erected excellent and commodious farm buildings and a home which is an ornament to the township.



**M**RS. CATHERINE EBERHARDT. Nothing is more grateful to the feelings of the biographer than to find a demand made upon his pen for a sketch of an ideal woman—one whose sound judgment and true heart have carried her unswervingly through the devious paths of life and whose beautiful Christian character has shown out through the darkness of life's trials and temptations and has ever proved a beacon to warn the unwary and to comfort those in sorrow. Such a life we find our duty to record in speaking of the lady whose name appears at the head of this paragraph.

Our subject was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, January 31, 1832. Her father, George Geiger, was born there in 1797 her mother, Katherina (Hild) Geiger, having her nativity in 1805. They married and settled in Germany and there they spent their entire lives. They became the parents of four children of whom Mrs. Eberhardt was the eldest and she remained at home until she reached her twentieth year and received as thorough an education as her parents were able to command for her. They brought her up in the faith and practice of the Christian religion and sought for her those best possessions of a cultured heart and mind. This young woman when only twenty years old left her home and friends in the Old Country and emigrated to America. This departure was trying indeed to one of so warm a nature, and the homesickness with which she was afflicted lasted for many sad and weary months. She never saw her parents again, as it was not practicable for her to return to them and they did not feel brave enough to leave their native land and cross the ocean.

While living in Philadelphia, Catherine Geiger was employed as a domestic for somewhat less than two years, after which she came West and while in St. Louis, Mo., met and married Jacob Eberhardt,





H. C. GALLAGHER.



FRANCES GALLAGHER.



her wedding day being March 4, 1854. This young man was a native of Switzerland, where he was born in 1825 and after his marriage with our subject he removed to Sangamon County, Ill. and there made his home. After four years' residence there they removed to Marion County, Ill., and resided there for nine years and in the spring of 1867 came to Moultrie County and settled in Lowe Township where Mr. Eberhardt died June 15, 1870.

Eight children have blest this union, namely: John, Bertha, Jacob, Anna, George, (who died at the age of nineteen) Emma, Charlie, who died when sixteen years old, and Lucinda, the last one dying in early childhood. Mrs. Eberhardt has continued to live in Lowe Township, and she owns two hundred acres of fine land upon which she has placed good improvements. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, an earnest and active Christian and a lady of such genial nature as to win every heart.



**H**ENRY C. GALLAGHER. The coming into a county in its early days of any family of enterprise, energy and industry, proves in time a great help in the progress of the community. Such a family is that of the Gallaghers, of Shelby County, and the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch is one of that large family, and with his brothers may well occupy a conspicuous place in this Record. The family history is given more at length in the biography of his brother Abram, to which our readers are referred for further minutia.

The fine estate of this farmer and stock-raiser is to be seen upon section 27, Holland Township, and its owner was born in this township within three-fourths of a mile of his present residence, August 1, 1843. He is the third in order of age of the large family of ten children born to Jacob and Sarah (Middlesworth) Gallagher, who came to Illinois in 1838 and settled near Shelbyville, where they remained for two years and then came to Holland Township.

Our subject has been a resident of the latter township all his life. His infancy was spent on the farm and he received training there and in the district schools which prepared him for taking up life's duties with energy and discretion. The curriculum of study in those pioneer schools was not broad but it was thorough, and the drill was an excellent preparation for the stern realities of life. As soon as he was old enough to undertake duties for himself he began farming independently and has always followed that business.

The farm of six hundred and twenty acres of good land bears upon it excellent improvements, and has what is rare in some parts of Illinois, a beautiful grove. Mr. Gallagher has devoted himself largely to the rearing of stock, making hogs a specialty, although he raises a good many horses. The marriage of our subject in 1871 brought to his home a bride in the person of Miss Frances, daughter of William and Elizabeth Westenhaver. This lady was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, February 6, 1843. Her parents came to Illinois in 1858 and located in Holland Township, this county, where they died. Three of their four children are now living.

Our subject and his wife have been so happy as to have in their household four children, and still happier in retaining them all in health. They are by name: Jacob E., Addie E., William T. and Alva L., all unmarried and at home with their parents. The estimate in which Mr. Gallagher is held by his fellow-citizens and their respect for his efficiency is abundantly shown by their placing him repeatedly in offices of trust. He has been Assessor, Collector, Township Clerk and School Director, and just now is School Trustee. He also served five years as Clerk.

The Democratic party in its declaration brings forward the political doctrines which Mr. Gallagher has ever esteemed as best adapted to the prosperity of the country. He is an active promoter of the movements of this party and takes part in all public affairs. All of his family with the exception of his youngest child are already members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in which they take a deep interest and for whose prosperity they cheerfully labor. He was a member of the Shelbyville

Lodge No. 117, I. O. O. F., but living at such a distance from that village prevented regular attendance and he eventually withdrew. A lithographic portrait of Mr. Gallagher appears on another page.



TRUMAN E. AMES, County Judge of Shelby County, already ranks among the most eminent men on the bench in this State, although comparatively young, as since assuming the judicial power his decisions have been marked with a thorough knowledge of the law as applicable to all cases under his jurisdiction, have been delivered with candor and unquestioned fairness, and have been pronounced without fear or favor.

Our subject was born January 2, 1850, in the township of DeKalb, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and is a descendant of the sturdy, energetic pioneer stock that settled that part of the county and redeemed it from the primeval forests. His father, Truman W. Ames, was also born on the old family homestead in De Kalb Township. He was a son of Barnabas Ames who was a native of Vermont. The great-grandfather of our subject, William Ames, was likewise born in Vermont, the Ames's being among the Colonial settlers of Massachusetts. Some of the family removed from there to Vermont. William and his son Barnabas, after residing there a few years, pushed on to the frontier wilds of Northern New York, going there on an exploring expedition before he removed his family, and taking with him his son, the grandfather of our subject, then a youth of twenty years. They made the entire journey from Vermont on foot, taking with them their axes to use when necessary in traveling through the rough, wild country through which they had to pass. They found St. Lawrence County a howling wilderness, with but few evidences of civilization, as there were but very few whites in that region. After their arrival they took the job to help clear the land where the Court House now stands at Canton. They soon selected a suitable location for themselves on what is now the pike leading from Canton to Potsdam, and after

erecting a log house on the land purchased returned to Vermont for the remainder of the family. The great-grandfather rounded out a long and useful life in his new-found home, and his mortal remains now repose in the Ames Cemetery not far from the scene of his pioneer labors.

The grandfather of our subject was just entering upon a vigorous manhood when the family removed to St. Lawrence County, and he at once set actively to work to evolve a farm from the wilderness. For many years after his location there were no railways, and Montreal, Canada, was the most convenient market and depot for supplies. Deer, bears and wolves were plentiful in the woods near the settlements, and sometimes committed havoc with the farmers' stock and gardens. The people were principally home-livers, subsisting on the products of their farms, their fare being varied occasionally by game; and the wives, mothers and daughters of the pioneers carded, spun and wove flax and wool, and the cloth thus made was fashioned by their hands into garments for their families. Grandfather Ames made farming his life work and cleared a good farm, on which he lengthened out a long and useful life.

The father of our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits in the home of his birth. In due time he married Miss Jane Armin, a native of England and a daughter of Michael and Jane (Jobbin) Armin. After marriage Mr. Ames purchased a farm near the old home, and was actively engaged in farming thereon until 1864, when he enlisted in the One Hundred and Sixth New York Infantry, and going at once to the front with his regiment, joined Sheridan's command in the Shenandoah Valley. He fought bravely in the first battle there, at Cedar Creek, and was severely wounded. After recovering from the effects of his wounds he joined his regiment again, and was present with the command at Appomattox at the time of Lee's surrender. He and his comrades were then sent in pursuit of Johnson's army, and after the surrender of the latter General they proceeded to Washington, took part in the Grand Review and were honorably discharged.

Having proved his loyalty and devotion to his

country by sacrificing his interests to help fight the battles that saved the Union. Mr. Ames returned to his old home and resumed his occupation as a farmer. He conducted his farming interests until 1881, when he retired from active business to Potsdam, where he still continues to enjoy the handsome competence that is the fruit of his well-directed labors. He and his good wife have four sons living and an adopted daughter, as follows: Truman E., Milon E., Ceylon W., Judson T. and Gertrude. Milon E., Ceylon W. and Judson T. are all locomotive engineers.

Judge Ames laid the foundation of a liberal education in the district schools of his native town, afterward studied at Hermon Academy, and then pursued a course of study at the State Normal and Training School at Potsdam. He thus had a good ground work for his legal studies, which he began in the law office of Moulton, Chaffee & Headon in the interim of teaching, he having come to Illinois in 1871, and for two years taught in Moultrie County, and subsequently in this county. To further prepare himself for his chosen calling he entered the Law Department of the Michigan State University at Ann Arbor, from which he was graduated with honor in the Class of '77. He opened an office at Windsor, and was established there one year. He next went to Rockford, but after remaining in that city one year, he returned to Windsor, and in 1880 came from there to Shelbyville. He arose steadily and rapidly in his profession until he was honored by being elected to his present important office of County Judge in 1886. This position he has attained solely through his personal merits and fitness for the place. This is the second term in which he has presided over the deliberations of the County Court, dispensing justice with an even hand, and his findings, which are seldom, if ever, over-ruled by the higher courts, evince his possession of a clear, comprehensive mind and masterly judicial qualities.

In 1874 Judge Ames and Miss Dora Hilsabeck were united in marriage at Windsor. Mrs. Ames was born at Windsor in 1856, and is the youngest daughter of James A. and Sarah (Boys) Hilsabeck, natives respectively of Georgia and Illinois. The

Judge and his amiable wife are among our leading society people, and their charming home possesses many attractions to their hosts of friends. Their household is completed by the presence of their only son and child, Edward Peer, who was born January 7, 1878.

Judge Ames is giving Shelbyville the benefit of his learning and executive talent by serving as President of the Board of Education and using his influence to make the schools of the city as good as the best in any part of the State. He is a Democrat in politics and in his social relations is a member of Jackson Lodge, No. 53, A. F. & A. M.; Godfrey de Bouillon Commandery, No. 44, at Mattoon, Ill.; also of Black Hawk Lodge, No. 83, K. of P.; and of the Uniformed Rank No. 40.



**CAPT. RANKIN P. MCPHEETERS.** It is a grateful task to the biographer to tell the story of the brave fightings and marches of the boys in blue who went forth to the call of the President to raise again in triumph the stars and stripes which had been assailed by traitors. No crisis in our country's history since the Revolutionary period had so stirred the hearts of the people and so entered into the home life of every family as the events which are classed under the head of the Civil War, and for at least two generations the history of that period will bear a peculiar and personal value in the eyes of all who love their country.

Capt. McPheeters, whose record we shall be happy to give further on in this sketch, is the son of the late Addison McPheeters, of whose history our readers will learn more in a biographical sketch of A. W. McPheeters, of Sullivan, which appears in this volume. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Julia Poague, bore four children, two of them being twins—our subject and A. W. McPheeters, of Sullivan. These sons were born in what is now Scott County, Ill., July 1, 1832, and there passed the early years of their life up to the age of nine when the father removed with his family

to Fayette County, Ky., and there our subject grew to manhood and received thorough systematic training as a farmer's boy. When he left Fayette County in the fall of 1852 he came to Moultrie County and for three years pursued his education in Sullivan and Charleston, Ill.

The education which this young man had now attained he decided to at once put to practical service in instructing others, and securing a position at the teacher's desk he taught for two years in Moultrie County before entering upon what has been his life work—farming. He settled upon a farm and devoted himself to that work continuously from that day to this, excepting the time which he spent in the army.

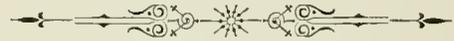
Mr. McPheeters enlisted in July, 1862, in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry, serving for three years, which term ended about the close of the war. It was as a private that he enlisted, but in March, 1863, he received the commission of a First Lieutenant in his company and the following July was promoted to the Captaincy of Company C, which official position he held until the close of the war. He took part in the siege of Vicksburg and in the battles of Humboldt, Tenn., and Clarendon, Ark. In July, 1864, Capt. McPheeters with his company was detailed and assigned to the Eleventh Ohio Battery for two months, and shortly after he was given command of that battery. He took part in the capture of Pine Bluff and Saline River, Ark.

Having passed through his entire term of service unharmed and with an honorable record the young Captain gladly hailed the return home, and no doubt thoroughly enjoyed the "royal welcome" which every loyal Northern heart desired to grant when "Johnny came marching home." Sullivan now became his home again and he soon after engaged in farming in East Nelson Township, where he has since resided and where he owns three hundred acres, upon which he has placed desirable improvements.

Capt. McPheeters was married in June, 1859, in Attica, Ind., to Ann M. Campbell, a native of that place. They have a family of four living children and buried their eldest, Julia, when a little child. Those who are living are: Jessie C. the wife of

Melville B. Connell, a druggist of Attica, Ind.; Susan F., Mary L. and Charles E. The parents of these children are active and earnest members of the Presbyterian Church and they have brought up their offspring in the faith and practice of the Christian religion. The office of Trustee of the church has long been filled by this gentleman.

Our subject has taken quite an active part in political matters and has a strong faith that the Republican party embodies the true principles of political economy. He is prominently identified with the Grand Army of the Republic at Sullivan, and in the Odd Fellows Lodge has filled every office of trust and has been the Deputy and representative of his lodge in the Grand Lodge. The pleasant home which he has provided for his family is delightfully situated and within its walls this public-spirited gentleman and his excellent and capable companion have created an atmosphere of true home life and harmony which has had a decided effect not only in the formation of the character of their children but also upon the social life of the neighborhood.



**C**OL HIRAM M. SCARBOROUGH. Shelby County sent many of its noble and patriotic citizens to the front during the late Civil War and among those who won military honors in "those times that tried men's souls" is our subject, who as a commissioned officer of the Fifty-fourth Illinois Regiment, was conspicuous while in the service for his readiness of resource, his coolness, for his promptness in carrying out the orders of his superiors, and for other merits that showed him to be a true soldier. His services have been equally as valuable within the last quarter of a century or more since peace was declared, in that he has taken a high place among the foremost of the men of this county who have pushed forward the mercantile interests of this section of the State and have materially added to its wealth. He has a large and elegant dry-goods establishment at Shelbyville, where he entered upon his prosperous career as a merchant twenty-five years ago.

Col. Scarborough was born in Hunterdon County, N. J., September 4, 1834. He is a son of Isaac Scarborough, who was a native of Bucks County, Pa. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a skillful mechanic and for many years carried on business as a blacksmith in Bucks County, his entire life being passed in Pennsylvania, so far as aught is known to the contrary. He was a stalwart Democrat, prominent in his party, and held the office of Sheriff of Bucks County. He reared seven sons and six of them learned of him the trade of a blacksmith.

The father of our subject followed in his father's footsteps as regards a trade and when a young man established himself as a blacksmith in Hunterdon County, N. J. He died there in 1845, ere yet he had passed life's meridian. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Eliza Case, sold her home after his death and moved across the State line into Bucks County and spent her last years in Pennsylvania with her daughters. These are the names of the six children that she reared: Mathias H., Hiram M., Mary E., Hannah A., Sadie E. and Jennie. Mathias and Jennie are dead.

The subject of this biographical notice was eleven years old when he was deprived of a father's care and at the age of twelve the sturdy, self-reliant little lad became self-supporting. He was employed on a farm until he was seventeen years old and he then began to learn the trade of a carpenter, which he followed in his native county some years. In 1856, in the prime and vigor of the opening years of his manhood, he came westward to this county and cast his lot with those who were active in its upbuilding. He located at Shelbyville and as he was a good carpenter he found plenty of work at his calling, which he pursued until 1860, when he abandoned that to accept a position as a clerk, in which capacity he was employed until he dropped his work to shoulder his rifle, that he might help to fight his country's battles.

He enlisted in the fall of 1861 in Company H, Fifty-fourth Illinois Infantry and received the compliment of being mustered in as Second Lieutenant of his company. In the long and weary years of sacrifice, hardship and privation that followed he served the Government with fidelity and

did not abandon his post until our flag floated once more over an undivided country. He was with his regiment in all its marches and campaigns, with the exception of about six months, when he was at home working hard to secure recruits. He veteranized in 1863 and was honorably discharged in November, 1865. From time to time he received deserved promotion, until he became one of the leading officers of his regiment. In the fall of 1862 he was made First Lieutenant and as such commanded his company in various engagements with the enemy. His next promotion to the rank of Captain soon followed, then to that of Major, and early in 1865 he was commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel and left the army with a high reputation as a gallant and efficient leader, whether in the heat of battle, on the march or in camp.

Col. Scarborough returned to Shelbyville after receiving his discharge papers and in January, 1866, began business here as a merchant, and ever since has conducted one of the leading stores of the city for the sale of dry goods and furnishing goods, carpets, etc. It is neat and handsome in its appointments, the stock, of which there is a large and well-selected assortment, is neatly and tastefully arranged, so as to add to the attractiveness of the establishment, and the whole is ably managed.

In 1871 our subject was married to Miss Isabella A. Middlesworth, a native of this county and a daughter of Abram Middlesworth, who is represented elsewhere in this volume. They have one son living, Charles M. The Colonel and his wife understand well the art of making their dwelling a true home, as all feel who cross the threshold and enjoy the comforts and luxuries of its tasteful furnishings, and receive every attention from their kind and considerate host and hostess.

Col. Scarborough is a frank, manly and straightforward man, whose business methods are such as to commend him to the confidence of the public, and Shelbyville holds him as one of her best citizens. His life has been guided by Christian principles and for many years he has been a consistent church member, first joining the Baptist Church in early manhood, while a resident of his native State. But after he came here to dwell it seemed good to him to unite himself with the Presbyterian

Church, in 1861, and he and his wife are to-day among its most effective working members. Specially he is a member of Jackson Lodge, No. 53, A. F. & A. M., and also of Cyrus Hall Post, G. A. R., his connection with that organization commemorating the days and nights that he and his comrades passed together on the battlefields of the South. He was born and reared by Democratic parents, but since 1863 he has been a stalwart Republican.



**G**EORGE W. SHRIDE has been a resident of Shelby County for more than thirty years, and during that time has won an important place among the most substantial farmers and stock-raisers of Pickaway Township, where he has a farm that compares with the best in this part of the State. He is a son of one of the pioneer families of Ohio, and was born in that State February 25, 1825, his birthplace being about twelve miles northwest of Lancaster, Fairfield County. His father's name was Jacob Shride, and he was a native of Bucks County, Pa. He went from there to Ohio when he was a young man, and married in that State, Hannah Bowman. He bought a tract of partly improved land in Fairfield County, and the remainder of his life was devoted to farming in that locality until death rounded out his life in 1861. His wife had died there many years before, passing away in 1840.

Our subject began when very young to acquire a practical knowledge of farming, and afforded his father much assistance during his youth. He attended school as he could, acquiring a fair education, and continued to live with his father until he attained his majority. He then worked on a farm by the month until his marriage, when he rented land in his native county a few years. In 1854 he went to Logan County, in the same State, and was a resident thereof until he came to Shelby in 1857. When he first located here he farmed as a renter, but in 1861 he bought two hundred and forty acres of land, which is included in his present farm on the west half of section 22, Pickaway Township. He has placed it under a high state of

tillage, has erected commodious buildings, and has made his farm a valuable piece of property, upon which he carries on a good business in general farming and stock-raising.

In 1849 Mr. Shride married Miss Julia A. Stump, and for thirty-five years they were bound together by the sacred tie of a true wedded life. Then death crossed the threshold of their home and removed the faithful wife and devoted mother from her family in September, 1884. Of the thirteen children born of that marriage, these ten have been reared to maturity: John W., William H., Lyman M., Daniel F., Sarah M., Jacob C., Milo D., Fletcher, Abraham Lincoln and Harvey E.

Mr. Shride is a member of the Reformed Church, as was also his wife. He was a Democrat previous to the war, but at that time became an ardent Republican, and has ever since remained true to the party. His whole career marks him as a man of sound understanding, of far-seeing sagacity and of industrious habits, so combined with those useful qualities of thrift, prudence and steadiness of purpose, that his prosperity is easily accounted for. His unswerving honesty and integrity, fidelity to whatever he conceives to be his duty, and his unflinching kindness to all with whom he comes in contact have won him the regard of his neighbors and friends.



**E**PHRAIM ADAMSON, a highly respected farmer residing in Moweauqua Township, Shelby County, was born in Centre County, Pa., January 22, 1839. James Adamson was his father's name, and he was a native of the same county, born in 1811. He was a son of one William Adamson, who was a native of Spain. In early life he came to this country and settled in Pennsylvania, where he spent his remaining years in Centre County. He was a soldier in the War of 1812. He married a Scotch lady.

James Adamson was reared to man's estate in his Pennsylvania birthplace. He went to Mifflin County, Ill., his native State, when he was a young man, and was there married to Nancy Ely, a native

of Franklin County, Pa., born in 1814, and a daughter of John Ely, who was also a Pennsylvanian by birth. The father of our subject purchased a tract of land in Centre County after his marriage, and lived thereupon several years. In 1839 he removed to Huntingdon County, in the same State, and was a resident there for many years. His next move was to Ohio in 1861, and he located in Guernsey County, where he lived until after the death of his wife in 1867. He then made his home with his children, and died in Centre County, Pa., in August, 1882. The following are the names of his children: David, Elizabeth, Ephraim, Mary-Jane, Isaac, Rebecca, Emma, John, Priscilla, Jemima and Nannie.

He of whom this sketch is principally written early acquired a knowledge of agriculture on his father's farm. He accompanied his parents to their new home in Ohio in 1861, and lived in Guernsey County until 1863. In that year he gave up his personal aims and ambitions to do his duty to his country as a patriotic citizen by helping to suppress the great rebellion that was then waging in the South, enlisting December 14 in an independent company. He was sent with his comrades to Washington, D. C., to do garrison work, and in 1864 served as body guard to President Lincoln. He was in Washington at the time of the assassination of the Chief Magistrate of the Nation, and was also at the Capital during the Grand Review, in which he took part. He was discharged from the army with his company September 11, 1865, and returned to Ohio, having gained a good military record for faithfulness and efficiency in whatsoever he was called upon to do while he was a soldier.

After he left the army Mr. Adamson drove a huckster's wagon in Cambridge from that time until 1868, when he left the Buckeye State to take up his residence in Illinois. He settled in Moweaqua Township, and two years later devoted some of his money to the purchase of forty acres of land. He subsequently bought more realty until he had one hundred and twenty acres of land, and he dwelt thereon twenty years. At the expiration of that time he disposed of that place and rented the adjoining farm, where he now resides. He

also has farming interests in Nebraska, owning a good farm in Nuckolls County, that State.

In 1867 Mr. Adamson took unto himself a wife, marrying Miss Josephine Scoot, a native of Guernsey County, Ohio. They have eight children living: James, David, George, Oscar, Mary, Nannie, Edwin and Ida.

As a veteran of the late war our subject is an honored member of J. V. Clemens Post, No. 363, G. A. R. He and his wife are among the most worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and among their neighbors they are held in high estimation for their many excellent qualities of head and heart.



**H**ENRY MARTZ, one of our worthy German-American citizens who does credit alike to the land of his birth and the land of his adoption, resides on section 28, Ridge Township, Shelby County, where he carries on a first-class farm. He was born in the old country April 3, 1834, and up to the time when he was thirteen years old he worked upon the farm. He then served an apprenticeship for three years to the trade of a miller and was sixteen years old when he came to America.

The youth landed in New York City and made his way to Lancaster, Ohio, where he was engaged at farm labor for eight years, after which he was married March 14, 1858 to Miss Margaret Singer, a native of Bavaria, Germany, where she was born August 29, 1838. He remained in Fairfield County for two years after his marriage and in 1860 removed to Shelby County, Ill., renting land in Pickaway Township for about thirteen years. In 1873 he decided to purchase a farm and bought one hundred and sixty acres on section 28, where he settled and where he has since been a resident.

This fine farm has now been increased to two hundred and sixty acres. Upon it have been erected good buildings and excellent improvements of other kinds. Nine children have made this happy home resound with the gleeful pursuits of childhood, their names being Henry, John, Anna

M., William T., Caroline C., George E., Rosama M., Charles G., and Lewis J. Anna M. is the wife of Samuel Campbell; Henry married Louisa Raab; John died when fourteen years old. The father of these young people has been Highway Commissioner for some three years and his political views lead him to affiliate with the Democratic party. Both he and his excellent wife are members in good and regular standing of the Lutheran Church. Their good home, pleasantly located, forms an agreeable center of social life and the farm shows every mark of the hand of a prudent and conscientious farmer.



**J**OHAN W. FALK fills multifarious offices of usefulness at Herborn, Shelby County, being its merchant, Postmaster, express agent, freight agent and carrying on a fine business in the manufacture of tile. His business ability and thorough going, progressive character, are giving a push to this young town, which will tell upon its future.

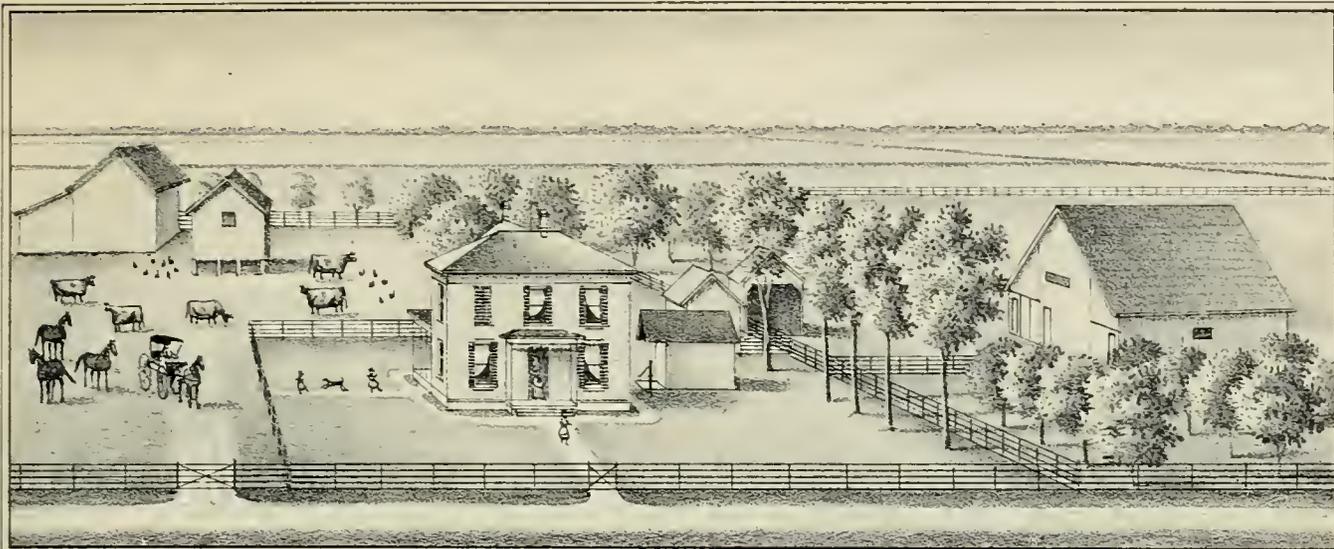
Mr. Falk was born in Germany, September 7, 1856, his parents being John and Anna (Franke) Falk. The family came to the United States in 1858 when our subject was scarcely two years old. Their first home was in Chicago, but they did not tarry there many years, as they thought best to devote themselves to agricultural pursuits. Accordingly they sought out some of the rich but unbroken prairie soil where they might make their home and by industry gain the wealth which was hidden under its surface. The father was not a man of means and felt that in order to secure for his children the best advantages of this new world he must place them where they might rise more readily than in a great city.

Shelby County was chosen as the home of the family and here the father purchased forty acres of land. He was hampered in his work by poor health, but still by earnest endeavor and industry, coupled with economy he became the owner of two hundred and forty acres of land and placed upon it excellent improvements. His death occurred in

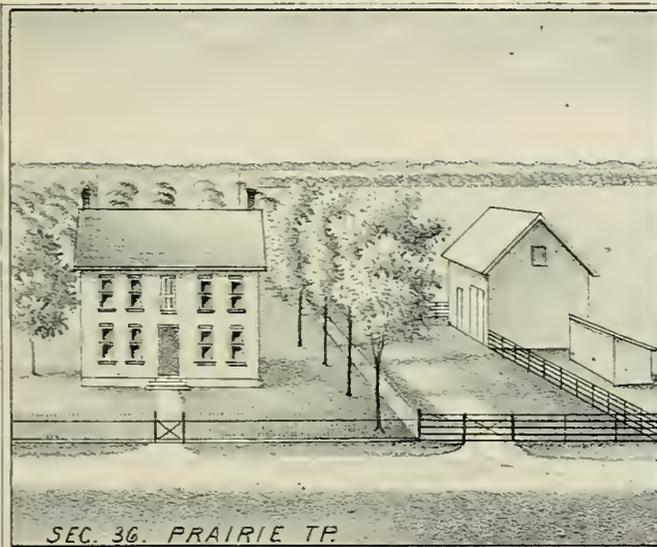
1877 when he was fifty years old. He was an earnest and devout member of the Lutheran Church in which his wife was in sympathy with him. The worthy widow still survives and is making her home in Shelby County on the old homestead.

Five of the children of John and Anna Falk grew to man's and woman's estate. These were Joseph; Dora, wife of William Rozene; Elizabeth, wife of John Scheef; Caroline, the wife of Henry Zalman and our subject who was the fourth in order of birth in the family. He was but five years old when the family removed to Shelby County, and therefore feels that almost his entire life has been identified with the growth and progress of the community in which he lives. He received the usual thorough drill and instruction given to a farmer's boy and was educated in the district school. Although his school advantages were extremely limited he availed himself thoroughly of all opportunities which were placed within his reach and has acquired a good business education by independent study and endeavor.

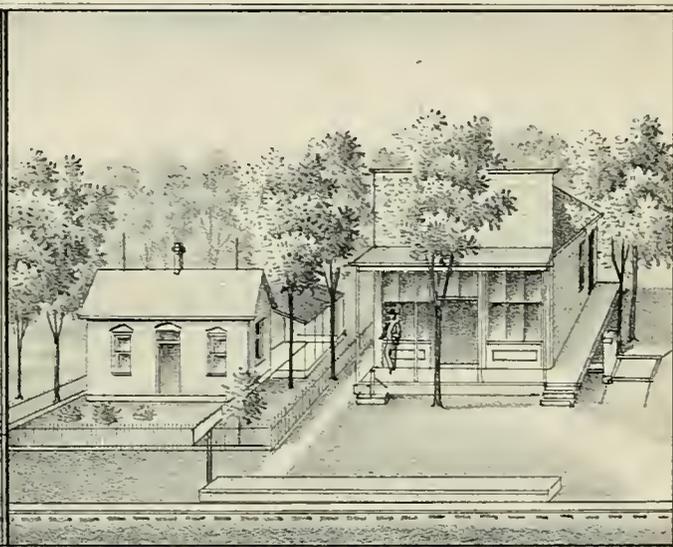
At the age of twenty-one years, John Falk engaged in merchandize at Stewardson, an enterprise which he conducted for one year, after which time he decided to go upon a farm and establish a home of his own. He was married in 1878 to Anna Giesler, daughter of Adam and Mary Giesler who was born in Elkhart County, Ind., November 16, 1862. After following agriculture, for some eleven years, he established a mercantile business at Herborn in 1889, and soon afterward became a partner in the tile factory, and later took up dealing in grain. The tile business at Herborn was established about ten years ago by Hunt and Gallamore. The present firm does business under the title of the Herborn Tile Manufacturing Company and is composed of the following gentlemen: Joseph Falk, John W. Falk, and A. T. Weber. Mr. and Mrs. Falk own together some one hundred and forty acres of excellent land. Our subject is identified with the Republican party and works for its prosperity, although he devotes only a limited portion of his time and interest to political matters. He has been placed in the office of School Trustee in which he is efficient and active.



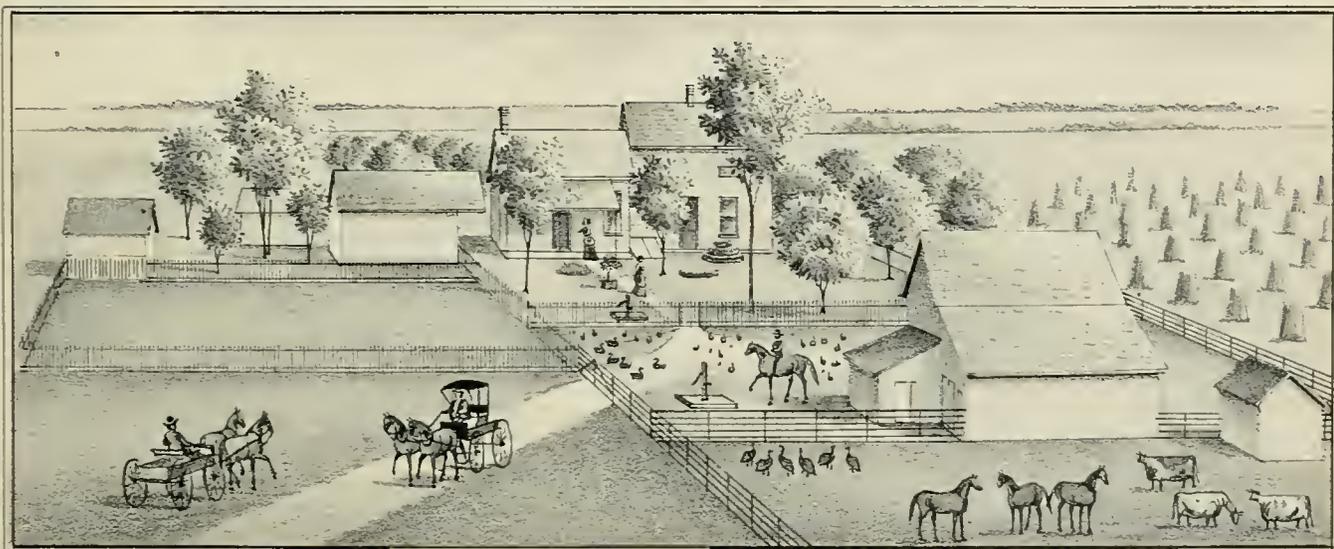
RESIDENCE OF JOHN REBER, SEC. 31, PRAIRIE TP., SHELBY CO., ILL.



SEC. 36. PRAIRIE TP.



"FARM PROPERTY," RESIDENCE & STORE OF J. W. FALK, HERBORN STATION, SHELBY CO., ILL.

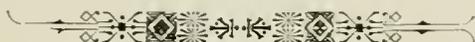


RESIDENCE OF SAMUEL BOWMAN, SEC. 21, RIDGE TP., SHELBY CO., ILL.



and is actively forwarding the educational interests of the township. He feels these to be among the most vital and necessary matters which should engage the attention and zeal of every worthy and broad-minded citizen.

The attention of the reader is invited to a view on another page of the residence and store of Mr. Falk.



**S**AMUEL BOWMAN, the son of an eminent Memmonite minister and a man of great usefulness and ability, resides on section 21, Ridge Township, Shelby County, where his good farm and excellent buildings testify to his skill and thoroughness as a farmer. His father, the Rev. Jacob Bowman, was born in Franklin County, Pa., and his mother, Mollie Lehman was a native of the same county. There they were married and made their home in Franklin County, Ohio, where they lived for many years and where this venerable and highly honored clergyman departed from earth, May 18, 1884. His faithful companion survives him and has reached a very advanced age.

The subject of this sketch is one of the younger members of his father's family, his birth taking place in Franklin County, Ohio, May 4, 1846. His boyhood days were spent there and his schooling received in the common schools of the Buckeye State. Besides preaching, his father carried on a farm and the boy grew up to a sturdy manhood with the excellent drill which is given to a farmer's boy.

In his native county, the young man found a wife in the person of Miss Susan Motts, a daughter of Daniel and Harriet (Warner) Motts, both born in Berks County, Pa. The day which united these two useful and happy lives was September 7, 1871. The first home of Mr. and Mrs. Motts was in Franklin County, Pa., but they had removed to Franklin, Ohio, previous to their daughter's marriage. Mr. Motts' death occurred November 7, 1876, and his wife followed him to the other world, September 20, 1879. This highly honored

couple had a family of ten children, of whom Mrs. Bowman was the ninth in age. Her native home was Franklin County, Pa., where she was born July 22, 1849. Her domestic qualities have fitted her admirably for her work as a wife and mother, and she has been a true helpmate to her husband since the day of their marriage.

The early wedded life of Mr. and Mrs. Bowman was spent in Franklin County, Ohio, where they remained for four years, but in January, 1876 they came to Shelby County, Ill., and made their home on section 21, Ridge Township, where they have built up a prosperous and delightful home. Agriculture has been Mr. Bowman's life work and he is the owner of two hundred acres of excellent and productive soil. Upon the homestead he has a substantial set of buildings, including a commodious residence, a view of which is shown on another page.

Four children have blessed the home of Mr. Bowman, namely: Benjamin F., Ida M., John C., and Howard A. To these children have been offered good educational advantages and they are making progress in preparing for the responsible duties of life. The political views of Mr. Bowman are in accordance with the declaration of the Republican party, in the progress of which he takes a keen interest. Both he and his excellent wife have taken an active part in religious work, and are members of the Evangelical Association, where he has filled the office of Steward and Trustee. He is thus carrying out in a little different line, the good Christian work in which his father was active for thirty-four years.

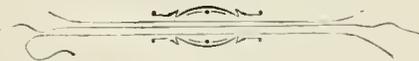


**J**OHAN REBER, whose handsome brick residence built after modern architectural design attracts the eye of every visitor to Prairie Township, Shelby County, was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, January 2, 1838. His parents, T. V. and Rachel (Allen) Reber were natives of the same county, the father being born in 1807 and now living in Wyandot County,

that State, and the mother, who was born in 1809, having died in the county just named in October, 1890.

Of the family of T. V. and Rachel Reber, there were eight children, and our subject was the second in age. Like thousands of young men from Ohio he came to Illinois, arriving here October 5, 1867 and locating on the farm where he now resides. He has since that time efficiently carried on the business of farming and stock-raising. This State was visited by his father about the year 1850, and he then entered the land from the Government, which afterward came to this son by inheritance. Mr. Reber has a splendid farm of four hundred and eighty acres, and upon this he has recently erected a new home, a view of which appears on another page.

March 23, 1891, was the happy wedding day of John Reber and Mrs. Clara Thompson. Mrs. Reber is a native of Shelby County and a daughter of the Rev. Mr. Stamper, of Herrick, this county. She was first married to William Thompson, of Shelby County, who died in 1890. Mr. Reber always voted the Republican party until 1890, when he broke away from party lines and became independent in his political view and vote. He makes a principle of casting his ballot for the man and the measures which in his judgment will best subserve the good of the community and the prosperity of the commonwealth. He is not a professor of religion but cheerfully gives of his means to the support of the Gospel. He is looked upon by his neighbors as one of the valuable and solid members of the social and industrial community of Prairie Township.



**J**OHN POGUE has been identified with the agricultural interests of this county for more than a quarter of a century and these busy years have been fraught with much prosperity for him and he now has a large and well-equipped farm, pleasantly located in Pickaway Township. He is a son of one of the early pio-

neer families of Indiana and was born in that State, in the Township of Fairbanks, Sullivan County, March 17, 1820. His father, James Pogue, was born in 1796 amid the pioneer scenes of Mercer County, Ky. He was a son of William Pogue, who was a native of Ireland. He came to this country in Colonial times and served faithfully in the Continental Army throughout the Revolutionary War. He subsequently went to the Northwest Territory and later became a pioneer of Kentucky, where his life was brought to a close at a good old age. The maiden name of his wife was Jane Marshall.

James Pogue was but nine years old when the family went to Ohio and when he was eighteen years old he made his way across the border to the Territory of Indiana. For two years he resided in Knox County and then sought the forests of Sullivan County to build up a home. He was the first to settle in what is now Fairbanks Township, where he bought a tract of heavily timbered land from the Government. He built a log cabin which he afterward replaced by a more commodious hewed log house, which was then the birthplace of his son, of whom we write. For many years there were no railways and Terre Haute was the nearest town to which the settlers could go to market their produce and obtain household supplies. The people had to live mostly on what they could raise on their farms, the abundance of wild game, such as deer, turkeys, etc., adding greatly to their fare. The wives and daughters of the pioneers spun and wove all the cloth used by their families, homespun garments being the rule.

The father of our subject, by dint of hard and persistent labor, cleared a fine farm from the wilderness, and there his days were passed in peace and plenty until the end came and he was removed from the scenes of his toil by the hand of death in 1854. His wife survived him until 1862, when she too passed away. Her maiden name was Emmet Thomas and she was born in Kentucky, William and Jane Thomas being her parents.

Our subject was one of eight children and he grew to a vigorous and self-reliant manhood in his native county. The school that he attended

when he was a boy was taught in a log house. Small logs were split to make seats for the scholars, one side of the logs being hewn smooth, and wooden pins being inserted for legs, the seats being without backs or desks. The school was conducted on the subscription plan and the teacher sometimes boarded around among the families in the district. As soon as he was large enough our subject was required to assist in the farm work and he was thus engaged until he was twenty-two years old. His father then gave him eighty acres of timber land and he at once entered upon the hard pioneer task of redeeming it from a state of nature. At that time standing trees were of little value and he used to roll large logs together and burn the pile. He cleared five or six acres, built on the place and at the time of marriage settled there.

In 1865 our subject sold his property in Indiana and coming to Shelby County, bought two hundred and forty acres of wild prairie in Pickaway Township. For one hundred and sixty acres he paid at the rate of \$12 an acre and for eighty acres he paid \$8 an acre. He then purchased an additional one hundred and sixty acres at \$12½ an acre and another eighty acre tract at \$30 an acre. He now owns five hundred and forty acres, sixty of which is timber land. He has erected a good set of frame buildings and has added to the beauty of the place by planting fruit, shade and ornamental trees in abundance.

December 31, 1841, Mr. Pogue and Miss Nancy Perry united their fortunes for better or worse and their hearty co-operation in the upbuilding of their home has secured them the handsome competency that they enjoy. Mrs. Pogue was born in Vigo County, Ind., and is a daughter of William N. and Catherine (McClure) Perry, who were early pioneers of her native State. Among the blessings that a wedded life of half a century has vouchsafed our subject and his estimable wife are the ten children born to them, named as follows: James M., Angeline, Emeline, Cornelia, Charles M., Louisa, William Marvin, Leona, Julia A. and Hiram M.

Mr. and Mrs. Pogue are valued members of the Christian Church, who carry their religion into

their every-day lives, and are kind and considerate toward all, these pleasant traits of character winning them respect and regard on every hand. Mr. Pogue has clear and sensible views concerning politics and is independent of any party, voting for whom he thinks best suited to assist in the management of public affairs.



**R**OBERT E. CANNON. The village of Tower Hill is the seat of some thriving business establishments, prominent among which is the store of Mr. Cannon, dealer in lumber, furniture hardware and agricultural implements. His life affords a striking example of what may be accomplished by a determined and tireless spirit, even with nothing as capital save vigor of body and activity of mind. A self-made man in a wide sense, Mr. Cannon has gained wealth, but while doing so he has remembered that there are others in the world as well as himself, and has treated those with whom he has had dealings in the most straightforward and honest manner, carrying out the Golden Rule in all his dealings.

A native of Alabama, Mr. Cannon was born September 3, 1841, and at the age of seven years accompanied his parents to Arkansas, where he remained twelve years. There he received a common-school education, which he has since broadened by careful reading on all important subjects. In 1864 he came to Illinois, and locating in Montgomery County, passed the ensuing six years there. During four years of this time he was engaged in the lumber business for his father in the town of Butler, and he was also in partnership with his father and brother in the dry-goods business at Irving for one and a half years. Thus early in life he acquired a thorough knowledge of business affairs, and gained that judgment and decision which characterize his transactions now.

In 1872 Mr. Cannon came to Tower Hill and embarked in his present business, which he is still successfully prosecuting. He has an extensive and lucrative business and occupies a prominent place

among the business men of Shelby County. He controls three hundred and twenty acres of land, but makes his home in a cozy residence in the village. Peace, comfort and happiness have come to him from his marriage, which was celebrated in Butler, Ill., October 12, 1868. The bride on that important occasion was Miss Julia A. Stewart, a native of Montgomery County, Ill. The union has been blessed by the birth of nine living children, as follows: Ella, Lillie, Alice, Arthur, Walter, Lizzie, Elmer E., Flora and Myrtle. One child died in infancy.

In politics Mr. Cannon is a staunch Democrat, and has represented the people in the Town Council for twelve years. He has also served the township as Clerk and School Director. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has filled some of the offices. Mr. Cannon, during an honorable career as a sagacious, enterprising business man, has displayed those solid traits of character that are needful to the attainment of good fortune in any calling, and in his dealings with all either in a business or social way he has ever shown himself to be a man of honor and truthfulness, and with his good wife he enjoys the full trust of the entire community.



**h**A. DAVIS. The gentleman whose name is at the head of this sketch is a general farmer and a breeder of horses. The tract of land of which he is proprietor comprises one hundred and sixty acres, and is located on section 33, Pickaway Township, Shelby County. Mr. Davis secured this land directly from the Government in August, 1852, and since then has devoted himself to improving it. Our subject came to this county when yet a small boy. He is a native of Kentucky, being there born June 9, 1826, and is the son of Joshua and Leah (Stitt) Davis, natives of Maryland and Kentucky, respectively, but of Scotch-Irish ancestry.

After marriage our subject's parents began life

in Nicholas County, Ky., and there five of the children were born. About 1833, the family removed to this State, coming by way of the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, up to Naples, and thence over into Morgan County. There Mr. Davis Sr., rented land for some time and was engaged in farming. Later they came to this county settling here in a very early day, and purchasing some new and unbroken land of the Government. The parents ended their lives in Ridge Township, the father, January 4, 1868, and the mother February 18, 1857. They were then aged respectively eighty and fifty years, and had been members, for a great many years, of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Our subject is the third in order of eight children, of whom there were three sons and five daughters. Four of these children are yet living. The youngest son was killed at the battle of Chickamauga during the War of the Rebellion. His name, John H. Davis, and the memory of his bravery and loyalty will ever be cherished by family, comrades and friends. He of whom we write was reared under the home roof in this county, where he became of age. He has been a close and appreciative observer of all the changes that have taken place in the history of the state from the '30s to the present time. The original of our sketch has been fairly successful in a business and financial way since starting out in life for himself.

Mr. Davis was married in this township and county, early in life to Miss Elizabeth Robinson. Their marriage was celebrated in March, 1858. The lady was born in Bourbon County, Ky., and came to Shelby County, this State, in February, 1857. She died at her home here in June, 1867. She was the mother of five sons, namely—James, Henry, Alex., John H., George B. Mc., and William G. Feeling the need of companionship after the death of his wife, our subject was again married, the lady consenting to preside over his home and be a mother to his children, was Miss Mary Rice. They were married in 1869. She is a native of this State although her parents were Kentuckians, where they lived for some time. They passed away from life at their daughter's home in this township, June, 1871. She was in middle life at the time of her decease and left one child, Rosa B., having lost a

son, Frank, previous to the birth of the child mentioned. Our subject was again married, this time to Mrs. Elizabeth Yunkins. She was born and reared in the State of Alabama, and was married to a Southerner who died in the Southern army. By her present marriage she is the mother of two children, namely: Cora B. and Samuel T. She had one son by her first marriage, Thomas Jefferson.



**W**ILLIAM HILL, is a general farmer residing on a finely improved tract of land located on sections 19 and 20, of Pickaway Township, Shelby County. His farm comprises eighty acres of highly cultivated land which has been his home since 1850. At the time of his purchase, the place was perfectly new and unbroken. He first secured forty acres from the Government and it was then virgin soil. Besides this tract, our subject owns forty acres of good land in Flat Branch Township. He has lived in the county all his life, having first opened his eyes upon the mysteries of the world in Ridge Township, April 9, 1827. He is therefore one of the oldest settlers living in the county.

The original of our sketch comes from Southern parentage. His father, William Hill, Sr., was a native of Kentucky, and a son of Henry Hill, who was a native of Maryland or South Carolina. He was married to Elizabeth (Bruntz) Hill, probably a native of the same State with himself. After marriage they settled in Kentucky, near Louisville and some time later they came with their family to Montgomery County, Ill., arriving there at a very early day. There Henry Hill died, being eighty years old at the time of his decease, his wife having died previous in Shelby County, at the home of a daughter. She, also, was eighty years of age when she died. Henry Hill and wife were members of the regular Baptist Church. They had a large family. William Hill, Sr., was one of the elder children and arrived at manhood and married in Montgomery County Miss Cynthia Scribner, a native of Tennessee. She was quite young when her father, William Scribner, removed to Mont-

gomery County, during pioneer days. Her father and mother in their last years, moved west of the Missouri River, where they passed away at a very advanced age. They were pioneer farmers wherever they located.

After the marriage of William Hill, Sr., they made their first permanent settlement in what is now Ridge Township, Shelby County, there procuring Government land, which they improved until it was in a fine state of cultivation. Later they purchased land in Flat Branch Township, this county, and there Mrs. Hill died while in middle life. Later, Mr. Hill came to make his home with his son, our subject, and died here at the age of sixty-four years. He had for many years been a member in good standing, of the Baptist Church. Politically he affiliated with the Democratic party, his sympathies having been with that party all his life.

Our subject is one of a large family, five only of whom are yet living, all of these being married. He of whom we write remained under his father's roof until he had attained years of manhood, reaching his majority while in Flat Branch Township. He there married Susanna Tolly, who was a native of the place where her marriage was celebrated, her natal day being October 27, 1832. She was reared and educated in her native township and was one with her husband after their marriage, until her death, which occurred April 17, 1889, in making a comfortable and pleasant home. She was an amiable woman and a conscientious, true Christian, having been a member of the Baptist Church for many years. Her father, Robert Tolly, was a native of Kentucky, and later, a very early settler in Flat Branch Township, where he pre-empted a homestead in which he lived and died. He was, at the time of his death, but a little past middle age. His wife, Jemima Dents, came here with her parents at an early day. She passed the last years of her life in Flat Branch Township, passing away at an advanced age. Both she and Mr. Tolly were members of the old school Baptist Church.

Mrs. Hill, the wife of our subject, was one of ten children, three of whom are yet living. She was also the mother of ten children, all excepting

three, now living. Those deceased are Robert, Mary E. and Charles H. The living children are John M.; Levi P.; Jemima; Lovisa; Cynthia M.; Lydia and Isaac. Of these John took to wife Sarah J. Drake and is proprietor of a farm in this township. Levi P. was married to Julia Thomas, and is a farmer in Flat Branch Township. Jemima is the wife of Alvin T. Janes; they also reside in Flat Branch Township. Lovisa is the wife of Freedom Brinker, a farmer living in Greenwood County, Kan. Lydia remains at home and is her father's housekeeper, being a woman of most pleasing address and kindly genial manners. Isaac also is at home and assists his father. Mr. Hill is a member of the old school Baptist Church and the Democratic party has in him one of its most true and loyal followers.



**W**ILLIAM J. HENRY. This gentleman, who like many of the residents of Ridge Township, Shelby County, is a native of the Buckeye State, is a son of Isaac Henry, and Elizabeth Foster, the former, a native of Ohio, and the latter, of Maryland. The respected father died in Noble County, Ohio, after which sad event the mother came to Shelby County, and died at the residence of her son, the subject of this life record. They had seven children, of whom our subject is the fourth in age.

William Henry first saw the light in Jefferson County, Ohio, February 23, 1823. When he was but a little child his parents removed from their old home to Guerusey County, and here the boy was educated in the common schools and on the farm and grew to a vigorous and active young manhood. In Noble County, Ohio, he found the lady whom he chose as the one above all others to be his helpmate through life and they were united in marriage, October 11, 1849. Her maiden name was Margaret Wilson, and she was a daughter of Reuben and Sarah (Yoho) Wilson. Her mother died in Noble County, and her father somewhat later in Washington County.

The life of Mrs. Margaret Henry began in Guer-

nsey County, Ohio, April 1, 1828, and here she received her early education before going to Noble County. The earliest wedded home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry was in Noble County and there they continued to reside for some seventeen years, removing in 1866 to Shelby County, where they established themselves on section 9, Ridge Township, which has since then been their permanent home. Upon this land Mr. Henry has erected an excellent set of farm buildings, and he now possesses some three hundred-and-eighty-two acres.

To Mr. and Mrs. Henry have been granted ten children to cheer and enliven their home. They are: Lewis C., who married Mary Hart; Reuben W., who died when twenty-five years old in Ridge Township; John B., who has taken to wife Nellie Bextle; Rebecca A., the wife of Thomas T. Henry; Sarah E. became the wife of John N. Thomas; Emma J. married William Carder; Abraham, whose wife bore the maiden name of Minnie Burk; William S.; Jacob S., whose wife was Mary Burk; Margaret C. The work of farming has very thoroughly engaged the attention of Mr. Henry, although he has given some time to public affairs, having served for some time as School Director. He formerly took an active interest in political matters, being a believer in the principles of the Republican party, but he is now a Prohibitionist and active in the temperance cause, and a member of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. In religious matters he is interested in the society known as the Church of God, where he and his wife are members and in which he has served as an Elder. His excellent buildings and neat farm, speak well for the thorough hand and the keen eye of the farmer who supervises the work.



**J**AMES H. DOWNS, a prosperous farmer residing on section 18, Ridge Township, Shelby County, is a son of Election Downs, who was born in Virginia, October 13, 1803, and afterward removed to Maryland thence to Ohio from there, to Illinois, where the grandfather, Daniel, died at the home of Election in Ridge

Township. The mother of our subject was in her maidenhood known as Mary Ann Stiffler, and was born in Washington County, Md., October 26, 1800, and after becoming the wife of Elections Downs resided for a short time in Hagerstown, that State, and then removed to Delaware County, Ohio. This couple remained in the Buckeye State until 1845, when they emigrated to Shelby County, Ill., and settled in Ridge Township, which they made their home until called away by death he on August 18, 1873 and she died July 29, 1881.

The subject of this sketch was the seventh in a family of eight children, and was born in Delaware Comty, Ohio, May 4, 1837, being thus about eight years old when he came with his parents to Shelby County, since which time Ridge Township has been his home. He had thorough training in the duties of a farmer-boy and has always followed agricultural pursuits and stock-raising. The schools of this county, which he attended were as good as any country schools of that day, and were carried on mostly by subscription. The boy was industrious and attentive to school duty and made a good start in this direction which has ever served him in good stead through life.

James Downs was married in Ridge Township, March 22, 1860, to Miss Jane Oller, a daughter of William and Eliza J. (Johnson) Oller. Her father was born in Virginia, May 5, 1818, and her mother, in Chambersburg, Pa., and is living in Shelbyville, Ill.; her birth occurred September 12, 1821 and they came to Shelby County, about 1840, settling in Ridge Township, which they made their permanent home, and where Mr. Oller died, July 31, 1874.

Mrs. Jane Downs was born in Ridge Township, February 15, 1845 and here her married life has been spent. Mr. Downs now owns nearly one thousand acres and has erected a valuable brick house which has delightful surroundings and he has placed other excellent buildings upon his farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Downs are the parents of four children; Jennie, the wife of Dr. A. P. Roekey, of Assumption, Ill., who is the mother of one child Stella, born May 18, 1886; William E., who died in infancy; Dora A., now the wife of John J. Smith, of Ridge Township and Ora B. Mr. Downs has

filled the office of Highway Commissioner for about six years and in politics inclines to the doctrines set forth by the Democratic party, yet is independent in regard to his vote, aiming to cast it always for the best good of the community and to help in placing in office the best man for the place. Besides the valuable property owned by Mr. Downs in Shelby County, he is interested in a coal mine at Assumption and has twenty fine building lots at Decatur, Ill. He has a good residence and excellent surroundings in every way and his wealth is the result of his energy, enterprise and integrity.



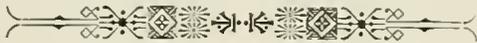
**M**ARTIN HAMM. It is not to be wondered at that so many Ohio men have come to Illinois and have here engaged in business,

for the conditions of life in the two States are somewhat similar, with the advantages in point of business opportunities in favor of the Prairie State. Our subject is a native of Ohio, having been born near Good Hope September 11, 1859. As his name would indicate, he belongs to that race of people of whom we have a great many worthy representatives in this country. He is of German parentage and ancestry, his father, Jacob Hamm, having been a native of Germany, as was also his mother, Agnes (Miller) Hamm. They emigrated to this country in 1848.

When about eight years of age our subject removed to Shelby County, this State with his parents, who settled in Richland Township, where they died. There he of whom we write grew to manhood, being reared on a farm. He received a common-school education that fitted him for the practical business of life, but remained on the farm till 1873, when he became a clerk for Wilson Brothers, in their business house at Strasburg. There he remained for about four years and then launched into business for himself, becoming proprietor of a mercantile house. He carried a good stock of merchandise and prospered in his new venture and at the end of eighteen months he took a partner, the other member of the firm being J. N. Storm. They continued together for a period of

about four years, when they dissolved partnership, and Mr. Hamm built the store which he at present occupies. He carries an extensive and well-selected stock of clothing, hats, caps, boots and shoes, with gentlemen's furnishing goods.

In 1890, in company with Henry Stewardson, the original of our sketch built the hardware store in Strasburg and in connection with it they keep a good line of farm implements, furniture, stoves and tinware. They here carry on an extensive business. In 1886 Mr. Hamm built a very large hay barn, which he operated for three years. This he finally traded for a farm, of which he owns one hundred and thirty-four acres. Mr. Hamm's married life began in Shelby County, Ill., where he was married to Miss Mattie Shelton, a daughter of Joel Shelton, of Strasburgh. She was born in Shelby County, this State, and is a woman of marked personal charms and the center of the best social life in the community. Our subject and his wife are the parents of two children, whose names are Wordy K. and Agnes. Our subject has served in various public offices, having been Treasurer of the Village Board for several years. He is now the Treasurer of the Loan Association. As do all loyal American citizens, he of whom we write takes an active interest in political affairs and is a member of the Democratic party, throwing his influence in favor of that party at every opportunity.



**J**OHN F. MARTIN, who is a resident of Strasburg Township, is a native of Fountain County, Ind., having been born in Davis Township, September 9, 1842, where he remained until he had reached the years of manhood, and indeed it was not until he was in his twenty-second year that he left the home roof to go out and battle for himself. At that time he removed to Shelby County and settled on a farm in Richland Township. There he remained but a short time and then returned to Indiana in time to enlist with his youthful comrades in the War of the Rebellion. He joined Company D, of the One Hun-

dred and Fiftieth Indiana Regiment, and served until the close of the war, when he returned to Shelby County, this State, and has ever since made his home in Richland Township on a farm, until 1882, when he came to Strasburg.

Since coming to Strasburg Mr. Martin has been engaged in the grain and flour trade and has built up a flourishing business. Our subject is a man who is interested in any measure that benefits humanity. Naturally he takes a great interest in local as well as national politics. A Democrat in his political policy and theories, he has been appointed by his party to fill a number of local offices. He has been Collector for two years, and has filled the office of Assessor for the same length of time.

The original of our sketch was married in Richland Township, Shelby County, this State, soon after his return from the war, in December, 1866. His wife was Mrs. Philenia Whitlatch, who was born in Shelby Township. The lady has made a pleasant home for her husband and the children who have taken their place at the family board. Their names are Lizzie, Rosetta, John Franklin, Emma, Ella, Della, Eva and Charlie.

Mr. Martin is a member of the Masonic fraternity. For four years he has held the office of Village Trustee of Strasburg. Personal comfort, convenience or gain are secondary considerations to our subject in the face of the demands that are made upon his time by the needs of the community. An upright and trustworthy man personally, as a citizen he combines the rare qualities of ability, judgment, generosity and self-forgetfulness. He has done much to assist the growth of the village, and he with his amiable wife and family of children make one of the pleasantest homes in the place.

The father of the subject of this sketch was George B. Martin, who was a farmer, and a native of Ohio. His mother was a Miss Elizabeth Pierson, who was born in New York. After the marriage of George Martin they settled in Davis Township, Fountain County, Ind., where they passed the remainder of their lives. They had thirteen children, nine sons and four daughters, and of these our subject was the eldest. At the present time (May, 1891,) only three of this large family are living. Mrs. Martin, our subject's wife, was the daughter of Peter and





*Yours Truly  
J. L. Parkinson.*

Eda Smith. They were old settlers at an early day in Shelby County, and died in Holland Township. Her first husband was Samuel Whitlatch, who died in Richland Township. By her first marriage she was the mother of one child, Samantha, who is now the wife of Marion Johnson. Mr. and Mrs. Martin are members of the Baptist Church, in which body they are both active workers. Our subject is known throughout the county as being a large grain-buyer, and his reputation as a business man is without a flaw.



**L** EONARD PARKINSON, a prominent farmer, stock-raiser and dealer in real estate, residing on section 30, Oconee Township, Shelby County, was born on Staten Island, N. Y., January 21, 1831. His parents were Leonard and Maria (Fountain) Parkinson, both being natives of Staten Island, and descended from English and German ancestry respectively. Two sons and two daughters were the children of this marriage, as follows: Mary E., the widow of William Burns, is at present in Europe where she has been spending seven years educating her daughter; the next, is our subject; William A., who is unmarried is engaged in the insurance business in the East, and makes his home upon Staten Island; Hannah S. is the wife of John Benjamm, a broker of New York City. The mother died five years ago in her eighty-third year, having been a widow since 1852.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the schools of New York City, and grew to manhood as a resident of Staten Island. In 1848-49 during the prevalence of the "gold fever," he went to California and remained there for five years, being engaged in trading with the Sandwich Islands, and in the brokerage business, in both of which he was successful in a financial way. In 1853 he returned to Staten Island, and in 1861 came to Illinois and located on the farm in Oconee Township, where he now resides. He owns two hundred and sixty-two acres of excellent farming land, adjoining the town of Oconee. A fine residence tastily furnished, pro-

ductive orchard and other advantages render this farm a very desirable one. When Mr. Parkinson first came to Illinois he came to transact business in real estate for other parties, and seeing the country under very favorable circumstances he became impressed with its beauty and fertility, and invested for himself, which action he has never seen cause to regret.

The marriage of our subject in 1863 united him with Miss Ann L. Elmo, who was born at Zanesville, Ohio, January 4, 1841. She came to Taylorville, Ill., with her parents, and was married at Oconee. Of this union three children were born: William A., who was born January 8, 1864, is engaged in merchandising at Sullivan, this State, and is married to Miss Jessie Shinkle of Ohio; Cora, who was born August 14, 1866, is now the wife of H. Skinner, of Oconee; Ida, who began life May 30, 1869, died when a lovely child of two years and seven months. Mr. Parkinson is a staunch Republican in politics, and takes an interest in everything calculated to enhance the prosperity of the State and nation. His family are not members of any religious denomination, although their preferences are toward the Episcopal Church. An honest, industrious and frugal gentleman, it is not strange that he has accumulated a goodly portion of this world's goods, and is able to give to his family the advantages of comfort and affluence.

On another page of this volume will be found a lithographic portrait of Mr. Parkinson.



**J** OHN PHILIP HEINZ. This gentleman who is well known throughout Rose Township, Shelby County, as the efficient and active Supervisor, resides on section 15, where his excellent farm bespeaks the admiration of every passer-by. His father, the late John P. Heinz, was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, May 27, 1815. The grandfather of our subject, Jacob Heinz, was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, and was the son of Michael, who spent his whole life in the Old Country. The grandfather of our subject emigrated to this country about 1850, and

made his home in St. Louis, Mo., where he spent the remainder of his days.

Jacob Heinz had been preceded to the New World by his son John P., the father of our subject. He came here in 1842 when still a single man, and found his wife in St. Louis, Mo. He was married in 1846 and made his home in that city, pursuing his trade which was that of a shoemaker. He came to Shelby County, Ill., in 1853 and settled in Rose Township, where he engaged in farming, which pursuit he followed until his death, which occurred July 6, 1883. The mother of our subject was Dorothy Douth, who was also a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, being born there May 22, 1827. Her death occurred in Rose Township, September 22, 1881.

The eleven children of John P. and Dorothy Heinz are as follows: John, who died in infancy; John P., the subject of this writing; Jacob, a farmer in Rose Township; Catherina, the wife of Philip Boening of Chicago; William, who died in childhood; J. Lewis, a farmer in Holland Township, this county; Maria, who is now Mrs. Jacob Stilgebauer; Louisa, the wife of Jacob Dagen, of Rose Township; Anna M., now Mrs. Gabriel Fadrer, of Rose Township; Frederick W., and Caroline M., the wife of Frederick Roessler.

The subject of this sketch was born in St. Louis, Mo., April 9, 1848, and was thus five years old when his parents removed to Shelby County, and most of his life has been spent here at the home in Rose Township. His early training was taken upon his father's farm and in the common schools and when twenty-two years old he engaged in farming on his own account, renting land for the first year. He then purchased forty acres on section 5, and has added to this by purchase until he now owns one hundred and three acres. Farming has been his chief business, although in 1884 he spent six months in Kansas City, where he was engaged in other employment. Upon this farm he has placed substantial improvements and comfortable buildings. Most of his farm was in timber land and he had this to clear.

The marriage of John P. Heinz took place in Rose Township, February 3, 1876, his bride being Miss Carolina Friesner, the daughter of Andrew J.

and Sarah E. (Bowman) Friesner, who are now residents of Kansas City. This lady was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, January 19, 1858, and is now the mother of three children: Louis P., J. Otto and Caroline V. The election of Mr. Heinz to the office of Township Supervisor, took place in the spring of 1890, and he was re-elected to the same office in the spring of 1891. He has been their Highway Commissioner for seven years and has performed the duties of that office with ability and satisfaction to his constituents. For one year he held the office of Assessor and he has been School Director for six years.

The religious home of Mr. and Mrs. Heinz is with the Lutheran Church, of which they are active members. Political affairs deeply interest this gentleman and as a member of the Democratic party he takes an active part in its movements and plans. He earnestly believes that the declarations of that body embody the principles of true government and will work out the best success for this country. He is a man of keen intelligence and has a good degree of information on matters of public interest, and his reputation as a thorough-going farmer as well as an upright business man gives him a good standing in the community.



**S**AMUEL DUNCAN. The gentleman of whom we are about to give a short biographical sketch in outline, resides on section 22, of Richland Township, Shelby County. He is a native of this State, and of American parentage, although his ancestors were probably Scotch. His father was James Duncan, who was born in Delaware County, Pa. His mother, who was before her marriage a Miss Mary McKeever, lived to see her son take an honorable position in life. They died in Richland Township. Six children were permitted to grow up around them. Of these there were four sons and two daughters, our subject being the fifth child in order of birth.

Samuel Duncan was born Richland Township,

May 8, 1842. He was reared to manhood on his father's farm and in his native township, always having lived here with the exception of one year during which time he was in the army. He enlisted September 18, 1864, in Company B, of the Twelfth Illinois Infantry, and served until July, 1865. Although the severest fighting was over at the time of his enlistment, he took part in several small engagements, he received his discharge at Washington, D. C.

Mr. Duncan has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits, making a specialty, however, of stock-raising. For fifteen years he was engaged in buying and shipping stock to the city markets. His farm bears the impress of having fine management, as every part is well cultivated. He owns one hundred and sixty acres, which is equally divided in the raising of general produce and the grazing of cattle.

The original of our sketch entered the matrimonial relation in Richland Township, October 9, 1864, his bride being Miss Harriet C. Balch, who was born in Coles County, Ill. Well mated and having tastes and sympathies in common, they have made a happy home. During the years that they have lived together three children have come to them; Mary E., Ida A., and Retta O. Mary E. is the wife of Samuel Richards. The parents of Mrs. Duncan were Jonathan J. P. and Elizabeth (Nicholson) Balch, the former was probably born in Indiana, and the latter was a native of Tennessee. They came to Shelby County and settled on Sand Creek, but remained here only a short time, returning to Coles County, where the mother died. At the date of this writing (May, 1891) the father still survives. Mrs. Duncan is one of twelve children born to her parents, she being the third in order of birth. She was born in Coles County, Ill., November 14, 1814.

Our subject has taken an active part in local politics, being an ardent Republican. He has held several offices in the gift of the township in which he lives, having been Deputy Sheriff and Constable, and he is now School Director. His wife is a member of the Presbyterian Church and our subject himself is a liberal supporter of the Gospel. Mr. Duncan was the first man who introduced and

commenced the breeding of registered Hereford cattle, and is to-day the only breeder in the county. He has sold and shipped out of his herd in fifteen different States. His herd at the present writing numbers one hundred and forty head.



SILAS M. ADAMS is the proprietor of a well-appointed hardware store at Moweaqua, Shelby County, and occupies an honorable position among the enterprising business men of the county. He is a native of Cape Girardeau County, Mo., July 9, 1837 the date of his birth. His father, Elam L. Adams, was born in North Carolina, and was a son of Jacob Adams, who is thought to have been a native of Germany, who came to this country and settled in North Carolina some time during the last century. He was a farmer and carried on his occupation in Rowan County, that State, spending his last years there.

The father of our subject grew to manhood in his native State and was there married to Jane C. McNeely, a native of North Carolina, and a descendant of Scotch ancestry. In his youth Mr. Adams learned the trade of wagon-maker, and was engaged at it in the State of his nativity until his removal to Missouri in 1826, when he became a pioneer of Cape Girardeau County. He bought a tract of timber land and carried on farming in connection with the manufacture of wagons, and helped build up those industries in that county, of which he continued a useful citizen until death closed his career in 1862. His wife survived him until 1865, when she too passed away. They reared a family of five children, of whom these are the names: Mary A., Sarah L., George W., John C. and Silas M.

The latter who forms the subject of this brief biography lived amid the scenes of his birth during his boyhood and youth, and was educated in the local public schools. He worked with his father four or five years, and continued an inmate of the parental household until he attained his majority, when he engaged in the mercantile business in

Bollinger County for a year. His next venture was as a farmer in Montgomery County for a period of one year. He then resumed the mercantile business, but a year later went back to farming, at which he was engaged five years in Bond County. At the end of that time he went to Macon County, in this State and bought an improved farm, which he operated successfully eleven years. He then established himself in the hardware business at Maroa, Ill., and conducted it until 1884, when he sold his store there and bought his present establishment. He carries a full line of hardware, stoves, cutlery, glass, china, paints and furniture, and commands a large trade, as he understands well what his customers demand, uses tact in his dealings, and all are sure of fair treatment at his hands. Mr. Adams is further closely identified with the business interests of his adopted city as President of the Moweauqua Building and Loan Association, which is an important factor in the growth of this municipality, and its affairs are in a flourishing condition with him at the head. He is known in political circles as a sound Republican, and a firm advocate of the principles of his party.

Mr. Adams was happily married in 1861 to Miss Susan A., daughter of Thomas and Nancy (Sims) McLain, and a native of Bond County, Ill. Four children complete their home circle—Ella, Emma, Albert and Alma. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church, and are of high social position.



**J**AMES Q. REIGHLEY is a representative farmer and stock-raiser of Moweauqua Township, Shelby County, who is prominent in the public, political and social life of this part of the county. He was born in the town of Winchester, Adams County, Ohio, December 15, 1850, and is the eldest son of William and Rachel (Bailey) Reighley, of whom see sketch on another page of this volume. He was three years old when his parents came to establish a new home in Illinois. He was given superior advantages for an education, of which he laid the foundation in the

graded schools of Paxton in Ford County. He subsequently attended the Illinois Industrial College at Champaign, and also pursued a liberal course of study at Westfield University.

Thus well equipped by a sound mental training for life's duties, our subject after leaving the latter institution taught one term of school, and then entered the employ of the Chicago, Danville and Vincennes Railway Company as civil engineer, and later engaged with the Chicago and Paducah Railway Company in the same capacity. He also had experience as a civil engineer in the West, going to Colorado in 1875 in the service of the Kansas Pacific. In January, 1876, in common with many others he was attracted to the Black Hills by the discovery of gold in that region, and made the journey hither from Denver, a distance of four hundred miles, with teams. At that time Deadwood was a hamlet of a few log houses, and hostile Indians infested the locality. Our subject and some others started out with the intention of locating a mining camp, but their wagons were burned and their ponies and provisions were stolen by the Indians.

Thus frustrated in his attempts to search for gold Mr. Reighley concluded to return to civilization, and made his way on foot to Cheyenne. He then resumed work with the Kansas Pacific for a few months, then entered the employ of a ranchman as foreman, and in the fall of 1876, took a train load of cattle to Chicago. From there he visited the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia, thence went to New York, where he embarked on a steamer for Galveston. His intention is going to Texas was to start a ranch in that State, but after his arrival there he was thrown from his horse and so severely injured that he was forced to abandon his design. As soon as he was able he returned to Chicago and for a few months was foreman in the packing house of Hutchinson and Kent. In 1878, our subject, who had already had experience in handling cattle, came to Moweauqua and was actively engaged in stock-raising the ensuing year. At the expiration of that time he invested in eighty acres of land finely located one mile east of the village mentioned. There being no buildings on the place, he rented a dwelling until 1886.

when he erected his present neat and conveniently arranged residence. He has added to the original size of his farm by further purchase; and it now contains one hundred and sixty-five acres of well-improved prairie land.

In December, 1878, Mr. Reighley was happily married to Miss Elizabeth Ann Knowles, a native of Erie County, Ohio. Their pleasant home circle is completed by the one child born to them, John Henry.

Our subject is influential in the councils of the Republican party in this section as one of its most thoughtful and intelligent supporters in his community, and he has served as delegate to various political conventions. He has always taken a deep interest in all that pertains to the welfare of his township, especially in the education of its youth, and he is a member of the District School Board. He has served two terms as Highway Commissioner, and has twice assessed the township. In his social relations, he is identified with Shelby Lodge, No. 271, I. O. O. F.; and Moweauqua Lodge, No. 1013, K. of H.



**D**ANIEL N. HARWOOD, of Shelbyville, is one of the most extensive and enterprising dealers in hay in this county. He was born in the town of Winfield, Herkimer County, N. Y. His father, Nathan Harwood, was born in Massachusetts, and was the son of an Englishman who came to this country and first settled in that State. He afterward became a resident of New York and was a pioneer of Herkimer County, buying a tract of timber in Winfield. He cleared his land and developed it into a good farm, which remained his home until his demise.

Nathan Harwood was but a boy when he went to New York with his parents and he was reared to the life of a farmer in their pioneer home. He was married in early manhood to Abigail J. Burt, by whom he had one child, Amhers J. His first wife died and he then married again and continued to reside in Winfield until death closed his career, in 1846, while he was yet in the prime of

life. His second wife survived him many years and finally died at a ripe age in the home of our subject in Rosamund, Christian County. She reared these children: Mary, Daniel N., Anna, Charles V. and Lucy M.

Our subject was a lad of fourteen years when he had the misfortune to lose his father, and from that time he was obliged to care for himself. Being thus early thrown on his own resources, he became manly and self-reliant and worked well at whatever his hand found to do. In the summer season he worked on a farm and the rest of the year devoted himself to obtaining an education, so that at the age of eighteen he was well qualified to teach. He engaged in that profession a portion of each year and attended West Winfield Academy the remainder of the time for three years. Believing that the West, as this part of the country was then called, possessed superior advantages for young men of brain and energy, in 1856 he came to Illinois and located in Knox County. His services were in demand as a teacher and when not thus engaged he employed his time on a farm. A year later he removed to Christian County and bought a farm in Rosamund Township, on which he was a resident until 1864. During that time, in addition to farming, he bought and shipped hay quite extensively.

In the year mentioned our subject came to Shelbyville to engage in the grain business, also continuing to buy and ship hay. He carried on both branches of business some years, but of late has dealt exclusively in hay. He has all the facilities for carrying on his business to the best advantage, including large storage accommodations. He has a warehouse in this city with a capacity of three hundred tons and barracks that hold seven hundred tons. He also buys at Windsor, Mattoon, and Cowden, and at the latter place has a warehouse covered with iron, in which can be stored two hundred and fifty tons of hay, and he has beside barracks there that hold four hundred and fifty tons. At Mattoon he has the largest and finest barn in the State, with a capacity of eight hundred tons.

Mr. Harwood was happily married in 1857 to Miss Ursula E. Moore, who was born in Anson,

Me., in 1836, and theirs is one of the pleasantest homes in all Shelbyville. They have three children: Eber M., who married Mary C. Waldon; Florence L. and Clara.

Mr. Harwood possesses a clear, well-balanced, well-trained mind, large foresight and superior business qualities, which characteristics have placed him among our leading citizens. In his politics he has always been a true Republican since he cast his first Presidential vote for John C. Fremont. He is a popular member of various social organizations, as follows: Jackson Lodge, No. 53, A. F. & A. M.; Jackson Chapter, No. 55, R. A. M.; Okaw Lodge, No. 117, I. O. O. F.; Big Four Lodge, No. 436, Order of Tont; and he is also a member of the Royal Temple of Templars, K. of H. and Ancient Order of United Workmen.



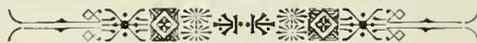
**A**DAM D. BOWMAN, one of the well-known residents of section 4, Rose Township, Shelby County, is a man who has a fine record as a soldier in the Civil War, and an excellent reputation as a farmer. His father was Daniel Bowman, who was born in Pittsburg, Pa., and his mother, Sarah Ruch, had her nativity in Westmoreland County the same State. There they were married and from her home emigrated to Perry County, Ohio, where they entered land and made their home until early in the '60s when they came to Shelby County, Ill., and settled in Rose Township. Here they spent the remainder of their days, the father dying in the fall of 1868 and the mother surviving him two years only.

Of a large family of five sons and five daughters, our subject was the youngest son and eighth child. He was born in Perry County, Ohio, December 26, 1834, and there he grew to manhood and resided until he became of age. He resided in Perry County, until February, 1861, when he came to Illinois and made his home in the counties of Coles and Douglas.

Mr. Bowman enlisted August 19, 1862 in Company K, Seventy-ninth Illinois Regiment. He was mustered into the United States service at Arcola

and served throughout the period of war and was mustered out at Nashville, Tenn. He took part in the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, and in other prominent engagements. At Stone River he was so unfortunate as to be taken prisoner of war but was held only twenty-eight days, after which he was paroled and was soon exchanged and permitted to rejoin his regiment. After the close of the war he returned to Illinois and has since been a resident of Shelby County.

The marriage of our subject took place in Rose Township, July 17, 1872, his bride being Miss Mary C. Palmer, daughter of John and Rachel (Morrison) Palmer. The lady was born in Bucyrus, Ashland County, Ohio, May 12, 1851, and she has become the mother of two children—Oscar O. and Frank P.; the latter died in infancy. Mr. Bowman has always followed agricultural pursuits except during the time which he spent in the brave defense of his country. He owns eighty acres of excellent land, upon which he has made good improvements. His political views have led him to affiliate with the Republican party and his religious convictions have made him a member of the Lutheran Church in which he is an active worker. Mrs. Bowman died in 1876.



**A**L. OSBORN. One of the best improved farms in Flat Branch Township, section 18, Shelby County, is that upon which the gentleman whose name is at the head of this sketch resides, having retired from the active management of agricultural business. Mr. Osborn has one hundred and eighty acres in the farm on which he resides, all of which is well improved land; he also owns forty acres near the homestead. He purchased this land and settled on it in March, 1865, it then being all unbroken prairie. Since then he has made it a comfortable home place and has been successful in his undertakings as a general farmer. He came to his present location from Macoupin County, where he had lived near Gillespie for some years. He form-

erly lived in Jersey and Greene Counties, having improved some property in both places.

Our subject came to this State when a boy, with his parents. They early settled in Sangamon County, and the young man went with them to Greene County, where he grew to manhood and was married. He was born in Athens County, Ohio, August 15, 1822, and is the son of Moses and the grandson of Josiah Osborn, the latter being a native of Long Island, and of Welsh parents and ancestors. He was one of eleven sons, all born on Long Island. He served as a soldier through the Revolutionary War and followed the calling of a farmer. He lived to be an old man, his death probably occurring in Connecticut. His son Moses Osborn and our subject's father, was one of a large family and was born in Connecticut, where he grew up and learned the trade of a smith. He later became an itinerant preacher, and was thus engaged during part of the War of 1812, and although he was not an active participant in that struggle he saw many of its results. He was married in New York to Miss Judith Francis, a native of the Island of Guernsey, who came of French parentage. She was fifteen years of age when her father and mother moved to America and settled in New York, where they lived for some years, and later came to Ohio, there passing away after attaining a good old age. Their decease occurred in Athens County.

After marriage Moses Osborn and wife settled in Athens County, Ohio, in an early day and there began pioneer life. They lived there for some years, making many improvements upon the farm that they had secured. After the birth of five children, all of whom were sons, in 1826 they left Ohio to come to this State. They came by way of the overland route with teams, living a camp life while on the road. After a number of days of tedious journeying, they reached and located near Springfield. They, however, stayed here but a comparatively short time when they proceeded to Greene County, where they secured a farm to which they bent their energies to improve. There both Moses Osborn and wife spent the remainder of their lives, and there died, being at the time of their decease, about eighty-three years old. They

were among the first and most influential old settlers in that county, and were prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at a time when church membership meant more than it does now. Much of Mr. Osborn's life had been spent in active church work.

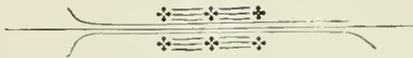
The original of our sketch is one of the youngest of five sons and one daughter. He remained with his parents until he became of age. He was married in Greene County, February 25, 1850, to Miss Sarah E. Pruitt, who was born in Greene County, this State, March 11, 1835. She is a daughter of James R. and Mahala (Ambrose) Pruitt, natives of Illinois and Virginia, respectively. Mr. Pruitt was one of the very first white children born in the southern part of the State. James R. Pruitt was the son of William Pruitt, who was in this State in the very early part of the present century, or before that time, and was engaged in the struggle with the Indians, prior to the War of 1812. He carried a bullet to his grave received in a battle with the Indians. Mrs. Mahala Pruitt's father was also an early settler in Illinois and was engaged in the War of 1812, having been crippled in battle. His name was William Ambrose.

James R. Pruitt and wife were married in Illinois and lived in Madison County for some time, later removing to Greene County, where they secured and improved a new farm. They were very early pioneer settlers and were obliged to begin life in a most primitive way. The bridal costumes for both bride and groom were of homespun, and they had only wooden dishes to begin housekeeping with and a wooden bed, built of boards in a corner of the room in which they lived. They drove ox-teams to church, but made as much sunshine as possible out of the circumstances with which they were compelled to conform. They spent their last days in Greene County and there died, Mr. Pruitt at sixty-two years of age, and his wife at eighty-three. Mrs. Pruitt was a member of the Baptist Church.

Mrs. Osborn and her brother William, are all of the family at present living. The lady was reared to womanhood in her native county. She is the mother of eight children, two of whom are deceased, Amanda and Oscar F. The living children

are James A., Richard F., Mary B., Janet A., Lewis W. and Luther A. The eldest living son is the husband of Alice Cotar and lives in this township on a farm. Richard took to wife Lou Minnie Cotar, now deceased. He lives in Christian County, and has married a second time, his present wife having been a Miss Mary Winters. Mary B. is the wife of I. F. Haverfield, and lives in Vermillion County, Ill. Janet A. is the wife of William Manly, a farmer in this township. Lewis W. is a farmer in Christian County. He married Maggie English. Luther is also a farmer in Christian County and took to wife Fanny Zeitz. Mr. and Mrs. Osborn are members of the Evangelical Association. Our subject is an Independent in politics, not wedded to party, but voting for the man whom he believes to be best qualified to fill the position.

Mr. and Mrs. Osborn are both intelligent and educated people. They have reared a family of sons and daughters who have proved to be of exceptional mental caliber and with high ideas of principle.



**S**AMUEL RENNER. How blessed and sweet is the rest that follows the labor of a long day spent in adjusting the work and management of one's duties, no matter in what calling. Even so is the rest in the evening of life that a man feels and enjoys after a career of which each day was a repetition of its predecessor in hard manual labor, and the worry of daily existence. This rest is now enjoyed by the gentleman who is the subject of this little biographical sketch in outline. An energetic, stirring man whose whole ambition and energies was to keep in the van of his affairs, and abreast with the time in advancement of all kinds, he has well earned the pleasant retirement from active duties that he now enjoys.

Our subject, who is now a retired farmer, is a son of Tobias Renner, who was probably a native of Maryland. His mother was Cynthia Smith, who was born in New Jersey. They came to Shelby

County, this State, from Belmont County, Ohio, in 1837, although after marriage they first settled in Pennsylvania, removing from there to Guernsey County, Ohio, whence they went to Belmont County. At their advent into this State and country, they settled in Richland Township, where they lived for some years. The father died about 1840. The mother survived her husband for several years, at last passing away in Richland Township. They were the parents of a large family of children, of whom our subject was the second in order of birth. He was probably born in Green County, Pa., his natal day being November 12, 1815.

Samuel Renner made his advent into Shelby County with his parents in the fall of 1837. They at once settled upon a farm, and the lad was brought up to that calling, and has always followed it. He was married in Richland Township, November 8, 1838, to Miss Martha Balch, a daughter of Amos and Martha (Leach) Balch. The former was a native of Tennessee. The mother died when Mrs. Renner was quite young. The family went from Kentucky to Indiana, where the mother's death took place. After that sad event Mr. Balch came to Shelby County, this State, in 1836, settling in Richland Township, where he lived for about four years, at the expiration of which time he removed to Bond County, and there died. Mrs. Renner is one of a family of eleven children, there having been seven sons and four daughters, and of these the lady who became the wife of our subject, was the youngest. She was born in Indiana, September 30, 1821.

After the union of our subject and wife, they settled in Richland Township, on a farm located on section 27, where they lived upwards of fifty years, until March, 1889, when they removed to Strasburg, where they are now making their home. Their town residence is a cozy place, where they can enjoy the afternoon of life with its soft mellow sunset in serenity and peace. Some of their children live near at hand, and in them and the lives of their families they live again their own youthful experience. Mr. and Mrs. Renner are the parents of twelve children. Those living are Martha, John, Joseph, Emeline, James and Elizabeth. Martha is the wife of Joseph Rouse, and is distinguished





Yours  
D. J. Sloan

for her matronly bearing, being a gentle and loving wife and helpmate; Emeline married James Turner; Elizabeth is the wife of Berry Barker. The eldest son, Stephen was a soldier in the War of the Rebellion, and died a victim of typhoid fever, at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., after having served for three months. The other deceased children passed away when young.

In his political preference Mr. Renner is a Republican having been in his youth, a follower of the old line Whig party. Religiously he and his wife are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which body they have done good service. Our subject and his wife have passed a long life in usefulness and devotion, not only to their own personal desires and aims, but for the elevation and help of their fellow-men. They have more than passed the Scripturally allotted portion of life and approach the time when wearied with the cares of existence, each will be glad to say:

“Good night; now cometh gentle sleep,  
 “And dreams that fall like gentle rain;  
 “Good night! Oh holy, blessed and deep  
 “The rest that follows pain.  
 “How should we reach God’s upper Light  
 “If life’s long day had no good-night.”



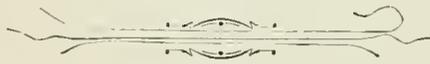
**D**ISBURY J. SLOAN. To have well filled the position of a good citizen in any town, is a record of which a man in either high or low life may feel proud. It is a worthy ambition to place before the young of any community that they should make their aim in this direction and should become enterprising, earnest, public-spirited members of society, always upholding the laws and regulations of the commonwealth and promoting the good of the people among whom they live by every means in their power. A worthy life does this in any event, but it is also worth an effort and an aim. Such a member of the business and social circles of Oconee do we find in the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this paragraph, and whose portrait is shown on the opposite page.

Mr. Sloan was born in Knox County, Ohio, April 7, 1829. His parents were Samuel and Katie (Taylor) Sloan, who were natives of Ohio. His grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and died at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, when ninety-eight years old. Of the parental family Disbury was the first born. Two of his brothers died in infancy and William was killed by lightning while herding cattle on the prairie near Nokomis, Ill. Harriet married Jacob Straub and resided in Montgomery County where she died April 5, 1891; Martha became the wife of John Fritz and resided near Odin, Ill., until her death about twenty years ago, and Mary was the wife of Arthur Brown and died some fifteen years ago at Nokomis.

It was in the spring of 1856 that our subject located in Shelby County, and here he has ever since made his home. He engaged in farming, merchandising and stock-raising in which branches he has continued without interruption for forty-four years. He recently turned over his merchandising interests here to his son, though he still owns and operates a large store at Arthur, Ill., where he has \$12,000 invested. The store is carried on under the firm name of Sloan & Jones, the junior partner being an adopted son of our subject. In 1876 Mr. Sloan took a trip to California to recuperate his health, and the following year he went to Wyoming where he embarked in the cattle business. In this he continued engaged in Wyoming and Oregon for four years, then returned to Oconee and resumed his old business, in which he has since been engaged.

The marriage of Mr. Sloan at Vandalia, Ill., in the spring of 1852 gave him a wife in the person of Miss Susan Casebeer. Eight children were born to this union and the two eldest (twins) died in infancy; Boshia is married and is carrying on the mercantile business in Oconee; Otis is in the same line of work at Herrick, Ill., and is also married; Alonzo was killed in a railroad disaster and was at the time of his death a merchant; Capitola married B. W. Kerr of Oconee and died in this place several years ago; Docia is engaged in teaching and makes her home with her father. The first marriage was uncongenial and Mr. Sloan procured a divorce from his wife.

The second marriage of our subject was with Mrs. Ella Morrison, a daughter of L. L. Gale of Oconee, who was born in Michigan in 1855 and who has had no children. Public affairs deeply interest this gentleman and he has strong faith in the future of the Democratic party with which he is allied. He is regarded as a pre-eminently good and useful citizen of this town and county. He is a worthy member of the Oconee Lodge, No. 392 F. & A. M. of which he was a charter member, although he became a Mason at Pana, Ill. For many years he has been the Lodge Treasurer and still holds that honorable and responsible position. Although he gives liberally to the support of the Gospel, to the Sunday-school and to all public enterprises he is not identified with any church.



**H**ENRY BRIDGMAN. Our subject comes of a German family whose characteristics have been modified in some directions and made more intense in others, by a residence in the Southern States. His grandparents were natives of Virginia, although of German ancestry. His grandfather Bridgman, whose given name our subject does not know, died when in middle life. After his death, his wife removed to Tennessee with her family of children and later to Illinois, where she died at about eighty years of age in Morgan County. She had a family of seven or eight children, of which Martin Bridgman, the father of our subject, was one of the younger, his birth State being Virginia.

Our subject's father was quite young when his father died and at an early day, with his mother, went from Virginia to Granger County, Tenn., and there he grew to manhood, occupying himself as a farmer. He was there married to a Tennessee lady whose maiden name was Anna Dyer. She was born and reared in the place where her marriage occurred and was one of an old and highly respected family. After the birth of all the children but one, Martin Bridgman, wife and family, came to Morgan County, this State, in 1851 and afterwards secured

a farm devoting themselves to improving it. Our subject's parents are both yet living. His father was eighty-one years old February 18, 1891. His mother will be seventy-eight years old November 10, 1891. On that day the old people will have lived together for sixty-two years; a reminder that in some cases, at least, marriage is not a failure.

Our subject is one of ten children, one of whom died in infancy. Of the remaining children there are five sons and four daughters yet living. All of these have married and have families of their own. Henry Bridgman was born in Granger County, Tenn., September 10, 1837. He was fourteen years of age when his parents removed to Morgan County, this State. They came over the prairies with teams and it was after a long journey, varied by many adventures, that they found a home near Jacksonville. Here they located and there our subject became of age.

In March 8, 1866 he of whom we write united himself in marriage to Lavina Angel. She was born in Morgan County, near Arenzville, October 24, 1845, and is a daughter of John and Susan (Smith) Angel, natives of Indiana and Tennessee. When young people, they came with their parents from their respective States to Morgan County, Ill. This was in the early part of the '30s. There John Angel was reared having been only four years of age when his father and mother, George and Elizabeth (Turnam) Angel settled here, securing a tract of land upon which they lived and died, being well known pioneer settlers. After marriage, John Angel and his wife began life on an almost new farm, which they improved and made their home for many years. They have now retired from the active proprietorship of the farm and live in Jacksonville. They are advanced in life, being respectively sixty-eight and sixty-four years of age. They are prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Angel is a man of firm financial standing. He is the owner of more than six hundred acres of land in this township, and of large property in Morgan County and in Jacksonville.

Mrs. Bridgman is the eldest of fourteen children, three of whom died while quite young. Eleven

still living, and of these eight are married. After the marriage of our subject and his estimable wife, they adopted agriculture as their calling. They own and improved the greater part of three farms. In the spring of 1880, they sold their places and came to Shelby County, purchasing the farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 13, Flat Branch Township, which they at present occupy. Here they have ever since lived. The whole of this large farm bears the best of improvements and on it is a fine brick, two-story residence, that is a picture of comfort and tasteful arrangement. There are also other buildings upon the place in the best condition. Mr. Bridgman has, besides, forty acres of timber land, in section 11, of this township.

The original of our sketch and his capable and amiable wife, have welcomed eight children to their home and hearts. One of these Henry C. is deceased. The living children are John M., R. Guthrie, Ada B., Charles W., William R., L. Edgar, and Nellie L. John took to wife Addie Ponties and resides on a farm in Pickaway Township. The next son resides at home. The other children are all still inmates of the home nest. They are bright and intelligent young men and women, and are a credit to their parents.

He of whom we write, and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church at Locust Grove, in this county. Mr. Bridgman is a rabid Republican, having fought for the principles that that party strive to maintain. In August, 1862, he laid aside his private interests and affairs and enlisted in the War of the Rebellion, joining Company One Hundred and Fifteen of the Indiana Cavalry, Col. John H. Moore and Capt. Newman being in command. The regiment was with the army of the Cumberland and fought in the battles of Resaca, Chickamauga and Franklin. In the second named battie, Mr. Bridgman was shot by an enemy in the right wrist and was then placed in the field hospital at Nashville, after which he came home for a furlough, but later returned to the field of battle and served with his regiment about one year longer. During his war experience he did good service and was finally discharged at Springfield, Ill., after serving two years and ten months. He first enlisted as a

private, and was then a Corporal. He had the good fortune to escape being captured. His war experience is an interesting topic as told by Mr. Bridgman, and a comparison of notes with an old comrade is only less than an engagement itself.



**W**ILLIAM H. JACKSON is a well-to-do and widely known farmer and stock-breeder, living on section 35, of Pickaway Township, where he owns a fine farm of four hundred acres, almost all of which is in a high state of cultivation and having extensive and costly improvements. The buildings are of a high order, being well built and commodious. The residence is comfortable and commodious, and all of the improvements have been made by our subject himself, the farm being for the most part virgin prairie which had never been cut by a plow.

Mr. Jackson purchased his present place of residence in 1863 and has since lived here. He first came to the county in 1844 but after a stay of two years he enlisted in the Mexican War, joining the Third Illinois Volunteer Regiment, Company B, of which Captain Freeman and Col. Foreman were in command. They were at once sent to the front and were engaged in the battle of Camargo, and in other skirmishes. After serving for one year our subject returned to Illinois and in 1847 located his land warrant which had been granted by the Government for services rendered. The warrant covered one hundred and sixty acres of land which he located in Ridge Township. He is still the owner of this tract and it was there that he lived until 1863, when he came to this township.

The original of our sketch is noted throughout the township for his thrift and industry and as a successful breeder of stock. His home is a model in point of neatness and improvements in agricultural implements and conveniences. It resembles some of the finest breeding farms of the Blue Grass region of Kentucky. He is the owner of two hundred and eighty acres in Ridge Township, which is all improved.

He of whom we write came to this State in 1840.

He lived in Fayette County till 1844. He was born in Steubenville, Ohio, February 16, 1833, and is the son of Thomas and the grandson of John Jackson, who were both natives of Pennsylvania and came of Irish ancestry. His grandfather was a farmer in Pennsylvania where he lived and died, being at the time of his decease very old. He had married a Pennsylvania lady who also died there. Our subject's father, Thomas Jackson, spent his early life under his father's roof, there learning the duties and secrets of farm life. He was married to W. Elizabeth Manley. She was also a native of Pennsylvania. After the birth of part of their children Thomas Jackson and his wife removed to Ohio, and some years later came by way of the overland route to this state, making his first settlement in Fayette County. There he and his wife located upon and improved a new farm where they spent the remainder of their days. They were both quite advanced in years at the time of their respective deaths, the father being fifty-three years of age and the mother seventy. Mrs. Jackson was a Methodist in her religious preference. Her husband was politically an old Jacksonian Democrat, with all that that term implies, of chivalry and independence.

Our subject is one of ten sons and two daughters. Of these only four of the sons and one daughter are now living, all of these being married and having families of their own. Our subject was only a boy when his parents came to this State, and here he attained his majority. His first wife was a Miss Margaret Waters. She was born in Champaign County, this State, and there reared. She died after about three years of marital life, being then in the meridian of her womanhood. She left two children. One, John T., is now deceased, and one, William, is in the West, being there married to a Western lady.

Mr. Jackson was a second time married in this county to Miss Mary A. Burk. She was born in Pennsylvania, and was young when, with her parents, Robert and Esther Burk, she came to Shelby County. The family settled at a very early day on Robinson Creek and there the father and mother lived for some time. They later moved to Rural Township, this county, where they purchased land

and there spent the remainder of their lives, being old people at the time of their decease. They were well and honorably known among the old settlers of the county. Both parents were members of the Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Margaret J. Jackson was one of a large family, only a few of whom are yet living. Mrs. Jackson is one of the prominent matrons of the township, being a leader in social life. She is a true wife and mother. Nine children have come to brighten and gladden our subject's home and fireside. All of these are living and are as follows: Robert, Samuel, M. Jane, Louisa, Esther, Mary A., Elizabeth, Andrew and Charles. Robert is a farmer in Bethany Township, this county, and is the devoted husband of the lady whose maiden name was Sally Marshall. Samuel took to wife Miss K. DeVaughn. They live on a farm in Ridge Township. Jane is the wife of George Hall, a farmer in this township. Louisa is the wife of Samuel DeVaughn, and lives in Rural Township. Esther married Morris Robinson, and lives in Windsor Township. Mary A. is the wife of James Hadden and lives in Todd's Point Township. Elizabeth was united to Wilber Workman, a farmer in Okaw Township. Anderson and Charles are at home.

Mrs. Jackson is a member of the Presbyterian Church, while our subject is a member of the Christian Church. He of whom we write is a Democrat in politics and has held several local offices in the gift of his party.



**M**ARION BERRY, a resident of section 11, Rose Township, Shelby County, is a son of Elijah Berry who was born in Fairfield County, Ohio. His mother, Elmira Culp, was born and died in that county. The father still survives and is carrying on his farm there. They had four children who lived to years of maturity, and of these our subject is the only son.

He of whom we write was born in Fairfield County Ohio, May, 7, 1849. He was reared upon his father's farm, and after coming of age he re-

mained with his father until the ensuing fall, when he was married October 20, 1870 to Miss Missouri Zollinger who was born in Fairfield County Ohio, May 23, 1853. She was a daughter of Jacob and Margaret (Shaffer) Zollinger, both of whom died in Perry County, Ohio. When Mr. Berry married he settled in Fairfield County, Ohio and for two years engaged in farming. After this he came to Illinois and lived in Macoupin County for five years, and then returned to Ohio and resided in Perry County till the spring of 1881, when he came to Shelby County Ill., and settled in Rose Township, where he owns two hundred acres on sections 10 and 11. He has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits and has been successful in carrying them on.

Mr. and Mrs. Berry are the parents of eight children, namely Vinnie E., Lousianna, Ernest A., William E., Daisy B., Susie, Walter and Mildred. The residents of Rose Township have united in making Mr. Berry School Director, but otherwise he has chosen to remain free from official duties. His political sympathies are with the Republican party and he is liberal in his religious views. His pleasant home is the scene of frequent social gatherings at which the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Berry is exercised for the happiness of their guests.



**W**ILLIAM NOTBROOK, deceased, was one of the pioneers of Moweaqua Township, Shelby County, and his name is honored as one of its upbuilders, who faithfully performed his share in the cultivation of its fertile soil, and helped to make this a beautiful and well-improved farming country. He was of foreign birth, born in the village of Beilfield, Province of Westphalia, Prussia, May 10, 1824. He was left an orphan at a very early age. He attended school quite steadily in his youth, and then began life as a shephard.

When he gained his majority, Mr. Notbrook entered the Prussian army, in accordance with the laws of the land, and after serving three years, was honorably discharged. He then came to

America, as he thought that the prospects were better for advancement in this country than in the Fatherland. He set sail from Bremerhaven in April, and after a six weeks' voyage landed at New York. He secured a good situation as a clerk in a wholesale commission produce house, and was thus employed in the great metropolis until 1855.

In that year he came to Illinois with his wife, and with his limited means, he having only such money as he had frugally saved from his earnings, he bought forty acres of land in Moweaqua Township. There was a log cabin on the place, and in that humble dwelling he and his wife began life in their new home. Ten years later he sold that land at an advanced price, it having increased in value under his skillful labors, and he then bought the eighty acres in the same township, which is now occupied by his family. He removed the log cabin to his new purchase, and it remained the abode of the family ten years longer, when he replaced it by the residence in which his family are living. It is a commodious frame structure, of modern style, is nicely furnished, and is a most pleasant home. Here he dwelt in peace and contentment, working busily through seed time and harvest year after year, bringing his farm to a fine condition, both as to tillage and the substantial improvements that he placed upon it, until death stayed his hand April 8, 1881, and he rested from his labors in that dreamless sleep that knows no waking. He was an earnest and consistent Christian, and for many years a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which he joined soon after coming to America, as did his wife also.

While a resident of New York City, Mr. Notbrook entered into marriage with Miss Wilhelmina Wagemann, a daughter of one of his father's old neighbors in the old country, the ceremony that made them one being performed in 1853. Mrs. Notbrook was born in the same place as her husband, and grew up with him. She came to America in the same vessel that he did. Her parents were Wilhelm and Charlotte Waganann, who were also natives of the Prussian village that was her birthplace. Two of her brothers came to this country. William is now a resident of Moultrie

County. Henry, who is deceased, spent his last years at Moweaqua, where he located after his arrival in America. Mrs. Notbrook is a very estimable woman, possessing those qualities of head and heart that command respect and regard, and she is an exemplary member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. She has two children living, Maggie the elder, is the wife of Michael E. Snyder; Wilhelmina lives with her mother, and is her stay and comfort.



**D**AVID DRAKE is a worthy member of the farming community of Pickaway Township, Shelby County. He was born in Fairbanks Township, Sullivan County, Ind., March 22, 1836. He is a son of Benjamin Drake, who was a native of Ohio, of which his father, James Drake, was for some years a resident, settling there in pioneer times, prior to his removal to Indiana in 1817. He was one of the first settlers in Fairbanks Township, where he bought a tract of Government land, on which he at first built a log house for the shelter of his family. At that time, and for some years after, the county was sparsely settled, and deer, wild turkeys and other game were very plentiful. The grandfather of our subject continued to reside in that region on the farm that he had developed from the wilderness until his death.

The father of our subject was but eight years old when the family sought to build a new home in the primeval forests of Indiana, where he was reared to pursuits of industry. He early learned the trade of a tanner, and then bought a yard, which he operated for a time. He finally sold it and engaged in farming for awhile. He then bought another tanyard, and carried on a tannery in connection with farming some years. He lived to a ripe age, dying on the home farm in Sullivan County, Ind., in 1880. He had married in early manhood, Sally Gross, who was born either in North or South Carolina, and died at the home of

her son in Sullivan County in 1885. She was the mother of ten children, all sons.

Our subject received his education in his native county, where he grew to a stalwart manhood. The first school that he attended was taught in the primitive log schoolhouse of pioneer days. It had a clay and stick chimney, being heated by a huge open fireplace, and in the aperture made by a log being taken out of the side of the house a row of window glass admitted the light. The benches were made of slabs, without backs, and the furniture of the school room was entirely of home manufacture.

Mr. Drake resided with his parents until he was twenty-two years old, when his father gave him a tract of timber land in Fairbanks Township. He built a log house, and in that humble abode he and his bride commenced their housekeeping, and lived in happiness for some time. He improved the land and made it his dwelling place until 1869, when he sold it at a good price in order to identify himself with the farmers of Shelby County, as he had a high opinion of the fertility of the soil of this region and the many other advantages it possesses, and rightly judged that he could do well at his calling in a section so favored. He purchased eighty acres of his present farm, which is pleasantly located on section 14, Pickaway Township, and he has since added to his realty, and now has one hundred and twenty acres of choice farming land, finely cultivated and amply supplied with good improvements, including a substantial set of farm buildings.

April 15, 1888, our subject took an important step in his life whereby he secured the companionship and assistance of a devoted wife in the person of Miss Keziah Anderson. Their union has been blessed with children of whom these seven are living: Alexander, Mary Frances, Cameron, Charles, Sarah J., Commodore and James V. Alexander married Viola Polly, and has one child named John; Mary Frances married George Williamson, and has three children—Ellsworth, Rosanne and Etta; Sarah married John M. Hill, and has two children—Martha and Lydia.

Mr. Drake is sound in his political views which find expression in the tenets of the Democratic

party. Both he and his good wife are members in high standing of the Baptist Church, and their community finds in them true friends and kind neighbors, who are ever ready to extend a helping hand to those who are in trouble and want.



**J**OHN E. JENNINGS, State's Attorney and City Attorney of Sullivan, Moultrie County, and a member of the law firm of Jennings & Huff, is a native of Moultrie County, where he was born March 9, 1864. He belongs to one of the prominent families of the county. His father, Benjamin S. Jennings, is a native of Ohio, and his grandfather and great-grandfather also bore the name of Benjamin Jennings. The latter came of English parentage and it is not unlikely that he was born in England. His boyhood days, however, were spent in Massachusetts, and he died in Pennsylvania. During the Revolutionary War he served in the Colonial Army. The grandfather of our subject, a native of the Keystone State, emigrated to Ohio, and in 1853, came with the father of our subject to Illinois, making a settlement in Marrowbone Township, Moultrie County. He died in 1867, at the home of his son in Lovington Township. On first coming to Illinois, Benjamin Jennings, father of John E., was employed as an engineer in a grist and sawmill. He had learned the business in Ohio and was a practical machinist. After some years he removed to Lovington, where he operated a mill for a time and then located on a farm in the township of that name, some ten miles northwest of Sullivan. Afterward removing to the city, he became one of the partners in the Sullivan Woolen Mills, with which he was connected until 1887, when the factory was abandoned and the machinery shipped to Canada, while the building is now being used as an elevator. Since that time Benjamin Jennings has lived a retired life. He continues his residence in Sullivan where he is a very prominent citizen. He has been connected with the public interests in many ways and has acceptably filled a number of positions of trust. He was a member of the first

city council in 1873, was re-elected in 1875, again in 1877 and in 1879. On the expiration of that last term he was elected Mayor of the city and had previously filled an unexpired term for one year. The Democratic party finds in him a staunch advocate, and his labors in its behalf have aided greatly in its success. With the best interests of the county he has been identified and his works are well deserving of mention in the county's history.

Benjamin Jennings was united in marriage with Miss Eleanor Caddington, a lady of Scotch-Irish descent. She died at her home in Sullivan in 1877, in the faith of the Baptist Church of which she had long been a member. In the family were eleven children, seven of whom are yet living—Addie R., at home; Aza, who wedded Emily McCraig and is living in Sullivan; W. Henry, who married Dolly Harris, of Sullivan, and is an electrician employed by the Kester Electrical Company of Terre Haute, Ind.; Lucy M., at home; Samuel, who is married and is connected with the abstract office in Fresno, Cal.; John E., of this sketch; and Hillory, who is foreman of the Canton *Register*, of Canton, Ill. He married Minnie Tichenor, of Canton, Ill. The sons are all Democrats and the family is one well worthy of mention in this Record.

The subject of this sketch acquired his education in the public schools and was graduated from the Sullivan High School. Wishing to engage in the practice of law he entered the office of Meeker & Smyzer, under whose direction he pursued his studies for two years, when he was admitted to the bar at the Appellate Court at Springfield, January 21, 1887, Judges Wall, Conger and Pleasant officiating. He was licensed by the Supreme Court, Judge Scott presiding, and was one of a class of sixteen, self-made young men, who, though none had ever attended law school, fitted themselves for legal practice by their own efforts and won a place among legal practitioners. Mr. Jennings had attained his majority only a short time previous to his admission to the bar. Soon after he was recommended by the court and received the appointment of Assistant State Attorney of his county, a position which he filled until his election as State's Attorney. He was admitted to the United States

District Court in January, 1890, and the following March, the firm of Jennings & Huff was formed. They do a general law business, making a specialty of criminal law and although little more than a year has passed since the organization of the firm these young lawyers, men of ability and enterprise have won for themselves a prominent place at the bar. Mr. Jennings is also Notary Public. In politics he is a Democrat and a staunch advocate of the party principles. In his youth he learned the trade of a manufacturer of woolen goods, acquainting himself with every branch of the business and could now, if necessary, fill any position in a woolen factory, but unless something unforeseen happens, he will continue his efforts at the bar, where he is meeting with such excellent success.

Mr. Jennings joined Company C, of the Eighth Regiment Illinois National Guards as a private, but was soon promoted to Sergeant, was afterward elected Second and then First Lieutenant, and in 1886, was elected Captain of the Company, a position which he filled for two years. He was thus serving when called to duty during the time of the great St. Louis strike in 1886. He has met with his regiment at every annual encampment at Camp Lincoln in Springfield, Col. Reley M. Smith, of Greenup, Ill., being Commander of the regiment. The following have served as Captain of the company: Alvin P. Green, George Chapman, Samuel Jennings, John E. Jennings, and Adolph T. Jenkins.

Mr. Jennings is one of the prominent and enterprising young business men of Sullivan, who, unaided by capital or influential friends, is working his way upward to an honorable and enviable position. He has not yet married but makes his home with his father and two sisters.



**J**OHAN A. FEARMAN. The Southern States added their full quota to the early settlement of Illinois, thousands of families emigrating from Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and the Carolinas to the southern and south central portions of the Prairie State. They brought

with them an element of sociability and friendliness which is universally accorded as a leading characteristic of the Southern people. Among such families is the one of which our subject is a representative and his residence on section 21, Okaw Township, Shelby County, dates from the time of his birth, March 25, 1837, as his parents, Henry and Nancy (Roberts) Fearman, had previously emigrated to this State from Kentucky.

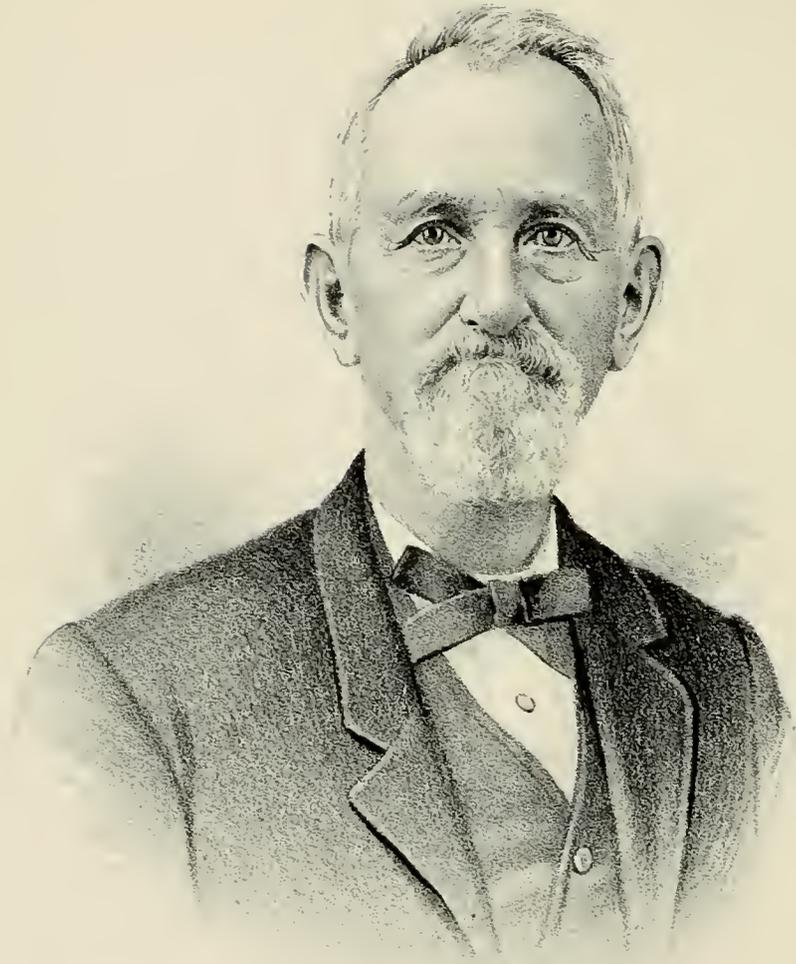
The Fearmans were originally settlers in Virginia, where John Fearman, the grandfather of our subject was born. The first wife of the father of our subject was Ellen Sandusky, to whom he was married in 1831 just previous to his coming to Illinois, where he purchased land in Okaw Township. This wife lived only a few years, after the family removal to the Prairie State, and he was called upon to mark his new home by her grave.

Nancy Roberts, the mother of our subject and the daughter of Alexander and Mary Roberts, who were early pioneers of this State, became the wife of Henry Fearman in 1836. She was a true helpmate to him in his arduous labors as a farmer and they became the happy possessors of an excellent farm, upon which they passed their later days in comfort and prosperity. Her birth occurred in 1812 and she passed from life in 1858, her husband surviving her some twelve years, dying January 27, 1870, at the age of sixty-two years. They reared three children, John A., our subject; James H. and Elizabeth E., who married George S. Terry, and died in Okaw Township. Their mother was a devout and useful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The gentleman of whom we write received such education as could be obtained in the common schools of his day and had a thorough and systematic training in farm duties. He thus grew up fitted to meet the duties of life and to make his mark among the men of Shelby County. It was in 1861 that he founded a home for himself and one other by a union in marriage with Elizabeth Terry, daughter of Reuben Terry. Like himself she is a native of this county, being born in Okaw Township, August 1, 1844. No children have blessed this home.

After marriage Mr. Fearman rented land and tilled it for some time, but somewhat later removed



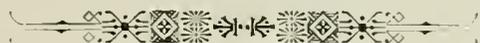


*Alfred Jamison.*

to Shelbyville, where he carried on a mercantile business and in 1867 purchased a part of the farm which is now his. His first acquisition was sixty acres of land which was mostly covered with timber and brush, and to this he added, as prosperity allowed, more and more land, and now has two hundred and ten acres, upon which he has placed comfortable and substantial improvements.

The Democratic party is the political organization with which our subject finds himself in harmony, and he is a hearty and earnest worker for its prosperity, and has held various local offices. He is considerably opposed to secret societies and is an intelligent reader in public affairs. The Christian Church is the religious body with which his good wife is associated and in it she is a valuable and valued worker.

The paternal grandmother of John A. Fearman was a Virginian by birth and bore the maiden name of McClelland. Her son, Henry Fearman, the father of our subject, was three times married. The lady with whom he was united after the death of Mrs. Nancy (Roberts) Fearman being Mrs. Jane Doddy *nee* Ward, and by this union there were born two children—Margie A. and Dora, who reside at Lee's Summit, Mo.



**A**LFRED JAMISON. The citizens of Shelby County, who came here during the early history of this section and established themselves in what were then little villages and hamlets, have been active factors in the development and progress of the county. Mr. Jamison having been a resident of Oconee for more than twenty-five years, has made his mark upon the social and business interests of the place, and as an influential citizen we are pleased to present his portrait and biography to our readers.

Mr. Jamison, who is a dealer in hay, coal, lumber and live stock at Oconee, was born in Monmouth County, N. J., February 17, 1814. His father, Joseph, a son of Jacob and Rebecca Jamison, was born October 2, 1781 in the same county. His mother was also a native there, and was born

February 11, 1787, both she and her husband born near the historic battlefield of Monmouth. The children who gathered about this worthy couple were five sons and six daughters, as follows: Jacob J., born May 28, 1803; Abram B., November 18, 1804; Rebecca, November 30, 1806; Hannah, September 27, 1808; Joseph, December 7, 1810; Isaac, April 25, 1812; Lydia Ann, April 1, 1814; Mary, November 15, 1815; Sarah, March 23, 1818; Elizabeth, February 23, 1821; and the subject of our sketch, who was the youngest of the family. Of this large household, only Isaac, Mary, Sarah, Elizabeth and Alfred remain in this earthly life.

Mr. Jamison received his education in the public schools of New Jersey, and when about sixteen years of age, he left the parental roof and went into the world for himself, first going to New York City, where he obtained a situation in a dry-goods store as a clerk. He continued in that position about five years, and then having accumulated a little money, returned to his native State and went into business, in which he had a one-fourth interest, establishing a general store at Cedar Creek. Here he continued for about two years, and then in 1819, having a serious attack of the "gold fever," he went to California by the way of the Strait of Magellan, and remained in the "Sunset State" for some time, occupying four years in the whole trip.

Having been reasonably successful in his western venture, the young man returned to New York City, and engaged in the pork-packing business, which he carried on for fifteen years, but in the spring of 1865 he closed out his concern there and came to Shelby County, locating at Oconee, where he has ever since resided. His marriage to Miss Gertrude Ellen Hegeman took place in New York City, April 5, 1853. This lady was born April 13, 1837, upon Long Island, N. Y.

On arriving in Illinois, Mr. Jamison invested his means in real estate and milling, and had the misfortune to lose two mills by fire, but has continued in the real-estate business ever since coming West, in which he has been very successful. On locating here he purchased fifteen hundred acres of timber land, which he cleared up and worked the timber into lumber. He has been active in

business all his lifetime, and still continues with unabated power to actively control his own affairs, although he is nearing the limits of three-score years and ten.

To Mr. and Mrs. Jamison have been born the following children: Alonzo, born June 10, 1851; Alfred M., July 1, 1855; Emma Laur., May 28, 1858; Sarah Elizabeth, February 5, 1860; Brackett Badger, January 18, 1862; Harry Alonzo, January 9, 1864; Hattie H., March 22, 1865; Francis Richmond, October 12, 1867; Robert Hegeman, March 3, 1869; Grace Gertrude, June 2, 1871; Joseph Stokes, September 5, 1873; and Archibald Shelton, February 21, 1879. The six oldest are natives of New York City, and the younger members of the family were born in Oconee.

The gentleman, whose life history we are here briefly sketching has been a life-long Democrat, and has always a lively interest in national, State and local politics. He is well read and broad in his views and keeps himself thoroughly informed in regard to public affairs. He is a member of Oconee Lodge, F. & A. M., and carries insurance in the Masonic Benevolent Society of Chicago. He was first made a Mason by Naval Lodge, No. 69, in the State of New York, in 1855, and was demitted from that to Oconee Lodge in 1873. Religiously the family may be considered as extremely liberal and strongly opposed to contention over the orthodox creed. The value of their lives and their work in this community can hardly be estimated, as they have ever been active in promoting the best interests of the neighborhood, and have been liberal in their means in forwarding all movements looking to the material and social progress of Oconee.



**W**ILLIAM H. SPARLING, M. D., Moweaqua, is a fine representative of the best physicians of this section, whose learning ability and eminent success in their practice have contributed to raise the standard of their noble profession in Central Illinois. Our subject was born

in County Clare, Ireland, January 15, 1819. His father, Joseph Sparling, was also a native of that Irish county, and was of German descent, his ancestors having left Germany on account of religious persecution and taken up their abode on the Emerald Isle during the reign of Queen Anne.

The father of our subject was reared and married in his native county, where his whole life was passed, his death occurring in 1850. He was engaged in the mercantile business up to that time, and by his removal while yet in life's prime the interests of his community suffered a serious loss. His wife, Hannah Reynard in her maiden days, was born in the same county as himself and was also of German lineage. She survived her husband many years and in 1851 came with her seven children to America. She first settled at London, Canada, whence she subsequently removed to Hamilton. In 1859 she crossed the border, and from that time to her death in 1877 was a resident of the United States, making her home in Detroit, Mich. The following is recorded of her children: Walter, Joseph and Charles are in the dry-goods business in Detroit; John is a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, a member of the Detroit Conference; Anna married James Keiller, of Detroit; Bella married William F. Deike, of Chicago; William H. is the subject of this biography.

Dr. Sparling was but two years old when he came to America with his mother, brothers and sisters, and therefore has no recollection of his native island. He was given fine educational advantages in the public schools of Canada and in the higher institutions of learning in this country. His first experience of school life was in the city schools of London and Hamilton. After the family removed to Detroit he became a student at the High School of that city, and was graduated from there in the Class of '67. He then spent a year of hard study in the Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill. At the expiration of that time he began to prepare himself for the medical profession, for which he had a decided taste, under the instruction of Prof. N. W. Webster, of the Detroit Medical College. He was graduated from the institution in the Class of '72. Having completed his medical education, the Doctor decided to enter upon his chosen call-

ing at Cerro Gordo, Piatt County, this State, and he was located there from 1872 to 1876, when he came to Moweaqua and the people of this city and the surrounding country have since had the benefit of his knowledge and skill. During his fifteen years' residence here he has devoted himself very closely to his profession, and to-day has a reputation second to that of none other of his vocation in this part of the State.

To the lady who presides so graciously over his home and looks carefully after his comfort and happiness, our subject was wedded in 1875. They have two children living, James L. and Mabel. Mrs. Sparling was formerly Miss Minnie Eva Lyons, and is a daughter of James and Annie Lyons. Her native place is Simcoe, Canada.

The Doctor is a member of the Illinois State Medical Society, and of the Central Illinois Medical Society, also of the American Medical Association. He is connected with the temperance order of Royal Templars. His parents were devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, reared him in that faith, and he and his wife now belong to the church of that denomination in this city. In the course of his practice he has formed many strong and lasting friendships among the people to whose ailments he has administered and he is the well-beloved physician in many a household where his presence has brought healing, or has soothed the last hours of the dying.



JAMES W. SCOTT, a veteran of the late war, in which he fought bravely in defense of the stars and stripes, has since done as good service as a thrifty, intelligent farmer in aiding the development of the agricultural resources of this country, and is now living in honorable retirement at Shellyville, Shelby County. He was born March 11, 1826, in one of the early pioneer homes of Licking County, Ohio, his birth-place being eleven miles northeast of the town of Newark. His father, Peter P. Scott, a native of New Jersey, was one of the early settlers of Illinois, locating not far from Peoria, and he was

widely known throughout that region as a pioneer blacksmith and farmer of that section of the State. The paternal grandfather of subject, whose given name was Joseph, was born, according to the best information at hand, in County Tyrone, Ireland, and was of Scotch antecedents. On coming to America, he settled in New Jersey, and there reared a family, two of the sons serving in the War of 1812. He was an iron worker, and his last days were spent near Newark, N. J. His wife, a native of Germany, whose maiden name was Mary Hlimyon, also spent her last years near Newark.

Peter P. Scott was reared in the State of his nativity, and in his youth became a practical blacksmith, learning his trade at Newark, and following it there until about 1820. In that year he went to Ohio, going thither with teams, and located in Licking County. He carried on his calling there until 1828, when he made another move, starting for the wilds of Illinois with his wife and four children, making the journey with two pairs of oxen to a wagon, in which were conveyed all their earthly belongings, including Mr. Scott's anvil, that he had taken with him from New Jersey, and which is now in the possession of the son of the subject, who bears the name of his grandsire, and is a resident of Marshall, Oklahoma. Mr. Scott located one mile west of Washington and ten miles from Peoria, which was then known as Ft. Clark. Indians had full sway in the northern part of the State at that time, there were but very few settlement of whites, and Chicago was but a hamlet.

The father of the subject traded one pair of oxen and the wagon for a squatter's claim, and entered the land at the general land office at Springfield. Six acres of the land cleared and fenced, and a log house, stable and smoke house, constituted the improvements on the place. Mr. Scott carried on his trade as a blacksmith for some years, and people came for many miles to get work done. He was a very skillful mechanic, and besides making all his horse-shoes and nails by hand, was of an inventive turn of mind, and the first steel scouring plow ever used was from a patent made by him. In his last years he devoted himself to the management of his farm until he passed away in April, 1870 at a ripe age, in the home

that he had built thereon. His wife, a native of New York City, whose maiden name was Catherine Murphy, went to Galesburg after his death, and there resided until her death, when full of years in May, 1884. She was the mother of eleven children.

The subject of this biography, although but five years of age when his parents brought him to Illinois, clearly remembers the incidents of that momentous journey of the pioneer life that ensued in the wild, sparsely settled region now known as Tazewell County. Indians still lived there and deer, wild turkeys and other game were abundant. Our subject's education was obtained in the primitive pioneer schools of the early days of the settlement of Illinois. The first one that he attended was taught in his father's house. The seats, which had no backs and no desks in front, were made of slabs or puncheons, and were supported by wooden pins. A log was taken out of the length of the building and a row of glass inserted in its place to admit the light. In 1832, the year of the Black Hawk war, the inhabitants were constantly on the alert for fear of being surprised and massacred by the Indians, and it took but very little to create a scare. Our subject relates a rather amusing episode of this time. A man living near the school house was out hunting squirrels. He shot one near the building and the ball, glancing, went through the glass and hit a girl on the side of the head, making an ugly scalp wound. The scholars, supposing the Indians to be upon them, were very much frightened. The teacher, a young man from the East, started with the wounded girl to assist her home, but he soon fainted and his pupil had to make her way home alone. The frightened scholars circulated the report that Indians fired into the schoolhouse, and the neighbors, all armed, gathered together there, and excitement ran high until it was found out who did the shooting.

Mr. Scott lived with his parents until he grew to manhood, in the meantime assisting in the farm work, and he then commenced to learn the trade of a cooper, which he followed in Tazewell County until 1850. In the spring of that year he started with others for the gold fields of California, leaving Pekin on the 14th of April, and making an

overland journey across the plains and mountains. At that time, there were but very few white settlers between the Missouri River and California, except the Mormons at Salt Lake. Indians reigned supreme on the plains, and innumerable buffaloes were encountered on the way. The little party arrived at Weaverville, July 27, and our subject devoted his time to mining until the spring of 1851. He then gathered together his gains and returned home, traveling by way of the Isthmus of Panama to New York, from that city by rail to Dunkirk, thence by the Lakes to Chicago, and from there by the canal and the Illinois River to Peoria.

The following year Mr. Scott bought a team with the intention of returning to California, but realizing that gold was to be obtained by tilling the rich soil of this state as well as by getting it more directly from the mines of the Pacific Slope, he changed his mind and came instead to Shelby County to try farming here. He bought a tract of land in what is now Okaw Township, a few acres of which were improved and a log cabin stood on the place. He lived there until 1861, when he settled on a tract of land in Todd's Point Township, which he had bought from the Government.

In August 1862, our subject threw aside his work to take part in the great war that was then being waged between the North and South, inscribing his name on the roll of Company G, One Hundred and Fifteenth Illinois Infantry. In 1863 he received injuries which incapacitated him for active duties, and he was ordered to the hospital by the surgeon, but this did not please him, and he induced the colonel to countermand the order and he remained with his regiment until June, 1863. After that he was a short time in Franklin, Tenn., whence he was ordered to Nashville, where was transferred to the invalid corps. When the Veteran Reserve Corps was organized, he was transferred to Company G, Fifth Regiment, and was transferred at Camp Merton, Minneapolis. On the night before the election at Chicago, he was one of the five hundred soldiers sent to that city to guard the rebel prisoners confined there who had made their plans to escape. He was kept on duty forty-eight hours without relief, and returning to Indianapolis ten days later, was soon

after taken sick. He had to go to the hospital for treatment, and was discharged from that institution in February, 1865, and from the army, thus closing an honorable career as a soldier, wherein he had borne the hardships and privations incident to such a life with fortitude and true courage that he might serve his country in the time of her greatest peril. In commemoration of those trying years, he is now connected with the *Cyrus Hall Post*, No. 138, G. A. R.

Returning home after he left the army, Mr. Scott superintended the improvement of his farm, and made his home thereon until his retirement from active business to Shelbyville in 1882. Death had deprived him of his good wife in April, 1879, after a wedded life of more than thirty years, they having been married June 17, 1847. Her maiden name was Louisa Tucker, and she was a native of Mead County, Ky., a daughter of Truman Tucker. Her marriage with our subject was productive to them of these seven children, James W., Esther C., Elizabeth A., Ida L., Emma D., Peter P. and Mary A.



**W**ILLIAM J. TACKETT. The name of Tackett has been borne by some of the most useful citizens of this county from the early days of its settlement, and as an honored representative of that family that has helped to bring this section of Illinois to its present fine condition we are pleased to place on these pages a brief life-record of William J. Tackett, a highly respected resident of Shelbyville. He is a skillful farmer, and has valuable farming interests, which are still under his management, although he has retired to the city.

But few of the present citizens of this county have lived in this part of the State as long as our subject, who has spent much of his life here as boy and man for sixty years or more. He is a son of one of the earliest pioneer families of Shelbyville, John and Enfield (Mason) Tackett, and his father for several years kept a hotel in the village in the

early years of its history. For further parental history, see the sketch of John A. Tackett on another page of this volume.

William Tackett was born in Bourbon County, Ky., June 11, 1826, the second son of his parents. He was but three years old when they brought him to Illinois in 1829. Shelbyville, where the family set up their new home, was but a hamlet, with a few log habitations, and gave but little intimation that it would become the beautiful city of to-day. Our subject grew up here under pioneer influences, and watched with interest the growth of the city from day to day, and has witnessed almost the entire development of the surrounding country from a wilderness to a well settled and wealthy county, and he can take pleasure in the thought that he has had a hand in bringing about this wonderful transformation. His education was conducted in the pioneer schools of the city, which were taught in a log house, that had rude furniture of the most primitive sort, the seats being made of slabs, without backs, and with wooden pins for support. That was in the days before the introduction of the free school system, and each family had to pay for the support of the schools according to the number of scholars sent. Mr. Tackett advanced his education by attendance at Hillsboro Academy, and at the age of twenty-one he began to study medicine.

Our subject was smitten by the gold fever after the discovery of the precious metal in California, and he was one of the famous "49ers" to go to that State in search of it. He started with others in the month of March, and made the journey across the plains and mountains with mule teams. The little company of gold seekers saw no white settlers between the Missouri River and the Golden State, except the Mormons at Salt Lake. They encountered deer, antelopes, buffaloes and other wild animals in great numbers in crossing what was then known as the "Great American Desert," and Indians held undisputed sway throughout that desolate region. The train arrived at Sacramento one hundred and ten days after starting from Illinois, and our subject found that city in the pioneer stages of its existence, and among its rude habitations there were but two frame houses.

Mr. Tackett devoted himself to mining awhile,

and then handled stock at a large profit the remainder of his stay in California. In February, 1852, he set out on his return home, well satisfied with his experience of life on the frontier. He traveled by the way of the Isthmus to New Orleans, thence by the Mississippi to St. Louis, from there by stage through Vandalia to Shelbyville, and on the 20th of March he found himself once again among the familiar scenes of his boyhood. After his return he practiced medicine for a time, and then turned his attention to the grocery business, which he conducted a few years, but he finally took up the congenial pursuit of farming, and resided on his farm from 1859 to 1866, when he again came to the city to live, and has ever since made his home here. He continues to superintend his farm, however, and has it under a fine condition as to tillage and improvement, it being one of the best in those regards in the locality. Mr. Tackett is a man of much experience, possesses good mental endowments, is public spirited, and is in no ways backward in lending his assistance to all projects that will in any way enhance the prosperity of the city and county, with whose interests he has been identified for so many years.

The pleasant wedded life of Mr. Tackett with Miss Mary J. Durkee was entered upon in 1853. It has been blessed to them by the birth of children, of whom they have five, as follows: Edward, a general merchant at Raymond; Mattie, wife of William R. Glen, of Philadelphia; Archie J., a resident of Raymond; Fannie, the widow of Andrew Welch, of Shelbyville; and May, the wife of C. M. Aldrich, of Peoria.

Mrs. Tackett was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., and is a daughter of David F. and Freelove (Fink) Durkee. Her father was born in Vermont, and was a son of Dr. John Durkee, who was a practicing physician and a pioneer of Tippecanoe County, settling near La Fayette, and engaging in his profession until his death. Mrs. Tackett's father was but a boy when his parents settled in Indiana, and he grew to a stalwart manhood amid its pioneer scenes, and in due time was there married. He lived in that State until 1848, when he came to this county and cast in his destiny with the pioneers who had preceded him. He bought a tract

of wild land in what is now Pickaway Township, developed a good farm, and resided on it a number of years. He then came to the city to spend his remaining years. His wife died at the home of a daughter at Wilmington, Will County, Ill. They reared these six children—George, Celia, John, Edward, James and Mary J.



JACOB BRUNNER, a thorough-going and honorable German-American citizen and practical and successful farmer, resides on section 22, Ridge Township, Shelby County. His father, George Brunner, was a native of Baden, Germany, and his mother, Christine Klem, was also born in the German's Fatherland. They emigrated to America during the summer of 1836, and made their first home in West Virginia, settling in Marshall County. They remained here industriously pursuing the vocation of farming for some nine years, but removed to Belmont County, Ohio, about the year 1845. They were not, however, thoroughly satisfied here and returning across the river to West Virginia, made their home in Ohio County, but finally returned to Hocking County, Ohio, where the father died about the year 1855.

Our subject is the eldest in a family of ten children born to his worthy parents, being born in Baden, Germany, October 20, 1832 and was some six years old when he came to make his home in the New World. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, although he worked out to quite an extent at farm labor. The lady whom he took for his bride is a sister of Mrs. John W. Beery, and our reader will find further particulars in regard to her ancestry in the biographical sketch of Mr. Beery, elsewhere to be found in this volume. This lady's name was Miss Elizabeth Swartz, and she became Mrs. Brunner, in March, 1858 at her native home in Fairfield County, Ohio, where she was born, July 22, 1833. Here they first made their home and returned to it again after living for awhile in Allen County, that State.

In August, 1886, Mr. Brunner brought his family to Shelby County, and settled on section 22, Ridge

Township, where he now owns eighty-eight and one-half acres of excellent and arable land, and where he has made a genuine success of farming, being a man who is thoroughly devoted to his family and his work and who deserves and receives the esteem of all who know him. His integrity is unquestioned and his character bears inspection by the most critical and faultfinding. Ten interesting children have come to brighten this home, namely: John M., Rebecca C., Barbara E., Ida E., Lottie, Christine A., Mary E., Luey W., William S., and Minnie C., all of whom are living except Rebecca, who died when about four years old.



**J**OHIN R. CRAIG, Justice of the Peace of Shelbyville, is well and favorably known throughout Shelby County, of which he has been a resident these many years. A native of Campbell County, Ky., he was born in one of its pioneer homes December 11, 1817. His father, James Craig, was a Pennsylvanian by birth and a son of Robert Craig, a native of Scotland, who came to America when a young man and located in Pennsylvania, where he carried on farming. He was married in that State, and subsequently removed to the wilds of Kentucky, going thither on the Ohio River. For a time he lived in Campbell County, and then became an early settler of Boone County, where he bought a tract of timber, which he cleared and developed into a farm, his homestead being located near the village of Burlington, and there he spent his declining years.

The father of our subject was reared in his early Kentucky home, and in that State sought and found a wife in the person of Mary Barriekman, who was also a native of that part of the country, and was a daughter of Jacob Barriekman, a pioneer of that region. Mr. Craig resided in Campbell County until 1818 or 1819, and then he too became a pioneer of a new State, removing to Indiana, and settling in the primeval wilds of Fayette County on a tract of heavily timbered land six miles south of the county seat. His first work

was to build a log house to shelter his family, and he then entered upon the hard task before him of clearing his land and preparing it for cultivation. At that time timber was of but little value, the principal object of the pioneers being to get it out of the way, and large logs were rolled together and burned, which to-day would command a good price in the lumber markets. The country round about was but thinly inhabited, there were no rail-ways, and Cincinnati was the nearest market where the settlers could sell their produce and obtain needed supplies, though it was then but a small city.

Our subject's father lived in Indiana until 1839, when he came to Illinois, bringing with him his wife and seven children, the removal being made with teams, six horses being attached to a wagon, in which the household goods were conveyed, and the family camped at noon and nightfall to rest and cook their meals. Mr. Craig secured a suitable location in what is now Ridge Township, where he entered Government land, also buying some that had been previously entered by another man, and he and his family proceeded to occupy the set of log buildings that stood on the place. In that home he dwelt until death cut short his busy career in 1842, thus depriving the county of a useful and respected pioneer, who was doing his share in developing its agriculture. His wife, who survived him a number of years, also died on the home farm.

The subject of this biography was very young when his parents went to Indiana to live, and there under the invigorating influences of pioneer life he grew to a strong, self-reliant manhood. In 1841 he came to Shelby County and cast in his lot with the settlers of this region that had preceded him. They were few in numbers, and the country was still such as the Indians had left it, the land being mostly owned by the Government, and since sold at \$1.25 an acre, or less. Our subject made his home on his parents' farm remaining with his mother until his marriage, after which event he continued to occupy a part of the old homestead until 1847. In that year he went to Iowa, going thither with a team, and became an early settler of Davis County, locating in Bloom-

field, where he bought a residence, and was engaged as a clerk for several years. In 1848 he returned to Shelby County and devoted himself to farming until he was elected to the position of Deputy Sheriff in 1870, when he removed to Shelbyville to assume the duties of his office, of which he was an incumbent six years. He was then elected to his present office of Justice of the Peace. During the several years that he has held this important position he has shown himself to be well qualified for it, and has given satisfaction to all concerned, as he is wise, shrewd and fair-minded. In his social relations he is a member in high standing of Okaw Lodge, No. 117, I. O. O. F.

Mr. Craig was first married in 1842 to Miss Elizabeth Boulton, a native of Indiana. Their wedded life was brought to a close in 1844 by the death of the young wife. She left two children, James and Mary J. The second marriage of our subject, which took place in Iowa in 1850, was with Miss Sarah Hill, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Jesse Hill. This lady passed from earth August 13, 1891. Six children blessed their union, namely: Mary, Allie, John, Kate and Addie twins, and Lillie.



**S**HIELDS H. SANNER. Among the most active and progressive of the skillful farmers and stock-raisers who are conducting the great agricultural interests of this county is Shields H. Sanner, a resident of Penn Township, and it gives us pleasure to represent him in this volume, dedicated to the citizens of this section of Illinois. A son of one of the early settlers of Madison County, our subject was born in that region October 16, 1847. His father, whose given name was Samuel, was born in Northumberland County, Pa. He learned the trade of saddle and harness maker in early life and pursued it in his native State some six years before he took that important step in his life whereby he became a pioneer of Illinois in 1833. He was for many years after that closely identified with the interests of Madison County and was of much assistance in

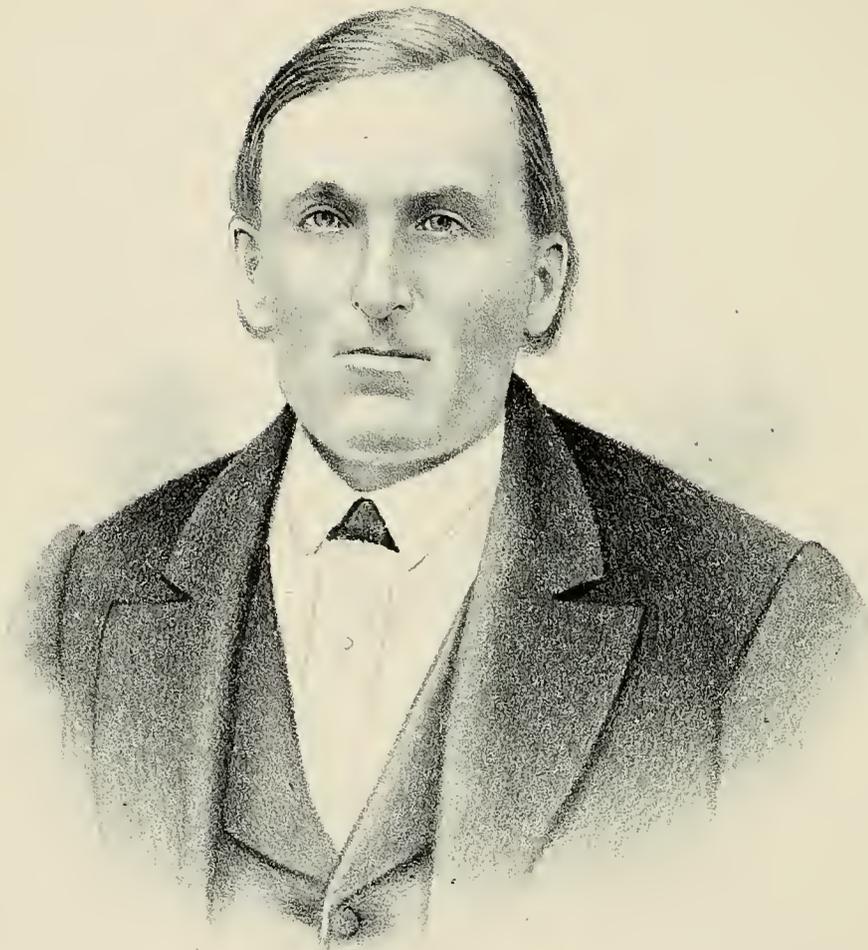
its upbuilding, at the same time acquiring a handsome competence. He came with his family to this county in 1866 and his remaining years were spent in Penn Township, his death occurring there at a venerable age in 1880. His wife, the mother of our subject, was Barbara Paul in her maiden days and she was a native of Preston County, W. Va., which at the time of her birth formed a part of Virginia.

He of whom we write was the tenth in order of birth of the twelve children that blessed the union of his parents. He laid the foundation of his education in the school in Madison County nearest his early home, which he only attended in winter after he was large enough to assist his father in the farm work. After gaining a good knowledge of the common branches he entered Blackburn University at Carlinville and remained there a short time. He was nineteen years old when his parents came to this county from his native county and began making a new home in Penn Township, which then formed a part of Pickaway Township and was mostly in a wild condition, with but few habitations within its borders. Our subject and his brothers have been prominent factors in bringing about the great change that makes this a well-improved township, with many valuable farms and pleasant homes, where they found a wilderness.

Mr. Sanner lived with his parents until he married and he then located on section 24, Penn Township, and carried on farming for himself on that place the ensuing three years. His next move was to Bethany, Moultrie County, where he and his brother-in-law established a store for the sale of hardware and agricultural implements. He remained in business at that point with Mr. Frazier until January, 1878, a period of three years, and then resumed farming, locating at that time on his present farm on section 22, Penn Township. He has placed upon it many substantial improvements and thus greatly added to its value since it came into his possession, making it one of the choice, well-ordered farms of this locality, and from its rich, well-tilled harvest fields he gleans a good yearly income.

Our subject was first married January 1, 1872, to Miss Lucretia R., daughter of A. B. Frazier, then a resident of Penn Township. A happy wedded life of





B. T. WEBB.

six years was vouchsafed to them and then death removed the wife, May 29, 1878. Four children were born of that union, namely: Paul Simpson, Frances Estelle, Margaret Grace and Louis Ross, the latter of whom died in infancy. February 11, 1879, Mr. Sanner was united in marriage to his present estimable wife, Mrs. Sanner, whose maiden name was Cornelia J. Green, is a native of Licking County, Ohio, and a daughter of Joseph Green. Her father was born in New Jersey and went from there to Pennsylvania. When he was twenty-one years of age he settled in Ohio and was there married to Electy Clutter, Mrs. Sanner's mother, who was a native of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Green died in Ohio and Mr. Green in Pickaway Township, this county, whither he had removed in 1867, his death occurring in December, 1876. By this marriage Mr. Sanner had one daughter, Lina H.

Inheriting from a sterling ancestry principles of justice, truth and right-living, our subject's life-record is that of a true gentleman, who is faithful in all the relations that he sustains toward others. Religiously he is of the Methodist faith and is a member of the church of that denomination. He is an earnest thinker on all the questions that confront the citizens of this great Republic, and in his political views is one of the most ardent champions of the Republican party in all Penn Township, which is one of the few strongholds of the party in Shelby County.



**B**ERRY T. WEBB. We are pleased to present to the consideration of our readers, the portrait and biographical sketch of the efficient School Director and Road Commissioner of Richland Township, Shelby County. An old settler in the county and a substantial farmer, he has gained the well merited approval of his neighbors as a worthy Christian gentleman and a citizen whose good judgment and practical good sense made him useful in the community. He resides on section 13, Richland Township, and has been in Shelby County since 1840.

John and Elizabeth (Young) Webb, the honored

and beloved parents of our subject, were born in Tennessee, the former near Nashville in 1792, at a time previous to the organization of Nashville as a town. He was born in a block house in which the family were shielding themselves from the Indians. He and his worthy wife were united in marriage in Tennessee, and came to Illinois in 1840, settling upon what is now known as section 13, Richland Township, in the days before such organization was effected. Here they passed their remaining years, being thoroughly interested in reducing the wilderness to a farm of thrift, comfort and productiveness. The father died in the seventy-eighth year of his age, and the mother when she was about sixty years old.

The parents of our subject reared nine children, of whom one daughter died at the age of twelve years, and eight reached man's and woman's estate. Louisa married Madison Crockett and died in Shelby County; George died in Mississippi; Mary married Thomas Blythe, and after his death became the wife of Jesse Barker, and now resides in Shelby County; Nancy is the wife of Alfred Blythe; Lucretia became Mrs. H. Morgan and died in Missouri. Our subject is the next in age; William died in Dickinson County, Iowa; and Susan Ann became the wife of William Brady, and died in this county.

The birthplace of Berry T. Webb was in Tennessee, his natal day being April 8, 1825. It was in February, 1840, that he came to Illinois, where he had two sisters already living, and the remainder of the family emigrated to this State during the fall of the same year. The Mexican War called our subject from the pursuits of peace to the activities of the march and battlefield, and in June, 1846, he entered the United States service as a soldier serving through the Mexican War, and returning home in March, 1847. As part of his reward for service he received a land warrant and with this he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land where he now resides.

In October, 1848, the returned soldier began his domestic life by his marriage to Maria Ann Curry, who was born in Tennessee, March 15, 1826. Since marriage, the family home has been upon the same farm, to which Mr. Webb has added

by purchase from time to time, until he now owns four hundred and twenty acres of as fine land as is to be found within the limits of Shelby County.

To Mr. and Mrs. Webb three children have been granted, all of whom are residents of this county, namely: John W., Louisa E., and Martha E., who is now the wife of Lafayette Stirwalt. Democratic simplicity, in the belief and practice of which Mr. Webb was brought up, and which he earnestly believes to be the true doctrine upon which to base the life of the country, still commands his adherence and his vote. He has been a member of the Separate Baptist Church since the spring of 1848, at which time an organization was effected near his home, and his life both in his church connection and in business circles has from that day to this adorned the doctrine in which he believes. The influence of his family in the community is one which is conducive of good to all who come within the circle of its radiance.



**I**VORY J. MARTIN. The power of the press is a trite but a forcible subject, for it is one of those themes which is constantly re-inforcing itself by proving anew every day its reality. Throw out of account the influence which is exerted by the newspapers of Illinois the destinies of the Prairie State would be largely affected by such elimination. The sketches which we have been called upon to give of the newspapers and editors of Moultrie County present matters which are of interest to everyone.

The Sullivan *Progress* has been from the first a success and it now occupies first rank with the best papers in this part of the State and has a well-equipped office for job work and all kinds of printing. It was originally issued in 1857 under the caption of the *Express*, but was soon changed in title to the name which it now bears. Mr. Martin has been its editor and manager since 1885 and added to those duties its proprietorship in 1887. It is now a seven-column six-page paper with a good circulation and is issued weekly. Mr. Martin, who came to Sullivan, Moultrie County, in 1883,

on account of having been appointed Deputy County Clerk by Mr. Charles Shuman, took charge of this paper after the expiration of his term of office, and has now taken Mr. Shuman as his partner in the management of the business. This was his first newspaper work but he proved himself no amateur in the business.

Mr. Martin was born in Whitley Township, Moultrie County, November 7, 1859, and was there reared upon his father's farm and received his education at Lee's Academy at Loxa, Coles County. For seven years he taught in Coles and Moultrie Counties, having taken his position at the teacher's desk before reaching the age of seventeen, obtaining his academic course during the same years that he devoted to teaching. He came of a family that has resided in the county for many years, as they settled here in the '30s. The father, John N. Martin, was born in Coles County, this State, and was only five years old when the family removed to what is now Moultrie County. He is still carrying on the farm in Whitley Township and is the son of John Martin, a native of Kentucky, a grandson of James Martin, a Virginian, and a great-grandson of John Martin who migrated to Kentucky about the year 1777, during the Revolutionary War. The family was there in the days of Daniel Boone and had to make their home in a fort for self protection.

The first John's son James was very young when the family came to Kentucky and he grew up near the Kentucky River and there married, and reared his family. At a very early day he came with his household to Coles County, Ill., and later made his home near Bruce, Moultrie County, where he died in 1865, at the very venerable age of ninety-one years, having buried his wife some twenty years before. For generations the family religion was of the old-school Baptist denomination and their politics of the Democratic order.

John Martin, the second grandfather of our subject, was a young man when his parents came to Illinois and he here reached his majority and married a Miss Nealy. Her father was known far and wide as an Indian fighter on the frontier and was an original character in the early pioneer days. In his later years John Martin removed to Whitley

Township, Moultrie County and built a mill there.

John N. Martin, the father of our subject, is one of a family of four sons and three daughters who are all living. He grew to manhood in Whitley Township and was married in Coles County to Miss Rachel Martin, who as well as her husband, is now living, having reached nearly three-score years of age. Of their children who are now living our subject is the eldest, the others being Joel K., who is studying law under the Hon. John R. Eden, of Sullivan, and Nancy E., who is yet at home with her parents. Our subject was married in Sullivan in 1886 to Miss Rose Eden, daughter of the Hon. John R. Eden, of whom more can be learned in the sketch of that gentleman which appears in this volume.

The subject of our sketch has ever taken an active part in local politics since before he became of age, but he is no office-seeker. His paper is Democratic as are also his own political views. He is a man who is capable of a vast amount of hard work and he is exceedingly skillful in the management of his business. His wife was reared in Sullivan and is a graduate of the Georgetown Convent in the District of Columbia. She is an earnest member of the Christian Church and is the mother of three children—Olive, Eden and Nealy.



**J**AMES S. TRAVIS came to this county in the vigor of early manhood more than thirty years ago, and shortly afterward bought an unattractive piece of wild prairie land in Penn Township. He bent his whole energies to the pioneer task of improving it, and to-day has a well-developed farm, finely cultivated, amply supplied with substantial buildings, and comparing in every point with the best in the neighborhood.

Franklin Township, Huntingdon County, Pa., is the birthplace of our subject, and August 28, 1834, the date of his birth. He comes of one of the old Colonial families of the Keystone State, and is a son of James Travis, Esq., who was a native of the same county as himself. His father was also a

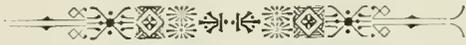
native of Pennsylvania, while the great-grandfather of our subject was born in Wales. He came to this country before the Revolution, and settled among the pioneers of Pennsylvania. The grandfather of our subject was an early settler of Huntingdon County, where he bought a tract of land in the primeval forests and cleared a farm from the surrounding wilderness, which he made his home until his mortal career was closed in death. He married Elizabeth Grey, who was likewise a Pennsylvanian by birth, and she also died on the old farm in her native State. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church, and the old grandfather was a Whig in politics.

The father of our subject was an only child, and on the old homestead that he inherited his whole life was passed, and there death found him February 7, 1851. He married Nancy Thompson, a native of Pennsylvania, and a daughter of George and Isabella (Gardner) Thompson. She survived him many years, dying at last at a venerable age on the old farm in 1872. Both were faithful members of the Presbyterian Church, and the father was a staunch supporter of the Whig party. He was a prominent man in his community, and for several years served as Justice of the Peace.

James Travis, of this biographical review, was one of seven children, and he was reared under wholesome home influences in his native place, and was educated in the local schools. In his nineteenth year he became an apprentice to J. W. Jones, a carpenter, of Tyrone City, Blair County, Pa., and he was with him three years. During that time he acquired a thorough knowledge of carpentering, and at the end of that time did journey work three years. Then, in 1859, he came to Shelby County from his native State, and in 1860 invested in a tract of unimproved prairie in Penn Township. He has transformed it from a wilderness to a highly cultivated farm, which is an attractive home, with its neat buildings and with the fruit, shade and ornamental trees planted by his own hand that adorn the place.

Mr. Travis has been aided in the making of his home by a wife who is a true helpmate in every sense of the word. Their married life began in

1858, and in the years that followed children were born to them, of whom they have six living, as follows—Adda, wife of Isaac Osborne; Nancy E., wife of Hiram Hammel; Emma L.; Clyde E., Lyda and Carrie E. Their son William H. is dead. The family is highly thought of in the community, and Mr. Travis and four of the children are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Travis is a native of the same Pennsylvania township as her husband. Her maiden name was Catherine E. Crain, and she is a daughter of Henry and Eliza Crain.



**A**NDERSON HUNTER. Men of wealth and public-spirit have abundant opportunities for advancing the social and industrial as well as material prosperity of the section of country where they make their home. To do this requires a broad vision and a willingness to think of the general good as well as of their own individual progress, yet it does not require self-sacrifice in the long run, as the prosperity of the community in general enhances the welfare of each man in particular, and the man of means who takes a wise interest in his neighborhood will thereby advance his own prosperity. Such a man we find in Anderson Hunter, who resides on section 8, Ridge Township, Shelby County.

John Hunter the father of our subject was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, and his wife Elizabeth Turner was a native of the same State. They came from that county to this State and made their home in Shelby County, about the year 1858. Their first settlement was in the country in Ridge Township, but they lived there only a short time and then removed to Shelbyville, where they completed their earthly pilgrimage. They were the honored and venerated parents of a goodly family of seven sons and three daughters.

The fifth child in this family was Anderson who was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, March 6, 1834. In that section he was given his education in the common schools and a thorough training in farm duties and there he grew to manhood and resided

until he was about twenty-three years old, when he came to Shelby County. He returned, however to his native home to bring back as his wife the girl he "had left behind him." Miss Sarah A. Allen, daughter of George and Nancy (Carlisle) Allen, became the wife of Anderson Hunter, January 27, 1857. Her parents were natives of the Buckeye State where the father died and the mother afterward removed to this State settling in Ridge Township, Shelby County, where she now resides.

Mrs. Sarah Hunter was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, August 13, 1837, and there she made her home throughout her childhood and maidenhood. After her marriage with our subject, she became the mother of a numerous progeny, twelve in number, four of whom died in childhood and infancy. Those who remained to cheer the heart of their mother by their affection and to become worthy members of society are: George who married Ida Weakly; Robert who took to wife Sophronia Longenbough; Harold was united in marriage with Ellen Yantis; Ida, is now Mrs. William Yantis; Preston married Mattie Eversole; Delmer, Lorin and Eva. The beloved and revered mother of this household, passed away from life in Ridge Township April 24, 1887. She was a woman of beautiful Christian character and a devout and consistent member of the Presbyterian Church.

The second marriage of Mr. Hunter took place in Hillsboro, Ill., uniting him with Miss Lucia Jones, a capable and efficient home-maker and a woman of great loveliness of character. Mr. Hunter while living in Ohio, carried on for nine years the business of carriage-making, but on account of ill health he was obliged to relinquish his trade and has found in farming an avocation more suited to the maintenance of health. He has a magnificent farm of twelve hundred and eleven broad acres, located in the townships of Ridge and Pickaway and upon them he has erected an attractive home, good barns and a good set of outhouses.

The community in which Mr. Hunter appreciates highly his excellent qualities, good judgment and earnest desire for its prosperity and has intrusted to him the duties of School Director and Highway Commissioner. He is a Prohibitionist in his political views and an active and earnest worker in

every way for the causes of religion and morality. He has been for fifteen years an Elder in the Presbyterian Church, in which he is a great worker and where his wife joins him in efforts for the up-building of Christianity. In their beautiful home they extend a hospitality to their friends which is both generous and gracious, thus making it one of the most delightful social centers of Ridge Township.



**W**ILLIAM REIGHLEY. This venerable and highly-esteemed citizen of Moweauqua owns and occupies a large and valuable farm, finely located, a part of it in the village and the remainder near by. Our subject was born ten miles east of Lewistown, Mifflin County, Pa., November 22, 1810. His father, Matthew Reighley, was born on the Irish coast, at a point where it approaches nearest Scotland, and he was of Scotch blood. During some period of his life he emigrated to this country and was engaged at his occupation as a farmer in Mifflin County, when his death occurred in October, 1814. He married after coming to the United States, Susan Close, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of Adam Close, becoming his wife. She survived her husband many years and finally died in Adams County, Ohio, in 1852. She was the mother of eight children.

He of whom this sketch is written was in his fourth year when his father died and he was reared by his mother on the old farm that was his birth-place, and he remained with her until he was twenty-one. He then rented land in his native county and farmed it until October, 1839, when he removed to Ohio, going there by canal and rail to Johnstown, thence by canal to the Ohio River, on which he proceeded to Wheeling, where he took a stage for Adams County, Ohio. He bought a tract of improved land and gave his attention to its cultivation as long as he remained a resident of the Buckeye State, which was until 1852. In that year he came to Illinois, making the re-

moval with a pair of horses and a carriage. He located at Chena Grove, McLean County, where he bought a section of land, having entered it from the Government on a previous visit, said land including the present site of the village of Belle Flower.

Mr. Reighley lived in McLean County five years and then, renting his land, took up his residence in Ford County, buying property near Paxton. Three years later he removed to Drummond's Grove, near Gibson City, and remained there until 1874, when he came to Shelby County and invested in four hundred and forty-five acres of land, located as previously mentioned, in and adjoining the village of Moweauqua, where he has ever since made his home. He has here a fine piece of property, substantially improved, and its possession places him among our most solid citizens.

Fifty-one years ago, March 21, 1840, our subject celebrated his wedding with Miss Rachel Bailey, who has been to him a loving and faithful wife during all these long years that they have shared life's joys and sorrows. Children have come to them, of whom these three have been spared to comfort their declining years: James Quincy, William Selkirk and John Wilson. Their only daughter, Susan Mary, was born July 12, 1844, grew to womanhood, married Wallace P. Zook, and died in 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Reighley are sincere Christians, holding membership in the United Brethren Church, and have all endeavored to be true to their religious obligations, including their duties as parents, neighbors and friends.

Mrs. Reighley was born amid the pioneer scenes of Adams County, Ohio, July 18, 1820. Her father, Eben Bailey, was a native of Kentucky and was a son of one Joel Bailey, who was born and reared in England. He came to this country when a young man and was married on his arrival here to Miss Rachel Perkins, who was born in Ireland and was of English ancestry. They removed from Maryland to Virginia and thence to Kentucky, in the early years of its settlement. Mr. Bailey was opposed to slavery, so he crossed the Ohio River into the Northwestern Territory and settled on the present site of Cincinnati, where he bought a tract of timber land that is now included within the

city limits. Later he disposed of that and removed to Adams County, of which he became a prominent pioneer. He bought a large tract of forest-covered land, platted the village of Winchester and built the first house there. It was made of hewn logs and in it he opened the first store in the township. At that time his dwelling was one mile from there. He was a resident of that place until his death and his enterprise helped to advance its growth. His wife also died there.

Mrs. Reighley's father was reared on his father's farm in Ohio and always gave his attention to farming. In 1850 he became a resident of Fountain County, Ind., where he bought a farm, upon which he dwelt until his demise in 1859, at a ripe age. He was married in 1818 to Rhoda Prather Odell, a native of Kentucky and a daughter of Thomas and Grace (Austin) Odell. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey reared a family of nine children. Mrs. Reighley's mother was an expert in the art of weaving and spinning and she taught her daughter those useful accomplishments and in her early married life Mrs. Reighley manufactured all the cloth used by her family with her own deft hands.



**W**ILLIAM WHITWORTH, who, as a sagacious, skillful farmer, has helped to make Shelby County a rich, well-developed agricultural center, has at the same time acquired a valuable property, and not only owns a fine farm within the corporate limits of the city of Moweaqua, but has here a handsome, well-appointed residence, in which he is living in retirement from active business. He is a native of Perry County, Ind., born May 25, 1838, a son of Abraham Whitworth, who was born in Virginia in 1807. The father of the latter, also named Abraham, was likewise a native of Virginia, and was the son of an Englishman, who came to this country and settled in the Old Dominion in Colonial times, spending the remainder of his life there.

The grandfather of our subject went from his native State to Tennessee with his family in 1811, and after a two years' sojourn in the wilderness in

that State, he proceeded Northward into Breckenridge County, Ky., where he in time cleared a farm from the timber, and there closed his earthly pilgrimage. He married Nancy Board, who was born in Virginia and died in Kentucky.

The father of our subject was scarcely more than a babe when his parents took up their abode in Kentucky, and he grew to a vigorous manhood under the influences of the rough pioneer life of those days. When he became a young man he too became a pioneer, selecting the more newly settled State of Indiana as the scene of his operations, and he there took unto himself a wife, Miss Martha Gregory uniting her life with his. She was also a native of Virginia, and was a daughter of Peter and Mary (Dobson) Gregory, natives of Virginia, the latter a daughter of William O. Dobson, also a Virginian. After marriage, Mr. Whitworth, who had formerly been a pilot on a flatboat that plied on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, commencing life at boating when quite young, turned his attention to farming. In 1861 he came to Illinois, and settled on a tract of land that he bought in Moweaqua Township, located four miles east of the village, where he resided until his life was rounded out in death in July, 1864. His wife survived him until the following year, and then she too passed away, dying in the month of December. She was the mother of eight children that were reared to maturity.

The early life of our subject was passed amid the scenes of his birth. He came to Shelby County in 1858, and he began his career here by working out by the day or month. Prudently saving his earnings, in 1864 he invested in eighty acres of good farming land four and one-half miles northwest of the village of Moweaqua, and later added to it forty acres more. He resided on that place several years, devoting his energies to its improvement, and when he left it in 1886 to take up his abode in the city he had placed it under a high state of cultivation, and had made of it a well-ordered farm. He came to Moweaqua in the year mentioned, bought property, and in 1890 erected his present commodious residence, which is built after plans drawn by himself and wife, is very conveniently arranged and is an ornament to the city. He also has a fine

farm advantageously located within the limits of this municipality, which contains sixty-four acres of well-tilled land, and is amply supplied with buildings and everything needful for its successful cultivation.

Mr. Whitworth has been twice married. In 1861 he was wedded to Miss Sarah Lamb, a native of Richland County, Ill. Their brief but happy union was closed by her death in 1864. She left two children, Clara and Alice. Clara married William Landram, and has two children. Alice married James Chance, and has four children. The present estimable wife of our subject, to whom he was united in marriage in 1866, was formerly Miss Isabella Doyle. She is a native of Macoupin County, this State, and a daughter of E. M. Doyle, who is represented in this work.

Mr. Whitworth, as we have seen, has become one of the prosperous citizens of this county through the exercise of good mental and physical endowments. He is a gentleman of sound principles and blameless life, who is justly held in high consideration by his neighbors and associates, and in him the Baptist Church has a conscientious, right-living member, his wife also belonging to that church, and identifying herself with its best efforts to elevate the moral status of the community. As a loyal and true-hearted citizen should, our subject interests himself in politics, and is a staunch adherent of the Republican party.



**W**ILLIAM J. HUFF, M. D., of Prairie Home, is a graduate of the Medical Department of the Michigan State University, at Ann Arbor, one of the leading institutions of learning in the country, and in the practice of his profession he has acquired a fine reputation as a skillful and successful physician. He was born in Perry County, Ind., July 10, 1846, and comes of the old pioneer stock of that State.

William Huff, the father of our subject, was born in Spencer County, Ind., and was a son of Aquilla Huff, who was born near Harrodsburg, Ky., his

parents, who were Virginians, being among the early settlers of that region.

The grandfather of our subject was reared in the wilds of Kentucky, and subsequently became an early pioneer of Indiana when it was a territory, locating in Spencer County, where he took up a tract of Government land, which he converted into a good farm, on which he spent his remaining days. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Rawlings, and who was likewise a native of Kentucky, also passed her last years on that Spencer County farm, where she had helped her husband to build up a home.

Dr. Huff's father was born in Spencer County, Ind., where he now lives. He was bred to the life of a farmer, and always followed agricultural pursuits until his retirement from active business. He is still living on his farm one mile from Troy, Perry County, Ind., where he enjoys the good will and respect of the community where so many years of his life have been passed. In early manhood he found a true helpmate and wife in the person of Margaret Davis, who was born in Kentucky, but was reared in Indiana in one of its pioneer homes. They reared three children—Joseph G., William J. and Henderson M. Joseph G. was a member of the Tenth Indiana Cavalry during the war, and give up his life for his country while in the service.

Our subject early displayed an ambition to obtain a good education, and after passing his boyhood in study in the public schools of Perry and Spencer Counties, and gaining a thorough knowledge of the common branches, at the age of seventeen he began teaching, and thereby earned the wherewithal to pursue his studies in the State University at Bloomington. In 1868 the young student was complimented by election to the office of County Surveyor of Spencer County, and he served satisfactorily four years. He began the study of medicine with Dr. G. F. Adge, of Newtonville, and later placed himself under the instruction of E. M. Anderson, of New Boston. In 1878 he entered the Medical Department of the State University at Ann Arbor, and was graduated from there in the Class of '80. Thus well-equipped for his chosen calling he entered upon its practical duties at St. Meinrad, Spencer County, where he remained a

year. He then came to Illinois, and for a year and a half practiced at Macon. His next location was at Dalton, from which place he came to Prairie Home a year later, and ever since has been in practice here, and is recognized as one of our best physicians.

The Doctor's marriage with Miss Emma E. Avery, a native of Perry County, Ind., was celebrated August 15, 1882. They have two children living, James Karl and Catherine Maud. The Doctor and his amiable wife are among the most valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and they are among our most agreeable society people.



ANDREW J. FOLTZ. Each life has its romance, its comedy and tragedy, but most of us hide these more vivid colors of our lives under a veil of reserve, and peering through it the casual observer can find only hints and vague outlines of what is beneath. Could every man be his own historian and deal with himself honestly and frankly, biographies would be more interesting. That, however, is not always possible nor would it be in all cases advisable, therefore we must lay down the facts as we know them and read between the lines as our sympathies and knowledge of human nature shall dictate.

The subject of our sketch is a resident upon the farm that is located on section 12, in Rural Township. Since 1849, he has been a resident in Shelby County, and during that time has been engaged in the work of planting and reaping, a noble work, in that, without the products which the farmer gives us, we could not support life. Mr. Foltz was born in Union County, Pa. March 2, 1845. He is a son of Joseph and Mary Foltz also natives of Pennsylvania. The family emigrated to Shelby County this State, in 1849 and first settled in the southern part of this county, entering some Government land, but they soon removed to Rose Township, settling on Robinson Creek. In 1857 they again made a change, going to Knox County, Mo. and

here they resided until 1862, when they returned to Shelby County and passed their remaining years in Rose Township. The father died December 1, 1879, being at the time about sixty-eight years of age. The mother is still living and resides with a daughter in Knox County, Mo.

Our subject is one of nine children born to his parents. Of these, eight lived to be grown. Their names are Arden W., Lilah, Joseph H., Sarah, John, our subject, Andrew J., Thomas J. and Jerome. The eldest son lives in the southwestern part of Missouri, as does also his sister Lilah, who is the wife of Lorenzo Jarvis. Joseph H. resides in Minneapolis, Minn. Sarah is the wife of Samuel Jarvis, and lives in Northwestern Kansas. John makes his home in Southwestern Kansas and Thomas J. is a farmer in Western Kansas. Jerome died in Knox County, Mo. Our subject was reared a farmer and in his peripatations with his family through the different States, he learned much of the methods employed in different portions of the country in agriculture, and also of the nature and requirements of the soil.

When Andrew Foltz reached his teens, he was employed by the month in work as a farm hand. In 1867 he was united in marriage to a lady who bore the historic name of Reed, belonging to a family of old and high standing in Kentucky, and previously in Virginia. Emily Reed is the daughter of William Reed and was born in Kentucky, Oct. 3, 1846. Mr. and Mrs. Foltz are the parents of the following children, most of whom have reached years of maturity. The eldest is a daughter whose name is Minerva. She is the wife of Frank Beckett. The other children in name and in order of birth are as follows: Andrew Campbell, William B., Laura; Genetta died in infancy; Albert H. and Ettie.

On his marriage our subject felt the importance of making a home of his own and he secured a farm in Tower Hill Township which he has cultivated assiduously. Some ten years ago, the gentleman purchased his present farm which comprises one hundred and sixty acres. It is fine land well located and watered, and bears good improvements. Politically our subject affiliates with the Democratic party although he is rather inclined to be inde-





H. C. CARPENTER.

SARAH CARPENTER.

pendent in his vote, giving his influence not always to the man of party if he thinks some other man is better fitted to fill the office in question. For some time, he has filled the position of School Director. He is a member in good standing, of the Church of God, and the Golden Rule, to do unto others as you would that they should do unto you, is the precept that guides him in his relations, both business and social, with his fellow-men. The father of Mrs. Foltz died June 15, 1891, at the venerable age of ninety-one years.



**H**ENRY C. CARPENTER, who is highly esteemed and respected throughout the community where he lives, is an intelligent and progressive citizen who gives much thought to the questions of the day. He makes his home on section 18, Ridge Township, Shelby County. His father was Israel Carpenter, who was born in Lancaster, Pa., and his mother, Susan Hess, was probably born in Pennsylvania of German parentage, as was also the father. The father died when about fifty-two years old, the mother at the age of ninety-one years.

The parents of our subject came to Shelby County, Ill., from Delaware County, Ohio, about 1837, and settled in Shelbyville, where they resided for a few months. Later they removed to a point north of Shelbyville near the fair grounds and then made their home in Okaw Township, where the father passed from earth. His widow died at the residence of our subject in Ridge Township some years later. They had eleven children, of whom our subject is the fifth in order of age.

Henry C. Carpenter was born in Delaware County, Ohio, October 1, 1825, and hence was about twelve years old when he came to Shelby County, Ill., with his parents. Here he grew to manhood and spent most of his early life with the exception of four years which he passed in Sangamon County. He was reared upon the farm and has made agricultural pursuits his chief business in life.

The marriage of Mr. Carpenter in Ridge Town-

ship, September 30, 1852, brought him as a wife Miss Sarah Downs, daughter of Elections and Mary Ann (Stiffler) Downs. For particulars in regard to the history of this prominent family the reader is referred to the life sketch of J. H. Downs which appears on another page of this volume. Mrs. Carpenter was the fourth in a family of eight children, and first saw the light December 28, 1831, in Washington County, Md. She came to Shelby County, Ill., with her parents in 1845, and here grew to a beautiful and vigorous young womanhood in Ridge Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter are the parents of nine children namely: George W., who married Mary E. McDonald and died at the age of twenty-two; Elections who took to wife Clara Worthman; Willie who passed away in infancy; James W., who married Sarah M. Jones; Sarah Ann the wife of O. J. Engle; John Alonzo who took to wife Ida Bruner; Ira W.; Mary Ellen, who died in infancy, and Nora J. Our subject filled efficiently and satisfactorily the office of Supervisor of Ridge Township for two terms, and has also been Road Overseer and School Director. He formerly took an active part in political affairs but is independent in his party affiliations. He is liberal in his religious views and interested in all progressive ideas. His splendid tract of five hundred and seventeen acres, most of which is located in Ridge Township bears every sign of the hand of a thorough, systematic and industrious farm manager.

The attention of the reader is invited to the lithographic portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter, which are presented elsewhere in this volume.



**A**NDREW J. STEIDLEY, a well-known resident of Moweaqua, Shelby County, is of Southern birth and ancestry, and is also a representative of one of the pioneer families of Illinois. He was born in Frederick County, Va., December 23, 1829, and is a son of Solomon Steidley, who was born in Frederick County, Md., August 21, 1789. His father was about fifteen

years old when his parents removed to Frederick County, Va., where he was reared to agricultural pursuits, and there he was married October 25, 1811, to Rachel Barr, who was born in New Jersey, November 28, 1793. Her father, James Barr, was a Revolutionary soldier, and was with Washington at Valley Forge.

The parents of our subject left their Virginia home in October, 1834, to seek a new one in the wilds of Maconpin County, this State, the journey being made with teams, a part of the household goods being taken to furnish their pioneer abode. At length, after traveling five weeks, they came to what is now Barr Township, which at that time was literally in the wilderness, where deer, bears, and other wild animals roamed at will, and the surrounding country had but few white inhabitants. The nearest post-office for some time was fifteen miles distant from their dwelling. Postage stamps were not then in use, and it cost twenty-five cents for each letter. The father of our subject bought forty acres of land a mile south of the present site of Barr's Store. There was a log cabin on the place, and the land was fenced and partly improved. Alton was the nearest market, where the people purchased their sugar, salt and coffee, which were the principal supplies bought at the stores, as the settlers were mostly home-livers, subsisting on what they could produce on their farms, and on game. The women carded, spun and wove flax and wool for all the cloth used for garments or other purposes. Mr. Steidley prospered in his new home, as he was a man of untiring diligence, and he bought other land until he owned four hundred and eighty acres at the time of his demise, all lying in Barr Township. His life was cut off by his death November 18, 1848, while yet in the midst of his usefulness, and his county was deprived of the services of one of its most industrious and worthy pioneers. His wife survived him until August 11, 1860, when she breathed her last in the old home. She reared these seven children: James B., Betsy A., Frederick, John S., Margaret H., Mary C. and Andrew J.

Our subject was in his fifth year when his parents brought him to Illinois. He attended the pioneer schools of Barr Township, which were

taught on the subscription plan, in primitive log houses, that were rudely furnished with seats made by splitting small logs, hewing one side smooth, and using wooden pins for legs, the seats being without desks or backs. Mr. Steidley commenced to assist in the farm work as soon as large enough, and lived with his mother until his marriage, affording her great assistance in managing the farm. He taught one term of school before his marriage, later taught two terms in Barr Township, and then gave his attention to the mercantile business at Greenfield two years. He next went to farming near Fayette, Greene County, and was thus employed there a year and a half. After that Macon County was his destination, and he sojourned there the summer of 1857. Returning to Fayette, he remained there two years, and then went back to his old home, Barr Township, and the succeeding two years farmed there, except in the winter season, when he resumed his old vocation of teacher. In the fall of 1862, we find him once more in Fayette, where he had charge of a school two terms. In the spring of 1861 he came to Moweaqua to accept a position as clerk for H. F. Day, and was with him for four years. Smith & Keiser, dealers in lumber and agricultural implements, were his next employers in that capacity, and he staid with them two years. Since then he has been engaged in various branches of business.

In 1885 Mr. Steidley took a new departure, and entered upon the printers' trade in the office of his son in Maroa. He then commenced at the foundation of the editor's profession by learning to set type. He remained in the office at Maroa until 1888, when he came back to Moweaqua, and for fourteen months was a clerk in a drug store. At the expiration of that time he commenced setting type in the office of the *Call-Mail* with his son, and has continued thus engaged ever since. He is a man of versatile genius, of much culture, possessing an interesting fund of general knowledge, and wherever known is respected. Politically he is a sound Democrat. His social relations are with the Masonic fraternity.

Our subject was married in 1852 to Miss Nancy E. Jayne, who was a native of Greene County, Ill., born July 31, 1836. She was a most estimable

lady, and her death, February 26, 1881, was a sad bereavement to her family and many friends. She left four children—Edgar C., Thomas J., Emily R. and Wilmer A. Mrs. Steidley was a daughter of Thomas and Emily (Renshaw) Jayne, natives respectively of Kentucky and Tennessee, and early settlers of Greene County, Ill. Her father was a prominent attorney, and at one time was in partnership with Senator John M. Palmer, at Carlinville, Ill.



**A**BRAM GALLAGHER. The township of Holland, being practically unbroken by large towns and villages, gives fine opportunities for the cultivation of extensive farms and among them we are pleased to make mention of the property belonging to the gentleman whose name we have just mentioned. He is notable as being the Supervisor of the township and at the same time is one of the most prominent and extensive farmers of Shelby County.

Our subject was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, April 7, 1839, being a son of Jacob and Sarah (Middlesworth) Gallagher. The grandfather of our subject on his father's side was born in the green Isle of Erin, and when he emigrated to this country made his home in Pennsylvania and later removed to Ohio. The father of our subject was born in Ohio and came to Shelby County in 1839, making his home first in Shelbyville Township and afterward in Holland Township, where he passed the remainder of his days.

The parents of our subject had ten children, all of whom attained their majority and are named as follows: Abram; William, who died in Shelby County; Henry, who resides in Holland Township; Elizabeth, who married first Adam Deel and afterward Murray Locke and died in Holland Township; Eliza, who became Mrs. John Burke and resides in Holland Township; Charlotte, who married W. B. Lantz and lives in the same township; Mary C., who became Mrs. William Ragan, of Shelbyville; Martha, who married Silas Ragan and died in Holland Township; Douglas, who also

resides in that township; Newton, who lives in the same vicinity.

Abram Gallagher received his early training in the district schools and upon the farm and grew to a vigorous and useful young manhood. On May 9, 1865, he was united in marriage with Sarah Ewing, a daughter of Thomas Ewing and a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, where she was bereaved of her parents and was thus an orphan when she made her way to the State of Illinois. After marriage this young couple made their home where they now reside, possessing at that time some two hundred acres of land which they have now increased by purchase to four hundred acres. Here Mr. Gallagher is engaged quite largely in stock-raising, in which line he is successful.

Two children came to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gallagher. They are still living and bear the names of Minnie and Clement. The early political training of Mr. Gallagher led him to affiliate with the Democratic party, but he is now independent in his views and casts his vote where he believes that it will do the most good for the community. His freedom from party ties does not, however, deprive him of the political support of his neighbors and he is now serving his second term as Supervisor of Holland Township, and formerly held the offices of Township Clerk, Road Commissioner, School Director and School Trustee. In religious matters he is a believer in the doctrines which are set forth in the Unitarian Church.



**C**HARLES E. WOODWARD, proprietor of the C. E. Woodward Roller Flour Mill, is a well-known and honored citizen of Shelbyville, Shelby County, with whose manufacturing interests he has been connected several years, and he has also been prominent in its public and social life. He was born June 12, 1815, on a farm eight miles from Bordertown, Monmouth County, N. J. His father, whose name was Nimrod Woodward, was a native of the same State, and was a son of Benjamin Woodward, who is also supposed to have been born in New Jersey, and to have been a de-

scendant of one of the early English families of that Commonwealth. He was a merchant and a miller at Imlaystown, Monmouth County, and his last years were spent there.

The father of our subject was a farmer by occupation, and he had a choice farm located on Cream Ridge, Monmouth County, and there he tranquilly passed a long and useful life, dying in 1870, at the venerable age of eighty-two years. The maiden name of his wife was Catherine Emley, and she was a native of Burlington County, N. J. She died in the home of her son, Clarkson, at Hightstown, N. J. She was the mother of nine children,—Ferdinand, Charles E., Clarkson, Elizabeth, Mary A., Reading and Emily (twins), Benjamin and Nimrod. The parents were pious and respected members of the Society of Friends, and reared their children in the same faith.

He of whom we write laid the foundation of a solid education in the public schools of his native county, and subsequently attended the Quaker Academy in Philadelphia, where he pursued an excellent course of study, whereby he was fitted for the profession of teaching, and at the age of twenty he entered upon its duties in his native State, New Jersey. In 1837 he accepted a position as teacher at College Hill, near Cincinnati, Ohio, which he resigned a year later to become assistant teacher at Cary's Academy, and two of President Harrison's cousins were among his pupils. He taught in that school a year, and at Vincennes, Ind., a like length of time, and in the winter of 1840-41 he came to Shelby County, making the journey with an ox-team, bringing with him his wife and household goods. He located eight miles from the village of Shelbyville on a tract of land which he had purchased, a few acres of which were broken, taking up his abode in the log cabin that stood on the place. In the spring he entered upon the pioneer task of developing his farm, but he did not wholly abandon his profession, as the two succeeding winters he taught in Shelbyville in a log building that had been used as a residence, there being at that time no schoolhouse in the village.

After his two terms' experience as a pioneer teacher in this county, Mr. Woodward devoted his

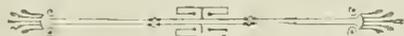
time exclusively to the improvement of his farm until 1848, when he came to Shelbyville, and succeeded John Tachett as proprietor of the only hotel of which the village then boasted. The following year he bought a building, converted it into a hotel, which he managed one year. He then disposed of his farm and established himself in the dry-goods business at which he was engaged until he sold out at a good profit in 1859.

In 1861 Mr. Woodward was appointed Postmaster by President Lincoln and had charge of the post-office at Shelbyville until August 1862, when Gov. Yates appointed him Quartermaster of the Seventy-ninth Illinois Regiment. He served in that capacity very efficiently until the close of the war and was mustered out with his regiment June 12, 1865. Returning home he resumed his duties as Postmaster which office he retained until relieved by President Johnson. After that he was employed as bookkeeper in a dry-goods house until 1868 when he accepted a similar position in the flour mill of C. C. Seovil. That gentleman dying a year later, our subject was appointed executor of his estate, and with J. P. Davis and J. W. Ward bought the mill now known as the C. E. Woodward Roller Mill of which he has been sole proprietor since 1862. He carries on an extensive business, manufacturing an unexcelled brand of flour. The mill occupies two commodious brick buildings, each three stories in height, with a basement, and furnished entirely with first-class modern machinery, the capacity of the mill being one hundred and twenty-five barrels of flour a day and two hundred barrels of corn-meal.

That our subject has been successful in life is no doubt partly due to the fact that he possesses one of man's choicest blessings, a good wife, whom he secured in the person of Elizabeth Armstrong, a native of Knox County, Ind., to whom he was united in marriage in 1838. Thus for more than half a century they have shared the joys and sorrows common to mortals, and children have been born to them of whom they have six living, as follows,—Charles S., Belle, Nimrod, Emily, Letton and Clarence L.

During these many years that our subject has been a resident of Shelbyville his citizenship has been

invaluable to the community, as through his position as one of its enterprising business men he has aided in promoting its growth and prosperity, his public spirit and liberality have helped to forward all schemes to the advancement of its best interests, and he has rendered good service in the important civic positions that he has held. He has been President of the City Council, and for twelve years he was President of the Board of Education, and to his zeal and interest in educational matters while occupying that office Shelbyville is greatly indebted to-day for the efficiency of its schools. Mr. Woodward is prominent in the social life of the city as a member of the following organizations: Jackson Lodge, No. 53, A. F. & A. M.; Jackson Chapter, No. 55, R. A. M.; and of Cyrus Hall Post, No. 138, G. A. R., of which he is Past Commander. As a true citizen should, he has always taken an interest in politics, and in early life was a Whig, but since the formation of the Republican party, he has been one of its staunchest supporters both in times of war and in times of peace.



**W**ILLIAM WIREY. The name noted is that of the owner and proprietor of one the fine farms located on section 25, of Tower Hill Township. During the seventy-nine years that he has lived great changes have taken place in the calling to which he has always devoted himself. Greece could boast of her temples and statues, Rome of her laws and law-makers, but it remains for America to beat the world at Yankee inventions that are a labor saving of incalculable degree to the agriculturist. Whereas in his boyhood days our subject planted and hoed the corn by hand, and eradled and gathered the grain in the same manner, now the owner of a thousand acres can sit on the carriage seat of his binder, arrayed in a white polished shirt and patent leather boots and a fine suit of clothes made to order, and can accomplish as much in a day as was formerly accomplished in a month.

All his life Mr. Wirey has been engaged in the energetic and industrious pursuit of his calling, but

he has now retired from active labor and is enjoying the fruits of his early efforts. He is of Pennsylvania parentage and is proud of the fact that he is thoroughly American. Our subject's father was John Wirey, who was probably born in Pennsylvania, as was his mother, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Spidle. After marriage they first settled in Franklin County, Pa., and afterward removed to Westmoreland County, in the same State, there the father died. Left with the care of a family, the mother determined to seek easier conditions under which to make a living, and removed from the hilly country where she had lived in Pennsylvania, to the more fertile region in Richland County, Ohio. Later, however, she with her children came to Shelby County, this State, and in 1839 located on Robinson Creek, in Rose Township. There the family lived and labored together for six years at the end of which time they removed to Tower Hill Township, and there the mother died, after a life spent in self-sacrifice and loving devotion to her family. Her decease took place on section 34, and she was interred with all respect and honor in God's acre of the township. Our subject's parents were not exactly in the fashion for pioneer days, for instead of having a family the number of whose children was counted in the teens, only four little ones came to be the mother's comfort and stay in her time of tribulation and bereavement. Their names are Catherine, Polly, William and John. Of these our subject was the third in order of birth, being the eldest son. He was born in Franklin County, Pa., September 12, 1812, during that troubled period when it was decisively settled who should have supremacy in this country. He was reared in the village until he was fifteen years of age after which time he went to live with a man by the name of John Kinneard, of his native place, and he remained with him until of age when he went to Ohio, and from 1833 to 1839 inclusive, he made his home in Richland County, of that State. At the latter named date he came to Shelby County, in this State, and with his mother and family resided on Robinson Creek, Rose Township, until about 1845, when he came to Tower Hill Township, of which place he has ever since been a resident.

Mr. Wirey, as has before been said, has always been engaged in the calling of agriculture. Formerly he was the owner of two hundred acres of as fine land as there is in Tower Hill Township, and the greater portion of his life was spent in improving this tract and making of it a farm that is a model in its way. This he sold when well advanced in years and now lives retired from the active duties of life. Our subject has filled several local offices in the gift of the township, and has been Assessor of Tower Hill Township for one year. In his political preferences he is a Democrat.



**CYRUS WEAKLY.** A young and progressive man who has already attained a flattering degree of success and whose friends predict for him a brilliant future, is he whose name is written at the head of this sketch. He is a farmer and stock-raiser, operating two hundred and forty acres, located on section 17, Pickaway Township. At this place he settled in December, 1887. Not yet having reached his third decade, he has already accumulated a handsome property that many an older man has striven and labored in vain for years to acquire. He is one of the most thrifty men of the township where he has lived since his fourth year. He was born in Ridge Township, this county, April 19, 1866.

Since his fourth year our subject has lived in Pickaway Township, where he acquired a good common-school education that fitted him for the practical business of life, and since becoming of age he has been engaged in farming on his father-in-law's land. He is the son of Alva P. and Mary A. (Miller) Weakly, natives of Ohio and Illinois respectively. Our subject's father came with his parents, Samuel and Maria (Fetters) Weakly, to this State and county at an early day. They became pioneers in Ridge Township, this county, and there Samuel Weakly became the owner of a large tract of new land, which he improved. He lived to own six hundred acres of land, nearly all of which was well improved, and when he died in 1890, at the age of seventy-five, he was in more

than comfortable financial circumstances. He was twice married. His first wife died in the prime of life, January 10, 1862. He was an active member of the United Brethren Church and Mr. Weakly helped to organize the church in this county and at various times held most of the church offices. He was School Superintendent for years, a public-spirited man and a liberal giver. Formerly he was a Republican in his political views, but in his last years became an adherent of the Greenback party, and finally of the Prohibitionists. His last wife, whose maiden name was Rachael A. Schafer, and who had formerly been married to a Mr. Petty, yet survives him. She is now fifty years of age. She bore Mr. Weakly one child, who is now deceased. The father of our subject, Alva P. Weakly was the second of four sons and six daughters. All are now married and have families with the exception of one.

Alva P. Weakly became of age in Ridge Township, and there married his wife, whose maiden name was Mary A. Miller, a native of that township and a daughter of C. P. Miller, an old settler there. For a further history of C. P. Miller's life refer to sketch of W. C. Miller, found in another part of this volume. After marriage the young couple began life as farmers in Ridge Township and there two children were born to them. They then moved into Pickaway Township and now have a fine and well-improved farm of three hundred and sixty-five acres, which has been their home since 1870. This fine place is the tangible result of years of industry, prudence and thrift. In their church relations they are prominent members of the United Brethren Church, of which Mr. Weakly is a Trustee. For years he was Superintendent of the Sunday-school and Class-Leader. Politically he is a Republican and has held various local offices under his party. He is now Justice of the Peace.

Our subject is the eldest of the family born to his parents, seven children in all, of whom there are five sons and two daughters. He of whom we write was married in this township May 1, 1887, to Miss Clara A. Moll. She was born here on the old Moll homestead, January 8, 1867, and was here reared and educated at Westfield Seminary. She

is the daughter of Daniel Moll, of whom a sketch may be found in another part of this volume.

Mrs. Weakly is an accomplished and attractive lady. She and her husband are very popular among the young married people and their home is a delightful meeting-place for the gaiety and social life of the community. Their marriage has been blessed by the birth of a daughter, on the 16th of April, 1888. She is a bright girl and is the delight of her parents. The young husband and wife are members of the Locust Grove United Brethren Church and there do efficient work. Mr. Weakly is a Republican in his political preference.



**W**ILLIAM H. FAGEN, the gentleman whose name is at the head of this sketch, is the editor and proprietor of the *Stewardson Clipper*, and is a man of recognized intellectual and literary ability, besides having a keen business instinct and tact, that have done much to build up a reputation for his organ in the town. Mr. Fagen is versatile in his turn of mind, having been engaged successfully in several different kinds of business. He is of Irish ancestry and is noted among his confreres for the wit and geniality common to the Irish race.

The original of this sketch was born in Shelby County, near the county seat, April 21, 1861. He is a son of Michael and Margaret (Sherlock) Fagen, both natives of Ireland, who came to the United States in early life, meeting and marrying in Shelby County. He of whom we write was born on a farm but was reared in Shelbyville, where he received his education. When about seventeen he entered the office of the *Shelbyville Democrat*, filling the humble position of office boy, or what is commonly known in the printing fraternity, as "printers' devil." He remained in this office for six years during which time he was advanced to the position of foreman of the office. He then engaged in a restaurant and grocery business at Shelbyville. Later he went to Cowden where he clerked in a store. In 1887, he came to Stewardson and founded the *Clipper*, a five col-

umn quarto sheet, published weekly, and devoted to the interests, both social and commercial, of Stewardson and vicinity. The paper is neutral in politics.

Our subject's mother died at Shelbyville, October 2, 1888. The father still resides at Shelbyville. The family was composed of five children, who are Mary, John, Andrew, and Michael, besides our subject. Mary is now the wife of David Burkhart. They are all residents of Shelby County. Mr. Fagen has eschewed the estate of a benedict, never having married, therefore his biographical sketch is not so lengthy as is that of many of our subjects whose careers are chronicled in this Record, because their history is largely that of the domestic life. Doubtless he of whom we write has had his romance, few, if any there are, who have lived past years of maturity, who have not. The original of our sketch is a Roman Catholic in his religious belief and training, being a devout member and generous supporter of the same. For one year he held the position as Marshal of the village of Stewardson, and discharged the duties of the position to the satisfaction of all concerned.



**J**OHAN R. MARTIN, proprietor of the East Nelson Tile Works, which are located on section 21, was born in Sussex County, England, August 26, 1851. When only eleven years old he left his native home and came to America, reaching New York in 1866, and at once coming on to the Prairie State, locating temporarily in Griggsville, Pike County, and then entering a brickyard at Pana, this State. He had had some experience in this line of work before leaving England, and has continued in it since coming to this country.

In the spring of 1872, Mr. Martin came to Moultrie County and with his father establishing his brick works, began the manufacture of tile late in the spring of 1876, and since that season has given his attention chiefly to that department of the business. He has also engaged in agricultural pur-

suits, as he operates about three hundred acres of land besides giving the necessary attention to his tile works. He manufactures large quantities of tile and finds his market near home in Moultrie and Coles Counties. He has a thorough understanding of the necessities of his work and keeps everything in the first-class condition, being a thorough business man and one who allows nothing to go by default.

The marriage of our subject, which took place in East Nelson Township, December 11, 1878, united him with Miss Maggie J. Stewart, who was born near Philadelphia, November 5, 1860. To her have been granted five children who are as follows: George P., Sarah G., Hattie C., Fanny E. and Matilda M. All have been spared to their parents with the exception of Fanny, who died at the tender age of three years and eight months.

The father of our subject, the late John S. Martin, was born in Mayfield, Sussex, England, and his mother, Fanny J. Vidler, was a native of the same shire. They came to America in 1866, and it was the father who established the brick and tile works which are now operated by the subject of our sketch. His death, which occurred in October, 1880, was very distressing in its circumstances, as it was caused by his being caught in the cogwheels of a tile machine. He had but two children—John R. and Samuel and the latter is now deceased.



**M**ICHAEL SNYDER, Jr., a resident of Moweaqua, though not now actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, is identified with the great farming interests of this county as the proprietor of a well improved farm, located in Flat Branch Township, from the rental of which he derives a comfortable income. He is a native-born citizen of this State, the oldest son of Michael and Margaret (Kautz) Schneider, who were among the early pioneers of Sangamon County, and there in their primitive pioneer home he first saw the light of day October 23, 1831. When he was two years old, his parents removed to Christian County, and settled near the line be-

tween the county and this close to the present site of the village of Moweaqua, which, like the surrounding country at that time, was still wild land owned by the Government. He attended the first schools ever taught in this section, which was conducted in a log house, and provided with furniture of the most primitive sort, fashioned by hand, the seats being made by splitting logs, hewing one side smooth, and inserting wooden pins for legs, there being no desks or backs to the seats. A log was taken out the entire length of the building, and glass was inserted in the aperture thus made to admit the light. Holes were bored in the log underneath the window, pins were inserted, and a board laid on them served as a desk for the larger scholars to write upon. In those early days of the settlement of the county, deer, wolves and wild turkeys were plentiful, and game often furnished an agreeable addition to the scanty fare of the pioneers.

Mr. Snyder was reared to habits of industry, and commenced very early to help on the farm, thus acquiring a thorough knowledge of agriculture that was of great use to him when he entered upon his independent career as a farmer. He lived with his parents until he married and established a home of his own on a farm that belonged to his father that was situated six miles east of Taylorville. Seven years later he removed from there to Assumption, where he was assistant in a lumber yard for two years. At the end of that time he came to Moweaqua, lived a while in the city, and then settled on his farm in Flat Branch Township. In the years that ensued, he busied himself in its improvement, and had brought it to a good condition when he rented it in 1881, and retired to Moweaqua. The farm is still in his possession, and contains two hundred and eighty acres of fertile land, the greater portion of which is well improved and is well supplied with necessary buildings and machinery.

Mr. Snyder was first married in 1857 to Miss Frances Malone, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of William Malone. She departed this life in 1867, after a happy wedded life of ten years, leaving one child, Albert. Mr. Snyder was again married in 1871, taking as his wife Miss Ellen





W. F. LOGAN .

Annetta Deffenbacher, a native of Decatur, Ill., and a daughter of Scibold and Mary J. Deffenbacher. Her pleasant union with our subject has brought them these four daughters:—Margaret, Ida J., Lucy E. and Evelina.

Politically, Mr. Snyder is a Republican. He has always taken an interest in educational matters and has been active in securing to the youth of his township good advantages as to schooling while serving as School Director and Trustee, and he has always shown himself willing to advance the welfare of the community in whatsoever direction he could.



**W**ILLIAM F. LOGAN, one of the prominent business men of Marrowbone Township, Moultrie County, has extensive connections in Sullivan, Dalton City, Etna, Greenup, Mount Zion, Coles and Hervey City, in all of which he deals in farm machinery and also, at some points, buys and sells grain. He has been a resident of the county since 1876 and is a native of the adjoining county of Shelby where he first saw the light June 24, 1859.

William R. and Susan (Martin) Logan, the parents of our subject were born in Kentucky, and Benjamin F. Logan, the grandfather, was one of the first settlers in Shelby County, where he was a Justice of the Peace from the time the county was organized until he became too old to officiate. He was a descendant of the same stock from which Gen. John A. Logan sprang, and the family is justly proud of the patriotic record of that distinguished kinsman.

William R. Logan was married in Shelby County and lived there through the remainder of his life, working at his trade as a carpenter. His excellent wife also remained there until her death. Two only of their family of five grew to manhood, namely, our subject and John A., who is now a clerk in a wholesale house in Sedalia, Mo. The death of the parents occurred while they were still in the prime of life, and William was only about three years old when he was left an orphan. An

uncle, G. W. Logan, cared for the child until he reached the age of twelve years when he determined to "paddle his own canoe" and work his way up stream no matter what obstacles were in his way. Going with his uncle F. A. Logan to Sedalia, Mo., he worked on a farm for three years, after which he returned to Windsor, and served as a farm hand through the summer, attending school in the winter, and completing his education in a select school at Bethany. After this he taught school for two years and then began work on a farm which he had rented.

It was in August, 1887, that Mr. Logan first engaged in the implement business at Bethany and finding the outlook favorable he gradually increased his stock until it has reached its present magnitude. Like many another successful man he began business with very little money, being obliged to use borrowed capital, but he is, in the common parlance of the day a "hustler", always busy and attending strictly to business to the management of which he seems to be peculiarly well adapted. He is never neglectful of the interests of a customer nor willing to be idle if there is an opportunity for effort.

The subject of this sketch has been twice united in the bonds of marriage. In 1881 he took to wife B. Eva Crowder, a daughter of David M. Crowder. She was born in Moultrie County in 1861 and after a brief married life she passed from earth in April, 1890, leaving her husband and three beautiful children—Bessie, Daisy, and David—to mourn her loss. The second marriage of our subject took place January 4, 1891 and he was then united with Lennie Meyer, a native of Moultrie County and a daughter of Henry Meyer.

Mr. Logan is a Republican in his political views, but not in any sense a politician, yet he is always sufficiently interested in political movements and thoroughly conscientious in regard to casting his ballot according to what he believes to be the right. In religious matters he has been for a long while connected with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church where he and his wife are active in the various works of the church. He gives employment to a force of from fifteen to twenty men at Bethany, as he has a multifarious business com-

prising not only his implement warehouse, but also a harness shop and carriage salesroom. Besides this he is engaged in drilling wells and erecting wind mills. He has several men also at his other points of business.

A portrait of Mr. Logan accompanies this sketch.



**R**EV. JASPER LEWIS DOUTHIT. Here we have another of those "high-minded men" who constitute the real strength of a State. A native prophet, sure to have had his share of the usual buffetings, a zealous missionary in the home field, one early inured to poverty and toil, who has never faltered in the onward, upward course, never flinched from his task of battling for the right, without his name no list of the worthies of Southern Illinois would be complete. As a "Unitarian Oberlin," his story has been briefly told in a small pamphlet published in Boston, from whose pages mainly have been gathered the following facts:

Jasper L., son of Andrew E. and Mary Ann (Jordan) Douthit, was born in Shelby County, about four miles east of Shelbyville, October 10, 1834. His great-grandfather, Evan Douthit, a "Hard-shell" Baptist minister, of Welsh-Scotch ancestry, emigrated with his family from North Carolina to Tennessee, and thence, about 1830, to this county, where he was a pioneer settler and preacher. Two or three years later, accompanied by a number of his descendants, like the patriarch of old, he again journeyed in search of a new home, finding at length a permanent abiding place in that part of Mexico which is now Texas. There continuing his pulpit labors even when so old and feeble that he must needs be supported by a man standing on each side of him as he spoke, he lived to be more than eighty years old. His wife long surviving him attained the remarkable age of one hundred and fifteen years.

Andrew E., grandson of the above named, and son of John D. and Elizabeth (Ellis) Douthit, both members of the "Hard-shell" Baptist Church, was born in Tennessee. He came with his father and

grandfather to Shelby County, Ill. The Douthits entered Government land and also bought a tract of Francis Jordan, an early pioneer of Shelby County. Members of the Douthit and Jordan families in Texas took part in the war which secured the independence of that State.

The mother of our subject was a daughter of Francis Jordan. She was born at a fort in Franklin County built for protection against the Indians. Early left motherless, busied with housework, and living in the backwoods where educational advantages were of the slightest, she nevertheless taught herself to read and write. A woman frail of body, but of strong conviction, being accustomed to think for herself, she did not hesitate to denounce the evils of slavery and intemperance at a time when the popular opinion of the neighborhood was decidedly on the other side of these great questions. Her religious views, as they were gradually developed, growing with her growth, and as silently, were of the liberal Christian type, and were such as enabled her with cheerful courage and a beautiful devotion to duty, to perform the labors and endure the trials of a life of constant toil and care.

With the exception of a short stay in Texas, his father and grandfather having been induced to join their kindred in that State in 1843, remaining however through one cotton harvest, the youth of our subject was passed in active labors on the home farm in this county, with but scant opportunity for schooling or even for home study. The family Bible was his first reading book. Other well chosen volumes were Robinson Crusoe, Life of David Crockett, Weem's Life of Marion, and Grimshaw's History of the United States. He early set his heart on becoming a minister of the gospel. Such was his thirst for learning, and the inability or unwillingness of his father to indulge him in this direction, that he left home and let himself to work as a day laborer with the shovel on the Illinois Central Railway to earn money to defray his expenses at a boarding-school. Two joyful years were now spent by him at Shelby Seminary, where he paid his way partly by teaching, partly by building fires, sweeping and other work. Uniting with the Methodist Church, though without en-

dorsing all the articles of faith, he was offered a license to preach. This he declined. Next enrolled as a student at Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Ind., he continued living on frugal fare and doing janitor's work until he fell sick and was forced to go home.

A brief business experience in a book and drug store, culminating in a failure with the financial flurry of 1857, marriage in the meantime with Miss Emily Lovell, of East Abington, Mass., and a period of school teaching for both, were what the next few years brought to his life.

In 1858 came a new departure. Mr. Douthit felt that he must go forth to seek a wider field of action; he was led to seek a position in the Boston office of Fowler & Wells, famous phrenologists and publishers. He was soon employed as a lecturer on phrenology and hygiene. Traveling in this capacity in Massachusetts, he met many Abolitionists but failed to make the acquaintance of any Unitarians. The anti-slavery sermons and addresses of James Freeman Clark and Theodore Parker were read by him with exceeding interest.

The following year found our subject again in Illinois living with his family on a farm in Shelby County. His first vote for President had been cast in 1856 for James Buchanan. In the winter of 1861 he became associate editor of the *Shelby Freeman*, the first paper in this part of the State to stand for "Free soil, free labor and free speech." Accepting the appointment of Government enrolling officer, at a time when Knights of the Golden Circle and others were bent on forcible resistance to the draft, his life was often in no little danger. Several shots were one night fired through the open doors of his home. None the less did he discharge his patriotic duties without flinching.

The voice within still prompted our subject to preach the Gospel on the lines of the larger hope. To his wife came the happy thought that his words might be acceptable in Unitarian pulpits. At the suggestion of Thomas Wentworth Higginson, Robert Collyer was appealed to for advice. His response was a cordial invitation to come to the Unitarian Conference soon to be held at Detroit. Thither he went and was there ordained to the

Christian ministry June 22, 1862. Revs. Robert Collyer, Dr. George W. Hosmer, Charles G. Ames and others taking part in the services. In school-houses, dwelling-houses and groves of Shelby and adjoining counties, people came together to "hear Jasper preach." Feeling the need of better equipment for his work, he was enabled through the kindness of friends living at a distance, who had heard of his zealous and effective itineracy, to take a three year's course at the Meadville Theological School (Unitarian), where he was graduated in June, 1867. Since that date, with the exception of a brief term of preaching at Princeton, Ill., his ministry has been confined to the towns and villages of his native prairies, mostly within the familiar haunts of his boyhood. At the "Log Church" east of Shelbyville, he preached to a congregation of woodchoppers and their families, receiving for his first year's work a big jug of molasses, given by a poor foreigner. The next year the contributions amounted to about \$10. Mrs. Douthit taught a subscription school to eke out a support for the family. The Sunday-school sessions were sometimes disturbed by people angered at the speaker on account of his advocacy of temperance. The first Christmas tree in Shelby County was set up in the "Log Church." And there it is said, was sung, probably for the first time in this county, the hymn, "Nearer my God to Thee."

Mr. Douthit was instrumental in organizing a church at Salem, now Oak Grove, where a house of worship was built for the joint use of the Campbellites and the liberal Christians. Elder John Ellis, of the former sect, being an efficient helper; Unity Church at Matoon, and a Christian Union Church near Mode. Our missionary began regular preaching at Shelbyville, in the old court-house, February 15, 1874. A Sunday-school was soon started, books for a library being received from Dr. James Freeman Clarke's church in Boston. In May thirteen people signed a statement professing "faith in Jesus Christ as the son of God and the Savior of men," and acknowledged the Bible as the divinely authorized rule of faith and practice. In November a church of twenty-one members was fully organized. Hon. George Partridge, of St. Louis, offered the gift of \$500 toward

building a house of worship. This encouraged the people to contribute liberally of their humble means to the same end. Orthodox ministers united with the liberal in the services at the laying of the corner stone, November 21, 1875. As the result of a protracted series of evening meetings held in February and March, 1876, by Mr. Douthit, with the help of the good Elder Ellis, the church roll was increased to nearly one hundred members. The 8th of May saw the new house completed and dedicated. Dr. Clarke, of Boston, preached the dedication sermon in the morning and Dr. Eliot, of St. Louis, preached in the evening, when Mr. Douthit was installed as pastor. The building was made to accommodate about four hundred persons, and the church and Sunday-school has since witnessed to a healthy growth and unabated interest in its Christian faith and life.

In October, 1870, Robert Collyer wrote to the *Christian Register*, "I can hardly tell how much good Mr. Douthit has done in that region. It is simply wonderful. He has wrought with such a manful and Christian valor as to win his way, where any other man, one thinks, must have failed. It is worth my while," he adds, "to say that his best helper and inspirer, after God, is his wife." Elder John Ellis, writing in 1876, reports "Brother Douthit as having exceeded beyond his expectations," and adds: "He is a Channing Unitarian and sails under that banner, and yet is what I would call a real, out-and-out old-fashioned, Orthodox, Evangelical, Congregational, progressive, liberal Christian."

A sketch of Mr. Douthit in the memorial volume of Shelby Seminary, by Hon. George R. Wendling, contains these words of high appreciation: "I will testify everywhere that his whole life-work and example in this county has been an evangel of peace, temperance and purity."

In 1880 Mr. Douthit began the publication of a paper, *Our Best Words*, a brave exponent of Christian truth and practical righteousness, which grew to be a welcome visitor in many homes. The prospectus for the new series began in March, 1888, is an admirable declaration of lofty principles, worthy to be quoted in full, did space permit. In its commendable endeavor "to translate the dialect of a

scholaristic, thought-burdened Unitarianism into the every-day language of the common people," *Our Best Words* stood without a rival in the West or in the East. Having dropped its denominational character the paper is now continued as a weekly, "independent in all things and neutral in nothing that concerns human welfare." It earnestly advocates the principles of prohibition to the liquor traffic and favors the work of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Douthit are Helen Maud, married to Joseph Garis; George L., Robert Collyer and Winifred. Robert C., following the footsteps of his father, is now (1891), a student at Meadville Theological School.



JOHN B. ILLICK, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser, making his home on section 33, Oconee Township, Shelby County, was born in Seneca County, N. Y., in 1834. He is the son of John and Maria (Young) Illick, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania. In their family were five sons and two daughters, the two youngest passed away at an early age.

William Henry Illick, the eldest son of John and Maria, is married and living in Oswego, Ind., where he is carrying on a farm; Franklin M. is married and living at Rosemond, Ill., upon a farm; Samuel A. died at Taylorville, this State, in 1882; Edward V. enlisted in a Cavalry Regiment in Indiana, and being in the campaign at Pittsburg Landing, was taken sick and died during a visit home at the age of twenty-six years; Susan M., the wife of Thomas Fritchman, a farmer, resides near Wellington, in Sumner County, Kan.; Lydia A. was twice married, her present husband being Robert Batty, residing at Stonington, Ill.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in New York and removed with his parents to Indiana in 1857. After burying his parents in that State, he came to Christian County, Ill., and was married at Taylorville, to Miss Elizabeth Melton, daughter of John and Caroline Melton, who were

natives of North Carolina, and came to Illinois prior to their marriage. Mrs. Illick was born in Madison County, this State, in 1844, and had five brothers and four sisters, namely: James C., Henry T. (twins) Andrew J., Martin V., Amaziah, Martha A., Mary L., Sarah A. and Hannah M. (twins.) All but Mrs. Illick and Hannah M. have passed to the other world. Andrew J. enlisted in Company H, Thirty-seventh Illinois Infantry and died in the hospital at Springfield, Mo.; Hannah M. married Franklin Illick, the brother of our subject, and resides on a farm near Rosemond.

He of whom we write came to his present farm six years ago. He and his good wife have had no children of their own, but they have reared a son of Mrs. Illick's sister, a boy whom they took at the age of three months, and he is now a fine and intelligent lad of sixteen years, who stands in the same relation to his fosterparents that a real son would occupy. Mr. Illick is a Democrat in his political views. He has a pleasant home and is comfortably situated. The father of Mrs. Illick died in Madison County, Ill., in 1852, and her mother who is now eighty-two years of age resides with her daughter. Her parents were members of the Baptist Church.



**D**AVID LOW, a man who has the esteem and confidence of his friends and neighbors, and who is a public-spirited citizen resides on section 23, Oconee Township, Shelby County, where he carries on farming and stock-raising. He was born in Guilford County, Tenn., April 26, 1831, his parents being George and Sarah Low, natives of that State. Their marriage and the birth of all their children took place in North Carolina, but they removed to Illinois in 1849 and there spent the remainder of their days.

David Low had nine brothers of whom Amsley, Gideon and Simeon were soldiers in the Union Army, during the Civil War. Joel R., John R., and Daniel R., are all living, the former in Iowa and the others in this State. David was a resident of North Carolina during the war and was con-

scripted into the Confederate army. He passed his examination, and was accepted but while waiting for assignment to his regiment, he and about five hundred others fled from the camp at night, and breaking through the lines escaped to their home. He worked upon his farm for about a month and when he saw that the authorities were on the alert and apprehending the conscript he "took to the bushes" as he says and remained in concealment from October to Christmas. During that time he lay on the ground and endured greater hardships and dangers than he would have encountered in the Confederate service, but he was thoroughly Union in his sentiments, and preferred to endure all this for the cause of the Union rather than to lift his hand against the old flag.

About Christmas time Mr. Low engaged to work in the saltpetre works near Greensboro, N. C. This enterprise failed and he went home and spent one night, but the second night "hunters" were in pursuit of him and he took to the woods again. While concealed in the house of a neighbor he was surrounded and captured by a detachment of the Raleigh guard. He was sent to Raleigh and seven days later to Kingston, N. C., where he remained from April 2 to May 4. By this time he thought he knew enough of military affairs and persuaded thirteen of his comrades to join with him in taking "French leave."

These refugees took to the woods once more, and were so closely pursued by soldiers on horseback as to be obliged to take refuge in a swamp. They sat in mud and water nearly to their necks from 2 p. m., until dark and the pursuers passed within ten feet of them. Two of the party were recaptured and the others escaped to their respective homes. Mr. Low had to remain in hiding until the close of the war. He spent one winter in a cave, going occasionally to the home of some Union family to get food, and then returning to his dreary abode. He spent his time in the cave in making combs, baskets and trinkets, selling them to Union people for food and clothing. He would sell a fine comb of his manufacture for ten cents in silver or \$10 in Confederate script. He was recaptured but made his escape at great peril. His sufferings and privations were incomparably greater

than those of many enlisted men, being in constant peril from armed and open enemies as well as from secret foes. It is not strange that he would feel that his escape from bodily injury was miraculous. He was unable to get through the line with his family and would not go and leave them. He lost all his property, amounting to a number of thousand dollars in stock and money.

The lady whose union with our subject brought to her such great trials, during this period of hardship and suffering, became his wife, September 13, 1857, in Guilford County, N. C., which was her native county as she was born there February 26, 1836. Her name before marriage was Rosannah Pike, and her parents were natives of the same State with herself.

To Mr. and Mrs. Low eight children were born, namely: Sara R., born September 23, 1852, who married Daul Neice in Oconee Township, and after giving birth to one child died October 28, 1888; George William, born September 20, 1860, married Sallie Marfield and resides on a farm near Rosemond, Ill.; Turley H., born May 26, 1863, is unmarried and lives at home; Joel D., born January 10, 1866, is married and resides in Pana, Ill.; Melinda S., born October 29, 1867, is married and resides in Oconee Township; Melissa born May 25, 1871, after the removal of the family to the North, and Mary E., born August 17, 1874, are at home with their parents, as is also John H. A., born September 6, 1877.

It was about eighteen years ago when Mr. Low removed to Christian County, Ill. and nine years since he purchased the farm on which he now lives. He has a timbered farm of one hundred and eighty-five acres, about one-half of which is under improvement. Upon this there is about fourteen acres in orchard and considerable attention is paid to the raising of small fruit. He has a good house and a comfortable home.

Mr. Low has been instrumental in securing the organization of a school district for the accommodation of the children in this comparatively new country, and a pleasant school-house is situated on a corner of his farm. He has always voted the Republican ticket. He is not a member of any church though heartily in accord with all Chris-

tian endeavors. His wife and children are members of the Baptist Church. He raises sorghum and manufactures molasses each year, and makes maple sugar and syrup in its season, devoting considerable time and money to the improvement and operation of this business. He has a centrifugal machine for separating and drying sorghum sugar which he hopes to make a success. He is a good citizen who endeavors to do right as he sees the right, and will not be coerced into doing wrong by any human power. This characteristic was evinced by his attitude toward the confederate power.



**I** SAAC N. PORTER. No man so truly loves his country as he who has suffered and fought for it, and those citizens of Illinois who gave to our Nation in her time of trial their hearty support and their best efforts upon the battle field, have gained not only a heartier sympathy with the institutions represented by our national banner, but also a record for themselves of which any patriot may well feel proud.

Among those men of Shelby County, who have thus an honorable war record, we are pleased to named the subject of this sketch, who follows the double avocation of a farmer and carpenter, in Oconee Township. He was born in Harrison County, Ohio, March 27, 1840, his parents being William and Susan (Cribbs) Porter, natives of Ohio. In their household there were six sons and five daughters, and Isaac is the firstborn son. Teresa, now Mrs. Row, of Oconee Township, being the eldest. Following them came Isabella, now the wife of John Martin, of Indian Territory; Daniel, who resides in Missouri; Albert, who lives at Sioux City, Ia.; William, living in Montgomery County, Ill.; George, a resident of Iowa; Priscilla, the wife of Mr. Drain, of Oconee Township; and Abbie and Maggie, who reside at home.

The subject of this sketch enlisted in Company A, Ninety-seventh Illinois Infantry, and was assigned to duty in the Army of the Mississippi. After six months' service he was transferred to the

United States gunboat "Chilachthe," and did duty on the lower Mississippi and the Yazoo Rivers. At Ft. Tamberton, while on the Yazoo Pass expedition, this young hero was wounded, March 10, 1863, and was sent to the hospital at Helena, Ark., being afterward transferred to the general hospital at St. Louis. Being somewhat crippled by this hard service and wound, he was placed in Company E, Eleventh Veteran Reserve Corps and served out his unexpired term, being discharged at Boston, Mass., July 7, 1865, whence he returned to his parental home in Oconee Township.

It was not until 1877, that Mr. Porter decided to establish a home of his own, and he chose as a partner of that home Miss Annie Pressgrove, who was born in Oconee Township in 1859, her parents being William and Eliza Pressgrove. The parents had ten children, only four of whom are now living. The wedding day of Mr. and Mrs. Porter was February 22. To them was born three children, Hugh H., born in 1879; Anna Laura, a babe now three months old, and one child who died when five months old. Mrs. Porter is a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a faithful and devoted wife and mother, capable in all housewifely arts and active in promoting the best interests of the community.

Mr. Porter is a member of the Coplin Post No. 268, G. A. R. at Oconee, and his political views have led him to affiliate with the Republican party. His handsome farm of one hundred and sixty acres is situated on section 7, Oconee Township, and is in a highly cultivated state and richly productive.



**W**ILLIAM F. ARMSTRONG is actively carrying on agriculture on the farm where he resides with his father, a respected resident of Penn Township, Shelby County, this homestead being the birthplace of our subject. He is a representative of some of the earliest pioneer families of this State, his paternal grandfather, John Armstrong, having been one of the original pioneers of this county, and is distinguished in its history as the first settler of Penn Township; while the

maternal grandparents of our subject, James and Nancy Gerdien, were early pioneers of Rose Township.

Aaron Armstrong, the great-grandfather of William F., was a native of North Carolina, and was a son of a Revolutionary soldier who lost his life in battle. Aaron removed from the State of his nativity to Warren County, Ky., where he resided but a short time, however, prior to his removal in 1809 to the Territory of Illinois. He was one of the first settlers of Madison County locating there in the year that the act was passed establishing Illinois as a territory. There were but few white men living in the whole length and breadth of this now populous and great commonwealth, and as the Indians held full sway and were oftentimes hostile, the whites had to band together and live in forts. The great-grandfather of our subject secured a tract of land five miles south of Edwardsville, built upon it, improved a good farm, which remained his home until his death in 1833. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Landers. She was born in South Carolina and died in Madison County in 1830.

John Armstrong was born in Warren County, Ky., in 1803. He was but a child when his parents came to Illinois, and he was reared amid its wild pioneer scenes and in due time he married a daughter of one of the early settlers, Jane Roach, who was born in Kentucky in 1802, and died in Illinois in 1877. In the fall of 1825 the grandfather of our subject came with others to Shelby County to seek a suitable location on its fertile soil. He selected a claim to a tract of Government land on section 6, township 13, range 3, now included in Penn Township, and at once commenced the erection of a log cabin, which was the first building ever erected in the northern part of Shelby County, and he was the first man to locate in Penn Township, his nearest neighbor for a time being ten miles away. Before completing his cabin he returned to Madison County for his wife and child, and in the fall of the year brought them back in an oxwagon to the scene of their new home in primeval wilds, where wild animals such as deer, wolves, panthers and wild turkeys roamed at will where there were but few evidences of the approaching civilization.

St. Louis, many miles distant, was the nearest town to which the pioneers could convey their produce to exchange for needed supplies. Notwithstanding the many difficulties that he encountered he developed an excellent farm, which he occupied until death deprived him of the companionship of his wife and he then passed his remaining days with his children, dying in 1886 at a ripe old age.

The father of our subject, Beverly Armstrong, was born October 23, 1827, in Clinton County while his mother was there on a visit. He was reared in this county where his parents had established their home, and was educated in its schools, attending the first ever taught in this section of the country. It was held in a log building located in Flat Branch Township. The benches, which were without backs or desks, were made of slabs that were supported by wooden pins, and the building was heated by means of a large open fireplace. In his youthful days the people lived principally off the products of the farm, and were clad in homespun made by the busy hands of the women.

Mr. Armstrong lived with his parents until he was twenty years of age and then entered a tract of Government land in what is now Moweauqua Township. He had married in that year Miss Emeline Virden, a native of this county, and in the log cabin that he built on his claim he and his bride began housekeeping. In 1858 he sold that place and bought the one that he now owns and occupies, that is finely located on section 31, Penn Township, constituting a choice and well-cultivated farm amply supplied with all necessary buildings and good modern machinery. He has been prosperous in the pursuit of his calling, and in the many years that he has been residing in this county he has always shown himself to be a useful citizen who has won an honorable place among the solid men of his community, and has done his share in developing the agriculture of this section of the State.

The subject of this biographical review is the only son of his parents and in their home, which has always been his, he was reared to a stalwart manhood. He received a sound practical training as a farmer and is now managing his father's farm with signal success, thus relieving him in a great

measure of the cares and labors that beset him in his early life. He is a shrewd, careful man in his dealings and at the same time displays push and enterprise in carrying on his affairs, so that his interests brings him a goodly income in repayment of his outlay of labor and expense.

The greatest sorrow that Mr. Armstrong has experienced in life was the death of his wife in 1886. Her maiden name was Emma O. Gerry, and she was a native of Indiana. They were wedded November 13, 1878. By her death our subject lost a devoted wife and these four children were left motherless: Tressie, Charles, Birdie and Essa.



**D**ARIUS B. ELLIOTT. Our subject is a representative of a good Southern family, on the paternal side owing many of the traits of his character to the warm blood and generous hearts of the state which boasts of having given more Presidents than any other, to the Executive Department of our Government. Mr. Elliott is the owner of a good farm located on section 7, Tower Hill Township, whereon he settled in 1855. Our subject was born in Anderson County, Ky., November 23, 1825. He is a son of John and Melville (Berry) Elliott, natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky, in which latter State they were married and where they began the serious consideration of life together on a farm. Our subject's father died in 1846. His mother subsequently came to Illinois and passed her declining years with her son, passing away from this life at the advanced age of seventy-eight years.

The original of our sketch was one of eleven children and the youngest of these was twelve years of age before there was a death in the family. Our subject was the sixth in the family in order of birth, having five older and five younger brothers and sisters. During boyhood his school advantages were limited, but since reaching manhood he has applied himself diligently to study, and is a voracious reader of good literature.

While yet a youth, he learned the trade of carpentry in Indiana, to which State he had removed





JACOB KIRCHER.

settling in Davis County, where he remained for some time. He later went to Marion County. He was united in marriage with Mary J. Brown, on the 23d of July, 1848. The lady was a daughter of Lewis L. and Mary (Johnson) Brown. She was born in Marion County, Ind., January 12, 1832. Soon after marriage, our subject with his wife, came to Shelby County and settled on the farm where he now resides. At that date he purchased two hundred and thirty acres of Government land, which was then new and unbroken. Upon it he has made valuable improvements, having erected a commodious and comfortable dwelling, with barns and outhouses necessary for the protection and accommodation of his stock.

When Mr. Elliott settled upon the prairie, there was no one else living any place near, and he has thus seen the development of the whole State. Pana was unknown at that date, and the Illinois Central Railroad was not yet completed. Our subject has given his undivided attention to farming and mixed husbandry. He is now the owner of three hundred and thirty acres of land which, with the exception of twenty acres of fine prairie land, is under thorough cultivation, and well improved in every way.

Mr. and Mrs. Elliott have been the parents of six children, whose names are: Elizabeth L., John Irvin, Emma, Walter and Fannie. One child died in infancy. Elizabeth is the wife of Moses E. Simmons, of Pana; John Irvin is a resident in Nevada, Mo.; Emma and Walter remain at home, and are the comforts of their parents' middle life; Fannie is the wife of Thomas Finckrock, and resides in Pana, this State.



**J**ACOB KIRCHER, a wealthy resident of Shelbyville, was for many years actively engaged in farming, but he now lives in retirement, though he still owns one of the choice farms for which Shelby County is justly noted. He is a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, October 20, 1827, being the date of his birth. His

father, whose name was Louis Frederick Kircher, was also born in that place, as was his father before him. The latter came to this country in 1834, and spent his remaining years in Maryland.

The father of our subject learned the trade of a shoemaker in his youth, and with the exception of the time that he was a soldier in the German army, he followed his calling in his native Wurtemberg until 1829, when, ambitious to better his condition, he emigrated to this country with his wife and four children. He landed at Baltimore with empty pockets, and what was worse, in very poor health. He was fortunate enough to obtain the assistance of friends, by whose help he went to Hagerstown, where he found employment in a livery stable. He worked faithfully, frugally saved his money, and his wife also worked hard, and after a time with their united earnings they had enough to buy a horse and wagon, with which they started for Ohio, taking with them all their earthly possessions. They walked the greater part of the way, camping and cooking by the roadside whenever they were weary, and when they arrived at Lancaster, Ohio, they decided to proceed no further.

Mr. Kircher looked about for a suitable location, and finally selected forty acres of land belonging to the Government situated in Hocking County, ten miles from Logan, the county seat. He did not have money enough by fifty cents to pay for his claim, but he obtained it by mending a pair of boots, and then walked to the land office to enter his land. His homestead was heavily timbered and he had to cut away large forest trees to make room for a cabin, which he built of logs, covering the roof with boards rived by hand and held in place by weight poles, the floor being made of puncheons and the chimney of earth and sticks.

The father was a man of remarkable industry and not only labored in the day time, working hard to clear his land, in which he was assisted by his wife and children, but he employed his time in the evening making shoes, and thus earned the money to support his family. The older children soon went out to work, receiving their board and their clothes for their services, while our subject was left at home to assist his parents. He and

his mother cut the first crop of wheat, she using a sickle and he a butcher knife. The family prospered and the father was enabled to buy eighty-five acres of land adjoining, and in time improved a valuable farm, upon which he lived until his death at the ripe age of seventy-nine years. His wife survived him some few years and then died at the home of her daughter in Richland Township, this county, at the venerable age of eighty acres. This worthy couple were the parents of six sons and one daughter, named as follows: Louis, John, Godfrey, Jacob, Mathias, Philip and Hannah. John and Mathias reside in Richland. Louis, Philip, Godfrey and Hannah are deceased.

Jacob Kircher was only two years old when the family came to America, so that he has but little or no recollection of other than his adopted home. Just as soon as he was large enough, and that was when he was very young, he began to assist in clearing the land and tilling the soil of his father's homestead. He remained an inmate of the parental household until his marriage and soon after that all-important event, in company with his brother-in-law, he bought one hundred acres of land near by, on which was a set of log buildings. He and his brother-in-law farmed together on that place until 1855, when he sold his share of it, having decided to settle in the fertile farming regions of Illinois. Accompanied by his wife and two children, he journeyed across the country from Ohio to this State with a pair of horses and a wagon, and on his arrival in this county he invested all the money he had in forty acres of land in Ridge Township. This purchase included a primitive log cabin, which had an earth and stick chimney, a puncheon floor, and two doors, but had no windows. Our subject and his family, and his brother and family spent the winter of 1855-56 in that rude structure, doing all their cooking by the fireplace, corn-meal being their chief diet.

Mr. Kircher had been reared to habits of industry and economy, was possessed of good judgment, and moreover had been fortunate in the selection of a wife who afforded him material assistance in his labors, and his wealth steadily increased. He bought other land at different times and the old farm upon which he settled so many years ago, and

which is still in his possession, now contains three hundred acres of well-improved land, amply supplied with good buildings and everything necessary to carry on agriculture successfully, and besides this he owns valuable city property. He continued to live on his farm until 1891, when he removed to Shelbyville, where he has since made his home in retirement from active business. A life of honesty and uprightness has won him the esteem of all who know him, and he is regarded as one of our most trustworthy citizens. He and his wife and all of their children are members of the Lutheran Church, and have done much to help their pastor and fellow-members to make it a power for the advancement of religion in the community.

Mr. and Mrs. Kircher were united in marriage in 1852. Mrs. Kircher, whose maiden name was Rosanna Phipper, is a native of Ohio, born April 25, 1832, and a daughter of John and Magdaline Pipher, who were natives of Wurtemberg, and pioneers of the Buckeye State. Our subject and his wife have been blessed by the birth of the following children: Lena, wife of William Roof; Hannah, who married John Kimmel and died at the age of twenty-four years; Matilda, wife of John Kniller; Theodore; William; Mollie, wife of Theodore Warner; and Philip.

The reader's attention is invited to the lithographic portrait of Mr. Kircher presented on another page.



**O**SCAR F. ROGERS, a farmer and stock-raiser residing on section 20, Oconee Township, Shelby County, was born in Hamilton Square, Mercer County, N. J., March 6, 1826. The same county was the birthplace of his father, Jacob Rogers, and his mother, whose maiden name was Sarah Wall, was born in that State and grew from early childhood in Mercer County. There were five brothers and six sisters, of whom Oscar was the eldest. Following him came Ferdinand, who resides at Hamilton Square, N. J., and is engaged in the manufacture of rubber goods; Ezekiel and Humphrey (twins), both living in Mon-

mouth, N. J.; Amanda, now Mrs. Gordon, residing in Mercer County; Anna E., the widow of Charles Cole, residing in Windsor; Jacob, living in Mercer County; George, was a member of the First Louisiana Cavalry in the Confederate army, and died during the Civil War; Phoebe, was twice married, her present husband being Mr. Johnson, of Pemberton, N. J. Edith, wife of John Tyndall, residing at Windsor, N. J.; and Mary, who is unmarried and resides in New York City.

Oscar F. Rogers and Mary J. Allen were united in the holy bonds of matrimony December 27, 1849. She was born in Mercer County, December 14, 1832, and of her family there were three—Harris, Mrs. Rogers and Margaret. Her brother and sister make their homes at Princeville and Asbury Park, N. J. Mr. Rogers came to Oconee Township in the spring of 1857, and buying one hundred and twenty acres of land, engaged in farming, which has been his principal occupation through life, although he has also found opportunities for considerable dealings in real estate in connection with his farming for the last seventeen years.

To Mr. and Mrs. Rogers seven children were born, three of whom are now living. Their eldest, Elvina, who was born in New Jersey, married Mr. Wesley T. Elliott and resides at Oconee, Ill., with her husband and nine children; Adelaide was born in New Jersey and died in that State when about two years old, as did also Harris. Allen married Addie Hamlin and resides on a farm in Oconee Township, where he was born, with his wife and one child. Mary passed away when she was a lovely girl of thirteen summers, and Frank died in childhood; Bert is unmarried and lives at home. The parents of this family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Oconee.

The Civil War called our subject to the defense of his country and enlisted in Company H, Fifty-third Illinois Infantry, and was assigned to duty in the Seventeenth Army Corps, serving under Gen. Sherman. This was one of those sad cases of brother being arrayed against brother, as our subject was in the Union Army and his brother

George in the Confederate service. He passed through many hardships and dangers, but lived to return to his rejoicing household. He has connected himself prominently with the Grand Army of the Republic and belongs to Coplin Post, No. 168, at Oconee. He takes an active part in political affairs and thoroughly endorses the party which made so noble a record as the staunch supporter of the administration during the Civil War. His neighbors, who appreciate his many excellent qualities and believe heartily in his integrity and good judgment, have placed him in the offices of School Trustee and Tax Collector. He has two hundred acres of finely improved land within sight of the village of Oconee, and upon it he is content to pass the remainder of his days, surrounded by his affectionate children.



**N**EWTON J. GALLAGHER, a prosperous and wealthy farmer and stock-raiser, residing on section 28, Holland Township, Shelby County, was born in this township, September 29, 1855. He is a son of Jacob and Sarah (Middleworth) Gallagher who were born in Fairfield County, Ohio. For particulars in regard to the ancestry of this gentleman our reader is referred to the biographical sketch of Abram Gallagher, his brother, which will be found elsewhere in this volume.

The subject of this sketch is the eighth in a family of ten children, and his home has always been in Holland Township, where he lives on the old original homestead which was entered by his father from the Government about forty-five years ago. His education was given him in the public schools of this county, and he received thorough and systematic training upon his father's farm, gaining health and strength for life's duties. He owns four hundred acres of excellent farming land upon which are good improvements and a fine large brick house which is an ornament to the township.

Our subject was united in marriage April 3, 1881 with Miss M. Lettie Allen, who was born in Holland Township, Shelby County, August 20, 1860.

She is a daughter of Jedediah and Mary (Hege) Allen. This worthy couple were born in Ohio and came as pioneers to this county, and their daughter, Lettie is the third in a good family of eight. To Mr. and Mrs. Gallagher four bright and healthy children have been born, all of whom are living. They are by name Floyd, Ray, Ossa Fleta and Fred. The religious belief of the family is that of the Methodist Episcopal Church with which both Mr. and Mrs. Gallagher were long connected, and where she is still prominently identified. Her husband is not now a member of the church although a believer in Christianity and he gives liberally of his means for the support of the Gospel. His early political convictions were in accordance with the doctrines of the Democratic party and he voted with that organization for many years, but he has recently been more interested in the farmers' movements and now votes with the Farmers Mutual Benefit Association. Mr. H. Gallagher is very pleasantly and comfortably situated, having sufficient of this world's goods to provide abundantly for himself and family without being burdened by cares. His value in the community is appreciated by his neighbors who consider him one of the solid and efficient members of the social and industrial community which makes its home in the township of Holland.



**J**OHAN A. TACKETT. Among the citizens of this county who are most active in promoting its interests are many who were born within its borders, grew with its growth, and since attaining manhood have been potent in increasing its wealth and importance as an agricultural, commercial and manufacturing center, so that to-day it ranks as one of the first counties in Central Illinois in those respects. John A. Tackett, capitalist, is a representative of the class alluded to. He has been a life-long resident of Shelbyville, where his birth occurred September 28, 1832, and for many years he has been prominently associated with the best interests of city and county, using his

wealth freely to advance various enterprises that have contributed to their development. He is largely interested in farming and also does a general brokerage business, and all that he undertakes he brings to a successful issue.

He is a son of John Tackett, one of the first settlers of Shelbyville, who was one of the leading pioneers of this part of the country until death deprived his co-workers of his aid in the upbuilding of this section in 1850. He was a native of Prince William County, Va., where he grew to man's estate and married Enfield Mason, a native of Fauquier County, Va., who died at Shelbyville in 1837. Three of their five children were reared: Charles, who died at Shelbyville; William J., a well-known resident of Shelbyville; and John A. of whom this sketch is written. After marriage the father of our subject sought the forest wilds of Kentucky but did not make a permanent home there, as he was attracted to Illinois in 1829, foreseeing that men of his calibre could expend their energies to a good advantage in a country of such splendid but untried resources. He journeyed hither with teams, bringing his household goods and being accompanied by his wife and the two children that then composed their family. He was among the first to settle on the present site of Shelbyville, where he found but little in the group of small log houses to indicate that the little hamlet was the nucleus of a flourishing and busy town such as is known by those of a later generation.

Mr. Tackett built a hewed log house, which he opened as an inn for the benefit of travelers passing through the town or coming in search of suitable locations, or for other business and it became widely known by the traveling public as "Tackett's Hotel", and its comforts were duly appreciated. There were no railroads here for years after he opened his hotel and all travel was by stage. He added to his buildings, greatly improved his property and continued to keep hotel until his death. He had an extensive acquaintance, was popular and well liked, always friendly and obliging in his relations with all with whom he came in contact, and he was greatly missed in the community.

Our subject having been born in the early days of the settlement of this county, has been a witness

of almost its entire growth, and it may well be his pride that he has contributed to its rise and progress since he arrived at the years of discretion. He has a clear and comprehensive knowledge of agriculture and he is superintending his extensive farming interests with marked ability, while at the same time he is conducting a lucrative business as a broker, and from both sources derives a large income. He is one of the wealthy men of his native county and his fellow-citizens always find him ready to co-operate with them in whatever will benefit the public. His name stands high in financial circles, as his integrity in money matters is unimpeachable and he manages his business after sound methods. His personal character is such as to gain him warm esteem among his neighbors and many acquaintances. Socially his relations are with Okaw Lodge, No. 117, I. O. O. F. Mr. Tackett was happily married in 1880 to Miss Flora Cash, who presides gracefully over their attractive home and cordially unites with him in entertaining with pleasant hospitality any of their friends that may happen to enter its doors. They have one daughter whom they have named Irma Enfield.

Mrs. Tackett is a native of Westfield, Clark County, Ill., and is a daughter of Henry H. Cash, one of the well-known citizens of that town. Her father was born in Amherst County, Va., and was a son of Reuben Cash, who was a life-long resident of the Old Dominion. Mrs. Tackett's father went from his native State to Kentucky when he was twenty-six years old, and from there came to Clark County, this State, four years later. He settled in Westfield, and in time became one of its leading merchants. He carried on business a number of years, but now lives retired in that town. He married Rebecca Evinger, a native of Kentucky, and they have reared five children,—Watson G., Flora N., Rose M., George A. and Henry E.

Mrs. Tackett's grandfather Evinger was born, reared and married in Kentucky, he being a son of one of the early pioneer families of that State. He in turn became a pioneer, coming to Illinois and casting in his lot with the early settlers of Clark County. He became one of its most prominent citizens, and to him belongs the honor of having

platted and named the town of Westfield. He erected a set of mills, including grist and carding mills there, but after a few years they were burned and from that time he lived retired from active business until his death at the venerable age of ninety-one years. The maiden name of his wife was Margaret Seabolt. She was a native of Virginia, and went from there to Kentucky with her parents. She came to this State with her husband, and died at Westfield, at the ripe age of eighty-four years.



**H**ENRY F. DAY, Mayor of Moweaqua, and its leading merchant, has long been pre-eminent in the commercial, public, political and social life of Shelby County, and has been an important agent in raising it to its present position as one of the foremost counties of Central Illinois. He is of English birth and ancestry, born March 7, 1835, in Birmingham, his father, John Day, being a prominent business man of that city. His grandfather was a manufacturer of fine guns, and was a life-long resident of Birmingham. The father of our subject died in his native city in 1849, and his mother died in 1851. Her maiden name was Rebecca Crane, and she spent her whole life in Birmingham. The following are the five children that she reared: Rebecca, Betsy, John, Henry and Thomas. John died in Birmingham, and the others followed our subject to this country. Rebecca married James H. Elsum, and settled at Moweaqua; Betsy married Thomas Hudson, and also located at Moweaqua; Thomas, who first settled in Boston, and later at Moweaqua, served in the late war in the Fourteenth Illinois Infantry, and now resides at Memphis, where he is engaged in the mercantile business.

Our subject was fourteen years old when his father died. He was at that time an independent, self-reliant lad, with a full share of the pertinacity and pluck common to the English stock, and he soon set forth in the world to see life for himself. He set his face toward the United States of America, and embarking December 5, 1849, on the ves-

sel "Parliament," he was soon out on the ocean, sailing toward Boston, where he landed the 24th day of the following January. He had been well educated in the schools of his native city, and immediately after his arrival in Boston he secured a position as clerk in a bookstore, and subsequently became one of the book-keepers of Nash, Callender & Co. In 1851 he took up his residence in New York, where he engaged for a time in the insurance business. In the latter part of 1855 he went back to his old home in England, and after spending several months amid the scenes of his boyhood, he returned to the United States in the spring of 1857.

He was undecided where to locate and what to do, when good fortune led him to ask the advice of his friend, Tom Pouting, to whom he went in Chicago. That gentleman told him that he thought that the then newly founded village of Moweaqua presented many advantages to an energetic, wide-awake young man, who desired to establish himself in business. A hint is sufficient to the wise, and our subject was not long in acting on his friend's suggestion. He arrived here in May, 1857, and the following February found him fairly started in a lucrative mercantile business, which he has conducted ever since, with remarkable financial success. He began in a small way, gradually increased his stock, and has built up a large trade, that is by no means confined within the limits of the city, but extends far beyond, much patronage coming to him from the surrounding country. He now has two stores at Moweaqua, one for the sale of clothing and gentlemen's furnishing goods, boys' wear, etc., and the other for the sale of groceries, dry goods, hardware, agricultural implements, glassware, etc. Both establishments are fitted up in good style, are well managed, and are stocked with first-class goods and a large assortment in every line, at reasonable prices.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Louisa M. March, of Jacksonville, Ill., was celebrated June 3, 1862. Mrs. Day is a daughter of Edward and Harriet (Stevenson) March. She understands well how to preside over her home, and has helped her husband and children to make theirs the scene of true hospitality and a pleasant abiding-place, re-

plete with every desirable luxury and comfort. These are the names of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Day: William L., Henry M., Claire, Harriet M., Mary Crane, Edna L., Aileen and Bessie Eleanor. William, a resident of Concordia, Kan., married Grace Hinman, and they have two children—Eloise and Vance.

Not only has Mr. Day borne an important part in extending the business interests of Moweaqua, but he is a conspicuous figure in its public life as the present Mayor of the city, to which position he was called in 1891 by his appreciative fellow-citizens, who recognize his talent for affairs, and know that with him at the head of the local government all enterprises inaugurated for the benefit of the community will receive every needed encouragement, and that all matters of civic import coming under his jurisdiction will be given careful attention. Our subject is a leader among the Democrats of this section, and has represented them at numerous county, district and State conventions. Mr. Day is prominently known in social circles for his connection with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows as one of its foremost members in Shelby County. He belongs to Shelby Lodge, No. 271, and to Moweaqua Lodge, No. 1013, K. of H. He has represented the Shelby Lodge at the Grand Lodge several years, was for ten years Assistant Secretary, and has been Grand Reporter of the State Lodge of K. of H. since 1886.



**J**ONATHAN D. BRUCE. The family to which our subject belongs boasts a name that is famous in Scottish history. A lineal descendant of the Scottish Kings, the branch of the family to which our subject belongs emigrated to America early in the eighteenth century and became possessors of large tracts of land in Virginia. Their relations there were with the people whose names are so intimately and prominently connected with the Colonial period of American history; the Reeds, Birds, Pendletons, Lees and Bruces were co-workers in Colonial

times. Like the majority of Virginia families the scions of their family spread out like the root-lets of a tree through the Southern and Central States, that to which our family belongs settling in Tennessee.

Benjamin W. Bruce, the father of our subject, was born in Bedford County, Tenn., December 25, 1800. Our subject's mother was in her maiden days Miss Elizabeth Tull, another good old name which figures in Colonial history. She was born in Bedford County, Tenn., November, 23, 1805. They removed to Shelby County, soon, if not immediately after they were married, settling here in 1828, in Windsor Township on Sand Creek, and were among the earliest pioneers in that portion of the country. Mr. Bruce, Sr., was a farmer by occupation. The social bond at that early day was kept firm by their church relations. Both he and his wife were communicants of the Christian Church and were ardent workers in the same. Their last days were spent in Windsor Township, the father passing away in the spring of 1861. His wife survived him by a member of years, her decease occurring January 20, 1875.

One almost wonders that among the manifold duties incident to pioneer life which included not only baking and brewing and making of garments for the members of the family, but also the carding and spinning and making into cloth, of wool and cotton, that our subject's mother had time to rear nine children and give to each of them the training which, as a conscientious and Christian woman, she felt she owed them. This, however, she did and of the brood of little ones that gathered in the old-fashioned kitchen about the fireplace, our subject was the fourth child in order of birth. He was born in Windsor Township, this county, April 11, 1833.

He of whom we write was reared on the home farm in Windsor Township and remained with his father, assisting with the care and cultivation of the farm until he was married, which auspicious event took place August 19, 1852. He was united to Miss Elenor B. Herod, who was a native of this county. She has borne him eight children. Their names are, Clinton D., Samantha A., George F., Addie M., Estella B., Maude H., Charles O. and

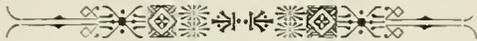
Clarence C. Samantha A. is now the wife of George Garvin; Addie is the wife of James Moberly; Estella B. died when little more than an infant; Maude H. is the wife of John W. Moberly.

Mrs. Elenor Bruce died in Windsor Township, January 8, 1875. The first home of our subject after his marriage was located on Sand Creek; there they remained for one year and then removed to Windsor, of which he was the first inhabitant, there building the first house. His settlement in Windsor was made in 1856. He was also proprietor of the first hotel in the village. It was known as the Windsor Hotel, and this he conducted for about three years, after which he was engaged in the mercantile business with John H. Whitstone. They continued in partnership for about three years at the expiration of which time Mr. Bruce sold out his interest and with the proceeds purchased a farm in Moultrie County, which, however he soon disposed of. During his residence in Windsor, our subject was engaged in farming, uniting with this the stock and grain business, in which he was a large dealer for several years. He afterward operated a large grain store in company with Charles Voris. Later including H. F. Smyser and Levi Wilkinson in the partnership they continued to carry on the grain and mercantile business until about 1872. They also opened a bank, in which they did a good business in connection with their store.

Since leaving the partnership above referred to he of whom we write has engaged exclusively in farming and dealing in stock. He is the owner of about four hundred acres of good land located on section 36, just outside the city of Windsor. Upon this farm he has a charming residence which he has erected on the point nearest the village. His farm boasts of the best of improvements and is a conspicuous feature in the agricultural district of the vicinity. Mr. Bruce has been an important factor in the building up of the town of Windsor, and the inhabitants owe him much for many conveniences that make them so closely allied to larger cities.

Our subject was a second time married in Windsor to Miss Mary A. McAmant. Their nuptials were celebrated May 9, 1876. The lady was born

in Ohio. She has presented her husband with two children—Robert B. and Elenore E. The latter died when ten and a half years old. In his political preferences Mr. Bruce is a Democrat, in that following the traditions of his family. He has taken an active part in religious affairs, having been a member of the Christian Church since 1857 and has filled the office of Deacon for about twenty-five years. The body with which he is united owes much to his generosity and executive ability.



**S**AMUEL S. PETERS. A native of the Prairie State and prominent in agricultural, political and church circles in Sullivan Township, Moultrie County, is the staunch and worthy citizen whose name appears at the head of this article. He was born in Clark County, this State, November 11, 1834 and is a son of Andrew and Susan (Mitchell) Peters. The father was born and grew to manhood in the Green Mountain State and afterward removed with his parents to Ohio, where they located on a farm, which is now a portion of the city of Cincinnati, and there they died.

The father of our subject was married in Ohio, his wife being a native of Wardford County, Ky. They emigrated from the Buckeye State to Illinois at a very early day in the history of this State. This wife was called hence by death and Mr. Peters married again, the second wife being the mother of our subject. Two children were born to her, the second son, Oliver, being four years younger than Samuel. He married Love Clarke, and now resides in Iroquois County, this State. On the paternal side the family is of English ancestry and was established in Vermont at an early date in the colonization of New England.

The early life of our subject was spent on his father's farm in Clark County, and he was only twenty years of age when he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Saveree whose father, John, was a Frenchman and her mother, Eliza, a native of Ohio. Mrs. Peters is the second child in her father's family, of whom five are now living,

namely; Jeremiah, now a widower, who resides in his native county; Cynthia A., who married James Madley and died on the homestead in Clark County; Elizabeth, who became the wife of John L. Collier and resides in Clark County; John M., who married Mary Bell and lives in Vincennes, Ind., having served through the war as a soldier; Cynthia J., John W. and William, died in early life, the latter in the army at the age of sixteen years. He was a member of an Illinois regiment.

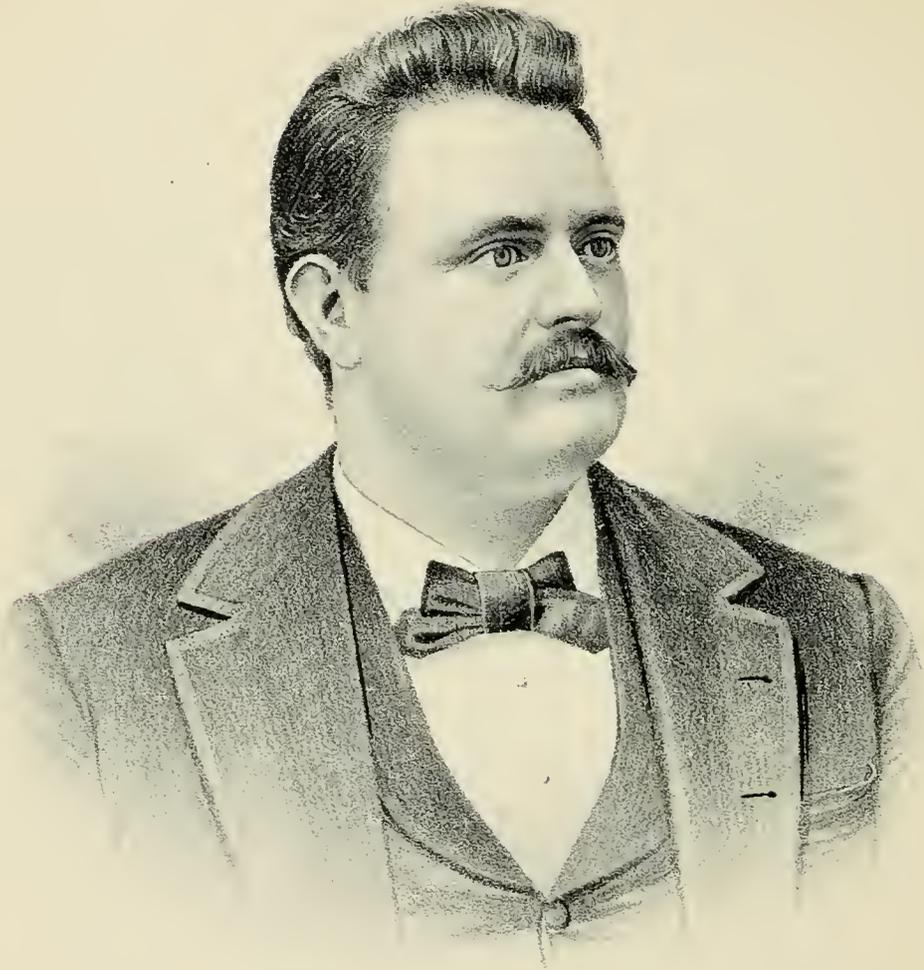
The father of Mrs. Peters died when she was ten years old and her mother married Fred Hilbert, who served as a soldier during the war in an Illinois regiment. Three children were born of this marriage, namely; Angeline, now Mrs. Nitzman and Henderson and Henry. The last named is now deceased. The mother passed away in Clark County, in 1883.

The five children who were born to Mr. and Mrs. Peters are as follows: Susie, who is now the widow of Nelson Fred and resides with her parents; Elizabeth, who died in infancy; John Andrew, who married Ellen Wheeler and is farming in Missouri; William, who is unmarried and lives at home with his parents and Mildra, who married Mr. G. M. Stivers, a druggist at Bement, Ill.

The subject of this sketch has made agriculture his life work, coming to Moultrie County in 1859 and renting land for several years until he was able to purchase, in 1872, the farm on which he now resides. He has ever taken an active interest in political affairs and espouses the principles of Democracy. He has served with great efficiency in the offices of Highway Commissioner and Justice of the Peace for nine years besides various school offices. He still holds the position of Justice of the Peace and his administration of justice is indeed conducive to the peace of the community, as by his wise and judicious counsel, he saves many of his neighbors from expensive and aggravating lawsuits.

The Methodist Episcopal Church is the religious body with which Mr. and Mrs. Peters first became united, as they joined that in 1861 but as there has been no organization of that kind in the neighborhood where they reside, they withdrew from it six years ago and joined the Presbyterian





*Yours truly  
J. A. Bowman D.D.S.*

Church, where they now worship and where they have proved themselves a power for good in all church work. This gentleman owns a splendid tract of two hundred and seventy acres and his son, William, has eighty acres adjoining. He is making preparations to build a residence the coming year, after which he will no doubt find great comfort in this new home in his declining years. He is identified with the order of Masons, being a member of Sullivan Lodge No. 764 and of Sullivan Chapter No. 128, as well as being identified with the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association.



**J**ESSE A. BOWMAN, D. D. S., of Shelbyville, though a young man has already won a high reputation for his complete knowledge of dental surgery and stands at the head of his profession in Shelby County. He is a native of Illinois, born near Rockport, in Pike County, December 27, 1863. His father, Joseph McEwen, was a well-known farmer of that county and for some years previous to his death, in 1868, resided near Rockport. His wife, whose maiden name was Nancy Moxley, survived him until 1870, her death occurring at Shelbyville. Six of their children were reared to maturity—William P., John, Mary, Jacob, Jesse and Thomas.

After the death of his mother our subject was adopted by Dr. Joseph and Susan Bowman, of Shelbyville, and was carefully reared by them as if he were their own. He was given fine educational advantages, and was graduated from the High School in the Class of '81 with a good record for scholarship. He then adopted for awhile the vocation of teacher in order to secure money to prepare himself for the dental profession. He taught his first term in Ridge Township, and when he had sufficient money to defray his expenses at college in 1883 he entered the Indiana Dental College at Indianapolis, from which he was graduated in the Class of '84, with a thorough equipment for his chosen calling. After leaving college he formed a partnership with his father and was with him until

Dr. Bowman's death in 1888, since which time he has been alone. He has pleasant rooms for the exercise of his profession and is well supplied with all the modern appliances that have placed the practice of dentistry to-day among the arts or sciences. His skill, combined with his courtesey and geniality renders him popular with everybody and has gained him a large patronage.

The marriage of Dr. Bowman with Miss Anna Rice was solemnized in 1886. They have a charming home and their household is completed by the presence of the three children born unto them—Fred Homer, Carl Randolph and George A. The Doctor is well-known in social circles for his musical talent as he has a fine voice that has been carefully cultivated and he is one of the leading spirits of the famous Shelbyville Palmer Glee Club. This is composed of five members and is admitted to be the finest glee club in the State. It was a prominent feature in Gen. Palmer's campaigns in 1888 and 1891, being greeted with enthusiasm by the music-loving populace wherever it sang and it was called to Chicago during the mayoralty campaign there in the spring of 1891, and received many plaudits from the people and encomiums from the press. Our subject and his wife are among the leading members of the Lutheran Church. He has been Superintendent of the Sunday-school, Secretary of the congregation and for eight years has acted as chorister.

Accompanying this biographical notice is a lithographic portrait of Dr. Bowman.



**C**APT. GEORGE WRIGHT. Conspicuous among those of foreign birth who periled their lives and fortunes to help save the Union during the Civil War Capt. George Wright is not the least worthy of mention. Since the close of the Rebellion he has shown the value of his citizenship in a far different field as a farmer of this county who for several years has interested himself in the introduction of fine horses into this part of the State, having a well-equipped stock farm in Pickaway Township, where he and his son

are quite extensively engaged in breeding horses, and have several valuable thoroughbreds of the best strains, besides some imported stock of the purest blood.

Capt. Wright was born in Hutton, Yorkshire, England, October 13, 1825. His father, Robert Wright, was a native of the same shire, as was the grandfather of our subject who spent his whole life among the Yorkshire wolds. The father of our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits and always carried on his occupation in his native shire. He married Eleanor Bradley, who also passed her entire life in Yorkshire. She was the mother of six children, only two of whom came to this country, our subject and his sister Frances. The latter married Robert Dobson, and lives in Shelbyville.

At the early age of seven years the Captain commenced to earn his own living, as his parents were in poor circumstances, and he worked out by the year in different English shires until 1817, when he obtained employment in the chemical works at South Shields, where he remained two years. Ambitious to see something of the world and to make more of life than was possible in the land of his birth, in the pride and vigor of early manhood, he set sail from Liverpool in the month of May in the vessel "De Witt Clinton," bound for these shores, and landed at New York after a three weeks' voyage. He went directly to Massillon, Ohio, where he obtained work as a farm hand, and he resided there until 1858. In that year he made a new departure, and coming to this county, began his independent career as a farmer by purchasing two hundred and forty acres of wild prairie, paying \$9 an acre for one hundred and sixty acres of it, and \$12.50 for the remaining eighty acres. He was a single man at that time, but he had the help and encouragement of his sister, with whom he resided until 1861.

In that year the war broke out, and our subject responded quickly to the call for troops first given, with all the loyalty to the Government under which he had come to build up a new home, and with all the patriotism of a native-born citizen. So rapidly did volunteers come forward in this county that the quota was filled before our subject was mustered in, and he had to wait until the 25th

of May before his name was enrolled as a member of Company B, Fourteenth Illinois Infantry, under Col. John M. Palmer. July 25, 1861, his regiment crossed from Quincy to Missouri, and was stationed in that State until the ensuing winter, being at different times quartered at Rolla, Macon City, Sturgeon, Jefferson City, Lipton, Springfield, Sedalia and Otterville, or wherever their services were most needed, being at the latter place the greater part of the season of 1861 and till the 1st of February, 1862. When Gen. Lyon fought his famous battle at Wilson's Creek, and when Mulligan was engaged at Lexington, our subject and his comrades were sent to re-enforce them but arrived too late both times to be of much use. While at Jefferson City our subject received his promotion to be Second Lieutenant of his company September 28, 1861.

When his regiment left its winter quarters it was despatched across the Mississippi River to Ft. Donelson, and much to the disappointment of the brave men it arrived too late for the battle. They were, however, in good season for the engagement at Shiloh, or Pittsburg Landing, April 6, 1862, and did some desperate fighting in that dreadful battle, as is shown by the fact that two hundred out of their five hundred were left on the field at the end of the encounter. On that occasion, while faithfully performing his duty, and cheering his men on to the conflict, Capt. Wright received a bullet wound in the left arm.

October 25, 1872, marked another important event in the brave officer's military career, and it was on that date that he received his commission as First Lieutenant, to date September 13, 1862, and reading "Promoted for meritorious service at Pittsburg Landing." When the attack was made on Corinth, the Fourteenth Illinois distinguished itself for conspicuous gallantry in the fore-front of the battle. Its next move was to Grand Junction and La Grange, and June 17, 1862, found it at Holly Springs, Miss. The following October it was in the heat of battle at Metamora, sometimes called the battle of Hatchie. Our subject and his comrades spent the winter of 1862-63 at Lafayette, Tenn., and the following spring and summer were in active service in the famous siege of Vicksburg.

Here again our subject was honored by promotion to the position of Captain, receiving his commission, which was dated May 8, 1863, June 30, 1863. After Vicksburg had fallen he led his men in the battle of Jackson, Miss., and afterward camped at Natchez. He was subsequently detailed with his company to escort Adj.-Gen. Thomas to New Orleans. He rejoined his regiment near Vicksburg, and in the opening month of 1864 he and a number of his fellow-veterans returned to Illinois, where he obtained furloughs for his men at Springfield. For a month after that he was on detached duty recruiting troops in this county. In the spring he returned to his regiment, which was then stationed at Memphis, but he shortly returned to Illinois with Col. Hall, the commander of his regiment to assist him in obtaining recruits. Having replenished the regiment to the required number, they returned to the seat of war, arriving at Cairo May 13, 1864, and were soon at the front.

The term of enlistment of the Fourteenth Illinois expired while at Huntsville, Ala., and soon returned to Springfield, Ill., where Capt. Wright was mustered out of the service, having served long and faithfully and he returned to this county with his honors thick upon him.

The Captain took up the work that he had laid down to do battle for his adopted country, and was engaged in farming in Todd's Point Township for a time, his own land being leased. In 1870 he took up his residence once more on his farm in Pickaway Township, and has since occupied a leading place among the most intelligent and progressive farmers of this section. He has always dearly loved a fine horse, which he rightly considers one of the noblest of animals, and a few years ago he turned his attention to raising horses in company with his son, and they have met with signal success in their enterprise. They now have five costly, valuable stallions, four of them imported, as follows: "Thornton Echo" was foaled in La Fyde, Lancastershire, England; "Royal Oak" was bred in Cambridgeshire, "Rampton" was bred in Lincolnshire, "Arthur" is a fine roadster, half Hambletonian and half Cleveland Bay; and one of the handsomest and most promising of the stallions is "Castlerough," an English

hackney, bred in Ellingham, Yorkshire, England, imported to this country in 1890. Messrs. Wright also have three imported English shire mares: "Lady Cammock," No. 2350, bred in Leicestershire; "Queen Sarah," No. 2352, bred in Lincolnshire; "Queen Henrietta, No. 2351, bred in Lincolnshire. These horses constitute one of the best selected and most valuable studs in this part of the country, and in their purchase the Captain laid the foundation of a business that is increasing each year, and he has already become known as a horseman of superior judgment, of marked capability and far-reaching enterprise, who seems to know the good points of a horse intuitively, and is never deceived in the worth of an animal. In his son, a young man of much force of character, he has an able coadjutor.

December 29, 1861, Capt. Wright contracted a marriage with Miss Jennie Turner that has added greatly to his well-being. His happiness has been enhanced by the five children born unto them, namely, John Sherman, Florence Agnes, Frances Helena, Annie Jane and Alice Maud. Mrs. Wright is also of English birth and antecedents, born in Lancastershire, and a daughter of John Turner. She came to America in 1862.

Before the war our subject was a Democrat, and was a devoted follower of the famous Stephen A. Douglas. The war seems to have changed his political views decidedly, as since he left the army he has been a strong Republican, and the party has no more ardent advocate in this section than he.



**E**RVIN HOMRIGHOUS, a jeweler of Shelbyville, Shelby County, bears a high reputation through the county as a business man, and is widely known in social circles for his musical talent and for his connection with the famous Shelbyville Palmer Glee Club as its leader. He is a native of Amanda Township, Fairfield County, Ohio, the date of his birth being March 28, 1836. His father, John Homrighous, a prominent citizen and business man of that place, was born in that county, in the township of Bloom, October 11, 1811, being a son of one of the early pioneers of

that part of Ohio, John Homrighous. The latter was born in Deadenshaus, Germany, November 21, 1781. His boyhood was passed in the Fatherland, but before he attained his majority he resolved to try life in America. Accordingly he embarked on the good ship "Speculation," and some weeks later landed at Baltimore. He returned to Germany a year or two later to revisit the scenes of his youth, but he came back to this country in 1805, and was a resident of Baltimore until 1810, when he ventured forth into the wilds of Ohio, and became a pioneer of Lancaster. He was finely educated, and his fellow-pioneers were glad to have him teach their children, so he taught for some time in and about Lancaster, and was one of the very first teachers of Fairfield County. He was a preacher in the German Reformed Church, and administered spiritual food to the people very acceptably. He was withal a man of thrift and industry and the quarter of a section of land that he purchased in Bloom Township under his skilful hand became a fine farm, though it was heavily wooded when it came into his possession. He made it his home until he was called up higher to the realms of the blest. The maiden name of his wife was Alspaugh. She was of German antecedents, but was born in America.

In the county of his nativity, the father of subject grew up under pioneer influences. He learned the trade of a cabinetmaker, and in 1829 established himself at that in connection with undertaking at Royalton, and has been in business there ever since, he being one of the substantial moneyed men of the town. He also owns a farm in Amanda Township, just outside the corporate limits of Royalton. He married in early manhood Miss Magdalena Wagner, and they have traveled life's road together many years. She was born in Amanda Township, December 11, 1811, coming of one of the early pioneer families of Ohio. She is the mother of these five children.—John W., Ervin, Mary A., Lewis and Henry.

Ervin Homrighous was educated in the schools of Royalton, and at the age of twelve years he began to learn the trade of a jeweler, and when fifteen years old commenced to learn the trade of a cabinetmaker of his father. He worked with

him until he was twenty-two years of age, and then came to Illinois, and for seven years was actively engaged in farming in Holland Township. In 1865 he came to Shelbyville, but he did not at once establish himself in any particular business. He continued to give his attention to agriculture and superintended the management of his fine farm of five hundred acres in Holland Township, continually making improvements that enhanced its value. In 1881 he embarked in the jewelry business, taking advantage of a fine opening at Shelbyville for a first-class jewelry store, and has continued in it ever since. He has one of the finest establishments of the kind in Central Illinois, handsomely appointed, and stocked with an elegant assortment of jewelry and precious stones of every description to suit all tastes and requirements of even the most fastidious, as our subject is a connoisseur in his line, and makes his selections with nice discrimination and an artistic eye.

Mr. Homrighous was first married in 1858 to Miss Mary Allen, who was, like himself, a native of Amanda Township, Ohio, and was a daughter of Howard and Sarah (Leist) Allen. Mrs. Homrighous died in 1870 and her household was thus deprived of the tender ministrations of a good wife and devoted mother. Four children were the fruit of that marriage, namely,—John, Milo, Meta and Frank. In April, 1871, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Esther Penwell, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of David and Samantha (Carver) Penwell. Mr. and Mrs. Homrighous have a charming home, and their many friends are always sure of a cordial welcome and pleasant entertainment at the hands of a host and hostess of such well-known social qualities as they possess. Two children have blessed their marriage, Charles and Bob.

Mr. Homrighous is not only a practical, wide-awake business man, but he has another side to his nature in that he has inherited from a music-loving race a decided talent for that noble art, and is one of the foremost singers of this county. He received a careful and thorough training in voice culture in his youth, and ever since he was eighteen years of age he has given vocal lessons, and for some years he has been chorister at the Methodist

Episcopal Church. But he has gained his chief distinction as leader of the celebrated Shelbyville Palmer Glee Club, which is widely known for the marked musical ability of its members, and stands without a peer in the United States as a campaign glee club. The four gentlemen who have united with our subject to make the club famous are K. T. Hite, Dr. J. A. Bowman, Edward Silvers and G. R. Graybill. During the political campaign of 1888 the club accompanied Gen. Palmer when he stumped the State for the Governorship, and was received with acclamation on every hand by the people who assembled to hear the General's political oratory, and who listened with rapt attention to the songs rendered by the club, and testified to their appreciation by generous applause. When the exciting mayoralty contest was being carried on in Chicago in the spring of 1891, the Glee Club was honored by being called to that city to sing at the political gatherings of the Democrats, and if the candidate endorsed by Senator Palmer could have been sung into office, he would undoubtedly have been re-elected. As it was, the music-loving populace of the World's Fair City attended the meetings in crowds to hear the singing of the club, and it was highly commended by the press.

In politics, Mr. Homrighous is a Democrat. Socially, he is a member of Jackson Lodge, No. 53, A. F. & A. M. Religiously, both he and his wife are among the leading members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**C**ALVIN FRANTZ. The original of this sketch is now enjoying the well earned rest from the hard labor and responsibility to which he has for years been subjected. He is now living in retirement from farm work in Lovington and here gives himself up to the enjoyment of things in life, which, although he has appreciated hitherto, he has been obliged to deprive himself of because of lack of time and mental freshness to thoroughly enjoy. The life of a farmer, especially

one who has the charge of a good deal of stock, is one in which every hour of the day has its duties; from the earliest dawn when the kine and calves, the horses and pigs and other domestic animals are each calling in their own peculiar language for breakfast and care, until the night, when it is important that each dumb brute should be safely housed and protected, there is something to look after, something to plan and much to execute. A farm is a small dominion and the farmer is the petty monarch of all he surveys, and it will yield him well and prolifically in proportion as he studies its needs and requirements.

Our subject is of Irish-American parentage. His father, John Frantz, was born in Somerset County, Pa., and his mother, whose maiden name was Rachael McMahon, was a native of Ireland. After marriage they settled in Somerset County, Pa., where they remained a short time and thence removed to Perry County, Ohio, where they resided a good many years, and early in the '60s came to Moultrie County, here living until death claimed them for its own. Both passed away at the residence of our subject in Lovington. They had nine children and of these our subject was the fourth in order of birth. He was born in Perry County, Ohio, January 23, 1830, and there he grew to manhood, remaining under the parental roof until 1851, when he came to Moultrie County and soon after engaged in farming in Dora Township, where he continued to live until March, 1885.

At the date above named Mr. Frantz rented his farm and came to the village of Lovington where he has since been a resident. His chief occupation has been farming and he has devoted himself to this calling with a gratifying degree of success. He is now the owner of two hundred acres of land in Dora Township which is well improved and bears evidence of thorough and intelligent cultivation on the part of its owner. He of whom we write was married in Lovington Township, March 19, 1854. His bride was Catherine E. Peniwell, a daughter of John D. and Isabella (Podman) Peniwell. The former was born in Delaware and the latter was a native of Ireland. After marriage they settled in Pickaway County, Ohio, where the wife and mother died. Mr. Peniwell then came to

Moultrie County, this State, in 1851, and settled in Lovington Township and later removed to Dora Township, where he resided until his death.

Nine children grew up about their parents and of these Mrs. Frantz was the fourth in order of birth. She was born in Ohio, June 7, 1825. Mrs. Frantz is an intelligent and amiable woman who has ever been the loving helpmate and sympathetic companion in all that interests her husband. She is the mother of four children whose names are respectively: Isabella, Rachael E., and Mary V. and one other child, the eldest, who died in infancy. Of these, Isabella is the wife of Reuben Landers. She died in Lovington Township, October, 1888. Rachael E. died when only two years of age. Mary V. is the wife of T. D. Witt.

The gentleman of whom we write has taken an active interest in political affairs for many years past, being a follower and adherent of the Republican party. He has held several offices in the gift of the township in which he lives, having been Collector, School Director, and Highway Commissioner, all of which posts he has held to the satisfaction of his constituents. Mr. Frantz is a gentleman whose high business capabilities render him fit for any position that might be required of him for the good of the township and the advantage of the people. He is a thoughtful, intelligent man, an honorable gentleman and a scholar.



**G**EORGE BAKER is successfully pursuing agriculture on the fertile soil of Penn Township, where he has a farm that in point of productiveness, cultivation and improvement ranks with the best in its vicinity. June 10, 1851 is the date of the birth of our subject in Harrison County, Ind. Conrad Baker, his father, a well-known resident of that county, is a native of Germany. His parents spent their entire lives in that country and he and his brother Theobald were the only members of the family that ever came to America. The latter settled in Floyd County, Ind.

Conrad Baker learned the trade of a shoemaker

in his youth and when a young man left his native land to try his fortune in the United States of America. After his arrival he made his way to Indiana and settled in Harrison County. For a time he made shoes in Bradford and then engaged in the mercantile business, which he continued to carry on with good profit for some years. He now lives retired in the same village in the enjoyment of a competence ample for all his wants. He was married after coming to this country to Sarah Ingram, a native of Harrison County. He was bereaved of her companionship by her death in 1879. Her father, who was a pioneer of Harrison County, served in the War of 1812 and fought bravely in the famous Battle of Tippecanoe. Two children were born to the parents of our subject, Lewis, the other son, being now a resident of Bradford, his native town. After the death of their mother their father married again and has nine children by his second union.

Our subject passed his boyhood in the home of his birth and was educated in the local public schools. He was active, capable and self-reliant as a lad and began to make himself useful when quite young. At the age of nineteen he left the parental abode to start in life for himself and for one year worked on a farm by the month in his native county. He then left Indiana and for a year and a half lived in LaBelle County, Kan., where he was employed as a farm hand. Shrewdly foreseeing that on the alluvial soil of this county he would have better opportunities to become independent in the exercise of his chosen calling, for he had decided to try farming for himself, he came to this section of the State and in 1873 rented land. He was thrifty, industrious and economical and in 1888 he had money enough and to spare to invest in a good farm and he bought the one that he now occupies. He is the fortunate proprietor of a quarter section of prairie in Penn Township, which is under admirable tillage and is supplied with all the necessary buildings, besides being well equipped with modern machinery.

During these years of toil Mr. Baker has by no means been without the assistance of a capable wife, to whose cheerful co-operation he is much indebted for the comforts of a cozy home. This

helpmate he secured in the person of Laura A. Martin, to whom he was united in marriage in 1873. Two children have been born to them, whom they have named Cora E. and Clarence. Mr. Baker is an intelligent member of the Farmer's Mutual Benefit Association and in politics he holds himself independent, supporting at the polls whichever party he deems best.



**A**NDREW FOSTER. Our subject is of Irish parentage and from both sides of the family inherits the wit and humor as well as the quick and nervous vital force of the Irish people. His father was John Foster and his mother was Eleanor (Morrow) Foster, both from Ireland, and having emigrated to this country at an early day, removing to Moultrie County, this State, where they settled in Lovington Township. The father of the family expired on his farm in the township. The mother passed away later, while in the town. They had eleven children, of whom our subject was the tenth in order of birth.

Ross County, Ohio, was the place where Andrew Foster was born September 24, 1816. He was about four years old when his parents removed to Pickaway County, Ohio, and there he grew to manhood and there continued to live until 1811, when he came to Moultrie County with his wife and one child and settled in Lovington Township. His marriage took place in Ross County, Ohio, March 2, 1842, and he was united to Lucinda Cochran, who was a native of the county in which she was married. She bore him four children, whose names are as follows: John A., who married Adelia Bicknell and died in Lovington, this State; the other children are Elizabeth E.; Sarah J.; Milton C.; Elizabeth E. is the wife of Henry H. Dawson; Sarah J. was married to James Gregory; while Milton C. was united to Miss E. Bicknell. Mrs. Lucinda Foster died in Lovington October 1, 1851.

The original of our sketch was again married in Sullivan, this State, October 28, 1858, to Sarah J. Lewis, *nee* Hubbard. She was born in Pickaway

County, Ohio, September 21, 1831. Six children were the result of this marriage. Their names are as follows: George E., Alva E., Charles G., Urali S. and Frank H.; George E. married Amanda Binkley; Alva E. was united to Miss Lizzie Gailey; Charles G. was united to Miss Allie Souther; Frank H. married Miss Olive Boggs; the other son, Eddie, died when only eight months old.

He of whom we write lived on his farm in this county until about 1852 or 1853, when he came to Lovington, where he has since been a resident. He is the owner of five hundred and two acres of good, arable land, upon which he has laid out many improvements. In politics he is an adherent of the Democratic party, its breadth of platform, free trade theories, suiting his ideas of a Republican form of government. His wife, who is personally a most affable lady, with an unusual conversational ability, has ever been her husband's encourager and helper in his work. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and all good words and works find a sure lodging in her sympathetic and motherly nature.

Our subject's father, John Foster, died in August, 1852, at the age of eighty-eight years. His wife, Mrs. Eleanor Foster, died in August, 1852, at the same age her husband had attained when his decease took place. They were kindly and gentle old people, who had fulfilled their mission in life conscientiously and well. They bequeathed to their children principles of honor and rectitude that have followed them through life and have been of great advantage to them in a business way.



**H**ENRY BERNHARD. At the name miller, one's mind instantly and involuntarily sees picture after picture of the changes that have been wrought in the methods of producing the farinaceous product of which the staff of life is made. One first sees two veiled women sitting on either side of stone disks and grinding the handful of corn or wheat into powder; later, it was accomplished on a larger scale, and beasts

of burden turned the stones, and in the boyhood days of the early pioneers in this State, they saw quaint little mills whose wheels were turned by a thin stream of water that, cast from the wheel, made merry bubbles and diamonds of light. This has all given way to the new process and now-a-days when we go to mill, one sees only a bewildering maze of belts and bands and machinery, that turns out the snowy white billows of flour at an amazingly rapid rate. This is known as the Roller Process of making flour and it is one of these last mentioned places of which our subject is proprietor.

Previous to coming to Strasburgh, the original of our sketch was engaged in business in Effingham County, this State, where he remained until his mill was destroyed by fire November 1, 1886. He did not, however, make the change until April, 1887, when on coming here, he erected the fine mill of which he is the sole owner and proprietor. These mills have a capacity of turning out eighty barrels of flour daily, and being so accessible to the farmers in the vicinity, Mr. Bernhard does a large and thriving business. Our subject has a charming residence in Strasburg located on the principal residence street. It is gracefully presided over by his wife, who is a cultivated and talented woman. She was previous to marriage with him of whom we write Mrs. Louisa Erd, *nee* Hartman. She is a native of Pennsylvania. Our subject had previously been married, his first wife having died in Shumway, this State, July 2, 1883.

Henry Bernhard was born in Ittlingen, Baden, Germany, April 9, 1835, and is a son of Henry and Margaret (Ziegler) Bernhard, both natives of Baden, Germany, the former having been there born September 4, 1802. The mother passed away in her native country in 1837. Some years after our subject came to America his father also emigrated to this country in 1879, and thereafter made his home with his son until his death which took place in Shumway, this State, January 3, 1889. He of whom we write received his early education in the schools of his native village and early received training of a practical nature, which is indispensable to German teaching. He early learned the trade of milling, in his native home,

In 1853, when there was such an exodus from the European countries to the United States, our subject came hither with the intention of making his fortune, confident that so strong a pair of hands, guided by so willing and intelligent an understanding, would not be out of place in this great land where there are so many opportunities for one who is quick and intelligent. For nine months after first coming to this country he was engaged in milling in New Jersey. At the expiration of that time, he came to St. Clair County, Ill., where he remained until 1864, when he removed to Banner Township, Effingham County.

On settling in St. Clair County our subject felt the need of a home and companion, and solicited the hand of Catherine Sinn in marriage. His suit was successful and their nuptials were celebrated October 27, 1858. The lady was born in Germany at her husband's birthplace, her natal day being December 2, 1838. She was the daughter of Michael and Rosetta Sinn. Four children were the result of that union. Two of these, Lizzie and Louisa are still living. As before stated his wife died in 1883, and after the many years that they had lived together, life seemed to him for awhile intolerably desolate.

Always a public-spirited man, Mr. Bernhard has ever been quick to see advantages that would redound to the benefit of the public, and to exert himself in making these realities. In 1872 he took an active part in securing the establishment of a post-office. The station was then called Tolerance, and our subject was appointed Postmaster in which capacity he served until 1879, when the name was changed to Shumway. In 1878 he erected the Tolerance Flouring Mills in the town of Shumway, Effingham County, at a cost of \$11,000.

Prior to entering the milling business he of whom we write was engaged in merchandise for a period of eight years in which business he was very successful. The fact that he is truly the architect of his own fortunes must be very encouraging to many young men who, like himself, have but small capital with which to operate, and whose wits and ability are their best stock in trade. Mr. Bernhard has become a wealthy and influential





*J. E. Braclley*

man and this he has accomplished by his own unaided efforts. He has held a number of local offices in his township, having been Supervisor, Clerk and School Director. Politically, he is a Democrat. Religiously, he is a Freethinker.



**J**OHN E. BRADLEY. Among the many who are gaining a maintenance as farmers in Lovington Township, is the gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs and whose portrait is presented on the opposite page. He is the owner and operator of a fine farm of eighty acres on section 12. By honest industry, good judgment and unwavering perseverance, he has won prosperity, and what is far better, a reputation as a man of honor and uprightness. The spirit he has shown in worldly affairs, affords a lesson to others who begin life without capital, while the influence of his consistent life is felt far and near.

Mr. Bradley is an honored representative of a patriotic and industrious family. His grandfather, John Bradley, served seven years as a brave soldier in the Revolutionary War, while his father, John Bradley, was one of the founders of the old Free Soil party. The latter, a native of Chester County, Pa., married Elizabeth Evans, a native of the same place as himself, and there they dwelt for some years after their marriage. Later they removed to Trumbull County, Ohio, where the faithful wife and mother died December 1, 1833. After her decease the father came as far West as Illinois, where, in Lovington Township, Moultrie County, he closed his eyes to the scenes of earth February 21, 1872.

Of the six children in the family circle our subject was the fifth, and he was born in Chester County, Pa., December 18, 1829. He was a child of four years when his parents came to Trumbull County, Ohio, where he grew to manhood, in the meantime acquiring as thorough an education as was afforded by the schools of the vicinity. He remained on a farm in Trumbull County until the spring of 1850, when he came to Moultrie County,

Ill., and settled in Lovington Township, of which he has since been a resident.

Mr. Bradley was first married, December 18, 1856, to Mary S., daughter of Oren Dunsecomb, who died in Trumbull County, Ohio. Mrs. Bradley was born in Trumbull County, and bore her husband one child, a son, Charlie H., who married Miss Mary E. Weatherly and now lives in Sullivan. The wife and mother passed from earth August 18, 1866. Mr. Bradley was again married, in Pickaway County, Ohio, January 19, 1871, choosing as his wife Miss Martha A. Hayes. This estimable lady, the daughter of Jesse and Betsey (Hurst) Hayes, was born in Pickaway County, September 27, 1836, and under the careful instruction of her parents and teachers, grew to a refined womanhood. Her happy marriage with Mr. Bradley has been blest by the birth of three children—John F., Mary E. and Alfred C.

Since the organization of the Republican party, Mr. Bradley has been prominent in its ranks, and has served the people in various official capacities. He is greatly interested in educational matters, and for twenty-five years has served efficiently as School Director. He has also been Highway Commissioner and held the minor offices of the township. But we would be doing great injustice to Mr. Bradley's career, were we to omit especial mention of his army record. On August 4, 1862, he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry, as a musician. He served in the ranks until he was promoted to be Corporal and later Sergeant. The entire term of his service was three years, and during that time he participated in many engagements, among the most important being the siege of Vicksburg and the battles of Little Rock, and Clarendon, Ark. After an honorable service he was mustered out at Pine Bluff, Ark., and returned home to resume the pursuits of peace.

While serving his country, Mr. Bradley received a severe sunstroke which has been a source of great affliction to him up to the present time. As might naturally be expected he belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, being a prominent member of Lovington Post, No. 354. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity. In religious work he takes an active part, having been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since 1853, and

his wife also holds membership in the same church. As one of the valiant soldiers to whom we owe the preservation of the Union, and as a capable farmer we are pleased to represent him in this volume.



**D**AVID MAUTZ. Most of the new lines of thought instituted in this country are not original with Americans, but are the outcome of the conditions under which our alien elements have lived. It is true that not all of these new ideas are desirable, as for instance, the anarchistic class, which was introduced from Germany but has been re-enforced by representatives from every oppressed nation. However, even the anarchists may effect a change in the relation of the different classes of commercial and social life. Evolution in science and art is most prominently demonstrated by the Germans of whom our subject is one. He resides on section 32, of Rural Township, having thereon a fine and well cultivated farm that shows the intelligent care that he has brought to bear upon the place.

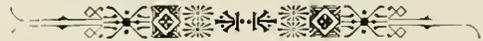
Our subject was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, January 8, 1845, and is a son of George and Rosina Maria Mautz, for whose further history see sketch of John F. Mautz in another part of this RECORD. In 1852, when every nation seemed to be in a volcanic state, and there was a restlessness that pervaded every class of society, the family of which our subject was one, decided to emigrate to the United States. After landing they proceeded at once to Fairfield County, Ohio, where they remained for two years, and then came to this State, settling in Shelby County.

The early life of the original of our sketch was spent upon a farm, where he drew in the spirit of freedom with every breath of air that he inspired. He early familiarized himself with the work of a farmer and his training in this direction was carried on by his father in the thrifty and speculative German fashion, making intelligent observation second the efforts of hard and constant manual labor. The intervals of farm duties were filled by attendance at the district schools, after which he

attended the Okaw Academy, at Shelbyville. He then finished his training at the University of Chicago, and was thus fitted to begin the practical lessons of life. He began his career by teaching school for two years in his home district. He then went to Chicago, where he served as clerk in the Chicago Savings Bank, for a period of five years, after which he returned to Shelby County, and has since then resided in Rural Township.

November 15, 1876, our subject took upon himself the duties and the responsibilities of the marital relation, his bride being Louisa F. Weber, a daughter of Jacob Weber. The lady was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, March 31, 1852. They at once set up their lares and penates and the future seemed bright before them. For several years his wife was spared that he might know how sweet a thing a home is. December 12, 1885, she passed to the mysterious unknown, leaving one son, Edmund J. to be the comfort of the bereaved father.

Mr. Mautz makes his home on the place originally owned by his father. It comprises one hundred and seventy-six and two-thirds acres of land, one hundred and sixty acres of which are fine prairie, and well improved. He of whom we write, fraternizes with adherents of the Democratic party. Although a man who is fitted to fill any position in the gift of the county, he has no desire for public office or emoluments. He is a member of the Swedenborg Church. William Mautz, who is a member of our subject's family, was born October 23, 1841. He received his training in the common schools of Germany and the United States. He is interested in the land of which our subject is accredited owner.



**J**OSEPH LEHN. Organization is the watchword of all modern movements, and it is constantly on the increase. For many years trades have affiliated and worked for the interest of each other and for the support of their rights. But the two extremes of labor, the agricultural class and the professional class have not joined hands in organizations looking to the up-

building of their mutual interests. That day is passing by and we find in both these classes a desire to follow the popular trend. Farmers are now associating themselves under different organizations, and perhaps there is none of these which is stronger than the Farmers Mutual Benefit Association, with which Mr. Lehn is identified. This gentleman is a farmer and stock-raiser on section 18, Oconee Township, Shelby County, and was born in Roseheim, France, September 22, 1834.

The parents of our subject were Joseph and Teresa (Echert) Lehn. The father died in his native country when this son was a little child of only three years of age. The mother married again, taking as her second husband Martin Eck, with whom she was united in marriage in 1840. Joseph came to America with his mother, step-father, brothers and sisters in 1852. Of his father's children there were two sons and one daughter, namely: Louis, who is married and resides in Bond County, where he owns a magnificent farm of nearly two thousand acres and is very extensively engaged in raising horses and cattle; Mary, who is the widow of Anthony Fisher, (who died about ten years ago in this township) and who owns a farm of two hundred acres on section 18, Oconee Township, and our subject.

Joseph Lehn bought his fine farm of three hundred and eighty acres as long ago as 1886. One hundred acres of this is in Montgomery County, this State, and the remainder in Oconee Township. In his early youth he was trained to farm work, and he chose it as his life work and has been remarkably successful in its prosecution. He has recently erected a handsome and commodious home on section 18, and has finished and furnished it with great taste as well as comfort.

The marriage of our subject in 1868 brought to his home a bride in the person of Miss Katherine Kakers, who was born in Holland in 1845 and came to America with her parents while still quite young. To Mr. and Mrs. Lehn six beautiful children have been born, and they have the joy of seeing them all still in life and health and under the parental roof. They are named as follows—Frank, Maggie, Teresa, Louis, Katherine and Mary. All except the eldest are in attendance upon the

public schools and are benefiting by the instruction received. They promise well to repay abundantly all the care and affection which has been lavished upon them.

Mr. Lehn was for a number of years after coming to America engaged in various avocations. For three years he worked in brickyards, and afterward started in on his own account in brick making, and also took an interest in buying and selling stock. With his general farming he deals a good deal in cattle and hogs, raising them and occasionally buying and feeding for sale.

Mr. Lehn has always taken an active interest in political affairs and voted the Republican ticket steadily from 1856 until Grant's second election, at which time he voted the Democratic ticket. He is quite liberal in his political views and says he "votes for the man." All the members of his family belong to the Roman Catholic Church, and attend services at Pana. He is an honest and industrious citizen having the confidence and esteem of all who know him.



**J**OHN M. MATTOX. The work of such men as he whose name heads this sketch is a stimulus and tonic to any one who desires perfection or to emulate perfection in any branch whatever. His farm, located on section 13, of Sullivan Township, Moultrie County, is a model of neatness, productiveness and scientific cultivation. Its owner here settled in 1865, and since that time he has devoted his attention and his personal efforts to bringing it up to its present high standing agriculturally.

Although he is the owner of but eighty-four and a half acres, this he has filled to such a good purpose that it yields as much as does twice that much to many a farmer who fails to bring the intelligent oversight to bear upon his possessions.

He of whom we write was born in Clermont County, Ohio, October 19, 1839. His parents, Jason and Maria (Meeker) Mattox, were natives of Kentucky and New Jersey respectively. The

mother was born in 1807, and was about four years old when her family removed to Ohio and settled on the Miami River near the present site of the city of Cincinnati. They were very early settlers there, and the growth of the city was made under their observation. Our subject's father was probably born in Kentucky although it may have been that his birthplace was in Clermont County, Ohio; at least he was very young when his family settled in the Buckeye State. Our subject's parents were married and lived on a farm, where the father's decease took place, in Clermont County, Ohio. He left eight children—William P., Miles A., A. J., Levi L., Mary J., Elizabeth, John N. and Thomas G. Miles A. died in Vigo County, Ind; he had never been married. A. J. resides in Coffey County, Kan.; Levi L. lives in his native county in Ohio; Mary J. is the wife of Abram Dunham and lives in Missouri; Elizabeth married Thomas Powell and lives in Nashville, Tenn.; Thomas G. died in this county, leaving a widow and two children.

The original of our sketch was reared on the home farm, and like the majority of Ohio boys, he received very good common school advantages, and being bright and assimilative, with a large amount of vital force, both mentally and physically, he was early equipped for the practical duties of life. December 1, 1859, he was united in marriage with Rebecca Beck, a daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Beck. She was a native of the same State and county as her husband.

At the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion Mr. Mattox enlisted and was mustered into service in Company A, Fifth Ohio Cavalry, serving in that capacity for over three years. He was with the regiment all the time, and usually drove the ambulance wagon. His war experience is chiefly noted for his faithfulness and constant readiness for duty. After the war he returned to Ohio, and the following spring came to this State and county, where for several years he was engaged in cultivating land which he rented. He has a comfortable and well-built house upon his place and an orchard that he may well be proud of. He devotes much of his time to the cultivation of small fruits, and in the fruit season his place is a small Eden that

would tempt any Eve to eat, whether the fruit was forbidden or not.

Mr. and Mrs. Mattox are the parents of seven children. One daughter died in infancy. Those living are: Miles A., Benjamin H., Elizabeth M., Flora E., John R., Estella M. and Edith D. Elizabeth is the wife of Oscar Mizenheimer; Flora E. died in infancy. Like so many of his fellow-husbandmen, our subject is a Democrat, that party receiving the weight of his vote and influence. He is a member of the School Board of his district. Religiously he and his family, are members of the Christian Church and are kind-hearted, Christian people.



**F**REDERICK P. SNELL. During the many years that he has been a resident of Shelby County Mr. Snell has been a useful factor in promoting its agricultural development. He is now living in retirement in a pleasant home at Moweaqua in the enjoyment of an ample competence that is the result of his early labors. He was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, August 19, 1825, a son of one of the early pioneer families of that part of the country. His father, Daniel Snell, was born in Maryland in 1788, and was a son of William Henry Snell, who was a native of Germany.

The grandfather of our subject came to America in Colonial times, and, as was the custom with poor emigrants of that day, he was sold after he landed on these shores to pay his passage. He was a cooper and followed that trade in Maryland until 1795, when he went to Kentucky with his family, making the trip down the Ohio River in flatboats which had to be guarded to keep the Indians away. He lived in Kentucky a few years and then removed to Warren County, Ohio, of which he was one of the early settlers. He bought a tract of timber land in Hamilton Township and in the years that followed devoted a portion of his time to clearing his land and the remainder to his trade, residing there until death rounded out his life. The maiden name of his wife was Christina Miller and she was

also a native of Germany. She came to this country with her parents, Philip Jacob and Christina Miller, and she died on her husband's farm in Ohio.

The father of our subject learned the trade of a cooper and after marriage purchased a home in Hamilton County and lived there amid primitive pioneer scenes until 1828. In that year he sold his property in that county, and returning to the old homestead in Warren County, he bought the interests of the other heirs and dwelt there the remainder of his life. His wife also died on that farm. Her maiden name was Sarah Peshenpaugh. She was born in Pennsylvania and was a daughter of Frederick and Pamela (Varner) Peshenpaugh, both natives of Pennsylvania and of German ancestry.

Our subject was but three years old when his parents returned to the old home in Warren County, and there as soon as old enough he was sent to the pioneer schools. That was in the day of subscription schools before the free school system was established and each family paid according to the number of scholars sent. Frederick assisted on the farm and remained an inmate of the parental household until he married and established a home of his own. He resided in Warren County until 1855, and then came to this State and county, attracted thither by the many fine advantages offered to young and energetic farmers to pursue their vocation successfully on this soil of surpassing fertility. He purchased eighty acres of unimproved land in what is now Flat Branch Township, bought a log cabin which he moved to the place, and that humble abode was his first home in Illinois. The ensuing years of persistent and well-directed toil brought him prosperity and from time to time he was enabled to buy other land and once had three hundred and eighty-five acres, of which three hundred and forty acres are still in his possession, and constitute a valuable and well-improved property. In 1882 Mr. Snell rented his farm and moved to Decatur where he purchased property. He lived there three years and then traded for realty in the city of Moweaqua where he has since resided.

In 1853 Mr. Snell took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Eliza Clark and to her devotion

to his interests he is much indebted for the prosperity that he enjoys. She was born in Warren County, Ohio, and is a daughter of William R. and Nancy Clark. Her marriage with our subject has been blessed with children, of whom they have six living: Mark, Frank, Charles, William, James E. and Cora. Mr. and Mrs. Snell joined the Presbyterian Church while residents of Flat Branch Township and have since remained true to that faith, the sincerity of their religion being evidenced by their daily conduct in all the relations of life that they hold towards others, and as neighbors and friends they are highly thought of in their community. In his political views Mr. Snell is a firm believer in the doctrines of the Democratic party and advocates them through good and evil report.



MARCUS H. MILLER, a member of the County Board of Supervisors, representing Moweaqua Township, Shelby County, is conducting a profitable business as a harness manufacturer in the city of Moweaqua. He is a native of Northampton County, Pa., and was born amid its pleasant scenery August 29, 1856. His father, William Miller, was also a Pennsylvanian, his birth-place in Bucks County. He was reared and married in his native State, Marietta Boyer, also of Pennsylvania, becoming his wife. He was a harness-maker, and carried on his trade at Weaversville for some years. In 1862 he came to Illinois, and buying a farm near Blue Mound, Macon County, gave his attention to farming. He resided there seven years, and then removed to Christian County, where he bought land, and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1887. In that year he came to Moweaqua, and has ever since made his home here. He and his wife have reared six children.

Our subject was a lad of twelve years when he came to this State with his father and mother. He had previously attended school in Pennsylvania, and after coming to Illinois he became a student in the public schools of Macon County. He was

reared to agricultural pursuits, and followed farming until 1881, when he established himself in the harness business at Taylorville. He carried it on there until 1885, when he came to Moweaqua, and has since been engaged in the manufacture and sale of harness in this city. He has gained a solid reputation for making a superior and durable harness of the best modern styles, and he has worked up a large trade.

Not only has Mr. Miller secured an assured place in the business circles of Moweaqua during the few years in which he has been a resident of the city as the head of an important industry, but he has gained entrance into public life in prominent civic positions. He was a member of the City Council in 1889, and in 1890 was elected Supervisor to represent Moweaqua on the County Board of Supervisors, and still retains that office, showing in his careful performance of the duties connected with it that he is a fit man to be entrusted with important civic affairs. Politically, the Democratic party has no truer or more faithful supporter than he.

Our subject was married to Miss Anna Marshall in March, 1881, and they have established a home wherein comfort and coziness abound and hospitality reigns. Two children, Jessie and Willie complete their pleasant household. Mrs. Miller is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and interests herself earnestly in all good works for the benefit of the community.



**D**ANIEL P. SWALLOW, a wealthy, retired farmer, residing at Shelbyville, Shelby County, has materially assisted in advancing the prosperity and high standing of this county as a great agricultural centre, and he still possesses valuable and extensive farming interests in this part of the State. A native of Hamilton County, Ohio, Mr. Swallow was born March 1, 1838, in the pioneer home of Jacob and Keturah (Crane) Swallow. His father was born in New Jersey, and when he was young his parents

removed from there to Hamilton County, Ohio, and were among its early settlers, the grandfather of our subject, who was a farmer, dying there at a ripe age.

The father of our subject learned the trade of wagonmaker and followed it for some years in Hamilton County before he turned his attention to farming. In 1851, with his wife and three children, he came to Illinois to seek a new home, journeying hither with teams. He settled in what is now Rose Township, which he had previously visited, and had purchased at the time eight hundred acres of land at \$5 an acre, only a small part of the land being improved, two log houses and an unfinished frame house constituting the only buildings on the place. He resided on his land until his death, which occurred in 1860 and was caused by injuries received by the falling of the grandstand at the fair ground, he dying a few days after. His wife, who was a native of Virginia, also died on the home farm, and both lie sleeping their last sleep side by side in the little private cemetery near by.

He of whom this sketch is principally written was a lad of thirteen years when he came with his parents to Illinois, and he still has a vivid recollection of the primitive scenes of those days, for the country was still in the hands of the pioneers and much of its original wildness remained. Deer, wild turkeys and other game were plentiful and often furnished food for the settlers. There were no railways here and the people had to go to St. Louis, as the nearest market and depot for supplies. Our subject was of great assistance to his father in the management of his farm and after the latter's death he still continued to reside on the old homestead until 1881, when he came to Shelbyville and bought his present residence. He still owns the farm in Rose Township, which is advantageously located four miles from Shelbyville, and since it came into his possession he has been constantly adding to its value by the many fine improvements that he has placed upon it.

The marriage of Mr. Swallow with Miss Jeannia Lumph, a native of Okaw Township, was solemnized April 11, 1861. Mrs. Swallow's father, Jacob Lumph, was born, reared and educated in Germany,

When about eighteen years of age he came to America and for a time lived in Ohio. From there he came to Illinois in the early settlement of Shelby County, and located among the pioneers of Okaw Township. He resided there a few years and then bought timber land one mile north of the court house at \$5 an acre. He cleared his land, developed it into a good farm, and made it his home until death called him hence in 1860. His wife survived him many years, finally dying in Shelbyville, in March, 1881, and her mortal remains were deposited by him in the Austin Cemetery, one and one-fourth miles north of Shelbyville. Her maiden name was Charlotte Frybarger. She came to this country with her parents at the age of ten years, from her native Germany, and was married here at the age of sixteen.

Mr. and Mrs. Swallow have three children: Mollie, who married William Whitecraft, and lives at Springfield; William and Roy. Our subject and his amiable wife are among our best people socially and religiously, and in them the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Shelbyville, has two of its most exemplary members, who are influential in promoting its growth materially and spiritually. Mr. Swallow has sound views in regard to politics, and is a true Republican.



**G**EORGE S. DAVIS. It gives us pleasure to represent in this volume the native-born sons of this county who are now helping in various ways to carry forward its interests. Among these figures the subject of this brief life record, who is a successful farmer residing in Pickaway Township, Shelby County. He was born in Ridge Township March 8, 1853, and is the son of James Davis, who was one of a family of pioneer settlers of Illinois. His father was a native of Nicholas County, Ky., of which his father, Joshua Davis a native of Maryland, was an early pioneer. He resided in the wilds of Nicholas County until 1833, and then with his wife and five children emigrated to the still more recently settled State of Illinois. The journey to their new home was made by the

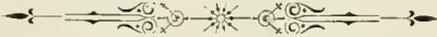
way of the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Naples, and thence to Morgan County, where the grandfather of our subject rented land for a time. He subsequently removed to this county, which at that time was sparsely settled, and deer, wolves and wild turkeys were found in abundance. There were no railways, and the farmers used to take their grain to St. Louis as the principal market, going thither with ox-teams, and also driving their hogs and cattle there to sell. Grandfather Davis cleared a good farm from the tract of unimproved land which he bought after he came to the county, and in the comfortable home that he built up thereon his eyes closed in death January 4, 1868, at the ripe age of eighty years. The maiden name of his wife was Leah Still. She died in 1857 at the age of fifty years. Both were faithful Christian members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and carefully reared their children in the same faith.

The father of our subject was young when his parents brought him to Illinois, and here he grew to manhood and married, taking as his wife Margaret Leach. She was born in Ohio, a daughter of Amos and Susan (Moyer) Leach. She reared eight children, six of whom are living. After marriage the parents of our subject resided in Ridge Township a few years, and then his father bought a tract of wild land in Pickaway Township, to which he removed his family. He labored hard to improve a farm, which under his management became one of the most desirable in the vicinity, and there in the midst of his usefulness he was taken from his family and friends by the hand of death. He left behind him a good record of a life well spent.

In the district school our subject received a practical education, and on his father's farm was well drilled in agricultural pursuits. He remained an inmate of the parental home until he was twenty-four years old, giving his father needed assistance in tilling the soil, and he then married and began farming for himself on rented land in Okaw Township. Four years later he bought the farm on which he now resides in Pickaway Township. He has its eighty acres of rich prairie land under admirable cultivation, and has provided it with neat and substantial buildings, all of the improvements

indicating that he is a thrifty, careful manager, and has a clear understanding of the best methods of conducting his work.

In the making of a home Mr. Davis has had the cheerful assistance of a helpful wife, to whom he was married May 13, 1877. Mrs. Davis bore the maiden name of Emma Day. She is a native of this county, and a daughter of England and Mary (Foot) Day. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have four children, whom they have named Dora, Fred, Millie and Earl. Our subject and his wife are sociable, hospitable people, who have many friends in the community, and in them the Methodist Episcopal Church has two active working members. Mr. Davis is a decided Republican in his political views.



**G**EORGE W. FLUCKEY is a resident on a farm located on section 17, of Tower Hill Township, Shelby County. His father was Adam Fluckey, who was probably a native of Pennsylvania. His mother was Mary Sellers. After marriage they settled in Perry County, Ohio, and from there moved to what is now Morrow County, Ohio; there they died. They were the parents of seven children, of whom our subject was the second in order of birth. He first saw the light of day in Perry County, Ohio, August 12, 1830. His early life was spent on a farm in Morrow County, Ohio, and there he learned the duties incident to farm life.

Mr. Fluckey was married October 2, 1856, to Miss Arvilla Brown, their nuptials being celebrated in Morrow County, Ohio. By her he became the father of three children, whose names are: Sarah E., Ira A., and Winfield S. The first named is the wife of Charles Summers. Ira married Melinda Fagg. Mrs. Arvilla Fluckey, died in their home in Morrow County, in April 1862. Two years later, he again took upon himself the duties and obligations of marital life and was united to Edith A. Bennett. She also was a native of Morrow County, Ohio. Six children cluster about the home board. Their names are Isaac N., Lewis B., George B., William E., James A. and Bertha A.

The removal from Ohio to Shelby County, this State, was made in April 1868, and at that time they settled in Tower Hill Township, of which place our subject has ever since been a resident. He has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits and is the owner of three hundred and seventeen acres of fine land. Mr. Fluckey has erected a very attractive residence on his place. It is tastefully built and conveniently arranged. This place is graciously presided over by his wife, who has been his aid and helpmate in gaining the position which he at present enjoys. He of whom we write is held high in the esteem of the people in the community where he resides. A thoughtful and earnest man he is genial and whole-souled. Several local offices in the gift of the township have been thrust upon him and his service as a School Director has been appreciated by the fact that he desires to keep abreast with the times in educational matters, seeking to make the standard of the schools in his district, irreproachable. In politics he is an adherent of the Republican party, the views as taken by that party of commercial affairs and general government being such as harmonize best with our subject's theories. Religiously both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which they are ardent workers and generous supporters.



**T**HOMAS SMITH, of Moweaqua, Shelby County, worthily represents the farmers of this county who have aided in its agricultural development in years past, and are now living in honorable retirement in the enjoyment of well-earned competencies. Our subject is a native of Salem Township, Warren County, Ohio, born January 3, 1833. Peter Smith, his father, is thought to have been a native of that State. He was a son of Caleb Smith, who was a Virginian by birth and was an early pioneer of Ohio.

The father of our subject was a cooper by trade, and carried on that calling in addition to farming.

He died in Warren County while yet in life's prime. His wife was Elizabeth Varner, a daughter of Jacob Varner.

He of whom we write was but ten years old when his father died, and, though he was so young, as he was the eldest son, he had to help his mother support the family. She married again seven years later, and he then went to work on a farm by the month, remaining thus employed in his native State until 1853. Then, in the prime and vigor of a stalwart young manhood, he came to Illinois to seek fortune's favors on this productive soil, and by dint of hard pioneer labor has accumulated a comfortable property. In coming hither he traveled by what was then the most expeditious route, proceeding by rail to Terre Haute, Ind., thence by stage to his destination in this county, arriving in Flat Branch Township after a journey of three days and two nights.

The first four years that he lived here he made his home with William Snell, and subsequently rented a farm one year. After that he traded land in Flat Branch Township for a tract of wild land on section 30, Penn Township, and for a time lived in a log cabin that he bought and removed to the place. He then erected a frame house, and during the time that he resided there made many other improvements. In 1870 he exchanged that farm for eighty acres of wild land in Flat Branch Township, the land being fenced, a half of it broken, and an orchard was set out, but there were no buildings.

Mr. Smith lived on that farm until 1890, developing it into an attractive and valuable piece of property, and he then removed to Moweaqua, where he has since lived retired. He is now building a neat and substantial residence on the south side of the Park, where he and his family propose to fit up a cozy and comfortable home.

Mr. Smith was married in 1858 to Miss Ruth E. Clark, and by her ready helpfulness and sage counsel he has been greatly aided in what he has accomplished. They have three children—Frank L., Edward and Nora. Mrs. Smith is a native of Ohio, a daughter of one of its pioneer families. Her father, William R. Clark, was also a native of the Buckeye State, born in Warren County, February

26, 1803. His father, who was also named William, was born in Virginia, and died a short time after the birth of his son, who was named in his honor. His wife, Rachel Ross, was born in Kentucky, and was a daughter of Jonathan Ross, who was a native of Maryland, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and afterward emigrated to Kentucky, of which he was a pioneer settler. He assisted in building the blockhouse on the Ohio River at Newport, opposite Cincinnati. He was in the latter city when it was a small hamlet of but four houses. He afterward settled in the wilds of Warren County, thirty miles east of Cincinnati, where he died in 1811, at the remarkably advanced age of one hundred and four years.

William R. Clark was reared in Warren County on the banks of the Miami River, four miles from Lebanon, the county seat. In the days of his boyhood but little attention was paid to education, and he did not often attend school. As soon as he was old enough he was obliged to work, and his grandfather, with whom he lived, being crippled, he was given full charge of the farm at an early age. December 29, 1824 he secured a helpmate in the person of Miss Nancy Burger, to whom he was then married. She was born in Virginia September 15, 1806. He was employed several years in teaming between the Miami River and Cincinnati. He afterward went to farming for himself on rented land. The Miami Valley was surpassingly rich and productive, and land being held very high there, Mr. Clark decided to come to Illinois, where he could secure land of his own at a reasonable price. He journeyed thither with teams, bringing with him his family, and camping and cooking by the wayside whenever necessary. He came to Flat Branch Township in 1851, first settled on the prairie north of the timber, and in the fall of the same year located on the homestead of eighty acres where his son now lives, which he had entered at the rate of \$2.50 an acre. He built the first house on the prairie in Flat Branch Township, between the timber and the railway. It was not customary then to locate on the open prairies, and he had no idea that they would become so well settled as at present. He and his good wife lived to a ripe age, and reared a family of nine children, as follows:

Rebecca, Rachel, Mary Ann, Matilda, Eliza, James, William, John, Jasper and Emory. Mr. Clark was always a sturdy Democrat in politics, and from the time that he cast his first vote for Andrew Jackson in 1824 he supported every Democratic Presidential candidate until his death.



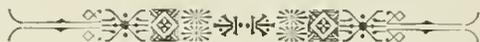
**P**RESTON HUNTER. We are apt to look upon the pioneer settlers in the Middle States whose work is inevitably more apparent than can be the work of a young man, as having more dynamic force than the men of today. Such, however, is not necessarily the case. It is true that the constitutions of the men of the present day have been weakened by the severe strains upon their parents, who were the pioneers of the country, but this has, to a degree, has been offset by the present rational mental and physical training to which our young men are subjected. There is as much, if not more, vitality in the representatives of agriculturalists now than ever before, and because some of our young men have inherited their homes instead of pre-empting them from the Government, is no proof that they have not as much go-ahead-ativeness and ability as their fathers.

One of the young and successful farmers and stock-raisers who lives on a fine farm of two hundred acres, is he whose name is at the head of this sketch. Our subject settled here in the spring of 1890. The land was owned for some years prior to this by his father, Anderson Hunter, an old settler and large landowner, having twelve hundred acres of highly improved land in the county, besides a valuable timber lot.

The original of our sketch was born in Ridge Township, Shelby County, August 24, 1869. He is one of a large family and was carefully reared, and well educated. He lived with his father until his marriage, when he made a home upon the present location. He has always been an industrious, energetic young man, never sparing himself when there was hard work that required a cool head and quick perception. His marriage took place in Ridge Town-

ship, February 25, 1891. The young lady whom he made his wife was a Miss Mattie Eversole. She was born in Ohio, April 13, 1870, being only a small child when her parents removed to this State, settling in Ridge Township, this county. She was there reared and carefully educated, and our subject may well be proud of his handsome, refined and intelligent wife. She is the daughter of Jacob and Catherine Eversole, who are prominently engaged in church work in Ridge Township. There they have lived for a good many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Hunter are already prosperous young people and the future promises much for their ambition and energy. Mrs. Hunter is a member of the Evangelical Association. Politically, Mr. Hunter shows the tendency of the new blood by voting with the reform party. Socially he is a sustainer and member of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association.



**W**ILLIAM POTTER. The name at the head of this sketch is that of a successful farmer whose residence in this State extends over more than forty years, during which time he has seen as great changes in commercial life and the manner of living in all classes of society, as when we were children, we read in Arabian Nights, were accomplished by Aladdin's lamp. In his boyhood days, electricity was a divine agent to be handled gingerly by the scientist. Today it is the servant that drags our ears, lights our houses, supplies our heat, washes our clothes, and does a thousand and one other things, that, had they been so accomplished a half century ago, would have been considered the work of the Angel of Darkness.

Our subject who was born in Preble County, Ohio, November 20, 1825. He is a son of Samuel and Mary (Leathers) Potter, natives of Virginia and Ohio, respectively. Our subject's residence in Shelby County dates from 1850. His home is located on section 9, of Rural Township. The father of our subject was born in Virginia and when a small boy he removed to Ohio with his parents, that was in the year 1808 and they

then settled in Preble County. At that time settlers were very few, and they experienced all the hardships of pioneer life. They cleared a farm in the forests, and gradually put upon it many improvements. The grandparents of our subject there died, and his father was there married, he also, clearing a farm in the timber region upon which he resided until his death.

William Potter is one of eight children who were born to his parents. Six only, however, lived to be grown, William, our subject being the eldest. He was reared on the home farm and attended such school as the country afforded. He resided there until 1850, when he came to Illinois and purchased one hundred and forty-seven acres of land which was then in a raw state, being unturned prairie. This he improved and sold and then purchased his present farm, which was at that time also new and uncultivated. He owns two hundred and ten acres of land, all of which is under cultivation. His place boasts a good class of buildings, his residence being such as to add to the comfort and content of domestic life.

Mr. Potter has been twice married. In 1848 he was united to Sarah Kimmel, who was born in Preble County, Ohio. She was a daughter of Jacob Kimmel, but died in Shelby County soon after coming to this State, leaving to her husband one son, Emanuel, who lives in Rural Township. In 1859, our subject married Mrs. Sarah Lanham, nee Barrett. She was a daughter of Marcus L. Barrett and was born in West Virginia. By her marriage with Mr. Lanham, she became the mother of one child, Augustus F. who resides in Rural Township.

Six little ones have gathered about the table and filled the house with their merry prattle. These are growing up and promise to be men and women of whom their parents will be proud. Their names are Marcus L., Elsie, May, Adalia, Emma and Elmer. Politically our subject is a Republican. In their church relations they are connected with the Presbyterian denomination, of which body Mr. Potter is a Deacon of the church that he attends. It is not out of place here to give a short sketch of our subject's parents and grandparents, additional to the mere mention

made above. Jasper Potter, his grandfather, was one of a large family and was left an orphan at an early age. They were bound over to different families and in this way became scattered. Jasper was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and witnessed the surrender of Cornwallis and the troops at Yorktown. He attained seventy-two years of age, and died in Preble County, Ohio. His native State was Maryland. Twice married, by his first marriage he was the father of thirteen children, all of whom grew to manhood and womanhood and reared families of their own. By his second marriage, three children were born.

Our subject's parents had nine children, of whom seven lived to be grown: William, Minerva, Barbara, Elizabeth, Emanuel, Jane and Zion. Minerva is now Mrs. Simpson. Barbara was the wife of Dr. Robert Toby, and is now deceased. Elizabeth, is the wife of Thaddeus Sibbitt. Jane, who is also deceased, was the wife of Thomas Bunch. Zion married Peter Kimmell.



DAVID M. YOST, a well-known citizen residing on section 21, Ridge Township, Shelby County, is a son of George Yost, who was born in Cumberland County, Pa., and Catherine Harbaugh, a native of York County, Pa. The lady survives her husband, who died in Nauvoo, Ill. They have a family of six children, of whom our subject was the fourth, being born in Cumberland County, Pa., December 8, 1810, and being orphaned by the death of his father when about six years old. After the death of his father the mother removed to Franklin County, Ohio, where the boy passed his youth and early manhood with the exception of three years spent in the army, remaining there until he came to Shelby County, Ill.

David M. Yost enlisted in August, 1862, in Company B, One Hundred and Thirteenth Ohio Infantry and served for about three years. He was married in Franklin County, Ohio, September 9, 1866, to Miss Mary Motts, who was born in Pennsylvania December 17, 1812. Her parents were

natives of Pennsylvania. The father, Daniel, and the mother, Harriet (Warner) Motts, are both deceased. About four years after marriage he came and made his home in Ridge Township, Shelby County, upon rented land. Here he lived for five years and then bought eighty acres, which he afterward disposed of, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres, on section 21, where he has since been a resident.

Eleven interesting children clustered about the hearthstone of Mr. and Mrs. Yost. Their first-born, Ollie, died when only three years old and the survivors are named: Harriet L., Charlotta M., Charles S., Rhoda L., Mary A., E. Amanda, David O., John W., Chauncy M. and Eunice M. Agricultural pursuits have absorbed the attention and strength of our subject to a great degree, still he has found some time for serving his neighborhood and for three years he has been Highway Commissioner and School Director. He has taken an active part in local political movements and is considered a leader in the Republican ranks. He is deeply interested in every movement looking toward the social and industrial advance of the agricultural community and is identified with the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. He is Secretary of the Reformed Church, with which both he and his worthy wife are identified.



**R**OBERT M. PEADRO, attorney-at-law, has successfully engaged in the practice of his profession in Sullivan since 1882, and has won for himself a prominent place at the Moultrie County bar. Although a native of Campbell County, Ky., he has been a resident of Illinois since his boyhood, his parents having located in Moultrie County at an early day. His father, B. G. Peadro, made a settlement in Whitley Township, where he engaged in farming until his death, which occurred in April, 1887, at the age of about sixty-five years. He was one of the prominent citizens of the community and his ability well enabled him to be a leader of the people. He was well educated, was one of the best authorities on history in

Illinois and owned a very fine library, containing the works of the best authors, with whom he was very familiar. In politics he was a Democrat and in religious belief was a Baptist. His wife, whose maiden name was Catherine Stillwell, still survives him and makes her home on the old farm. She has been a life-long member of the Baptist Church and is beloved by all who know her. In the family were the following children: O. L., a farmer of Whitley Township, this county; E. C., a breeder of fine blooded stock in Whitley Township; and John L., who is now studying law with our subject. With one exception all of these gentlemen have taught in the public schools of this county.

Robert Peadro, whose name heads this sketch, was one of the successful educators of the county for several years and has ever been a friend to the interests of the school. At about the time he attained his majority he began the study of law with the prominent attorney, Horace S. Clarke, of Mattoon, and after two years was admitted to the bar in 1875. After a short time spent in Mattoon, he went to Texas and engaged in the practice of his profession at Round Rock, Williamson County, for five years. He was prospering in that locality, having an excellent practice, but as he did not wish to rear his family in that State, he returned to Illinois and established an office in Sullivan.

In Moultrie County Mr. Peadro was united in marriage with Miss Lucretia B. Harbaugh, daughter of David Harbaugh, who is mentioned in the sketch of Frank M. Harbaugh, on another page of this work. She was reared near Sullivan and educated in the city schools, after which she became a teacher, following that profession for some years. A lady of culture and refinement, she moves in the highest social circles and has many friends among the best citizens of this community. In the household are two children, Earl and Bernice.

In his political affiliations Mr. Peadro is a staunch Democrat and is now occupying the position of City Treasurer, the duties of which office he discharges faithfully and well. He possesses business ability of a high order and the foremost place which he has won at the bar is well merited by his talents. He has a wide reputation as a counselor and is rapidly acquiring a very extensive practice,

which yields him a good income. He has one of the finest and largest law libraries in the city and few men are better read in any profession than is Mr. Peadro in that which he has chosen for his life work.



**G**EORGE W. MONROE. Any agricultural community which is favored by the residence within it of men of culture and education, having broad views and a wide outlook on life, is to be heartily congratulated. Sullivan Township, Moultrie County, is thus favored in the fact that Mr. Monroe, who was for so long a time active in the educational field, is now one of its enterprising and energetic farmers, making his home on section 34.

This gentleman was born in the township where he now lives, March 10, 1855. His parents were Henry J. and Sarah (Timmons) Monroe, the father being a native of Indiana, and the mother of Ross County, Ohio. They were among the pioneers of Shelby County in the early days before the separation of the two counties, and died in Moultrie County, the father in 1865, and the mother in 1889. This revered and beloved parent was the mother of eight sons and two daughters, and our subject was the sixth in order of age. All are still living, and now reside in Sullivan Township, with the exception of one sister, Mrs. Wright, who lives in Shelbyville.

This happy family, who have the good fortune to be still united in this life, are named as follows: Christopher, William H., Thomas, Isaac, Mary E., George W., M. T., John A., Julia A. and E. G. All are married except Julia A., and are all devoted to agriculture with the exception of John A., who is a clerk. That so honorable and enterprising a family should thus, almost without exception, devote their lives to the development of the agricultural interests of Sullivan Township, is in itself a guarantee that that section of our beautiful Prairie State will ever stand on a par with any portion of Illinois.

Young George attended the public schools and

the graded school at Sullivan, completing his education at the Northern Indiana Normal School. He was thus fitted for the profession of teaching at the age of twenty-two, and after presiding for six years over various country schools in Shelby and Moultrie Counties, he was elected Principal of the school at Neoga, Cumberland County, where he had three assistants. He remained there three successive years and was then sought by the citizens of Mt. Pulaski to take charge as principal of their graded school, which was of high order and a much larger school, having nine subordinate teachers.

During the three years while he was principal of the Mt. Pulaski schools, he contracted a matrimonial alliance, choosing as his wife Miss Mary R. White, a native of Neoga Township, Cumberland County, Ill., where she was born October 18, 1867. Their happy wedding day was November 26, 1885. During his connection with educational work he was frequently called upon to act as instructor in institute and normal work.

In 1888 Mr. Monroe decided to retire from the educational field, and engage in farming. He owns a fine property of two hundred and fifty-three acres, all in a high state of cultivation, with good buildings and improvements, and he has proved that a thorough and systematic teacher can make a thorough and systematic farmer. He is liberal in his political views, although he inclines more strongly to the principles of the Republican party than to those of any other organization. In the fall of 1890 he was placed in the field as a candidate for the office of County Superintendent of Schools in Moultrie County, but his party, that of the farmers and laborers, being largely in the minority, he of course suffered defeat, although he made an honorable and gallant fight. During his professional career Mr. Monroe was a very popular and successful teacher, his services always in demand, commanding the highest wages. Although he was employed in several different schools, he never made a change, except where he was called by an increase of responsibility and a corresponding increase of salary.

To Mr. and Mrs. Monroe have been born three beautiful little daughters. Their first-born, Zelma,

came to them November 27, 1886; Lorah, December 8, 1888; and Vergie, May 17, 1891. The mother of these children is a woman of lovely Christian character, and a devoted and earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**J**OHAN HINTON. The public-spirited and enterprising men who take an active part in everything calculated to enhance the interests of their neighborhood, may easily be counted in any community of moderate size, and among those who have thus advanced the interests of Oconee for many years, we are pleased to mention the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this brief life sketch. His business efforts in this community have been various and his experiences broad and fluctuating but his record has been an honorable one and the fact that he paid one hundred cents on the dollar when so deeply embarrassed as to be \$60,000 in debt, shows the style of man which we here present.

Our subject who is a member of the firm of Hinton & Roberts, dealing in general merchandise, was born in Fayette County, this State, February 8, 1832. His parents were Lewis and Tabitha (Prater) Hinton, the father being a native of Kentucky and the mother of North Carolina, while the father's father was born in South Carolina.

Lewis Hinton was twice married, his first marital union bringing him four sons and three daughters of whom our subject was the second. The brothers and sisters of John Hinton were as follows: Henry, who resided in this township till his death; Holly, who lives in McDonald County, Mo., and is engaged in farming; Paschal, who works in his brother's store in Oconee; Elizabeth, who was the wife of A. T. Smart of Shelby County, and is now deceased; Priscilla, who married Milton Lowe, and makes her home in Oconee and Polly, wife of C. A. Doyle who resides in Oconee Township.

This prosperous merchant of whom we write, came to Shelby County when he was four years old and has made Oconee Township his home for fifty-

five years. He engaged in farming until he was twenty-four years old and commenced mercantile life in this village in 1854, in partnership with Thomas Freeman and S. S. Roberts, which connection continued for a year, when Mr. Freeman withdrew. Mr. Hinton remained with Mr. Roberts until his death when Mr. Freeman again bought an interest in the connection which he afterwards sold out to D. J. Sloan, the firm thus becoming Hinton & Sloan. This partnership existed for some thirteen years and was prosperous, but after that time Mr. Hinton withdrew from mercantile life and the property was divided.

After eight years which he devoted to the handling of real estate, grain, etc., this enterprising business man again embarked in mercantile life, and has continued in that business to the present time in company with Mr. B. F. Roberts, a son of Mr. Hinton's first partner.

Miss Mary E. Whittington was the maiden name of the lady who became the first wife of John Hinton. She was born in 1840, in Oconee Township, and to this union four sons and three daughters were born, of whom Addie, wife of Dr. R. W. Johnston, of Assumption Ill., is the eldest. The oldest son, S. A. D. is married and is engaged in an abstract office at Clay Center, Neb., where he is doing well. Hattie is the wife of K. G. Hall and resides at Orson, Col. George W. is married and was for some time a merchant but is now retired from active business and living at Assumption, Ill. William L. resides in Freeport, this State, where he is engaged in a carriage factory. Sadie and Johnnie are still under the parental roof and enjoying the advantages of education which Mr. Hinton has afforded to all his children.

The subject of our sketch is a large landed proprietor owning about eight hundred acres in Oconee Township, mostly adjoining the village of Oconee. He has been thoroughly identified with the interests of his town and county and has satisfactorily and efficiently filled a number of responsible offices. He has served educational interests as School Trustee of this township, has been Supervisor for eighteen years, Magistrate for four years and Justice of the Peace for eight years. His thorough understanding of business principles and

the most fundamental points of the law, together with his disposition to maintain the peace of the community has resulted in his so advising and adjusting cases as to prevent hundreds of his fellow-citizens from rushing into irritating and expensive law suits.

Mr. Hinton became a member of Jackson Lodge No. 52 A. F. & A. M., at Shelbyville, in 1854, but is now non-affiliated. He takes an active interest in political affairs and has always been regarded as a leader in the ranks of Democracy of which he has been a life long member. He is not a professor of religion, although his preferences are in the direction of the Regular Baptist Church.

This gentleman has been a speculator all his life and his experience has been up and down with a general tendency upward. He has worked for twenty-five cents a day in Oconee Township, and was at one time as we have stated deeply in debt, but came out of that trial as a man of honor should come. His first wife passed from earth August 24, 1881, and his marriage with Miss Mary E. Morgan took place in March, 1887. To this union, one child, Agnes Pauline, was born, who is now the pet and darling of the household, and the joy of her father in his advancing years.



**J**AMES W. VERMILLION is a worthy representative of a family, who, in different times of emergency, have come forward to their country's assistance, and have bravely and loyally cast their lives in the balance with the chances of war. He is a native of old Virginia, the State which has produced so many men who have adorned the chairs of State that have ever been in our Congressional halls. Mr. Vermillion, who now resides on section 27, Rural Township, Shelby County, was born in Bedford County, Va., September 1, 1810.

Our subject was a son of Robert and Nancy Vermillion. His maternal grandfather was Matthew McClaffin, who was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. The parents of our subject removed from Virginia to Kentucky, and settled on a farm

in what is now Russell County. The father there died, and the mother subsequently came to Illinois, where she passed away in Shelby County. He of whom we write is one of seven children, there being four sons and three daughters in the family, our subject being the third in order of birth. He was reared on a farm, and early learned the meaning of pioneer life.

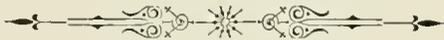
In Russell County, Ky., Mr. Vermillion was married to Jane Fletcher, a native of Kentucky. His residence in this State and county dates from 1840, his advent hither being made with an ox-team and wagon. His family at that time comprised himself, wife and four children. Their worldly possessions were very few, and they had no embarrassment of filthy lucre. He rented a piece of land, and worked hard in order to get a little money to start with. About 1844 he purchased forty acres of timber land at \$5 per acre, and subsequently he purchased eighty acres of Government land at \$1.25 per acre. This proved to be a fortunate investment, and he subsequently added more land to his tract at \$14 per acre. He is now the owner of two hundred and twenty acres of fine land.

Our subject's first residence in this State, which he could call his own, was a log cabin built in the midst of his timber tract, but it served the purpose, and he and his brave little wife were as loyal to each other as though they lived in a palace. As their circumstances permitted, they built a frame house, and on outgrowing this, Mr. Vermillion erected a brick residence, which at the time it was built was one of the finest places in Shelby County. In 1863 the gentleman of whom we write made a trip to British Columbia by the overland route, and returned therefrom the following year. Mr. Vermillion was in early life afflicted with rheumatism, which became chronic, and he is now obliged to use a crutch.

Mrs. Vermillion died about 1850, leaving nine children, whose names are as follows: Elizabeth, Birch, Fanny, Nancy, Mary, Sarah, Rachael, Martha and Isabella. Elizabeth married James Harper, and died in Shelby County; Birch resides in St. Louis; Fanny married and died in this State; Nancy married Levi P. Tolly, of Mo-

weaqua; Mary married James Lawton, and lives in Minnesota; Sarah was the wife of John Albright, and passed away from this life in Nebraska; Rachael became the wife of John Foltz, of Minnesota; Martha married Joseph Cameron, of Minneapolis; and Isabella married Henson Wheeler, and died in this State.

Mr. Vermillion married a second time, his bride being Mrs. Jane C. Miller, *nee* Mason, who was born in Kentucky, where she married Adam Miller. He died in Kentucky, leaving his wife four children two of whom, George A. and Mary L., are dead. The eldest and youngest sons are David O. and Granville L. By this second marriage our subject is the father of three children, who are James W., Eliza E. and Angie Nomic. Eliza is the wife of Edward Garrison, and Angie is the wife of W. E. Hardwick. Politically our subject is a Democrat, and takes as much passive interest at four-score years as he did when, years ago, he voted for Jackson. He is a member of the Christian Church.



**J**AMES FOSTER, a member of the County Board of Supervisors representing Todd's Point Township, is one of the leading farmers of this locality, and the well-appointed farm that he owns and occupies was developed by his father, John Foster, a pioneer settler of this part of Shelby County, from a tract of wild land that he purchased from the Government when he first came to this State many years ago.

Our subject is a native of Yorkshire, England, born October 21, 1838. His father was born in the same shire, where his parents spent their entire lives. John Foster was reared and married in the land of his birth, taking as his wife Ellen Atkinson, also a native of Yorkshire, and a daughter of Thomas Atkinson. In 1843 Mr. Foster emigrated to this country with his wife and six children setting sail from Liverpool on the good ship "Glasgow," and landing at New York after a voyage of six weeks and four days. He proceeded directly to Ohio by the way of the Hudson River and

the Erie Canal to Buffalo, thence by Lake Erie to Cleveland, and from there into the interior of Ohio by canal to Massillon. He found employment on a farm and resided there until 1849. Then, having heard favorable accounts of the fertility of the soil and other advantages possessed by this county, he made his way hither, bringing with him his family, and cast in his lot with the pioneers of Todd's Point Township. At that time the prairies of Illinois were but sparsely settled, as the early settlers had considered the timber lands much more desirable in every way, not realizing the wonderful richness of the prairie soil. Accordingly much of the open land was still in the hands of the Government and Mr. Foster entered a tract. He erected one of the first frame houses ever built on the prairies of Todd's Point Township and otherwise improved his place into one of the most desirable farms in the locality, making it his home until his eyes were closed in death. His wife also died on the home farm. They reared a family of six children, named as follows: Joseph, Mary, John, Alice, Thomas and James.

James Foster was a boy of four years when he crossed the Atlantic Ocean with his parents, and he has a distinct recollection of the incidents of that ever memorable voyage and of the pioneer life that followed in Ohio and this State. He has been an intelligent witness of the growth of this county, and has been no unimportant factor in helping to make it a great agricultural center. In his boyhood he attended the pioneer schools, assisted his father on the farm and continued to live with his parents until he made a home of his own at the time of his marriage, when he settled on a part of his father's land. He has since purchased the original homestead, and has greatly increased its value by the many fine improvements that he has placed upon it, including a commodious and well-ordered set of frame buildings. He has one hundred and eighty acres of land under a high state of tillage, and derives a solid income from the cultivation of his fertile fields.

In 1866 Mr. Foster married Miss Martha J. Leuover, and their pleasant wedded life has been blessed to them by the birth of three children—Cora Belle, Henry and James. Cora married S.





yours Respectfully  
John C. Brown

Wheeler, since deceased, and she lives with her parents. Mrs. Foster is a native of this county, Shelby Township her birthplace. Her father, John Lenover, was born in Pennsylvania, went from there to Ohio, thence to Indiana, and finally came to Illinois, and was a pioneer of this county, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a skillful blacksmith and followed his trade here a number of years. His wife died in 1849. Her maiden name was Elizabeth Boys and she was a sister of Alexander Boys. (For her parental history see sketch of William Boys.) Mrs. Foster is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and as such is true to her religious obligations, as well as in all things pertaining to her duties as wife, mother and friend.

Mr. Foster is a man of a pleasant, kindly nature, and he has withal in a full measure those practical traits of character that make him a useful citizen, capable of filling places of trust and honor. His fellow-citizens, recognizing this, have repeatedly called him to the responsible position of Supervisor, and he has now been a member of the County Board for some years, being first elected in 1887, again in 1889, and re-elected in 1890 and 1891. He is a member of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association, and in his politics he is an unswerving Republican.



**J**OHIN C. BROWN. A traveler throughout Shelby County would be forcibly impressed by some features of the estate owned and occupied by the subject of this biographical sketch. In approaching it his eyes would be attracted by the appearance of order and thorough cultivation seen on every hand, as well as by the extent of the acreage and the efforts that have been made to add to its original beauty. Perhaps the most conspicuous object to the stranger would be the residence, a view of which is presented on another page of this volume. It is a commodious dwelling with the appearance of great comfort and homelikeness. In connection with this notice

we are pleased to present to our readers a portrait of Mr. Brown, who is well known as an enterprising agriculturist and a reliable citizen.

The fine tract of land which Mr. Brown operates is on sections 21, 22, 27 and 28, Ridge Township, and is not only in an excellent state of cultivation but is adorned with a splendid set of buildings. Before relating the principal events in the life of Mr. Brown it may be well to mention briefly the main facts in the history of those from whom he is descended. His father was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, where he was born in 1805, and given the name of Christian F. He married Elizabeth Schearer, a native of Bavaria, who was born in 1814. After marriage they made their home in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, where they resided until 1864. At that time they removed to Clay County, Ind., where the father of our subject died in 1876. The mother still survives. Their family comprised nine children, John being the second in order of age.

The natal day of our subject was April 10, 1837, and his birth occurred in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. There he grew to manhood and learned the trade of a blacksmith, taking his apprenticeship at New Philadelphia, Ohio. After serving for fifteen months he engaged as a journeyman, following his trade near his native county until the fall of 1864, when he removed to Clay County, Ind., and undertook the same work there. In February, 1865, he removed to Wilton Junction, Iowa, and there carried on his trade until June, 1865, when he returned to Clay County, Ind. In the spring of 1866 he removed to Shelby County and pursued his trade at what is now Henton, in Ridge Township. Here he worked until November, 1875, at which time he undertook agricultural pursuits, in which he is still engaged. He has erected a handsome set of buildings and has cleared a valuable farm of one hundred and eighty acres. He is known as one of the best wheat raisers in Shelby County, having raised as much as sixty-four bushels per acre. He also has been instrumental in introducing into the community the best varieties of wheat produced in the United States.

John C. Brown and Georgiana Yost were married in Shelby County March 20, 1869. This lady

is a daughter of George and Catherine (Harbaugh) Yost. Her father died in Nauvoo, Ill. Mrs. Brown was born in Wooster, Wayne County, Ohio, May 20, 1845, and is the mother of five children: Edwin O.; Serepta, the wife of W. E. Coffman; Elizabeth, John C., Jr., and Grover C. It is unnecessary to name the politics of Mr. Brown to one who knows the name of his youngest son. He is a man who is active in all public matters, especially in political movements, and has filled a number of offices of responsibility. He was elected Supervisor of Ridge Township in the spring of 1890 for a term of two years. For ten years he has filled the office of Township Clerk and for twelve years has been School Director, serving as Clerk of the board during all that time. He is prominently identified with the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association and has been Secretary for three terms of Pleasant Valley Lodge, No. 1735. He has done efficient service as Road Overseer for two terms. In all of these positions Mr. Brown has reflected credit upon himself and been active in promoting the welfare of the community.



**C**APT. EDWARD B. CUTLER, who was a valiant officer in the Union Army during the late war, has since attained a leading place among the most progressive and enlightened farmers and stock-raisers of this county and the land that he purchased in Penn Township when he came here nearly twenty years ago has been developed by him into one of the choicest farms in this part of the State in point of cultivation and improvement.

Captain Cutler was born in the town of Jay, Essex County, N. Y., July 11, 1822. His father, Thomas Cutler, was also a native of that county, of which his father, John Cutler, was an early settler. The latter was born in New England and was a descendant of early English ancestry that had settled in that part of the county in Colonial times. After his removal to Essex County, N. J., he bought a tract of timberland in Jay and at once commenced to clear it and prepare it for

cultivation. He was drowned while attempting to cross the Au Sable River in 1830. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

The father of our subject grew to man's estate in his native county and was there married to Jane Steele, a native of Moore's Hill, N. H. In 1828 the parents of our subject removed to the wilds of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and settled in the town of Willney, two miles south of Hooveltown, where the father bought timbered land, upon which he erected a log house for a dwelling. At that time that county was but thinly inhabited and bears were frequently seen by the settlers, while deer and other game was plentiful and helped to vary the meager fare of the people, who had to live on their farm products. The women clothed their children in homespun that was the result of their own handiwork.

Mr. Cutler cleared quite a tract of his land and resided on it until the fall of 1839, when he became the pioneer of another State. Accompanied by his family he started with a team for Watertown, whence he went by boat to Rochester, from there by canal to Buffalo, thence on Lake Erie to Cleveland, from there to Portsmouth, Ohio, where he embarked on a steamer on the Ohio River and was conveyed to his final destination at Lawrenceburg. He farmed there two years and then proceeded on a flat-boat down the Ohio to Louisville and from there to Troy, Ind., where he bought a tract of heavilywooded land eight miles from the Ohio River. The surrounding country was still in a wild condition, as there were not then many settlements there, and deer, wild turkeys and other kinds of game roamed at will where are now smiling farms and evidences of thrift and plenty on every hand. The father built a home, but his life was not spared long after he took possession of it, as his career was cut short by his untimely death in 1842. His wife also died on that farm in Perry County. She was the mother of these five children: James M., Catherine, Abigail, Thomas and Edward. Edward and Abigail are the only survivors of the family.

Edward Cutler was seventeen years old when his parents removed to Indiana. He assisted his father in clearing his land until the latter's death

and then he and his brother Thomas continued the improvements begun by their father and they farmed in partnership until Edward's marriage, and then his brother went into the mercantile business, while our subject engaged in agriculture and boating on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, beginning in the latter business in 1842. He would build a flat-boat, load it with farm produce or coal, take it to New Orleans and then sell boat and cargo and return home by steamer. He thus made eighty-four trips to the Crescent City.

The breaking out of the Rebellion found our subject busy in the management of his interests and as soon as he could arrange his affairs he volunteered to help fight his country's battles, enlisting October 20, 1861, in Company E, Forty-ninth Indiana Infantry. He was mustered in as Captain of his company at Camp Joe Holt November 21, and in the trying years that followed he showed himself to be possessed of good soldierly metal and his military record is one of which he and his may well be proud. He took part in the battle at Cumberland Gap and when he and his brave men started with others in pursuit of Gen. Bragg's forces their knapsacks were empty as they had run out of provisions, and they had to forage for a living. They used their bayonets to punch holes in their canteens that they might use them as graters to reduce the dry corn to meal and in various other ways did they show their fertility of resource in any emergency. From Kentucky the Captain accompanied his regiment to West Virginia, where it was stationed three months and then was dispatched on transports down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to Memphis. From there the Forty-ninth Indiana was sent to Vicksburg to help carry on the siege of that city and it also took an active part in the battles of Gibson, Thompson's Hill, Big Black River, Chickasaw Bayou and Arkansas Post.

At Vicksburg our subject led a successful charge on the works on the 22d of May. After that he went to Grand Gulf with his command and did some hard fighting at Thompson's Hill, which resulted in the enemy being driven back. He next assisted in the reduction of Jackson, Miss., and went from there to Vicksburg, afterward facing

the rebels in two hotly contested battles at Edward's Station and Champion Hill. We next hear of his services at the battle of Big Black River and after the surrender of Vicksburg he accompanied his regiment to New Orleans, going thence to Matagorda Bay, Tex., and returning to New Orleans, he then went on the Red River Expedition and did some hard fighting at Shreveport. After that the Captain and his men fought the rebels at Kane Creek, whence they returned to Shreveport, where they laid a dam to let the gunboats pass the falls. From there Capt. Cutler marched with his command to Morganza Bend and thence to Lexington, Ky. He was appointed to provost duty in that city and was thus engaged until his resignation from the army July 4, 1863.

After his honorable career as an officer in the Union service Capt. Cutler returned to his old home from the seat of war, bearing with him a high reputation for coolness and courage in the heat of battle and for fidelity in the performance of his duty. He quietly resumed farming on the old homestead in Indiana and dwelt there until he took up his residence in this county in 1872. He then bought the farm in Penn Township, which he still occupies and which at the time of purchase was merely a tract of wild prairie. He has transformed it into one of the most valuable farms in the township, ranking with the best in the county, as regards its many fine improvements, its high state of tillage and its productiveness. He has erected upon it a fine set of buildings, commodious and roomy and neat in their appointments. In the management of his farm the Captain has shown himself to be an expert farmer, of progressive views, with a good understanding of the best modern methods of carrying on agriculture, and on every hand are evidences of his successful prosecution of that calling, which Horace Greeley denominated "the noblest of professions."

Capt. Cutler's marriage with Miss Mary Hyde was solemnized in 1860. She was a native of Perry County, Ind., and a daughter of William and Nancy Hyde. As daughter, wife, mother and friend she filled in a perfect measure those sacred relationships, and in her the Baptist Church had an exemplary Christian member. Her death in Feb-

ruary, 1891, was a sad bereavement not only to those of her own household, but to others to whom she had endeared herself. Our subject has four children to solace his declining years. They are Grant, Florence, Heber and Verton.

The Captain is an intelligent thinker and observer, is fond of reading, having an excellent literary taste, and keeps himself well informed on all topics of general and public interest. He has decided opinions of his own; especially is this true in regard to politics, and we find him firmly arrayed on the side of the Republican party, voting as he fought for what he considers to be the best interests of the country. Religiously he is of the Methodist Episcopal faith; socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of John Clement Post, No. 363, G. A. R. The worth of his loyal citizenship is appreciated by his fellow-townsmen, who have entrusted responsible offices to his care, and at one time he represented Penn Township as a member of the County Board of Supervisors.



**W**ILLIAM STEWARDSON, Sr. The owner of one of the best farms in Richland Township, located on section 19, is he whose name is at the head of this sketch. He belongs to a good old English family, and inherits from them a stubborn obstinacy that will not acknowledge defeat but will build on the ruins of disappointment and loss the foundation of new hopes and new fortunes. Our subject's father was William Stewardson who was born in Westmoreland County, England. His mother was Mary (Nicholson) Stewardson, who was a native of the same country as her husband. The good lady died in her native land about 1838, her husband afterward married and came to America about 1842, settling in Stark County, Ohio, where he lived for two years and from there removed to Indiana, locating in Pulaski County. After a stay of one year there he removed to Shelby County, this State, settling in Shelbyville Township. There he spent his last days with his son, our subject,

passing away his residence in Richland Township, when over seventy-one years of age.

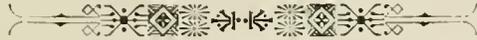
The name at the head of this sketch is that of one of a family of seven children, he being the fifth, his birthplace was in Westmoreland County, England, and his natal day was February 26, 1828. He came to America with his father in 1842, and in June 1845, he located in Shelby County. He spent most of his young manhood with his father until his marriage, which occurred in Shelbyville Township, November 26, 1851. His bride was a Miss Nancy M. Douthit, a native of Tennessee, who was there born November 25, 1829. She was only about one year old when her parents came to Shelby County.

Mr. and Mrs. Stewardson are the parents of seven living children whose names are: Mary, Sarah, Jane, Elizabeth (deceased), William N., John D., Anna M. and Ella. Mary is the wife of Andrew C. Ensminger. Sarah Isabelle is the wife of Thomas M. Robinson. Elizabeth died when about twenty-three years of age. The parents of Mrs. Stewardson were John and Margaret (Elliott) Douthit. They died in Shelbyville Township.

For a few months after the marriage of our subject, the young couple lived in Shelbyville Township and then settled on the farm where he has ever since lived. He has always been engaged in the agricultural business, and has fine improvements upon his place. He was formerly the owner of a large tract of several thousand acres. He laid out the town of Stewardson about 1876 and it was named in his honor. During his days of larger prosperity he made a gift of twenty acres to the town, as the nucleus of the site upon which it is now located.

Although Mr. Stewardson has been fairly active in politics and is an ardent supporter of his party which is that of Democracy, he has never been an office-seeker. Home has ever been paramountly dear to him, as is evident in the fine condition in which every particular in which this place is kept. The house, which is comfortable and commodious, is pleasantly located so that it commands a charming prospect of the surrounding country. Nestled among fine trees, it is shaded in summer, and protected from the blasts of winter. At one time he

of whom we write was the owner of thousands of head of sheep and was a very wealthy man. Reverses, however, have come to him as to many, but he does not lose courage nor his hope in the future. The house of William Stewardson is known as Belle View owing to its beautiful surroundings.



**J**UDGE JOSEPH BAKER. Many of the representative men of Moultrie County make their home in Sullivan and among them there is probably no one who is more thoroughly known or has a more general acquaintance through the county than the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch. He is one of the pioneers of this region and for many years was a general farmer, stock-breeder and a buyer and seller of live stock. During the war he served the county as Associate Judge and has always been prominent in public affairs. He owns more than seven hundred acres lying within the limits of the city and his handsome home is located in the Northeastern part of the corporation. His farm of four hundred and seven acres adjoins the city and it is all either under the plow or in use as pasture land, being well stocked with the best grades of animals and being considered one of the best farms in the county. His other fine farm of two hundred and ninety-one and one-half acres, in another part of Sullivan Township is entirely in pasture, and is well watered by the Okaw River.

Mr. Baker has lived near the city of Sullivan since 1848 and began work here as a laborer for Dr. William Kellar in order to pay a bill which he owed the doctor for professional services. He was then a poor man and has gained his handsome property by his own efforts and enterprise. He was born October 29, 1828, at the old Bland Homestead, on Sand Creek, Shelby County. His father, John A. Baker, a native of North Carolina, was a son of Joseph Baker who came to Kentucky while his son John A. was still a boy and settled in Allen County near Paducah and after some years (about 1826) the family removed to Shelby County, Ill., coming

overland with teams and camping out along the way, being accompanied by the families of Mr. Wigger and Mr. Ledbetter.

The first location of this party was on Sand Creek, and the Baker family finally settled upon the Bland Homestead and began life as pioneers, and there where they first settled near Windsor, the wife of Joseph Baker died after she had spent a long and useful life. Her husband survived for a few years and died at the age of seventy-six. He had served in the Black Hawk War and enjoyed recounting his experience on the field of battle. They were members of the Christian Church and friends of Dr. Campbell and Mr. Stone. Joseph Baker was a Democrat in his political views and at an early date he was made Justice of the Peace in Shelby County.

John A. Baker, the father of our subject, was reared in Kentucky and there married Elizabeth Dillon who was born in the South and came of Irish stock. To them were born two children—Francis H. and Sarah F., who had their nativity in the Southern part of Illinois, before John and his wife came to Shelby County, and after coming here other children were added to their number. John Baker began as a poor man and turned the virgin prairie into a productive farm. He and his faithful wife were members of the Christian Church and universally beloved for their Christian faith and devotion. They died in old age, at Four Mile Grove. Of their eleven children seven are still living.

Our subject had not yet reached his majority when he came to this county, and here he was first married to Mary J. Brown who was born in Kentucky but reared here. She died while they were sojourning in Texas, leaving two children, John H. whose biography appears on another page of the Record and William A. now deceased. Mr. Baker married for his second wife Mrs. Nancy Kearney *nee* Duncan, a native of Indiana and the widow of Dr. Kearney by whom she had three sons—William A., Thomas H. and Amos T. By Mr. Baker she had two daughters—Sarah E. and Elizabeth A., the former being now Mrs. A. E. D. Scott of Fresno, Cal., and the latter, Mrs. David E. Dix, living in the same place. Mrs. Nancy Baker, the

mother of these children died in Moultrie County in 1861, being then in the prime of life. The third marriage of Judge Baker united him with Miss Mary C. Miller who was born in Ohio and came to Illinois with her parents, Henry and Harriet Miller, who are both now deceased. They had given to their daughter a superior education and her natural abilities supplemented by the excellent training which she received have fitted her to shine in the social circles of Sullivan and have given her a broad influence with all who know her. She is the mother of four children, namely: Lucy May, a teacher in the public schools; Delia, a milliner; Rosa, a teacher and Zion F., all of whom are at home with their parents.



**R**OBERT N. STEWARDSON. However composite our nation may be, the fact that we are an English speaking people, will ever remind us that England is our mother country and that aside from the consanguinity that naturally binds us to England and English people, we as a nation, owe more than perhaps we are willing to confess, to English laws and government for the form of our own Government, free and independent as it is. The sterling qualities invariably found in the agricultural classes of English people, meet a ready recognition in this country. Our subject is by parentage English, although he is a native of this country. His father was the late Robert Stewardson, who was born in Westmoreland County, England, and his mother was Miss Elizabeth L. Douthit. The parents of Elizabeth Douthit Stewardson, were John and Margaret (Elliott) Douthit, who died in Shelbyville Township. They were the parents of two sons and five daughters, and of these Mrs. Elizabeth L. Stewardson was the sixth child in order of birth, and was born in Tennessee, July 20, 1825. She was married to Robert Stewardson in Shelbyville Township, December 5, 1848.

Robert Stewardson, Sr., died in Richland Township, this county, September 11, 1858. He was the father of three children, namely: William, Robert N. and Mary E. Two children died in infancy. The old gentleman took an active part in local affairs. He served as Deputy Sheriff of Shelby County for two years. In his religious connections he was a member of the Church of England. Our subject, Robert N. is the second son born to parents. He first saw the light of day in Richland Township, Shelby County, July 26, 1855.

Young Robert was reared to manhood on his father's farm in Richland Township, and there he early learned the work incident to a farmer's life. He was educated in the common schools of the district, and there his native quickness and perception enabled him to gain a good and practical knowledge of books and an insight into the sciences, that has been of great service to him in his career. He has always followed the calling of farming, although in July, 1885, he erected buildings for tile work. These he has built upon his farm and here he manufactures quite extensively in connection with his farm. He also owns and operates a sawmill.

The original of our sketch has in his farm, one hundred and fifteen acres of land and upon this tract, which is delightfully located, valuable improvements have been placed. He was married in Richland Township, April 8, 1875, his bride being Miss Susan J. Hawk, and by her he has had two children whose names are respectively, Walter C. and Myrtie. Myrtie died when two years old. Mrs. Susan J. Stewardson bade a last and long farewell to her husband in Richland Township, April 8, 1882. The sense of pain in thus being left by one to whom he was united by the nearest and dearest ties was infinite and keen.

After some years he married a daughter of Fred and Mary Kircher. She was born in Shelby County, January 3, 1858. One child, a daughter, whose name is Ray, is the fruit of this marriage. Politically our subject has joined his influence with the progressive young party whose most intimate mission is the purifying of society. He is a member of the Prohibition party. Mrs. Stewardson is united with the Lutheran Church, in which she is a good

and efficient worker. Our subject is an energetic and progressive business man to whose activity and ambition the people of Richland Township owe much.



**C**HARLES KUHN. Shelby County is one of the most productive sections of the Prairie State, a State world-renowned for its rich soil and quick response to the efforts of the agriculturist. The old saying has been quoted often in regard to it that if you will "tickle it with a hoe it will laugh with a harvest." Those who came to this region from the stony and stumpy fields of the mountainous regions of the East, congratulated themselves upon finding how much greater reward they secured for their toil than they did in the regions where so much preparatory effort had to be made in clearing the land from obstructions. When it became known that the State of Illinois was so prolific and so easily cultivated, thousands flocked here who have since had abundant reason to rejoice at their choice of a new home. It soon became a favorite with emigrants from foreign lands and many thousands came here from the German's Fatherland. Among such the traveler finds in Oconee Township the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this paragraph.

Our subject was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, July 28, 1850. His mother, Christina Kuhn, died in Germany, but his father, Michael Kuhn, came to this country and after his emigration took to himself another wife. His death occurred in Pana, Ill. Charles came to America in 1854, with his elder brothers and sisters, the family consisting of five sons and one daughter. Of these Matt was the eldest and resides in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he is engaged as a private watchman in a manufacturing establishment and has also a fine war record as a member of the Twenty-ninth Ohio Infantry during the war. Jacob enlisted in the Fifteenth Missouri Infantry, and being captured by the Confederate forces, passed through the unspeakable horrors of captivity and died in Andersonville prison. The only sister, Rasa, married Joseph B. Hubbard and lives

in Cincinnati, Ohio. The next three in age are: John, who resides at Pana, Ill.; our subject, and Robert, who was killed by a sad accident at the coal shaft at Pana, leaving a widow with three children. There was one half-sister, Minnie, who married Mr. Fred Seipel and died in Pana.

The congenial life companion of our subject was born in France in 1848 and came with her parents to America in childhood. She bore the maiden name of Dora Struphart, but was a widow when she married Mr. Kuhn in 1879. The six children who bless this happy home are: Emma, eleven years old; Michael, aged ten; Henry, nine; Dora, seven; Joseph, four; and Louie, a lovely babe of one year.

Mr. Kuhn located on the farm where he now resides in 1879, but after some time removed to Montgomery County, where he remained for four years, but did not find this new home satisfactory and returned to the farm on which he had first started, purchasing the land which he had previously rented. He has one hundred and twenty acres of prairie land adjoining the timber and has a nice orchard, plenty of water and a farm that is in every way desirable. He is a member of the Oconee Camp, No. 1312, M. W. of A., and is identified with the Farmers' Protective Association and the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. The Republican party is the political organization with which he finds himself heartily in sympathy and he has voted with it ever since he had the privilege of the ballot. He is a member of the German Lutheran Church, and his wife is connected with the Roman Catholic Church. He is a public-spirited and enterprising man, always helpful in forwarding progressive movements, and liberal in his attitude toward church and benevolent enterprises.



**J**AMES A. DUNCAN. Whether our subject can trace a lineal descent from Duncan, King of Scotland, whom Holinshed has chronicled and Shakespeare has made famous in the wonderful tragedy, *Macbeth*, the writer knows not, but it is a good name, and one which

he who bears it, may be proud of. Doubtless of Scotch descent, our subject's father was born in Delaware County, Pa., in 1788. His mother who in her maidenhood was Mary E. McKeever, was a native of Virginia. After marriage, they first settled in Belmont County, Ohio, and then came to Shelby County, this State, locating in Richland Township in 1838, where both parents passed away. The mother died April 30, 1862. The father survived her two years, his decease taking place April 10, 1864. Mrs. Duncan, our subject's mother, was of Irish ancestry.

James Duncan, Sr. was the father of six children which included four sons and two daughters. Our subject was the eldest of this little brood and was born in Belmont County, Ohio, August 27, 1834. The original of this sketch was but four years old when his parents removed to Shelby County, and here he grew to manhood in Richland Township, where he has always made his home, so that he has a pretty accurate idea of what pioneer life is, although the country was not such a wilderness in his boyhood as it was on the coming hither of some of the older settlers. When he became old enough to enjoy society, the district in which he lived was well settled, and boasted some of the best people in the State.

In 1859 Mr. Duncan was married in Ash Grove Township to Miss Nancy J. Evans, who was a native of Shelby County. She was the mother of three children whose names are John, Robert and Caledonia. John married Miss Lillie Wilhite and made a home of his own. Caledonia is the wife of Charles Rubel. Mrs. Nancy J. Duncan died in Richland Township, August 25, 1867. Two years later, January 27, 1869, he was married to Mrs. Hannah Stevens. She was the widow of Lowrey Stevens and a daughter of Isaac and Rebecca Jones, and was born in Butler County, Ohio, August 21, 1836. By this marriage, our subject is the father of one child whose name is James O.

The original of our sketch has always followed the pursuit of agriculture. He settled on the farm where he now lives in the spring of 1857. During the last years of the war, he responded to the call for volunteers and enlisted in September 1864, in Company B, of the Twelfth Illinois Regiment,

and served for somewhat over three months. He of whom we write takes a fairly active part in political matters. He is a follower of the Reform party, his political theories being all that the name of his party implies. The esteem and confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens is evidenced by the fact that he has been elected to many important local offices. He has been Highway Commissioner and School Director for a number of years and each of these positions has been filled to satisfaction of his constituents. He shows his loyalty to his calling by allying himself to the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. He with his wife, has ever taken an active part in religious affairs. They are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in which they are ardent workers. He has been Steward of his church for several years and also has held the position of Trustee.

Mr. Duncan is the owner of an excellent farm comprising two hundred and eighty acres of land, upon which have been placed the best of improvements. The latest and most improved farm implements are in use upon his farm, to further his efforts in making the place a model of agricultural neatness and productiveness, and this he has fairly accomplished, the place being worthy of attention to all who take a pleasure in advanced ideas regarding agriculture which is conducted in a scientific way. There are good buildings upon the place, his residence being a home in every sense of the word, architecturally attractive and practically comfortable. His barns and outhouses are neat and of good size.



**J**OHIN R. HENDRICKS. The well-known and prominent family, of which our subject is the representative, is sketched at length upon various pages of this volume, but we have more to say in regard to them and especially in regard to this branch. Our subject resides on section 21, Ridge Township, Shelby County, and he has belonged in the county since 1831. He was born near Indianapolis, Ind., December 23, 1828.

and is a son of George and Nancy (Brown) Hendricks, being the third child in a family of five who are as follows: Amanda, who married twice, first to Samuel Moyer, and second to Samuel Truitt, and now resides in Texas; Samuel, deceased; John R., our subject; Sadie, now the widow of Caleb Crawford, residing near Shelbyville; and Zimri, deceased.

Our subject was reared upon the farm and attended such schools as the early settlers of the county were able to provide for their children. These did not have so broad a curriculum as is provided by the schools of the present day, but there was a degree of earnestness which pervaded the work of those early schools which may well be emulated by teachers and pupils of this decade. Such earnestness gave to the minds of the young an impression of the value of an education and the effort necessary to attain it which proved a desirable stimulant.

The marriage of Mr. Hendricks with Isabelle Johnson took place in 1851, and opened up a life of mutual happiness and harmony, yet it was short in duration. This lady, who was born in Kentucky, was a daughter of John Johnson and came with her parents to this county, and died in 1862 leaving four children, one of whom died in early childhood; the next, Olivia, married John Killam, and died leaving two children; George died in Shelby County and William resides in Okaw Township. In 1868, Mr. Hendricks was a second time united in marriage, this time with Elizabeth Royce, a daughter of John and Nancy (Miller) Royce, who was born in Kentucky. Her parents were among the early pioneers of Shelby County and were representative farmers, whose memory is cherished by all who knew them. By this union one child was born who has passed to the other world.

The pursuit of agriculture has ever been the favorite calling of our subject. He has felt that in the life of a farmer there was a large compensation for whatever deprivations are incident to the seclusion of country existence. To be out of the reach of the bustle and activities of the world and many of the opportunities for culture and education are to him abundantly made up by the peaceful repose and freedom from temptation which he is able to

afford his family. He now owns two hundred and sixty acres of as fine land as is to be found in Ridge and Okaw Townships, and upon which he has placed substantial improvements, and where he has paid particular attention to raising cattle and mules. Both he and his good wife are earnest and active members of the Christian Church.

The political views with which Mr. Hendricks finds himself in sympathy are those which are expressed in the declarations and platform of the Democratic party and he longs to have the good old days of Democratic simplicity return again. He believes that the principles which were announced by Jefferson and which were in vogue under the Jacksonian Administration are the ones which are best fitted for securing the prosperity of our country.



**A**MEDEE DOMAS. A native of France, our subject now resides on section 1, of Rural Township, Shelby County. His residence in the county dates from 1861. He was born in Burgundy, France, March 24, 1815. He has one brother and one sister, each of whom has been to the United States to pay their brother a visit. Doubtless they find the Americans too busy to attract them here permanently for surely the country itself is not more "triste" than their own laughing France. The story of our subject is one of effort, perseverance and ambition. Restricted in early advantages he was determined to receive an education, and attended such schools as the portion of the country in which he lived afforded, frequently walking from four to six miles in order to recite the lessons that he had prepared to a master. But success attended his efforts, and he finally became cashier in a bank in France.

In 1837, Mr. Domas set sail for the United States and after fifty-seven days spent on the ocean and gulf, he landed at New Orleans, glad to find there many countrymen who could speak his native tongue. When he reached the United States he had nothing but a ten-cent piece and was compelled to sleep two nights among bales of cotton. There he was

engaged in clerking in a store which position he continued to occupy for a year; but as the city air did not agree with him, he removed to the country and taught school; that is, he gave instruction in French, for two years. He was then engaged in Carey's Academy, near Cincinnati, where he taught French. Among his students were two grandsons of William Henry Harrison. While thus engaged, our subject was pursuing the study of the English language, and during his two years stay here, he acquired a fluent use of his adopted tongue.

Mr. Domas then returned to Louisiana, and was engaged in teaching both the French and English languages, for a few years. He then dropped the business of a pedagogue, and engaged in commercial life, dealing in general merchandise. He was also a speculative dealer in real estate, etc. In 1861 he came to Illinois, and purchased his present farm, or rather, bought it on contract. The land was but little improved and had no buildings. He now has fair improvements and is the owner of two hundred sixteen acres of land. He followed general stock raising for some years, but now gives his attention wholly to the raising of sheep.

Our subject was married in 1848 in Assumption Parish, Louisiana, to Virginia Haydel. The lady was a native of the State in which she was married, as were also her parents. The Haydel family being one of the oldest and wealthiest families of that State. Before the late war Mrs. Domas' grandmother was reputed to be worth more than a million dollars, but like so many other Southerners, the fall of the Confederacy was the death blow to her financial position.

Our subject and his amiable wife have been the parents of eleven children, only five of whom are still surviving. Four of their children were victims of that dread disease, diphtheria, and were taken away in one month. The living children are, Emily, Damas, Alda, Dumas D. and Dehnas. Emily is the wife of Ernest Cancini. Damas resides in New Mexico, where he is a prominent man. Alda is the wife of Eugene Durand. Politically our subject is a Democrat. While in Louisiana he was Postmaster and held the positions of Notary and Justice of the Peace for over twenty years. Mr. Domas was reared a Catholic and still adheres

to that faith. While in Louisiana he was very successful in business, but when the Civil War broke out, he lost a sum amounting to \$50,000. He has now, however, to a great degree, retrieved these losses and to-day is in a good financial position.



THOMAS N. ROBISON is the proprietor of a drug house which was established March 11, 1877, and since that time he has carried on a very successful business. He was born in Shelby County, November 30, 1816, and is a son of Edwin A. and Elizabeth (Dixon) Robison, who settled on Sand Creek near Windsor, in 1832, at which date there were only four families in the vicinity.

The parents of our subject were natives of North Carolina and in early life removed to Tennessee, where they married and soon after started for Illinois to seek a home in the then wild West. David Robison, grandfather of our subject, accompanied his son hither and entered some Government land in Shelby County, on which he resided until his death occurred. The father of our subject settled on a farm and there passed his life, becoming the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land. He died in 1881 at the advanced age of seventy-five years. Our subject's mother passed to the unknown land in 1870, at the age of sixty years. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They were the parents of nine children, all of whom lived to be grown. Their names are David, Ellen, William A., Samuel, James, Sarah, Thomas N., Harriet, and Fredonia. David died in Shelby County, unmarried. Ellen married J. C. Stephenson and resides in Dakota. William A. resides in Shelby County. Samuel was a member of Company K, One Hundred Twenty-six Illinois Infantry; he died at Memphis, Tenn., while in service. James resides in Clark County, Kan. Sarah, who is now Mrs. Carter, lives in Bay City, Mich. Harriet is the wife of Mr. Hartsel and lives in Shelby County. Fredonia married Jeff Bandy and resides in Edgar County, Ill.

Our subject was reared on the homestead and received his early education in the district schools in the vicinity, finishing at the State Normal University at Normal. After graduation he taught school for five years in Shelby County, and in 1877 established his present business, having become well-known during that time as an efficient compounder of medicines. His marriage took place October 17, 1883. His wife's maiden name was Bella Stewardson, a daughter of William Stewardson. She was born in Shelby County, March 7, 1855. Mr. Robison and his amiable and lovely wife have one daughter whose name is Lora, who is at once the pride and care of her fond parents. Mr. Robison affiliates with the Democratic element of the township, favoring the broad platform of that party and its free-trade principles: He has held several local offices under his party, having been both Township Collector and Township Clerk. He is one of the organizers of the Stewardson Homestead Loan Association, which was organized in 1883. Since 1885 he has been the Secretary of this Association and discharges his duties satisfactorily to all interested therein. He, with his family, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**J**AMES C. NOON, a resident of Pickaway Township, has won an honorable place among the intelligent agriculturists of this county during the quarter of a century or more that he has been identified with them. He has filled offices of trust, and in various ways has shown himself to be a desirable citizen. He was born in Derbyshire, England, June 8, 1840, a son of Jeremiah Noon, who was born in the same place as himself. So also was the father of the latter, George Noon, so far as known, and there it is thought spent his entire life as a farmer.

The father of our subject was the only member of his father's family that ever came to America. He passed his early life in his native shire, and was there married to Amy Burroughs, a native of that part of England, and a daughter of Joseph Bur-

roughs. She died in this county in 1883, at a venerable age. She was the mother of seven children that grew to maturity. At the age of eighteen years Mr. Noon entered the English army as a member of the Second Regiment of Life Guards, and was one of the famous body guards of Queen Victoria at the time of her coronation. He served seven years, and was then honorably discharged, and in 1844 came with his family to the United States. They set sail from Liverpool on the vessel "Rockaway," and twenty-five days later landed at New York. They went direct to Wisconsin, and were among the pioneer settlers of Waukesha County.

After his arrival in that county the father of our subject bought eighty acres of land known as oak-openings, and he and his wife and children began life in their new home in a log house, which he afterwards replaced with a more commodious frame residence. He was busily engaged in his farming interests when the Rebellion broke out. Some of the old spirit that had made him a good soldier in her Majesty's service when he lived in old England awoke within him, and the patriotic love that he bore his adopted country caused him to enlist in 1862 in defense of the Union, and he became a member of the Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry. His experience in the English army gave value to his services, and he was mustered in as First Lieutenant of Company F, and in 1863 won deserved promotion to the captaincy of his company, which he commanded until his death August 20, of the same year, while at home on a furlough, and thus passed away a hero who gave up his life for the Government under which he had come to live nearly two decades before.

He of whom this brief life-record is written was but a boy of four years when his parents brought him to the United States, so he has but little recollection of any other home. He commenced when very young to assist his father on the farm, and whenever opportunity offered attended school. The first one that he went to was taught in a log house, the furniture being of the most primitive kind, the benches being made of split logs. He remained with his parents until 1861, when he paid his first visit to Shelby County. He worked on a

farm here one year, and then returning to Wisconsin, took charge of the home farm, which was under his management until 1865. In that year he came back to Shelby County, having been favorably impressed with the opportunities it afforded in the richness of its soil, genial climate, etc., to young men of energy and capability to conduct farming profitably, and here he has given his time to agricultural pursuits ever since.

In 1862 it was Mr. Noon's good fortune to secure a true helpmate by his marriage with Miss Hannah Fear, a native of Somersetshire, England, and a daughter of William and Hannah (Fowler) Fear, who were also of English birth, and were pioneers of Waukesha County, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Noon have six children living, namely: Edith, Ethel, Hulda, Lotta, Amy and Ruth. Jeremiah, their second child and only son, died when four years old.

A man whose habits and character are above reproach, who has an evenly balanced mind and is well posted on current topics. Mr. Noon's fellow-citizens have shown their appreciation of these traits by calling him to responsible public positions, and thus at one time he represented Pickaway Township on the County Board of Supervisors, and guarded its interests intelligently while an incumbent of that important office.



**C**HRISTIAN FREDERICK RINCKER. A quarter of a century of honest, industrious, upright living in any community is worthy of record from the standpoint of the biographer who takes a broad view of his theme. It is also somewhat remarkable in Illinois to find a record of this kind as it is so young a State in comparison with the older part of our country, as to have comparatively few of such experiences. The effect upon a community of a residence of this length is potent for good or evil and has a cumulative force. This force in the case of our subject has been for good.

Mr. Rincker is a prosperous farmer residing on section 22, Prairie Township, and he has been in the county since 1865. He was born in Chicago,

Ill., November 18, 1854, being a son of the Rev. Henry W. and Anna M. (Gans) Rincker, both of whom were natives of Germany, the father being born in Nassau, and the mother in Byron. They came to the United States about 1846 and were married in Cook County, this State and about the year 1859 they removed to Terre Haute, Ind., whence they came to Illinois again and settled upon section 23, Prairie Township, where the father purchased some six hundred acres of land which was at that time entirely unbroken.

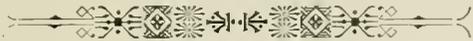
Henry W. Rincker was twice married, the first time in Germany, and by this union there were two children born who grew to maturity, namely: Amelia, who married Fred Fathauer and died in Cook County, and Theophilis died in February, 1891. The parents of our subject had eight children, four of whom grew to be men and women. They were, our subject; Odelia, who married John Hemmann; Martin and Theodolinda, now the wife of Theodore Kircher. The father of this household died in November, 1889, and the mother is still surviving.

The father of our subject was a bell-maker by trade and followed this calling both in the old country and in Chicago. He also carried it on after coming to Shelby County. He was an expert in this fine art, and was called to St. Louis, Mo., to make over bells, a work which required great care and to which he brought an unflinching enthusiasm, a practical knowledge of the trade and a quick ear to detect false tones in the musical quality of the instrument. He made the bell at Strasburgh and the church bell at Sigel, both of which are still musically speaking the praise of their maker. He also cast the famous bell which was upon the Chicago court-house at the time of the fire, and he will long be remembered as its maker. He loved his trade devotedly and always regretted that none of his children joined him in its pursuit. His bell foundry in this county was located at Sigel.

The harmony of the life of this good man was akin to that between two bells pitched upon harmonious tones as he carried on two lines of thought and work, one being in the making of musical bells and the other in developing the harmony of Christian life among the people with whom he lived,

He was a minister in the Lutheran Church and preached at Terre Haute and also established the first congregation in Prairie Township.

The subject of this sketch was reared upon the farm and attended the district school. He has been twice married, his first union being in 1877 with Miss Louise Luker who died in 1878, leaving one child who had been named Henry in honor of his grandfather. In 1881 Mr. Rincker was married to Ida Dietrich who was born in Illinois August 6, 1864. She became the mother of five children, namely: Matilda, Martin, Frederick, Ida and Paul. Mr. Rincker owns nearly four hundred acres of land upon which he has erected fine buildings and has made many improvements, as when he became its owner it was nearly all virgin prairie. The political preferences of our subject are for the Democratic party, and his intelligence and thorough understanding of educational matters have placed him upon the School Board. The Lutheran Church in which he was brought up receives his warm endorsement and support and he is one of its most earnest and active members.



**S**AMUEL P. LILLY. It is a grateful task to the biographer to record the life of a man whose efforts have not been entirely centered upon self, but who has willingly and gladly devoted much of his energies and time to the good of the community and to the upbuilding of the institutions of religion and morality, which constitute the true basis for the healthful life of the community. Such a career has been that of Mr. Lilly who has made his temporal prosperity secondary in importance to the happiness of his family and the responsibilities which his church and Sunday-school work have devolved upon him.

This gentleman's parents were Joseph and Mary J. (Wright) Lilly, both of whom were Kentuckians by birth, the former being born in Harrison County in 1812, and the latter being a native of Oldham County, born in 1816. Upon coming to Illinois they settled where our subject now lives in East Nelson Township, Moultrie County, and

there lived until the death of the father in 1857. Subsequent to this event the mother was united in marriage with John Rose and now makes her home in Sullivan. There were but two children in the family, of whom our subject was the eldest and his sister, Nancy J., died at the age of twelve years. Samuel P. Lilly was born on the old homestead in East Nelson Township, December 3, 1835, and as his father lived until after this son had reached his majority he received the full benefit of that parent's instruction and training. Thorough drill was given him in the duties of a farmer lad and he was educated in the common schools. He inherited the old homestead which he still continues to make his residence and he would feel indeed lost to call any other place his home.

New Year's Day of 1860 was an epoch in the life of the young man who had chosen for himself a wife and who was now united in the holy bonds of matrimony at the residence of the bride in Whitley Township, with Miss Nancy P. A. Hendricks, who was born in the latter place, January 28, 1840. This young wife had been well educated and carefully trained in domestic duties and brought to her new home qualities which made her valuable not only as a wife and mother but also as a neighbor and a member of society.

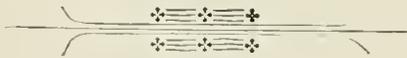
Four children came to bless this household, viz: Joseph E.; Sally H. who was the wife of Henry Christy and who died February 23, 1887, in East Nelson Township; Europe L. and Vica J., who is the wife of John T. Edwards. This happy home was rudely broken in upon by death May 20, 1871, when the wife and mother was called from her cares and responsibilities and her husband and children were left to mourn their loss. She was a member of the Christian Church where the soundness of her Christian faith and the beauty of her character made her not only esteemed but beloved.

The second marriage of Mr. Lilly took place in Sullivan, December 3, 1872. He was then united with Miss Addie Mallory who was born in Vigo County, Ind., September 16, 1847. She became the happy mother of five beautiful children. Her eldest and youngest both died while young. The names of her offspring are Leona B., Ida M., Jesse P., Bertha M. and John R. While these children

were still young they were deprived by death of a mother's love and tenderness and now a double duty fell upon the father of this little flock. To bring up his children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and to give them as far as lay within his power the attention and training which motherless children so sorely need has been his aim and endeavor.

Mr. Lilly has been a member of the Christian Church since about the year 1856 and for twenty-five years he filled the office of Deacon and has now become an Elder in the church. His keenest and broadest interest in church work centers about the Sunday-school in which he has been active for a long term of years. He is one of the prominent men of Moultrie County, and his public-spirited course receives the warm endorsement of his neighbors. He has always been a law-abiding citizen and has never had a lawsuit in his life, having made it his aim to live at peace with his fellow-men.

The office of Supervisor of East Nelson Township has been placed in the hands of Mr. Lilly and he has also held school offices. He at one time took an active part in political affairs and was formerly a Republican but now feels that all other political issues since sink into nothingness compared with the necessity of freeing our land from the bondage of the saloon and the distiller, and he has allied himself with the Prohibition party. He has always been engaged in farming pursuits and in stock-raising, and upon his fine estate of four hundred and thirty acres he has erected a suitable and commodious set of buildings and his home is most delightfully situated. Mr. Lilly has been correspondent of the two county papers for a number of years.



**H**ENRY A. PRATT. In the American way of carrying on farming, there is not a great deal of room for sentiment. The practical man is he who succeeds. Our subject is at the same time one of the most practical and successful farmers in Moweaqua Township, where he owns eighty acres located on section 32. He is

the proprietor, also, of thirty acres in the adjoining township. He purchased his present farm in 1870, and has since that time added greatly both to the comforts and appearance of the place by new buildings, fences, and the neat and methodical way in which every department of his farm work is conducted.

Our subject came hither from Morgan County, where he lived for four years. He was for about five years a resident of Macon County. His advent into the State was made when twenty-one years old, coming hither from Vermont, where he was born in Addison County, March 22, 1838. He comes of good New England stock. His grandfather was Abraham Pratt, a native of Vermont. The father of our subject was also a farmer. He was first married to Mary Pratt, a Vermont lady, who died after the birth of her first child. This child was a daughter who was given the name Mary, and who is now deceased. In his second marriage, Abel Pratt wedded Miss Sarah Wing, in Rochester, Vt. She was a native of the Green Mountain State, and came also of New England stock. Her parents were descendants of a family in excellent standing and were long-lived people, her father passing away at the age of ninety years, and her mother being over eighty years of age at the time of her death. They were members also of the Congregational Church.

Our subject's father, Abel Pratt, died when fifty-seven years of age, in Addison County, Vt. His widow is yet living, and is now eighty-four years of age. She and her husband were co-workers in the Congregational Church. Our subject is one of eldest of five sons and two daughters. He and a brother, James Pratt, are all who are now living of the family. The early training of him of whom we write was all with reference to the life of a farmer. When about of age he came to Illinois, soon settling in Morgan County, where he met and married Miss Angelina Foster. She was born in Morgan County, October 6, 1840, and is a daughter of Orson and Eliza (Sherwood) Foster, who were natives of New York State, and who came West to better their fortunes in a new country at an early day, locating here in the late '30s. They first settled in Morgan County, there improv-

ing a small farm, upon which they lived until the time of their death.

Mrs. Pratt, the wife of our subject, is one of a large family, having received her education in her native county. She is a kind neighbor and a gentle, loving mother, wisely conducting the rearing of her children. Of these, four are deceased, two having passed away in childhood, and two having attained womanhood. The living children are Albert, Laura, Charles, Eva, Harry, Edson and William. Of these, Albert was married to Clo, Dean, and is a farmer near Pana, where he is carrying on a farm on his own account; Laura at present resides in Colorado, at Wagon Wheel Gap; Charles is a farmer near Pana. The younger children have not yet left the home nest. They are well educated and intelligent, being respected members of the communities wherein they live. Mr. and Mrs. Pratt are attendants of the Baptist Church. Mr. Pratt is a Republican of the strongest kind, accepting the tenets of his party in an unqualified sense.



**J** H. MICHAEL, a wealthy and public-spirited farmer residing on section 20, Sullivan Township, Moultrie County, was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, February 26, 1849. His father, Hamilton Michael, was born in Ohio in 1813, and his mother, Martha Bragg, was born in Savannah County, Va., in 1814. They had both removed to Ohio before their marriage, which occurred there in Ross County in 1833. After sixteen years' residence in that section they removed to Pickaway County, which they made their home until 1868, when they removed to Moultrie County, Ill.

Nine children were born to Hamilton and Martha Michael namely: Anna E. born in 1831 now Mrs. David Dyer, resides in Hall County, Neb.; Mary C. born in 1836, married Mr. J. J. Swank in Ohio and died in this county; Andrew L. married Cynthia A. Frantz and resides at Broken Bow, Neb.; Sarah who was born in 1840, died unmarried in her young womanhood; John F. has

been married twice and resides in Indiana; Isaiah died at the age of four years; George W., married Mary Nagles, and resides in Decatur, Ill.; our subject; Martha Jane, born in 1852 died when fourteen years old. The father of these children passed away after his removal to Illinois in the year 1879, but his venerable and honored widow still remains and resides with her son, our subject, by whom she is most tenderly cherished.

J. H. Michael came to Illinois with his parents when he was a lad of sixteen years and his education which had begun in the public schools of Ohio was continued in this State. He was married February 7, 1875, to Miss Laura A. Hudson, daughter of J. J. Hudson. For further particulars in regard to the history of this interesting and prominent family, the reader is referred to the sketch of Isaac Hudson to be found upon another page. This lovely lady, Mrs. Michael, died of consumption, March 30, 1891, leaving no children to mourn her loss.

The fine farm of two hundred and fifty-five acres, which is partly prairie and partly timber land, has received from the hand of Mr. Michael excellent improvements, and he has taken a great deal of pains with it. The crowning beauty of this farm is a delightful park and carp pond which he has spared no expense in fitting up for the pleasure of his own family and that of the general public. Oak Park as it is called, contains comfortable seats, swings, hammocks and other pleasant accommodations for those who would enjoy outdoor life. The pond is plentifully filled with excellent fish and has boats for the accommodation of visitors. It is a beautiful place and a general pleasure resort for the people for miles around. The trees are mostly of hardwood varieties and are of suitable size to afford excellent shade. The park is five miles northwest of Sullivan, the same distance southwest of Lovington and northeast of Bethany, a location which makes it very convenient of access. The farm is on sections 20 and 21.

Mr. Michael is now giving his entire attention to the breeding of Englishshire horses. His fine animal "Nail Stone Honest Boy" is an imported horse of great beauty and a universal favorite among horsemen and represents a little fortune in

himself, having cost \$2,000. This gentleman is a Democrat in politics but is not aggressive, and was a member of the Town Council of the city of Lovington for six years. He has declined other offices and even failed to qualify after being elected. His departed wife was a worthy and devoted member of the Christian Church and her loss was deeply deplored by those who had been with her in Christian communion.



**W**ILLIAM CARNES. Prominent in church and political circles and well known as a successful and retired farmer of repute, both as to character and capabilities, is the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch and whose three-score years and ten, worthily lived, have given him the respect of all who know him. He resides on section 35, Shelbyville Township, Shelby County, and is counted among the old pioneers, as his residence in the county dates from 1850.

William Carnes was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, February 9, 1821, his father, Robert, being a native of Ireland, and his mother, Nancy Stewart, having been born in the United States. The father was but three years old when he came to this country from old Erin and his early home was in Guernsey and Fairfield Counties, Ohio. He died in the latter county at the age of sixty-eight years, having been a thorough and respected farmer, and his wife also passed away at the old home at the age of sixty-six. These worthy parents had nine children, all of whom grew to maturity. Their record is as follows: Jane, who was twice married and died at Shelbyville at the age of seventy-one; Thomas and Mary, who both died in Shelby County; Eliza, who died in California; John and Arthur, who died in Fairfield County; William, our subject; Robert, who died in Shelby County; and James, who was a member of Company H, Seventh Illinois Cavalry and was killed in Alabama.

Having been reared on the farm, young Carnes chose agriculture as his life work and on September 12, 1850, he took to himself a partner in

life's joys and sorrows in the person of Mary C. Ingman, daughter of Henry and Henrietta (Rigby) Ingman. This lady was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, October 13, 1827, and her parents were Virginians who became early pioneers in Ohio and remained there until their death, the father at the age of seventy-two years and the mother when sixty-five. These venerable parents reared eleven children to years of maturity, namely: William, Elizabeth, Amelia, Otho and Ann, who all died in Ohio; and Sophia, Lancelot and Maria, who died in Indiana; Edmund, who died in Missouri; and Mary C., who became Mrs. Carnes, and is the only survivor.

Less than a month after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Carnes set out with a team to emigrate from Ohio to Illinois, accomplishing the journey in sixteen days. An elder brother of our subject, Thomas by name, accompanied them with his family. Our subject had been in Illinois in the winter of 1849-50 and purchased some hogs, which he drove to St. Louis and disposed of, and in the spring of 1850 he purchased in connection with a younger brother, James, a tract of one hundred and fifty acres and entered one hundred and sixty more. About thirty acres only had been cleared and a log house had been built, and here the young couple started to make their fortunes and remained there till 1856, when they removed to their present home.

Mr. Carnes has given his attention principally to farming and in time acquired possession of two hundred and forty acres, which he has now divided among his children, who are by name: Josephine, who married B. F. Fraker; Nancy, who married J. L. Thomas; Maria E., who became Mrs. William Crockett and died in Shelby County; Henrietta, now Mrs. Lewis C. Thomas; Mary C., wife of A. D. Amlin; John W.; James M., who is a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Missouri; and one who died in infancy. A grand-daughter makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Carnes and is their main stay and comfort in their old age. For nearly half a century both of these honored and beloved old people have been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and for thirty years Mr. Carnes has been Steward and Class-Leader. He





*Thomas Fleming*

is an earnest advocate of the enactment of prohibitory measures against the sale of intoxicating liquors and his influence is always given on the side of Christianity and morality.



**T**HOMAS FLEMING. The portrait on the opposite page represents a gentleman who figures among the citizens of Shelby County as one of its most wide-awake, versatile and sagacious business men. He is at the head of various important enterprises centering in Todd's Point Township, his place of residence, where he has a large store for the sale of general merchandise, a factory for the manufacture of tile, and an extensive farm, all of which are under his supervision, and are ably managed.

Todd's Point Township is the birthplace of our subject, and August 3, 1858, the date of his birth. His parents, Isaac and Anna Jane (King) Fleming, were among its earliest settlers. They were natives of Westmorelandshire, England. The paternal grandfather of our subject was an extensive farmer and stockraiser of that shire, where he spent his entire life. The father of our subject grew up amid the pleasant surroundings of his English home, and received a good education in the local schools. In 1839 he started out to seek his fortune and making his way to the island of Santa Cruz, was employed there on a sugar plantation until 1850, when he again started out into the world, and coming to this county, located in Todd's Point Township, he having previously sent money to buy land at this place. At that time this section of the country was sparsely settled, the best land being owned by the Government, and since sold at \$1.25 an acre. Mr. Fleming built on his land, and devoted his energies to general farming and stock-raising until 1861, when he returned to England to spend his remaining days amid the scenes of his youth, and in due time was gathered to his fathers. His widow, the mother of our subject, still resides there. Three children were born of her marriage—James, a resident of Missouri; Mary who lives with her mother, and Thomas.

The subject of this life-record was but a child of three years when his parents returned to England, and he was reared in the home of his ancestors, and was educated in English schools. He did not, however, in all these years forget the land of his birth, and in 1887 he came back to begin life anew in his native township, and has since been closely connected with its leading interests. He established himself in the mercantile business, and has here a commodious, two-story brick building for store purposes, in which he carries a large and varied stock of general merchandise suited to the wants of his customers. Besides conducting a good trade as a merchant, he opened a tile factory near his store in 1888, which has been in successful operation since, turning out a superior article that commands a ready sale among the farmers and all who are interested in drainage. Mr. Fleming also superintends the cultivation of his large farm, of four hundred and forty acres of excellent tillage land, lying in Todd's Point Township. Although his interests are so diversified he manages each with surpassing skill, employing systematic and business-like methods, attending carefully to details, and in all that he does making every stroke count.

Mr. Fleming was married in 1886 to Miss Margaret Charlton, a native of Newcastle, England. They have a very pleasant home, replete with every comfort, and Mrs. Fleming's sister, Miss Alice Charlton, is a welcome inmate of their household.



**J**AMES T. TURNER. We are pleased to record among other prominent and prosperous farmers of Shelby County, a brief sketch of the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this paragraph, whose pleasant home and attractive farm are an ornament to section 7, Oconee Township. He was born in Robinsion County, Tenn., August 28, 1840. His parents, Charles and Susan (Price) Turner, natives of Virginia, early became residents of North Carolina, and finally settled in Tennessee, where they were married and long made their home. All of their

family of nine children were born in Tennessee or across the line in Kentucky. The family of Charles Turner and Susan, his wife, are as follows: John H., who married and engaged in farming in Fayette County, Ill.; Nancy E., who married Thomas Thomas Hill and died in 1854, in Montgomery County, Ill.; Susan C., who became Mrs. R. B. Evans, and died in 1869; Avy J. was twice married. Her first husband being George W. Ishmael, who enlisted in the Seventy-third Illinois Infantry and died of small-pox at Memphis. Her second husband, James Slater, is a merchant in Oconee. The sketch of his life will be found elsewhere in this volume. Warren enlisted in Company G, Fifth Illinois Cavalry in 1863. He married Anna Poland. William K. and James T. were also members of the same company; they having enlisted in the year of 1861, the former married Emma Lamar. They were quartered at Camp Butler, Springfield, from September, 1861, until February, 1862. This regiment was known as an independent cavalry organization and was not assigned to any department but took part in almost every campaign. The regiment did patrol duty along the Mississippi River, guarding trains, chasing and fighting guerrillas and bushwhackers and also doing garrison duty. It participated in the siege and capture of Vicksburg and accompanied the victorious army in pursuit of the rebel Gen. Johnston.

Soon after this our subject was discharged on account of disabilities as he contracted the measles and not having proper care and being exposed to the inclemency of the weather, the disease settled in his eyes, so that he finally lost one and the other is much injured. The other two brothers passed through the war without serious detriment. The Fifth Cavalry went to Memphis and finally to Texas under command of Gen. Custer. Charles S. Turner enlisted in the spring of 1864 in the One Hundred and Forty-third Illinois Infantry, and served one hundred days. After returning home he learned the carpenter's trade and remained at home with his parents until their death, the father passed away February 4, 1885, at the age of eighty one years and the mother dying January 12, 1888, being seventy-eight years old. Charles then felt relieved from further responsi-

bility and starting in life for himself, went to St. Louis, where he carries on the carpenter trade. Amanda W. married F. P. Vest. Her home is in St. Louis and she has one daughter.

After James T. Turner returned from the war he engaged in farming. His marriage with Miss Kate McLaury took place September 9, 1866. This lady was one of a family of four sons and three daughters, children of John F. and Margaret M. (Humphrey) McLaury, and was born in Mercer County, Pa., August 24, 1815. Mr. McLaury was a native of Pennsylvania and his wife of the Empire State. Mrs. Turner's brothers and sisters are Thomas F. Jr., Calvin B., James A., William A., Margaret and Alice, all of whom are living except James A., and all the survivors are married. Thomas F., William A., and Alice (Mrs. Wylie), are residents of the Lone Star State, while Calvin B. resides in Missouri and Margaret (Mrs. Willie), in Tennessee. Mrs. Turner's family removed to Illinois in the fall of 1845, and located in Montgomery County. They removed to Texas before the death of the mother and when last heard from the father was in Arkansas.

The Turner family removed from Tennessee to Fayette County, Ill., in 1848, and soon after removed to Montgomery County and finally made their home in Oconee Township, Shelby County, where the parents died as has been previously stated. Our subject was educated in the public schools of Illinois and has been a farmer all his life time. For six or seven years he was engaged in the hay business, buying, bailing and shipping hay, to Eastern and Southern cities.

To Mr. and Mrs. Turner have been born five children, all of whom are living, namely: Lena E., born June 8, 1867, married George W. Hinton a merchant at Assumption, Ill. Charles Franklin, who was born May 11, 1869, now resides with his wife, Flora March, on his father's farm in Oconee Township. Gladys was born June 19, 1875, and is still attending school and qualifying herself for the profession of a teacher. James E., born April 30, 1878, and Maggie B., December 17, 1881, are attending school and studying music as well as well as making themselves generally useful in the home and upon the farm. Mr. Turner has always

been a staunch Republican and ever takes an interest in political and public affairs. Mrs. Turner, her son Frank and daughter Gladys are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Frank, Gladys and James are members of the Independent Order of Good Templars. Mr. Turner is a worthy member of Coplin Post, No. 268, G. A. R. of Oconee and is the present Junior Vice Commander. Besides giving attention to general farming he raises a good grade of stock.



**A**NDREW L. CRAIG, Beginning life as a pioneer in the State of Indiana, our subject removed to this State at an early day, where the country was as undeveloped as his native place was at the time of his birth. He settled in Shelby County, in June, 1839, and has since made this State his home. As before said Mr. Craig is a native of the State of Indiana, having been born in Fayette County, January 6, 1827. He is a son of James and Mary (Barrickman) Craig, both natives of Pennsylvania. They met, however, and married in Kentucky, whence they removed to Indiana, being among the earliest settlers of that State.

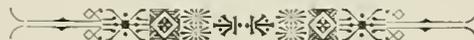
On first coming into this State our subject's parents settled on Robinson Creek, Ridge Township, Shelby County, where James Craig purchased four hundred acres of land, and entered six hundred acres of Government land. For the former he paid \$8 per acre but was permitted to enjoy his new home only a short time, for in 1841 he died. His wife survived him by a number of years, finally passing away in 1864, at the age of seventy-six years.

James and Mary Craig were the parents of eleven children, eight of whom lived to reach years of maturity. Their names are as follows: Jane, James, Robert, Jacob F., John R., Mary, William and Andrew. Of these the eldest daughter died in 1864; James makes his home in Boone County, Iowa; Robert died in Shelby County; Jacob F. resides in Boone County, Iowa; John R. lives in Shelbyville; Mary married Madison Busby and

died in Christian, leaving one son to her bereaved husband; William died in Shelby County, in 1864.

Andrew L., our subject, is the youngest member of the family. He was reared on the farm and received an early training in the way in which to conduct a farmer's work. He attended such schools as the county afforded at that time. The first school that he attended was a log cabin with a great fireplace at one end that scorched the children's faces while their backs were freezing. The seats were of slabs with pegs set in the ends for legs. There were no desks and the books were a promiscuous and heterogenous mixture. He resided with his mother until her death.

In 1870 Mr. Craig was united in marriage with Sarah Fakner, a daughter of Thomas and Jane (Rodman) Fakner. The lady was born in Ohio, March 12, 1829, but came to Illinois when very young. She is the eighth of a family of nine children. Our subject settled on section 14, of Rural Township, in 1885, and here he is the owner of two hundred and twenty acres of good, arable land that has been well improved. It has a fine residence well located, commodious and comfortable, and the appliances for carrying on its owner's calling in a thorough and scientific manner are many and perfect. Polititically he of whom we write inclines toward Democracy, finding the breadth of platform claimed by that party to accord with his views of equity and freedom. He has held several offices in the township, having been Collector, Assessor, and Supervisor. His attention has been mainly directed to the raising of stock, of which he has a great deal that will compare well with any in the country.



**J**G. STEWART has ever been a living exponent of what energy, judgment and ambition can accomplish in the agricultural line in the Prairie State where the conditions are so favorable to the farmer as to take away from their work half the drudgery that it elsewhere finds. Mr. Stewart now lives in Moweaqua, having retired from agricultural pursuits in

the fall of 1889, and is now living on a fine property in this place. Mr. Stewart's farm, whereon he spent a number of years, is located on section 25, Moweaqua Township, Shelby County. He came to it in 1866, beginning life with but little else than grit and perseverance, which served him far better than do large pecuniary resources many other men.

Although our subject has retired from the active business of farming he still owns his homestead of two hundred and eighty acres. There is no better land in the county, and Mr. Stewart has laid out large sums in improvements that have greatly added to its value. There is upon the place a good dwelling made cozy and beautiful by the care, interest and taste of womanly hands. The large fortune which he has accumulated has been amassed by hard work and his capable wife has been no small factor in his success. The domestic realm over which she has held sway has been governed in such a way as to not only spare our subject's means, but to add to his resources. Gain has not been her only object in life, however, for she has been a tender mother and a good and kind neighbor ever ready to lend a helpful hand in time of need.

Mr. Stewart's birthplace is what is now Blair County, Pa., near Alton. He was born September 27, 1840, and is the son of Alexander Stewart, a native of Pennsylvania, where our subject was reared. He is of Scotch-Irish ancestry. His paternal grandfather was Alexander Stewart, like his father a native of Pennsylvania, where he ended his days. When in middle life he was married in Blair County to Mary Gray, whose parents were natives of Ireland who had settled in Pennsylvania. Mary Stewart lived and died in Pennsylvania, being about seventy years of age when her decease occurred, having survived her husband by a good many years. Our subject's grandparents were members of the Presbyterian Church.

Our subject's father was only nine years of age when his father died. He was reared by his mother in his native county, and there remained until he had attained manhood. He died in the city of Alton in 1889, having attained the age of nearly eighty-one years, and was much mourned by

friends and acquaintances. He married Miss Kaziah Green, of Blair County, Pa., where she was born and reared, and where her death occurred in 1853, being then forty-eight years of age. She was of good family, her parents being old settlers in her native place. Both she and her husband were members of the Methodist Church.

The original of our sketch grew up in his native county, and in the fall of 1861, on the first call for three-year volunteers, he enlisted in the army, joining Company F, Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania Infantry, of which Capt. A. Wayne and Col. Powers were in command. The regiment proceeded South and assumed duty in the Tenth Army Corps. Much of the time they were engaged in hard fighting, and our subject was engaged at the battles at Ft. Pulaski, James Island, Ft. Wagner and Morris Island. He was afterward with his regiment at Drury's Bluff and Cold Harbor, and passed through many engagements. Mr. Stewart was fortunate enough to escape death and wounds and capture, and was never in the hospital. He was on duty in every engagement that his regiment partook in with the exception of one. Our subject enlisted in the service as a musician, but was mustered in as a private, and served in both capacities. He is justly proud of his military record, which is without a stain. But, although he had the opportunity, he never sought promotion.

After his return from the war, our subject persuaded Miss Lizzie Freidley to share the duties of life with him. They were married in Moweaqua in the fall of 1868. The lady was born, reared and died in this city, her demise taking place in the summer of 1877. She was then only twenty-seven years of age, and a bright and beautiful woman. She left to her husband three children, all of whom are now deceased. One died in infancy. John A. and Jessie M. did not reach the age of maturity.

Mr. Stewart was a second time married to Miss Frena M. Brooks. She was born in Flat Branch Township and was quite young when her parents came to Moweaqua. Here she received her education and attained womanhood. Her father, Josiah Brooks, has been for many years deceased. He was one of the early settlers in this county. His

wife is yet living and makes her home in Mowaequa. She is now in the afternoon of life and is peacefully enjoying the sunset. By his present marriage Mr. Stewart and wife have had four children, one of whom is deceased. The living children are: James F., Malcolm W. and Charles L., who are yet at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Stewart are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are generous supporters of the same. Mr. Stewart has held the local office of Highway Commissioner and he is at present Commander of J. V. Clemings Post, No. 363, G. A. R., of which he is a charter member. He is also a member of Lodge No. 1013, K. of H., and of Shelby Lodge, No. 274, I. O. O. F.



**H**ARVEY LOWARY. The gentleman whose name is at the head of this sketch, is the owner of a small farm which, however, is a model in point of neatness, productiveness and improvements. It is located on section 20, of Richland Township, Shelby County, and its advantages as to situation are apparent. Mr. Lowary is a native of the Buckeye State which has sent out so many ingenious and wide-awake sons to aid the progress of development in the newer and more western States. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, June 25, 1831. There he was reared to manhood and there he continued to live until 1860. He had early learned the carpenter's trade which he followed until he came to Shelby County, this State and even after locating here he pursued his calling to some extent in connection with farming.

The advent of the original of our sketch, into Shelby County, this State was made in 1860. He first lived in Shelbyville Township, where he continued for four years and then removed to Richland Township of which place he has ever since been a resident. Before leaving Ohio, he was married in Fairfield County, to a lady whose maiden name was Emeline Collins. She was a native of the county and State in which her marriage occurred.

Out of a family of seven children which have

been born to our subject and wife, only five are living. Their names are Nelson, Daniel, James, Byron and Joseph. Two of their children died in infancy. Our subject, who is an adherent of the Democratic party, brought up under its tenets and having a firm faith in its platform, has filled several positions in the gift of his constituents. For six years, he filled the office of Highway Commissioner and was School Director for several years. His farm bears evidence of many and valuable improvements and although it comprises only eighty-three acres, is conspicuous for the perfection of its management and its proportionally large productiveness.

It will not be out of place to speak of the family of which our subject was one. His father was Jeremiah Lowary. His mother Catherine (Siple) Lowary. They were farmers by occupation, having passed their lives in tilling the soil. The father died in Sandusky, Ohio. The mother who survived her husband, came to Shelby County and spent her last days, passing away in Holland Township, August 6, 1871. The subject of this sketch was the only child of his parents.



**J**OHN F. LINVILLE. This respected gentleman and thorough-going farmer who resides on section 18, Whitley Township, Moultrie County, is a son of John Linville and Elizabeth (Donnensen) Linville, both of whom were natives of Kentucky, where they grew to maturity, married and settled in Bath County, Ky., coming from there to Indiana, where they settled near Greensburg. After living there several years they removed to Fayette County, same State, and there remained until called hence by death.

These worthy and venerated parents had ten children of whom our subject was the fourth in order of age, being born in Decatur County, Ind., April 7, 1824. He was about ten years old when his father removed to Fayette County, Ind., where he grew to manhood and continued to reside until he was about twenty-six years old. In his boy-

hood he received thorough and systematic drill and instruction both in the theory and practice of farming and agriculture has been his sole business in life.

John F. Linville continued to live in Indiana until the fall of 1849, when he came to Clark County, Ill., and purchased a farm, upon which he continued to live until December, 1864, at which time he removed to Moultrie County and settled upon the section where he has ever since resided. The most important event in his life as a young man was his marriage, August 3, 1848, in Fayette County, Ind., to Jane McDowell, who was born in Bates County, Ohio, January 17, 1829.

Mr. and Mrs. Linville, had two children viz.: William D. who married Margaret E. Kennedy and was a farmer in Whitley Township, but died February 16, 1891; Rebecca E. who is the wife of Henry Wright, of Whitley Township. The death of the only son was a severe blow to the parents as well as to the young wife.

Our subject now owns one hundred and twenty acres upon which he has placed many excellent improvements and where he exercises a kind and neighborly hospitality to all who enter his door. His political views have led him to affiliate with the Democratic party and he believes that the principles of that party are the ones which are destined to promote the prosperity of the State. In his religious views he is liberal and he is an active promoter of every movement toward the moral upbuilding of the community.



**W**ILLIAM HARDY. One of the pioneer settlers in Central Illinois who has lived to see the country change from an aspect of wild, uncultivated beauty to that of one of the most productive agricultural regions of the Union, resides on a fine farm on section 36, of Ridge Township, Shelby County. Mr. Hardy was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, January 1, 1820, and is a son of Thomas and Nellie (Dutton) Hardy, natives of Maryland and Delaware. Each had emigrated to Fairfield County, Ohio, in early life when the

country was new and laborers few. There they met and married.

In 1836 our subject's parents removed to Illinois, locating in Tazewell County, where they rented land which they operated for two years. They then came to Shelby County, in the spring of 1839 and settled in Ridge Township on section 25, where the father entered eighty acres of land. He also pre-empted eighty acres of timber land in Okaw Township, where he resided for the remainder of his life.

Our subject's mother died in 1855, a victim of the cholera, which was at that time epidemic. Her husband followed her in 1858. They reared a family of nine children, two of whom died in infancy; Jesse S. died in Shelby County; he married Priscilla Ward and left a wife and three children, one of whom is now living in Kansas. Polly married John Howlet and resides at Charleston, Ill.; Sarah is the wife of James Boys, and resides in Ridge Township, as does also Thomas. George W. makes his home in Hutchinson, Kan. Abigail first married Jacob Leech and on becoming a widow she again married John Cook and at present resides in Iowa. Elizabeth is the wife of George W. Boys, and lives in Ridge Township. Henry H. resides in Medicine Lodge, Kan.

The original of our sketch is a farmer born and bred. He remained under the parental roof until he reached manhood when he was married to Amanda H. Davis, a daughter of Joshua Davis. She was a native of Shelby County, where she was born in June, 1836. Mr. and Mrs. Hardy are the parents of six children, whose names are Leah, Mary, Thomas, William, Maud and Florence. Before his marriage our subject had purchased the land upon which he afterward settled and has since resided on it. He is now the owner of two hundred and five acres of finely cultivated land, upon which a choice variety of grains, fruits and vegetables are raised. The place bears good buildings and many of the improvements both in science and agriculture are applied to make the farmer's life less one of drudgery than formerly.

In early life Mr. Hardy learned the trade of a carpenter, which business he pursued for some time, never, however, giving up his agricultural work

entirely. Politically our subject is a follower of the Republican party, and he has been for a long time School Director of his district. Mrs. Hardy is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and both she and her husband are looked upon as being representative people in the township. Affable, kind hearted and hospitable, they are examples and types of the best agricultural class in the State.



**A**BRAM MIDDLESWORTH, President of the First National Bank, Shelbyville, Shelby County, is a representative of the men of energy, ability and enterprise who have had the making of Shelby County. Not only is he prominent as the head of its leading financial institutions, but his name is indissolubly associated with the rise and progress of its agriculture as one of its most extensive farmers and stockmen for many years. He still retains his farming interests, and has one of the largest and best managed farms in this section of the State.

Our subject was born, November 10, 1821, on a farm ten miles southwest of Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio. His father was Abraham Middlesworth, a pioneer of this county, who was born in New Jersey, and was a son of John and Martha Middlesworth. The former died May 14, 1815, aged seventy years, and the latter departed this life October 5, 1824, at the age of seventy-four years, and both were buried near Beavertown, Pa. Her, an uncle of our subject, became a prominent citizen in the public life of the Commonwealth, and for eighteen years was a member of the State Legislature of Pennsylvania and served as Speaker of the House. He was born December 12, 1783 and died January 2, 1865. The grandfather, according to the best information at hand, was a native of England, who on coming to America at some time during the last century located first in New Jersey. Later he removed to Pennsylvania, and settled in that part of Union now included in Snyder County, where he engaged in farming until death closed his mortal career.

The father of our subject resided with his par-

ents until he attained his majority, when he started westward to seek his fortunes, taking with him all his worldly possessions, which comprised his clothing and rifle. He walked to Fairfield County, Ohio, and locating there in the early days of its settlement, established himself at the trade of a cooper. He applied himself closely to his calling, and in due time, with close economy, had enough money to purchase a tract of timber land southwest of Lancaster. During the early years of his married life he lived in the log cabin which became the birthplace of his son of whom we write. He was a man of more than ordinary enterprise, and was withal a successful speculator, buying wild land or partly developed farms, taking up his residence thereon, and after making improvements selling at an advanced price. He continued to live in Fairfield County until 1840, when he ambitiously sought "greener fields and pastures new" in this county, bringing with him his family on that ever memorable journey, he and his wife traveling in a carriage and Abram with a five horse team, riding one and driving the others with a single line.

Abraham Middlesworth had previously visited Illinois before coming here to settle permanently, and he had bought a large tract of land in this county, including the farm then owned by Benjamin Waldron, Sr. Two hewed log houses and twenty acres of cleared land constituted the improvements, the twenty acres referred to being known at that time as "Waldron's Big Field". Mr. Middlesworth continued to be a resident of the county, devoting himself to the improvement of his realty until his death deprived this part of the State of a valuable citizen, who while he lived was actively identified with its agriculture. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of our subject, was Barbara Leathers. She was a native of Pennsylvania or Maryland, and of German antecedents. She died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Sally Galligher. These are the names of the seven children of the parents of our subject; Mary, Sally, John, Abram, William, Ner and Isabella.

Abram Middlesworth was nineteen years of age when the family removed to this county, which was then but sparsely settled, and the greater part

of the land was owned by the Government. Deer and other wild game were quite plentiful, and often furnished an agreeable addition to the fare of the settlers, who were mostly home-livers, subsisting as far as possible on what they raised on their farms. There were no railways for some years after the family settled here, and St. Louis was the principal market and depot for supplies. Our subject embraced every opportunity to obtain an education in the schools of his early home in Ohio, which were taught in log school-houses, which he attended a few months each winter, devoting the remainder of the year to working on his father's farm. After coming to this county he and his brother managed their father's farm in 1841, and sold their whole crop of wheat at the rate of thirty-seven and a half cents a bushel. For a time they went to Springfield to get their grain ground.

Mr. Middlesworth's father gave him a tract of land, which was located in Tower Hill Township, and after his marriage he settled on it, and actively entered upon the pioneer task of reclaiming it from the wilderness. After the Mexican War he purchased land warrants of the soldiers to whom they had been given by the Government, and he entered land in Ridge Township, at a cost of eighty cents an acre. In addition to farming he engaged extensively in buying hogs and cattle, shipping the former to St. Louis and the latter to the New York markets. He continued to live on his farm until 1871, when he took up his residence in Shelbyville. He did not abandon his extensive agricultural operations, however, but superintended the cultivation of his farm and his large stock business as heretofore. He had acquired a handsome property by his operations, and twenty-five hundred acres of choice land are numbered among his possessions. In 1877 he was elected President of the First National Bank of Shelbyville, Ill., which position he still holds, and it is through his efficient and able administration of its finances that it has risen to be one of the safest as well as one of the most important monetary institutions in the county.

Forty-four years ago, on the 28th of January, 1847, Mr. Middlesworth took an important step in life that has contributed greatly to his happiness

and well-being, as on that date he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth J. T. Goodwin. Mrs. Middlesworth is a native of this county and a daughter of James and Sarah (Donnel) Goodwin, pioneers of this part of the State. Mr. and Mrs. Middlesworth have three sons and two daughters living, namely; Sarah B., widow of John W. Ward, her residence being on a farm five miles northeast of Shelbyville; Isabella, wife of Hiram Scarborough; James; John and William S.

In early life our subject was a Whig, but he subsequently joined the Republican party, and has ever since been a staunch advocate of its policy. He is a man of strong character and firm principles, who has always exerted a good influence over the community, and he is in no respect behind his fellow-citizens in public spirit and an earnest desire to help forward all enterprises that will in any way advance the best interests of the city and county, giving the benefit of his experience, business talent and money to all feasible plans to promote the public weal. He and his estimable wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and their liberality and helpfulness have contributed largely to its usefulness as an active religious organization.



**R**EV. BARNETT SMOCK. The name at the head of this sketch is that of a well-known minister of the Baptist Church of this county, having had the pastorate of five churches in this, Fayette, and Montgomery County. He has been an active church worker for about twenty years, during this time having been engaged in helping to organize new churches as well as in preaching the Gospel in the older ones. As an Evangelist, he has a great power for good and many are the additions to the various churches in which he has preached, attracted thither by his work. Each year he has performed the sacred ordinance of baptism receiving many into the churches.

Our subject began his career as a preacher in this county and was ordained in 1875. Elders Kelley and Coffee officiating at his ordination,

Recently he has spent some time in the field of mission work and is an earnest laborer in this direction. Aside from his church work, he of whom we write is a successful general farmer located on the pleasant tract of land in Pickaway Township, and having a well improved farm of two hundred and eight acres, besides forty acres in Rural Township, and eighty acres in Flat Branch Township. He has lived on his present farm for seven years, having moved hither from Rural Township. He came to Illinois from Indiana in 1856.

The original of our sketch was born in Vigo County, six miles south of Terre Haute, March 17, 1837. He was but a youth when his father moved across the line to Sullivan County, where he was reared and educated. He comes of good stock. His father was Abraham Smock, a native of Kentucky, and a son of Henry Smock, who was a native of Germany. After our subject's grandfather was grown, he was married in his native land to a German lady and soon after marriage he and his wife emigrated to the United States in the days when sailing vessels were used for transportation. They settled in Kentucky, near Lexington, in the early part of the present century. The children were most of them born in Kentucky. Henry Smock and wife with their family removed to Indiana making their home in Sullivan County. This change was made in the early part of the '30s. There the two secured a tract of land in the wilds of the State. The farm which they pre-empted was new and of course had no improvements. They were known in their day as large farmers, owning several hundred acres. Here the parents lived and died, being regarded by neighbors and acquaintances, as good people and successful pioneers. As before said, the country was wholly undeveloped and there was an abundance of wild game. They first beheld the land just after the Indians began to seek broader hunting fields and before their deaths they beheld it a beautiful agricultural region, with wide spreading fields of waving grain and dotted with buildings that are the picture of comfort and serene content.

The grandparents died when old people, Henry Smock at the age of seventy, his wife being

seventy-six at the time of her decease. They were both members of the New Light Church. Ten children encircled their hearthstone and made merry the days, and light the work about the old homestead. Abraham, the father of our subject, was one of the eldest of these. He grew from boyhood into manhood in Sullivan County, and was all his life a farmer. While a young man he was married in Vigo County, Ind., to Miss Mary Weeks. The lady was born in Kentucky and was a daughter of J. Lewis and Susan E. (Hampton) Weeks, both natives of Virginia and come of Scotch-Irish stock. They were married in Virginia, and later went to Kentucky where they lived near Louisville. After a time they removed to Vigo County, Ind., where they were very early settlers. There Lewis Weeks died in the old home which he had improved. At the time of his decease, he was about sixty-five years old. His wife, who survived him many years, later came to her son, Alfred Weeks', home, in Vermilion County, Ill., where she died in June, 1890. She was born in 1790, and at the time of her death was within six months of being a centenarian. Her mother before her had died at the age of ninety-four years. Lewis Weeks and wife were all their lives members of the Baptist Church, as were all the generations before them for years.

After a few years of married life, Abraham Smock with his family located on a farm in Sullivan County, where they both finished their lives, the former passing away in 1816. He was then in the prime of life, having been born in 1817. His wife lived for a good many years and died at the old homestead in Sullivan County, in December, 1875. She was born in 1816. During the latter part of her life she was a member of the Christian Church, but for many years she and her husband were members of the New Light Church. Our subject was carefully reared by his mother and step-father. He received a practical education in the district schools, but feels that his greatest advantage was gained by the light of the hickory fire, while bending over his books in the chimney corner. Naturally of an ardent, thoughtful nature, he was a lover of books and read carefully and thoughtfully.

When he of whom we write came to this State, he was yet a single man but could not long resist the charms of the maidens in the Prairie State and was married to Miss Delilah Casey in the township near where he now lives; she is a second daughter of Judge John Casey who was for many years a prominent man in the county, of whom a fuller history may be found under the biographical sketch of Joseph Smock. Mrs. Smock was born on her father's homestead in this county and township June 29, 1838. Here she has spent her entire life and is known in the vicinity as a model mother, a kind, helpful and generous neighbor and a noble woman. As a pioneer of the State she has a large circle of acquaintances and stands high in their estimation and affection. She, like her husband, is a Baptist in her religious belief.

Mr. Smock casts his vote and influence in favor of the Prohibition party. Our subject and his estimable wife are the parents of five children, two of whom are deceased. One passed away in infancy. The other was named William A. The living children are: Albert B.; Lydia A. and John C. Albert B. took to wife Minnie F. Smith, and now resides on a farm in this township. Lydia A., who is the light and life of the home, is a bright and intelligent young lady. John C. helps his brother run the farm. Mr. Smock's family is one notable for its intelligence and culture and the influence therefrom, is of the best.



**S**AMUEL ANDERSON, a dealer in stock, who resides on section 9, Oconee Township, Shelby County, was born in Simpson County, Ky., May 1, 1856. He is a son of Peyton and Anna (Logan) Anderson. His father, who is the proprietor of the Anderson House at Oconee, was born in Allen County, Ky., September 17, 1822. His parents were Samuel and Ann (Clarke) Anderson, the father being born in Virginia, and going to Kentucky when a young man.

The mother, who was born in Nashville, Tenn.,

married Samuel Anderson in Allen County, Ky., which remained the permanent home until the death of this couple. Peyton was the fourth in a family of six children, the others being Sallie Ann, who married James Jones, of Allen County, Ky.; Robert, who resides in Fayette County, Ill.; Rachel, who married and resides in Kentucky on the old homestead; Mary, the wife of Harrison Dobbs, who lives in Kentucky.

Peyton Anderson was reared to farm life and resided in Kentucky until he reached the age of eleven. During the Civil War he occupied neutral ground and did not take part on either side, although his sympathies were with the Union cause. He was married in Allen County, Ky., January 1, 1841, to Miss Anna B. Logan, daughter of Robert and Rebecca Logan, who removed from North Carolina to Kentucky previous to their marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Logan had ten children, namely: E. W., Minerva, Eliza, Joshua, Lavina, Ann B., Robert, Zachariah, Amelia E. and Amanda M. Eliza, Mrs. Garrison, died in Kansas; Amelia, Mrs. Harris, died in Kentucky; and Joshua died in Perry County, this State.

To Mr. and Mrs. Anderson two sons and three daughters have been born, namely: Mary, the wife of James Allen, who resides in Montgomery County, Ill.; Samuel, our subject, who is unmarried and engaged in stock-raising in Shelby County; Robert L., who is buying and shipping horses in Montgomery County; Amelia, Mrs. Ed. Smith; and Sarah, Mrs. John Williamson.

The father of our subject is a staunch Republican, whose Union sentiments are a credit to any man, more to a man like himself, who was born and educated in the South. He takes an active interest in political affairs, and is liberal in religious matters, though a firm believer in the Christian religion.

Samuel Anderson grew to manhood in his native State, receiving his education in the schools of that region, and engaged in farming and stock-raising with his father until his removal in 1889, when he located in Oconee Township, Shelby County, this State, and worked on a farm for some ten years.

He then engaged in buying, feeding and selling stock, handling cattle and hogs principally. He

is associated in business with Mr. E. Bass, and buys and ships stock from Oconee. He votes with the Republican party, and believes that in its principles are to be found the true guide to progress in this country. He is industrious, honest and intelligent, and has the confidence of all with whom he is associated.



**W**ILLIAM F. TULL, one of the oldest residents, and one of those most worthy of honor in Windsor Township, Shelby County, resides on section 20, and was born in Bedford County, Tenn., January 9, 1819. His parents were Daniel and Sallie (Baw) Tull, both natives of North Carolina, who married there and soon after returned to Tennessee, where they remained until 1829. At this time they emigrated to Illinois, and settled in Shelby County. Our subject was the eighth in a family of nine, and all are deceased except this son and his brother, Nathan F., who resides in the village of Windsor.

Mr. Tull was but a lad of eleven years when his parents located in Shelby County, yet he has a vivid recollection of the trip across the country, with a six-horse team, and often recalls the wild and unimproved condition of the country and the sparsely peopled sections through which they traveled. Shelbyville, now a promising city of five thousand inhabitants, was then a little trading post, composed of a few log shanties.

In the fall of 1838 this young man (then only nineteen years old) took to himself a wife in the person of Miss Hannah Davis, who was also a native of East Tennessee, where she was born December 27, 1821. Her parents, like his, came to Shelby County in the early days, and located in Windsor Township in 1828, and there spent the remainder of their lives. That young couple in due time became the parents of a truly patriarchal flock, fifteen children being born to them.

The seven children who are still living are as follows: Sallie, Mrs. Cane, now fifty-one years

old, and lives in this township; Josiah has been a cripple since he was eighteen months old, and has always been cared for by his parents; Harriet is unmarried and lives at home; Catherine, now Mrs. Moobery, lives in this township, as does also Jonathan, who is married; James and Nathan F. are at home and unmarried, and working on the old homestead, although they have both reached mature years.

This beautiful old couple have enjoyed each other's society in wedded life for over fifty-two years, and both give promise of many more years of health and cheer. They speak in the highest terms of the filial affection and obedience of their children, with whom they have never had an unpleasant or discordant word. Mr. Tull has been a life-long Democrat, and has ever been a recognized leader in his township. His middle name is Forrest as he was named for the father of the noted Confederate General, that general being a playmate of Mr. Tull's. For many years this couple were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but at the time of the division of that body during the war, they withdrew and joined the Christian Union Church.



**J**AMES H. WHITE. We are pleased to present among the highly esteemed residents of Shelby County the name of James H. White, who resides on section 13, Rose Township. His father, William White, was born in Perry County, Pa., and his mother, Hannah Milligan, was a native of the same county. Their first home after marriage was in that State, from which they afterward removed to Montgomery County, Ind., and later to Christian County, Ill., where they located in Pana, and there they spent the remainder of their days. They were the happy parents of ten children, of whom our subject is the second.

James H. White was born in Perry County, Pa., July 16, 1829. There he received his early education and his practical training upon a farm and

grew up to a vigorous young manhood. In 1851 he removed to Montgomery County, Ind., and engaged in the mercantile business in Waveland for about fifteen years. He sold out his business in 1865, and coming to Shelby County, located on section 13, Rose Township. Since his removal to this place he has devoted himself entirely to farming and dealing in stock. His rich farm comprises one hundred and twenty acres upon which he has placed good improvements.

The marriage of this gentleman took place in Crawfordsville, Ind., October 3, 1854, his bride being Miss Mildred Canine, a daughter of Richard and Eliza (Gwynn) Canine, both natives of Kentucky. The mother died in Crawfordsville, Ind., and the father still survives. Eight children completed this family circle and Mrs. White was next to the eldest of them. Her birth took place in Crawfordsville, Ind., April 2, 1835, and there she was reared to womanhood.

The children who came to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. White are seven in number, namely: Albert T., who married Miss Fannie Durkee; Clara S.; William R., who married Miss Fannie Smith, of Frankfort, Clinton County, Ind.; James; Walter; Minnie, who died when ten years old; and Alta P. Mr. White has the profound respect and esteem of his fellow-citizens and they have placed him in several offices of responsibility, all of which he has filled with real benefit to the community. He has for four terms been Supervisor of Rose Township and for several years has acted as Justice of the Peace and Township Clerk. He is Secretary for Rose Township of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company. He is independent in his political views and does not ally himself with any of the existing parties, as he prefers to be free to follow his own judgment and convictions rather than to be guided by the party leaders.

Mrs. White is a woman of more than ordinary capability and influence and is the efficient and judicious President of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Moulton. They have brought up their children in the faith and practice of the Christian religion and the whole family are united in the membership of the Presbyterian Church. The pleasant home of our subject has

attractive surroundings and the farm buildings are excellent. Such a family as this is one of the greatest advantages which any township can have, as their industry and enterprise tend to its material prosperity and their character and intelligence make an influence for good in every way.



ALBERT WYMAN, a large and successful dealer in boots and shoes, who is doing business in a fine establishment at the southwest corner of the public square, came to Sullivan, Moultrie County, in 1870 and entered upon work as a journeyman shoemaker. Later he began business on his own account and finally added a stock of goods and opened a store. He has been a hard-working man and is the architect of his own fortune, and out of his profits he has built the commodious business house which he now occupies. It is twenty-two feet wide by eighty-two feet deep, two stories high and was built in 1885, since which time he has kept it stocked with an excellent and extensive line of boots and shoes.

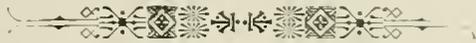
Mr. Wyman came here from St. Louis, to which point he had traveled over a great many States since coming to this country in 1858 from Germany. He was born in Prussia not far from Berlin, July 10, 1835. His parents, Daniel and Dora-thea (Heiser) Wyman, natives of Prussia, were of excellent German stock and reared him through his boyhood, giving to him the best advantages of a German education. The father passed from life in his native country in 1862 at the age of seventy-six, and his good wife, who was born in 1804, died in 1866. Daniel Wyman had fought with the German forces in the war with France which took place between the years of 1812 and 1815, being an active soldier for four years and bearing throughout life wounds received in conflict. He and his faithful wife were devout members of the Lutheran Church.

Our subject is the youngest of his parents' children, six sons and one daughter, and two of these sons are now deceased, Albert having grown to

manhood in his native Province, set out while still young for this country, breaking away from home and friends and coming all alone from Hamburg to New York City, landing there in 1858, and beginning as a workman at his trade which he had learned in his native country.

Mr. Wyman served for four months as a soldier in the War of the Rebellion, enlisting at the first call in the Second Missouri Infantry, and fighting at the battle of Wilson's Creek, Mo. He often says that this short experience gave him a sufficient taste of war and of rebellion and he was satisfied after that to settle down to his trade in St. Louis.

He adheres to the church of his forefathers, the Lutheran, and is active and helpful in its good works. In political matters he is independent, not being traumeled by party ties.



**S**AMUEL HARPER resides on section 16, of Rural Township, Shelby County. His residence in this county dates from 1854. He was born in Beaver County, Pa., December 28, 1834, and is a son of James and Margaret (McFarland) Harper, both natives of County Antrim, Ireland.

The father of our subject, James Harper, came to the United States about 1825. At that time he had one brother in this country, John Harper, who had come here from the Emerald Isle in 1800. Our subject's maternal ancestors were also natives of County Antrim, Ireland, and of the three children in the family, two sons, John and Robert McFarland came to the United States, where they prepared a home, and their parents and one sister followed them hither two years after their advent into this country. Their sister, Miss Margaret McFarland, was a highly educated lady, and on coming to this country, she occupied herself in the sacred work of teaching the young to grow into noble men and women. She met and married James Harper, merchant of Fairview, Beaver County, Pa., the father of our subject, about 1832. Both parents died in Beaver County, Pa. The mother passed out into the unknown in 1838, and

the father in 1849, at the age of sixty-nine years. They had three children, only one of whom, our subject, lived to attain manhood.

The original of our sketch was reared in the mercantile business, receiving a practical business education which fitted him for commercial life. He is a graduate from a commercial college of high standing. Coming to Illinois, he stopped for a short time in Shelby County and then went to Texas, after which he returned to his native State, Pennsylvania, but finally accepted the advice of Horace Greeley, and came West, settling here in Illinois in 1860. Soon after his settling in this State he was attracted by the charms of one of the sweet girls of the Prairie State, and on December 27, 1860, was married to Mary J. Armstrong, who is a daughter of Edward and Margaret (Graham) Armstrong, settlers in Shelby County, from an early day, having come here as pioneers about 1827. They were natives respectively of Knox County, Ind., and of Kentucky. Mr. Armstrong was born in 1814. His wife was two years younger. They were married in Washington County, Ind., but their home was soon after established in Shelby County, this State, where they located on a farm in Ridge Township. There the mother died in June, 1853. The father followed her a number of years later, his decease taking place March 7, 1870.

Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong were the parents of seven children, six of whom lived to be grown. Their names are Mary Jane, Helen, Richard, Emma, William and Iona. Mrs. Harper's father was twice married after the death of Mrs. Harper's mother. By his third wife he became the father of one child whose name is James C. Mrs. Harper's maiden name was Mary Jane. She was born in Ridge Township, January 25, 1841, and was married to our subject, Samuel Harper, December 27, 1860.

After marriage our subject engaged in active service in the War of the Rebellion, enlisting in Company G, of the Thirty-second Illinois Infantry, October 18, 1864. He served until the close of the war, participating in the battles of Bentonville, the siege of Savannah, and was one of the army who was with Sherman in his noted march from

Atlanta to the sea. He was a First Sergeant in his regiment and also received a commission as First Lieutenant. At the close of the war he returned to Shelby County and resumed farming. Here he owns eighty acres of land, which is under a good state of cultivation.

Mr. and Mrs. Harper have had six little ones who have come to their hearts and homes as promises of comfort and support to their declining years. Most of these children are now grown and have families of their own and are respected and honored members of society. Maggie is the wife of Thomas W. Cortmell; Lincoln G. resides in Cheyenne, Wyo.; James Edward and Carrie are engaged in the work of teaching, and have made themselves fine reputations in their chosen calling. Richard G. and Samuel McFarland make their homes with their parents. Two children died in childhood.

Politically, our subject is a Republican and the issues that are vital with his party are those that are likewise most important to him. He has been elected to several positions in township offices, having been Assessor and Township Clerk. Mr. Harper is one of the charter members of the Rural Township Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company, and has been the Secretary of the same since its organization. It is extremely gratifying to him, as to other officers and promoters of the organization, that success and financial standing is assured.



**F**RANCIS X. GRESS, who is the proprietor of the furniture and undertaking establishment in Stewardson, is one of the most substantial business men of the town, having represented the business there in the abovenamed branch since 1876, and as the town was founded in 1875, he is one of its pioneers. Mr. Gress was born Bavaria, Germany, February 5, 1836. His father lived and died in Germany. His mother came to the United States about 1874, and passed from this life to the better world, while making her home in Prairie Township. Our subject's mother had one brother, after whom our subject is named. He also,

was a settler in the State and died in Shelby County, leaving a wife and three children. She also had a sister who was unmarried, and died at St. Louis, Mo.

At the age of fifteen years, our subject was apprenticed to learn the trade of a cabinet maker. He served his apprenticeship for three years and then went to work at his trade near the place of his birth where he remained until 1857, when he left the Fatherland, taking a vessel at Bremen and after a voyage of fifty-two days, he landed in Baltimore and at once went to Chicago, the journey at that time between the two cities, occupying eight days. For a time after coming hither he was engaged as a cooper in a brewery near Chicago; there being no opportunity to work at his trade he gave his time in this way in order to pay his board.

In January, 1858, Mr. Gress came to Shelbyville, having previously been promised work at that place. He remained there for about two weeks, but as his funds grew scarce, and work seemed remote, he went to Sullivan where he found an opportunity to employ himself at his trade. In the spring of 1863 he went to Chicago, where he was engaged as a cabinet maker. He staid there for some months and in August, 1864, he went to Nashville, Tenn., and worked as a carpenter in Government employ. In February, 1865, he returned to Sullivan, but only remained a few months, when he again went to Chicago, and in July, 1865, he married Mrs. Josephine Weisbrick, *nee* Altman. Her first husband was a soldier in the Civil War and was killed. In 1868, our subject removed to Shelby County, and settled on a farm in Prairie Township, occupying himself with tilling the soil, until he removed to Stewardson.

Our subject and his wife, who have always been prudent, energetic people, are now the owners of four good building lots in the place where they reside. One child has been given them to grace their home and be the comfort of their declining years, a daughter whose name is Mary. The family are in their religious views devout Catholics, and are generous supporters of that body. Politically Mr. Gress is a Democrat. He has held several local offices.

Formerly Mr. Gress was associated with Joseph

Steidle, under the firm name of Steidle & Gress. They were owners and proprietors of a packing house at Steward-on, which was built by the gentleman of whom we are writing.



**J**ACOB F. PFEIFFER. Among the enterprising young farmers of Rose Township, Shelby County, none perhaps deserve higher praise than this gentleman whose ancestry is to be traced across the seas. His father, the late John Pfeiffer was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, April 2, 1835, and was the son of John Phillip Pfeiffer who was born in Germany and emigrated to Fairfield County, Ohio. He came to this county about the year 1877 and settled in Rose Township.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Anna M. Finka, her parents being John C. and Louisa Finka, natives of Germany. It was about the year 1843 when they left the old country and came to America, where they settled in Fairfield County, Ohio, and spent the remainder of their days. Mrs. Pfeiffer is the youngest of their four children, and she was born in Germany August 13, 1833.

After their marriage in Fairfield County, Ohio, the parents of our subject settled there for some before coming to Shelby County, Ill., where they made their home in Ridge Township, in March, 1864. For four years they resided there and then settled on section 5, Rose Township, where Mr. Pfeiffer died December 4, 1879. Their seven children are: John C., Louisa M., now the wife of Leslie B. Barrett; Minnie C., the wife of Isaac Bales; Benjamin J., Jacob F., Edward W. and Emma M.

At the time of his death the father of these children owned a fine tract of one hundred and forty acres upon which he had erected good, suitable buildings. Since his demise his widow has carried on the farm most efficiently and successfully. He was prominent during his life in educational affairs and held some school offices. He was an active worker in the Lutheran Church to which he and his good wife had both been long united.

The subject of this sketch was born in Ridge Township, November 14, 1864, and was reared to manhood in Rose Township, where he was educated in the common schools. Here his marriage occurred November 27, 1888, Miss Minnie L. Fringer becoming his bride. The parents of this lady, Jacob and Mary (Stoner) Fringer are residents of Rose Township, and Mrs. Pfeiffer is the fifth in their family of seven children. She was born in Preston County, Va., May 16, 1871. One child, Lula May, has come to bless this home. Mr. Pfeiffer is a prominent and active member of the Lutheran Church and is a young man who gives promise of achieving true success in life. His good management as a farmer is abundantly attested by the excellent condition of his farm and the neat appearance of his buildings. Mrs. Pfeiffer has evinced capabilities which will, no doubt, aid her husband greatly in carrying on his life work and bring to her the enduring reputation which every woman should seek as a true neighbor, a faithful wife and a judicious mother.



**R**EV. HENRY WEAKLY, a man of ability and usefulness who pursues the double avocation of tiller of the soil and spiritual laborer in the vineyard of the Lord, has his pleasant home on section 2, Rose Township, Shelby County. His father was Benedict Weakly and his mother Martha Mathews, both born in Maryland, thence they migrated to Fairfield County, Ohio, and from there removed to Shelby County, Ill. Their marriage took place December 21, 1815, and they were successful and laborious farmers. It was in 1843 when they came to Shelby County, Ill., and they settled in Ridge Township which became their final earthly home.

Our subject was one of the oldest members of his father's family, his native place being in Fairfield County, Ohio, where he was born September 7, 1826. He passed his early days in Ohio where he attended the common schools and after coming to Illinois he devoted himself to farm work, assist-

ing his father upon the farm until he was twenty-five years old, when he was united in marriage with Miss Amanda Wagoner, a native of Indiana.

The young wedded couple made their first home in Ridge Township and there set up their household and industriously devoted themselves to farm labors. This was their farm home until they removed to Rose Township. Mr. Weakly first united with the Evangelical Brethren Church in Ridge Township, which church afterward became a part of the Southern Methodist. He has officiated in the pulpit since 1866. He was ordained as a Deacon in 1877 and four years later received the ordination of Elder.

A large tract of land located in Shelby County is the property owned and managed by our subject. He has it in an excellent state of cultivation and has erected upon it, comfortable and neat farm buildings. This worthy couple are practically doers of good in the world, for as they have no children of their own they have acted as father and mother to four little orphans and have brought them up to attain lives and character of usefulness in the world. This truly good, industrious and benevolent life strongly re-inforces the pulpit utterances of Mr. Weakly, and his eloquent exhortation to a Christian life are not without their effect upon the people to whom he administers. At a meeting which he conducted nine miles east of Nokomis, thirty-seven professed conversion to the Saviour. Aside from his domestic life and pulpit work, Mr. Weakly has been useful in the community as Highway Commissioner in Ridge Township.



**L**M. SPITLER. For more than twenty years Mr. Spitler has been closely connected with the development of Moultrie County and since 1880 he has been prominent in the business and political circles of Sullivan. He is a general merchant and dealer in staple and fancy groceries, glass and queensware, and ranks among the most enterprising business men of the village. Prior to embarking in business as a merchant he operated a farm, upon which he located in 1871. Not only

has he been influential in business circles, but in all matters of public moment he is interested. He has served efficiently as City Councilman and in other ways aided in the prosperity of the place. Politically he is a staunch Republican and never fails to deposit a ballot in the interest of that party.

Mr. Spitler is descended from German forefathers. His great-grandfather crossed the broad Atlantic from Germany prior to the Revolutionary War and settled in Virginia, where he and his wife both died. Among their large family was a son named Jacob, who was reared to farming pursuits and grew to manhood in his native State. There he was married to a Virginia lady and there several children were born to them, including the father of our subject, whose given name was Henry. The latter was a youth of fourteen years when, in 1809, he accompanied his parents to Fairfield County, Ohio.

At that time Ohio was a wilderness and the Spitler family began life there as pioneers, improving the farm from the heavy timber lands and enduring all the hardships which fell to those brave men who opened a pathway for modern civilization. Jacob Spitler and his wife became prominent in the sparsely settled community and were active members of the Baptist Church. They died in Fairfield County at a good old age. After Henry Spitler had reached manhood he married Miss Mary S. Seitz, a native of Virginia and of German descent. She was only eleven years old when her parents removed to Fairfield County, Ohio, and there she grew to womanhood.

After their marriage Henry Spitler and his wife settled on a farm in Fairfield County, where they both died at the age of seventy-four years, the mother surviving the father three years. They also belonged to the Baptist Church and the father voted the Democratic ticket. Our subject, who was a twin, was one of a family of sixteen children, eight of whom are yet living, all married and with families of their own. In his native county our subject grew to a vigorous manhood, receiving an academic education at the Fairfield Union Academy and afterward following the profession of a teacher for several years. He taught one term after coming to Illinois.





Wm. Amersman

Mr. Spittler owes much of the comfort with which he is surrounded to the untiring efforts of his wife, with whom he was united in marriage in Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1851. She was known in maidenhood as Margaret D. Friend, and was born in Fairfield County in 1826. Her parents, Jonas and Mary A. (Daily) Friend, were natives of Maryland and were married in Pennsylvania and settled at an early day in Fairfield County, Ohio. There they improved and cultivated a farm until their death, full of years and honor. They were good religious people and consistent members of the Baptist Church. They had a family of eight children, six of whom survive, all past middle age and with families. Mrs. Spittler was carefully reared at home and is a woman whose nobility of character and kindness of heart win for her friends wherever she is known.

The otherwise happy union of our subject and his good wife has been saddened by the death of their only son, Jefferson D., who died at the age of thirty-two years. His death occurred in California, whither he had gone for his health. He left a wife, whose maiden name was M. E. Harvey, and who is now living in Sullivan, engaged in the millinery business. The surviving child, Mary J., is still under the parental roof and is an intelligent and refined young lady. Mr. and Mrs. Spittler are prominent in social circles and although not communicants of any church, are held in high esteem for their recognized worth of character.



**W**ILLIAM THUNEMANN is a dealer in and manufacturer of harness and saddlery in Sullivan, Moultrie County, and is located on the north side of the public square where he has been in business for many years, having opened his establishment here in 1861. He first began in a small way and has since built up a large business and a good trade, having been located in three different places in the city since coming here. He has an enviable reputation as a skilled workman and turns out some very fine pieces of work.

Our subject came to Sullivan from Chicago in 1858, but worked on a farm until 1861. He had

come to Chicago from Philadelphia, where he had been for two years, as he first located there on coming to this country from Germany in 1856. His native home was in one of the Rhenish Provinces, and he was born September 8, 1820, upon the banks of the beautiful and picturesque river Rhine. His parents William and Anna M. (Putz) Thunemann were of pure German stock, the former being born in Saxony and the latter upon the river Rhine. They were married and began life near her native home during the period of the Napoleonic wars. The father worked in the Government service, superintending a large harness shop which furnished equipments for the Russian Army, and he was thus engaged throughout the war. Later in life he started in business on his own account and died near his native home in 1852, being then sixty-two years old. His wife passed away six years later at the age of seventy-nine. She was a devoted member of the Roman Catholic Church but her husband brought up the children in his own faith, that of the Evangelical Church.

Our subject is the youngest of the parental household, of whom but two are now living, his brother Jacob being a harness-maker in the Rhenish Province of Odenkiecken, and being now seventy-four years old, a well preserved and active business man. One of his sons, Paul, a fine young business man, is with his uncle in business. Mr. Thunemann learned his trade when about fourteen years of age and has continued in its exercise ever since. He was married in his native province to Anna M. Gilbert, who was born February, 22, 1828, of good German stock, her father being a weaver of fine cloth and a farmer. Both he and his faithful wife, who like himself, spent her entire days in her native land, found in the Evangelical Church a religious home.

Mrs. Thunemann was reared in her native province and after her marriage she became the mother of two children before emigrating to this country. The little family left Antwerp on a sailing vessel which bore the name of "Matilda," and after five weeks upon the ocean they landed in New York City and traveled from there to Philadelphia. Somewhat later they came West, stopping first at

Chicago in the fall of 1857, before coming to Sullivan which they reached in 1858.

In May, 1875, our subject and his wife returned to their Fatherland and visited the old home. They had the pleasure of seeing the Emperor William and in October of the same year they returned to their home in Sullivan. They are the parents of four children, namely: Johanna, the wife of Edward J. Gilliam, who is traveling for a St. Louis House in Southern Illinois; Mary, the wife of Charles Barnhart, the manager of the new Litchfield House at Litchfield; Margaret, who is a teacher in the public schools of Spokane Falls, Wash., and Emma, who is at home and a teacher of music. The members of the family belong to the Presbyterian Church and are active in the exercise of their religious duties. Mr. Thunemann is an intelligent student of our American institutions and a Republican in politics. He has been for thirteen years one of the City Aldermen.

In connection with this biographical notice a portrait of Mr. Thunemann is presented to our readers.



**Z**ACHARIAH B. WHITFIELD. As the city of Sullivan is the center of a rich, highly cultivated and prosperous county, it is not surprising that within its bounds may be found a large number of retired farmers who have gained sufficient wealth by the labors of their early years to give themselves the luxury of rest and ease in their declining days. These retired farmers are not so old and decrepit as to have lost their interest in matters outside their homes, but are active and useful citizens, employing their energies more fully in the line of public improvements than they were able to do in the days when they were more heavily burdened.

Among such citizens of Sullivan we find the prosperous man whose name appears at the head of this present writing. His fine farm in Whitley Township consists of two hundred and eighty-eight acres, which has upon it a complete set of farm buildings, and the acres are well improved

and finely stocked. He came to Whitley Township in 1858 with his parents, having been born January 15, 1847, in Shelby County. His father, Willis Whitfield, was a native of Tennessee, whose parents were of Scotch-Irish descent. He became a farmer in his native State, and was there first married to Alomentra Rhoads, a Tennessee lady. This worthy pioneer couple soon came to Shelby County, Ill., settling near Shelbyville when there was but one house in that place, and taking up Government land. This was about the year 1832, and one year later Mrs. Whitfield died of the Asiatic cholera, in 1833, being then in the prime of life. Her three children, Emeline, Louisa and Silas have all now passed to the other world, although they lived to mature years and established families of their own.

The Rev. Willis Whitfield was a second time married in Shelby County to Miss Martha Pugh, who was born in Kentucky and came when a child with her parents to Shelby County. Mr. Pugh was killed when in middle life by a bolt of lightning when planting corn. In 1858 Willis Whitfield and wife came to Whitley Township and there took a farm, and making good improvements upon it, remained in this home through life. The father passed away in 1869, having reached the age of sixty-four years. The mother tarried five years longer, and then died at the age of sixty-four. They were active members of the Separate Baptist Church, and for many years Mr. Whitfield filled the pulpit in that church. He was a prominent church worker in both this and Shelby Counties. His political views were Democratic, and he was an earnest worker for that cause.

Our subject has one sister living—Elizabeth, the wife of M. L. Wagoner, of Whitley Township. He remained with his parents until their death, his mother passing away under his roof. He received a fairly good education in his youth, and is a genial man, and possesses the esteem of his neighbors on account of his intelligence and integrity. He has been a leader in the local politics of Whitley Township, and has been placed by turn in all of the offices of the township, having been Supervisor for five years. He is a favorite not only in the Democratic party, but in all political circles.

The marriage of our subject in Whitley Township to Miss Hannah D. M. Baker gave him a companion who has proved of inestimable value in his battle with life. She was born in Whitley Township, and is the daughter of William K. Baker, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser here, whose wife bore the maiden name of Lucinda Carter. Mrs. Whittfield was one of a numerous family, and herself has become the mother of six children, viz.: William K., Zachariah B., Martha L., Willis H., Lydia E. and C. Fred.



**G**EORGE W. VORIS is the name of the pioneer business man of Stewardson who operates upon so broad a plane as to have made his place of residence more known in commercial circles than any other man in the community. He is the leading citizen of the place, and his home is the center of the social life of the community, his talented and charming wife presides over the domestic realm with a pleasing hospitality and great grace and dignity. While our subject's commercial obligations are so large as to consume much of his time and attention, home with its charming mistress and bright family of children holds the first place in his heart.

The original of our sketch devotes himself to dealing in grain, hay and farm machinery. In February of 1874 he built his office for the purchase of grain. This was the first building the present town boasted. The railroad had been completed a short time previous to the location of our subject. At that time he was a member of the firm of Gould & Voris, and continued in this business relation until 1889, when Mr. Gould withdrew and the firm became G. W. Voris & Co.

When he of whom we write first began business in Stewardson, it was for the purchase of grain. Our subject was station agent for the railroad at that time, in which capacity he continued for about three years. At the end of that time he gave his whole attention to his private business, and in connection with the grain business dealt in live stock.

He next added agricultural implements, and later, in 1881, began dealing in hay. He now owns a hay barn that is over one hundred feet square.

Our subject was born in Bath, Summit County, Ohio, November 11, 1850, and is the son of Peter and Julia (Coe) Voris, natives of Reading, Pa., and Connecticut. The family removed, in 1857, to Illinois, and settled in Mattoon, where the father engaged in gardening. While a resident of Ohio our subject's father held a prominent position in the county, being a surveyor, and for a term was Associate Judge with Hon. Benjamin Wade. He was an honorable, upright man in business dealings, but not a successful financier. He passed away from this life in 1881, his wife having preceded him by a number of years. They were the parents of thirteen children, of whom our subject was the youngest.

Mr. Voris' mother having died when he was but a small boy, at the age of seven years he went to Taylor County, Iowa, and lived with a sister, after which he spent three years in Nodaway County, Mo. He then returned to Illinois and worked as a farm hand in Knox County, his advent into the State being in 1866. Up to this time he had enjoyed but few educational advantages, but as he came in contact with the world he felt the need of an education, and being studiously inclined by nature, he made up the deficiency in his early education as much as possible by outside study and reading. After returning to Illinois he went to Fulton, N. Y., where for two years he attended Falley Seminary. At the end of the second year he was obliged to give up his school because of ill health. On his return to Illinois he entered a store at Windsor as a clerk, in which capacity he served until coming to Stewardson.

In 1875 Mr. Voris was married to Margaret M. Pfluger, a daughter of William and Sophia M. Pfluger. The lady was born near Elgin, Ill., in June, 1855. Their married life has been very happy, and six children have come to gladden their hearts and home. One of these was taken away in infancy. The five who are still living are Mabel, Ralph, Frank, Maud and Helen.

Politically, Mr. Voris affiliates with the Republican party, using his vote and influence for the

advantage of that party. In local matters, however, he does not adhere to party lines, believing that the best man and he who is best fitted for the position involved is the one who should be awarded local favors. He has served as President of the Village Board, and has also been a Justice of the Peace for some time. Our subject has made his combat with the world single-handed, but this fact has not, as is very frequently the case, hardened his heart to the needs and weaknesses of others. Many there are not only in his own town, but wherever he has chanced to be, who will ever have reason to be grateful for his generosity, sympathy and good will.

G. W. Voris & Co. do business at the following named places: Lerna, Trilla, Kingman, Faneber, Herrick, Herborn and Stewardson. At these stations the firm buy grain or hay, or both. Our subject also owns about eleven hundred acres of land, partly under a high degree of cultivation. The success which the original of our sketch has attained cannot but be encouraging to the young men of limited means and education, but whose ambition knows no bounds. He has demonstrated that by persistent effort and determination a man can make of himself what he will.



**J**OHN W. COWLE, who is part proprietor of the Moweaqua Mill, Shelby County, is a capable and enterprising business man, and is contributing his meed toward sustaining and extending the material prosperity of this, his native State. He was born in Macoupin County, September 6, 1843, and is a son of Daniel Cowle, who was for many years before his death identified with the agricultural interests of Illinois, the latter part of his life carrying on his farming operations in this county.

Daniel Cowle was born on the Isle of Man, where his father, whose given name was Charles, had inherited a large farm, which was his home throughout his life. He reared three sons and one daughter, Daniel being the only member of the family that ever came to this country. He was

reared and educated in the home of his birth, receiving a thorough drilling in all things that pertain to farming, and at the age of twenty-five he went out into the world to see what life held for him elsewhere. He made his way to the United States, and for awhile lived in the State of New York, and was also a resident of New Jersey for some years. We next hear of him in Connecticut, whence he went to Virginia, and from that State he came to Illinois in 1841, coming by the way of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. He located among the pioneers of Macoupin County, and for a time lived near Bunker Hill. He then went to Madison County and bought land ten miles north of Edwardsville, and devoted himself sedulously to farming in that locality for several years. In 1865 he came to Shelby County, and settled in that part of Pickaway now included in Penn Township, where he bought a tract of wild prairie, which in time he developed into a productive farm, and there death claimed him in 1878, and his township was deprived of a most worthy citizen. He was a sincere Christian, and led a life of unswerving integrity. He was reared in the Episcopal Church, but later in life he joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, and ever remained true to that faith.

Mr. Cowle was married in New Haven, Conn., in 1835, to Miss Rosanna Fanning, who survives him, and still occupies the old home in Penn Township. She is a good woman, and a faithful member of the Christian Church. She was born in Patterson County, N. J., to John and Catherine Fanning, who dying when she was young, left her an orphan, and she was cared for by her older sisters until her marriage. She has reared nine children, of whom these six have been spared to comfort her old age: Charles; Harriet, the wife of George Goodwin; John W.; George; Louisa J., the widow of Lewis Cooper, and Fanny, the wife of James Vangundy.

Our subject passed his boyhood in Madison County, and received his education in the public schools. He came to this county with his parents, continued to make his home with them, and after his father's death he superintended the farm until 1881. In that year he went to Nebraska and spent a few months in that State. Returning to this county, he resumed farming on the old homestead,

and was thus employed until 1890, when he bought an interest in the Moweauqua Mill, and has since devoted himself to its management. This mill is well equipped with first-class machinery and under our subject's supervision a fine grade of flour is manufactured, that finds a ready market and commands a good price.

Mr. Cowle and Miss Mary E. Hanna united their lives and fortunes in 1879 in a marriage that has been a union of mutual felicity, and their pleasant home circle is completed by the five children born to them, named as follows: Willie, George, Maud, Florence and Fred. Mrs. Cowle was born in County Derry, Ireland, and is a daughter of David and Isabella (Thompson) Hanna, also natives of that county. They were industrious, virtuous, upright people, and faithful members of the Presbyterian Church. In 1851 they left their old home, and crossing the water to this country, settled in Philadelphia, where they died a few years later, the mother in November, 1859, and the father in January, 1860, leaving two children. Mrs. Cowle and her brother William, the latter of whom is now dead.

Mr. and Mrs. Cowle are members in high standing of the Presbyterian Church. Their social position is among our best people, and Mr. Cowle is known in business circles as an honorable, straightforward, square-dealing man.



**J**OSEPH M. BALES. "The true ruler and conqueror he, the true king of his race, who nerveth his arm for life's combat, and looks the strong world in the face."

We have many men who live simple and unpretentious lives, who are made of the same fiber as that of which heroes and conquerors are. It is not the action that dignifies the man, but the man should dignify the action. He of whom we write, who well knows what pioneer life is, having had experience in more than one place, although he has not commanded armies nor wielded a pen to touch the hearts of men;—like Moses of old, who

struck the rock that the water might gush forth, he put his hand to the plow, that the earth might yield a richness of harvest that should provide nourishment for prince or peasant.

Joseph M. Bales is the owner of and resident on the fine farm located on section 18, of Okaw Township, Shelby County. He has resided in Illinois since 1854, and in Shelby County since the spring of 1877. He was born in East Tennessee, February 20, 1829, and is a son of Daniel and Mary (Trobough) Bales, both natives of Tennessee. At an early day Mr. Bales' parents came to Illinois and settled in Macon County, later moving to Coles County, and three years later the parents came to live with our subject at his present home. There his mother died March 3, 1888. His father is still living.

Mr. Bales was one of eight children, there being five sons and three daughters, whose names are respectively, James, Joseph M. our subject, William M., Cephas A., John, Catherine, Margaret and Jane. The eldest son was killed in a railroad wreck at Bunker Hill while engaged in shipping cattle to St. Louis. William M. is a resident in Missouri, being there engaged as a speculator. Cephas lives in Colorado, John is in Kansas, Catherine, now Mrs. Smith, resides in Iowa, Margaret is now Mrs. Kingsolver, and Jane is Mrs. Stumbaugh.

Our subject was reared and educated in Tennessee, where he was married to Margaret Bible. She, also, was a native of Tennessee, being of Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry. After the birth of their first child, they started to Illinois with a two horse wagon, and arriving in the State settled near Macon, Macon County, where they purchased eighty acres of land in the raw state, paying for it \$11 per acre. Upon the place Mr. Bales erected a shanty, and here they set up their household gods and goods. They remained upon this land for eighteen years and then sold it for \$50 per acre. They then purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Penn Township. The land was improved and they paid \$35 per acre, soon selling it for \$38 per acre. He then settled upon the place where he now resides, owning at the present time two hundred and sixty-seven acres of fine land upon which there is no incumbrance. He also owns

property in Shelbyville, which has advanced greatly in value since his purchase and promises still better to be a good investment. Thus can be seen what energy, industry and economy can accomplish for a man. Mr. Bales commenced with hardly more than a pair of strong hands and a willingness to work, one Claybank horse with black mane and tail being his stock in trade, but during the years that have passed, in hard labor it is true, he has amassed more than a comfortable competency.

Our subject and his estimable lady are the parents of six children whose names are James, Daniel, Cephas, Mary Jane, who is the wife of James Wilson; Ellen, who is the wife of Charles Davis, and Fannie, who is still at home. Mr. Bales formerly cast his vote and influence with the Democratic party, but of late he has given his allegiance occasionally to the Farmers' Alliance and favors any measures that benefit the class to which he belongs. In his religious preferences, he, with his family, is Presbyterian. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity.



ALEXANDER H. McTAGGART, a farmer and stock-raiser who resides on section 10, Oconee Township, Shelby County, was born in Washington County, Ohio, January 15, 1841. His parents, Neil and Catherine (Loynachan) McTaggart, were born in Scotland, the former in 1811. They both came to America in their youth, and settled with their parents in Washington County, Ohio, where they were married in 1836. Six sons and two daughters were born to them, of whom David was the eldest. This son died in his native State at the age of eighteen, and all of the children were born in Ohio. The second child was our subject, and after him came Neil, who married in Canada, and now resides in Colorado, where he fills the office of Postmaster. Daniel A. married Miss Harson, and is engaged in farming in Marion County, Iowa. Belle married James Amsbury, a farmer in Warren County, Iowa.

Hugh E. married in Iowa, and located in Kansas, where he is engaged as a passenger conductor on the Santa Fe Railroad. He has been with this road for nine years, and makes his home at Newton, Kan. Mary J. married William Stumph, and resided in Knoxville, Iowa, during her married life, dying there in July, 1887. Douglas D. married in Colorado, and is now carrying on farming in Nebraska.

The subject of this sketch became a soldier in the Union Army during the Civil War, enlisting in Company K, Thirty-ninth Ohio Infantry, June 20, 1861. At the expiration of his term of service in 1863, he re-enlisted for the remainder of the war, and was finally discharged in June, 1865. He was assigned to duty in St. Louis, and served in Northern Missouri until February, 1862, when he was ordered to New Madrid under Gen. Pope. He participated in the engagements at New Madrid and Island No. 10, and was afterward sent to Helena, Ark., after which he returned to reinforce Gen. Grant at Pittsburgh Landing. He was in the siege of Corinth, and remained in that vicinity for several months. He took part in the battles of Iuka, Miss., and Corinth, remaining at the latter place through the winter of 1862-63. During the summer of 1863 he did garrison duty at Memphis, and the following winter was spent at Prospect, Tenn., where he was guarding the railroad, scouting, and watching the rebel Gen. Forrest. While here the Thirty-ninth Regiment re-enlisted as veterans.

Mr. McTaggart was promoted to the position of Orderly-Sergeant of his company at the time of re-enlistment. In the spring of 1864 his regiment joined Gen. Sherman's army at Chattanooga, and participated in the Atlanta campaign, taking part in the battles of Snake Creek Gap, Resaca, Ringgold, Big Shanty, Kennesaw Mountain and Ruff's Mills. In the latter battle Col. E. F. Noyes, of the Thirty-ninth, who was afterwards the Governor of Ohio, lost a leg.

Sergeant McTaggart received a severe wound in his left shoulder July 22, 1864, at Atlanta, Ga. This has permanently disabled him. He was in the hospital for some time at Marietta, Ga., and afterwards spent two months at home on a furlough.

He rejoined his regiment at Atlanta, and marched with Sherman to the sea. Here our subject received the commission of a Second Lieutenant, and was transferred to Company B. of the same regiment. He was placed on detached duty, having charge of the forages of the First Division, Seventeenth Army Corps, and he superintended the gathering of supplies during the march northward through the Carolinas, which finally terminated at the city of Washington. While on this duty Lieut. McTaggart was again honored with promotion, being commissioned First Lieutenant, and assigned to the command of Company D. in his regiment. He was mustered out of service at Goldsboro, N. C., March 29, 1865. He then marched from Raleigh, N. C., to Washington, D. C., a most fatiguing and exhausting march in the heat of that tropical region. He participated in the Grand Review at Washington, and was sent to Louisville, Ky., for his final discharge.

Lieut. McTaggart returned to Ohio, although his parents had removed to Iowa the previous year, but there was an attraction in Washington County for the young man, and he was wedded July 18, 1865, to Miss Margaret Brown, daughter of James and Elizabeth Brown. She was one of three sons and three daughters, and was born in Washington County November 16, 1840. Those of her father's family who are still living are Betsey, the widow of John Irwin; John C., who married, and resides on a farm in Oconee Township, and Robert, of whom more may be learned by the perusal of the sketch of John C. Brown. One sister, Nancy, married in Ohio, but died soon afterward.

Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. McTaggart, one of whom died in infancy. Edwin, born August 18, 1870, lives at home. William F., born August 3, 1872, and Arthur C., January 17, 1874. Mr. McTaggart takes an active interest in political affairs, and votes with the Republican party. In 1888 the Seventeenth Congressional District of Illinois honored itself and this gentleman by making him its Presidential elector. Next to his army record, Mr. McTaggart recognizes this as the highest distinction of his life.

Our subject has never united with any church organization, although he gives liberally of his

means to the support of the Gospel and to Sunday-schools. He owns a farm of one hundred and forty acres of land, with fine buildings and improvements. It is situated within sight of school and church, and is in every way a desirable location.



**A**LMER M. COLLINS, A. M., M. D. A bright mind coupled with a desire to do good in the world, has wonderful opportunities for accomplishing a great work for God and humanity. To bend one's energies to the betterment physically and spiritually of his fellow-men and to devote one's talents in this direction is an aim worthy of the brightest intellect. The work which has been done by Dr. Collins, pastor of the Christian Church at Shelbyville, is of great value to the world. His brilliant convincing lectures on temperance, his exhaustive treatise entitled "Prohibition versus Personal Liberty," his critical examination of the subject of Bible Temperance and his valuable work entitled the "Great Living Issue," have had and will continue to have a vital effect upon the temperance movement while his new Interest Calculator is of real merit and extremely helpful to financiers.

This gentleman, who was born in Buchanan, Mich., May 18, 1844, located in Shelbyville in 1888. His parents, Nathaniel and Caroline C. (Cone) Collins, natives of New York, reared a family of seven children. Two sons grew to manhood, our subject and Frank N., who was for many years a druggist, first in Chicago, Ill., and afterward in Detroit, Mich. He was living in Detroit at the time of his death, which occurred January 29, 1887. The two daughters of this family were Mary A., now the wife of James M. Crane, general agent of the Pacific Insurance Company, having headquarters at Cleveland, Ohio; and Emma A., unmarried. The parents of this family were married at Plymouth, Ind., and settled at Buchanan, Mich., where the father followed general merchandising for several years, subsequently engaging in the hardware trade, being

also for several years a Justice of the Peace and esteemed a fair lawyer. He was an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and for fourteen years was Superintendent of the Sunday-school.

Nathaniel Collins was a staunch Republican in his political opinions and a party leader, his advice being sought on all occasions and his judgment being highly esteemed. He began as a poor man, but was successful in business and amassed quite a fortune. The finest business block in Buchanan, Mich., was built by him and he was president of a large manufacturing establishment, besides being prominent in all public enterprises and in every matters pertaining to the welfare of the city. He was a good public speaker, and on occasions when the pastor of the church was absent, the pulpit was well filled by Mr. Collins. He was born February 26, 1815, and died October 31, 1875. His widow who survives him, resides in Cleveland, Ohio. She was born October 26, 1822, and is a sister of the late Hon. Gustavus Cone, of Wisconsin.

The boyhood of our subject did not last long as his active mind did not allow him to be satisfied with childish pursuits. His earnest Christian parents stimulated his desire to do good work and upon January 23, 1859, when a boy of less than fifteen years, he preached his first sermon at Troy, Mich., being then a student. After this he gave his attention largely to preaching and was known far and wide as the boy preacher of Michigan. Twenty-five years from that day he again preached in Troy and six people were present who had heard his first sermon. While preaching he continued his education at Hillsdale College.

Just before graduation the young preacher left college to accept a call to the pulpit at South Bend, Ind. His ministry since that time has carried him to various places, among which are Auburn, N. Y., Corry, Pa., Buchanan, Mich., Laporte, Ind., Covington, Ky., Carthage, Ohio, Grand Rapids, Mich., Marion, Iowa, and Cameron, Mo. While in the East he attended a course of medical lectures at Buffalo, N. Y., and completed his course at Cincinnati, Ohio, still preaching while he attended these studies. While at Cincinnati he graduated from both the Eclectic Medical Institute and the

Medical College of Ohio. In 1877 while living in Grand Rapids, he had the misfortune to lose his hearing, in consequence of which he entered the editorial field at Davenport, Iowa, taking charge of a paper advocating the cause of Prohibition and at the same time lecturing on this theme. This paper, the *Northwestern News*, had sought him on account of the fame of his editorials in the *Lever* which was then published at Grand Rapids and now at Chicago. He partially recovered his hearing and resumed the active ministry, and ten years later came to Shelbyville, where he has charge of the leading church in the place.

While at Cameron, Mo., Dr. Collins held meetings in Shaw's Opera House and built a baptistry on the stage where he baptized a number of people. This remarkable measure attracted the attention of the press throughout the country. Dr. Collins is a writer of no small calibre, and the books of which he is author are widely circulated. He is very methodical and keeps a full record of his work. His Calculator which was published in 1882 is widely used by banks throughout the country, and exhibits his mathematical mind by his numerous new methods of calculation.

The marriage of Dr. Collins and Miss Joanna, daughter of Russell P. and Almira Hibbard, took place May 31, 1864. This lady was born in South Butler, Wayne County, N. Y., and is now the mother of one child, Leslie N. The Doctor is a strong temperance man and a Republican in politics. In 1880 the College of Hillsdale, Mich., honored both itself and our subject by conferring upon him the degree of Master of Arts.



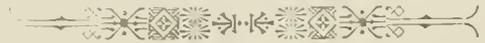
THOMAS J. SATTERTHWAITTE, a noteworthy farmer and stock-raiser residing on section 8, Oconee Township, Shelby County, was born in Brown County, Ind., February 4, 1851. His parents were Richard and Ursula (Broek) Satterthwaite, who were born in Hamilton County, Ohio, the father in 1820 and the mother in 1822. In their native county they grew up side by side and were there married in 1840. The

father died in Brown County, Ind. about thirty-eight years ago. He and his good wife were the parents of four sons and one daughter, namely: Oddy who enlisted in the Eighty-second Indiana Regiment and died in the Andersonville prison; John who married and lives in the village of Oconee; Wilnie, now Mrs. Bailey, living in Montgomery County, Ill.; Daniel who was married and lives in Oconee Township, where he is engaged in farming and our subject, who was the youngest, and as we have said had his nativity in Indiana while his brothers and sister were all of Ohio birth.

After her widowhood the mother of our subject married Joseph Rice in Indiana, in 1853, and now resides near the village of Oconee where her husband carries on his double avocation of farmer and Baptist preacher. Six children were born to this marriage. Thomas Satterthwaite came to Montgomery County with his parents in 1868, and after his marriage he located on the farm where he now resides.

His splendid tract of eighty acres of land is situated near the timber and has upon it not only a good house and barn but an excellent orchard. Mr. Satterthwaite was married to Miss Lucy F. Hobson September 3, 1878. She was born November 20, 1855 and is a daughter of John and Mary Hobson of Oconee Township. For further particulars in regard to the history of this prominent and interesting family the reader is kindly referred to a sketch of Mr. Hobson upon another page of this Record. Our subject takes an interest in public affairs generally, and is worthy of commendation on account of both his public spirit and private enterprise. He has been a School Director in his district and carried out faithfully and well the duties of that office. As a member of the Farmers Mutual Benefit Association, he is active in promoting the interests of the farming community for which he is willing to pledge his best efforts. He was formerly allied with the Democratic party but his interest in the cause of temperance which he considers the main ally of good citizenship, has led him to vote for the last four years the Prohibition ticket. With his lovely and capable wife he is connected with the Hopewell Baptist Church where they are efficient laborers in the

Master's vineyard. They have had the happiness of rearing four children, and the sorrow of laying two in the grave. They are named as follows: Lithuamy, born February 23, 1880; Charley C. August 18, 1882; John Benny, July 20, 1881; Florence, November 28, 1886 and Willie January 26, 1888. The last two passed away in childhood. Since their death the youngest, Gracie May has come to cheer the home. She was born April 13, 1890.



**J**OHAN SWARTZ. Love has here dictated a few facts that are most salient in the life of him who was at one time the comfort and support, as well as the dear object of loving affection, to the companion with whom he lived for many years, and who, when he was taken away, was left bereaved. Although simple in his relations both in the family and in his business life, Mr. Swartz was a manly man and a gentleman in all his dealings. His death occurred at his home in Pickaway Township, September 28, 1883. He had lived here since 1871, and during his residence had secured a farm of eighty-two acres on section thirty-one, which he had improved and put in the best cultivation before his death.

Mr. Swartz was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, January 2, 1837. His parents were also natives of Ohio, who came West, settled and died in this county. Our subject lived in his native county until he arrived at manhood, and there early learned the duties incident to farmers' life, as the calling of his father was also that of an agriculturist. When the war broke out, he of whom we write enlisted in Company F, of the Forty-sixth Ohio Regiment. It was made up at Columbus, Ohio, and our subject's enlistment was made February 6, 1861. The regiment to which he belonged was assigned to Gen. Sherman's command, and under that veteran military genius saw full and active service. The history of Gen. Sherman's career is so familiar to our readers that we do not need to recount the desperate battles fought and won, nor the chances of war run by our subject, whose fate was the same as that of his

commander. The original of our sketch served his full three years, and after being honorably discharged and receiving particular commendation for bravery, he re-enlisted as a veteran in his old regiment and served six months longer, receiving his final discharge July 8, 1865. He was engaged during his military career in twenty-one hard-fought battles, and many more skirmishes. He served for some time as Sergeant of his company. After the war he received a medal from the State of Ohio, which honor was conferred for noble veteran service. He was never wounded nor taken prisoner, but was poisoned by drinking impure water; this was in the last days of his service, but he never really recovered from the sickness brought on.

After Mr. Swartz's return from the army he joined his wife and three children, having been married previous to his entering into service in Fairfield County, Ohio, his nuptials taking place February 18, 1856. His wife's maiden name was Rachael Friesner. She was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, February 20, 1838. Like her husband, she came of German ancestry, although her parents, Henry and Rebecca (Seitz) Friesner, were natives of Ohio and of Virginia, respectively. After marriage they made their home in Fairfield County, Ohio, and there Mr. Friesner died in 1854, being at the time forty-nine years of age. His wife came to Shelby County, and here died September 28, 1887, being at the time eighty years of age. She had been for many years previous to her death a member of the Baptist Church.

Since the death of her husband Mrs. Swartz manages the estate which he left, and carries on more efficiently the work of the farm, assisted by her children, of whom she has six living. They are, William, Emma, Luella, Ida, Rebecca and Carrie. The son is at home and carries on the active work of the farm. Emma is the wife of L. Thomas, and resides on a farm in Missouri. Luella married Edgar Thomas, and takes charge of the domestic portion of his household in Eustace, Neb. Ida is the wife of Wilson Friesner, and she and her husband live on the old homestead with her mother. Mr. Friesner is a painter by trade, and divides his attention by the exercise of his

trade and farming. Rebecca is the wife of John Tolly, and resides in Pickaway Township. Carrie lives at home, and is the loving assistant and adviser of her mother in the domestic work of the farm. Mr. and Mrs. Swartz have ever been associated with the best people of their Township. Mr. Swartz was a Republican, and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.



MRS. PEACE H. (TRUITT) SCONCE, widow of the late Henry Wilson Sconce, is a daughter of one of the early settlers of this county, and was reared under the pioneer influences that obtained in the early days of the settlement of this section, and is now quietly passing her declining years amid the comforts of the pleasant home in Pickaway Township in whose upbuilding she aided her husband.

Mrs. Sconce was born in Bourbon County, Ky., February 12, 1826. Her father, Littleton Truitt, was a native of Maryland, his birthplace on the shores of Chesapeake Bay. He was a son of Samuel Truitt, who was also born in that State, and was in turn a son of John Truitt. The latter was born in England, and left his ancestral home when a young man to make for himself a home in the English Colonies beyond the sea. He thus became a citizen of Maryland, and so far as known spent his last years there. Mrs. Sconce's grandfather was reared and married in his native State, and subsequently went from there to Kentucky in the early days of its settlement. He resided in Bourbon County for a time, and then removed to Missouri, where his earthly pilgrimage was brought to a close by his death in Calloway County, and his mortal remains were laid to rest in its soil at Columbia. His wife, Elizabeth Parker, was also a native of Maryland. She died while the family was on the way to Missouri, and was buried on the banks of the Ohio River. She was the mother of ten children who grew to maturity.

The father of our subject was a resident of his native State until after the death of his first wife,

and he then removed to Kentucky, and for some years farmed on rented land in Bourbon County. In 1830 he again set forth in search of a new location, and bringing with him his wife and six children, came to Illinois, journeying with three horses attached to a wagon, in which all the household goods were contained, and camping and cooking by the wayside at noon and night. After about three weeks travel, he arrived in Shelby County, which at that time was still in a wild, sparsely settled condition, and the few houses at Shelbyville were mostly log cabins. In the surrounding wilderness wolves, deer and wild turkeys roamed at will, and the few pioneers in this region found a welcome addition to their meager fare in the game which they could shoot whenever they took time from their arduous work to go hunting. Mr. Truitt entered Government land in what is now Okaw Township, and built upon it a small log cabin for a dwelling, splitting shakes for the roof and punchcon for the floor. In the absence of a stove the family cooking was done before a fire, in a rude open fireplace, and the women spun and wove the cloth wherewith the various members of the household were clad.

Mr. Truitt worked industriously to develop his land, and at the time of his death in 1864 had a well-improved farm. His life-record as a pioneer, as a man and a citizen was honorable to himself and to his community. His second wife, mother of our subject, died in 1865. Her maiden name was Jane Hamilton, and she was born in Pennsylvania, a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Lason) Hamilton, who were also natives of the Keystone State. Mr. Truitt was the father of one child by his first marriage, and of eight children by his second union.

Mrs. Sconce was four years old when her parents brought her to Illinois. She was educated in the primitive pioneer schools of the olden days, the one that she attended being built of logs and heated by means of an open fireplace, while a row of glass inserted in an aperture made by the removal of a log from the side of the building served as a window, and the seats were made by splitting logs and using wooden pins for legs. Our subject was early taught all the useful household

accomplishments that were in vogue at that time, and without a knowledge of which a woman was not thought fit to keep house, among other things learning to spin and weave, and after marriage made cloth for her own and husband's garments. She was well prepared to care for a home of her own when she united her fortunes with those of Henry Wilson Sconce, March 11, 1843.

Mr. Sconce was a native of Nicholas County, Ky., born March 23, 1823, in the pioneer home of David L. and Rebecca (Keith) Sconce, who were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Kentucky. He was seven years old when his parents brought him to Illinois and located among the early settlers of Vermillion. They resided there until 1835, and then became pioneers of this county, the father entering a tract of Government land in Okaw Township, which he improved into a farm, which was his home the rest of his life.

The husband of Mrs. Sconce was educated in pioneer schools of Okaw Township, and there grew to a stalwart manhood. When he started in life on his own account after marrying he was the proud owner of a small mare and one cow. His father allowed him to build a small cabin on his land, and he and his bride began life together in a humble way. His capital lay in his strength, willingness to work, and capacity to do well whatever he undertook, and in the years of toil that followed he met with more than ordinary success in his efforts to acquire a competence. He farmed on rented land three years, and then settled on a tract of Government land. He built a log house for a dwelling, broke and fenced twenty acres of land, and a year later sold his improvements for \$50. He invested that money by entering forty acres of land in Okaw Township, and also bought fifty acres adjoining, on which stood a house. The next year he sold that place at an advance on the cost price, and bought one hundred and twenty acres of land in the same township. He lived on it two years, and at the end of that time sold it at \$5 an acre. He then purchased the farm upon which his widow resides, and it was his home until he closed his eyes in death April 4, 1890. He bought other land at different times, and once owned five hundred and

ninety-five acres of fine farming land. He made many valuable improvements, including three sets of frame buildings, and made his farm one of the most desirable in many respects in the township. By diligence, thrift and careful management he arose to be one of the most substantial farmers of Pickaway, and in dying he left behind a good name, that is held in respect by all who knew him, and the memory of a useful citizenship as one of the men who had been active in the development of the agricultural resources of the county.

Mrs. Seonce is a member in high standing of the Christian Church, and is known as one who does her duty in all the relations which she bears toward others. She has four children, all of which are living, and of them the following is recorded: Sarah J. married James M. Thomas, and they have one child living, Alvah C.; Luvena married James M. Pogue, and they have five children living, Charles E., Logan E., Henry W., Sylvia E. and James Chester; Emeline married John Roney, and they have one child living, Walter; William Logan married Maggie Belle Cole, and they have the following children living, Peace H., Henry Wilson and John C. Our subject commenced life with a cash capital of \$3.50.



**J**OHAN W. W. BROWN is a brick manufacturer in the town of Windsor, where he does a thriving and prosperous business. Mr. Brown was born in Licking County, Ohio, June 5, 1832. He spent the early years of his life on a farm, engaged in its duties until eighteen years of age. His father was a New England man. Luke Eddy Brown was born in Berkshire County, Mass. The maiden name of our subject's mother was Ann Gleason. She was a native of Shenango County, N. Y. They came to Ohio soon after their marriage, and settled in Licking County, where they remained until 1850, when they emigrated to Illinois, and settled in McLean County, this State. There they made their home for several years, and then removed to Missouri.

The father was killed during the war by bush-whackers, and the mother died in Nowdaway County, Mo.

Eight children were the result of the union of our subject's parents, and of these he of whom we write, was the second in order of birth. Mr. Brown came to Illinois with his parents in 1850, remaining at home until he was of age. During this time he was engaged in farming and in teaching. Three years were taken up by this latter employment. He continued to reside in McLean County for several years, and then went to Macon County, where he followed farming and carpentry and brick making for a living. In January, 1880, he came to Shelby County and settled in Windsor Township, where he was proprietor of a farm for four years. At the end of that time he began the manufacture of tile, but in the spring of 1891 his factory was destroyed by fire, and since then he has been engaged in the manufacture of brick.

Mr. Brown was married in McLean County, Ill., August 9, 1857, to Miss Mary Willhoite. She is a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Ritchie) Willhoite. The former was born in Owen County, Ky., of which the mother was also a native. They came from Kentucky to McLean County, and there died. A family of nine children came to grace the household. Of these Mrs. Brown was the fourth in order of birth. She was born in Owen County, Ky., March 22, 1839.

Four children have clustered about the hearthstone of our subject, but they have grown to manhood and womanhood, and some have families of their own. Their names are Franklin A., Mary H., Josephine A. and Willis B. Franklin married Miss Nettie Voris, who is the deputy Postmistress of Windsor; Josephine A. is the wife of William Hudson.

The original of our sketch has held the position of Councilman in the town. He is a Republican in his political belief, and takes quite an active interest in local affairs. Both he and his wife are active members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which he has filled the office of Elder and Superintendent of the Sunday School, which last position he has filled for thirty-three years. Socially, Mr. Brown is a member of the Odd

Fellows, and also of the Knights of Pythias. Full of vitality and energy that never recognizes defeat, our subject has overcome many difficulties in his business life, and has attained a recognized and honorable position among the influential men of the county. His home life is very pleasant. His residence is all that a loving wife, who is gifted with tact, culture and refinement, can make it.



**M**IRON CURTIS. The name at the head of this sketch is that of a contractor and builder, uniting with this the business of agriculture, being a general farmer residing on section 33, of Moweaqua Township, Shelby County, where he owns one hundred and twenty acres of well-improved land.

Our subject has devoted the greater part of his life to the business of a mechanic, in which he has had a very successful career. He came to Moweaqua in 1852, remaining here one year. He then absented himself three years, returning in 1855, and has since made the township his home. From the fact that he has been here so long and being well known as a man of much business ability who is never satisfied with doing anything but the best work, he is very well and favorably known in the county.

When the slavery question culminated in the terrible war between the North and South, and a call was made for volunteers, Mr. Curtis was one of the first to respond. He enlisted in October, 1861, in Company E, of the Forty-first Ohio Infantry, Col. Hughes being in command. Our subject's regiment was under the general command of Gen. Culbert, and fought at Ft. Donelson, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Nashville and Atlanta, and serving for three years. Our subject was never afraid of military duty. He was an active and hard fighter and was engaged in many skirmishes besides the well-known battles mentioned above. He was so fortunate as to escape without a wound, nor was he ever captured. Entering the war as a private his bravery was recognized, and he was offered a first lieu-

tenant's commission, but honors of that kind were not so much to him as the knowledge that he was doing the best that he could for his country and his flag, as a brave private, and he declined the honor. He received an honorable discharge at Chattanooga, Tenn., in October, 1864, and he is very proud of his war record, and though unassuming and modest, tells with enthusiasm, of various engagements in which he has taken part.

Mr. Curtis was born in Medina County, Ohio, February 20, 1837. He is a son of Enoch and Mary M. (Serdan) Curtis, natives of Vermont, coming of good New England stock. After the marriage of our subject's parents they came to Ohio, where they lived for a few years and then early in the '40s, while the country was as primitive as it could be, and while some of the greatest characters in American history were maturing and becoming strong to meet the emergencies that were to confront them. At that time there were no cars and but two alternatives: either to come by water via the lakes, or overland, with their own teams, which latter way they chose. Their first location was in McLean County, and they made them a home in or near Bloomington, Ills. There Enoch Curtis died in 1853 at the age of thirty-five years. He had learned the trade of a mechanic, although he was reared a farmer, but a pioneer settler necessarily must be able to turn his skill in several directions. His wife died in 1888, in Moweaqua, Ill., at the age of seventy-two years. Both she and her husband were prominent members of the Christian Church. Both our subject's father and his grandfather, Pond Curtis, belonged to the old Whig party. Our subject's grandfather and his wife were early settlers in this State, in McLean County, but they spent the last years in Lake County, where they died at an advanced age.

Only two members of the family of Curtis still survive, our subject, and a sister Permelia Kirkman, now of Moweaqua. From the age of twelve the original of this sketch has encountered the difficulties of life alone and unaided, being at the same time, the support of his mother. He learned the trade of a house-builder in Moweaqua, and when he had arrived at years of maturity, he united himself in marriage to Miss Sarah Daughtry. She

was born in East Tennessee in 1846 and came to Illinois while young, with her parents, Brant and Lydia Daughtry. The family located in this county and township about the time of the breaking out of the war, in which Mr. Daughtry enlisted and served as a soldier. He did not survive long after the war, his death having been caused by sickness contracted in the army. He passed away while in the hospital at Mound City, Ill. His wife, resides in Moweauqua, and is now seventy-five years of age. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is a good and consecrated old lady. She never married again. Mrs. Curtis was reared and educated for the most part in this county. She is the mother of three children, who are all yet under their father's roof. They are Fred and James, who conduct the farm, and a daughter Bertha, all bright and intelligent children. Mrs. Curtis is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, and by her influence she exercises a very beneficent influence in the community. Politically her husband is an adherent of the Republican party, upholding its platform and favoring its constituents.



**C**HARLES COWLE, the fortunate proprietor of one of the finest and best-managed farms in all Penn Township, is a veteran of the late war, who nobly devoted the opening years of his manhood to the service of his country and helped to preserve the Union. He was born in the beautiful New England city of New Haven, Conn., July 27, 1837. His father, Daniel Cowle, was a native of the Isle of Man, a son of Charles Cowle, who was also born on that island, upon which he spent his entire life engaged in agricultural pursuits on an estate that he had inherited. He reared three sons and one daughter.

The father of our subject was the only member of the family that ever came to America, his emigration to this country occurring when he was about twenty-five years old. He resided at first in New York, and also in New Jersey for a time, whence he went to New Haven, Conn., and later to

Virginia, from which State he ultimately came to Illinois in 1841 by the way of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. He located in the southern part of Macoupin County, and was one of the pioneers of that section of the State. From there he removed to Madison County a few years later, and buying a farm lived there until 1865. In that year he came to this county and bought a tract of wild prairie in what is now Penn Township. He built upon his land, and in due time improved a good farm, which was his home until his death in 1878, when the township lost a useful citizen, who was greatly respected. During his residence at New Haven, he married Miss Rosanna Fanning, in whom he found a helpful wife and a devoted companion. She is still living on the old homestead. She is a native of Patterson, N. J., and a daughter of John and Catherine Fanning. Of her nine children six have been spared to bless her declining years.

Our subject, who was reared to agricultural pursuits, followed farming in Madison County until 1861. July 16, that year, he threw aside his work to volunteer for the defense of the old flag, and his name was enrolled as a member of Company 1, Ninth Illinois Infantry. He went to the front with his regiment, and took part in the battles of Ft. Donelson, Shiloh, Jackson (Miss.), joined Sherman's command at Goldsborough, N. C., and went on the Atlanta campaign, doing his share of fighting in the important battles enroute to Atlanta, and in the engagements with the enemy around that city. He was honorably discharged at Atlanta on the expiration of his term of enlistment. Returning to Illinois, he re-enlisted the same fall, notwithstanding his past experience of the hardships of a soldier's life, as, with true patriotism, he was determined to see the contest between the North and South to its bitter end, if possible. He joined his regiment in North Carolina, and marched with the victorious army by the way of Richmond to Washington, where he took part in the Grand Review, and was honorably discharged for a second time from the service in July, 1865.

The Ninth Illinois Infantry to which Mr. Cowle belonged were in one hundred and ten engagements

commanded respectively by Col. E. A. Paine, Col. A. Mersey and Col. J. J. Philips. At Corinth, in 1863, the regiment was mounted and remained as such until the expiration of the term of service, and took part in numberless skirmishes and battles.

In the fall of the year that he left the army, Mr. Cowle came to Shelby County, and in 1868 bought the farm in Penn Township that he now owns and occupies. This is a valuable farm, and its finely tilled and highly productive fields yield him a neat income. Here he lives happy in a state of single blessedness, sometimes keeping bachelor's hall, at other times boarding, as his fancy dictates. He is much liked in his community, as he is invariably pleasant, neighborly and obliging, and he is trusted to the fullest extent by all who know him, as he is always fair and honest in his dealings. Politically, he affiliated with the Republican party many years, but at present he is independent.



**J**OHN E. GARMAN has devoted himself to farming the past few years, and the appearance of his fine, well improved prairie farm on section 26, Penn Township, Shelby County, gives evidence that he has a clear understanding of the most practical methods of conducting agriculture to a successful issue. He is a Pennsylvanian by birth, born in the town of Jacksonville, Center County, March 25, 1853. His father, George Garman was also a native of Pennsylvania, and he in turn was a son of John Garman, who was born near Hanover, Germany. He came to this country after he had attained manhood, and was quite an early settler of Jefferson County, Pa. He was a distiller by trade, and followed that occupation in connection with farming, spending his last years in the State of his adoption.

George Garman served a seven years' apprenticeship to learn the trade of a wheelwright, carpenter and millwright. In 1856 he came to Illinois and located in Stephenson County. Renting land near Freeport, he was engaged in farming there until death closed his busy career in December,

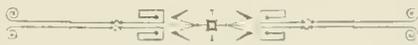
1863. The maiden name of his wife was Mary S. Neil. She was born in Centre County, Pa., a daughter of John and Elizabeth Neil, natives of Scotland. She now resides with her son, James L. in Pickaway Township. She was left a widow with four children to care for, and she nobly shouldered her burden. She resided in Stephenson County until 1865, and then coming to this county, bought forty acres of wild prairie land in what is now Pickaway Township. She at once erected a small frame house, and by hard toil and much self-sacrifice kept her family together, with the assistance of her sons, who improved the land, and she still owns the home that is the fruit of her unwearied labors. The following is recorded of her four children: Isabelle married John Black and lives in Milan Township, Macon County; John E. is our subject; James lives in Pickaway Township; William died in 1878.

He of whom we write was three years old when the family came to Illinois, therefore the most of his associations are connected with his life in this State. Like other farmers' boys, as soon as he was large enough to be of any use he was set to work on the farm, and was a great help to his mother after his father's death, remaining with her until his marriage. At the age of seventeen years he began to learn the trade of a carpenter, and at the age of nineteen engaged as a builder on his own account. He continued in that line until December, 1884, when he turned his attention to the calling to which he had been reared, and at that time bought the farm in Penn Township, upon which he has ever since resided. He is carrying on his farming operations advantageously and profitably, and has increased the value of his farm since it came into his possession by judicious cultivation, and by many substantial improvements.

Mr. Garman has been twice married. In December, 1884, he was wedded to Miss Winnie T. Tolly, a native of Pickaway Township, and a daughter of Samuel and Jane (Sims) Tolly. She died in August, 1886, leaving one child, Emma May. Our subject's second marriage took place in April, 1889, and Miss Sarah Frances Foster became his wife. She is a native of Todd's Point Township, and a daughter of Joseph and Mary

Foster. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and her name is associated with the good work carried on by her pastor and fellow-members. Her union to our subject has been blessed to them by the birth of two children, Mary Alice, and Grace Edna.

Mr. Garman is a manly, straightforward man, of sound principle and good habits, and in him the citizenship of this township has a valuable acquisition. His politics are of the Republican order, and he stands firmly by his party whatever betides.



**J**OHN S. FRY, who is now one of the successful farmers of Penn Township, was a volunteer in the Union ranks during the late war, and his military record is that of a brave, patriotic soldier, who cheerfully endured hardships, the perils of battle, and even death, to serve his country in her time of greatest need. His native place is the town of Bremen, Fairfield County, Ohio, and the date of his birth November 11, 1845. He comes of one of the old pioneer families of that section, and his father, Henry Fry, was born on the same farm as himself. The grandfather of our subject, John Fry, was an early settler of that region. He was born, reared and married in Virginia, taking for his wife Mary Leib, also a Virginian. He removed from his native State to Ohio in the early years of its settlement, and was a pioneer farmer of Fairfield County. He bought a tract of Government land midway between Bremen and Rushville, on Little Rush Creek, and cleared a farm, upon which he pleasantly passed the remainder of his life. His wife died at the home of her daughter in Seneca County.

In the county in which he was born the father of our subject was reared amid pioneer scenes. He attended a German school at Rushville, and at other times assisted his father on his farm until he was sixteen years old. At that age he began to learn the trade of a cabinet-maker and was employed at it until his marriage, but after that time he devoted himself to farming the remainder of his life,

which closed with his death at a ripe age, January 1, 1875. The wife who shared with him for many years the joys and sorrows common to mortals, survives him, and now makes her home with a son near Millersport, Ohio. In her maiden days she bore the name of Jemima Scott Shaw and she was born two miles south of West Rushville, Fairfield County, Ohio.

Our subject was one of seven children and was carefully reared in the home of his birth. He was but a boy when the great Civil War broke out, yet the following year he offered his services to his country and on the 16th of July his name was enrolled as a member of Company D, One Hundred Twenty-Ninth Ohio Infantry. The most important battles in which he took part during that term of enlistment were those fought at Wild Cat, Ky. and at Cumberland Gap. In 1863 he veteranized in Company B, Seventeenth Ohio Infantry, and joined his regiment at Ringgold, Ga. He accompanied it on the famous Sherman campaign at Atlanta, and did some good fighting in the engagements with the enemy on the way to that city. At Resaca our subject received injuries in the right knee, but he continued with his regiment until Atlanta was reached. After the fall of that City he joined the provost guard and went with that command to the sea, and from there, by the way of the Carolinas and Richmond, to Washington, where he took part in the Grand Review. After that event he returned with his regiment to Virginia and served until his honorable discharge, July 16, 1865, just three years to a day after he entered the army.

After his long and bitter experiences of the hardships and excitements of a soldier's life, Mr. Fry returned to his old home in Ohio, and quietly resumed the peaceful vocation that he had abandoned to take up arms in the defense of the stars and stripes. In 1871 he went to Missouri and was a resident of Pettis County, that State, for one year. He then came Eastward as far as Illinois and bought the farm that he now owns in Penn Township. Since he took possession of it twenty years ago he has demonstrated the fact that he has a clear understanding of farming in its various branches, as his farm is well ordered and compares





*J. P. Mantz.*

favorably in all respects with all the others in its vicinity.

Mr. Fry, has had the good fortune to secure the helping hands of an efficient wife, to whom he was united in marriage June 17, 1869. Her maiden name was Emeline Ruffner, and she is also a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, a daughter of Jonas and Susanna Ruffner. These are the names of the seven children of our subject and his wife: Frank E., Dolly V., Theron R., Eva S., Belle and Dell (twins) and Carrie.

In this brief life-record of our subject his value as a loyal citizen has been shown by his course during the war, and is well known by the people among whom he has lived for many years since that time. He is exemplary in his habits, upright in his conduct, and in him the Presbyterian Church finds one of its most consistent members. His life as a soldier is held in remembrance by his connection with the Grand Army of the Republic at Bethany. Politically he is a staunch advocate of the Republican party.



**T**HOMAS P. MAUTZ. The senior member of the firm of Mautz & Dideca, proprietors of a general store at Stewardson, Shelby County, Mr. Mautz has a wide acquaintance in the adjoining agricultural districts, as well as in the town itself, and he and his partner are known as upright, honorable dealers, and men of sterling worth and integrity. The business was established by York & Mautz in 1879. Mr. York sold out his interest to the present partner, Mr. Dideca, in 1881, and since they have been in partnership together, the firm has been successful in its business-dealings to a gratifying degree.

Our subject was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, December 21, 1849, and is a son of George and Rosina (Shantz) Mautz, of whom a fuller history may be found under the biography of J. F. Mautz, in another part of this volume. Thomas P., of this sketch, was but a small boy, when the family emigrated to America, and proceeding to Zanes-

ville and Lancaster, Ohio, remained there a short time, removing in 1854 to Shelby County, Ill. He assisted on the farm and early learned the duties incident to such work. He was educated in the district schools of the vicinity, and continued his residence at home until he was twenty years of age, when he learned the milling business, working at Pana and Rosemond.

Later Mr. Mautz removed to Bainbridge, Ind., and thence came to Oconee, Ill., and after sojourning in the latter place until 1874 came to Stewardson, which town was just then organized. Here Mr. Mautz for three years operated a flouring mill and afterward formed a partnership with H. H. York under the firm name of York & Mautz. Mr. Mautz established a general mercantile business in Shumway, Ill., in 1878, but one year later removed the business to Stewardson, in which he has continued until the present time, being now senior member of the firm. They occupy their own store building and carry a large general stock of merchandise.

On May 20, 1879, Mr. Mautz and Miss Bertha Karls were united in marriage. Mrs. Mautz is a daughter of John Karls, of Rural Township, this county, and was born in Lockville, Ohio, December 13, 1858. They are the parents of four children—Nora, Lillie, Lottie, and Frankie, all of whom are intelligent and amiable. Politically our subject affiliates with the Democratic party, its breadth of platform and free trade principles favoring his notions of the government that should rule the Republic. He is the founder of the Stewardson Homestead Loan Association, an organization to help the laboring man get a home of his own and furnish him with a safe and profitable investment for his small savings. This association is a large factor for good in the prosperity of the community and had contributed materially to the well-being of the citizens. He has been the incumbent of several local offices in the gift of the town, having been Supervisor of Prairie Township for seven consecutive terms. During this time he was Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for three terms. He also held the office of President of the Village Board, and has filled other local offices. In his religious views Mr. Mautz is a Swedenborgian. He

is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and is at present, as he has been for several terms, Master of Sigel Lodge, No. 541, F. & A. M. at Stewardson. His portrait is presented in connection with this brief biographical review.



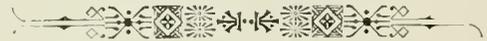
**HARRY M. RAWLINGS.** Among the agriculturists of Shelby County who are so capably carrying on their affairs, both as farmers and citizens, as to be deserving of representation in a biographical work, may be mentioned Mr. Rawlings, an esteemed citizen of Ridge Township. His home of one hundred twenty acres is on section 9, and being well managed, is the source of a better income than some of much greater extent. It affords a good maintenance and enables Mr. Rawlings to make some provision for the future, and as a home, it is comfortable and pleasant. The owner is industrious and prudent, and care is taken to make the best possible use of the acreage that he cultivates and to supply it with modern improvements, such as befit the home of a cultured and intelligent family.

John Rawlings, father of our subject, was born in Cecil County, Md., in 1817 and upon reaching man's estate was married to Martha E. McMaster, a native of Maryland. After their marriage the worthy couple located in Guernsey County, Ohio, in 1856. After a sojourn in that county of nine years, they came to Shelby County, Ill., in 1865, and located on section 9, Ridge Township, where their son, our subject, now resides. After improving this farm and making it their home for a period of sixteen years, they removed to Pickaway Township, where the father died September 30, 1887. The mother still survives. Their family comprised eight children, five sons and three daughters, our subject being the second in order of birth.

The birthplace of our subject was Cecil County, Md., and his natal day August 10, 1855. He was a mere babe when his parents took him to Ohio, where he remained until he was ten years old, in the meantime gaining the rudiments of his education in the district schools. In 1865 he accompanied

his parents to this county, where he has since resided. He has from childhood been engaged in agricultural pursuits and his thorough knowledge of agriculture in all its departments has fitted him for an honorable and successful career. He was married in Ridge Township, February 21, 1885, to Miss Katie Weakly, daughter of the late Samuel Weakly. For further information in regard to her parents the reader is referred to the sketch of Edson B. Weakly. Mrs. Rawlings was born in Ridge Township, September 6, 1861, and is universally esteemed for her noble qualities.

In politics Mr. Rawlings gives his support to the Democratic party; religiously he and his estimable wife are consistent members of the Presbyterian Church. His farm is embellished by all buildings necessary for the shelter of stock and storage of grain, as well as a comfortable residence, and such arrangements are made for sowing and reaping as show that the owner possesses progressive ideas and a worthy ambition. He is a judicious and successful agriculturist and deservedly commands the confidence of the business community.



**JOHN H. MILLER, M. D.** To attain eminence in any of the learned professions and especially in the humane one of medicine, is worth the efforts of a life time and when this achievement is gained by a comparatively young man, it is certainly worthy of note by the biographer. The popularity already gained by the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this paragraph, the only physician and surgeon in Oconee, justifies the prediction that he will soon stand at the head of his profession in this State.

Our subject was born in Fayette County, Ill., April 10, 1855 and is the son of the Rev. Jacob and Mary J. (Stapp) Miller who were pioneers of that county, the father having been born there. The mother was a native of Kentucky but very early in life came to Fayette County.

There were four sons and one daughter in the family of the Rev. Jacob Miller, of whom Dr.

Joseph F. Miller is the eldest and is located at Palmer, Ill., where he is engaged in the practice of medicine. The healing art is a favorite calling in this family and a half brother of our subject, Dr. A. D. Miller, is also practicing his profession at Palmer. The only remaining half brother, Louis A. Miller, will enter the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Chicago this year, thereby making complete a continuous line of medicos in this family. Two brothers and one sister are deceased. Dr. J. H. Miller received his general education in the excellent public schools of Illinois and at the High School at Shelbyville, and at Eureka College, Eureka, Ill. His professional study and training were secured privately under competent and painstaking tutors, and these were supplemented by attendance at the Missouri Medical College at St. Louis. At this popular institution he attended two courses of lectures, graduating March 4, 1880, with honor to himself and credit to the profession.

Like most men who achieve commendable heights in art, literature or science, his success is mainly due to his own exertions. An indomitable will combined with energy, industry and good health was his stock in trade, and every draft upon this kind of bank stock brings a liberal response. Immediately after his graduation the young Doctor located in the practice of his chosen profession at Oconee, where he still remains, enjoying the confidence and esteem of all with whom he is associated either professionally or socially. A genial, whole-souled, and companionable gentleman, it is not strange that he should be a favorite among his fellow-men, but it is remarkable that so young a man should have built up a practice which more experienced physicians might justly enjoy with pride. Another evidence of the Doctor's professional popularity is the fact that he is the only physician in the town of Oconee or within a radius of several miles around, although several talented men have attempted to get a foothold here in their profession.

On the 10th of January, 1883, Dr. Miller was united in marriage with Miss Laura Theile of Ramsey, Ill., the ceremony being performed at the residence of the bride's parents. Mrs. Miller is a daughter of Henry and Eliza Theile, who were

among the first settlers of Ramsey, and her father, a millwright by profession, owned and operated a mill in that place. The Doctor is a member of Oconee Camp No. 1312, M. W. of A. and enjoys the distinction of having been chosen to the office of Deputy Head Counsel of the Seventeenth Congressional District of Illinois. The duties of this office are a general supervision over the affairs of the order within his territory and the organization of new camps, his territory comprising the counties of Shelby, Macoupin, Montgomery, Moultrie, Effingham and Fayette.

Of professional associations Dr. Miller is a member of the District Medical Society of Central Illinois in which he is Secretary; also of the Illinois State Medical Society in which body he is the Secretary of the Section on Etiology, Preventive and State Medicine. He is also a member of the American Medical Association and in all these organizations he ranks high among his brethren in the profession. In May 1891 he was elected to the position of Assistant to the chair on Practice of Medicine in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Chicago for the winter term, and in addition was made a member of the spring faculty to fill the above named chair.



**G**EORGE W. VAUGHAN. Prominent among the public men of Sullivan, and eminent as a church and Sunday-school worker is the gentleman whose name heads this paragraph. He is no office seeker but an earnest worker in the rank and file of the Democratic party and has at the earnest request of his fellow-citizens, filled the offices of Supervisor and Deputy County Treasurer. His work in the line of Sunday-schools, has brought him before the best people of the county, as he has been President of the county organization and sits as delegate in most of the State Sunday-school conventions. He is now the President of the County Sunday-school Association.

Mr. Vaughan is a retired farmer and stock-raiser, residing in a comfortable home on Jackson Street. He removed to the city from his large farm in

Sullivan Township in October, 1886, leaving an estate which he had materially decreased in extent by gifts to his children. The well-improved tract which he still retains comprises two hundred acres, most of which he has brought from its native condition to a well drained and highly cultivated state. He has been a successful farmer in this county where he has lived since 1812 and now enjoys the benefits of his labors.

Our subject was born in Shelby County in 1833 his parents having settled in Shelbyville in 1829. His father, James W. Vaughan was a soldier in the Black Hawk War and served as a private under Gen. Atkinson, and helped to bury the dead after Maj. Stillman's defeat near Dixon's Ferry. After peace was concluded and the Indians were sent beyond the Father of Waters, Mr. Vaughan came back to Shelby County, and there devoted himself to his trade. He was a mechanic and gunsmith and at the same time operated a farm. In 1842 he removed from Shelby County, where he had been a pioneer, to Whitley Township, Moultrie County, and later came to Sullivan but in January, 1864 removed to Coles County where he continued active in his trade and upon the farm until his death which occurred June 21, 1890, when he was past eighty-four years old. He was born in Virginia December 8, 1805, and was the son of Woody Vaughan who died when James was only eight years old. The family is of English stock with some German admixture and came to this country prior to the Revolutionary War. The mother of James W. Vaughan was a Miss Farrer, who was of German descent and who came with her family to Illinois in 1829 and died in Shelby County at a very advanced age, passing away as did her husband in the enjoyment of a beautiful Christian faith.

James W. Vaughan was eight years old when his mother moved to Tennessee and in 1829, after his marriage to Jemima McNealy a native of Tennessee he came to Illinois. This noble and lovely Christian wife died in Moultrie County at the age of fifty-four years. She had been a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church most of her life.

The second matrimonial union of Mr. Vaughan was with Mrs. Melinda A. Ellis, *nee* Phillips, who is

yet living and now at the age of seventy-three years makes her home in Coles County. She is a member of the Free Will Baptist Church, in which her husband, James W. Vaughan was for almost fifty years a minister. He was an earnest and hard working servant in the vineyard of the Lord, and filled many pulpits in this State. He was universally recognized as an earnest pioneer minister and rode from point to point on horseback to meet appointment and to minister to the spiritual wants of the people in the days when neighbors were twenty miles apart.

Of the children of this pioneer preacher one, Samuel is a Baptist minister at Decatur, Ill.; three, William, John and George, were soldiers in the Union army, John being Lieutenant of his company, and being killed in the battle of Shiloh during the great charge of the Union forces. He and William belonged in Company B, Forty-first Illinois Infantry. William served for three years and escaped unhurt and is now living near Bethany.

Our subject enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry, under Capt. A. N. Smizer of Sullivan and Col. Richmond of Mattoon. This regiment took part in the siege of Vicksburg, holding the key to the city in the rear, keeping the rebels from entering through the Yazoo Valley. Later they went to Arkansas doing service at Duvall's Bluff and Little Rock. Our subject was commissioned Second Lieutenant at the time the company was organized, but owing to sickness was forced to resign and received his honorable discharge before the expiration of his term of service.

The first marriage of Mr. Vaughan united him with Miss Beulah Rhodes, who was born and reared in Shelby County and died in December, 1880. She was the mother of two children now living: Arthur L. a farmer, who has married Nancy Hughes; and Ida the wife of Arthur Hampton, of Demorest, Ga. A daughter now deceased, Olivia, was the wife of S. F. Corley, a Dakota farmer. Our subject was again married at St. Joseph, Mo. to Miss Nancy C. Henry, who was born in Macon County, Ill., May 13, 1851. Her parents were John and Sybil (Truit) Henry. She resided in St. Joseph at the time of her marriage. She is the mother of three

children one son Jay, having passed away. Leslie H. is afflicted with loss of hearing and is a student in the Deaf and Dumb Institution at Jacksonville and Donna M. the baby of the household is the delight of her parents, both of whom are active members of society and useful in their church relations being connected with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.



**W**ILLIAM J. SNYDER. The gentleman whose biography it is our pleasure to here give, at least in outline, is noted for the interest that he takes in the moral and religious good of the community; although he has been and is a successful farmer, he is a deeply religious man and devotes more time to the progress of mental, moral and spiritual life than to financial gain for himself. He is now one of the county Sunday-school workers, having been Superintendent for years, and once President of the County Board. He is at present one of the executives, and is also a standing delegate to the State conventions that meet in the interest of this work.

In the business of general farming, Mr. Snyder devotes himself mainly to stock-raising, having one of the best stock farms in Flat Branch Township, being located on section 8, where he owns four hundred and twenty acres. All of this is under the plow. His buildings are all first class in construction, and the place is well stocked. Every improvement is the work of his own hands. He purchased the farm in 1866, locating on it the following year. It was then a wild brush patch, but with undaunted energy he set about clearing it, planted fine shade and fruit trees, tilled the fields and divided the meadows into paddocks wherein are now found horses, cattle, sheep and swine of high grade and breeding. Naturally Mr. Snyder is a progressive farmer and is never satisfied with well enough.

Prior to the coming of our subject to this State, he was a resident of Christian County, where he was born in Prairie Township, May 28, 1842.

There he was reared and educated, going through the common schools and finishing at the High School at Mt. Zion, in Macon County. At the breaking out of the war, before he was quite twenty years of age, he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, Col. N. W. Tucker (now deceased) and Capt. J. L. Dobson, now at Salisbury, Mo., in command. They joined Gen. Sherman's Army of the Tennessee, and were with them in the battle of Oxford, Tenn. Our subject saw much service during his experience in the war and was honorably discharged in 1862. He later, however, re-enlisted in the Thirteenth New York Heavy Artillery, Company L, and did marine service on the United States steamer "Parks," Col. Howard commanding. This steamer was particularly and conspicuously engaged in capturing rebel torpedoes and in preventing the rebels from destroying the Union provisions at Petersburg. It also captured many local fleets and both commissioned and non-commissioned officers. It also captured the James River pirate, Capt. Hines. While this little marine band saw comparatively little hard fighting, they did a great deal of active and valuable service and won for themselves many laurels. Our subject received his final discharge at Newbern, N. C. in 1865. He was never wounded or taken prisoner, but suffered from experiences known to the kind of army life he had served, being swamped in the surf at Port Fisher, with many of his regiment.

After the war, Mr. Snyder returned to his home in this State and devoted his time to his business as a farmer. He has been remarkably successful and of his abundant store, he is generous and open handed. He is a son of Michael Snyder, of whom a further sketch may be found in another part of this volume. He was married in Brown County, Ohio, to Miss Eliza A. Grimmer, who was a native of that State and county. She was there reared and educated, where her parents lived and died. Mrs. Snyder is an intelligent and capable woman and makes a charming home for her husband and children, who show the influence of refined and cultured home training. Our subject and his wife are the parents of six children, they

are: Lula M., who is engaged as a teacher in the public schools of the township therein she lives. She was educated at the Wesleyan College at Bloomington, this State; Ernest F., May Bell C., William R., Lida Pearl and Grace G., who are all at home and make the family life merry with their brightness and intelligent converse.

Our subject and his wife are popular young people. Mr. Snyder is a member of the Evangelical Association, while his wife is a member of the Lutheran Church. He is associated in all his work with the best men in the township and county. Politically he casts his vote and influence with the Prohibition party.



JACOB F. BAUER represents the lumber trade at Stewardson, having carried on this business here since 1885, his residence in Shelby County dating from 1865. He is well known as a successful, substantial and honored citizen. In connection with the lumber business Mr. Bauer deals largely in farm machinery, builders' hardware and paints. Our subject was born in Hocking County, Ohio, April 3, 1836. He is a son of Jacob F. and Julia (Reel) Bauer, natives of Baden and Hessian, Germany, respectively.

The paternal grandparents of our subject came to the United States at an early day and settled in Baltimore, where the grandmother died, and later, the grandfather removed to Zanesville, Ohio, where he died. The father of our subject had one brother, John G. Bauer, who still resides in Virginia. The maternal grandparents also emigrated to the United States at an early day, first living in Baltimore, and then in Zanesville, Ohio. Mr. Bauer's mother had three brothers and one sister, whose names are Anthony H., John H., and Henry William H. The two former died at Columbus, Ohio. Henry passed away at Lima, Ohio, and William resides in Lancaster, Ohio. The sister, Christine E. Reel, married and lives in Ohio.

Our subject's parents met and married in Zanesville where the families were early settlers. The young couple later located in Hocking County, on

a farm, and there they lived, rearing a family of eleven children, nine of whom lived to reach years of maturity. Of these our subject is the eldest. The names of the children are as follows: Christena E., Anthony Henry, Julia, Christian, Solomon, David, William and John, besides our subject.

Mr. Bauer's early life was spent upon a farm where he acquired a physical vigor from outdoor duties that has been a great advantage to him throughout his career. His school days were limited and the education that he has acquired is a practical one, attained mostly in intercourse with his fellow-men, and by the exigencies of the positions in which he found himself placed. While a young man he learned the trade of a carpenter. In 1865 he removed to Illinois and purchased forty acres of land in Prairie Township and began work at his trade. This first purchase was the nucleus of the fine farm of which he finally became proprietor, comprising two hundred and twenty acres of land, most of which was originally wild prairie land. He however expended much time and money in placing fine improvements on the place and made it his home until 1885, when he traded one hundred and twenty acres of land for his present business.

Before coming to this State, Mr. Bauer had taken upon himself the duties and obligations of married life. His marriage was celebrated in January, 1859, in Hocking County, Ohio, his wife's maiden name being Catherine Ulmer. She, like her husband, was a native of Hocking County, Ohio, her birth having occurred February 25, 1839. She passed away from this life in 1873, leaving her husband and five children to mourn her. The children's names are as follows: Elizabeth, Julia, Caroline, Andrew and Mary. Elizabeth is the wife of Charles Friese; Julia presides over the domestic realm of the household of Ferdinand Kull; Caroline is the wife of George Kireher.

In 1874 Mr. Bauer persuaded Mrs. Wilhelmina Frede *nee* Kull, to take up the reins of domestic government in his household. She was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, and by her first marriage was the mother of five children. Mr. Bauer and his present wife are the parents of five children, only two of whom are living; they are Tobias and

Martha. The family are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church. In his political preference, he of whom we write is a staunch Democrat. He has been a member of the Board of Supervisors of his township for three terms, and has also held the positions of School Director and Trustee. Our subject owns a beautiful home at Stewardson, and nine acres of land. His residence is commodious and comfortable and contains all the late improvements in interior arrangement that are so necessary to modern living. Peculiarly he is well fixed, and stands high in the esteem of his fellow-townsmen because of his practical business views and his honorable and upright dealings.



**J**OSEPH J. SMOCK, resides on section 2, of Rural Township, Shelby County, his residence in the county, dating from 1862. He is a native of Sullivan County, Ind., where he was born, February 20, 1811. Joseph Smock is a son of Abram and Mary E. (Weeks) Smock, of whom a fuller history may be found under the sketch of the Rev. Barnett Smock, in another part of this volume. Our subject's early life was not dissimilar to that of the majority of lads who are raised on a farm. He early became acquainted with the mysteries of milking, feeding the stock, ploughing, hoeing corn, and kindred work that the farmer boy is apt to attempt to escape unless he has a vigilant eye placed over him. It is much pleasanter in a hot, June day, to go a-fishing than to cultivate corn.

The educational advantages enjoyed by our subject, were limited, although he attained a good foundation for a practical education in the district schools in the vicinity in which he lived. In 1862 he came to Shelby County, Ill., and for one year was engaged in work as a farm hand. He then rented land and tilled the same in order to get means to purchase. In 1866, January 25, he was united in marriage to Susanna Casey, a daughter of Judge John and Nancy (Denton) Casey. She was born in Shelby County, this State, December 17, 1846. Her father was a native of

Kentucky, and when but a child of fourteen years of age, was brought by his parents Levi and Chloe Casey, to Illinois. The family settled in Ridge Township in the year 1835, and at that time entered a large tract of Government land, upon which they made many improvements.

Levi and Chloe Casey died at quite advanced ages. They were parents of eight children. Their son, John Casey, Mrs. Smock's father, was born February 16, 1813, in Warren County, Ky. The family removed to Illinois in 1816, and resided in Bond County until 1835. John Casey was married February 20, 1834 to Mahala Jackson, who died in July, 1835, leaving one child as a reminder of his gentle and affectionate wife. October 19, 1837, Mr. Casey again married, his bride being Nancy Denton. Their union was blessed by the birth of eleven children. Of these four daughters and one son survive him. In the early days Judge John Casey was a man of considerable prominence. He filled the position of Justice of the Peace from 1845 to 1860, and during this period he solemnized many marriages. In 1846, he became a volunteer, enlisting in the Mexican War, entering the army in Company B, Third Regiment, Captain Foreman in command. He served to the end of the war and was regarded as a brave soldier and a loyal citizen of the Republic of the United States. He made a record for being the fleetest runner and the best rifleman in the regiment.

Before Mr. Casey left home for service, he purchased a pair of shoes of General Thornton and these he wore during the whole time in which he was in service and on his return, the General presented him with a new pair in exchange for the old ones, which he kept as a souvenir and which are properly labeled as a treasured relic of that stormy period. Judge Casey was one of the Associate Judges under the old system. He was a member of the Twenty-seventh General Assembly, and served as a Supervisor for several terms. In 1871, he removed to Shelbyville, which he made his home until his death. He was that extremely rare thing in law, an honest judge, and prided himself that his word was as good at any time, as his bond. In his religious preference, he was a

Baptist. Personally he was an immense man, weighing from three hundred to three hundred and fifty pounds.

After marriage our subject, Mr. Smock, resided in Ridge Township for two years, there operating land which he rented. They then returned to Flat Branch Township, also renting their land for one year. Thence they went to Pickaway Township, where they rented land for three years. From there they came to Rural Township, making a stay of six years. Then they returned to Pickaway Township, where they remained for ten years, since which time they have lived in Rural Township, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, all of which is good and well improved land.

Mr. and Mrs. Smock have had their lives enriched by the advent into their family of five children. Two of these were lent them but for a short time. The three living are Alva B., Chloe Ellen and Eliza A. Politically our subject is a follower of the Democratic party, casting his vote and influence with it. Mrs. Smock is a member of the United Baptist Church. She is an intelligent, as well as amiable and cultured woman.



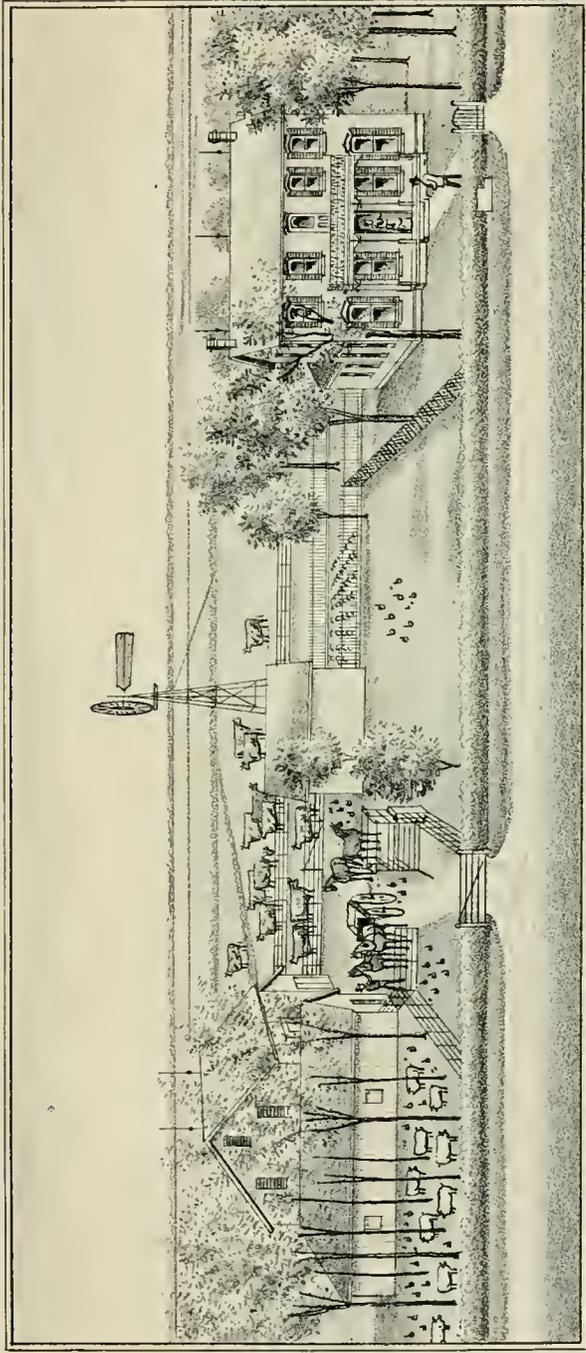
**J**AMES HOGARTH, a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser of Penn Township, was born in Yorkshire, England, July 5, 1839. His father, who bore the same name as himself, was a native of the same country, his birthplace being Westmoreland, and he in turn was the son of another James Hogarth, who was a farmer, native of Lancashire, and a life-long resident of England. The father of our subject was reared on a farm and followed agricultural pursuits in Yorkshire, where he spent his last years. He married Elizabeth Birtle, whose whole life was passed in Yorkshire. She was the mother of two children, our subject and Isabella, her daughter spending her entire life in England.

Our subject was left an orphan when only ten years old. As soon as large enough he began work on the farm and early gained a practical in-

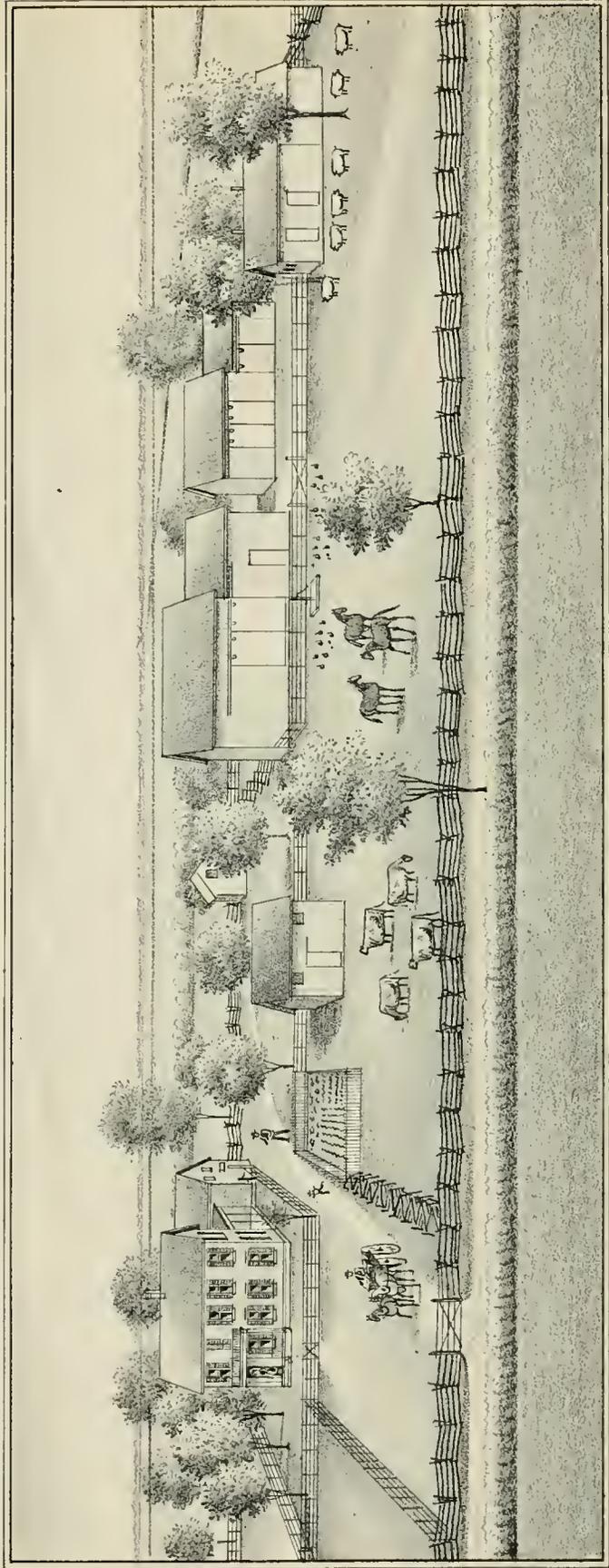
sight into the best methods of carrying on farming. While attending school he learned a great deal about the United States of America, a subject which had a great interest for him, and in pursuance of a determination to try life in this great and growing country, he embarked at Liverpool in 1860, on the steamer "Washington City," and after a voyage of eleven days landed at Castle Garden, New York. He came directly to Shelby County, arriving here with about \$15 in his pocket, which scant capital was supplemented by a courageous heart, a cool head and steady hand, and willingness to do whatsoever he found to do with the capacity of doing it well. He began life here by working on a farm by the month, continuing that employment until his marriage, when he located on the farm in Penn Township, that he has since occupied. At that time the place was but very little improved, but since it came into his hands he has wrought a wonderful change by persistent and well directed labor. The land is now under a high state of cultivation, the neat and substantial buildings comparing with any in the township, and fruit, shade and ornamental trees, planted by his own hand, add greatly to the attractiveness of the place. The reader will be pleased to notice a view of this homestead on another page.

In 1867, Mr. Hogarth took unto himself a wife in the person of Mrs. Margaret (Shimman) Birkett, a native of Cumberland, England. Mrs. Hogarth's father, Philip Shimman, was reared on the Isle of Man, and thence he removed to Cumberland, where he lived for many years. In 1857 he came to America with Mrs. Hogarth. He visited a short time in Cleveland, Ohio, and then went to Clinton in the same State, to see a daughter, and died in her home ten weeks after landing in this country. His wife died in England in 1851. She was the mother of six children, of whom these three came to the United States—Mrs. Hogarth, her sister Mary and brother Thomas.

The wife of our subject grew to womanhood in her native shire, and was first married there to John Birkett. He was a native of that part of England, and resided there until 1857. In that year, August 7, he set sail from Liverpool on the



RESIDENCE OF JAMES HOGARTH, SEC. 2., PENN TP., SHELBY CO., ILL.



RESIDENCE OF A. H. FULLERTON SEC. 13 RURAL TP. SHELBY CO. ILL.



vessel "American Union," accompanied by his wife and her father, and landed in New York after a voyage of six weeks and five days. He and his wife lived in Ohio from 1857 to 1860, then they came to Todd's Point Township, this county, which at that time was but sparsely settled and little improved, with plenty of land for sale at \$5 or less an acre. Mr. Birkett's means were limited, and he began life in his new home on rented land. In the spring of 1864 he bought a tract of railway land in Penn Township, and at once commenced to improve a farm. But he was not destined to finish his work, as death cut short his career in the fall of that year, and his township lost a useful citizen.

Mr. and Mrs. Hogarth are people of most estimable character, worthy in every way of the good will and respect of their neighbors, which is accorded to them in full measure. They are both members of the Presbyterian Church. In national politics Mr. Hogarth votes the Republican ticket, but in local affairs he is independent, giving his support to the best man regardless of party.



**A**DAM H. FULTON. Forty years seems, in considering the history of the development of some countries, a mere speck of time, but in this Western World, since railroads have been reaching out their grasping fingers in every direction and carrying along their line an infusion of vigorous life, it is not astonishing that as much should have been done in so short a time, as has taken ages to evolve in the Old World. It is a truism that we are the heirs of all the ages, and that fact should make us modest instead of boastful.

Our subject first saw the light of day a little over forty years ago upon the place where he at this time resides, his natal day being June 10, 1851. These forty years of life spent in Rural Township have not been without avail, for his early efforts have been crowned with success, and he is now a large and prominent farmer of Shelby

County, residing on section 13, of Rural Township. He is a son of Adam and Elizabeth (Hill) Fulton, natives of County Antrim, Ireland. They were married in their native land, and in 1819 came to the United States. Adam Fulton, our subject's father, entered land from the Government in Rural and Ridge Townships, but he died in the winter of 1851 or 1852.

The original of our sketch being the only child and an infant of but six months old at the time of his father's death, he was not of much assistance to his mother for some time after her bereavement. She lived until March, 1890, when she died at the age of seventy-seven years. The father of our subject was the only member of his family to leave the native land for the United States, but on his mother's side he has an uncle living in Shelbyville, whose name is George B. Hill. Our subject was reared on a farm and early learned the duties of a farmer's lad. His education was attained at the common schools, and there he was fitted for the practical relations of life. He continues to reside on the homestead and has not yet made up his mind to surrender his bachelor freedom and enter the benedictine ranks.

Mr. Fulton is the owner of a section of land and also thirty acres in Ridge Township. Upon these he has erected good buildings, and the houses and barns on each are attractive and commodious structures. He devotes himself principally to the raising of grain and has found this generally to be a most lucrative business. The father of our subject was forty-seven years of age the time of his death. He came to the United States some years prior to 1819, and was a merchant at Cincinnati, and also kept a country store in the village of Denton, Shelby County. He returned to Ireland, during which visit home he was married, and in 1849 brought his bride to the United States. They were good, substantial citizens and associated with the best element wherever they lived. In their religious preference they were attendants upon and members of the Presbyterian Church.

Like his parents, our subject is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party and has held several of the minor local offices in the gift of his party. He is one

of the substantial business men of the county, and besides the land he owns here, he is also the owner two hundred acres in Flat Branch Township, one hundred and sixty of which was entered by his father and is known as "Bald Knob." As do all these places, this boasts of a good class of improvements.

On another page of this volume the reader will find a view of Mr. Fulton's homestead.



**S**AMUEL M. RHOADS. One of the most delightful homes in Jonathan Creek Township, Moultrie County, is the one occupied by the family of Mr. Rhoads. It is located on section 35, and is not only handsome in its exterior but delightfully located and fitted up, and furnished with numerous evidences of taste and refinement. The beauty of the home is not, however, entirely due to its material adornments, for it is permeated with a lovely spirit of cordiality and harmony, which gives to every visitor an impression of cordial good-fellowship and true home life.

The owner of this pleasant home is the son of William and Rebecca (Bradford) Rhoads, both natives of Tennessee. The father resides at this present writing in Arkansas, where he was a few years ago bereaved by the death of his wife. Only two children blessed this worthy couple, namely: our subject and his sister Catherine. Christmas Day, 1850, was a date of great importance in the life of this family, as upon that day was born to William and Rebecca Rhoads their only son, Samuel M. Arkansas was his native home and the scene of his boyhood days, and after taking his training there upon his father's farm, and in such schools as the neighborhood afforded, he came to Moultrie County, Ill., and worked out by the month at farm labor, with the exception of eight months, when he worked in McLean County, this State. He has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits and has made of them a notable success.

The day of days to this young man was August

1, 1869, when he was united in marriage in East Nelson Township, with Miss Pernelia Wiley, who was born in 1851. She is a daughter of the late Thomas Wiley, who died at his home in East Nelson Township. The young couple settled upon section 35, Jonathan Creek Township, and there they have ever since made their home, and upon this beautiful farm Mr. Rhoads has erected the pleasant house which serves as the family residence. He has made other substantial improvements and most of his two hundred and eighty acres is in an improved condition.

Mr. and Mrs. Rhoads are the parents of six children—Emor V., Flora, Thomas, Edith, Edna and Black. This gentleman has, in his office as School Director, done much to advance the educational interests of the community, and is helping to build up a healthy public sentiment in this respect. His convictions have led him to ally himself with the Democratic party, and he believes that the principles endorsed by the author of the Declaration of Independence are good enough for Americans now-a-days. He gives his attention to general farming and stock-raising, in which he finds both enjoyment and success.



**J**OHAN D. DAUGHERTY. It would be difficult to find among the farming community of Moultrie County a man who wields greater influence or has greater personal popularity than the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. His life has been spent in the peaceful pursuance of his calling of a farmer and in a share of the local public affairs. His homestead upon section 11, East Nelson Township, ranks among the best in the community, while the entire amount of land owned and operated by Mr. Daugherty in this township comprises three hundred and twenty-eight acres. He is also interested in land in Whitley Township and is in various ways closely identified with the development of this section.

Virginia claims Mr. Daugherty as one of her children, and in Shenandoah County he was born

January 10, 1823. Amid scenes which have since been made memorable in the history of our country, he grew to a stalwart manhood, aiding in the farm work at home and attending the village school in the intervals of harvesting. At the age of thirty he left the Old Dominion and proceeding Westward as far as Illinois, settled in Coles County, where he remained one year. The year 1854 found him in Moultrie County establishing himself as a farmer in East Nelson Township. He soon became prominent in local affairs and was well known as a man of honor and integrity.

Mr. Daugherty has made Moultrie County his home since his first arrival here, with the exception of a few years spent in Coles County during the late war. For many years he had the companionship of a most estimable woman, who was true to the interests of husband and children, and a good neighbor and friend. She bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Waggoner and was born in Moultrie County. Her union with our subject, which was solemnized in Whitley Township, this county, was blessed by the birth of three children, George R., who died in infancy, Anna E. and an infant who died unnamed.

The wife and mother passed from earth in November, 1889, at her home in East Nelson Township. She was a member of the Baptist Church and conscientious in all the relations of life, ever working for the good of others and living in her life the principles of the "Golden Rule." Their daughter, Miss Anna, is now a refined and intelligent young lady, upon whom, in his declining years, the father leans for support and advice. She is judicious in the management of household affairs and possesses good judgment. A good business woman, practical and thorough in her work, she is also intellectual, and in social circles is an ever welcome guest.

Believing that the principles of the Democratic party are best adapted for the promotion of the common good, Mr. Daugherty uniformly casts his ballot for the candidates pledged to its support. He has held the minor offices of the township and served as Highway Commissioner for six years, doing much to advance the interests of the community in this way and serving with credit to

himself and his constituents. Religiously he is a member of the Baptist Church and is respected for the strength of his character and the industry he has shown in worldly affairs. His labors have gained for him a competency sufficient to insure him against want and enable him to gratify all reasonable desires.



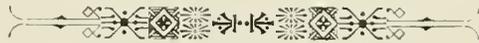
**J**N. STEWARD. The gentleman who is the subject of this sketch is engaged in the manufacture of tile and brick in Rural Township, Shelby County, but his residence is in Shelbyville, and few, if any men, have been for many years, more industrious than he, or more successful. His residence dates from 1858, at which time he left his native State, Ohio, and removed to Illinois. He was born September 26, 1833, and is a son of John and Sarah (Lacount) Steward, natives of Maryland. They came to Shelby County in 1860, and both passed away in Rural Township at the advanced age of seventy-five years.

He of whom we have the pleasure of writing this sketch, was one of a family of six children born to his parents. Their names are as follows: James, Sarah, John, Frances, Mary and Russell B. James and Russell B. both reside in Sumner County, Kan.; Sarah, who is now Mrs. Smith resides in Iowa; Frances, who married a Mr. Finney, died at Assumption, Ill.; Mary, who is Mrs. Finney, resides in Washington.

The educational advantages enjoyed by our subject, were limited, being only such as could be absorbed at a country school during the summer months, that period when the mind as well as the body, is relaxed and so little capable of vigorous action. However, he had perseverance enough to work for an additional three months' term at Westerville College, Ohio. Thereafter he gave his attention to farming and became the owner of two hundred and forty acres of land. While dealing in live stock, he met with heavy losses, and in fact, was so deeply involved, that some of his creditors offered to accept fifty cents on the dollar in

settlement. But while he felt that he had youth and energy, he was too much of a man to accept this concession, and sturdily promising to pay all in full, if they would but give him more time, he started anew, laboring almost night and day. He, however, discharged all his debts and his credit was restored, and the confidence that this manly course aroused in his creditors and townsmen was of great value to him.

Our subject is now the owner of eighty acres of land in Rural Township, on which, in 1881, he erected a tile and brick factory, and now turns out a half million brick annually, and of such good quality that it is steadily gaining ground in commerce. Mr. Steward married in 1855, to Miss Sophia D. Agler. The children whose names follow, were the fruit of this union: Marcellus A. died in childhood; Josephine died in 1858; Alice married John Middlesworth, and has since died; Flora is the wife of Henry Thomas, and resides in Assumption, Ill.; Harlow W.; Alma, who died in childhood; Wallace and Effa. Politically Mr. Steward is a follower of the Democratic party. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and socially belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.



**W**ILLIAM H. AKINS, who is a well-known practitioner before the Circuit and District Court, and also before the Supreme Court of Illinois, is enjoying a lucrative practice in Cowden, Shelby County, and surrounding towns. He is a native of this county and was born in 1818. His parents, Samuel and Susan (Moore) Akins, were natives of Ohio and North Carolina respectively. Both are now deceased, the father having departed this life in 1879, at the age of sixty-two years, and the mother having died in 1883, after having reached her fifty-eighth year.

The father had been a soldier in the Civil War. He enlisted as a private in Company H, Forty-first Illinois Infantry, and at the close of his term of service re-enlisted and remained in the army until the close of the war as a veteran volunteer.

He was promoted to the position of First Lieutenant, but was not mustered in as such, owing to its depleted ranks, as there were not men enough to entitle the company to a full quota of commissioned officers. He participated in all the engagements, marches and manœuvres in which his regiment was engaged during all his long term of service.

Of the family of our subject's parents three sons and two daughters are living: John, a farmer, married Mary Belt and resides in Cowden; Rachel L., the wife of William Beck, a farmer, resides in Fayette County, this State; Mary A. is unmarried and is the housekeeper for her brother, our subject; Henry C. married Jane Belt and resides in Cowden, being engaged in farming.

William Akins, like his father, was a soldier in the Civil War. He enlisted in January, 1864, and served until the close of the war in Company M, Third Illinois Cavalry. He participated in the battles of Tupelo, Guntown, Nashville and subsequent engagements growing out of that campaign. During the summer of 1865 the regiment operated in a campaign against the Indians in Dakota and in the Red River Valley, starting from Ft. Snelling, Devil's Lake, and Ft. Bethel, on the Mississippi River, and made a march of several hundred miles. They endured many privations and dangers incident to their removal from civilization and close proximity to hostile bands of Indians. This regiment was mustered out of service at Ft. Snelling, Minn., in October, 1865.

Farming and teaching engaged Mr. Akins for awhile after his return home, and during that time he commenced the study of law and became a student in the law department of the State University of Iowa in 1881, being graduated from that popular institution in 1882, with honor to himself and credit to his Alma Mater. Pursuant upon his graduation Mr. Akins resumed teaching for two years, also superintending his farm. In 1885 he opened his present office in Cowden. In connection with his business as an attorney and counselor-at-law he deals considerably in real estate, buying and selling, and does a general law and land business. Mr. Akins is a worthy member of Samuel Akins Post, No. 566, G. A. R., which was

named in honor of his deceased father. Mr. Akins also handles a number of standard insurance companies besides personally carrying on his farm of about ninety acres, which is situated two miles from Cowden. This tract is mostly in hay and has a fine yield. His political views have allied him with the Republican party, to which he is an intelligent adherent.



**E**DGAR ALLEN. He of whom we write is a member of a family who just previous to the war settled in this state. His father was a large landowner and a man who was highly respected in the community. Our subject resides on section 26, of Ridge Township, Shelby County, where he owns one hundred and twenty-five acres of land in a good state of cultivation. His parents were George and Naney (Carlisle) Allen, natives respectively of Maryland and Ohio, having met and married in the latter State. Our subject was born April 18, 1854, and is now in the meridian of life.

In 1863, our subject's parents came to Shelby County, and purchased two hundred and twenty acres of land which was at that time but little improved. They paid for this \$18 per acre. The father however, returned to Ohio, and there in the winter of 1863, February 24, he died, leaving a family of eight children to mourn his decease. They are Sarah A., William H., Annetta, Angeline, Thomas, Theodore, Edgar and Alice. Sarah married Anderson Hunter. Annetta became the wife of Milton Hunter and died in Shelby County. Angeline was married to George N. Arnold, and Alice became the wife of M. E. Moore. In the spring of 1864, the mother with her family of children returned to this State and settled on the land purchased by the husband and father. She is still living having attained more than the three-score years and ten usually allotted to mankind.

Our subject remained on the farm until he arrived at manhood. He was there engaged in the usual duties of a farmer lad, which duties were relieved by the enjoyments and amusements common

to country life. He received his education in the district schools in this vicinity, and is thus prepared for the practical hand-to-hand combat with daily life.

In February, 1885, Mr. Allen was united in marriage to a lady whose maiden name was Miss Allie Brandt, a daughter of Adam and Elizabeth (Rugh) Brandt, who still reside in Fairfield County, Ohio. Four children graced and beautified this union, three of whom are living, Bessie, Maude and Theodore are bright, intelligent children, who promise to more than fulfill their fond parents' expectations and hope for them. Politically, our subject affiliates with the Democratic party and under his party he has for some time held the position of Tax Collector. Socially he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.



**G**EORGE W. YANTIS. One of the men who has made many sacrifices for personal interests that have redounded to the benefit and advantage of the place that he has made his home, is he whose name heads this sketch. Although he has accumulated neither the land nor the pecuniary advantages that many of his neighbors and fellow-townsmen have gained, no one has accomplished more for the township than has our subject. Recognizing that educational advantages offer inducements for settlement to the best class of people he has striven to build up a reputation in this direction for the town, and he is a progressive man in every way. Mr. Yantis is a general farmer residing on section 32, of Pickaway Township, where he owns eighty acres of well improved land.

Our subject located on his present farm in 1864. It was at the time partially improved and since then he has expended much money and unceasing effort in bringing it up to a high state of cultivation. He has lived in this township since 1855, and in the county since 1853. He was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, April 20, 1836, and is the second son of Daniel Yantis, of whom a biographical sketch may be found in another part of this volume.

The original of our sketch was only a young man when his parents came to this State, and he here attained his majority, where his marriage took place. His wife's maiden name was Miss Lucinda Tolley, who was born August 2, 1843, in Flat Branch Township. She was reared and educated in this county and here died at their home May 4, 1882. She was a daughter of James Tolley one of the oldest settlers in this part of the county. Mrs. Yantis was a co-worker with her husband in everything that pertained to the interest and advancement of the community. She was a kindly neighbor, and an intelligent and cultured woman. She was a member of the old-school Baptist Church, and an ardent worker in that body. Five children came to enliven the home life of our subject and his estimable wife. One of these, a daughter whose name was Rose B. is deceased. The living children are Minnie E. John W., James T. and George V. Minnie is the wife of William Seibert, and lives in Assumption, where her husband is engaged in the grocery business. John W. took to wife Rachael Rice and he now lives on a farm in this county and township. James was married to Nora B. Killam and resides in Elk County, Kan. on a farm. George lives with his father and is of great assistance in conducting the business of the farm.

Our subject is a Democrat in his political belief. He has no aspirations to high position, and enjoys the consciousness that while the pleasure of his life is in his home, his heart is disposed to work unselfishly for the good of others.



**J**EFFERSON W. CARR. The name that heads this sketch is that of a gentleman who resides on his farm on section 19, of Prairie Township. He was born in Holland Township, Shelby County, March 17, 1839. He is a son of Elias and Nancy Carr, a history of whom may be found in that of W. O. Carr. Our subject's early training was such as would fit him for agricultural life, having been born and reared on a farm, and naturally being thoroughly well ac-

quainted with such duties. Mr. Carr now owns two hundred and sixty acres of land which it is now hard to believe, was not so many years ago in a crude, uncultivated state.

When a lad of but nine years, the parents of our subject were taken away and he thereafter made his home with an uncle, and with other guardians. The thought of the lad without a mother's tender care and a father's counsel, involuntarily arouses our sympathies. In 1861, when the heavens were overcast with the clouds of war, our subject enlisted in Company H, of the Forty-first Illinois Infantry. He was mustered in at Decatur, Ill., and first met fire at Ft. Donelson. After that time he took part in the most desperate and celebrated battles of the late war. He saw men mowed down before the fire of the cannon like swaths of wheat, at Shiloh, Corinth, and that battle whose name is a synonym for the greatest military tragedy, the battle of Vicksburg. After Vicksburg, the regiment in which our subject was re-enlisted and became one with the consolidated Fifty-third Illinois Infantry. Thus they served until the close of the war, engaged in many skirmishes and being participants in much hard fighting. Mr. Carr was mustered out at Paducah, Ky. He was a private, being proud of the fact that he fought, not for fame, or position, but because of loyalty to his country. He went with the regiment under Sherman in his celebrated march from Atlanta to the sea, thence proceeded to Washington and participated in the Grand Review. Our subject had the rare good fortune for one who took part in so many serious engagements, never to have received a wound, to be taken prisoner, or sent to the hospital.

After the war, he of whom we write purchased a farm in Prairie Township, where he settled and it is his present home. In 1867, he was married to Matilda Williams a daughter of John Williams, who settled as a pioneer in Shelby County, at an early day. There, Mrs. Carr was born April 18, 1849. Mr. and Mrs. Carr have the good fortune to be the parents of six intelligent and manly sons. Their names are Sherman, Walter, Erven, John, Mahlon and Roy V.

The farm of which Mr. Carr is proprietor, as

has been before said, was at the time of his settlement here, new prairie land. It is now in a perfect state of cultivation, and the well tilled fields yield bountiful crops. Several good buildings have been erected on the place. They have a home that is comfortable and commodious, not too good for the use and benefit of the sons that are growing up around their parents, but being of such a character as to cultivate refined, yet strong ideas of life.

Politically, our subject is a Republican. His religious preferences are in the direction of the Methodist Episcopal Church in which body he has been a Class-Leader for a number of years. Socially he is a member of John Hulfer Post, No. 633 G. A. R.



**M**ARCUS F. PLEAK. A man who is noted as being a thrifty and well-to-do farmer residing on section 11, of Flat Branch Township where he owns one hundred and sixty acres of highly improved land, is he whose name is at the head of this sketch. He is evidently a man who thinks more of home than of the mere accumulation of money, for his family are surrounded by all the comforts and even elegancies that the modern style of living declare so necessary. His residence is a fine, brick house, commanding a charming view of the surrounding country. Exteriously, it is attractive and tasteful in style of architecture, and the interior arrangement is made with a view to comfort.

Besides his fine home place, Mr. Pleak owns ninety-six acres on section 12, and sixty-two acres on section 1 in the same township, and forty acres on section 3. He is regarded by those who know him best as being one of the most practical and successful farmers of the township, having made fine improvements since his coming here, which was February 1, 1877. Our subject came hither from Middle Tennessee, where he had lived for some years. He was born near Mt. Sterling, Montgomery County, Ky., April 28, 1838. His parents are Joseph B. and Sarah J. (Riblin) Pleak,

both natives of Kentucky, who came of German stock and ancestry. The family were early settlers in Kentucky. Our subject's grandfather was John Pleak, a native of Virginia, and a soldier in the Revolutionary War, belonging to a Virginia regiment. He, however, died in Kentucky, after marriage with a lady of that State whose maiden name was Nancy Wade. She was of Irish descent and like her husband, died in Kentucky at an advanced age. The family were all members, both active and prominent, of the Christian Church and were among the early associates of that reform, they being personal friends and workers with Dr. Alexander Campbell, and the Rev. Barton W. Stone. Joseph D. Pleak and wife, after marriage, resided in Kentucky until 1870, when they came to Decatur County, Ind., where the father of the family died in 1876, having attained seventy-six years of age. His wife died in 1889, at the age of eighty-four. They were both prominent members for many years of the Christian Church, in fact, being so from Dr. Campbell's day.

Our subject is one of a large family, six of whom are still living. Mr. Pleak was well reared in his native county, where he became of age. He completed his education, which was begun at home, at Hartsville, Ind., in the university of that place. He was married October 3, 1869 in Tennessee to Mrs. Francis H. Briggs, *nee* Beard. The lady was a native of Tennessee, where she was reared and married to her first husband, who was W. Briggs. Mr. Briggs was treacherously shot by a Southern guerrilla chief, known as Dave Miller. Mr. Briggs being then a Federal scout. He was only twenty-five years of age at the time of his death, and was known as a brave, daring man. He left one child to his widow, William N., who now lives in this township on a farm, having taken to wife, Genevra Tannyhill.

After Mr. Pleak's marriage, he lived in Tennessee for seven years and then removed to the place where they now reside, being a leading member of their community. Mr. Pleak is a refined and accomplished gentleman, and his wife is a lady with whom it is a pleasure and privilege to meet. They have eight children, three of whom are deceased, one in infancy and Lillie A. and Wallace E. who

died in childhood. The living children are Stoder M., Arthur E., Marcus F., Jr., Mary C. and John J., all of whom are still at home, making the house merry with their bright jests and happy ways. Mr. Pleak and his wife are prominent members of the Christian Church, of which the gentleman has been an Elder for years. Politically he is a Republican, using his influence for the advantage of that party.



**J**OHAN L. GREGORY. The farmers and stock-raisers of Penn Township have no better representative than our subject, who stands high among the keen, progressive, business-like men who are so ably conducting the extensive agricultural interests of this part of Shelby County. He has adopted the best modern methods in carrying on his farming operations, and his farm is conceded to be one of the best managed estates in the township. It is also the seat of one of the most attractive and comfortable homes of this locality, of a recent and appropriate style of architecture, and replete in its interior appointments.

Mr. Gregory was born in Perry County, Ind., opposite Cloverport, Ky., January 26, 1845. His father, Edward Gregory, was born in Henry County, Ky., September 26, 1817. He is a son of Peter Gregory, who was born either in Culpeper or Botetourt Counties, Va. He in turn was a son of John Gregory, who was born in Virginia, and was of early English ancestry. He was a farmer, and so far as known spent his last days in Virginia. The grandfather of subject passed his early life in his native State, but after marriage he removed to the wilds of Kentucky, taking with him his wife and the two children that had been born to them in their old home, and making the removal with a pair of horses and a wagon. He settled in Henry County, and was engaged in farming there until 1825, when he removed to Breckenridge County. In 1833 he left Kentucky to become a pioneer of Indiana, his wife and nine children accompanying him on the journey, which was performed with a team. He crossed the Ohio River on a ferry boat

at Cloverport, and settled in Perry County, where he rented land and dwelt during the remaining days of his earthly pilgrimage. His wife also died in Perry County. In her maiden days her name was Mary Dobson, and she was born in Virginia, a daughter of William and Edith (Calvert) Dobson.

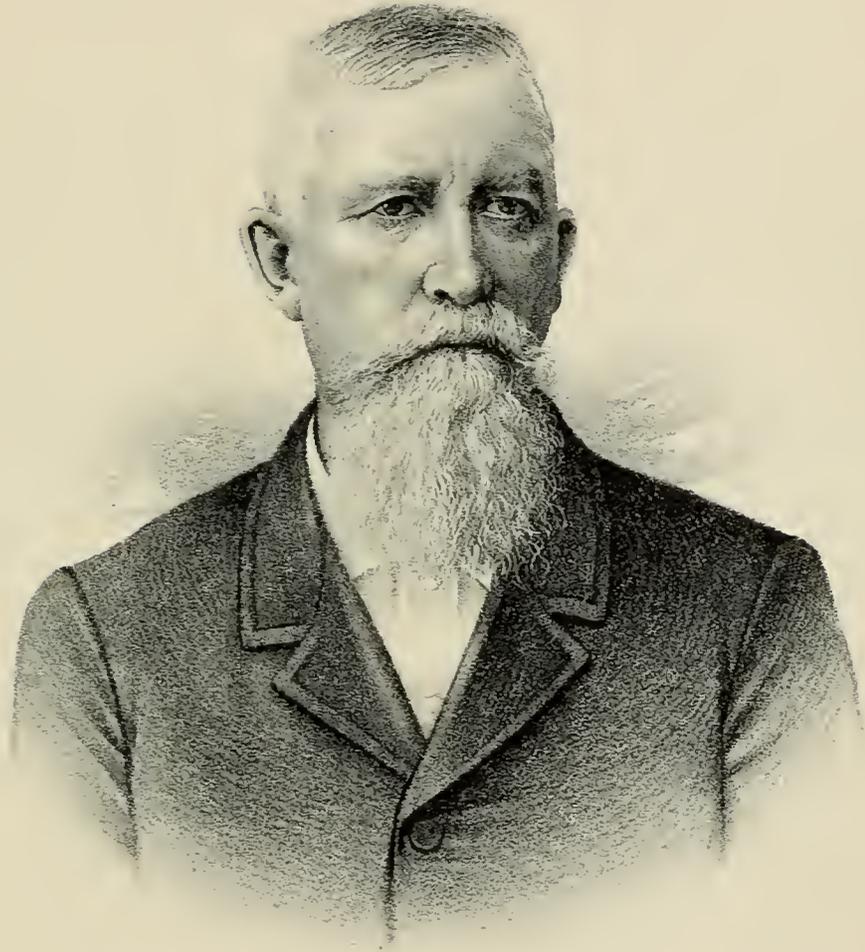
Edward Gregory was sixteen years old when his parents removed to Indiana, and there he grew to manhood on a farm. He was married in 1843 to Miss Elizabeth Winchel, a native of Perry County, and a daughter of Smith and Annie (Malory) Winchel. He bought a tract of improved land in that county, and lived there, actively engaged in farming, until 1865. In the fall of that year he came to Shelby County, and bought a quarter of a section of land, a half of it in Penn and the remainder in Pickaway Township. He erected a dwelling and other suitable buildings in Penn Township, and at once commenced to prepare his land for cultivation. He has been prosperous since he came here to seek a habitation, and has bought other land at different times, and now has a valuable farm of two hundred acres. Here he is spending his declining years in comfort, and in the enjoyment of a competence ample for all of his wants. The good wife who joined her fortunes with his when both were young, and walked by his side, staying his hands and strengthening him in his work, for nearly forty years, has gone from him, her death taking place April 7, 1880. Together they reared seven children, namely, James E., John L., Laura, T. Jefferson, Wallace, Franklin and Richard.

John L. Gregory grew to manhood in his native county, and obtained his education in its public schools. In June, 1865, he came to Shelby County, and spent the summer in Penn Township and at Moweaqua. In the fall he joined his parents and resided with them until 1870, and then, at the time of his marriage, he bought eighty acres of wild prairie land on section 5, Penn Township, and later he purchased a like amount of land near by. He placed nearly the entire tract under cultivation, erected good buildings, and lived there until 1887, when he sold and bought the farm that he now occupies on section 6, of the same township. It is well improved, the soil is exceedingly fertile, and a never failing supply of water adds greatly to the





NANCY E. BLAND.



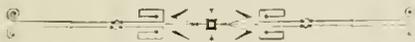
EUGENE BLAND.



value of the place. In 1889 Mr. Gregory erected a fine frame house, building it substantially, and in a modern style of architecture.

In the upbuilding of his home Mr. Gregory has had the benefit of the good taste and assistance of his amiable wife, to whom he was married March 3, 1870. Mrs. Gregory was formerly Miss Mary R. Thomas. She is a native of Fairbanks Township, Sullivan County, Ind., and a daughter of Calvin and Jane (Hunt) Thomas. Mr. and Mrs. Gregory have six children living, Edwin M., Mary Lillian, Minnie Florence, Arthur Hastings, Alta Beatrice and Tracy. Their son Clinton L. died at the age of nine years.

Since his removal to this county more than a quarter of a century ago our subject has shown himself to be an acquisition to its citizenship not only as a very intelligent, skillful farmer, but as one who is desirous to promote the general welfare of his community, and at all times gives cordial support to all schemes advanced for the benefit of the public. He has always taken a deep interest in educational affairs, and has served several years as School Director. He has also been Highway Commissioner, and this is his third term as Assessor of the township. His political views are in accord with the principles promulgated by the Republican party. Religiously, he and his wife are members of the Baptist Church, and they lead exemplary Christian lives.



**E**UGENE BLAND is a fine representative of the native-born sons of Shelby County, and also of the citizen-soldiers that she sent to the front during the great Civil War to defend the stars and stripes. The farm that he owns and occupies on section 23, Todd's Point Township, was the scene of his birth November 2, 1841. He is now one of the most extensive farmers in this section of Illinois, and a leading stock dealer, a business that he has carried on with more than ordinary success for several years.

The father of our subject, Capt. Henry Bland, was a well-known pioneer of this county and a wealthy citizen, who materially aided in its up-

building. He was born in one of the early pioneer homes of Muskingum County, Ohio, and when only a boy of a few years he asserted his independence, and left the shelter of the parental roof to make his own way in the world. He was very ambitious and enterprising, full of push and energy, and in a few years he had risen to the command of a steamer plying on the Mississippi River. When St. Louis was but a small village, he bought a tract of land there, which he afterward exchanged for a boat load of honey, that he sold in New Orleans. For a time he was overseer on a plantation in Mississippi, but the Southern climate disagreed with his family and he concluded to locate in the North, and so came to this State and county. He was one of the early settlers of Todd's Point Township, where he bought a tract of land on section 23. He devoted himself to its improvement, and made it his home until death closed his busy career, and deprived the county of one of its most valued citizens. He had met with more than ordinary success from the financial point of view, and in the course of years had become a large real-estate holder, owning extensive tracts of land in Shelby and Moultrie Counties. In early manhood he had married Elizabeth Dittenhauer, a native of Ohio. She survived him until 1875, when she too passed away, dying on the old homestead.

Our subject was reared in the home of his birth, receiving a careful training in all that goes to make a good citizen and a capable business man, and with the exception of the time that he devoted to his country's service in the army, he was with his parents until their death. He can remember when this section of the country was still in the hands of the pioneers, and presented a far different appearance from what it does to-day where many cultivated farms and thriving towns have taken the place of a sparsely settled, and but little developed wilderness. In his boyhood, deer, wild turkeys and other kinds of game were plentiful; there were no railways here, and the farmers had to go to St. Louis for the principal market. Our subject's education was conducted in the pioneer schools of other days, and the building in which he gained his knowledge of the "three Rs," was a log house, heated by a fireplace, and furnished with

benches made of split logs, one side hewn smooth, and there were no desks or backs to the seats.

The breaking out of the war found our subject at work on his father's farm, but at the first call for troops he abandoned agricultural pursuits to offer his services to his country, though he had not then attained his majority. He enlisted with the Fourteenth Illinois Infantry for three months and in 1862 he re-enlisted as a member of the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry. He served a few months, and was then discharged on account of disability. Notwithstanding all that he had suffered on Southern battlefields and on the long and trying marches, his loyal spirit was undaunted, and as soon as he was able to endure the hardships of a soldier's life once more, he had his name placed on the roll of the Seventh Illinois Calvary, with which he remained until after the war was closed. He saw service in the States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama and Virginia, and in many a hard struggle with the enemy showed that he possessed all the requisites of a good soldier, and his military record does credit to the citizenship of his native Illinois. He was honorably discharged with his regiment at Nashville after peace was declared.

After his return from the seat of war Mr. Bland resumed farming, and also gave his attention to buying and shipping stock, in which line he has built up a large business, and is to-day one of the most extensive dealers in this part of the State. He now owns and occupies the old homestead, and this, with other land that he has bought at different times, makes him the possessor of upwards of eight hundred acres of valuable real-estate.

Mr. Bland was married in 1867 to Miss Nancy E. Wright, a native of Todd's Point Township, and a daughter of William and Martha Wright, well-known pioneers of this county. Mrs. Bland is a member of the Christian Church. She possesses in a high degree those fine womanly traits of character that mark her as a true wife and devoted mother, who is willing to sacrifice self-interests to procure the peace and well-being of her household. Her marriage with our subject was brought then these eight children: Mattie, Ella, Ada, William, Belle, Arthur, Eugene and Ray.

Our subject's success in life was assured at the outset, not only from the fact that he came from a well-to-do family and did not have so many disadvantages to contend against in his chosen career as many who have set their faces in the same direction, but he had fine natural endowments to aid him in achieving whatsoever he desired. As a gentleman of character, business acumen, and public-spirit that is manifested in his readiness to do all in his power to help forward any and all feasible plans for the good of the community at large, his name stands high in his country. In his political belief, he is a Republican sound and true.

The reader will be pleased to notice in this connection, the lithographic portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Bland.



**J**OHN T. KILLAM resides on section 33, of Rural Township, Shelby County, where he is proprietor of a fine farm. He was born in Ridge Township, May 18, 1847 and is a son of John and Mary M. T. (Bowen) Killam and a grandson of Peter Killam. His mother's death occurred February 12, 1877. He was at the tender age of one year when his parents removed to section 33, Rural Township, where his father had purchased a tract of land and had also entered some Government land, and thus became the owner of six hundred acres in one body. He also owned land in other parts of the county, and some valuable property in Pana, being one of the founders of said town.

Our subject is the youngest of a family of five children. He early learned the business of farming and stock-raising, having resided at home until he attained his majority. He attended the district school and completed his education at the old Seminary at Shelbyville. February 12, 1878, he was united in marriage to Oma J. Oller, a daughter of David and Caroline (Conrad) Oiler, natives of Ohio, who removed to Wisconsin and then came to Illinois in 1855, settling in Shelby County. Mr.

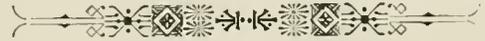
Oller died in 1862 or 1863. His wife is still living, making her home at Pana.

Mr. and Mrs. Killam have no children of their own but have been the loving foster parents of several children; one daughter, now deceased, having lived with our subject and his estimable wife and enjoyed every advantage that she would have received had she been their own child. Austin E. McDaniel resided with Mr. Killam until he was twenty-seven years old, having been taken at nine years of age. On his marriage to Miss Minnie Kerr, he made a home for himself, but only five months later, was killed by lightning. Jessie May Ferguson was one of our subject's family until she was united in marriage to Paul C. Smith, March 9, 1891. Leslie Ray Ramsey is now the pet of the household, being a small boy, his attention being chiefly devoted to his studies and in getting as much fun out of his childhood life as possible.

Mr. and Mrs. Killam are members of the Christian Church. Politically our subject favors the purity of principle promulgated by the Prohibition party. He was formerly a Democrat, but now shows his total abstinence principles in union with the above named party. He was Chairman of the Central Committee of the Prohibition party for several years. For seven years he served as Supervisor of the township, being Chairman of the Board for six years. He has also held the office of Collector for one year. He is the owner of three hundred and thirty acres of well-improved land, but raises and deals largely in live-stock.

So much of a man's character is accounted for by his antecedents that we feel that a short sketch of Peter Killam, the grandfather of our subject, will be in place here. He was born in Maryland, but when a young man removed to Kentucky, and there married. He came to Illinois in 1831 and settled in Ridge Township, where he died at the age of sixty. His wife, also, passed away from their home in Ridge Township. Peter Killam had five sons and four daughters, all of whom came with their parents to Illinois, with the exception of a son named Samuel, who died at the age of twenty. Those, who made settlement with their father in this State, are Isaac, Thomas, William,

John, Mary, Elizabeth, Sarah and Naomi. William was a soldier in the Mexican War, and dying while on the voyage home was buried in the Gulf of Mexico. Mary became the wife of Nathan Smith. Elizabeth married Leton Smith. Sarah married Harrison Bailey. Naomi married John Todd, in whose honor Todd's Point Township received its name.



**W**ILLIAM WALKER. The ideal life of an American agriculturist is perhaps not so often attained as poets and romances might lead one to expect, but when one sees a man not past the prime of life, comfortably settled with his wife and children upon a fertile farm which responds with generous crops to the thorough and systematic culture bestowed upon it, whose home is attractive and surrounded with beautiful grounds one can but envy a citizen so situated, especially if to this material comfort we may add that in reputation he stands high among his fellowmen as worthy of their confidence. Such a life is that of William Walker, a farmer and stock-grower, who resides on section 6, Oconee Township, and was born in Boston, Mass., August 18, 1846. His parents were Edward and Rachel (Simonds) Walker, natives of the Bay State, where the father was born in 1824 and the mother in 1820, Middlesex being her native county. He came to Illinois with his parents, when he was twelve years old and made his home at Alton. After awhile he returned to Massachusetts and remained for one year and then came to Pana, Christian County.

In that town Mr. Walker was married in February, 1871, to Miss Mary C. McConnell, daughter of Asa and Elyira (Newport) McConnell, natives of Ohio, where their daughter was also born in 1844. The young couple located on a farm in Oconee Township, which Mr. Walker had procured the previous year, and where he has since resided. Their happy union has been blessed by the birth of four children, of whom Edward, now nineteen years old is the eldest. The younger ones are

Carrie C., aged sixteen; Asa, aged thirteen; and Ray a frolicsome boy of five years all of whom are living and under the parental roof, attending school in the neighborhood.

Matters of public interest always command the attention and consideration of Mr. Walker, who is now a member of the Building Committee which is engaged in erecting a church for the worshipping people of the community, and he has served for several terms as School Director of his district. He had only one brother, Edward, who died at the age of eighteen years. Our subject is a member of the Oconee Detective Association. He votes with the Republican party, having always supported its principles and believes that the theory of government which was endorsed by Abraham Lincoln is the true basis from which to secure prosperity for the country. Both he and his good wife are earnest and devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is an honest, upright citizen, and enjoys the confidence of all who know him. His finely improved farm lies mostly in Oconee Township, where he has three hundred and five acres, and twenty acres lie across the line in Montgomery County. His pleasant home is delightfully situated and handsomely and comfortably furnished.



**J**OHNS SWENGEL, the leading representative man of Ash Grove Township, Shelby County, resides on section 36, in a pleasant home where he is remarkably successful in agricultural pursuits. His father was the late George Swengel, who had his birth in Pickaway County, Ohio, and his mother was Sarah Hamilton who was born in Ireland. Their first home after marriage was near Seymour, Ind., and upon first leaving there they came to Cumberland County, Ill., in 1865, and there made their home until the death of his honored father, which occurred in January, 1888. His widow is still surviving and is active and bright for a lady of her age.

These respected parents had five children—Frank, John, Reuben, Kennedy and Edward. Our

subject was the second in order of age, his birth taking place near Seymour, Ind., December 9, 1856. He came to Illinois with his parents when about nine years old, and upon his father's farm he was reared to manhood, being given a thorough training in all that is pertaining to agriculture and learned in the true way, by doing, how to cultivate a farm and care for stock. His early education was such as could be procured in the district schools in Indiana and Cumberland County after coming here and he received great benefit from their thorough drill, although he would have been glad to take advantage of a college curriculum, for which his natural abilities befitted him.

This young man resided in his father's home until that great event in his life which took place at the residence of the bride's father in Cumberland County, Ill., October 30, 1878, when Flora D., daughter of Col. T. A. and Ann Apperson, became his bride. Mrs. Flora Swengel's father died at his home March 10, 1879. This daughter was born at the family home, January 18, 1859, and after her marriage with Mr. Swengel they established themselves on section 36, Ash Grove Township where the young man purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty-five acres, which he has since carried on. He has always followed farming and stock-raising and has made a success in both departments of the work, as his prudence and foresight have enabled him to govern his spirit of enterprise in such a manner as to secure the best results from his labors, which have been unceasing. He has a thorough knowledge of the characteristics and needs of the various grades of stock which he handles and takes a comprehensive view of the soil, climate and productions of the Prairie State. He is thus enabled each year to plan his work so as to obtain the best results for his labor.

Mr. Swengel's common-school education was supplemented by attendance upon the academy at Westfield, Ill., which so advanced him as to fit him to teach for two terms in Ash Grove Township. To him and his lovely and capable companion have been granted three children—Imogene, Oscar and George. Our subject was elected Supervisor in the spring of 1889, since which time he has continued to serve on the Board, as his excellent judgment,

his broad views of men and matters, and his devotion to the best interests of the community have made him a model Supervisor.

The political convictions of our subject have always led him to work with and for the success of the Democratic party, in which he takes a lively interest and has also taken an active part in religious affairs and Sunday-school work, and is exceedingly helpful in all movements that tend to the elevation of the community. Both he and his wife are of value in their church connection, being members of the church of the United Brethren.

The breeding of fine grades of animals is a specialty with Mr. Swengel and he is remarkably successful in raising Hereford cattle, Poland-China hogs, Shropshire sheep, bronze turkeys, and Plymouth Rock fowls, and in their welfare he takes a lively interest and provides for their comfort most generously. The record of such a home as Mr. Swengel's and of such a life as his must be influential for generations, not only upon those who come in immediate contact with him but also upon the whole community.



WILLIAM E. STEDMAN, M. D., one of the successful physicians and surgeons of Sullivan, Moultrie County, locating here in August, 1855, had formerly practiced in the little town of Horace, Edgar County, this State, where he began his profession in 1880. He is a native of Ohio, being born in Pike County, October 19, 1849, and is a son of Enoch Stedman, a native of Chenango County, N. Y., being of English parentage. Enoch was yet a small boy when his father, who was a seafaring man and captain of a vessel, was lost at sea. When Enoch had reached his majority and while still unmarried he came to what was then known as the Western Reserve in Medina County, Ohio, and there married Elizabeth McConkey who had been born and reared in that county.

Samuel McConkey, the father of Mrs. Enoch Stedman, was a native of the North of Ireland and came while yet a young man to this country and in Ohio married a Scotch lady. After marriage

Mr. and Mrs. McConkey lived on a farm in Medina County through all the remainder of their lives, surviving until they reached extreme old age. They were highly esteemed for their honorable Christian lives and were members of the Presbyterian Church.

After Enoch Stedman and wife were married they began life in Medina County, Ohio, Mr. Stedman being a cabinetmaker by trade, but somewhat later they removed to farm in Pike County and there remained for many years. He has now reached the age of eighty-three years and has retired from active life, making his home with his daughter, Mrs. Cordelia Daley, of Waverly, Ohio. The Methodist Church was the religious body in which Mr. Stedman was for many years an active worker and he is still a member of its communion. He is a staunch Jacksonian Democrat in politics. He was bereaved by the death of his wife in 1887, as she died full of years in Pike County.

The thirteen children of this excellent couple were a source of great comfort and pride to their parents, and eight of them are yet living, all of these having established homes of their own. The common schools furnished the educational advantages which were conferred upon our subject and for eight years he was a teacher in Ohio and Illinois. He is by taste and habit scholarly and keeps up with the trend of the times upon every point of public interest. He was graduated in the Class of '80 from the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville, where he had been for three or four years. He had also studied under different preceptors in Waverly, Ohio, and Coles County, Ill., at the former place being favored with the instruction of Wells J. W. Jones, M. D., and at the latter place having as his teacher Dr. J. R. Hawthorn. Like many another poor boy he had to make his way upward by dint of push, pluck and perseverance and found it necessary to teach school in order to secure the means of acquiring a medical education, but his efforts have been crowned with success and he has reached the goal which his early ambition pointed out.

The happy wedding day of our subject, which united him with Miss Ella Jenkins, of Edgar County, this State, came upon January 12, 1878,

This lady was born, reared and educated in Ohio and came to Edgar County with her parents, Martin and Amanda (Sillcott) Jenkins, who live in Sullivan, having retired from active work as farmers. They are active and useful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and Mr. Jenkins espouses the cause of the Republican party. Mrs. Stedman is a bright, earnest, capable woman, who is prominent as a leader in social circles and faithful and efficient as a home-maker and a wife. Both she and her husband are useful in their church relations and belong to the Methodist Church. The Doctor affiliates with the Democratic party and is a member of the Subordinate Lodge of Moultrie, No. 158, I. O. O. F. He is also a Knight of Pythias, belonging to Moultrie Lodge No. 222.



**E**UGENE F. DES LARZES. Our subject is a native of that country which boasts the most beautiful scenery on the globe, whose mountains tower skyward and are girdled by the overhanging, misty clouds, and a country the aspirations of whose people are as high as its mountains. One of the earliest European nations to cast aside every vestige of tyranny and to declare itself a Republic, the sons that Switzerland sends out from her borders are worthy representatives of the mother country. They stand high in science and high in the ethics of nations. Our subject, who resides on section 6, of Rural Township where he settled in 1865, comes from the land of European freedom to that of America. He was born in Switzerland August 15, 1822, and is a son of Benjamin and Mary Des Larzes.

He of whom we write was a half orphan in early childhood, his mother having been taken away and leaving to her bereaved husband five children whose names are as follows: Benjamin, our subject, Frank, Margaret and Morris. Benjamin now resides in Colorado. Frank makes his home in Faribault, Minn. Morris lives in Meeker County, Minn.

The father of our subject while still in his native land, married a second time and in 1849 came to the United States. Two children were the fruit of

this marriage, Kate, who became the wife of Charles Geneva and resides in Oregon, and Lewis, who died in Assumption, this State; he was unmarried. Upon coming to the United States the family settled first in Dodge County, Wis., on a farm, but in 1863 they removed to Kankakee, Ill., whence in 1865 they came to Shelby County and settled in Rural Township, where the father purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land. Here his wife died, and in 1885 he went to Faribault, Minn., to reside with a daughter.

The gentleman of whom we write came with his family to this county and in 1858; while residing in Wisconsin, he was married at Kankakee, Ill., to Louisa Morend. She was born in Switzerland and came to the United States with her parents, Lewis and Mary Morend. Mr. Des Larzes continued his residence in Wisconsin until 1863, and then removed to Kankakee County, this State, and in 1865 he again removed to Shelby County and purchased his present home. He is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land in a high state of cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Des Larzes are the parents of three children whose names are Lewis E., Adele and Hortense. They are bright and attractive children. Politically our subject is an advocate of and voter with the Republican party, its platform being consonant with his ideas of the equity and policy that should rule so great a nation. In his religious views he is a follower of the Roman Catholic Church.



**J**OHAN WHITAKER, a retired farmer living in Sullivan, Moultrie County, to which he removed in February, 1891, came here from Douglas County, Ill., where he had lived since 1856. He had there improved a farm of some eighty acres which he afterward sold and purchased and improved a larger tract which comprises some two hundred acres. His farm is supplied with good farm buildings and a pleasant residence, and he has been more than ordinarily prosperous in his pursuit of agriculture.

Mr. Whitaker is a native of Indiana, being born in Vigo County, March 12, 1833. His father, William Whitaker, was a Kentuckian by birth and there grew up, and while yet a single man removed to Vigo County, Ind., where he married Elizabeth Taylor, a Kentucky lady who had come to Indiana several years before her marriage. They made their home upon a farm and he died in Vigo County while still in the prime of life, when his years numbered less than half a century. His wife survived him for many years and died in extreme old age at the home of her son John when he was residing in Douglas County. Both she and her good husband were earnest and consistent members of the Baptist Church and throughout life were devoted to their religious duties and faith.

Our subject is the third of the four children born to his parents and only one besides himself now survives, namely: a sister, Mrs. Recnah Weddell, widow of Thomas Weddell, who was formerly a resident of Coles, Ill. John Whitaker grew up a farmer and has been very successful in his life work, having made all that he has by his own unaided efforts. His first marriage took place in Douglas County, being then united with Hannah Davis, a native of Vigo County, Ind., who had come with her parents to Douglas County when a child. Their family home continued there until after her death which occurred at the age of forty-one years. She was deeply mourned by her husband and the five children who survive her, who are as follows: Theodosia, the wife of John Hastings, a farmer in Douglas County; William, a student in the Chicago Law College; Mary E., the wife of Jacob Riddle who resides in Cincinnati, Green County, Ind., here he is a merchant; Cora B., who is at present with her sister, Mrs. Riddle, in Indiana, and Charles who is at home.

Our subject was a second time married in Sullivan to Mrs. Harriet Dyson *nee* Elder, who was born in Springfield, Ill., and there grew to womanhood and was first married in that city to Mr. Levi Dyson, now deceased. Both Mr. and Mrs. Whitaker are earnest and consistent members of the Baptist Church and in its communion and labors they share, being willing to lend a hand toward every movement for the upbuilding of religion and

morality. The Democratic party in its declarations and platform gives expression to the political belief of our subject, who is earnest and active in his advocacy of the party which is proud to claim as its most distinguished exponent the author of the Declaration of Independence.



WILLIAM J. PUGH. He of whom we write is the owner of a good farm located on section 14, of Tower Hill Township, Shelby County. In another part of this volume will be found a more extended sketch of the history of his parents, who are proud of the fact that they are the earliest settlers in this county. Our subject's father is John Pugh. His mother was Elizabeth (Inman) Pugh. They were the parents of six children of whom our subject was the youngest member and only son. He is a native of this State and county being here born near the village of Shelbyville, February 2, 1849.

With the exception of six months spent in Texas, the original of our sketch has always made his home in this State and county, and has ever been engaged in agricultural pursuits. As a lad, he was educated in the common schools of the district in which he lived and there received such practical and common sense instruction as has fitted him for the cares of the ordinary business man. The growth of this State has been so very phenomenal that one coming from older States or countries would scarcely believe that the educational advantages offered in the districts, were equal, even at so early a day, comparatively, as when our subject was a school boy to those in older communities, but such was the case.

William Pugh's marriage took place in Shelby County, this State December 18, 1873, at which time he was united to Miss Mary F. Smith, a daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Weakly) Smith. The former was a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Ohio. They were among the very early settlers in this county. Immediately after marriage, the young couple set up their household goods in Tower Hill Township, and there he has

ever since resided. His wife's mother Margaret Smith, died here about 1855. The second wife of Samuel Smith was Sarah A. McCullough. Mrs. Pugh is one of three children that were the fruit of the first marriage. She was born in Tower Hill Township, February 9, 1852.

Upon the marriage of our subject he settled in Tower Hill Township, where he owns two hundred acres, his farm here boasting fine improvements. Our subject and his wife are the parents of two children, Charles J. and Robert W. Mr. and Mrs. Pugh are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in which body he of whom we write has been Steward for several years. They are kindly, warm hearted people, with broad philanthropic ideas, and acts that are ever characterized by generosity and purity of purpose. They took a little girl into their family with the intention of adopting her and rearing her as one of their own children. She bore the name of Mary Pearl Dove; she was but three months of age when taken to the hearts and home of her kindly foster parents, and there she made herself a place in their affections that was left very desolate when at the age of three years and eight months, she was taken into the arms of the Good Shepherd and placed in his fold.



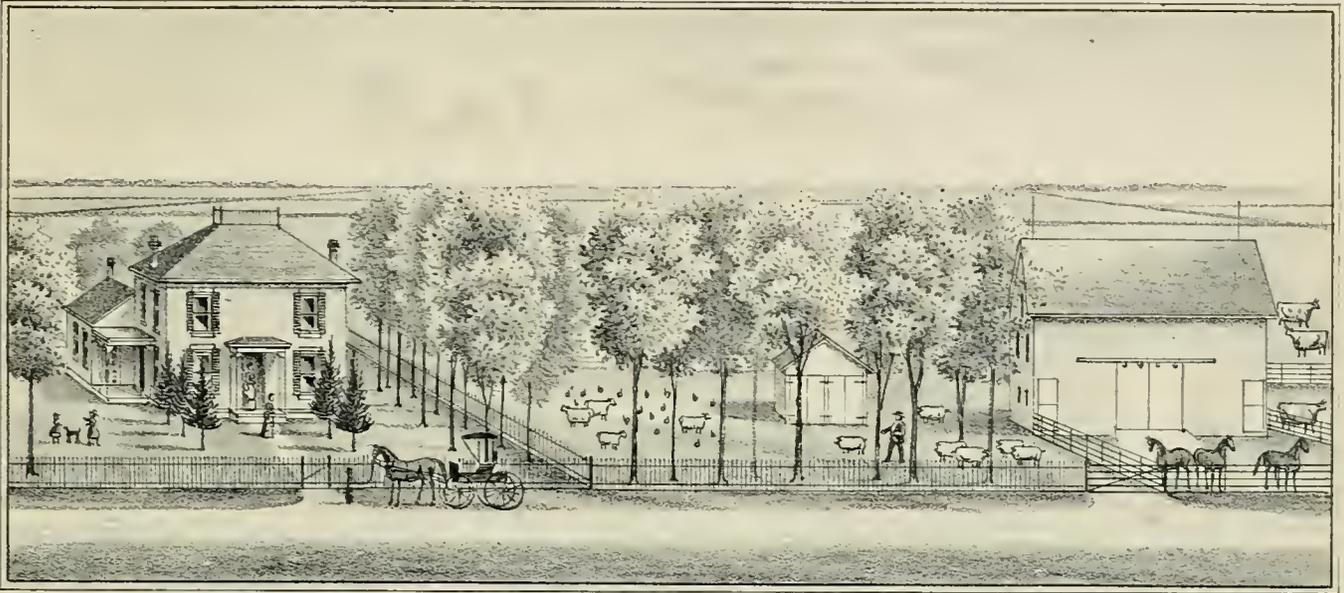
**H**ERMAN GREEN. In the full flush and vigor of manhood this gentleman came from his early Ohio home to this county and allied himself with its farmers by purchasing a farm in Penn Township. He soon acquired an excellent reputation as an industrious, sensible, methodical agriculturist, and was conducting his farming operations with a good degree of success, when death removed him from his sphere of usefulness in April, 1885, thus depriving his fellow-citizens of a valuable co-worker.

Mr. Green was born in Geauga County, Ohio, March 18, 1853. His father, Alonzo Green, was a farmer and is now a resident of Grand Junction, Iowa. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Eliza Patton. She died when her son

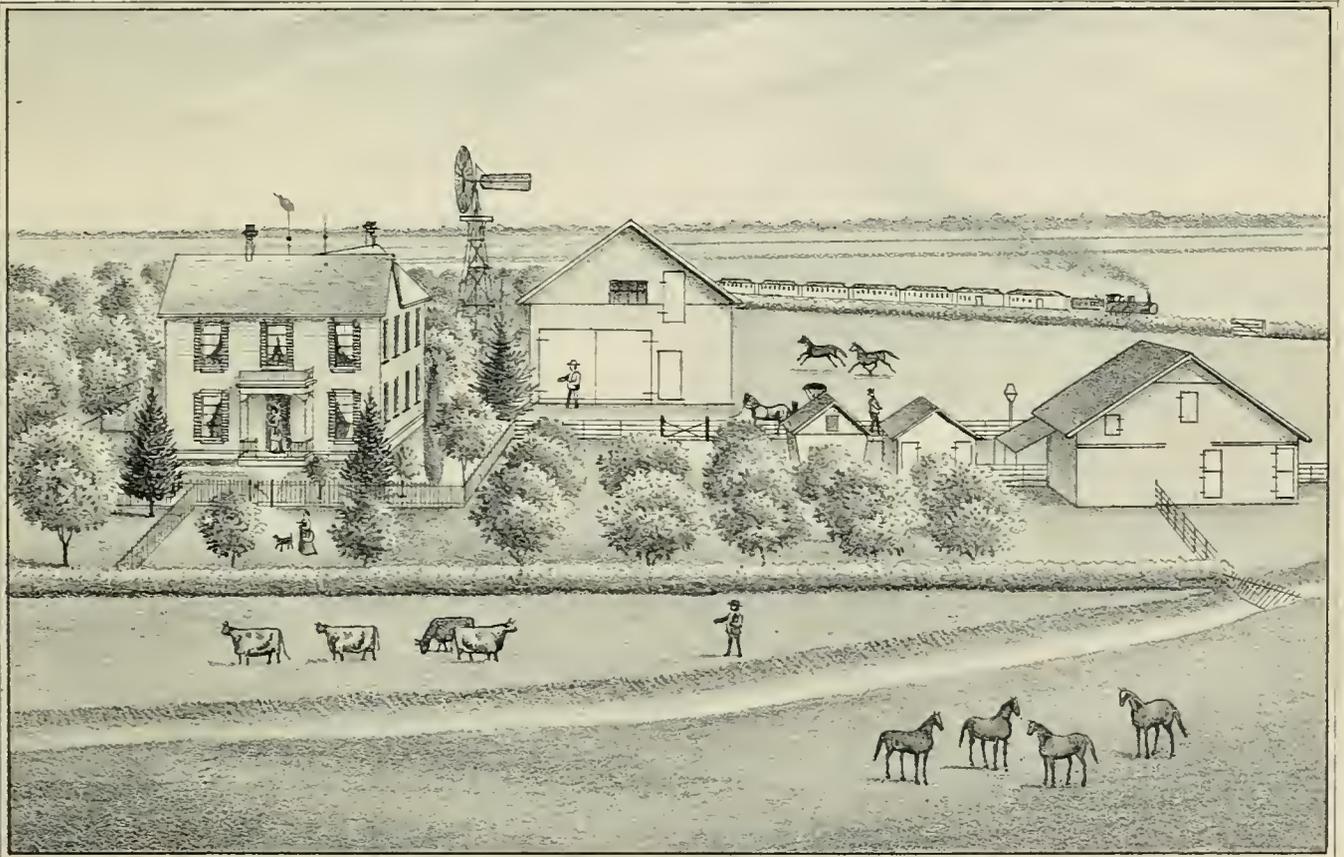
of whom we write was an infant, and he was reared by his aunt, Mrs. Ladow, in his native county. He was carefully trained under good home influences and gained a sound education in the public schools of Ohio. His early life was spent on a farm, and he began when quite young to acquire a practical experience of farming that was of service to him when he began his career as an independent farmer. He lived with his aunt until his marriage and then bought a farm in Geauga County. He was actively engaged in its management until 1883, when he sold it at a good price in order to take up his residence in this county, as he wisely considered that on this fertile soil that had not been worn by generations of cultivation the prospects for rapid advancement in his chosen calling were of a most encouraging character.

On coming here our subject bought the farm in Penn Township now occupied by his widow. He devoted his energies to its further improvement, but scarcely more than a year had elapsed after his settlement here when death stayed his hand, and his life-record was brought to a close when but thirty-two years of age. It may be that it has been taken up in a fairer land, where he has "entered upon broader fields of action and duty, where nobler struggles shall tax the strength and more precious crowns award the victor, where the hopes and dreams of earth shall be turned to sight, and the broken circles of life be rounded to the perfect orb."

The marriage of Mr. Green to Miss Amarett Pelton was solemnized October 1, 1874, and in her helpfulness, loving counsel, and devotion to his interests, he found how much a faithful wife has to do with a man's success in life. Mrs. Green is a native of the same county in Ohio where her husband was born. She is a daughter of Storrs Gustavus Pelton, who was born in one of the pioneer homes of Trumbull County, Ohio. His father, Elias Pelton, a native of New England, was one of the early settlers of that section of Ohio, and cleared a farm from the primeval forests on which he lived until he passed from life to death. Mrs. Green's father learned the trade of a carpenter in his youth and became a good mechanic in that line. He resided in his native county until a



RESIDENCE OF A. M. GREEN, SEC. 33., PENN TP., SHELBY CO., ILL.



RESIDENCE OF T. E. MAYES, SEC. 31., DORA TP., MOULTRIE CO., ILL.



short time after his marriage, when he went to Geauga County, and buying a farm in Russell Township, devoted himself to farming during the remainder of his active life. He is now living in retirement in the same township with a daughter. He was bereft of the companionship of his beloved wife in 1860, her death occurring during their residence on the farm. Her maiden name was Lydia Bailey. She was a native of Trumbull County, a daughter of Ido Bailey, and the mother of nine children.

Mrs. Green was but six years old when her mother died and after that she lived with an older sister until she married our subject. After his death she cheerfully took up the burden that her husband laid down, and has nobly fulfilled her duty. In her management of her farming interests she has displayed exceptional ability, and shows what a woman can do when cast on her own resources. She has a fine farm with well-tilled fields, and amply provided with neat and well-kept buildings, everything about the place wearing an air of thrift, good order and solid comfort, that betoken extra care and denote a substantial home. A view of this place may be found on another page. Mrs. Green is prized by her neighbors and the community at large, not only as a woman of exceeding capability and business acumen, but for her pleasant social qualities. She is a useful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is a veritable Christian. She has two daughters, Gertrude E. and Maud A., whom she is carefully training to a true womanhood and who bid fair to follow in the footsteps of their mother.



**G**EORGE W. BALLARD. When the country was convulsed with the war spirit and commercial as well as domestic life was shaken to its very center by the chances that hung upon numbers of the respective armies and the comparative military genius of the leaders, so that foreign nations looked on the struggle with the greatest interest and closest attention, he of whom we write

sought peace and solitude in the newness of the Prairie State, hoping to do his part for the Union by supplying the forces with the products of his labor. Now located on section 5, of Jonathan Creek Township, Moultrie County, he of whom we write settled in this county in 1860. He is a Virginian by birth and education, being born in Fauquier County, Va., September 16, 1831. His parents were Jonathan and Mary Ann (Dawson) Ballard.

Our subject's father was by occupation a millwright and was engaged in the exercise of his calling in his native State, Virginia, where his decease took place at which time our subject was but a child. The mother lived for some years longer, but she too died in Virginia. Thirteen children were left to feel the bereavement of a double orphanage, of whom our subject was the seventh in order of birth. He was reared on the home farm and resided in Virginia until 1860, when he came to Illinois and rented land in Moultrie County. Three years later he purchased forty acres of prairie land on section 1, of Jonathan Creek Township, and he has since been a resident here. That his efforts have not been in vain during these years that have elapsed since his settlement in this State, is proven by the fact that he is now the owner of three hundred and seventy-four acres of land, and besides the acquisition of this handsome property has spent large sums in the erection of a good class of buildings upon his place.

The year prior to Mr. Ballard's coming to this State, was made memorable to him by his marriage in Virginia to Phoebe Martin, a daughter of Isaac and Florinda (Wood) Martin. The lady was born in Harrison County, Va., April 19, 1838. Mr. and Mrs. Ballard have had thirteen children, although eleven are at the present time all who are surviving. They are John, Edward, Montville, Dora, Florence, Lucy, Martha, Harlow, Ira, Ida and Blanche. Dora is the wife of Moses Dickson; Florence is the wife of William Kinney; Lucy married William Matthews; and Martha was united to Edward Enterline. This large and interesting family has grown to manhood and womanhood and have taken responsible positions in social and commercial life. The sons are sturdy, independent young

men, filled with a vitality and energy that are bound to bring them to the fore in their business relations. Politically he of whom we write is a Democrat, admiring the doctrines and platform of that party and the leaders thereof, and finding in it more admirable principles than in any other political body. He has been Road Commissioner for twelve years and in this position has accomplished much for the township, making the thoroughfares not only passable, but keeping them in such good condition as redounds greatly to the credit not only of our subject personally, but to the county that elects him.



**H**ENRY SPEARS, a successful farmer residing on section 24, Rose Township, Shelby County, was born in Washington County, Ohio, April 19, 1817. His father, Annis Spears, was a native of Maine and his mother, Hannah Ladd, was a native of Washington County, Ohio. They came to Shelby County, Ill., in 1857, and settled north of Shelbyville for one year, and then came into Rose Township, where they made their permanent home. The father died January 14, 1885, and the mother passed away March 9, 1883. In their family of ten children our subject was the seventh.

He of whom we write came to Shelby County with his father when he was ten years old, and has thus been a resident of this county since 1857. August 29, 1872, was his wedding day, and he was then united in Rose Township, with Miss Rebecca Warner, a daughter of Aaron and Hannah (Kerschmer) Warner. They came from Pickaway County, Ohio, to this county in 1871, and are still residents of this county.

Mrs. Spears first saw the light in Pickaway County, Ohio, December 31, 1851. She is now the mother of three children—Charles H., Estella, and Etna. Mr. and Mrs. Spears are most earnest and efficient members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in which this gentleman takes an active part. He has held the office of Collector for three terms, and in his politics espouses the cause of the Republican

party. He has erected good buildings upon his farm and is the owner of one hundred sixty acres of rich and arable soil. His enterprise and energy combined with pluck, push and perseverance have made him a successful farmer and he is universally esteemed.



**S**OLOMON YANTIS, is the owner of one hundred and eighty acres of well-improved land located on sections 27 and 28, of Pickaway Township, Shelby County. He is a general farmer and successfully operates his tract of land making it yield as much as any farmer does a larger tract. Mr. Yantis is an intelligent man and a close observer, having early familiarized himself with the ways of nature. He has adopted many ideas from his German and English neighbors, who, in their native lands where the soil is held at a higher premium than here, learned to utilize every foot of soil and make it yield crop after crop in a single season.

Our subject has placed many valuable improvements upon his tract, which is well-stocked. If it were the custom in this country, to give a name to the country residences as it is in England and France and some parts of the South, our subject might properly give his the beautiful name of "The Walnuts," for he has upon his place a grove of walnut trees which covers ten acres. He also has a fine peach orchard covering five acres, in which about one thousand trees have recently been set.

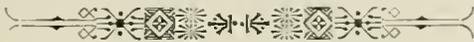
The place has good and substantial buildings, the residence being comfortable and commodious, and the barns and outbuildings indicate the careful attention the proprietor gives to every detail of his farm work. He purchased the farm in 1862 and then began the work of improvement, it being, at the time of his purchase, unbroken prairie land. He has lived in this township and county since the spring of 1855.

Our subject was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, December 16, 1839. He is the son of Daniel Yantis, who is one of the well-known and influential

men of this county and township, although now quite advanced in age, but still living on his old farm, and still retaining his faculties. Our subject is one of fifteen children that grew to manhood and womanhood. Of these nine are yet living, most of them residing in this State. He of whom we write remained with his father until twenty-seven years of age. He reached his majority in this township, and was married in Pickaway County, Ohio, to Miss Mary Runkle. She was born in Pickaway County, September 20, 1812 and comes of a good Pennsylvania Dutch family. Her parents died in Pickaway County, the father at the age of eighty-seven. Mr. and Mrs. Runkle, as were the Yantis family, were members of the German Reformed Church.

Since marriage, the original of our sketch and his wife have lived upon the farm which they at present occupy, and have here raised a family of ten children. One of these died in infancy. The living children who are still at home are: Mary E., Daniel, Henry, Cora M., Noah, Grace, Alma P., James M., Harley and Roy.

Our subject is a member of the Baptist Church. Mrs. Yantis holds to the Reformed Church. Mr. Yantis is now serving his second term as Superintendent of the township. Politically he is independent. Socially he is a member of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association.



**J**OHN SCHEEF, who is one of the most substantial farmers in Prairie Township, Shelby County, dates his residence in the county, from December, 1877. His thorough-going German characteristics of thrift, industry and steadfastness have been a help not only to himself, but also to the community where he has lived and labored for so many years, and these traits are worthy of the study and emulation of the young, who are apt to be led astray by the dash and brilliancy of less worthy but more showy qualities. For this reason we are pleased to present a record of such a life as we have here before us.

John Scheef was born in Schleswig-Holstein,

Germany, February 13, 1853, and is a son of Henry and Dora Scheef, who brought up to man's and woman's estate eight children, five of whom came to the United States, while three remained in their native land. The following is the record of the offspring of this worthy couple: Anna, who married Henry Froham and resides in Chicago; Amelia and Hannah, who remained in Germany; Fred and William who reside in Chicago; John, our subject; Dora, who is still in the Fatherland and Christian, who died in Chicago, leaving one child. It was in 1884 when the parents of this family came to America and they have both now passed away, the mother being called home while Chicago was the family residence, and the father died in this county.

Our subject was a lad of sixteen when he came to this country and his first home was in Chicago, where his brother Fred was living. He there worked as a laborer, following various lines of business until he came to Shelby County which was not until after the great Chicago fire, through the tragic experiences of which he passed. After that tremendous disaster the young man thought best to get out into the country, where there would be a better opportunity for him to do well for himself, and leaving the city he came to this county and for five years worked upon a tract of eighty acres which he rented. Thrift and economy supplemented the untiring energy and zeal with which he worked, and being now able to purchase the land upon which he had been living, he decided to give the rest of his life to agricultural pursuits. He now owns one hundred and twenty acres of land and upon it he has erected good substantial farm buildings.

The union in marriage of two true hearts and two honest hands is an event which deserves not only congratulation, but the most serious consideration of the biographer, for it is the great event in the lives of those who are thus united, telling upon their future more practically and efficiently than it is possible for any other event to do. This important union which joined our subject to Elizabeth Falk, took place December 5, 1875, the bride being the daughter of John and Anna (Frank) Falk of whom more is told at length in

the sketch of their son, Mr. John W. Falk, of Herborn. Mrs. Scheef was born in Germany, December 11, 1853. She is the happy mother of six children, namely: Anna, born October 10, 1876; Maggie, January 29, 1879; John, January 24, 1881; Lena, March 21, 1883; Henry, September 27, 1887, and August, October 18, 1889. The religious views of this family are in accordance with the doctrines and practices of the Lutheran Church with which they are connected and in it they are esteemed highly, as faithful helpers in the vineyard of the Lord. The political preferences of Mr. Scheef have led him to affiliate with the Democratic party, and he believes that in its declarations is found the true wisdom of political economy. While residing in Chicago, Mr. Scheef was for one year a partner in a grocery business, but he did not continue long in this line of work as his training and his preferences inclined him to a farmer's life.



**A**NDREW J. RICHEY. Among the farmers of Moultrie County who have retired from arduous labors and are quietly passing their declining years, is Mr. Richey, whose home is a pleasant residence in Atwood, Piatt County. It is not possible in the limits of a biographical sketch like this to do more than touch upon the scenes and incidents in a life which has been full of toil and usefulness, but it is our purpose to note the most salient features in that of Andrew J. Richey, until recently a resident of Lowe Township. He still owns the fine farm on section 2, which was for many years the scene of his labors, but this he now rents and expects to pass the remainder of his life retired.

Mr. Richey comes of excellent families of Kentucky, both parents having been born in that State. The father, Robert, and the mother, Elizabeth (Biggs) Richey, were united in marriage in Shelby County, Ky., in 1826. Two years after that important event they emigrated to Indiana and resided in Montgomery County five years, where the father followed the vocation of a farmer. We next

find them in Vigo County, Ind., where the father died in 1861. To him and his good wife eight children were born, our subject being the eldest. Kentucky is his native State and in Shelby County he was born October 22, 1827. He accompanied his parents in their various removals and was reared to manhood chiefly in Vigo County, Ind.

When of sufficient age Mr. Richey wisely chose the vocation in which he has gained a good maintenance and has been able to give his family educational and social privileges that add to their efficiency as members of society. On November 9, 1848, he was united in the holy bonds of wedlock with Miss Barbara Doty, a native of Indiana. Mrs. Richey died in Lowe Township in 1867, leaving five children—Theodore J., Emory R., James R., Mary M. (Mrs. James Griffin) and Eli N. After his marriage our subject settled in Sullivan County, Ind., where he lived twelve years, operating as a tiller of the soil. In the fall of 1865 he came to Moultrie County and settled in Lowe Township where he resided until 1891, the date of his removal to Atwood.

The home of Mr. Richey is presided over by a lady of refinement and intelligence, who has aided her husband by her cheerful co-operation in all his enterprises. She bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Moon and was born in Montgomery County, Pa., December 12, 1830. Her parents, John and Catherine Moon died in Piatt County, Ill. At the time of her marriage to our subject she was the widow of Cornelius Williams, who died in White County, Ind., leaving to her care two children—William and Jasper. The ceremony which made her the wife of Mr. Richey was solemnized in Moultrie County, Ill., December 12, 1867, and has brought mutual happiness. Mr. and Mrs. Richey are active and consistent members of the Missionary Baptist Church.

In his political affiliations Mr. Richey is a Republican and has been active in local affairs. He is especially interested in the cause of education and has served as School Director and Trustee. Prior to his removal from his farm he had placed it under excellent improvements, both in respect to buildings and cultivation of the soil. The estate comprises two hundred acres of improved land

and is numbered among the best farms in the township. Its beauty is enhanced by the numerous shade and fruit trees, whose foliage throws a pleasant shadow on the grassy lawn and whose ripened fruit blushes as though kissed by the summer sun. Mr. Richey is a reading, thinking man, public spirited and well informed, and owns one of the finest libraries in the community. He and his wife are deservedly held in high estimation by their neighbors; their warm hearts, kind manners, and many generous deeds have gained them the affection of the entire community.



**J**OHIN RAWLINGS. It seems one of the compensations for the many hard-ships we suffer in this world that when the dark river has been crossed, the friends left on this side forget to a great extent the mistakes that have been made, and have only kindly, gracious things to say of one. This is as it should be, for human nature is at heart much better than we are often willing to give it credit for. Let us strew pansies for sweet thoughts over the mounds whose fullness leaves a void in many a saddened heart.

Our subject, who passed away from this life into the unknown but imagined brightness of the after world at his home, which is located on section 34, Pickaway Township, in 1888, was taken away while yet there was a golden yellow in the fall season, before the blasts of winter were chilling the homes and making life seem more desolate. At the time of his decease he had all but reached the three-score and ten generally allotted to man, being sixty-nine years and some months old. He was born in Maryland December 18, 1819. Although he was an American by birth and parentage, he was of Irish ancestry.

Our subject's father had died when his son was but two years old. He was the youngest of two sons and two daughters born to his parents. Carefully reared by his mother, he continued to live with her in his native State until he became of age, during which time he aided in the work of earning a livelihood. There he became of age and

was soon after married to Miss Martha E. McMaster. Their marriage was celebrated May 15, 1851. The lady was a native of Maryland and born May 16, 1830. She was of American parents, although of Scotch-Irish ancestry.

After marriage our subject and his wife went to Ohio and there they lived for some years in Guernsey County, where a part of their children were born. In 1865 the family came to Shelby County, Ill., and our subject, who, by his industrious, thrifty ways, had accumulated for that time a comfortable amount, was enabled to purchase a farm of two hundred and eighty acres in Ridge Township, at which place he lived for some years. In 1882 Mr. Rawlings came to Pickaway Township and purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 24, where he was living at the time of his death.

Our subject was a man with careful, industrious and prudent business faculties, in whom the acquisitive faculty was predominant. He was very successful in every undertaking and at the time of his death was the owner of six hundred and ninety-two acres of fine land in this county. Most of this, in fact all but eighty-five acres, which is timber land, was well improved. Thrifty and far-sighted, the investments that he made on first coming to the county were proved to be judicious and profitable, nor was he alone in his efforts, for his wife was such a woman as is described in Proverbs.

He of whom we write had been reared in the Quaker belief and throughout life rather held to that belief, but here, where there were so few of his sect, he united in worship of the Almighty with the members of the Presbyterian Church, of which he was a regular attendant. Mr. Rawlings was a Democrat in his political inclinations, although in accordance with his early religious training he left political strife to those who had taste for such an exciting, unsatisfying career. Our subject's widow, who yet survives him, is an amiable and charming woman, who holds a prominent position in social life, by virtue of her high intellectual attainments and her suavity and gentleness of manner. She is now the owner of part of the homestead, including the fine brick residence in which she lives. At sixty years of age her vigor is unabated and the keenness of perception shows no diminution. She

has a large circle of friends in this county, among whom she is regarded with tender and loving affection. She and her children are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Eight children have come to this beautiful home and have enjoyed the advantages of loving parental care. Two of these are deceased: Emma F., who died at the age of twenty-one years, and Mary T. passed away at four years of age. The living children are: Cecil J., who is an owner and operator of a farm in this township; he took to wife Amelia Robinson; Harry M., took to wife Catherine Weekly and resides on a farm of which they are the owners, in Ridge Township; William C. farms his own land in this township; his wife's maiden name was Ida Yencer; Robert F. owns and occupies one hundred and twenty acres of homestead and makes his home with his mother; Edward M. took to wife Effie Reed, of this township; they live upon the old home place in Ridge Township; Lizzie R. is at home and is the comfort and help of her mother.



**F**RANK M. HARBAUGH. The career of this young gentleman is one which may be reflected upon with profit. He began paddling his own canoe at an early stage of his existence, and after pulling up stream for a season finally found himself in smooth waters, and his course has since been one of uniform prosperity. He is now numbered among the influential lawyers of Sullivan, Moultrie County, where he located in 1883, and after experiencing the ups and downs incidental to the commencement of a professional life, he is on solid footing, with every indication of a prosperous and even brilliant future in the law.

Mr. Harbaugh has known no other home than Moultrie County, and he was born on his father's farm, one mile south of Sullivan, September 4, 1859. As is the usual experience of everyone reared upon a farm, he had few idle moments, even in his boyhood, being employed in aiding his father in the work of sowing and reaping,

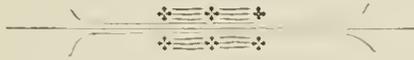
while he alternated this toilsome labor with attendance in the village school. He decided when quite young to enter upon a professional life, and therefore devoted himself assiduously to gaining knowledge. He entered the law department of the State University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and after taking a thorough course in that institution, he was graduated with the Class of '80. Soon afterward he was admitted to the bar at the Appellate Court, in Mt. Vernon, Ill. He began practice of his profession in Windsor, whence he removed to Lovington, sojourning in both places about three years, and coming to his present location in 1883.

The father of our subject, David Harbaugh, and his grandfather, Jacob, were both natives of Pennsylvania, and of Dutch descent, belonging to that substantial class of people who brought the Keystone State to its present state of development. Jacob Harbaugh grew to manhood upon a farm and in his early prime married a lady by the name of Sinclair. About 1831 they emigrated to Illinois, making the tedious journey overland, as was common in those days, and settling in what is now Sullivan Township, Moultrie County, before the town of Sullivan was laid out. The father purchased Government land, which he improved from the wilderness. Neighbors were very few, the country being sparsely settled, and improvements were only being begun. Amid these primeval scenes Jacob Harbaugh passed his declining years and there he died at a ripe old age.

The father of our subject has always been interested in farming pursuits, and now at the age of sixty-seven years, is hale and hearty, and makes his home in the city of Sullivan. He was married in this county to Miss Elizabeth Smith, a native of this county, who is living and has attained to the age of three-score and five years. Her parents were early settlers of this county and are now deceased. The mother of our subject is a consistent member of the Baptist Church and adorns her profession of faith by a noble and godly life. It may truly be said of her that her children "rise and call her blessed."

There were three children in the family circle, of who Leander, the eldest, died young. The surviving member of the family, besides our subject, is

Lucretia, wife of Robert M. Peadro, attorney-at-law in Sullivan. Our subject is an enterprising, ambitious young gentleman, who will, undoubtedly, make his way to fortune and fame. In his political views he is a stalwart Democrat, devoted to the success of that party in both national and local affairs, and ever anxious to cast his ballot for the candidates nominated by his chosen party. He served as City Attorney with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. He has also been Central Committeeman of the county, and is in various ways connected with the public affairs of this section.



**W**ILMER A. STEIDLEY, the editor and proprietor of the *Call-Mail*, a weekly paper, published in Moweaqua, Shelby County, is a bright and ambitious young man, who has already had considerable experience in journalism, and gives to the public one of the best family papers issued in Central Illinois. He was born in Barr Township, Macoupin County, August 10, 1861. He received a practical education in the public schools, and when a boy worked on the farm. At the age of seventeen he left school to enter the office of the Moweaqua *Register*, the first paper published in this city. He soon acquired the art preservative in that establishment, and remained there until the fall of 1880, when he went to Montezuma, Ind., and was employed in the office of the *Era* the ensuing three months. From there he went to Maroa, and was employed in setting type in the office of the *Maroa News* until 1881.

In that year Mr. Steidley entered upon his career as a journalist, coming to Moweaqua in the month of January, and started a paper called the *Mail*. In 1884 he sold that publication, and returning to Maroa, bought the *News*, the paper on which he had formerly set type. He conducted the *News* until July 1, 1888, and then sold it on good terms, and for nearly a year thereafter he lived at Colorado Springs, Col., where he was engaged as a clerk in a furniture store. In May, 1889, he returned to

Moweaqua, and resumed his vocation as editor, purchasing the *Call*, and in July of the same year buying the *Mail*, and consolidating the two under the name of the *Call-Mail*. Thus united he has infused new life into their columns, and has made the union paper a strong, breezy, entertaining family newspaper, full of information on subjects in which the public is most interested, with its matter well arranged, and its editorials showing a progressive spirit, and giving good points in regard to political and other topics with which the people should be familiar.

November 1, 1881 is the date of the marriage of our subject with Miss S. E. Huff. Mrs. Steidley was born in De Witt County, Ill., in February, 1862, and is a daughter of James and Nancy (Dine) Huff. Three children are living of this union.—James J., Wilmer A. and Ida Clare. Their fourth child, named Marguerite, died in July, 1889, aged ten months.

Mr. Steidley is popular and well-known in social circles as a member of the following organizations: Shelby Lodge, No. 274, I. O. O. F., and Home Lodge, No. 452 of the Order of Tonti, he being President of the latter lodge. In his political affiliations, he is a Democrat. Religiously, both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**F**RANK J. STILLWELL, one of the efficient and progressive farmers of Rose Township, Shelby County, is a son of John W. and Sarah (Templeton) Stillwell. The former was born near Newport, Ky., and then came with his family to Shelby County in 1866, making their home in Shelbyville and operating a sawmill in Rose Township, which they carried on for several years. The wife passed away in Shelbyville in 1876 and the bereaved husband is now living a retired life. They had two children, Robert T. and Frank J.

Our subject was born near Newport, Ky., August 4, 1859, and came to Shelby County, this State with his parents. He received his education

in the common schools and made good use of his advantages, gaining much from this thorough, though somewhat narrow, curriculum. His marriage at Shelbyville, April 5, 1883, united him with Miss Anna Wortman, who was born in Dry Point Township. When they married they settled in Rose Township, where Mr. Stillwell is engaged in farming, giving his attention to the cultivation of two hundred and seventy acres of excellent land, and also raising considerable good stock.

Mr. and Mrs. Stillwell are the parents of two children, Mary A. and J. Frank. The office of School Director has been efficiently filled by Mr. Stillwell. He is a Democrat in his political views. He is prominently identified with the Order of Modern Woodmen of America, and with his wife is an active member of the Baptist Church.

The parents of Mrs. Stillwell are William and Margaret (Hickman) Wortman. Mr. Wortman was born in Shelby Township, Shelby County, October 22, 1831. His father, Isaac Wortman, was a native of Christian County, Ky., being born there August 26, 1865, and being the son of Michael Wortman, a Virginian by birth and one of the first settlers of Christian County, Ky. Michael Wortman secured a tract of timber land in that county and cleared a farm and spent his last years there. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Wallace and she was also a Virginian. She came to Shelby County after the death of her husband.

The grandfather of Mrs. Stillwell was reared in Kentucky and resided there until 1828, when he came to Illinois accompanied by his wife, his mother and his brother with his wife. They brought all their household goods along with them in their wagons and camped and cooked by the way. They arrived in Shelby County in December, 1828, and resided in what is now known as Windsor Township for one year and then removed to Shelby Township and entered a tract of Government land one mile east of the city. A few log houses were all that Shelbyville then boasted. Isaac Wortman erected a log house on his land and commenced at once to clear away the timber. After residing there for several years he sold his property and bought in Holland Town-

ship, where he resided until his death in 1868. The maiden name of his wife (who was the grandmother of Mrs. Stillwell,) was Zelinda Hall. She was born in Fayette County, Ky., of Virginian parentage, her father and mother being Peter and Mary (Fisher) Hall, who became pioneers of Fayette County, Ky. Mrs. Hall died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Emily Willis, in Shelbyville in 1872, having been the mother of twelve children.

William Franklin Wortman resided with his parents until his marriage and then settled on an eighty-acre tract of land which he owned on section 1 of Dry Point Township. It was wild land at the time, forty acres of it being in timber and the remainder in brush. He built a log house and there commenced housekeeping and later bought other land until at one time he possessed some two hundred and fifty acres all in one body, part of it being in Holland Township. He improved the land, planted an orchard and erected good farm buildings. He continued there until the fall of 1890 when he retired from active farming and built the home where he now resides in Shelbyville. He was married in 1856 to Margaret Hickman, who was born in Shelbyville, February 15, 1836.

Joseph Hickman, the father of Mrs. W. F. Wortman, was a Virginian by birth, and the son of William Hickman, who removed from that State to Shelby County, Ky., where he continued his vocation of a farmer. He died in that county. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Talbot, who was a native of Virginia and died in Shelby County, Ky.

Joseph Hickman, the grandfather of Mrs. Stillwell, married in Kentucky and came from that State to Illinois in 1830, thus becoming one of the early settlers of Shelbyville. He was one of the first teachers in the county and was a man of more than ordinary education. He resided there for a number of years and then bought a farm in Shelby Township, upon which he made his home until his death. His wife (the grandmother of Mrs. Stillwell,) bore the maiden name of Ziporah Frankford. She was born in Illinois, being a daughter of Elza and Margaret (Adams) Frankford, and died at the home of a son in Shelby Township about the year 1868. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs.

Wortman, namely: Mary, Hattie, Emma, Annie, Thomas, James and Mattie. The parents are earnest and active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and Mr. Wortman is a Democrat in his political views.

Mr. Stillwell's personal qualities are such as to have won for him the respect and admiration of his fellow-citizens and he has the hearty good will of all. His home is comfortable and pleasant and his family share with him the good opinion of their neighbors.



**J**OHAN F. MAUTZ. The gentleman whose biographical sketch we take pleasure in here writing, resides on section 31, of Rural Township, Shelby County, and also owns land in section 32. He belongs to the nationality which is beginning to tinge American life so largely with its sterling qualities, and to show in a better physical development which has resulted from the commingling of the American and Teutonic nations. Our subject was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, April 3, 1840. He is a son of George and Rosina (Shantz) Mautz, the former born in Wurtemberg, in 1802, and the latter, February 18, 1808.

Our subject's father was a farmer by calling and he of whom we write early learned the best methods of making the ground produce the best in fruits and vegetables, cereals and stock. After the marriage of the parents of our subject, they devoted themselves to the rearing of their large family, which numbered eleven children. They were brought up under the best conditions, having received that best of inheritances from their parents, robust constitutions, blood that flowed through their veins in swift purity, and intelligences that were undimmed by vicious associations or habits. The brothers and sisters of our subject are in name as follows: Gottlieb, Rosina, Christian, George, Barbara, Lewis, John F., who is our subject, William, Jacob H., David and Thomas. Gottlieb died in Shelby County in 1879; Rosina married Christian Eberspacher; she died in November, 1866,

and left four children to her bereaved husband; Christian was for many years a prominent man in Rural Township; he was for sixteen years Justice of the Peace, and now resides in Prescott, Nevada County, Ark.; George died in Shelby County in 1863; Barbara married John Haberlein, and died in 1865, leaving one daughter; Lewis was killed by a bull in Cowley County, Kan.; William resides on the homestead; Jacob H. and David live in Rural Township; Thomas resides in Shelby County.

All of the family of children of which our subject was one were born in Germany. Our subject was but eleven years when, in 1852, the family emigrated to the United States, landing in New York harbor April 1. The journey across the three thousand miles of water required only nineteen days. The family at once went to Zanesville, Ohio, and soon after settled in Fairfield County, Ohio. In 1854 they came to Shelby County, this State, first settling in Rose Township, where they rented land which they operated for some years. They then purchased section 32, in Rural Township, and later purchased one-half of section 31. Success followed their agricultural efforts, and as the young people matured they were encouraged to start out in life for themselves. The father died February 3, 1872. The mother followed him January 15, 1891. They were kindly, Christian people, and their simple, honest lives infused a spirit of kindness and generosity into all with whom they came in contact. They were members of the Swedenborgian Church.

Our subject, J. F. Mautz, came with his family to Shelby County, and in 1861, he enlisted in the War of the Rebellion to fight for the flag, which had already become dear to him as a symbol of freedom, which he could not enjoy so fully in his native land. He was mustered into service, and joined Company H, of the Fifty-fourth Illinois Infantry, and remained with his company for four years, re-enlisting at the end of his first term. During his military career he was neither wounded nor taken prisoner, nor was he confined to the hospital. He was a participant in many battles, and the side of military life, which, to one who has never seen battle, but only read and dreamed of

the glorious display that is an accessory, had a seriousness to him, which was an outcome of bitter personal experience. He was in the battles of Jackson, Tenn., at the siege of Vicksburg and at Little Rock, Ark. In 1861 eight companies of the regiment to which our subject belonged, were taken prisoners, only Companies H and F escaping. Our subject was mustered out of service in October, 1865, and he returned to Shelby County November 19, 1867, he was married to Matilda Kull, who was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1847.

After marriage Mr. Mautz settled with his wife upon the land whereon he now resides, at that time raw prairie. Now it is one of the finest places in the county, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of beautifully cultivated land, and upon it are fine buildings that are in the best of order. The original of our sketch and his wife have four children, whose names are as follows: William, Albert, Julius and George. Mr. Mautz casts his vote and influence with the Democratic party, under which he has held several positions. He has been Supervisor for three terms, and, indeed, has held all the local offices. Both our subject and his wife are members of the Evangelical Church.



**A** S. CREECH. Sullivan counts among its active business men, not only those in the mercantile line and men who cater to the physical needs of the citizens, but those who have also built up lines of business which provide for the higher nature. Art and music are having their full share of attention in this flourishing city and it is well supplied with marts of beauty and luxury.

The successful photographer and jeweler whose name appears at the head of this writing, is finding such success in his business that he has been encouraged to build for himself a place of business and dwelling, both of which are complete in all departments. His fine stock of jewelry is on the

ground floor and the second story contains his well arranged and commodious photograph gallery. He has acquired his knowledge in both branches of his art by determined application and perseverance and for four years has carried on both lines of endeavor, independently of others.

This young man applies himself closely to business and is a practical workman in both arts. To no one but himself can credit be given for his success, as his natural talents in the mechanical line have been fully exercised and developed by his efforts to gain the front rank in his line of work. He is a natural mechanic and learned the trade in that line which he followed for a few years in his earlier life.

Our subject has been a resident of this county since 1871 and is a native of Indiana, where he was born in Owen County May 31, 1854. He is the son of Tennessee parents, his father, Christopher C. Creech, being a man who had come when young with his parents to Owen County, and had there grown to manhood and carried on the double avocation of farmer and mechanic. He married Miss Amanda C. Evans, who had come to Owen County with her parents at an early day. After marriage this wedded couple remained near the home of their parents until the spring of 1871, when they came to this State and made their first settlement in Coles County, and in the fall of the same year removed to Moultrie County. Here the father lived and followed his trade till death called him hence, his demise occurring at Oak, Neb., in March, 1891, when he had reached the age of fifty-five years. His widow is now residing in Bethany and at the age of fifty-seven years is a useful member of society and active in the good work of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as was also her husband.

Mr. Creech is the eldest in a family of seven sons and one daughter, all but two of whom are living, and all married but two. Our subject is the only one of the family now residing in Sullivan. He was married first at Bethany, Moultrie County, to Miss Martha Robertson, who was born and reared in Moultrie County and after becoming the mother of one son, James C., died at her home in Sullivan in 1884. This promising son survived his mother but died recently when nearly fifteen years old,

his demise bringing great grief, not only to his father, but to all who knew him.

A. S. Creech was a second time married, being united in this county to Miss Flora Hoggett, who was born, reared and educated in this county, and is highly respected among all her acquaintances for her intelligence, her affability and her capabilities as a housewife. No children have come to brighten her home and she turns her activities in the direction of church work, being a member of the Christian Church and a helper in every good work. The declarations of the Democratic party embody the political ideas of Mr. Creech, but he is no politician as he prefers to devote his energies to business and does not care to be one of those who manage public affairs.



**W**ILLIAM E. KILLAM. Over half a century has been spent by our subject in upward growth. He was born in the early part of the nineteenth century, when advantages for culture and education were not thrust upon a young man, but had to be sought by those who had an inclination therefor. William Killam was born in Ridge Township, Shelby County, March 7, 1838. He was a son of John and Mary M. T. (Bowen) Killam, and a grandson of Peter Killam. He now resides on section 28, of Rural Township, Shelby County, and has been successful in making a pleasant home and amassing a competency.

When our subject was a lad he attended the country schools, which were very different from the schools of to-day. Technical training was at that time no part of the school curriculum. Each boy learning from his father the duties to be done in agricultural life. Neither was there any attention paid to modern languages, although Lindsley Murray was conned from first to last pages, so that every pupil could at least parse an English sentence correctly, which is more than many can do at the present day. The few who had the proud acquisition of a knowledge of Latin, made it theirs for life, and where a Latin student of to-day cannot remember from one day to another, a single

sentence of his translation, the old time Latin students can recite page after page of Caesar's Commentaries and of Virgil. Our subject laid a thorough foundation for the education that he afterward acquired by much drill in the three R's, and in English grammar, at the district schools. He completed his education at the old seminary at Shelbyville, which at the time was considered a very fine institution of learning. While here, George R. Wendling was his classmate and associate. After finishing at Shelbyville, our subject was engaged as a teacher for two terms.

On October 31, 1861, Mr. Killam was united in marriage to Levicy Tolly, daughter of Robert and Jemima (Denton) Tolly. She was born in Flat Branch Township, Shelby County, this State, February 16, 1838. She was an admirable woman and made a pleasant home for her husband and the six children which she left on her death, to her husband's care. Her decease took place in 1889. Her children's names are as follows: Mary R., Morris E., John H., Clara A., William E., and Mabel G. During her life Mrs. Killam was a consistent and conscientious member of the Baptist Church.

Previous to his marriage he of whom we write had built a house on the land where he made his home. The young couple at once settled here, spending the happiest days of their marital life in the making of a home in its truest sense, that is, not four square walls that should be merely an abiding place, but the sanctuary of love, sympathy and encouragement. Our subject now owns two hundred acres of land that is under a good state of improvement. He has always followed mixed husbandry, finding that to be in the end more profitable than attention to specialties. Our subject is a member of the Baptist Church, as was his wife. While the political inclinations of Mr. Killam are toward Democracy, like most men who have breadth of thought he is rather independent, leaning however toward Prohibition. He has held several local offices in the township, having been Assessor, Supervisor, School Assessor, and Town Clerk. He is a charter member of the Rural Township Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company, and since its organization has always held an office. This company insures farm property in six town-

ships, namely: Tower Hill, Rural, Flat Branch, Pickaway, Ridge and Todd's Point.

Mr. Killam has taken great interest in the education of his children. Two of these Mary R. and Morris E., have attended the State Normal University at Normal, Ill., where they finished the course with high honor to themselves. Mary taught school for several years, and Morris E. was likewise engaged for three terms. Clara E. has devoted herself to becoming proficient in the art of music, having attended the Jacksonville Musical Institute, and being a fine pianist. The young people are intelligent and accomplished and their father is justified in the pride which he takes in their progress.



**J**EREMIAH D. DONOVAN, M. D. After years spent in attendance upon invalids whose physical weakness is as diversified in nature as their degrees of mental capacity, and whose ills are the result of ignorance, carelessness or heredity, all of which are equally inexcusable in the light of a higher understanding, it must be refreshing to turn from the imperfections of human nature to the unstunted and perfect growth of nature, pure and simple. This relief does our subject experience after there has been a strain upon his sympathies as well as his professional skill, and he feels grateful as he turns from the village streets into his own sweet and modest abode, surrounded by a pleasant velvety green lawn and flowers whose brightness of color and varied perfection of form are an inspiration to his higher nature.

Our subject is a Kentuckian by parentage and birth and inherits the Southern warmth of nature, and a certain loyalty that is found among Kentuckians more than among people of other States. His father, James Donovan, was born in Mercer County, Ky., as was his mother, Elizabeth Carey. The aged couple are still spared and reside in their native State and county, where the father has been engaged in farming all his life. Our subject is one

of two children born to his parents. His advent into the world was made in Mercer County, Ky., December 7, 1836. He was reared to manhood on his father's place, enjoying such educational and social advantages as that favored portion of Kentucky offered. For five years after reaching his majority he was engaged in teaching in his native county, although in 1860 he began the study of medicine, and in 1868 he graduated at the University at Louisville, Ky.

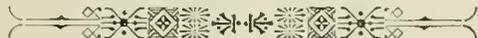
Dr. Donovan commenced the practice of his profession at Johnsonville, Anderson County, Ky., and continued there for two years, when he determined to remove to his native village, Cornishville, in Mercer County, where he enjoyed a good and paying practice. During these years he was attaining a reputation in the healing art such as only actual experience can give. He remained in his native town from 1863 until 1881, when he removed to Antioch in Washington County, Ky., and there stayed for two years, then he made the radical change from his native State to Illinois, settling in Lovington, but at that time only remained here about eight months, removing to La Place, in Piatt County, where he was engaged in the practice of his profession for about the same length of time. He then returned to Moultrie County, locating in Lake City where he enjoyed a good practice for three years, until August, 1888, he returned to Lovington.

Personally, our subject has a strong physical and mesmeric power that is greatly in his favor in the sick room. A bright smile and a cheery good morning goes as far with his patients as a bottle of medicine with many others who have less dynamic force. He here enjoys a good practice and has been appointed to the State Board of medical examinations for pensions. He is called into consultation with the best physicians in the county and his judgment and knowledge of disease is accurate. He eschews fine spun theories and bases the majority of his deductions upon common sense reasoning.

The original of our sketch was first married in Johnsonville, Anderson County, Ky. His bride was Miss Amanda Driskell, a native of the same county with himself. That union was blessed by

the advent of one child, a son, whose name is James, and who is now a successful farmer in Mercer County, Ky. Mrs. Amanda Donovan died in her native State and county.

Dr. Donovan was again married in Mercer County, Ky., to Miss Narcissus Driskell, a sister of his first wife. By this marriage they became the parents of eleven children, whose names are respectively, Elizabeth, John, Josiah, Jefferson, Hershel, Lora, Paston, William, Samuel, Roscoe and Lloyd. Two of these children died in infancy. The others have grown up and promise to take responsible and honorable positions in society. Politically the Doctor is a Republican, and although he has not remained in any one place long enough to thoroughly identify himself with its local political life, he is of course interested in local government. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and in his relations with his patients or society at large, his manner is characterized by a courtesy and affability such as is seldom found outside of the Southern States.



**T**HOMAS BANKS, of the firm of N. F. Keim & Co., general merchants at Findlay, has long been variously identified with the interests of Shelby County, and is connected both with its mercantile and agricultural affairs. Vaughn Township, York County, Province of Ontario, Canada, is the place of his birth. His father, who bore the same name as himself, was a native of Yorkshire, England. He learned the trade of a stonemason and that of an oatmeal miller. On coming to America he settled in Vaughn Township, Canada, and devoting himself to his trade as a miller, he ground the first oatmeal that was ever exported from Canada to England. He continued his residence in York County many years, and then, after spending a few months in the United States, returned to Canada, and passed his last years in Elgin County. The maiden name of his third wife, mother of our subject, was Janette Jeffrey. She was born in Scotland, and died at Richmond Hill, York County, Canada.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his Canadian birthplace, and in his youth served a three years' apprenticeship to Thomas Harris, a well-known carpenter and builder. After acquiring a thorough knowledge of his trade in all its branches, he went to Elgin County and did journey work there until 1859. In that year he crossed the border and came to the "States," and for some twelve months was engaged as a carpenter in Indiana. In 1860 he started on his return to his old home, and on his way came to Illinois to collect a small bill due him by a person living in Todd's Point Township, this county. This proved to be the turning point in his life, for he became favorably impressed with the country and resolved to settle here permanently, perhaps influenced to this decision by the matrimonial alliance that he contracted soon after with the daughter of one of the pioneer families of the county. He found work at his trade as a carpenter and builder, and was thus employed until 1863, when he rented a tract of land and gave his attention to farming. He was successful in his operations and soon purchased eighty acres of land on section 34, in that part of Okaw Township now included in Todd's Point Township, to which he subsequently added eighty acres adjoining, and he also bought fifteen acres of timber land on section 35. He has his farm well improved, under admirable tillage, and provided with two sets of conveniently arranged frame buildings. In 1889 Mr. Banks formed a partnership with his son-in-law, N. F. Keim, to engage in the mercantile business at Findlay. They have a well-appointed store, carry a fine assortment of general stock, and have already built up a thriving trade.

Mr. Banks was first married in 1861 to Mrs. Cassandra (Waller) Beck, daughter of Eli and Mary (Stanford) Waller, and widow of Nathaniel Beck. She was a native of this county. She departed this life in June, 1883. Four children were born of her marriage with our subject, all of whom are living: Priscilla, who married Xavier Wernett, and has two children—Joseph and Henry; Ella married Warner H. Mauzey, and has two children—Eva and Adda; Cynthia married N. F. Keim, and has one child—Irus; Edie May, the youngest

daughter, is at home with her parents. Mr. Banks was married a second time in 1890 to Mrs. Tabitha Robertson. She is a member of the Christian Church, and shares with her husband the respect and esteem of the entire community. Mr. Banks is well known in this part of the county, and is looked up to as a man of solid worth, whose dealings are always fair and above board, and whose word is as good as a bond.



**H**ENDERSON G. SMITH, one of the prominent citizens of Okaw Township, Shelby County, was born within its bounds, June 19, 1829, has a fine farm on section 30, where he has carried on successfully farming and stock-raising. He has nearly four hundred acres of land all in good condition and his residence which he built in 1887 is homelike, capacious and delightful.

Allen and Karen H. (Robertson) Smith, the father and mother of our subject were born in Virginia and married in Kentucky, and after six children were born to them they came to Illinois, making the journey by the way of prairie schooners, and camping out by the way. At the end of this primitive journey they settled in Okaw Township, in the fall of 1828 and entering land they erected a house of hewed logs. This substantial, although rudely-built house has been occupied from that day to this, but is now removed from the spot where it was first built. The land which he purchased was located just in the edge of the timber and he proceeded to improve it and place it in a condition for cultivation.

The following year, the father of our subject removed to the place which is now the family home and became the happy possessor of some three hundred acres of rich and fertile soil and proceeded to place upon it good improvements, so that it was soon in as prosperous a condition as any farm in those early days. There were few conveniences in those days and fewer opportunities for culture and education. Mr. Smith had to go to St. Louis to market, to Springfield to mill, and to Saline for

salt. Venison could be had much nearer home as deer, bears, turkeys and other game abounded and came within easy shot of the house.

The mother of our subject became a widow in 1816, her husband then passing away at the age of fifty-two years, and she survived him until September, 1865. Of this large family of eleven children two died in infancy. One was killed by falling out of a wagon when a little child four years of age. Henry formerly a farmer and merchant, died in Farina, Ill.; William who has been a farmer and stock-dealer, makes his home in Los Angeles, Cal.; Squar T. died in Texas when a young unmarried man. Thomas is a farmer in Washington; Eliza B. died unmarried, February 27, 1846; Wilburn who is a physician makes his home in Indian Territory and Bloomer A. is carrying on a farm in Clay County, Ill.

The early school days and indeed the entire education of our subject was very limited as the opportunities in his boyhood were poor and his help was greatly needed upon the farm; but he received the best of home training and a thorough grounding in the practical work of farming. In 1851 he was united in marriage with Mary L. Butts, a daughter of Joseph and Perlina B. (Corley) Butts and a native of Smith County, Tenn., where she first saw the light, April 1, 1838. Her father was a native of North Carolina and her mother a Tennessean and they came to Illinois in 1841, settling successively in Wayne County, Jefferson County, and Clay County, in which latter place the parents died, and where their daughter was residing at the date of her marriage with Mr. Smith.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Smith made their first home on the farm which they still occupy and he gave his whole attention to tilling the soil. He has devoted much attention to stock-raising and his farm is thought to be especially well adapted to stock-raising. The eight children of Mr. and Mrs. Smith are: Wilburn, John H., Allen, William T., Perlina, Dexter, Mary L. and Elza C. Perlina is the wife of William Hendrick and makes her home not far from her parents. Mr. Smith's political views are independent although he was a Republican during war but for the last twenty years he has desired to feel free from party ties. He has

held numerous local offices and has served as Supervisor. His wife is a member of the Separate Baptist Church in which she finds a broad field for influence and labor and in whose communion she is highly prized. Mr. Smith has always been of a speculative turn and has made numerous business deals many of which have proved a profit to him.



**J**AMES L. B. TURNER. Farm life on the Illinois Prairie! To the writer the very thought is a poem, and the mind instantly clothes it in the words that Longfellow has used in so exquisitely describing the prairies in the beautiful poem, "Evangeline." If it is a life of toil, that of the farmer, it is also one of beauty, for even the black loam overturned by the plow has a fragrance of its own in the early spring-time that fills the heart with gladness, and makes the laborer conscious of an exaltation and a nearness to Divinity, that one gets in no other occupation.

He of whom we write belonged to the class of agriculturists, who inspire with each breath, a sense of freedom and elevation. He was a farmer born and bred. His father was thus engaged before him. James Turner, Sr., our subject's father, was born in Buckingham County, Va., in 1790, and his mother, Elsie (Pendleton) Turner, was a native of Buckingham County, Va., and was born about 1795. After marriage they settled in the county in which their wedding took place, and after various changes of location, they came to Illinois and settled in Effingham County, in 1830.

James and Elsie Turner were the parents of eleven children of whom our subject was the third in order of birth. He was born in Wilson County, Tenn., October 21, 1821. He was six years of age when his parents emigrated to this State, and his youth and early manhood was spent in Effingham County. He made his home under the paternal roof until twenty-three years of age when he was married in Shelby County, Ill., October 21, 1847, to Hannah E. Poe. Mrs. Turner's father was James F. Poe, who was born in Franklin County, Tenn., about 1802. Her mother's maiden name

was Hannah Parks. She was born also, in Franklin County, Tenn., about 1807. After marriage they settled in their native county, where the wife died November 23, 1829. Mrs. Hannah E. Turner was the only child, being born the same day that her mother died. Her father came to Shelby County and settled in Richland Township in the spring of 1830, and continued to be a resident of the county until his death, which took place on his own farm in Ash Grove Township, October 18, 1838.

After his wife's death, Mr. Poe was for a second time married, his wedding being celebrated in Tennessee, in 1830. His third wife was Mrs. Rebecca (Miller) Elliott, by whom he became the father of four children, whose names are respectively, Franklin, Amanda M., George and Ann, and an infant killed by being thrown from a wagon. Mrs. Rebecca Poe, was, after the death of her second husband, united to Charles Loomis. Her death took place in Tazewell County, Ill. After the marriage of our subject he settled with his bride on a portion of the farm that was formerly owned by her father. It was located in Richland Township, between Richland and Ash Grove Townships. They there resided from February, 1848, until April, 1891, when they removed to Windsor, where he died August 31, 1891. He was the owner of between six and seven hundred acres of finely improved land. Four children have been born to Mr. Turner and his wife. They are James L., William W., George R., Zinnette M. The last named is the wife of G. F. Schlack.

His second son, William W. died in 1875 at the age of twenty-four years. The original of our sketch has held many of the most important offices in the township. He has been Supervisor of Richland, and also Assessor and Collector. He was independent in politics. Since 1882, our subject and his wife have been connected prominently with the Universalist Church. He of whom we write was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and had been thus connected since early in the '60s. James L. married Grace A. Smith; William W. married Laura B. Smith; George R. took to wife Mary Ann Curry.

James L. B. Turner held an enviable position in

the respect and confidence that he had among the people with whom he has been connected in business or in a social way. He was a Christian and a gentleman in every sense of the word, and although having reached quite an advanced age, he was progressive and interested in every measure that promised to be for the welfare of the community of which he was a part.



**J**OHN PUGH. He of whom it is our pleasant privilege to write in outline a short biographical sketch, enjoys the distinction of being the oldest living settler in Shelby County, and although having attained more than four-score years in age, he is still a hale and hearty old gentleman. Although pioneer life was fraught with many drawbacks and hardships, the lapse of time during which these uncomfortable features have been entirely done away with, has cast a pleasing glow over the whole, and the pleasures and adventures that were tintured with a spice of danger and an occasional bit of romance, are far better remembered than the privations of ordinary routine existence.

When our subject made his advent into the State, the prairie was still a playground for the wild animals; when the larder needed replenishing, all he had to do was to shoulder his gun, and, going out into the woods, game was at hand. Wild deer and turkeys were as common as the domestic fowl in the barnyard to-day. His father was Thomas Pugh, who was probably born in North Carolina. His mother was Beulah (Hall) Pugh, who was probably a native of the same State as her husband. They were married, however in Christian County, Ky., where they settled and lived until 1820, when they removed to this State, located in Cold Spring Township, Shelby County, and there they lived until about 1832, when they removed to a point about one mile north of Shelbyville. There they lived until their decease, which took place respectively, 1848 and 1842.

Our subject is one of four children, there being three sons and one daughter. Their names are

respectively, John, Robert, William and Nancy. John, the eldest of the family, and the gentleman of whom we are writing, was born in Christian County, Ky., September 20, 1809, and consequently was eleven years of age when his father removed to Shelby County. He was reared on a farm in this county, and lived with his father until his marriage took place, which auspicious event was celebrated at the residence of Rufus Inman, who also lived about one mile north of Shelbyville. The lady to whom he was united was a Miss Elizabeth Inman, who was probably born in Fayette County, this State, February 20, 1815.

After marriage the young couple settled about one mile south of Shelbyville, and there they lived for several years. They removed however to a place about three miles north of Shelbyville, but made that their home for a period of only three years, at the expiration of which time he sold out and removed to Texas, but made a stay of only about six months in that State, when he returned to Illinois and settled in Dry Point Township. They resided there about twenty years when again they sold and came to Tower Hill Township, of which place they have ever since been residents. Mrs. Elizabeth Pugh was taken away from her husband and family and joined "the innumerable throng," November 14, 1868. She was the mother of six children, five daughters and one son. They are by name Mary Ann, Nancy C., Martha, Eliza J., Sarah E., and William J. Mary Ann was the wife of Henry Corley, and was a true and faithful helpmate until her decease which took place January 20, 1891. Nancy C. is the wife of P. M. Killam. Martha was the wife of Nelson Neil, and died October 10, 1864. Eliza J. is the wife of Thomas B. Hayden, and Sarah E. presides over the domestic affairs of the family of Joseph Wakefield. An extended sketch of the only son may be found in another part of this volume. Their mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Pugh, was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The original of our sketch was a second time married, October 5, 1870, his bride being Mrs. Nancy Mize, a daughter of Andrew and Jane (Nowland) Henderson, and widow of Isaac Mize. She was born in this county February 19, 1839,

By this union, Mr. Pugh has been the father of four children, the two eldest, however, died in infancy. The surviving children are John S. and Beulah L. Our subject formerly affiliated with the Democratic party, but after the Rebellion broke out, he transferred his allegiance to the Republican party, of which, ever since, he has been a faithful and devoted adherent. In his church relations he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and for years has been a generous supporter of Gospel work. He has always followed agricultural pursuits and is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of fine arable land upon which are excellent improvements.

He of whom we write is the object of the regard and veneration of the whole township. He is an interesting conversationalist, and to one who is interested in pioneer history, he is a fertile and reliable source of information.



**J**AMES W. CAREY, a prominent resident on section 25, Big Spring Township, Shelby County, was born in Clinton County, Ohio, February 15, 1862. Elias Carey, his honored father, was a native of Virginia, where he was born April 23, 1811, being a son of John Carey. In early life Elias Carey learned the trades of the silversmith and blacksmith, and in 1837 he decided to make a home of his own and chose as the woman in all the world best pleasing to his eyes, Jane Moon, who was born in Martinsville, Ohio, November 26, 1819.

After marriage the parents of our subject made their home in Martinsville, and in 1851 removed to La Grange County, Ind., where they lived upon a farm, and afterward resided for some time in Cincinnati, Ohio, and later in Martinsville, Ohio, whence in 1867 they emigrated to Illinois and settled in Big Spring Township. Here they purchased land which was but partially improved, that is it had upon it a log cabin and a few acres of the land was broken. At the date of his death, which occurred in 1875, Elias Carey owned

some one thousand acres of land, had built a fine brick residence and made other valuable and substantial improvements. Thus had the poor tradesman through his own enterprise, and by the wealth hidden in the soil of the Prairie State, become a rich landed proprietor. He was a man of sterling Christian character, and belonged to the Society of Friends. In the beautiful homestead which was built by him his bereaved and venerable widow now resides.

The ten children of this excellent couple were, Mary E., who married Richard Jones and resides in Zenia, Ohio; Sarah M., who married David Hazely and died in Richmond, Ind.; Hannah M., who became the wife of Jesse Mendenhall and died in Shelby County; Martha E., who married Jesse A. Gibson, and John H., both of whom reside in Neoga, Ill.; Rachel, who is now Mrs. Francis M. Hackett and resides in Jamestown, Ohio; Anna, who is now Mrs. William C. Bain and makes her home in Marion, Ind.; Isaac M., who resides in Shelby County; Irene, the wife of Alfred Lindley, who also lives in Shelby County, and James Walter, the subject of this sketch.

He of whom we write was united in marriage in April, 1885, with Miss Elizabeth A. Hubbert, who was born in Cumberland County, Ohio. To this happy couple have been born three children—Ethel L., Edith J., and Pearl L. Mr. Carey in connection with his mother, owns and carries on the homestead which contains one hundred and sixty acres of rich and arable land, all in a high state of cultivation.



**F**REDERICK HARTMAN is a general farmer on section 22, of Flat Branch Township, Shelby County, where he owns one hundred and twenty acres, which he purchased in the wild state in 1865, and upon which he has since made a comfortable home. The place is well-stocked and watered and the buildings are all good and substantial. He located in this county on coming from Ogle County, where he had lived a good many years, from 1856 to 1865. There he

received his naturalization papers, being, as his name would indicate, of German origin and birth.

He of whom we write was engaged in Ogle County as a farmer, where he had been quite successful. Previous to going there he had spent one year in Pennsylvania. Mr. Hartman was born in Pleidelheim, Wurtemberg, Germany, May 11, 1832. His family in the old country are of good stock. His father, Frederick Hartman, Sr., lived and died in his native province, having reached seventy-two years of age. He had married Magdeline Kline, a Wurtemberg lady, who was a true helpmate and companion to her husband. Her death occurred in 1842. She was then in middle life. She and her husband were members of the Lutheran Church.

Our subject is the eldest of seven children, of whom there were four sons and three daughters. Of the sons, all came to this country and all are farmers here, but one, who is a shoemaker in Chicago. Our subject had become of age before leaving his native land, and in 1855, in the month of April, he took passage from Havre de Grasse, on a sailing vessel, and in May he landed in New York City, coming thence to Dawson County, Pa., where he spent his first year, and then proceeded to Illinois.

November 29, 1858, Mr. Hartman was united in marriage at Mt. Morris, Ogle County, to Miss Margaret E. Mitchell. She was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, November 14, 1838, and is a daughter of Jacob and Sarah (McGlinsey) Mitchell, natives of Maryland and Virginia, respectively. Both, however, are of Irish parentage and descent on the paternal side, while on the maternal side the lady is of Scotch descent. Mrs. Hartman's parents were married in Ohio, and later moved to Illinois, settling in Ogle County in 1815, where they located and improved a farm and there spent their last days, passing away at a good old age. They had settled at a very early day in Mt. Morris Township, and had procured unbroken land in the most western part of West Grove Township. For a number of years they were almost the only settlers in that part of the county. They both passed away in 1886, and were deeply mourned by many friends in their adopted home. They were

Methodists in their religious preference, and were consistent members and generous supporters of that sect in their township.

The father of Jacob Mitchell was Samuel Mitchell, who had come to Ogle County, Ill., in the early days of 1838, and was one of the earliest settlers there, where he died at the age of seventy-nine years. Mrs. Hartman was one of a large family, of which five are now living. She was ten years of age when her parents came to Ogle County. She afterward lived there until her marriage. She is a true-hearted, kind friend, and affectionate wife and tender mother. Both she and Mr. Hartman are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The original of our sketch and his wife are the parents of eight children. One of these died in childhood. This was Sarah M., who was twelve years of age. The living children are: Jacob F., William H., Henrietta M., George E., John W., Elizabeth and Franklin A. Of these, William was united in marriage to Miss Ada M. Beckett, and is a farmer in this township, Henrietta is the wife of Elmer Pierce. They also live on a farm in this township. George E. and other younger members of the family, all reside at home. They are bright, intelligent young men and women, and promise to make a recognized position for themselves in life.



**A**ARON SANDS, Pennsylvania, like all of the Eastern and Southern States, contributed a large share toward the settlement of Illinois, both in the early days and during more recent years. The natives of that State have a well-earned reputation for thrift, industry and steadfastness of character and they were made welcome to join the hordes of emigrants who flocked to the Prairie State from their native homes. Among such we find our subject, who resides on section 6, Okaw Township, Shelby County, where he rents two hundred and ninety-four acres of land.

Mr. Sand has resided in Shelby County since 1861, having come West first to Ohio from his

native home in Berks County, Pa., where he was born May 8, 1833. He is a son of William and Catherine Sands, who removed to Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1835, where they made their home until 1865, when they came to Illinois, where the father died in Shelby County, in 1870. The mother is still living and is enjoying a green old age.

In this family of William and Catherine Sands there were nine children, and all but the eldest daughter, Mary, are still living and form a happy and united band of brothers and sisters. After Mary came Eliza, Aaron, Daniel, William, Franklin, Edward, Peter and John. Previous to our subject's emigration to Illinois he was married in Ohio, in 1860, to Julyann Foor, who was born April 3, 1840, and was the daughter of Henry and Caroline Foor.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sands have been born eight children, all of whom have lived to become worthy and reputable citizens and who are now the comfort and support of their parents. They are as follows: Eliza, deceased; James M., Isabelle, Calvin, Otto, Margaret E., Oscar, Minnie and Edward.

The political views which have been entertained by Mr. Sands during most of his life have led him to affiliate with the party which is proud to claim the names of Jefferson and Jackson, but of late years he has felt that it was better to be untrammelled by party ties and has cast his vote independent of the dictates of party leaders. His good wife is an earnest and useful member of the German Reformed Church, in which her labors are highly appreciated. This worthy couple receive what they so richly deserve, the kind regard and esteem of their neighbors and of all who know them.



**G**EORGE RUFF, a prominent and noteworthy citizen of Rose Township, Shelby County, is a son of John M. Ruff, who was born in Germany in 1813, and Barbara (Weitner) Ruff, whose birth occurred in the same land in 1817. She was about fourteen years old and he had attained some eighteen years when they came to

America. They were married and made their first home in Hocking County, Ohio, and emigrated to Illinois in January, 1884. They made their home in Prairie Township, where they still reside. George was the fourth in their family of twelve children and he resided in his native county, Hocking County, Ohio, till he reached his majority. His natal day was March 17, 1813, and he received his education in the common schools.

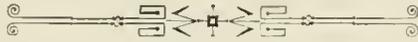
When our subject was twenty-one years old he came to Illinois and worked for four years in the counties of De Witt and Logan and then came into Shelby County and employed himself upon farms and at carpentry until his marriage. This interesting event occurred in Shelby County, March 21, 1869. His bride was Miss Sophia Stumpf, daughter of Gearhart Stumpf. For further details in regard to the history of this capable and amiable lady, our readers are referred to the biography of Mr. Edward Roessler, as Mrs. Ruff and Mrs. Roessler are sisters. Mr. Stumpf died in Shelby County in 1853, having been bereaved of his wife in Fairfield County, Ohio, some four years earlier. Mrs. Ruff was the youngest child in her father's family and was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, June 4, 1817.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Ruff they decided to go further west and located in Anderson County, Kan., where Mr. Ruff worked at his trade, that of carpentry, for five years and then followed the same business for two years in Shelby County. He now decided to engage in farming and for eight years rented land in Rose Township, at the end of which time he purchased the farm of eighty acres, on section 3, where he has erected a good set of buildings. He divides his time between farming and carpentry and is thorough and successful in both lines of work.

This gentleman and his estimable wife are the parents of seven interesting and promising children. They were so unfortunate as to lose their eldest, Florence A., a bright and beautiful child of two and one-half years. Those who survive are as follows: Anna M., Cora L., Clarence A., Charlotta S., George W. and Harmon L.

The estimation in which Mr. Ruff is held by his fellow-citizens has been evinced by their confidence

in placing him upon the School Board. He is deeply interested in educational matters and makes an efficient and active Director. He is well read in political matters and active in promoting the interests of the Democratic party, to which he belongs. In the Lutheran Church, where Mr. and Mrs. Ruff are active members, he has filled the offices of Deacon and Trustee.



**J**OSEPH S. ROBERTS. Among the men who are ambitious, not only for their own success but also for the prosperity and progress of the community in which they live, we are proud to mention the name which appears at the head of this paragraph, a man who was born in Moultrie County, and has made it his home throughout his life and who feels that its welfare is identical with that of himself and his family.

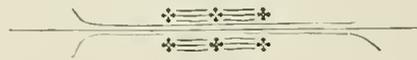
Thomas A. Roberts, the father of our subject was a Marylander, born May 4, 1822, and, his mother was Lovicy G. Hendricks, who was born in Kentucky, August 13, 1833. This excellent couple were united in Moultrie County and made their home in East Nelson Township, where they lived in domestic happiness and prosperity until 1860, when they removed to Whitley Township, where the faithful wife passed from earth April 29, 1868. The bereaved husband died in Shelby County, November 11, 1883. They had three children, of whom their son Joseph is the eldest.

He of whom we write was born June 22, 1854, in East Nelson Township. He resided in Moultrie County throughout all his youth and manhood and was educated in the common schools of Whitley. His happy marriage took place October 30, 1879, in Whitley Township, at the residence of W. H. Garrett, Cynthia R., the daughter of this gentleman being the bride. For farther details in regard to this prominent family, into which our subject married our readers will please consult the sketch of W. H. Garrett on another page of this RECORD.

At the time of her marriage Mrs. Roberts was a lovely young woman of nineteen, as she was born

in Whitley Township, August 5, 1860. She cheerfully and efficiently undertook the responsibilities of a home and became the happy mother of eight children, namely: Carrie L., Europe H., Mabel, John F., Roy, Pearl, Clarence and Edith. All are living except John and Roy who are passed to the better world.

After marriage this wedded pair set up their household gods in Whitley Township, locating on section 4. There they now own a beautiful estate of two hundred and nineteen acres, and upon this tract Mr. Roberts has successfully carried on his agricultural pursuits, devoting himself to general farming. He is an influential man in his community and an earnest worker for the prosperity and supremacy of the Republican party. Both he and his wife are conscientious members of the Christian Church and in its communion and service they find spiritual strength and an abundant opportunity for labor. Both of them desire to see Whitley Township rank first in every desirable point among the townships of Moultrie County and are earnest promoters of every movement which tends to its progress, socially and industrially.



**J**ACOB E. EBY. Illinois in its early settlement gathered within its bounds representatives from every State in the East and South, and to its rich and fertile prairies there have flocked, even unto the present time, representatives of the older civilization in various parts of the country. Many Pennsylvanians by birth are among its sound and sensible residents and have brought from the old Keystone State those principles and habits of thrift which mark that Commonwealth. Our subject who is a native of that State and who makes his home on section 31, Okaw Township, dates his residence in Shelby County from 1882.

Mr. Eby was born in Lebanon County, Pa., March 10, 1852, and was thus a man of mature years when he removed to the West. His honored parents were Jacob and Eliza (Shaak) Eby, and

they gave to him so good a common-school education as to fit him to take a position at the teacher's desk, which he filled for eight terms. They also gave him the best of home training and a thorough drill in the work of the farm.

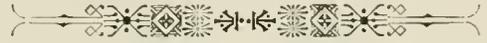
The marriage of Jacob Eby with Miss Kate Seltzer was solemnized at Washington, D. C., in April, 1877. This happy occasion was the beginning of a married life of true congeniality and harmony, and the foundation of one of those families which are the strength and glory of America, in that their quiet and useful home lives form the basis for the success of our Republican institutions. Mrs. Eby is the daughter of Daniel and Sarah (Martin) Seltzer, and like her husband, was born in Lebanon County, Pa., but at the date of her marriage was residing in Maryland.

As we have said, it was the year 1882 when our subject first came to Illinois, and being favorably impressed with the value of the land and the environments of this section, he purchased the farm upon which he now resides and made his home upon it in the spring of 1883. Since that time he has devoted himself indefatigably to the cultivation and improvement of the seventy-six and one-half acres which he owns.

Mr. and Mrs. Eby have had the pleasure of welcoming to their home three interesting and lovely children, but one of them they were called upon to lay in the grave in early infancy. The two who are living are named Sarah and John D., and the traits of character which they have already shown give a fair promise of their future usefulness which will, as it should, prove an honor to their parents.

The Democratic party for many years held the allegiance of Mr. Eby, but for some time past he has been independent in his political views and feels that by being free from the trammels of party he can more effectually serve his State and country. This independence does not at all interfere with his popularity among his neighbors and he is at present the efficient Supervisor of Okaw Township. He is an earnest believer in the Christian religion, having been reared in the faith of the Reformed Church. The interests of the agricultural community appeal very strongly to this gentleman and it is his aim to assist both himself and others in pro-

moting the commercial and industrial prosperity of this class. With this end in view he has identified himself with the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association, in which he believes there is help for the difficulties which have stood in the way of the progress of agriculturists.



LEMUUEL PARKER. Among the farmers of Shelby County who have materially added to its prosperity by developing its rich agricultural resources, and at the same time have accumulated a handsome private property, Mr. Lemuel Parker is well worthy of mention in this volume. For many years he has carried on farming in Moweaqua Township, and as the result of his persistent and well-directed labors has a farm that is equal in improvements and cultivation to the best in its vicinity.

September 6, 1827, is the date of the birth of our subject in Cayuga County, N. Y. Mathias Parker was the name of his father, and he was a native of Canada. He in turn was a son of one Lemuel Parker, who was a pioneer of the town of Niles, and was thereafter engaged at his occupation as a farmer in Cayuga County until death closed his mortal career. The maiden name of his wife was Tacy Niles, and she too died on the farm in Niles Township. His son, Mathias, though born in Canada was reared on the family homestead, and he followed farming in New York State until his demise in 1830, while yet in life's prime. His widow, whose maiden name was Susanna Armstrong, is still living, making her home with her son, our subject, and retains to a remarkable degree her mind and memory and physical faculties, although she has reached the ninety-first milestone that marks a long life, having been born April 28, 1800, in Genoa, Cayuga County, N. Y. She was married a second time in 1833 to Owen Dewitt, who came to Illinois with his family in 1853. He lived in Pike County for a time, and then came to this county to spend his remaining days, dying here in 1866.

His maternal grandfather of our subject, Andrew

Armstrong, was one of the first settlers of Cayuga County, N. Y. He bought a tract of timber land in the township of Genoa, and established a home in the primeval forest, building a log cabin for shelter. Much of the great Empire State was then in a wild, sparsely settled condition, and there were no railways or canals for years to facilitate communication with the outside world. There were no mills near where Mr. Armstrong settled, and he and his fellow-pioneers had to reduce their grain in iron mortars. They lived off the products of their land and from wild game, which was abundant. The grandfather of our subject cleared a farm, and dwelt thereon until death deprived him of the companionship of his wife in 1818. He then sold his place, and the few years that remained to him boarded until he was called to his long home in 1822. His wife bore the maiden name of Polly Bowker. She was born on the banks of the Susquehanna River, and was a daughter of Silas and Esther (Hobbs) Bowker. Her father and three of her brothers served in the Revolution. She was carefully trained in all that went to make a good housewife in the olden days, and was an adept in carding, spinning and weaving. She imparted those arts to her daughter, the mother of our subject, who for many years after her marriage made all the cloth in use in her family, coloring that which she made into garments with the simple vegetable dyes formerly used, and she spun her own thread.

After his father's death, the subject of this biographical notice went to live with his grandparents, but they died when he was in his eighth year, and from that time his home was with strangers until he established one of his own, and he had to earn his living, getting his board and clothes in repayment for his work as a chore-boy and farm hand for a farmer, with whom he lived for several years. When he was seventeen years old he began to receive wages, earning the sum of \$7 a month. He continued to work out by the month in his native State until 1819. In that year he took an important step in life whereby his worldly prospects were much advanced, as he then came to Illinois to try farming on the fertile soil of the Prairie State, and in due time became an independ-

ent farmer. In coming hither he journeyed by Erie Canal to Buffalo, from there by the lakes to Chicago, and then on the canal and Illinois River to Pike County, where he tarried a few years, finding employment as a farm laborer. In 1856 he came to Shelby County, and invested his hard-earned money in one hundred and twenty acres of prairie land, a mile and a half from the village of Moweaqua. He has since bought other land, and at one time had three hundred and forty acres, of which he still retains two hundred and sixty acres, all of it being finely improved.

A measure of Mr. Parker's good fortune is attributable to the devoted assistance of his good wife, who has ever been to him a cheerful helper, has given him wise counsel when needed, and has contributed to his comfort and well-being, as well as to his financial prosperity by her careful guidance of household matters. Her maiden name was Cena A. Parker. She was a native of the same county as her husband, and they were wedded in 1855. They have three children—Willis E., Charles M. and Lydia A. Mrs. Parker is a consistent Christian and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Parker is a sensible man, with sound views on all subjects in which he is interested, especially in regard to politics, and we find him to be a steadfast Republican. As a farmer he stands high in the community, and he bears an unsullied reputation as a man and a citizen.



**F**RED A. PAUCHERT, a retired merchant of Shelbyville, Shelby County, is connected with the agricultural interests of this county as the proprietor of two fine farms. He has held prominent public positions, and whether as a civic officer, a business man, or as a private citizen, he has always manifested a deep interest in all that concerns the welfare of the city and county, and has materially aided in their advancement. He was born near Daaden, in the Rhenish Province of Friedenwald, Prussia. His father and paternal grandfather, both of whom bore the given name of

Engelbert, were also natives of the same town as himself, the latter spending his entire life there, he having been a farmer and the keeper of a public house.

The father of our subject learned the trade of a baker when he was young, and carried on that business and conducted a grocery store in connection with it in his native town for many years. He now lives retired at the venerable age of eighty-six years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Catherine Held, and who was born at Daaden, died in January, 1887, at an advanced age. They reared a family of seven children, of whom the following are the names: Fred A., Caroline, Henry, Gustaf, Louis, Robert and Julia. Fred A., Gustaf, Louis and Robert are the only members of the family that ever came to this country. Gustaf reared a family and spent his last years in Shelbyville. Louis, who never married, died at St. Louis. Robert, a resident of Shelbyville, has a family.

Our subject had the advantages of a good education in the excellent schools of his native land, which he attended steadily until he was fourteen years old. At that age he began to work at the trade of a baker with his father, and also assisted in the labors of his father's farm. He was of an ambitious, stirring temperament, and desirous to make the best of life he decided to emigrate to this country, the goal of so many of his compatriots, where he hoped to better his fortunes. In the spring of 1852 he started out on his ever memorable journey, setting sail from Antwerp, and after fifty-two days on the ocean, landing in New York. He proceeded directly to Schenectady County, in the same State, and was there employed by an American-born citizen to work on a farm. He found himself a stranger among a people with whose habits and customs he was unacquainted, and he could not understand their speech, as he knew not a word of the English language. He was an apt scholar, however, and during the two months that he worked there, he learned rapidly, and soon caught the meaning of what was said to him, and in time mastered English.

From that part of the country Mr. Pauchert made his way to St. Louis, going by rail to Buffalo, thence by lake to Detroit, from there by rail to

Chicago, where he embarked on the Illinois and Michigan Canal for LaSalle, from which town he went by the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers to St. Louis, which was then but a small city. There he found employment at various kinds of work the ensuing two years, and then was engaged in the office of the Terre Haute Railway Company three years. After that he established himself in the grocery business, which he carried on there until 1861. In that year he took up his residence in Shelbyville, and for two years was variously employed. At the expiration of that time he accepted a position as clerk in a store, at which he was engaged three years. His next move was to open a store at Moulton which is now included within the city limits, and he carried on business there upwards of twenty years. He then traded for a farm which is still in his possession, and since has lived retired from active business. Besides that farm, which is situated in Rose Township, he has another in Dry Point Township, and has fine property adjoining the city of Shelbyville, upon which he makes his home, the grounds about his residence comprising ten acres of land, well laid out, and adding to the attractiveness of the locality.

Mr. Pauchert was first married in March, 1857, to Miss Elizabeth Schneider, a native of Hesse-Cassel, Germany, who came to this country with a brother at the age of eighteen years. She died in January, 1874, leaving five children: Robert, Fred, Gust, Julia and Annie. Mr. Pauchert's marriage with his present wife, formerly Miss Rosena Maurer, took place in November, 1874. Mrs. Pauchert was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, September 12, 1848, and is a daughter of Jacob and Barbara (Mayers) Maurer, natives of Wurtemberg. Her marriage with our subject has brought them seven children, whom they have named Kate, Rosa, John, Amelia, Carrie, Albert and Harry.

A man of Mr. Pauchert's mental calibre, sound common-sense, and clear judgment in regard to business is necessarily influential in the regulation of public affairs, and we find that he has held various important offices. He has served six years as a member of the City Council, two terms as Justice of the Peace, and has twice represented Rose Town-

ship on the County Board of Supervisors. In politics he steadily upholds the Republican party. Religiously he is one of the leading members of the Lutheran Church, to which his wife and children also belong.



**J**OHN FREEMAN, capitalist, residing in Moweaqua Township, is one of Shelby County's best known and most prominent citizens, who has long been concerned in its financial interests, has been a potent agent in its material advancement, has had a hand in the management of its public affairs, and is closely identified with its social and political life. He is a descendant of fine old New England and Revolutionary stock, and his ancestors were among the early settlers of Massachusetts, his native State, Edmund Freeman, of English birth, being the first of the family to come to America, the "Abigail," bringing him hither on her second trip across the Atlantic in 1635. He first located at Saugus, Mass., but subsequently went to the town of Sandwich, Barnstable County, where he secured a large tract of land, including Sagamore Hill, the greater portion of the land being still owned by his descendants.

Our subject was born on Purchase Street, Boston, Mass., January 14, 1831. His father, Benjamin Freeman, was born in that city December 31, 1803, and was a son of Watson Freeman, who was also a native of Boston. The grandfather of our subject was fourteen years old when the Revolutionary War broke out. Patriotic blood ran in his veins, and notwithstanding his youth, two years later he enlisted April 7, 1777, in the Fourth Continental Regiment. He was present at Burgoyne's defeat in 1778, and was afterward honorably discharged from the army. But the youthful patriot was still anxious to help secure the freedom of his country, and he soon entered the naval service as a privateer. In 1782 he was wounded in a battle at sea, and with ship and crew was captured by the British. He was taken to the hospital at Portsmouth, England, and later discharged from there.

He returned to his native country, and in 1800 engaged in the mercantile business with another gentleman under the firm name of Freeman & Baty, and subsequently with Mr. Cushing, as Freeman & Cushing. They were heavy importers of china, crockery ware, etc., and the grandfather of our subject continued in the business a number of years until his retirement with a handsome competency. He died at Sandwich April 10, 1813. The maiden name of his second wife, grandmother of our subject, was Experience Freeman, and she was also a native of Boston.

Benjamin Freeman was reared and educated in the city of his birth. He commenced life on his own account as a sailor, but he did not long pursue that vocation, as he preferred following in the footsteps of his father as a merchant. He continued in business in Boston until 1839, when he came to Illinois and invested in several thousand acres of land, destined some day, as he shrewdly foresaw, to be very valuable. In 1841 he removed his family to this State, the journey being performed by steamer from Fall River to New York, thence by canal and rail through Philadelphia to Pittsburg, from there by the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to St. Louis, and thence overland to their destination in Hillsboro, Montgomery County. Mr. Freeman did not live to enjoy his new home very long, as in July of the same year his life was brought to an untimely end by his death while yet in his prime, and the county was deprived of the services of one of its most able pioneers, who, if he had lived, would undoubtedly have done much to develop its resources and promote its growth. His wife bore the maiden name of Sallie Shaw Shurtleff. She was likewise a native of Boston, Mass., a descendant of some of the old families of that city, and a daughter of Dr. Benjamin and Sallie (Shaw) Shurtleff. She was married a second time to Henry R. Child, who died in 1848. She returned to Boston in 1819, and died in that city in 1876. She had ten children by her first marriage, and one by the second.

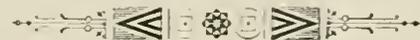
John Freeman was ten years old when he came to Illinois with his parents. He was given good educational advantages, and was a student at Shurtleff College in Alton when the discovery of

gold in California created such profound excitement in all parts of the world, and in 1819 he threw aside his books and bade farewell to college life to join the seekers after the precious metal on the Pacific coast. He, with others, made the entire journey across the plains and mountains with ox-teams, a long and weary way over what was then known as "Great American Desert," and after they left the Missouri River they saw no white settlements, except that of the Mormons, until they arrived in California, while buffalo, deer, antelopes and other wild animals were encountered in large numbers. Arriving at Weaverville, September 17, after many months' travel, our subject at once took a job at scoring logs receiving \$11 a day, and in that way he earned money to buy provisions to take to the mountains, where cornmeal and bacon, the chief articles of food, were a dollar a pound each. He engaged in mining in Mariposa County until December, 1851, and then started for the East with his gains, and traveling by the way of the Isthmus and Havana, joined his family at Boston. His health had suffered from the privations and hardships that he had had to endure in the rough frontier life of the two preceding years, and he did not immediately engage in any active business, but traveled while recuperating, and during the time of the Crimean War visited Crimea. He was away from home about nine months, and then returned to Boston, where he remained until 1857. In that year he came back to Shelby County, intending to dispose of his landed interests here, but he liked the country so well that he decided to improve his real estate, and built, and has ever since had a home here, though making his residence here only a portion of the time. For three years he lived at Shelbyville, and in 1879 went to Decatur, where he became interested in the mercantile and hotel business, and for a time managed the new "Deming." He still retains his interest in the mercantile business there, and is connected with a hotel elsewhere.

Mr. Freeman was married in 1859 to Miss Ellen A., daughter of A. F. and Louisa (Wheaton) Wilson, and a native of Jacksonvillie, Ill. Their home is attractive in its appointments and surroundings,

and its pleasing comforts as presided over by the gracious, considerate hostess and the kindly, courteous host are held in grateful remembrance by those who have enjoyed them, whether as a "stranger within the gates," or as friends, of whom our subject and his amiable wife have many. Four children have been born to them, two of whom are now living: Alice E., wife of Oscar F. Spaulding, and John B.

Not only has Mr. Freeman helped to advance the financial standing of this county by his judicious investments and by his business qualifications, but he has been of invaluable service as a civic official. He has represented Moweaqua Township on the County Board of Supervisors several terms, and while holding that important office always looked closely after the interests of the public, and his intelligent and generous advocacy of various enterprises for the benefit of the community at large has often contributed to their success. He is an ardent Republican in his political views, and his party has in him an earnest champion of its policy. In his social relations he is connected with the Masonic fraternity and also with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He has been a member of the former since 1859, when he joined the Dewitt Clinton Lodge at Sandwich, Mass. He identified himself with the Odd Fellows by joining the Winnissimete Lodge at Chelsea, Mass., and he is a member of the Shelbyville Lodge, K. of H.



**W**ILLIAM W. JAMES. One of the staunch, substantial men, both in character and social standing, is he whose name is at the head of this sketch. He resides on section 3, of Ridge Township. His residence in the county dates from the fall of 1831, at which time he was brought to the State by his parents. He was born in Nichols County, Ky., December 22, 1829, and was a son of Alexander C. and Mary Ann (Robinson) James, natives respectively of Maryland and Delaware. They met and married, however, in Kentucky, and in 1831, when our subject was but two years of age

the family came to Illinois, their journey hither being made in a wagon, and with a camp outfit. Of course our subject can remember nothing of of the journey, but it takes but small imagination to picture the delights and adventures of an overland journey through the beautiful States of Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana, into Illinois.

After coming hither, our subject's parents settled at once in Ridge Township, where they rented a small place for a space of three years. In 1835, they entered a tract of land on section 3, and also purchased a claim which was but very little improved, but which boasted a log cabin and fences about seventeen acres being fenced. For this they paid \$40. In those days it was necessary to drive hogs to St. Louis in order to find market for them. This was one hundred miles distant from their home. The wheat, also, had to be hauled thither and then sold for twenty-five cents a bushel. We cannot but wonder how the pioneers managed to support their families with the necessities of life, and lay aside as nearly all of them did, money enough to invest in land, when their products brought so little return. Our subject's family were obliged to go to Springfield in order to have their corn and wheat ground into flour, and other commodities were equally difficult to get. But Mr. James was industrious and economical and in time became the owner of four hundred acres of good land. He erected good buildings upon his place and improved it well. In 1870, he died at the age of seventy years. Nelson James, a brother of our subject, came to this county in 1836, but later went to Missouri. Our subject's father was a Democrat in his political preferences. His wife is still living and resides with the original of our sketch. She was born March 30, 1805. For many years she has been a member of the Baptist Church.

There was but one child in the family of Alexander James, that being our subject. He still resides on the homestead, and has been a witness of the changes which Shelby County has undergone for many years. His early education was obtained under difficulties, having to go four miles in order to attend school, which was held in a log cabin. There were no windows in the building, and an

ingenious device was resorted to supply the deficiency. A log was left out in the side of the building and the space was covered with greased paper, which admitted an opaque light that would send the school reformers of to-day to an insane asylum. A split sapling with pegs put in the end, furnished the seats for the pupils, and the building was heated by a huge fireplace that scorched the little faces, while their backs were freezing. His school life began when he was eight years of age at which time he could read and spell words of one syllable. He attended the first school taught in the township, the teacher being James Rhoads.

The original of our sketch is as old a settler as any in the township, although two others, William and Daniel Smith, came here the same fall in which his parents located. At that time the larder was easily supplied with various kinds of game, there being plenty of deer, wild turkeys, bears, and also wild cats and panthers, against which the early settlers were obliged to be on their guard. The Indians had been driven farther West and the country was a good place for a poor man, because of the abundance of game, and the early crops were extraordinarily good. There was but little sickness excepting ague, which the early settlers accepted as one of the conditions of their pioneer existence.

Mr. James was married January 22, 1852, to Cordelia Small, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Small. She was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, and during her life was a tender, loving wife and true mother. She died August, 1862, leaving five children to mourn with their father, her loss. The children are John A., Mary E., Tarcy J., William D. and Cordelia. Mary is now the wife of C. W. Steward; Tarcy was united to John W. Yantis, and died in 1884, leaving two children; William D. died at the age of twenty-three years; Cordelia became the wife of John W. Yantis.

In 1864, our subject married for a second time taking to wife Leah Killam, a daughter of Isaac Killam. She was a native of Shelby County. Two children are the fruit of this union. They are Isaac L. and Laura, who is the wife of Julius Christman. Mr. James is the owner of five hundred and forty acres of well improved land. He has made

stock-raising a specialty and has bred some of the purest blooded stock in the county. He now rents the greater part of his land, retaining only enough to keep him pleasantly employed. Politically, Mr. James favors the Democratic party. He has never been ambitious to accept office, feeling that his private affairs would not admit of a divided attention. Mrs. James, who is an estimable lady, is a member of the Christian Church. Her husband is not connected with any church, although he is a believer in Christianity, and a liberal supporter of the churches in his vicinity.



**W**ESLEY H. GARRETT. This worthy and prominent gentleman whose sterling character and many attractive personal qualities, give him an exceptional standing in the community, resides upon section 9, Whitley Township. His honored father, William Garrett, was born in Montgomery County, Ky., about the year 1798, and is the son of James Garrett who was probably born in Virginia, and was proud to claim his ancestry from the rugged lands of the Highlands and bagpipes. James Garrett died in Montgomery County Ky., having lived to the remarkable age of one hundred years and six months.

Polly Reid was the maiden name of the mother of our subject, and she was born in Montgomery County, Ky., in 1801. Her father, Joseph Reid, the son of William Reid, died in that county, as did also his father William, whom our subject distinctly remembers as visiting their home when he was nineteen years old. The family is thus on both sides notable for longevity and endurance.

William H. Garrett was married in Kentucky and soon after removed to Indiana, but resided there for only a short time, as within a year he returned to Montgomery County and continued to live in that and Clark and Harrison Counties for some years. He finally came to Illinois and spent a year in Whitley Township, Moultrie County, but on account of sickness the family returned again to their native State, and made their home in Harrison County, where the father died about

1857, and the mother passed away in 1886. Their six children are Wesley H., Libby, Susan, Sarah, Joseph and James.

Our subject, who is the oldest in the parental home, was born during their sojourn in Indiana, near the White River, on the 22d of July, 1820. He was but an infant when his parents returned to Kentucky, and the greater part of his boyhood was spent in Harrison County, that State. He received the early training and education of an ordinary Kentucky boy of that period, and made his home with his parents until he was able to establish a home of his own.

Wesley Garrett's marriage with Miss Mary E. Baker, took place in Harrison County, her native place, August 23, 1840. This lady was born August 29, 1817, and her wedded life, although it opened with the brightest prospects, soon faded into darkness, as she died July 27, 1844. The second marriage of Mr. Garrett took place in Harrison County, Ky., July 28, 1842, and he was then united with Miss Eliza J. Evans, daughter of David and Mary (Baker) Evans, both natives of Kentucky. Both Mr. and Mrs. Evans died in Harrison County, having been the parents of three children, Eliza J., Cynthia and John. Eliza was born in Harrison County, April 11, 1817.

Eight living children have been born to Wesley H. and Eliza J. Garrett, viz: James F. who married Anna Cox, and resides in Sullivan Township; William D. who took to wife Melissa Armentrout, and resides in Whitley Township; Green B. who married Eudora Rose, and makes his home in Moultrie County; Solomon F. who was united in marriage with Anna Harrison, and lives in Whitley Township; Mary S. who is the wife of Beal Marsh, of Moultrie County; Robert M. who died in infancy; McArthur, who married Nancy Armentrout, and resides in Whitley Township; Richard O. who took to wife Della Lanham, and makes his home in East Nelson Township, and Cynthia R., who is now Mrs. Joseph Roberts, and lives in Whitley Township.

Mr. Garrett came to Moultrie County in 1850, and settled in Whitley Township, where he has since been one of its most respected and useful residents. There were, however, six months of that

time when he lived in East Nelson Township, but soon returned to his first choice. The Christian church is the religious body with which Mr. and Mrs. Garrett are actively connected, and in it they rejoice to find a broad field for labor and influence.

The political views with which Mr. Garrett finds himself in sympathy are most fully expressed in the platform of the Democratic party, and although he is no office seeker yet he has been compelled by the suffrages of his fellow citizens to accept a number of offices of trust and influence. For fourteen years he held the office of School Trustee, and has taken an active part in promoting the educational interest of the township and county. Upon his splendid farm of three hundred and fifteen acres, he has placed excellent improvements, and it is all in a first-class condition. His beautiful home and well-kept barns testify, not only to his enterprise, but his intelligence and culture.



**S**AMUEL H. BROWNBACK. All our relations in life are more or less of a social nature and these are circles within circles. The domestic life is the inner circle, or hub of the wheel from which radiate outward the many lines or spokes that bind it to the outer circle, or the social verge. These spokes are of various natures arising from relationship, affinity or consanguinity. Each circle within the life of our subject has been well rounded. His home life, while simple, is full of affection and tender consideration. His residence which is located on section 2, of Rural Township, is the dwelling place of peace and harmony. He has resided in Shelby County since 1868.

Mr. Brownback was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, January 21, 1843. He is a son of William and Sarah (Shutt) Brownback, natives of Pennsylvania, where they were married and began the journey of life together. About 1835 they removed to Ohio and settled in Pickaway County. There they passed the remaining years of their lives, the father passing away from this life at the age of

fifty years, the mother surviving him for a number of years, being sixty-three years of age at the time of her decease. They were the parents of six children, four of whom lived to be grown. Their names are as follows: Joseph, Melinda, Eliza, Sarah, Emeline and Samuel. Joseph died while young; Melinda married Abner Settles and died in Pickaway County, leaving an interesting family of children; Eliza married John Breutigam. She died in Pickaway County; Sarah died while yet a young woman, being only twenty years of age. Emeline also died early in life; our subject is the youngest of his family and now the only one surviving. He was reared on a farm and attended, in boyhood, the common schools, which were very good, and he feels that he owes much to the masters under whom he studied when a lad. He remained in his native State until he arrived at manhood and in 1867, he was an attendant upon the last sad rites paid to the memory of the last member of his family. Feeling that all bonds that held him to his native State had been severed, in 1868 he sold out and emigrated to this State, settling in Shelby County, where he purchased a farm upon which he at present resides.

When Mr. Brownback purchased his farm it was but very little improved and he began at once the work of putting it in such order as should realize his ideal of a modern farm. He gave his attention chiefly to stock raising, in which he was very successful. On first coming to the county he purchased one hundred and sixty acres, but from time to time has added to this until his farm now aggregates two hundred and twenty acres. It is located on sections 2 and 11, and boasts many fine improvements. Well located in the bottom lands, it is plentifully watered and drained.

Our subject has been twice married. In 1870, he was united to Mary V. Smith, a daughter of Daniel and Sarah Smith, of whom a sketch may be found in another part of this volume. Mrs. Brownback died in 1872, leaving one son who now resides with his grandfather, Daniel Smith. In 1874, our subject married Elizabeth A. Cochoran, a daughter of Robert Cochoran. She was born in Tennessee in 1848. Our subject by his present wife is the father of one daughter, by name Mary E. She is a bright, in-

telligent young girl. The original of our sketch is a Democrat in his political preference and has served in several capacities in public office under his party showing the confidence and estimation of his ability that his fellow-townsmen have in him. He has served as School Trustee for nine years and two years as Supervisor of the township. Mr. and Mrs. Brownback are, in their religious views, members of the Christian Church. They are kindly, intelligent people, in whom their fellow-townsmen repose the greatest confidence and affection.



**A**DDISON W. MCPHEETERS, the efficient and popular Postmaster of Sullivan, and one of the leading citizens of that place, where he has resided for eight years, is numbered among the early settlers of Moultrie County, of 1852. He has the honor of being a native-born citizen of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Morgan County, on the 1st of July, 1834. His parents, Addison and Julia (Pogue) McPheeters, were natives of Kentucky, and after their marriage emigrated to Morgan County, Ill., in 1833. Twelve years they spent in that county, and then returned to Fayette County, Ky., but in 1852 we again find them in Illinois, and the following year the father purchased a good farm in this locality, on which he made his home until his death, which occurred in 1879, at the age of eighty-five years. He was a Whig and Republican in politics, and was a member of the Presbyterian Church. His wife, who was born about 1801, died during the winter of 1844, in Fayette County, Ky. She was a Presbyterian in religious belief, and like her husband was highly esteemed. The family numbered four children, but two are now deceased. The twin brothers, Addison and Rankin, are yet living. The latter is married and engages in farming in Nelson Township.

Our subject returned with his parents to Kentucky, but was living in Moultrie County, Ill., when he attained to mature years. As before intimated, his residence here covers a period of almost

forty years. After arriving at man's estate he led to the marriage altar Miss Margaret Lynn, a native of Jefferson County, Ky., born in 1818, and a daughter of James and Belinda (Welch) Lynn, who were natives of Kentucky, having lived in Jefferson County, that State, until 1855, when with their family they came to Illinois, where both Mr. and Mrs. Lynn died when past sixty years of age. They lived the life of farming people, and in religious belief were Presbyterians, while in political faith Mr. Lynn was a staunch Republican. In the family are three children, yet living—Mrs. McPheeters; George W., who is married and resides in Eureka Spring, Ark., where he is engaged in the real-estate business; and Martha, wife of John Williams, of Decatur, Ill.

Among the first to enlist in Moultrie County after the breaking out of the late war was our subject, who responded to the call for troops and became a member of the Twenty-first Illinois Infantry. The regiment was then commanded by Col. U. S. Grant, and the company by Capt. John Love. Joining the Army of the Cumberland, the troops fought at Frederickstown, Mo., Perryville, Ky., Champion Hill, and in the battle of Stone River, under Gen. McCook. Then came the Atlanta campaign, and the Twenty-first Regiment remained with Sherman until after the battle at that city, when it was sent back to fight Hood at Nashville. After veteranizing and being assigned to the Fourth Army Corps, the troops were sent to Texas by way of New Orleans, camping for two weeks on the battle ground, near the Crescent City. At San Antonio, Tex., the regiment was mustered out December 16, 1865, and on the 18th of January of the new year arrived at Camp Cutler, where the brave boys in blue were honorably discharged. Mr. McPheeters had enlisted as private, but during the first year of his service was made Sergeant, and held that office until his discharge. He was never wounded or captured, but was always found at his post, faithfully discharged every duty.

On his return from the war, Mr. McPheeters again went to his farm in Nelson Township, and devoted his energies to its cultivation and improvement until 1880, when he was stricken with paralysis and lost the use of his lower limbs. Shortly

afterward he came to Sullivan, where he has since made his home and is now filling the position of Postmaster with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of all concerned. He and his family hold a high position in social circles, and are widely known throughout this community. In politics Mr. McPheeters is a stalwart Republican and an earnest worker in the interests of the party. He holds membership with the Presbyterian Church, and his wife belongs to the Methodist Church. Their family numbers six interesting children—Nettie L., George R., Leroy, Addison P., Frank and Julia P. Miss Nettie, who is a graduate of the Sullivan High School, is now assisting her father in the office.



**G**EORGE SCHINZLER. Our subject is one of the many representatives of the Teutonic race in this country who have brought into our American commercial and agricultural life a new impetus of penetrating foresight that has accumulated for its possessors vast fortunes and honorable positions. The German element is honorably represented in every branch of American life. In its government, its literary, social and commercial and social relations, it has held the most responsible positions. As his name would indicate, our subject is a native of Bavaria, Germany, where he was born October 27, 1826. He is now the owner of a fine farm located in Flat Branch Township.

Mr. Schinzler is the proprietor of three hundred and twenty acres of land, upon which he resides and which he devotes to general farming. This tract bears all modern agricultural improvements and upon it is a pleasant and attractive residence besides other farm buildings. He also has twenty acres on another section. His purchase was made in the fall of 1869 and he has since changed the face of his land from a flower-spangled prairie to acres yellow in the warm July sun with waving grains. He came to this township from Rose Township, where he owned and improved eighty

acres, living on it for six or seven years. Two years previous to his purchase of this last-named tract he leased and ran the poor farm of the county. He came here from Pennsylvania, where he had settled soon after his arrival in this country from Germany.

He of whom we write is of German ancestry. His parents were Michael and Barbara (Croft) Schinzler, both natives of Bavaria, where they lived and died aged respectively seventy-two and seventy years. Religiously their inclinations and membership were with the Catholic Church. Our subject and a brother, Lawrence, were the only members of the family that came to this country and both are now farmers in this county. Mr. Schinzler left Germany in March, 1856, taking a sailing vessel from Havre de Grace. They landed in New York City and came thence to Harrisburg, Pa., where they lived two and a half years. They then came to Illinois, where our subject took the next important step in his life in marrying Miss Mary E. Sprinkle. Their marriage was celebrated in March, 1864. She was born in Richland County, Ohio, May 16, 1843, and is a daughter of Eli and Elizabeth (Jennings) Sprinkle, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and married in the latter State, where they were engaged in farming. In 1849 they went to Indiana and spent four years in Adams County. They then came to Shelby County, and here Mr. and Mrs. Sprinkle passed the remainder of their lives, dying at the ages respectively of sixty-five and sixty-eight years. They were members of the United Brethren Church.

Mrs. Schinzler, wife of our subject, was only ten years of age when her parents came to this State and she has since lived in the county wherein they then settled. She is the mother of twelve children, three of whom are deceased. The deceased children are: Eliza, aged five years, John, aged six years, Mary L., who was the wife of D. E. Middleton, now also deceased. The living children are: Elizabeth, Joseph, George L., Grant, Anna, Jane, William, Pearl, Marion and Roy. Elizabeth is the wife of Harvey Tritt. They live on a farm in Christian County, this State. Joseph is a bachelor and the proprietor of a good farm in

this township. George L. Grant remains at home and he is his father's assistant in running the farm. The other children have none of them yet left the parental roof. Mr. and Mrs. Schinzler attend the Presbyterian Church and are helpers and co-laborers in any good cause that promises to develop and benefit the neighborhood.



**J**AMES BOYS. The name at the head of our sketch is that of a highly respected and honored man who has watched the growth of this State for many years, having settled here on section 26, of Ridge Township, Shelby County, in 1836. He was born in Durbin County, Ind., June 26, 1827, and is a son of Alexander and Virginia (Bradley) Boys, natives respectively of Ohio and Virginia. They began life together as pioneers in Ohio, thence removed to Indiana, casting their lot with other pioneers in the Hoosier State, and in 1833 they removed to Illinois, locating in Vermillion County.

After three years spent by our subject's parents in improving a farm in Vermillion County, they came to Shelby County and entered some land in Okaw Township, again casting their lot with pioneer settlers. The father passed his remaining years in Shelby County and died in January, 1881, his wife having passed away two days previous to his own demise. The old people were interred at the same time and in one grave, and thus they were together in death, as they had been for so many years in life. Our subject's father was the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land, much of which he cultivated, and which, at the time of his death, was well improved. Both he and his wife were for many years ardent members of the Methodist Church.

The original of our sketch is one of thirteen children, ten of whom lived to maturity; of these, our subject is the eldest. The others are: Mary, John W., Sarah, George W., Lyda, Elizabeth, William, Bonaparte and Charlie. Of these, Mary became the wife of Henry J. Bowen and resides in Shelbyville; John W. died in Okaw Township, a

victim of the cholera epidemic of 1855; Sarah married James Hillsbach and resides in Stewardson; George W. lives in Ridge Township. Lyda married Henry Houghtbough. Elizabeth became the wife of E. Hager. After becoming a widow she married Thomas Blackstone. William died of typhoid fever when a young man. Bonaparte, like his brother John, and in the same year, was a victim of cholera, as was also his younger brother Charlie.

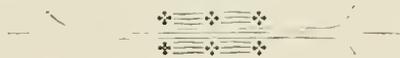
Mr. Boys was reared on his father's farm and early learned the duties incident to a farmer's life. He received the educational advantages to be had in the district schools, having attended the first school taught in Okaw Township. The teacher was Peter Parker, a man who was highly respected by all as much for his manliness as for his superiority in an intellectual way. When a young man the monotony of farm life was broken for our subject by trips made to markets and mill. For the former he went to St. Louis and Alton and carried his corn to Springfield to be ground.

October 15, 1849, Mr. Boys was united in marriage with Sarah Hardy, a daughter of Thomas Hardy, of whom a sketch may be found under that of William Hardy, in another part of this volume. She was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, and October 7, 1827, was her natal day. After marriage Mr. Boys purchased land which is now within the limits of Shelbyville. Two years later he settled where he now resides, having purchased there eighty acres, and adding to it forty acres of timber land. He is now the owner of over eight hundred acres of land, five hundred acres of which is in one body and included in the farm whereon he resides. All of Mr. Boys' land he has accumulated by his own efforts. At the time of his marriage he had only a horse and a cow with which to set up housekeeping. His wife was the proud owner of a bed, and with \$10 they commenced the serious business of life together. Doubtless they were as happy, however, when with youth and vigor they started out together with love and confidence in each other's ability, as when years after, they could count their dollars by the thousands.

Our subject has now retired from active agricultural pursuits, renting his land and living the de-

lightful life of a retired country gentleman. He and his wife are the parents of nine children, three of whom died young. One, Alexander, died November 25, 1831, at the age of thirty years, leaving a widow and four children. The five children still living are: John W., Mary J., James M., Thomas H. and Charles F. Mary J. is the wife of Robert Weekly.

The breadth of platform of the Democratic party is that which appeals most directly to Mr. Boys' political intelligence, and with it he has cast his influence and vote for many years. He has held the office of Road Commissioner and School Director, and although frequently having been urged to accept office, he felt that loyalty to his party did not necessitate the relinquishing of his private business for the duties of public office. He has, however, ever been held in high esteem by his fellow-townsmen. His ability in a business way has been seconded by a native good sense and practical view of affairs that rarely allows of a mistake in judgment or action on his part. Mr. and Mrs. Boys are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and our subject was one of the largest contributors toward the erection of a church near his home. Although having reached the age when many people lose their sympathy with youth and joyousness, and life seems but a threadbare garment to be worn but a short time, our subject and his amiable wife have mellowed until the kindly geniality of their natures lends a charm that is fascinating to each day of the serenity of their lives.



**J**OHN A. KERN, a prosperous farmer of Moultrie County, resides on section 21, Whitley Township. His residence in this county dates from 1858, at which time his advent here was made from Indiana. He was born in Lawrence County, Ind., November 14, 1836, and his parents were Edward and Polly Ann (Rice) Kern, natives of Gallatin County, Ky. In that county they were married and about two

years after that important event in their lives they removed to Lawrence County, Ind., where they settled on a farm. There they died, the father at the age of fifty-five and the mother when sixty-seven years old. They welcomed the coming of eight children to their home and fireside, six of whom lived to be grown.

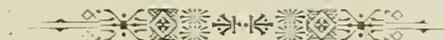
The names of the children of whom our subject is one, are respectively: Sophia, David S., John A., James B., Susan E. and Newton J. The survivors of these have reached man's and woman's estate and have taken honorable positions in society. Sophia married Anderson Boadinghamer and resides in Lawrence, Ind., on a part of the old homestead. David S. died in February, 1858, at Indianapolis, Ind. Susan E. is the wife of Thomas Ray and resides in Lawrence County, in her native State. Newton J. lives on the old homestead.

The subject of our sketch was reared on the home farm and received his education in the common schools of his district. He was a careful and conscientious student and became well posted in all the common branches of learning. In 1858 he taught the school in his home district and soon afterward came to this State and was engaged in teaching in this county in East Nelson Township. While there he formed the acquaintance of Ann E. Armentrout and in March, 1860, she became his wife. She was a daughter of Philip Armentrout and was born in Whitley Township, August 4, 1842. After marriage Mr. Kern rented a tract of land which he operated for four years and in 1865 he purchased the land upon which he at present resides, which was at the time entirely new, never having been cut by the plow. He is now the owner of two hundred and fifty acres of land upon which he has placed fine improvements, having a good residence and commodious barns and out-buildings.

Mr. Kern has been twice married. His first wife died March 4, 1884, having been the mother of eight children, six of whom survived her. They are all progressive men and women who have appreciated the advantages of education and in this respect have made all efforts to obtain every advantage. Ollie J. is Principal of a school at Cherry Valley, this State; James R. is a farmer and resides

in Indiana; Minnie M., who is a teacher by profession, is at present in Germany, where she has gone to complete her education in Hanover, desiring to give her attention to the teaching of the German language. Eunice F., who is also a teacher, lives at home, as do her brothers John F. and Charles.

On October 11, 1886, our subject was again married, this union being with Miss Laura Pedro, a daughter of Bayless Pedro, a resident of Shelby County. By her Mr. Kern is the father of two children, only one of whom, however, is living, a son, whose name is Vernon H. Politically our subject is a Republican, having joined forces with that party on its formation and being loyal to it in every respect. He has been a member of the School Board, in which capacity he has done efficient work, being a broad, liberal-minded and progressive man in all his ideas, and especially concerning education. He is a member of the Christian Church, while his wife belongs to the Baptist Church.



**R**OBERT A. PATTON, Postmaster at Prairie Home, is a prominent citizen of this village, who is closely associated with the leading interests of this section of the county as a general merchant and as the proprietor of a choice farm. He is a native of Mifflin County, Pa., born November 12, 1842, the son of a prosperous farmer of that State, James Patton. His father was born in Cecil County, Md., while his father, who bore the same name as himself, was born in County Derry, Ireland, being a descendant of one of the old Scotch families that had settled in that region many years ago. He came to this country and first located in Maryland, whence he removed after awhile to Pennsylvania where he died in 1840.

The father of our subject learned the trade of a brick and stone mason in his youth, and engaged in that in connection with farming. In 1813 he bought the farm where his widow now resides in Mifflin County. He died in August, 1891, aged seventy-five years. His good wife is living in a

cozy home surrounded with all the desirable comforts of life. They reared a family of seven children to lives of usefulness. The maiden name of the mother was Ediza Lowrie, and she is a native of Mifflin County, Pa., a daughter of William and Polly Lowrie.

Robert Patton passed his boyhood in his native county and was given excellent advantages to obtain a sound education. He gained his first knowledge of books at home and in the local district school, and later in life became a student at the Kishacoquillas Seminary, where he pursued a thorough course of study which gave him a good equipment as a teacher. He entered the ranks of that profession in 1861, and the ensuing twelve years devoted the greater part of his time to that vocation, and when not thus employed being engaged at the trade of a bricklayer.

In 1870 our subject made a new departure, leaving his native State to settle in Illinois, and giving his attention to farming in Flat Branch Township, where he bought forty acres of land. He did not wholly abandon his profession, however, but was a part of the time employed in teaching as well as in cultivating the soil. In 1873 he went to Moweaqua, where he carried on the drug business until 1887, when he came to Prairie Home where he has since conducted a general store. His establishment is fitted up in good style and is amply stocked with a large supply of all sorts of merchandise that are in demand in such a village, including dry-goods, boots, shoes, crockery, glassware and groceries, and the customers have as varied a selection as can be found in the stores of many larger towns. Besides his mercantile interests Mr. Patton has a well-managed farm, advantageously located a quarter of a mile from his store, and upon it he and his family have one of the pleasantest homes in this vicinity.

Mr. Patton was first married November 12, 1867, Miss Sadie J. Stine becoming his wife. She was born in Mifflin County, Pa., and was a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Stine. Their wedded life was brought to an end by the death of Mrs. Patton in March, 1882. She left five children, May, Cora, Robert S., Lulu and Edith. The second marriage of our subject which took place in November, 1882,

was with Mrs. Minnie (Nims) Parker, a native of Lake County and a daughter of Charles Nims. Three children have been born of this marriage, Willie R., Grover Cleveland and Dada.

Mr. Patton is a man whose education, character and business equipment have made him a decided acquisition to the citizenship of this county, and he stands well in its financial and social circles. In him the Democratic party of this section has one of its most sensible followers. In 1887 he was appointed Postmaster at Prairie Home and no Postoffice in the county is better managed than the one under his charge. Religiously Mr. Patton is of the Presbyterian faith, and both he and his wife are consistent members of the church of that denomination in this village.



**J**OHIN SHARROCK. The life of Mr. Sharrock has been a busy one and his personal efforts for advancement were begun at an early age. His experience has been a somewhat checkered one, as continued success falls to the lot of very few, but he has on the whole been successful, and is now the owner of a good property in Shelby County. Some years since he retired from the more arduous duties of life, and is now living in quiet and comfort in the village of Tower Hill. He has the confidence of the community as a man of sterling integrity, and all his acquaintances recognize the public spirit which he considers the duty of every loyal citizen.

Everard Sharrock, father of our subject, was born in New York City, and married Amy Stevens, a native of Maryland. At a very early day he emigrated from Richland County, Ohio, to what is now Christian County, Ill., and after a sojourn in this State of fifteen years, removed to Dallas County, Texas. There the faithful wife and devoted mother died in 1848. After that sad event the father went to Oregon, where he died in 1859. They had a family of thirteen children, our subject being the third. His birthplace was Marion County, Ohio, and his natal day December 12, 1819. His early youth was passed in the Buckeye State,

whence he accompanied his parents to Illinois in 1832.

Our subject grew to manhood upon his father's farm in Christian County, and prior to his marriage he entered eighty acres of Government land in Christian County. On March 30, 1843, he was united in marriage with Miss Catherine, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Hanson) May, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Indiana. The May family emigrated from Kentucky to Shelby County, Ill., about 1831, and the following year Mrs. May passed from earth. Mr. May survived until 1849. Mrs. Sharrock was among the younger members of the family, which comprised ten children. She was born in Floyd County, Ky., February 10, 1822, and was at an early age deprived of a mother's care. She grew to a noble womanhood, fitted to aid her husband in all his labors.

Immediately after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Sharrock settled in Christian County upon the farm which he had pre-empted. After sojourning there three years they removed to Shelby County, locating in Tower Hill Township, of which they have since been residents. Upon his arrival here Mr. Sharrock entered upon active labor upon a farm, which he made his home until 1865. At that time he retired from farming pursuits, and going to the village of Tower Hill, engaged in mercantile business until 1884. Having by his unceasing labor and good management acquired a comfortable competency for his declining years, he sold out his interests and now in the declining years of his life is resting from the arduous toil of his younger years.

Mr. and Mrs. Sharrock are the parents of eleven children, namely: Amos J., Francis M., John E., Julia A., Marquis L., Amanda, Leniotia, James H., Lovina, Abraham L., and Charlie. Of these the following are deceased: John E., Julia A., Leniotia, James H., and Charlie. Mr. Sharrock has held the office of Highway Commissioner for sixteen years, and also served as School Director and Trustee. At one time he received the nomination of County Clerk on the Greenback ticket, but declined to run. Politically he is an active Republican and formerly took an active part in political affairs. He and his estimable wife are active members of

the Free Methodist Church, where he has filled the offices of Steward and Class-Leader. They have been identified with the church and church work for nearly fifty years and he has served as Sunday-school Superintendent.

While operating as a farmer Mr. Sharrock engaged very largely in stock-raising. He now owns eighty acres besides village property. In 1849 he crossed the plains to California, driving an ox-team the entire distance—over three thousand miles from his home in Tower Hill Township. He was absent fifteen months and returned via the Isthmus. During the Civil War he served eleven months with efficiency in Company H, Ninth Illinois Infantry, and took part in the battles of Ft. Donelson, Pittsburg Landing, evacuation of Corinth and Iuka. He was discharged for disability. His sons, Amos and Francis, served three and two years respectively in Company G, One Hundred and Fifteenth Illinois Infantry.



**W**ILLIAM R. BIVINS, a representative of one of the earliest pioneer families of Shelby County, was for many years identified with its leading interests as an agriculturist and as a merchant. He is now living in honorable retirement from active business in one of the many attractive homes of Shelbyville, where he deservedly enjoys the confidence and esteem accorded to a life spent in well-doing. He was born in Rutherford County, Tenn., March 15, 1826. His father, Leonard Bivins, was a native of North Carolina, and was a son of Fielder Bivins, who is supposed to have spent his entire life in that State.

The father of our subject passed his early life in the State of his nativity, and was there married, taking Nancy Murdough as his wife. She was born in the north of Ireland June 15, 1795, and was of Scotch ancestry. Shortly after marriage the parents of our subject removed to Tennessee, of which they thus became pioneers, and there the father followed his trade as a carpenter in Rutherford County. In 1829 he made another move, and

came to Illinois with a four-horse team, accompanied by his wife and four children, bringing household goods, and camping by the way-side at noon and night fall. He located on the present site of Shelbyville, which was then but a small hamlet with only a few pioneer dwellings, and the only communication with the outside world was by stage. The mail was received once each week, and Joseph Oliver who was the Postmaster for some time, used to carry the letters in the crown of his hat. The surrounding country was very sparsely settled and deer, wild turkeys, wolves, and other wild animals still remained in their old haunts.

Mr. Bivins bought two or three lots on the east side of the street north of the Court House and built a comfortable home. He carried on a good business in the village and in the surrounding country as a contractor and builder until his premature death in 1849 deprived the county of a good citizen and a pioneer who had been very useful in promoting its growth. His widow survived him many years and finally died at a venerable age in December 1872.

Our subject may be said to have grown up with this county where the most of his life has been passed, as he was only three years old when he was brought here by his parents, and this section was then also in its infancy. His education was obtained in the pioneer schools of Shelbyville. The first that he attended was taught in a log school house with furniture of home manufacture, the seats being made by splitting logs and hewing one side smooth, inserting wooden pins for legs, and they were without backs. At the age of fifteen William, who was an active enterprising lad, began to carry the mail. Starting forth on his journeys early Monday morning he would go to Decatur and thence to Bloomington, arriving there Tuesday night, starting on his return home Wednesday morning. Arriving at Shelbyville Thursday night early the next morning he would start in another direction for Vandalia returning thence Saturday night, these journeys being made on horseback. He was thus employed nearly two years, and then learning the trade of a carpenter under his father's instructions, he carried on business with him

until his marriage in 1848. The discovery of gold in California led him to seek that El Dorado with a party of friends, starting on that long journey with an ox-team in 1849. At that time there was scarcely a white settler between the Missouri River and California, except at Salt Lake; buffalo were seen in great numbers, often large herds of deer and antelopes were encountered, and the howlings of the coyotes, or prairie wolves, often disturbed the slumbers of the little party. They finally arrived at Sacramento safely in October. Our subject went to the mines and was engaged in digging gold until 1850. In October of that year he gathered together his gains and started for home, coming by the way of the Isthmus and Havana to New Orleans, thence up the Mississippi River to St. Louis and from there by stage through Springfield to Shelbyville. After his return Mr. Bivins invested some money in a fertile tract of land one mile northwest of the city, which he improved into a farm, making it his home until 1872, and at the same time working at his trade as a builder. In the year mentioned he rented his farm, and coming to Shelbyville, engaged in the grocery business in company with C. J. Kurtz, continuing in that line until 1880. He then had to give up active business on account of failing health, and has since lived retired in his pleasant home in the west part of the city, in the enjoyment of an income ample for all his wants.

Mr. Bivins has been twice married. His first wife to whom he was wedded in 1848, was Sarah F. Warren, a native of Windsor Township and a daughter of the Hon. Peter and Elizabeth Warren early pioneers of that place. Mrs. Bivins departed this life March 7, 1860, leaving behind her a worthy record as a wife and mother. There are three children living of that marriage: Josephine, who married W. R. Austin and has four children; Franklin P., a physician who is represented in this volume; and Ella, who married the Rev. W. R. Howard, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Sarah Alice the second daughter of our subject by his first marriage married C. J. Kurtz, and died in August 1890, leaving three sons. William C. a son of our subject by his first wife, died at the age of fourteen years. Mr. Bivins

was married a second time January 29, 1869, to Martha J. Brokaw, in whom he has found a good wife. Mrs. Bivins is a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, born near Glendale and she is a daughter of Henry and Cordelia Brokaw. Her union with our subject has been blessed to them by the birth of two children, Charles H. and Harry L.

Mr. Bivins is a man of exemplary habits and of a sincere character who is zealous in promoting the religious and moral interests of the community where he is held in high estimation by all who are familiar with his daily life and conduct. For many years he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church which he served long and faithfully as Class-leader and Steward. In 1886 he served his connection with that denomination in order to join the Free Methodist Church which was organized here largely through his instrumentality, he contributing liberally towards the erection of its house of worship. In his political sentiments Mr. Bivins was a Democrat until 1884, but since that time he has been identified with the Prohibitionists. He has borne an honorable part in the management of public affairs and has served as Assessor and Collector.



**L** EVI SEASS. The publishers of this volume would fail in their purpose of recording the lives of those who have been useful and are worthy of note, were they to omit mention of the successful career of Mr. Seass. He is the owner of one of the best farms in Moultrie County, and was for several years engaged in the agricultural implement business in Arthur, representing the Pitts Agricultural Company, of Buffalo, N. Y. He also engaged in the grain business, and built a large elevator in Arthur. He handled all kinds of implements and farming machinery, and during the years he was thus engaged only added to the reputation which he had already won—that of an honorable man, trustworthy in all business relations.

The father of our subject, Jacob Seass, was a

native of Pennsylvania, but has passed the greater part of his life in Moultrie County. Here he was married in October, 1813, to Miss Jane Patterson, a native of Illinois, and an estimable woman, who still survives. They had a family of five children, who lived to maturity, our subject being the eldest. He was born in Moultrie County, Ill., October 20, 1816, and was reared to manhood upon his father's farm. His earliest recollections are of the scenes of pioneer life, and he has been a witness of the rapid growth of Illinois. During his youth schools were few and far between, educational advantages proportionately limited, and he had few opportunities to gain an education. He gleaned the rudiments of knowledge from the old text-books then in vogue, and at an early age acquired a love for learning which has induced him to read the best of literature, and keep posted upon all current events, until he has now that best of educations—the one gained in the school of which experience is the teacher.

With the exception of four years passed in Arthur, our subject has spent his entire life within the limits of Jonathan Creek Township. He now owns five hundred and thirty-six acres on sections 13, 14, 15 and 22, and is numbered among the most successful agriculturists of the county. He was married August 20, 1867, in Jonathan Creek Township, to Miss Elizabeth A. Powell. This estimable lady, who is the daughter of Nelson E. and Elvira (Henry) Powell, was born in Shelby County, this State, May 28, 1851. Mrs. Seass is a lady of culture and refinement, which is manifested in her home and shown by the circle of friends she has gathered around her, people of the highest worth and intelligence.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Seass comprises six children, namely: Aurora L., Elvira J., Llewellyn D., Bertha E., Nellie C. and Waverly W. The parents have given the children the best possible educational advantages, and have endeavored in every way to fit them for the duties of life awaiting them. Mr. Seass has served as Supervisor of Jonathan Creek Township for two terms, and as Township Treasurer one term, discharging the duties of both positions in a manner creditable alike to himself and his constituents. He was ap-

pointed Census Enumerator in 1800. In the fall of that year he was a candidate for the legislature on the Independent ticket, and polled a large vote, running ahead of his ticket.

Upright and honorable in all his dealings, the course in life followed by Mr. Seass has been such as to secure the confidence and warm friendship of all with whom he is brought in contact. His dealings are always marked with the strictest integrity and fairness, and he has gained a competency through his arduous and systematic exertions. He is an honored citizen of this community, and it is with pleasure that we present this brief sketch of his life to our readers.



ISAAC HUDSON, of the law firm of Spittler & Hudson, and Master in Chancery, was born in Moultrie County, Ill., January 8, 1867, and is the son of J. J. and Susan (Souther) Hudson. The parents, who were natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky were quite young when they came to Illinois and settled in what is now Moultrie County. Jeremiah Souther, our subject's maternal grandfather, secured some Government land in Moultrie County, and after making extensive improvements and becoming the owner of about eight hundred acres, died in March, 1889, at the age of eighty-seven years. He was a man of great influence in his community, and his death, which occurred in Shelby County, was widely mourned. He was twice married and his second wife, who still survives, makes her home on the farm in Shelby County.

The father of our subject was born in April, 1810, and accompanied Mr. Souther to Illinois in the early '30s. He immediately set to work to gain a livelihood and so successful was he in his efforts that at the time of his death, January 3, 1875, he was the owner of about one thousand acres of splendid land. His property was in Sullivan Township, Moultrie County, where he spent his active life. Politically he was a Democrat, and religiously a member of the Christian Church. He was ever a liberal contributor to charitable purposes and no

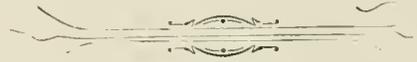
man worthy of his confidence was ever unkindly turned away when he sought a favor at the hands of J. J. Hudson.

The wife of J. J. Hudson was the daughter of his benefactor with whom he had come to Illinois and afterward resided. This most estimable woman passed from the busy scenes of earth May 15, 1874, at the age of forty-six years, having been born in 1828. In her early girlhood she had united with the Christian Church and in that faith she died. For some years before her demise she had been an invalid and passed away, the victim of consumption. A good and noble woman, and a true helpmate, she was mourned not only by those nearest to her, but by the neighbors and friends who still hold her memory dear. She was the mother of eleven children, six of whom died young. Laura died March 30, 1891, the wife of J. H. Michael; Barbara is the wife of Isaac Horn, a well-to-do farmer and stock-raiser of this county; Jerry chose as his wife Addie Wheeler and is a successful farmer and stock-raiser of Lovington Township; Sarah became the wife of Samuel Elder, a prominent farmer of Sullivan Township.

Under careful influences at home our subject was reared and the good common-school education which he obtained from the home schools was supplemented by a thorough course in the Christian College at Eureka, this State, an institution of prominence and influence. In 1888 he began the study of law with his present partner and after a thorough course of reading he was admitted to practice at the bar of Illinois. He was appointed Master in Chancery in December, 1888, and fills the office to the general satisfaction. He owns a fine property divided into three good farms and aggregating three hundred and twenty acres. He also has invested some in city property in Sullivan and possessing good judgment, will undoubtedly attain prominence in political and public affairs in the State. His political convictions are strongly with the Republican party, and he is ever interested in matters of public interest and is wide-awake to the progress of the town.

Mr. Hudson was married September 9, 1891 to Miss Kate Evans of Sullivan who is also proud to claim Moultrie County as her birthplace. Mrs.

Hudson is the daughter of Benjamin Evans, deceased, and possesses the nobility of mind and geniality of disposition which wins her friends wherever she may be. The citizens of the community, who are proud of the acquaintance of herself and Mr. Hudson, wish them every happiness in the union upon which they have recently entered.



**G**EORGE SCHOCH. It is with pleasure that we incorporate in this Record a brief account of the life of this respected citizen of Tower Hill Township, Shelby County. He has borne a worthy part in the agricultural work of the county, and in that of social and benevolent circles, and to every position he has brought the energy and earnestness which are his chief characteristics. As a farmer, he uses excellent judgment in the preparation of the soil for crops, in the character of the produce raised, and reaps a corresponding harvest. Buildings suited to the various needs of the family and farm economy have been erected and everywhere the indications are of peace and plenty. The estate is pleasantly located on section 1 and comprises one hundred and twenty acres.

Mr. Schoch is one of our German-American citizens, who have aided so materially in the development of our country. He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, October 9, 1810, and grew to manhood in his native land. In the excellent public schools of the Fatherland he gleaned a good education and at the same time assisted his father in the farm work, for which he had a natural aptitude. His parents were Leonard and Magdalena (Knodler) Schoch, who passed their entire lives in Germany. George Schoch, the subject of this biographical notice, remained in Germany until he was about twenty-four years old, and in September, 1865, took passage for America.

Landing in New York Mr. Schoch proceeded directly to Shelbyville, this county, where for about three years he worked out on a farm. He then

rented land for about three years, and by careful hoarding of his hard earned money he was enabled in 1871 to purchase a tract of forty acres in Tower Hill Township. He afterward added to the acreage as suited his convenience and now owns one hundred and twenty acres, nearly all of which is in cultivation. He erected a commodious residence on his farm, and in various ways embellished his property. Possessing good judgment and untiring energy he naturally ranks among the foremost farmers of the community.

When prepared to establish domestic ties of his own, Mr. Schoch was married in Tower Hill Township, to Mary Weidle, who was born in Ohio April 8, 1852. Unto them were born six children, namely: Charlie F., Lizzie B., Riekey K., Minnie A., William G. and Emma C. Mrs. Schoch is the daughter of Frederick and Riekey (Reosler) Weidle, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, who came to America in 1852 and settled in Preble County, Ohio. In 1857 they came to Illinois, settling in Rural Township, Shelby County, where Mr. Weidle died in 1859. Our subject and his wife are both faithful members of the Lutheran Church, and are noted for their benevolent and kindly dispositions. Politically, Mr. Schoch is a Democrat, but has never sought office, preferring domestic quiet to the turmoil attached to a public career.



**A**BRAM L. KELLAR, M. D. The good old doctor of pioneer days won his way into the good graces of every family in all the region round about, for his sturdy but kindly character won the hearts of the mothers and children and his judgment and skill compelled the respect of the hard-working pioneer men. It is possible that the position of a doctor who has long held sway in a community embodies an ideal life as far as influence and standing go. Such a life has been that of the well-known doctor and old settler whose home has been in this county most of the time since 1832 and whose name appears at the head of this paragraph.

Dr. Kellar was graduated from the medical de-

partment of the university at Louisville, Ky., and began active practice in 1852 at Decatur, but four years later made Sullivan his permanent home, with the exception of the decade 1865-1875, which he spent at Shelbyville. He is a physician of the regular school and has been one of the leading men of the county since his settlement here. His parents were pioneers in Macon County when he was a little boy at a time when that county was all an unbroken wilderness.

The Doctor was born in Oldham County, Ky., December 16, 1827, and is the youngest member of his father's family. His father Abraham H. Kellar, was a native of Tennessee and a son of William Kellar, a Pennsylvanian by birth who grew up among the Dutch farmers and when he had reached manhood removed to Tennessee and there married Miss Rebecca Netherton, who came of a prominent family in that region. After their marriage and the birth of some of their children William Kellar and wife removed to Oldham County, Ky., and there became pioneers, for they made their location in that State in the last decade of the eighteenth century. In that county they spent the remainder of their days living to an extreme old age, Mrs. Kellar especially, as she died at the age of ninety-four. Her husband had been a preacher in the old school Baptist Church for years and for generations the family adhered to that church in religion and to the Democratic party in politics.

Abraham H. Kellar, who came with his parents when three years old to Oldham County, Ky., was there married to Nancy J. Hitt, who was born in the Blue Grass regions of Fayette County, Ky. This couple with their children emigrated in 1832 to what is now Moultrie County, Ill., locating near the present site of the village of Lovington, although there was not then a town in the county and only five families within its present limit. They came with wagons, ox-teams and a horse and camped out upon the way, passing through a sparsely settled country.

The parents took Government land and here began life in Illinois about the time that the Indians left this region. The county was thickly inhabited by wild game and last but not least, as the Doctor says, there were then great numbers of

rattlesnakes upon the prairies. He at one time killed one hundred and thirty-two sizable snakes in breaking ten acres of land. Before the death of Abram H. Kellar, which occurred when he was sixty-five years old, he had secured a comfortable home and life had grown easier for the farming community. His widow returned to Kentucky and her days ended under the roof of her daughter, Mrs. Paulina Hikes near Louisville, Ky., after she had reached the age of four-score years and four.

Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Kellar were formerly Baptists, but in 1828 they joined the Reformation and became active members of the Christian Church in whose communion they continued through life. Mr. Kellar was familiarly known for many years as "Hickory" Kellar on account of his Jacksonian faith which was Democracy of the deepest dye. The two brothers of our subject are H. Y. Kellar, a Christian minister at Effingham, Ill., and Joel H., who lives in Scotland County, Mo. The sisters who are living are Elizabeth, wife of Albert G. Snyder of Elk County, Kan., and Paulina, wife of Edward J. Hikes living near Louisville.

The subject of our sketch was married in Decatur to Miss Jane E. Camtrill, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Hall) Camtrill, natives of Kentucky, whose daughter was born in Illinois. They resided in this State until death and passed away at the ages of eighty-one and fifty-eight years respectively, being much mourned and deeply respected for their true Christian faith. Mrs. Kellar is the mother of five children, viz: Charles H., who married Sarah Dilsaver, and is a painter by trade in Beatrice, Neb.; Addie is the wife of Dr. J. W. Goodwin, City Treasurer of Pomona, Cal.; Edgar H., married Lyda Stewart and is a minister in the Christian Church in St. Louis, Mo.; Lizzie M. and N. Pearl reside at home and are receiving at the hands of their parents a liberal education.

The Doctor and his wife are prominent members of the Christian Church and the ability, intelligence and zeal of this gentleman has fitted him to do excellent work in the church and he frequently fills the pulpit with profit, and acceptably. He is known as a fluent speaker and a natural orator and has a reputation as a logician, and he is

frequently called upon to make speeches on various subjects and is never at a loss for forcible thought and expression. He was formerly an active worker in the Democratic party but is now alive to the interests of prohibition and votes to put down the saloon. He is a member of Blue Lodge No. 764 of the Masonic order, and for four years was Master Mason in the old lodge before the re-organization. He is a man of somewhat portly figure, striking appearance and has an excellent voice which stands him in good stead in his public addresses.



**P**HILIP ROESSLER. The readers of this volume will be interested to pursue still farther the history of the Roessler family, one of the most prominent and respected circles of Rose Township, Shelby County. The representative whose name we give here is one of the most thorough-going farmers and intelligent and representative citizens of his section of the county. His parents are spoken of more at length in the history of his brother, Edward Roessler.

Six children gathered about the parental fireside and among these our subject was the youngest son and next to the youngest child. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, near Lancaster, July 7, 1837. Here he spent his boyhood days and came with his father to Shelby County in 1849, growing to maturity in Rose Township. He remained at home until he was married, and then settled upon the old home farm where he has since resided. His bride was Sarah E. Barringer, who was born in Montgomery County, Ill., in 1837. Their wedding took place in Rose Township, in October, 1860. This wife bore him two children, Stephen A. and Mary S., the daughter dying when fifteen years old, and the mother being called away in October, 1864.

The second marriage of our subject took place in Rose Township, February 22, 1870, his wife being Mary E. Gearhart, who was born in Pennsylvania. She became the mother of four children: Theodore J., Arthur H., Nellie M. and Emma F. Mrs. Mary

E. Roessler died in September, 1878. His third wife was Florence M. Gearhart, who died in June, 1880. The lady who now presides so graciously over the household of Mr. Roessler, bore the maiden name of Mary M. Kull and was born in Shelby County. Five children have crowned this union, namely: Ralph E., Luther M., Charles A., Ira P. and William O.

Agricultural pursuits have always claimed the attention of Mr. Roessler and he is now the owner of two hundred acres of rich and fertile soil which bears upon it excellent improvements, and comfortable and commodious buildings. His neighbors have placed him in several offices of responsibility and trust. He has been Collector for four terms, Assessor for one term and School Director for several years. He has taken quite an active part in political affairs, is in sympathy with the Labor Union movement and a member of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. His religious training and associations have led him to unite himself with the Lutheran Church in which his wife is also an active member. He has contributed liberally both to the support and building of the church, and is a man of broad intelligence and one of the efficient promoters of all movements designed to forward the best interests of the community. His good wife bears a high reputation for housewifely skill and management and her hospitality and geniality make her a decided favorite in the social circles of Rose Township.



**J**ACOB N. JONES, who is the head of the firm of Jones and Sons, merchants in Windsor, Shelby County, this State, was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, March 27, 1828. He was reared on a farm where he remained until seventeen years of age, at which time he left home and started out to make a fortune for himself. When he was but three years of age his father removed to Clermont County, Ohio, and there they lived until our subject left the home roof. With the sanguineness of youth he felt that the world lay be-

fore him to conquer as he would, and he was eager to try his strength with its difficulties and hardships.

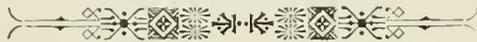
On leaving home, he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and learned to make counter scales. He served a short apprenticeship to this business and then worked at it for about two years, and for some time after he was engaged in daguerreotyping, and in 1851, came to Stark County, this State, and at once launched into farming on his own account. This he continued for ten years being successful in his chosen calling. In the latter part of 1863, however, he removed to Moultrie County, this State, and purchased a farm which he was engaged in improving for a period of less than one year. He then removed to Windsor and was employed as clerk in a store. From that time he launched into mercantile business for himself, and since then he has been in partnership with different persons. In 1881 he founded his present partnership, by admitting his son, Wilbur H., into the business, and in 1890, his son Jacob was added to the firm. They carry on an extensive business both in the town and in the neighboring agricultural region.

Mr. Jones was married in Clermont County, Ohio, to Mary Myser, who was also a native of the county in which she was married. Their marriage was celebrated June 4, 1857, and Mrs. Jones died October 1, 1887. They were the parents of five children whose names are as follows: Wilbur H., Susan B., Willie, Jacob and Frank. The young men are all ambitious and energetic, and their entrance into their father's business has been to the advantage both of themselves and the firm.

Our subject is a Democrat in his political preference. Religiously he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has filled the office of Trustee for some time. Mr. Jones is the owner of considerable property in various parts of the county. He owns one hundred and seventy-two acres of land in Windsor Township, and valuable property in the village of Windsor. Our subject's father was John C. Jones, who was born in Jefferson County, Ohio. His mother's maiden name was Isabella Williams, a native of Washington County, Pa., and was born near Brownsville. She died in Stark County, Ill., when about sixty-three years of

age. Her husband passed away in Windsor, Ill., at the advanced age of eighty-five years. They were the parents of twelve children, seven sons and five daughters. Of these our subject was the second in order of birth.

The young men who have been taken into partnership with their father, have made homes for themselves. Wilbur H. has placed over his domestic life, Miss Mollie Moberly. They were married October 19, 1881, and have a pleasant home in the village. Jacob married Miss Caddie Russel, and makes a model husband. Our subject is a thorough business man, and his credit has never been impaired by carelessness or misjudgment. He has a good store with a carefully and well selected stock of goods. Their residence is a comfortable and commodious place, not too good for the enjoyment of everything in and around it, by the members of the family.



**P**HILIP A. MAUTZ. One of the German-American citizens in Tower Hill Township who emigrated to America that, under the star-spangled banner, he might reap the benefits to be derived from an unlimited freedom, is the gentleman who resides on the farm which he has made conspicuous for its nicety of cultivation, on section 6, of Tower Hill Township. On coming to the United States, he proceeded at once to Shelby County, this State, where he arrived October 13, 1856.

Philip Mautz is a son of George G. and Margaret C. (Anger) Mautz. Our subject was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, September 27, 1850. In 1856, the family emigrated to the United States and soon settled in Shelby County. They removed, however, to Ridge Township, where the father died June 8, 1856, at the age of forty years. The mother is still living and resides with our subject, having attained the threescore years and ten allotted in Scripture. She is the mother of eight children born, with the exception of one child, in the Fatherland. Of the eight children above mentioned, only three lived to years of maturity. They

are Elizabeth C., Barbara M. and our subject. Elizabeth is the wife of Jacob Galster, of Rural Township. Barbara married Jacob Doll, and resides in Tower Hill; our subject is the only living son. His education was acquired for the most part in the United States, having here attended the district schools. With his mother he removed to the place where they now live in September, 1866, at which time his mother purchased ninety-four acres of new prairie land, which our subject has improved and of which he has made a most desirable home. He also owns one hundred and sixty acres of land in Dallas County, Mo.

February 14, 1878, he of whom we write, invited to be mistress of his home Mary S. C. Luepke. She was a daughter of Charles and Dora Luepke. She was born in Prussia and came to the United States with her parents when but seven years old. Mr. and Mrs. Mautz are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Our subject gives special attention to the breeding of fine Clydesdale horses, and is the owner of the well known stallion, "Colonel Mills," No. 1057, also "Heirloom" No. 8691, registered in Vol. 13, of the Clydesdale Stud Book of Great Britain and Ireland, No. 6021 of the American Clydesdale Stud Book.



**R**EUBEN TERRY. Prominent in agricultural and church circles is the family represented by our subject, who resides on section 22, Okaw Township, Shelby County. He was born in Bourbon County, Ky., December 10, 1832, being a son of Reuben and Elizabeth (Dazey) Terry, who in 1833 when this son was in his early infancy came to Illinois and settled in Okaw Township.

Reuben Terry, Sr., made his first home in Illinois for a short time with his father-in-law Lemuel Dazey and somewhat later made a settlement on the section which is now the family home, and where he resided until his death which occurred April 2, 1881. He was bereaved of his beloved and faithful companion September 5, 1851. She had been the mother of eleven children, two of whom died

in infancy and nine grew to the age of maturity. They were as follows: Mary, now Mrs. Allen Francisco, of Okaw Township; John, who died in Mississippi while traveling for his health; Sarah, who married Alfred Doddy and died in Okaw Township; Vincent, deceased; Reuben, our subject; Lemuel, deceased; Elizabeth, the wife of John A. Fearman; William, who died at the age of sixteen years and George, who lives in Shelbyville. Their mother was an earnest member of the Christian Church and gave to all her children a thorough training in the doctrines and duties of religion.

Our subject, who is the oldest of the living members of his father's family, was reared upon the farm and attended the pioneer schools which were held in the old log cabins, ventilated by large fire places and furnished with rough hewn seats and benches. In August, 1854, he was married to Martha E. Shanks, daughter of John K. and Mildred (Johnson) Shanks. This lady was born in Okaw Township, May 25, 1837, and was of Southern parentage, her father being a native of Delaware and her mother of Virginia.

Mr. and Mrs. Shanks were married in Kentucky in 1831, and came to Illinois about 1835. In early life he had been a shoemaker, but after coming to Okaw Township, he pursued farming as his life work. He was called from earth, July 20, 1855, but his bereaved widow survived until the fall of 1877. Of their six children, Mary Ann married Jacob Jackson and died near Jefferson City, Mo., while removing to Kansas. Elizabeth J. married Smith R. Chapman and resides in Okaw Township. Martha E. is the wife of Mr. Terry. John E. resides in Okaw Township; Lucy C. married D. D. Anders and has been for many years a widow of the Civil War, resident in Shelbyville; David H., who was a member of the Seventh Illinois Cavalry was killed near Nashville, December 15, 1864.

After marriage Mr. Terry purchased forty acres of fine land from his father, upon which he began the independent life of a farmer which he has pursued to the present day. He now owns one hundred and forty acres, on which he has erected good buildings. He and his worthy wife have reared a family of five children: Mary E., wife of Lawson

Hendricks; John W., George R., Ella A., wife of William Price; Sue J., wife of J. B. Warthman. During the war Mr. Terry was a Union man and in 1860 he cast his ballot for Stephen A. Douglas. He is now independent in his political views and has served as Supervisor, Justice of the Peace and Road Commissioner. With his excellent wife he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**C**HARLES SHUMAN, Sullivan, Moultrie County, is happy in having among its list of citizens a number of men who are deeply interested in educational affairs, and sufficiently capable of being intelligent guides of its public schools. Among such we count Mr. Shuman, a practical and successful farmer living in Sullivan, and managing a farm upon sections 7 and 18, East Nelson Township. He there has a splendid property of four hundred and forty-two acres, which is well stocked, and most of it handsomely improved. He is a thrifty and practical farmer and stock-raiser and handles fine breeds of stock.

Besides his agricultural pursuits he has been for some five years associated with the Sullivan *Progress* as he removed to Sullivan from East Nelson Township several years ago. He was elected in 1882 by the Democracy of the county to the office of County Clerk, which position he filled with much satisfaction for eight years, his second term closing in 1890. For a number of years he was a member of the Board of Supervisors while living in East Nelson, and has been in the county since 1861. He was educated for a teacher at Lebanon, Ill., where he was graduated at McKendree College in the Class of '72, and afterward taught in St. Clair County for some four winters. He had been a student in the city schools of Shelbyville before entering college. He began to teach in the public schools in 1872, and then engaged in farming for a number of years. Mr. Shuman was born in Philadelphia, Pa., February 21, 1843, his father, Charles G. Shuman, having come to the United States from Germany when a young man, and having learned there the trade of a shoemaker. In that city he

married his wife, Mary Eberhart, who was also a native of Germany, and who had come to this country when young. After the birth of two children this worthy couple removed to Louisville, Ky., and there the father started a shop and conducted a prosperous business until 1847, when he removed with his wife and family to Edgar County, Ill., and there built up a trade at Dudley. In that village Charles G. Shuman passed away in 1877, having reached the limits of three-score years and ten. He was a Lutheran in religion and a Democrat in politics. In his religious principles his wife sympathized most cordially, and she is still connected with the Lutheran Church, and is living in Edgar County, at a ripe old age.

Five sons and two daughters of this family are now living and are self-sustaining. He of whom we write was married in East Nelson Township, to Miss Mary McPheeters, who was born in Fayette County, Ky., January 25, 1848. She is a daughter of Maj. Addison McPheeters, for whose fuller history our reader is referred to the biography of Mr. A. W. McPheeters. Mrs. Shuman was quite young when her parents came to Illinois, and here she received her education and made her home until marriage. She is now the mother of four children, all of whom are still under the parental roof except one son, who has passed to the better world. Those who are at home are Bertha, Bliss and Irving. Mrs. Shuman is an earnest and active member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, where the entire family attend service. Mr. Shuman is prominently identified with the Blue Lodge of Masons, No. 764 of Sullivan, and is at present the Treasurer of the lodge. He is a great lover of education and one of the most useful members of the School Board.



**G**EORGE A. DURKEE. The original of our sketch is a worthy representative of an old and well-known family of the New England States. From them he has inherited a strong mentality, which has been intelligently directed and he is now recognized as being one of the intellectual, broad thinking men of this section.

His superior mental caliber is recognized by his townsmen, and he has been appointed to some positions of honor and trust. Several times he has been sent as a Republican delegate to the State Conventions and is the proud possessor of a souvenir of one of these missions, in the shape of a gavel made out of a rail which Abraham Lincoln hewed out with his own hands. This he received as Chairman of the County Central Committee.

George A. Durkee is a grandson of Dr. John Durkee, a native of Vermont, who came of American parentage, although very likely of French extraction. He studied to become a physician and followed his profession for many years, although he was at the same time proprietor of a large farm which he continued to manage until the end of his life.

He married his wife in Vermont. The lady's maiden name was Corinna Winters. She was born and reared in the Green Mountain State, and after the birth of their first son, David, who was the father of our subject, Dr. Durkee and wife removed to the Genesee Valley, New York, when that section was new. After ten or twelve years, the family continued Westward and settled in Indiana, in the same year in which the State was admitted to the Union, 1816. They settled in Vigo County, near Terre Haute. The country was quite wild at the time. They had proceeded thither down the Ohio and up the Wabash Rivers, in an old style keel boat. The State was just beginning to be settled when they came. They procured a tract of Government land upon which they began to make a home. It was there that David F. was married to Freelove Frink, about 1820. The lady was born and reared in New York, and was a young woman when she came West with some of her neighbors.

After the marriage of David F. and his young wife, they began life as farmers near Terre Haute, and there our subject was born April 1, 1823. In the spring of 1825, David F., wife and children moved to Tippecanoe County, Ind., and there secured a tract of Government land, upon which they made many improvements, and they secured a comfortable home. Dr. John Durkee and wife had also gone to that country, and there they

died, the Doctor aged sixty-three. His wife survived him for some years and passed away at four-score years. They were members and adherents of the Presbyterian Church and were well known and highly respected pioneers of Indiana.

In 1848, David F. Durkee, wife and children, emigrated to this State, making the journey by the overland route and bringing their worldly possessions with them by teams. They made a settlement on good land in Pickaway Township, Shelby County, and here they made a home and some progress toward improving the farm. They later retired to Shelbyville, and there David F. died December 28, 1871, being then seventy years of age. His wife died at the home of her daughter in Wells County, this State in 1881. She was born in 1798, and was a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Durkee was an old line Whig in politics and an active local politician, though not an office seeker.

Our subject is the eldest of a family of eight children, three of whom are yet living. A brother James is a banker in Eureka, Kan., and a sister, who is now Mrs. William Tackit, of whom a biographical sketch may be found in another part of this volume. He of whom we write became of age in Tippecanoe County. He remained with his father until his marriage, working in his mill and factory. He married Miss Salome Ellis, their nuptials being celebrated March 5, 1846. The lady was born in Ohio, near Dayton, August 7, 1826. She was quite young when her parents, James P. and Elizabeth (Swyhart) Ellis made a settlement in Tippecanoe County, Ind. There her mother died in middle life. Later Mr. Ellis removed to Illinois, and died at the age of eighty years, in Iroquois County. He and his wife were pioneers in Indiana. Mr. Ellis was brought up under the Quaker persuasion, but in later years neglected to follow the customs of that church. Mrs. Durkee was one of a large family, being chiefly reared in Tippecanoe County. For many years she has been a true and loving wife to her husband, ever studying his interests, and presiding over his home with grace and dignity. She has been his intelligent helpmate in securing and improving the three hundred and forty acres, which their fine farm

comprises. Our subject secured his first one hundred and sixty acres of land from the Government. He has improved the whole of what he now owns.

Mrs. Durkee has presented her husband with six children, two of whom were taken away while babes. The living children are Walter B., Fannie, James Edward, besides one daughter who died in 1881. Walter took to wife Bell Kelley, and is a farmer in Holland Township. Fannie is the wife of Albert White and lives in Shelbyville. James Edward lives on a farm in this township and made Jennie French, his wife. The daughter who died was the wife of S. A. Martin, and passed away in her thirty-first year. Mr. and Mrs. Durkee are kind and hospitable people and have a host of friends in this county. Mr. Durkee is one of the leading Republicans of the country, but not an office seeker. He is an ex-President of the Agricultural Society of the county, having occupied this position for a great many years. He has been Vice President and Director from the second year of its organization.



**E**DWARD LEWIS SHEPHERD is a resident of Sullivan, Moultrie County, being for many years a merchant and saloonist on Main Street. He came here first in 1861, and began first as a restaurant keeper, merging this establishment finally into a general store until 1871, when he opened a bar on the west side of the square where he has been engaged for several years. He has been a very careful man in his business. He allows no game of chance to go on within the walls of his house, and no loafing or carousing and keeps strictly within the bounds of the law.

Mr. Shepherd was born in Scott County, Ky., August 11, 1832. His father, William Shepherd, was a native of Virginia, and the grandfather a Frenchman, who died in the Old Dominion. In that State William Shepherd grew to manhood and took part as a private soldier in the War of 1812. After seeing much hard fighting in that conflict, he

came to Woodford County, Ky., and was there united in marriage with Evaline Ball, a native of Virginia, who came to Kentucky before her marriage. William Shepherd and his wife lived in Kentucky until their children had all grown to maturity, and in 1851 they came as a family to Sullivan, and here the father died March 15, 1871, having reached the age of seventy-six years. His wife survived him, but passed away April 29, 1875. They were members of the Christian Church, and in politics Mr. William Shepherd was formerly a Whig, and later a Democrat.

Our subject was the third child and second son in a family of five children. The two daughters are deceased, viz: Ann, formerly the wife of S. P. Alexander; and Belle who passed away in infancy; John B. took to wife Sarah Haydon, and now lives in Texarkana, Ark.; and M. T., a banker who resides in Lovington, this county. His wife bore the maiden name of Jenny Mullikin. Our subject was married in Franklin County, Ky., to Miss Ann M. Hawkins, who was born in Kentucky in 1842, on June 30, and died in Sullivan, December 16, 1889, her death being caused by a cancer. She was a woman of kindly impulses and had a host of friends among the good women of Sullivan, and was an earnest member of the Baptist Church. She was the mother of one child, Laura B., who died in early childhood, in 1864. Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd have been foster parents to two children, Maggie, who is now married to Walter Craig and lives in Sullivan, and Etta, the wife of George B. Bohling, who is a jeweler in Versailles, Morgan County, Mo.



**J** M. HOUSH, living on a beautiful farm of one hundred six acres on section 1, Flat Branch Township, Shelby County, is one of the thrifty and prominent general farmers and breeders of stock of this township. The property of which he is the happy possessor, was accumulated by his own efforts and industry. He has greatly beautified the place by keeping it in perfect order and erecting thereon an attractive home and a fine and modernly constructed barn,

with other outbuildings that bespeak the care and attention bestowed by the owner.

Our subject began his successful financial career in 1871, since which time he has accomplished all that so evidently marks him to be a man with practical ideas of agriculture. He has not only improved his place and erected the buildings thereon, but has also freed it from debt and stocked it with fine grades of horses, sheep, swine and cattle. Yet young, his energy and ambition destine him to be a rich man and a prominent figure in his community.

The original of our sketch has spent his entire life in this county, with the exception of four years during which he was in the Golden State, and on the shores of the Pacific Ocean. He was not, however, engaged there as a miner, although he was an eager searcher for the precious metal bearing the Government stamp, and this he acquired by honest labor, being variously engaged, but spending the greater part of his time in teaming, which commanded at that time, the best prices. He went West in the fall of 1869, and returned four years later; his journey out was made by the overland route, and while the privations and discomfort of traveling in that way, were many, it offered unsurpassed opportunity of seeing the country and observing its various features.

Mr. Housh was born May 25, 1849, on the farm which he now owns, and near where his own house now stands. As he grew up he early learned the necessity of hard labor, and realized the truth in the expression, the "survival of the fittest" and thus determined to show himself as strong as any in the struggle for a livelihood. As soon as he developed into manhood he began to better his condition. He is the second son of John and Elizabeth (Armstrong) Housh, the former having died near Hastings, Neb., in 1888, at the age of seventy-four years. He was a native of Virginia, and came to Illinois while young, being then a single man. He first located in Shelby County, and was one of the early settlers in Flat Branch Township, helping with the general improvements at the same time, making a good farm and home for himself, and was fairly successful in his career. His wife was a native of this State, having been born

in Madison County, although reared from childhood in Shelby County, near Pickaway Township. She is yet living and owns a neat little farm of her own on section 1, Flat Branch Township, and at the age of sixty-seven, her faculties are undimmed, and she is as bright and energetic as ever. She is now recognized as the oldest settler of Pickaway Township now living. She has a large circle of friends who are the comfort and pleasure she promises her declining years. For many years she has been a prominent member of the Old School Baptist Church.

Our subject was married in 1874 to Miss Rebecca Lord, who was born in Macon County, Ill., in 1857. There she was reared to womanhood. She was a daughter of Andrew and Mary Lord, both still living and prominent farmers of Macon County. Of the seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Housh, one, the first born, died young. The little one had been christened Nora N. The living children are: Lottie N., Gid., Nellie, Earl, Luella and Jessie. All of the children live at home, and are at the same time the joy and care of their devoted parents.



**J**A. LINVILL. In these days of evolution in every branch of industry it seems that every man who has any originality is in himself a centrifugal force, attracting to himself new ideas and methods that go to make the system of his small work and interests complete. While we know more of the world at large than ever before, in our specialties we are all specialists and egotists. Mr. Linvill, who devotes himself to the work of preparing flour for the use and consumption of mankind, is a specialist in his branch and bends every energy and power to bringing to his work all improvements and advantages that can give him the best results. He is the proprietor of the New Era Roller Process Mills, in Windsor, this State, and under his able management the mills turn out an immense quantity of the farinaceous product.

He of whom we write was born in Fayette County, Ind. March 17, 1837. He was reared on a farm until

he attained his nineteenth year; at that time he made his first journey out into the world and went into the eastern part of Kansas where he took up some land claims and dealt in stock to some extent. The young man remained in the then perfectly new state for two years, during which he had many exciting and strange adventures. However, at the end of that time he came to Moultrie County, this State, and purchased a farm in Whitley Township, where he settled and remained for six or seven months, being there engaged in farming. He came from this farm to Windsor and engaged in the drug business with Dr. C. H. Brunk, the firm name under which they conducted their business, being Brunk & Linvill. They continued this partnership for a period of about ten or twelve years, and then our subject sold out his interest and confined his attention to the operating of his farm and dealing in stock. He bought the flouring mill of which he is proprietor in May, 1890. It has a capacity for turning out fifty barrels of flour daily.

The original of our sketch while in Moultrie County, took upon himself the duties and obligations of marital life. In October 30, 1860, he was married to Miss Mary J. Reed, who was born in Shelby County, Ill. Three bright children have come to gladden their home and brighten, by their intelligence and beautiful merriment, the daily lives of our subject and his amiable wife. Their names are Elizabeth J., John F. and Mary B. Mrs. Linvill is a charming, matronly little woman and is devoted to her children, although one of the favorites in Windsor society, her home is the first and most important object in her estimation.

Our subject owns three hundred and forty-six acres of land which is located partially in Shelby County and partially in Moultrie County. This is well cultivated and highly productive and yields a handsome income to its owner. Mr. Linvill is a member of the Democratic party. He was elected under his party as first Collector of Whitley Township, which was also the first Township Collector in that county. Both our subject and his wife are members and attendants of the Christian Church of which Mr. Linvill is Deacon.

The parents of him of whom we write were John and Elizabeth (Donelson) Linvill. The former was

probably a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Virginia. They were, however, both reared in Kentucky, near Lexington, where they were married and first settled. From there they removed to Fayette County, Ind., where they spent the remainder of their lives. Our subject's father was at one time a Methodist preacher but about 1843 he espoused the doctrines of the Christian Church, and died in that faith. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom our subject was the tenth.

Mr. Linvill is a public spirited man, whose generous impulses are governed by a firm and steady intelligence. He and his wife are associated with the best people of the place.



**T**HOMAS T. TOWNLEY. Men of strict integrity, whose lives are governed by prudence and principle, are the real backbone of any community. The reliance which their fellow-men are able to place upon them strengthens every commercial transaction and reinforces that confidence in human nature which is the prime essential in all dealings between man and man. This necessary help in the upbuilding of a community is given by such men as Mr. Townley, an old settler of East Nelson Township, whose active life has brought him into relations with many of the men in Moultrie County, and whose public-spirited course has ever commended him to those who have had dealings with him.

Our subject is of English parentage, his father, William, having been born in Manchester and his mother, Sarah (Acton) Townley, being also a native of England. They were married August 3, 1815. They were both born in Manchester. This worthy and intelligent family came to America about the year 1827, although the father had come to this country one year previous. He was a machinist and found employment in the manufacture of cotton thread at Manayunk, and located his family in that city some eight miles from the city of Philadelphia. He remained there for about eight years, after which he took charge of a machine shop on Brandywine Creek for about

a year and later of another shop on the Schuylkill River. His work while in the vicinity of Philadelphia was in the line of making machinery for these different factories. He had built a factory in England, on German Street, Manchester, for a man named Duck.

About the year 1837, one year after the close of the Black Hawk War, the father of our subject came to Illinois and secured one hundred and sixty acres of fine land in Shelby County and in the fall of that year he brought his family on from the East and settled down upon his land and devoted himself entirely to agricultural pursuits. Afterward he added to it by purchase till he had six hundred acres. Both he and his good wife finally passed away in Shelby County. She died April 12, 1853, and he May 28, 1860. They had six living children, of whom Thomas T. was the eldest.

Manchester, England, Thomas Street, was the native home of Thomas Townley, and July 23, 1810, was the date of his birth. He came to America with his father's family, and remaining with them, did not come West until the fall of 1837. His marriage took place June 12, 1839, in what is now Hickory Township, and his bride, who was known in her maidenhood as Emily D. Apple, was born in Philadelphia. They settled in Whitley Township and there established a happy home. This wife became the mother of two children, who lived to years of maturity, namely: Thomas W. and Francis, but she herself passed away, leaving her husband and children to mourn her loss. Her death occurred February 26, 1850.

The second marriage of Mr. Townley took place March 11, 1851, in Edgar County, Ill., and he was then united with a lady of unusual amiability and character, who was known in her maidenhood as Mary Barnes and was born in Ohio February 5, 1828. She brought to the arduous and onerous duties of her position all the powers of her fine character and warm-hearted devotion, and was successful in the training, not only of her three children—George, Lucy and Josie—but of the two whom she found in her husband's home.

When Mr. Townley removed from Whitley Township he came to East Nelson Township and

settled upon section 35, where he has since been a resident. Upon his splendid farm of five hundred acres he has erected good buildings, which are an ornament to the township. In his incumbency of the office of Highway Commissioner he has greatly benefited the traveling community. He has a good blacksmith shop upon his farm, which he uses to advantage, as he has worked at that business for some thirty years, in connection with his farm.



**R**EV. NATHANIEL CORLEY, is an old settler and prominent farmer of Pickaway Township, who has ever been known for his good words and works among the people. He is a resident on section 34, where he has one hundred and sixty acres, less one acre given by him for the use of the Separate Baptist Church. He procured this land from the Government in 1817, and has ever since owned the place and has put it in its present well cultivated and productive condition. It is a well cared for place, every particular being kept up in the best of order. He secured the land on a land warrant issued to him by the Government for services rendered in the Mexican War, in which he had enlisted when nineteen years of age, in the year 1846, joining the Third Illinois Regiment, Col. Forman and Capt. Freeman, of Company B, commanding.

Mr. Corley went with his regiment to Mexico as Sergeant and after serving for about seven months was discharged on account of disability, having contracted illness during his service. He was in no active engagements, but saw much of the treachery and vindictiveness of the Mexicans. On his return home, and when he recovered his health he located his warrant on the land which he now owns and has ever since made it his home, his grant being admitted during President Polk's administration.

Our subject was born on Robinson Creek, Ridge Township, this county, June 13, 1827. His father was Bryant Corley, a native of Virginia, and of Scotch-Irish parentage and ancestry. He

was only two years old when his parents, Jonathan C. and Delilah (Smith) Corley came to Kentucky, and eighteen years of age when his parents and family proceeded to Illinois and made settlement on Robinson Creek. There they began life in the early '20s and were the first pioneers of the county and for many years were in a sparsely settled country. At the time of their advent here, the Indians were their most frequent visitors and wild game was to be procured in abundance. Jonathan C. and his wife after some years improved a farm in Cold Spring Township, this county, and there died, Mr. Corley being a victim to paralysis and passing away at the age of seventy-eight, October 3, 1861. He had been a very strong and rugged man, and was noted for his wonderful strength and enduring capacity. His wife was, at the time of her death in 1818, three-score and ten years of age. They belonged to the Methodist Church, when the primitive followers of Wesley believed it wrong to wear a ribbon or flower, or to beautify in any way, the exterior person.

Bryant Corley was one of quite a large family, the children being thirteen in number. All lived to be married and have families, but at the present time only six of the family survive, and they are all quite advanced in years. Bryant Corley, soon after reaching manhood, married Elizabeth Lee, a native of Kentucky, and a daughter of John and Sarah (Hill) Lee, both natives of this country, but of German ancestry. The lady's family came to Illinois in 1818, and settled on Robinson Creek, Shelby County, a short time later, and like the Robinsons and Corleys, were among the earliest settlers in the county, and there John Lee and his wife spent the remainder of their lives, with the exception of the last few months, which they passed in Texas, where they died. Mr. Lee had served for three months in the War of 1812.

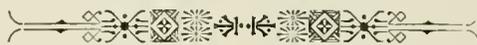
After the marriage of our subject's parents they purchased a raw prairie farm and there lived for some time. Later they secured another farm, and improved it afterward moving to Rose Township, where they settled in a comfortable home, and there died. The father passed away January 13, 1874. He was born December 8, 1805. His wife died some years later at the home of her son, our

subject, her decease occurring March 3, 1881. She and her husband were four years identified with the Methodist Church.

Our subject was the first born of ten children, six sons and four daughters. Four of the children are yet living, two sons and two daughters, and all are married. Our subject acquired his education in the primitive log school house, but is an intelligent and well informed man. He was married in Ridge Township, this county, in 1847, to Miss Chloe Casey. She was born and reared on the farm in Ridge Township, where she celebrated her marriage and was the youngest daughter, of Levi Casey, a well-known pioneer and frontiersman of this county, where he lived and died. Mrs. Corley was well reared by good parents. She is the sister of Judge John Casey, a prominent man in his county and State in the early days. Mrs. Corley was an earnest Christian and a kind neighbor and loving wife. She died at her home in this township April 19, 1862. She was a member of the United Brethren Church. She bore her husband two children, namely: Levi B. and Bryant. The former took as wife Catherine Mattox. They live on the farm owned by our subject and operate the same. Bryant took as wife Nancy Brinker. They also live on the home farm. The old house is full of the merry voices of children who make the rooms re-echo with their gay laughter and merry play. Levi has four children who are Addie, the wife of Rich R. Bryant, who resides in Cold Spring Township, this county, Chloe, Mary J. and Emma M. Bryant's children are Mary F., Naomi, Lydia E., Nelson O., Ettir M. and Edith N.

After the death of his first wife, our subject was a second time married to Miss Rebecca R. Whitten. Their marriage was solemnized January 15, 1863. The lady was born in Kentucky, October 23, 1828, and is a daughter of Josiah and Sarah (Rector) Whitten, natives of South Carolina and Virginia, respectively, although married in Tennessee, and after a short residence in Kentucky emigrating to Illinois in 1846, where they settled in Montgomery County, and here lived, passing away at the ages of ninety-four and eighty-two, respectively. They were farmers and members of the Baptist Church. Mrs. Corley was twenty years old when

her parents came to Illinois, and she lived in Montgomery County until her marriage. Both she and her husband are active members of the Baptist Church in which body Mr. Corley has been ordained a preacher and in which capacity he has served for twenty-four years, his ordination taking place in the month when he was forty years old. The Elders officiating were Revs. Willis Whitfield, Francis and Randolph, George W. Carter and John Turner. He has been in active service in the church ever since, until within four years. During that time he has done much traveling through the State and has been a faithful and devoted worker.



**J**OHN W. HOMRIGHOUS. The original of this sketch is a farmer residing on section 30, of Prairie Township. He settled in Shelby County in the fall of 1860, and is now numbered among the large and prominent agriculturists of Shelby County. He was born in Fairfield County, June 15, 1834, and is a son of John and Magdeleine (Wagner) Homrighous, for whose further biography see sketch of Ervin Homrighous. Our subject was educated in the common schools of the district in which he lived. When a boy he worked with his father, who was a cabinet maker, and thus learned the use of tools, and to handle them with delicate nicety. At the age of seventeen he worked on the farm owned by his father, residing at home meantime.

December 31, 1857, our subject was married to Mary Ann Reber, a daughter of Thomas Reber and Rachael (Allen) Reber, for whose further history see sketch of John Reber. Mrs. Homrighous was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, February 7, 1836. In 1860, our subject and family removed to Shelby County, and in the spring of 1861 settled on the farm where he now resides, having purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land which at the time bore but little improvement. He has since pursued farming and has become the owner of nine hundred and sixty acres of land, eighty acres of which he has given his son,

Our subject and his wife are the parents of eight children. They are Charles, Rachel, Reber, Jennie, Carrie, Hattie, Lucy and Clay. Of these the eldest daughter is the wife of Doris Miller. Jennie is the wife of Robert Cecil.

Our subject formerly was an advocate of Democratic policy and principles, but he has now transferred his allegiance to the independent party. He has been the incumbent of several offices in the township, having been Supervisor, Road Commissioner and Township Treasurer. Mr. and Mrs. Homrighous are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which our subject has been Class-Leader for a long time. He of whom we write is a member of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. His pecuniary success has been attained largely by dealing in stock and also in raising the same. He is a breeder of Norman horses, finding a ready market for the same in the metropolitan cities. He also has a large number of Short-horn cattle of the finest breeding. The family residence is a brick house, commodious and comfortable, and bearing evidence of taste and culture in its external appearance and inner arrangement. Mrs. Homrighous is a lady of unusual attainments, and is the personification of amiability and kind-heartedness. Many valuable improvements have been made on the place.



**J**AMES H. JONES. It has often been observed that while our foreign-born residents do not always readily accommodate themselves to the genius of our country, that their descendants in the immediately following generation possess peculiar qualities of intellect and executive ability, which bring them into prominent places in our American civilization. It seems that the vigor acquired during many generations of quiet, settled life in the Old World, stimulated by the unprecedented activity of the American atmosphere and institutions, produced most valuable results. The subject of our sketch, who resides in Lowe Township, Moultrie County, has this peculiar

advantage, as his father, William Jones, was a native of Wales, while he was born and reared in this country.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Martha Keyes and was a native of Virginia, although she was living in Highland County, Ohio, when she met and married William Jones. They spent together more than a golden half-century in wedded life, most of this time being passed in Fairfield County, whence they removed in their later years to Attiea, Seneca County, Ohio. Eleven children blessed this happy union, five sons and six daughters, and our subject was the youngest son and ninth child, being born in Madison Township, Fairfield County, Ohio, December 5, 1836.

James H. Jones spent his early years much after the fashion of that day with farmer boys and received the best education which the advantages of the neighborhood afforded. His father owned and managed a small farm, although he was also a Presbyterian minister. His son grew to manhood in Fairfield County and remained there until the fall of 1856, when he decided to seek the Prairie State and came to Coles County, where he resided about a year and then returned to his old home in Ohio. One year later he returned to Coles County and was living there when the war broke out, and with him as with thousands of young men, this important epoch in our country's history changed the whole current of his life.

It seemed the most natural thing in the world to this young man, who had thoroughly enjoyed the blessings of freedom and who had been trained in a patriotic love for his country's flag and honor, that he should spring to defend that flag when rebellious hands had trailed it in the dust, and in August, 1862, he enlisted in Company A, Eighty-eighth Illinois Infantry, and served until June 9, 1865, when he was mustered out of the service. His record in the army is one of participation in numerous conflicts and weary marches and he saw the smoke of battle at Perryville, Ky., Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Rocky Face Ridge, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek and at Atlanta, besides others of less note. His army experience is a part of his life of which he has just reason to be proud and he cherishes the memory of

those days with ardor and enthusiasm. He is prominently identified with Post No. 194, G. A. R., at Arthur.

When "the piping times of peace" returned this young man came again to Coles County and resided there for some two years, but in the spring of 1868 removed to Moultrie County and made his home on section 5, Lowe Township, where he has since been so useful and prominent a citizen. He had learned the carpenter's trade in Ohio when a young man and followed it in connection with farming for some time after coming to Moultrie County. Of late years he has given up his trade and devoted his attention entirely to farming, having the management of his farm, a tract of eighty acres.

Previous to the war Mr. Jones had been married to Miss Mary Ann Miller, who was born near Columbus, Ohio, January 27, 1842. Their wedding occurred in Moultrie County, May 9, 1859, and to them were granted eight children. Their first-born, who bore the name of the martyred President, Lincoln, died in infancy and the following remained to them: Charles W., John N., Lucy C., James E., Sherman, Frank and Ida M. The mother of these sons and daughters died in Lowe Township, February 7, 1880.

The present Mrs. Jones, who is an earnest and active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a woman of sterling character and high intelligence, became the wife of our subject in Moultrie County, June 15, 1881, being at the time of her marriage to this gentleman the widow of Mr. John Rigg. Her maiden name was Diantha Brabham, being a daughter of John P. Brabham, whose biographical sketch will be found elsewhere in this Record. By her first marriage she became the mother of four children: Vesta J., Norton M., Arthur and one who died in infancy. She was born in Washington County, Ohio, March 13, 1842, and has made her home through life in Ohio and Illinois.

The high intelligence and genuine interest which Mr. Jones takes in matters of public importance have secured to him the confidence and esteem of the residents of this township and he has occupied the position of Supervisor of Lowe Township, first

by appointment and afterward by election, for more than two terms. He has also served two terms as Township Assessor, and his twelve years of service as Highway Commissioner and School Director have been years of progress in the direction of education and convenience to the traveling public. He is well read on political themes and takes his stand with the Republican party, being active in its support and having great faith in its possibilities.



CECIL J. RAWLINGS is a general farmer and the owner of a fine tract of land comprising one hundred acres on section 27, of Pickaway Township, Shelby County. His place is highly improved and every aid that science has brought to bear upon agriculture, has been made to favor the improvement of his property. He has erected a good class of buildings upon his place, the most important and central being his residence, which is attractive from without and comfortable and convenient within. Prior to his becoming proprietor of this farm he was engaged in farming in this county, in which work he has been devoted since his majority.

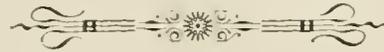
Our subject came to Pickaway Township with his parents in 1865. His advent here was made from Maryland, where he was born in Cecil County March 11, 1853. His father was John Rawlings, a native of Maryland, who came of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and a cousin on the maternal side, to George B. McClellan, his mother having been an aunt to the honorable gentleman. John Rawlings lost his father when very young and was reared by his mother until he became of age. About that time he learned the wagon-maker's trade, but as the work did not agree with him physically he left it to become clerk in a store, in which position he continued for a time, after which he went to Guernsey County, Ohio. He there lived until 1865 when he removed with his family to this State, purchasing a large farm in Ridge Township upon which he made some improvements. Later, in 1883, he came to Pickaway Township and secured one

hundred and sixty acres on section 34, and there made valuable improvements, purchasing other land and owning in this county not far from seven hundred acres. He made and improved his property entirely by his own efforts, being a practical and thrifty farmer, and was so fortunate as to make the proper investments such a time as to return large profits to himself. He died at his home in this township, September 29, 1887, being then past sixty-nine years of age.

Our subject is the eldest of six children yet living—two children having passed away. He of whom we write acquired a practical education in the common schools of the district. He had the advantages of a beautiful home life and an example in both parents of uprightness, honor and integrity, and an ideal being constantly before him of gentleness and patience, which are the leading characteristics that the sect to which his father belonged endeavor to cultivate. He became of age in Ridge Township, and there married his wife, in April, 1878. Her maiden name was Amelia T. Robinson. She was born in Kentucky, February 8, 1856. She came to this State and located in Shelby County, when but a girl, in 1867, coming hither with her parents, James J. and Margaret (Gaines) Robinson, who are now successful farmers in Todd Point Township, this county. Mrs. Rawlings is of good family having been reared most tenderly. She has taken advantage of every opportunity to add to her native attractions by making the most of all educational opportunities, and is the possessor of many accomplishments. For some seven years before her marriage she was engaged as a teacher, and as teachers generally do, she makes a delightful home for her husband.

Mrs. Rawlings is the mother of five children. Two of these are deceased, namely: Mabel M. who was ten years of age at the time of her death, and Loren who was but five months old when called away. The living children are Adrian C., Zena B. and Ethel S. Our subject is a member of the Presbyterian Church. His wife belongs to the Christian Church, and although by force of habit and education they go their different ways in church matters, they are one in their Christian life, striving to do unto others as they would be done by. As

was his father before him, Mr. Rawlings is a Democrat, believing those principles to be the ones most favoring freedom in the sense that as a Republic, we desire.



**A**LLEN CLORE. A man who has taken an active part in the upbuilding of his township and has given to it an example in the way of patient industry, speculative investigation, and great attention to the minutia of agricultural work, Mr. Clore, of whom here we shall attempt to give a sketch, has well earned the rest from active labor that he now enjoys. He now from the richness of his own experience, can advise and instruct the young men who are coming up and following in his footsteps, and while they, in the light of new and practical sciences applied to the common act of farming, can give him many new lines of thought, he, in return can pass opinion upon the feasibility of their investigations in the light of actual experience.

Mr. Clore is one of the oldest settlers in Moultrie County, and his friends hope for him still many years of agreeable existence, and as he belongs to a long lived family, doubtless their wish will be gratified. His parents were Benjamin and Ann (Christopher) Clore, both of whom were natives of Virginia. There they were married and removed to Kentucky at a very early day, settling in what was then Jefferson County, but since divided, and that part of the county in which they lived is now called Oldham County. There both parents died, the father being ninety-four years of age, and the mother about eighty. They had eleven children, all of whom lived to be grown. Our subject was one of the youngest members of the flock and he was born in what is now Oldham County, Ky. November 27, 1810, so that the patriarchal snows may now be seen upon his reverend and venerable head.

Our subject was reared on a farm in his native county and there he grew to manhood and continued to live until he came to this county and

State in 1833, and settled on section 28, of Lovington Township, a short distance west from where the village of Lovington now stands, and covering a portion of the present site of the town, he having sold four acres of his farm for the use of the village. Thus he has lived to see spring up around him, families and children's families, with the newcomers that are inevitably attracted to a place with a vigorous growth, and one having such local advantages as has Lovington.

Just previous to coming to this State, the original of our sketch was married in Oldham County, Ky., July 28, 1833, to one of the Kentucky women who are so notable for beauty and housewifely skill. The lady's name was Ann E. Hardin. Her parents were Jonathan and Lucy (Wilhoite) Harden. Their decease occurred in her native county and State and at an advanced age. Mrs. Clore's natal day was October 20, 1813. A little brood of children soon gathered around the family hearth and board. They were seven in number and were by name, Lucy A., John H., William S., Mary E., James W., Zachary T. and Susan E. The eldest daughter became the wife of Stanton Adkins, while the eldest son is engaged in farming in Missouri. William S. was a soldier in the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Regiment, and died at Pine Bluff, October 20, 1864, while in the discharge of his duty; Mary E. married Jacob Jones; James W. is a farmer in Moultrie County; Zachary T. resides in Lovington, and for a further history of his life see sketch in another part of this volume; Susan E. became the wife of Sissel Boggs, and died in Bement, Ill.; her death was the result of burns. While sweeping, her dress caught fire and, running across the street before help could be brought, she was so severely burned that she died from the effects, February, 1872.

Mrs. Ann E. Clore, our subject's wife died March 8, 1877. She was an admirable Christian character, performing her duties about the domestic realm so conscientiously and sweetly, never impatient or fretful, that her example in itself did much to convince a careless person of the beauty of Christian life. A tender, loving wife, a devoted mother and a good neighbor, her ear was ever ready and her heart sympathetic to the troubles or interests of others. She was a devoted member of the Christian

Church and had been so since fifteen years of age.

During the war, Mr. Clore was President of the Union League in Moultrie County, and he is proud of the fact that since the organization of the Republican party, he has been one of its most loyal and staunch supporters. In his church relation, he has been a member and communicant of the Christian Church since he was twenty-three years old. Personally, in his younger days our subject was a man of great physical strength, and of well proportioned, though Herculean mold. When but fourteen years of age he gathered twenty-two barrels of apples in a single day, jumping from the outreaching branches of one tree to those of another; the trunks of the trees were forty feet apart. When sixteen years old, he was able to stand in a half bushel basket and shoulder three bushels of wheat, and when thirteen years old he made a full hand in the harvest field for eleven days. In these days, few men outside of trained athletes, could perform such feats. Mr. Clore's experience has not been devoid of adventure and incident, although he has devoted his life to the peaceful pursuit of bucolic labor. The romance and tragedy, however, that is nearest and dearest to him, is not the subject for general reading, nor for prying eyes to look into. Every man has his secrets that go down into the grave with him, and that are only read in the bright white light of the other world.



**J**AMES W. SANDERS, M. D. The young physician whose early success it is our pleasure here to chronicle, is a native of this State, and as such he should receive the encouragement and recognition that his ability and standing in the profession merits. He was born in Pawnee, Sangamon County, this State, February 21, 1864, and up to the age of eighteen was reared on a farm. He early felt a sympathy with nature and the botany of the woods and meadows became familiar to him, and in his studies later his knowledge of simples was of great advantage to him. In selecting a field for the exercise of his professional skill, he felt that a young man could not find a

better location than the thriving young town of Windsor and here he settled, and is already highly regarded among the medical profession.

In his boyhood, our subject attended the common schools, pursuing his course there until eighteen years of age. He then entered the Normal school at Valparaiso where he remained about six months and then entered the Central Normal College at Danville, Ind., after which he returned home and engaged in teaching for one and a half years. It is said that a teacher always learns more than his best pupils and doubtless Dr. Sanders found the discipline to be of value and in teaching his pupils to be diligent in study and obedient, the lesson was impressed upon his own mind that self-control is of all qualities the most desirable to a professional man.

In the fall of 1886, the original of our sketch entered the Chicago Medical College, pursuing his course there with great credit to himself. His life also in the great metropolis, was an education to the young man in itself, and he found many opportunities of widening his intellectual horizon outside of lectures and clinics. He graduated in 1889 with much honor to himself and the piece of parchment that he at that time received, bearing the signature of some of the finest physicians in the West, who attested that his course had been pursued with credit to himself, is a precious testimonial to him of hours spent in preparing for the profession which was his choice. At once after graduating he began practice at Windsor, where he is so fortunate as already to have gained a fine patronage. He stands as one of the best physicians in the city.

We feel that too much credit cannot be accorded to the man or woman who has had the grit and stamina not only to be unabashed by the difficulties of a chosen course, but also to work their way, sweeping aside any obstacle that may intervene between them and their purpose. It redounds greatly to the credit of our subject, that at every spare moment and during vacations, he was working in order to gain a permanent foothold as a student, and this he accomplished by getting a position with the Chicago Hansom Cab Company. To him belongs the credit and honor of having organ-

ized the Chicago Medical Nurse Bureau, which is composed of senior students of the Chicago Medical College. This also was of great help to him in a financial way.

Our subject was married near Paris, Edgar County, this State, March 11, 1886, to Miss Ida M. Zink, who is a native of Edgar County, Ill. One little boy has come to brighten his parents' pathway, and is the pet and pride of both father and mother. Our subject's father was Robert E. Sanders, and his mother was Elizabeth (Bridges) Sanders. The latter passed away in 1865 in Pawnee Township, Sangamon County. The father still survives and is a resident of Pawnee Township.

Doubtless Dr. Sanders' success in Windsor, as a professional man, is owing, to a large extent, to the personal favor in which he is with the people. He is an energetic, ambitious man, and the progress of his profession will never leave him in the rear. He has a pleasant home, which is presided over by his estimable wife.



**O**LIVER L. KENDALL, who is connected with the farming interests of Todd's Point Township, is a veteran of the late war, in which, as a loyal and efficient soldier, he won a record of which he may well be proud. Tippecanoe County, Ind., is the place of his birth, and November 2, 1834, the date thereof. His father, Joseph Kendall, was born in Massachusetts, and went from there to Kentucky. He lived in the wilds of that State for some time, and then removed to Darke County, Ohio, whence he went in 1825 to Tippecanoe County, Ind., and was one of the first settlers of Tippecanoe Township. He bought a tract of Government land in that locality on the east bank of the Tippecanoe River, and in the log house that he built by the side of that stream his son, of whom we now write, was born. He split clapboards for the roof and puncheon for the floor, and made it, in fact, a typical pioneer dwelling. For some time the country roundabout was but sparsely settled, and deer roamed at will through the forests and across the

clearings that the pioneers had made. There were no railways, and for years Michigan City and Chicago were the nearest markets for grain.

The father cleared a part of his land, but his work of improvement was closed by his death in 1838. The maiden name of his second wife, mother of our subject, was Nancy Nunn, and she was a native of South Carolina. She married a second time, becoming the wife of Martin Hermann, and he died in 1886 in Tippecanoe County, at a venerable age.

Oliver Kendall attended the pioneer schools of Tippecanoe County, which were taught on the subscription plan, each family paying according to the number of scholars sent. The school-house was a primitive concern, built of logs, furnished with slab benches that were without backs or desks and were supported by wooden pins; and the school room was lighted by taking out a section of a log and placing greased paper over the hole thus made. Our subject resided with his mother until he was fifteen years old, and then began the struggle for an independent existence with no other capital than strong muscles, a stout heart, and willing hands. At first he worked out by the month for \$6 a month. He lived in Tippecanoe County until the fall of 1860, when he came to Illinois and rented a farm in Macon County, four miles south of Decatur.

The war broke out and found him busy managing his farming interests, which he abandoned in the fall of that year to defense of the Union. He became a member of the Seventh Illinois Cavalry and after a long term of service on many a hard-fought Southern battlefield, veteranized in March, 1864, and remained with his regiment until he and his comrades were honorably discharged in November, 1865. He took part in the battles of Farmington, Iuka, and Corinth, Miss.; in those fought at Somerville, Coffeeville, Plain Store, Colliersville, Byhalia and Moscow; encountered Forrest's forces at Memphis, Tenn., in May, 1864, and with his brave comrades assisted in driving him from the State. His regiment also did good work in an engagement with the enemy at Hart's Cross Road, Tenn., and December 13 and 14, 1864, bravely fought Hood's forces between Franklin and Colum-

bus, and gallantly captured the works on Brentwood's Hill. The Seventh Illinois Cavalry joined in pursuit of Hood's fleeing army, and drove the Confederates across the Tennessee River. The regiment remained in Tennessee during the winter, and then went to Mississippi and did garrison duty in that State and Alabama until its final discharge several months after the Rebellion was brought to a close, when its services were no longer needed by the Government. Our subject was commissioned by order of Gen. Rosecrans in 1864 as Second Lieutenant of Company I, Seventh Illinois Cavalry.

After leaving the army our subject returned Northward and resumed farming in Macon County. He resided there until 1889 when he rented the farm which he now occupies in Todd's Point Township. He is carrying on his agricultural operations skilfully, derives a good income in repayment for his industry, and has already attained an honorable place among our most practical farmers. He is greatly esteemed by his neighbors, and is known in social circles as a member of the Masonic fraternity, which joined in 1872; and for his connection with I. C. Pugh Post, No. 481, G. A. R.

Mr. Kendall was first married in 1855 to Miss Savilla Shaw, a native of Tippecanoe County, Ind., and a daughter of Alfred and Emillia Shaw. She died July 21, 1864. Her father was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, and after marriage removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind. He cleared a farm from the wilderness in Tippecanoe Township, and there death found him March, 1864. The maiden name of his wife was Emilla Marquess. She was born in Virginia, and was a daughter of Smith and Eve (Stingley) Marquess. Smith Marquess was one of the earliest settlers of Tippecanoe Township, where he cleared a farm, which remained his home until death ended his life. The mother of Mr. Kendall's first wife now resides on her farm in Iroquois County, Ill.

The second marriage of our subject was with Mrs. Jane Ward, and it was solemnized December 31, 1865. Mrs. Kendall was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, January 10, 1836. Her father, Thomas Morris, was also a native of the Buckeye State, and in early manhood was there married to

Miss Nancy Bevington, a native of Virginia, who went to Ohio with her parents when she was fourteen years old. Mr. Morris remained a resident of Pickaway County until 1839, and then with his wife and eight children, he started with a team on an overland journey to Illinois. After his arrival in this State he located in Macon County, being one of its pioneers. He entered a tract of Government land three miles south of Decatur, and resided on it for some years, giving his attention to its improvement. He then sold, and removing to Decatur invested quite largely in city property and was a resident of that place until his death. His wife died while they were living on the home farm in Macon County.

Mrs. Kendall was first married to Larkin Ward, a native of Macon County, and a son of William and Elizabeth (Wheeler) Ward. He died in 1864. Mrs. Kendall has three children living by that marriage.—Henry, Marion and Martha. Her eldest-born, Bettie, is dead. By her union with our subject Mrs. Kendall is the mother of four children.—Charlie, George, Albert and Nettie.



**G**EORGE W. WINN is a resident on a fine farm located on section 38, Lowe Township, and settled in the county of Shelby December 9, 1862. Our subject was born Feb. 2, 1833, in Muskingum County, Ohio and is a son of James and Louisa (Shaw) Winn, natives of the State that is notable for its Presidents and Statesmen and pretty girls. Our subject's parents with their respective families moved from old Virginia to Ohio when they were children and were among the first settlers of Muskingum County. The Winn family settled in Prairie Township and the Shaw family in Adams Township. In their respective locations the parents of our subject were reared and meeting, married, soon after settling upon a farm in Salem Township, where they passed their lives and were reasonably successful as farmers.

Our subject's father became the owner of two hundred acres of land in Ohio before his death.

His decease occurred July 9, 1890, his wife passing away in 1879 or 1880. The father was born September 30, 1808. He was a Missionary Baptist in his church following and the mother was united with the Methodist Episcopal denomination. They have fourteen children, of whom our subject is the second in order of birth and the oldest one now living.

George W. Winn was reared on the home farm in Ohio, and in 1854 he was united in marriage to Miss Malinda A. Bowden. She was born in Salem Township, Muskingum County, Ohio, July 18, 1837, and is a daughter of Daniel and Helen (Adams) Bowden, natives of New Jersey and Ohio respectively. Our subject came to Illinois in the fall of 1857 and first settled in Edgar County, whence in 1862 he came to Moultrie County and purchased eighty acres of land which was little improved at the time. He is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land, whereon he lives and besides owns the farm where he was born in Ohio. This last-mentioned property comprises three hundred and eighty acres of valuable land.

Our subject and his wife have been the parents of eight children, six of whom have been spared them to be their comfort and sustenance in their declining years. They are, Charidota E., Cordelia M., George W., Clara B., Henrietta M., Sherman L. and Hattie R. Cordelia is the wife of Eli Smith and resides in Hall County, Neb.; Clara died at the age of sixteen years; Henrietta is the wife of Lewis Smith of Moultrie County.

Politically, Mr. Winn fraternizes with the Democratic party and his devotion to the interests of his party has been rewarded by appointment to various local positions. He has been Collector for two years and was elected Justice of the Peace but resigned the office. In his religious belief he is an attendant upon and member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has been a Class-Leader in that denomination for many years. In early life he was engaged as a teacher and continued so employed for three terms while yet in Ohio and taught for three terms after coming to Illinois. Mr. Winn was made a Mason in 1854.

James and Louisa Winn, the parents of our sub-

ject, have fourteen children, of whom the following grew to manhood and womanhood: George W., our subject, is the eldest, then follows John W., Dolphin, Martha C., Rosanna, Emeline, Hiram S., Henrietta C. and Franklin P. Dolphin died at Camp Denison, Ohio, soon after enlisting in the Civil War; Emeline is the wife of Peter C. Sawyer and resides in Muskingum County, Ohio; Hiram served as a soldier in the Civil War and experienced the horrors of Confederate prison life for fourteen months. Franklin resides in Adamsville, Ohio, where he is a merchant.



**M**RS. ROSINA KULL, who resides on section 4, Rose Township, is one of the representative women of Shelby County, and was born in Germany June 20, 1833. Her maiden name was Rosina Walker and her marriage with the late Christian Kull took place in Fairfield County, Ohio. He was born in Lancaster, Ohio, January 13, 1832. Their first settlement as a married couple was made in Hocking County, that State, and there they continued to make their home until 1864.

During the year just mentioned this young couple removed to Shelby County, Ill., and settled upon a farm where the widow now resides. Here Mr. Kull was actively engaged in farming which he carries on successfully until his death which transpired October 8, 1884. Both he and his wife early became identified with the Lutheran Church, in which they were devoted and hearty workers.

Mrs. Kull is the mother of seven children: Magdalena who is the wife of William Wendling; Helen who married Henry Fossler and died in Nebraska, September 25, 1890; Mary; John, who married Miss Mary Bowman; Jacob F., who operates the farm and was married in Rose Township, February 12, 1890, to Miss Julia Pauschert who is the mother of one child—Rosa May; Mattie who is the wife of Augustus Pauschert and Drucilla.

The quiet and unostentatious lives of this worthy mother and her excellent children are of interest to all who understand that the best prosperity of

the community, is derived from the homes within its borders which are not notable for public affairs, but in which is carried on an industrious and honorable existence tending to the preservation of society and the prosperity of the commonwealth.



**C**HRISTIAN H. ALTAG, the well-known and efficient Commissioner of Highways of Prairie Township, Shelby County, whose pleasant home is on section 9, dates his residence in the county from 1867 when he removed here from Madison County, this State, where he was born November 19, 1854.

The honored parents of our subject are Henry and Eliza (Sponeman) Altag, who were born across the seas in Germany. Before their marriage, and indeed in early life, they came to the United States and both settling in Madison County there learned to know each other and were united in marriage. They resided in said county until 1867, when they came to Shelby County and making their home in Prairie Township felt that they had found a permanent place of abode.

The father of our subject was twice married, three children being born by the first marriage, namely: Henry; Hannah, the wife of Charles Dochney, and Sophia, wife of Henry Buesking. By his marriage with Eliza Sponeman, Henry Altag has had four children, of whom Christian is the eldest, and following him came Eliza, the wife of Charles Ostemeier; Harmon and Fred who died at the age of twenty-two years.

Thorough and systematic training upon the farm and the intellectual drill which may be received in the common schools were, in the case of Christian Altag, supplemented by attendance upon the old Shelbyville Academy, which proved so profitable as to fit him for teaching, which he pursued for one season only as he preferred to devote himself entirely to farming.

April 20, 1876, young Altag was united in marriage with Ida Junkey, daughter of Charles and Minnie Junkey. This lady was of foreign birth, having first seen the light in Germany, but her

training and education have made her a thorough American, as her parents left the old country for the New World when she was only six weeks old. Soon after marriage this young couple made their home where they now reside, purchasing eighty acres of land to which they have added until they now own one hundred acres, upon which they have erected a good residence, excellent barns and convenient and commodious outbuildings necessary to carrying on farms with system and success.

To Mr. and Mrs. Altag have been born five children, in whom they take a just pride and for whom they cherish an honorable ambition. These promising children bid fair to realize in the future all that their devoted parents desire for them. They are by name Emma, Lizzie, Ida, Clara and Bertha. The religion in which this family has been reared and which they have espoused is that of the Lutheran Church, in which they are faithful and devoted members.

The political views of Mr. Altag have led him to ally himself with the Democratic party but he is not in any sense a politician, being content to quietly cast his vote in the direction which he believes will be most useful to his neighborhood and State. He is now the incumbent of the office of Commissioner of Highways but does not desire to be among those who manage the affairs of the county.



**J**OHN WEEKS. This gentleman, the popular Postmaster of Tower Hill, Shelby County, and Justice of the Peace, is known throughout Shelby County as an upright citizen and a reliable business man. Peaceful and law-abiding and a man of honor in the affairs of life, he has the respect of his acquaintances and his friendly spirit has won a warmer feeling from his neighbors. A veteran of the late war, every loyal heart will feel a thrill of gratitude to him as one of those valiant soldiers to whom we owe the preservation of the Union.

The father of our subject, whose name was

George L., was a man of considerable prominence in his community. He was born in Princeton, Ky., and in his early manhood married Nancy Smith, a native of Columbia County, S. C. They emigrated from Kentucky to Illinois in 1830, locating in Bond County, where they passed the remainder of their lives. The father served as Deputy Sheriff of Bond County for several years, held the office of Constable, and was Justice of the Peace for sixteen years. He discharged the duties of these various offices to the general satisfaction, and is remembered as a public-spirited citizen and one who in his business affairs was the soul of integrity. In his chosen calling of a farmer he was successful and acquired a competency, so that he was able to supply his family with every comfort.

In a family of six children our subject was the second, and he was born, February 1, 1831, near Greenville, Bond County, Ill. There he was reared to manhood and remained until he was about twenty-two years old. In the meantime he acquired an excellent education, of which he made use in teaching in Bond, Montgomery, Madison and Shelby Counties, this State. Later he attended school in Platteville, Wis., and also taught school for two terms in that State. He followed the profession of a teacher thirty years consecutively, with the exception of the three years in which he served in the army.

Mr. Weeks came to Shelby County in 1860, and on August 4, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Fifteenth Illinois Infantry. He was appointed First Sergeant and served until the close of the war. He took part in many important engagements, among them being the battles of Chickamauga, Dalton, Tunnel Hill, Resaca, and other smaller engagements, and altogether he was in action for sixty-seven days. During the fierce conflict at Chickamauga he was commanded by Gen. Steedman to carry the colors, which he did during the remainder of that day, proving himself a brave and valiant soldier. Of the five who were in his mess, he alone escaped fatal injuries.

At the close of the war Mr. Weeks returned to Shelbyville and was soon engaged in his profession, occupying the position of Principal of the public schools in Windsor, Ill., for two years. He

continued teaching until December, 1881, when he was appointed Postmaster at Tower Hill, filling the position satisfactorily until he was deposed under the administration of Grover Cleveland. In April, 1885, he was elected Justice of the Peace, was re-elected in April, 1889, and is now holding that office. In April, 1889, he was re-appointed Postmaster of Tower Hill and assumed the duties of the position in the following June. He has held other offices in the township, and holds a prominent rank among the Republicans of the county. In 1884 he was a candidate for the office of County Surveyor on the Republican ticket, but was defeated by his Democratic opponent. However, he ran ahead of his ticket in every township, with one exception, in the county. Nor is he forgetful of things divine, for he has been a consistent member of the Methodist Church for many years, also acting as Sunday-school Superintendent for a long time.

At the head of the household affairs in the pleasant home of Mr. Weeks is a refined and cultured lady, who prior to October 18, 1866, was known as Sevilla J. Sill. She was born in Monroe County, Ohio, September 4, 1845, and the ceremony which united her for life with Mr. Weeks was performed in Hennepin, Ill. Nine children came to bless the home, viz: Estella, the assistant Postmistress at Tower Hill; George D., Bertel, who died in infancy; John W., Nellie B., who died when two years old; Warren, Chase, Boyd and Lois A. The family are honored members of society and are deservedly popular in the community.



**J**OHN H. SHELTON, M. D. The professional reputation of Dr. Shelton is an enviable one, and his skill and knowledge are held at their proper valuation. For many years a student, he has not been content with the wisdom which won him his diploma, but has read and investigated from time to time and increased his store of technical knowledge and ability to diagnose and treat diseases. He is known far and near, respected and loved, and numbered among the

most worthy citizens of Shelby County, who are active in promoting its prosperity and elevating the status of its citizens.

The birthplace of Dr. Shelton was Owen County, Ky., and his natal day February 11, 1835. His parents were Austin and Emily (Callender) Shelton, natives of Virginia, who removed to Kentucky at a very early day. They located in Owen County, where after attaining to a good old age, they passed from earth. Our subject remained at home during his youth, receiving a limited education in the district schools and acquiring a thorough and practical knowledge of agricultural pursuits. Upon arriving at man's estate he began to operate as a farmer, and continued chiefly thus engaged until 1873. We next find him engaged in the drug business in Owenton, Ky., for eight years. During that time he read medicine, for which he had a natural aptitude, and after selling out his interest in the drug business, he attended medical lectures in the hospital at Louisville, Ky., during the winter of 1878-79.

In 1879, Dr. Shelton emigrated to Illinois, and coming to Shelby County, practiced medicine with Dr. G. W. Fringer until the fall of 1881. He then entered the Medical College at Keokuk, Ia., where he was graduated in February, 1882. After receiving the diploma for which he had toiled so arduously, the Doctor returned to Tower Hill and has since resided here, with the exception of eight months in Henton, this county. He enjoys an extensive and lucrative practice, and as a citizen is public-spirited and interested in everything calculated to elevate the status of the community.

The Doctor has an amiable and active helpmate in his wife, with whom he was united in marriage May 26, 1856, in Cincinnati, Ohio. The bride bore the maiden name of Marietta Garnett, and was born and reared in Owen County, Ky. Her parents, Jamison and Lucinda Garnett, were natives of Kentucky; the father now lives in Kentucky, and the mother is deceased. Dr. Shelton and his estimable wife have become the parents of six children, only two of whom survive: Bettie G., and Nannie C., both of whom are at home. Dr. Shelton has served the people in various capacities, and has been a member of the Township Board of

Trustees, and also served as School Trustee. He and his family are highly esteemed and are among the prominent members of society in Tower Hill.



**W**ILLIAM FANCHER. The family of which our subject is a representative is a long established American family, descended from German stock. The father of this gentleman bought about one thousand acres of land in Holland Township, Shelby County. The father was born in Vermont and was a resident of New York State thence he removed to Pennsylvania, thence to Ohio, and finally located in Shelby County, Ill., on a portion of which our subject now lives, having a farm of one hundred and eighty-one acres adjoining the town of Fancher, besides considerable land in the town. He is now a retired farmer, making his home in the village which was named for him by the railroad authorities in consideration of his liberality in donating land and money to aid in the construction of the Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City Railroad.

He of whom we write this brief sketch, first saw the light of life in Delaware County, Ohio, July 25, 1835. His parents Samuel and Polly (Dickson) Fancher, were natives of Luzerne County, Pa., and the heads of a truly patriarchal family. Only five of their twelve children are now living, namely: John, Morris, William, Henry and Juliana. Morris lives in Kansas, Juliana in Zanesville, Ohio, and the others are residents of Illinois; Henry in this county, and John in Effingham County; Juliana has been twice married, her first husband being Jeremiah Rogers and her present name being Mrs. Sine.

Our subject came to Illinois with his parents when he was a mere boy and grew to manhood in Shelby County, having his training and education upon the farm in the district schools. Here he found his wife, a native of the same county, and here he expects to spend the balance of his days in the pursuit of farming, which is with him a dearly loved calling. His wife's maiden name was Susan-

nah Piper. Her parents were natives of Ohio and her grandparents were Pennsylvanians and of German descent. Before marrying Mr. Fancher she was a widow, her first husband being Mr. Shannon W. Gallagher.

The little railroad station of Fancher which was established upon Mr. Fancher's farm has gathered about it a pleasant little village having two stores, a hotel and the usual shops. It is in the midst of a very fine farming district and has an excellent community back of it. Mr. Fancher has been a life-long Republican in his political views and takes a lively interest in politics. He is not a member of any church but gives liberally of his means to the support of churches, Sunday-schools and other objects of benevolence. Mrs. Fancher has three children by her former marriage: Nettie, Gertie and Nellie Gallagher.



**L**OT LUTTRELL. It is said that no people travel so extensively as do the Americans, and hence their experience of different phases of life is correspondingly larger as a rule. Our subject has had many advantages in this respect and has traveled in various ways, not only in the luxurious Pullman cars of the present day, but also by prairie schooner across the plains, meeting frequently the red man on his territory. Mr. Luttrell is now a retired farmer living in Sullivan, where he located January, 1891, coming here from Whitley Township where he had been engaged for some years and where he still owns two hundred and forty acres of fine land.

The original of our sketch came to Shelby County from DeWitt County, and while there living was engaged as a grocer in Kinney, of that county. He was born in Morgan County, Ill., December 24, 1839, and was there reared and educated. Also after marriage he made that his home for several years. Mr. Luttrell is the son of John Luttrell, a native of Kentucky. Our subject is named after his grandfather who was also a native of Kentucky, being there reared on a farm. Mr. Luttrell's paternal grandmother was likewise a Kentuckian and a

member of an old and highly respected family of that State. They left their native State after the birth of their first two children, of which our subject's father John was the elder, having been born in February, 1817, and moved to Illinois about 1820, coming overland and bringing their household goods and children in a one-horse cart. The parents walked the greater part of the way, and after a long and tedious trip in which they camped out at intervals, they settled on what is now Sulphur Springs Township, and there secured a tract of Government land. The neighboring village of Jackson was not at that time thought of and there were very few people in the county, and for a few years they experienced the hardships incident to pioneer life.

On the farm which our subject's grandparents procured on first coming here they spent the remainder of their lives. The grandfather's decease occurred in 1863. His wife survived him by a number of years, her death occurring about 1886. She was born in 1799 and was well known as one of the prominent pioneer women of that county. For many years prior to her death she was afflicted with blindness. In religion they were adherents of the Baptist Church, and politics the senior Mr. Luttrell was a Democrat.

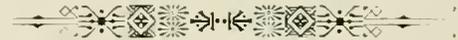
The eldest of a large family, John Luttrell, the immediate progenitor of him of whom we write, was reared to manhood in Morgan County, growing up to the calling of a farmer. He was married to Miss Tabitha Cross, a native of Kentucky, a daughter of William and Lotta (Compton) Cross, natives of Kentucky. After marriage they emigrated to Illinois and settled in the Eastern part of Morgan County as pioneers.

Our subject's parents began life as farmers and the father pursued his calling until the time of his death, which took place in 1847. He was then in straightened circumstances and left a widow with four children whose names were, Caroline, our subject, William R. and Josiah. Our subject's mother some time after the death of John Luttrell, was again married to the Rev. Peter Garrett and they later removed to DeWitt County, where Mrs. Garrett died June 16, 1869. She was born in 1816. Mr. Garrett united with his work as a religious

teacher the calling of farming; he is now a resident of Crawford County, Kan.

Our subject was married in the eastern part of Morgan County to Miss Sarah Cox. She was born in that county November 19, 1845, and is a daughter of Corydon and Mary (McGill) Cox, natives of Virginia, who came to Illinois with their respective families at an early day. They were victims of the great cyclone that passed over the country May 9, 1880, at which time Mr. Cox was injured. Their servant was killed and also a daughter-in-law, and all moveable property was swept away.

Our subject and his wife are the parents of four children. They are Mary, William A., Rufus and Corydon. They are all well educated, highly respected men and women. William was for some time a teacher. Our subject stands high in the estimation of his townspeople and has been elected to various local offices. He is a Democrat in politics.



**D**ANIEL M. PATTERSON. A popular young artist and writer of the present day has said that one never sees the picturesque until she has been roughly handled by man and has outlived the hard usage; that the picturesque quality comes only after the ax and the saw have let the sunlight into the dense tangle of the forest, and scattered the falling timber, or the water-wheel has divided the rush of the brook. This is so in any condition of nature, for in the constructive period there is always a crudeness that strikes the artistic sensibilities unpleasantly. But in farming we do not care so much for the picturesque "tangle of vines and darkness of forest." He who most diligently combats the encroachment of weeds, briars and stones, and smooths, enriches and makes productive and fruitful the fields and orchards and garden patch is the one whom we most admire in his agricultural calling. Such an one is our subject, who is the owner of three hundred acres of finely cultivated and fertile land located on section 13, of Sullivan Township.

Mr. Patterson knows no other State by actual ex-

perience than that in which he now resides. He was born in Moultrie County, November 9, 1839, and is a son of William and Margaret (Carriker) Patterson, natives of Union County, this State. (For a fuller sketch of William Patterson refer to another portion of this volume.) The father of our subject had two brothers and two sisters, also two half-brothers and one half-sister. His marriage took place in Southern Illinois, and his advent was made into this county when settlers were few and the land very little cultivated, coming hither about 1836.

Upon the farm above mentioned he of whom we write found the Alpha of life, and there he was reared, receiving what educational advantages when a boy that the district schools afforded. Life was not, however, barren to the young man. Indeed, the writer questions if it is ever so to youth in its sanguine, fresh young years—for there were recreations then as now—hay rides, nutting parties, barbeques, husking bees and apple parties, and with work and play, the young man was developing in every direction to the perfection of manhood, and taught five terms of school. In 1864 he was united in marriage with Ellen J. Hoke, a daughter of Frederick Hoke. She was born in Moultrie County. Soon after marriage the young couple settled where they now reside, his father having given him forty acres of timber land, and here he started to make a home about the year 1870. It was a new experience for the young man, as for several years previous to this he had been engaged in clerking in a store in the town of Sullivan. He, however, bent his energies to the work in hand, and has been successful to a flattering degree. He is now the owner of three hundred acres of land in an excellent condition and bearing good improvements.

Mr. and Mrs. Patterson are the parents of four children. The eldest daughter, Orpha, is the wife of Oscar Rose. The three other children are Nora, Ezra and Lura. All the political interests of the gentleman of whom we write are centered in the Democratic party, every plank of its platform having to him a good and logical reason for being. He has been an Assessor of the town-ship. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church, of

which they are generous and liberal supporters. Mr. Patterson has such qualities of character and mind as insure him success in whatever line of thought or action his judgment should direct him to become a participator in. Just and generous, broad-minded and liberal, all his aims and ambitions are for the upbuilding of the best tone, socially mentally and morally of the locality in which he lives.

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JOSEPH H. McGUIRE. Many families who reside in Illinois came to this section originally from Kentucky and Tennessee, and those who came from the eastern or mountainous portion of the latter State belonged to a class of people, who, like other mountaineers, were lovers of liberty. They removed their families from their native and beloved State in order that they might take them out from under the blighting influence of the institution of human slavery, and in doing so they brought to their posterity not only a moral and spiritual blessing, but also in locating them in Illinois advanced their material interests. Mr. McGuire, the Postmaster in Bethany, Moultrie County, belongs to such a family.

Our subject was born in Jefferson, East Tennessee, June 8, 1836, his worthy parents being Thomas and Rachel (Ashmore) McGuire, both of whom were natives of Tennessee. The family removed to Illinois in the fall of 1843, and made their first stop in Coles County, where the father was called from them by death, during the fall of that year. In 1853 the family removed to Moultrie County, and somewhat later on Mrs. McGuire married a second time, taking as her husband Mr. William Knight.

Thomas and Rachel McGuire were blessed by the birth of eight children, their offspring being equally divided between sons and daughters, and only one of those children being taken from them during childhood. Their family is as follows: James, who died in this county; William P., residing in Bethany; Elizabeth, wife of John Bankston, of

Washington; Mary, who married D. A. Vaughn, died in this county; Joseph H., our subject; Michael, who died in childhood; Sarah, who is now Mrs. Thomas Mitchell, of this county, and Maggie, who is the wife of John Han.

The hardy life of a farmer's boy proved a good preparation for the hardships of a soldier's existence; and in 1861 our subject, following the training of his early life and with the love of liberty in his heart, enlisted under the Union flag to help subdue the war of the rebellion. He was mustered into service in Company E, Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, and served for four years, six months and two days. He first saw active service at Fredericktown, Md., and took part in the siege of Corinth, and in the battles of Perryville, Ky., Murfreesboro, Tenn., Jonesboro, Ga., Franklin, Tenn., Nashville, Tenn., and numerous skirmishes in the Atlanta campaign. During all this long and arduous service he escaped both wounds and imprisonment. During the first part of his service he was Corporal, but in 1861 was made Sergeant.

When the "piping times of peace" had come our young hero, having been mustered out of service, returned to Moultrie County and resumed farming. In 1869 he removed to Bethany and engaged in the grocery trade, in which he continued for three years. He was then elected Justice of the Peace, and attended to the duties of that office for some sixteen years, during the latter part of which he engaged in the furniture business which he sold out in 1889, to accept the office of Postmaster. He is a loyal and staunch Republican in his political views and has ever adhered to that party.

Mr. McGuire was married May 15, 1866, to Mrs. Mary Crowder, *nee* Creutz, who was born in Germany and came to the United States when a little girl of ten years. She has become the mother of six children, namely: Ella, Rachel; Addie, who died in the spring of 1890; Anna, Laura and Dora. They have also an adopted son who bears the name of Finis Ewing. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church is the religious body with which Mr. and Mrs. McGuire are connected, and in its communion they find an abundant opportunity

for Christian work. Mr. McGuire is prominently connected with the Grand Army of the Republic, and as an old soldier he has a deep interest in its methods of procedure and loves to meet his old comrades in its enthusiastic gatherings.



**T**ITUS T. SPRINGER. Since locating in Moultrie County, the gentleman of whom we write has been very successful in a business way. His friends characterize him as a manly man and a gentleman, one with keen business instinct, who, although still young, has had wide experience, having been engaged in business for himself at eighteen years of age. He is the senior member of the firm of Skimmer & Stocks, hardware merchants at Lake City, who also deal in farm implements.

Mr. Springer became a resident of Moultrie County in 1876 and for the past eight years has been engaged as a merchant at Lake City. He has been in his present business for only one year, but already it promises to be a pecuniary success. Our subject was born in the town of Jackson, Ill., January 1, 1852, and is the son of Lawson and Margaret (Hinson) Springer, natives of New York and Ohio respectively. The father of our subject was a farmer. He died in Jackson County, Ohio, in 1857 and left eight children, there being three sons and five daughters. Two daughters, Jenny and Lydia, died in early womanhood, and six members of the family grew to years of maturity and became heads of families of their own. Sarah married Ambrose Davis and is a resident of Ross County, Ohio; Louisa married Joseph Ziegler, also of Ross County, Ohio; Drusilla became the wife of Samuel Mulvana and lives at Burlington, Iowa; Pleasant is a resident of Jackson County, Ohio, and Wheeler of Moultrie County.

The original of our sketch is the youngest of his family. Reared on the home farm he received a good common-school education. In 1870 he went to Richmondale, Ohio, and engaged in a general mercantile business, continuing there until 1876, at which time he came to Moultrie County

and purchased a farm. For a time after coming here he engaged in the general merchandise business. Endowed with unusual financial and executive ability Mr. Springer has been successful in his business efforts. He was only twenty years of age when he came to this county and at the present time, besides the business above mentioned, he is the owner of a drug store at Lake City. He also deals in grain, coal and groceries, and at Williamsburg carries on a general mercantile business. He owns all the business houses in which he has stock and other property comprising dwellings and store buildings.

Mr. Springer was married in 1870 when but eighteen years of age to Miss Nancy Sinclair, a daughter of T. D. Sinclair. She is a native of Jackson County, Ohio, and was born January 17, 1851. Our subject and his wife have had six children. The oldest, Walter J., died in early boyhood. Five are living at the present time. Lawson is in charge of a store at Williamsburg; the others are Lydia, William, Charles and Jessie. He is a man who may always be depended upon in a political issue, being loyal to his county and section. He is a Justice of the Peace and a Notary, also a member of the School Board. Mr. Springer socially belongs to the Knights Templar.



**H**ORACE L. MARTIN is prominent in the literary, social and political life of his community as editor and proprietor of the Shelbyville *Union*, one of the best conducted and leading newspapers of this part of the State, which is distinguished as being the only daily journal, and the only organ of the Republican party published in Shelby County. Mr. Martin is descended from the vigorous pioneer stock of Ohio, the State of his birth, he having been born in the village of Jersey, Licking County, July 11, 1836.

Mark D. Martin, the father of our subject, was born in New Jersey, near the City of Newark, and was a son of Lewis Martin, who was also a native of that State. The latter was among the early

settlers of Licking County, Ohio, removing to that part of the country when Columbus was a small village, and at that time was the nearest milling point for the settlers for many miles around. He secured a tract of timber land and developed it into a fine farm, which was his place of residence until death terminated his earthly career. His wife also died on the home farm in Licking County. Her maiden name was Catherine Osborne, and her parents were natives of Holland.

The father of our subject was one of a family of seven sons and two daughters. He was young when his parents moved to Ohio. He worked in his youth, in his father's smithy, and learned from him the trade of a blacksmith, which he followed for some years in Licking County after he attained his manhood. Finally he abandoned that calling on account of failing health and turned his attention to farming. He also dealt extensively in stock, and before the introduction of railroads he drove his stock to the Eastern markets of New York and Baltimore. He continued to make his home in Licking County until 1858, when he came to Shelby County, and for two years was a resident of Shelbyville. At the expiration of that time he bought a farm in Rose Township, and for some years devoted himself to its management. Returning to Shelbyville he kept a hotel here some years and then retired to Terre Haute, Indiana, where he is now passing away his declining years in a pleasant home, in the enjoyment of the respect due his honorable and well-spent life. Mr. Martin has been twice married. His first wife, the mother of our subject, was Julia Ann Ward, a native of New Jersey, and a daughter of Josiah Ward. She died in March, 1816. Mr. Martin married for second wife Martha L. Gaston, a native of Delaware County, Ohio. There were five children born of the first marriage, all sons, and of the second marriage, six daughters and two sons were born.

The subject of this biographical review received a substantial education in the excellent public schools of his native county where was reared to manhood. He resided with his parents until 1855, and then came to Shelbyville to accept a position as clerk in his uncle's drug store, making the trip

in thirteen days with a horse and buggy. He clerked nearly two years, studying medicine during that time, and he then attended a course of lectures at the Starling Medical College at Columbus, Ohio. After that he made a thorough study of the water cure process at Granville, Licking County, Ohio, and then returning to Shelbyville, he began to practice as a physician with his uncle. Three months later he decided to abandon that profession and he again became a clerk, being thus employed in a dry-goods store the ensuing two years. At the expiration of that time he formed a partnership with S. H. and P. R. Webster, and carried on a general store the following twelve years, the latter part of the time dealing in agricultural implements, and also buying and selling stock.

In 1872, our subject gave up mercantile pursuits to give his attention to journalism, buying an interest in the Shelbyville *Union* with his brothers, Park T. and Elgin H., and the same year established a paper at Effingham, known as the Effingham *Republican*. In 1873 he bought the interest of his brothers in the *Union*, of which he has since been sole proprietor, and in January, 1887, he commenced the publication of a daily which he still issues in connection with the weekly. Mr. Martin has devoted his best energies to his paper, and under his judicious and able management, it has taken its place among those journals that have the most influence in molding public opinion, and in advancing the highest interests of city and county. The high estimation in which it is held is denoted by its extensive circulation as a sound, well-conducted family newspaper, replete with valuable information concerning current topics, and the affairs of this and other countries, set forth in an attractive and interesting manner. Although it is the mouthpiece of the Republicans of Shelby County, and in no uncertain tones voices the policy of the party, and vigorously upholds all measures emanating from it, it is by no means unjustly aggressive towards political opponents, who are always accorded fair and courteous treatment in its columns.

Mr. Martin has an attractive home, and to the lady who presides over it, and assists him in dis-

persing its pleasant hospitalities, he was united in marriage July 4, 1859. Mrs. Martin in her maiden days bore the name of Mary Armilla Jagger. She is a native of Summit County, Ohio, and a daughter of Elmus and Hannah M. (Noah) Jagger. Our subject and his wife have two children living, Etta M. and Lucy E. Etta married John E. Downs and has one child, Ferna Estelle.

Mr. Martin has been a Republican since the formation of the party, and through his position as editor has exercised a wise influence in the political councils of his fellow-citizens in this section. He has always manifested a deep interest in whatever concerned the welfare of the city and county, and exerted himself to help forward all schemes that will in any way benefit them. He has been partly instrumental in building up the Laborers' Loan Association, of which he is a Director and Secretary, and his name is associated with various other enterprises that have been organized for the public good.



**H**OLLAND S. GRIFFITH, was born in DeWitt County, Ill., January 3, 1867. His father was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, was reared there, and married. From thence he came to Illinois in an early day, remaining for a time in Macon County, after which he removed to DeWitt County. He took up a tract of Government land, living on the same for two years before entering it. This land was located eight miles northeast of Clinton. He was a very enterprising man of good judgment and consequently was very successful. He also entered land in DeWitt County, besides going quite extensively into real estate in Kansas, owning one thousand acres in Chase County. Mr. Griffith was also engaged in stock-raising there. In 1880, accompanied by his family, he started West with a team for Kansas and traveled quite extensively, there living one year on his land in Chase County. Afterward, in 1882, he returned to his home in DeWitt, residing there until his death, which took place November 16 1890.

Mr. Griffith was married a second time choosing as his wife Miss Sarah Reed, of Steuben County, Ohio, and who became the mother of our subject. She has five children living: Byard, Dell, Holland, Nellie and Melvin. Our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits and was educated in the public schools of DeWitt County, and resided with his parents whom he assisted on the farm, until he was twenty-three years of age when he settled on the farm where he now resides on section 21, Todd's Point. It is a well-cultivated farm of one hundred and sixty broad and fertile acres.



**J**OHN A. STEWART. The genial Supervisor of Penn Township, and who owns two hundred acres of fine land located on section 36, is he whose name is found above. He was born in Center County, Pa., in Shore Creek Valley, November 3, 1848. He is a son of John G. Stewart, who was born in the same State, and the father of John G., the grandfather of our subject, was born in Scotland, and came to America at an early day, and with his parents located in Pennsylvania, settling in Huntington. He was there engaged in the mercantile business and passed the remainder of his life in that place. Our subject's father learned a trade but did not follow it long, turning his attention to farming. He removed from Pennsylvania to Illinois in 1867, and resided in Moweaqua until 1884, then went to Missouri and settled in DeKalb County, and there made his home until his death, which occurred in 1888.

The mother of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Mary Ann Elder. She was born in Pennsylvania and was a daughter of Abram Elder. She still survives, making her home in DeKalb County, Mo. She is the mother of nine children. Our subject was reared and educated in his native State, and coming to Illinois when quite young, with his parents, again located on the farm and there remained until his marriage, after which he came to Penn Township and bought eighty acres of land on section 27.

Our subject did not occupy the farm that was

his first purchase, but rented other land and worked it until 1887, when he bought the place he now occupies that is located on section 36. It is well improved and bears striking evidence of the energy and industry Mr. Stewart has brought to bear on his work. It has a good class of buildings with a pleasant and comfortable residence and the most advanced ideas as regards agriculture are employed in his care and cultivation of the place.

In January, 1876, our subject quit the bachelor ranks and merged his life with that of Miss Mary E. Thompson. She was born in Pennsylvania and is a daughter of Gardner and Eliza (Baird) Thompson. Five children have been vouchsafed to the care and guidance of our subject and his estimable wife. They are by name Maude A., Frank G., Harvey, Edith, and Mary Belle. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart are members of the Presbyterian Church and are consistent and noble Christians. He of whom we write is a Republican in politics. He was elected a member of the Board of County Supervisors in the spring of 1891. Socially he belongs to the Prairie Home Lodge, No. 3574, of the Knights of Honor.



**J**OHN A. CROWDER lives on section 15, Marrowbone Township, Moultrie County, and is a son of Robert and Barbara (Prather) Crowder. He was born in Marrowbone Township, November 11, 1847. He received his early training on the home farm and in the common schools, and in May, 1864, when in his seventeenth year, and weighing one hundred and nine pounds, he enlisted in the late war and was mustered out with Company I, One Hundred and Forty-third Illinois Infantry, October, 1861, on account of expiration of time, he having enlisted for three months. In January, 1865, he re-enlisted in Company A, and served until September. In the spring of 1867 he was united in the holy bonds of wedlock to Miss Emily E. Kennedy, a daughter of James C. Kennedy, who was born in this county. He then settled on a farm on sec-

tion 14, where he resided for five years. He then purchased a portion of his present farm and settled on the same. His wife died November 15, 1888, leaving nine children—Artie L., Oscar W., Leora A., John R. C., Emily Edith, Athol S., Ida M., James G. and Cora M. August 8, 1889, Mr. Crowder was married a second time to Viola A. Roberts, daughter of Thomas A. and Louisa G. Roberts, of Whitley Township. They have had one child, who is deceased.

Mr. Crowder owns two hundred and seventy-seven acres of land, on which he has very fine improvements. His politics are with the Republicans. He has held many local offices, in which he not only did credit to himself but his party. Religiously he is a consistent member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and socially is a member of the Odd Fellows' society and the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Crowder is interested in stock-raising and is a dealer in live stock. He is now giving a good deal of attention to horse-flesh, and has a number of imported horses on his farm.



**L**OUIS J. KIRCHER is a prominent dealer in dry goods, clothing and groceries, also hardware, stoves and farming implements, in Strasburg, Shelby County. He keeps a large and well-assorted stock of goods that is suitable for the country trade of which he has almost a monopoly. Our subject is a son of Matthew and Catherine (String) Kircher. They were residents of Richland Township, and the parents of nine children, of whom he of whom we write is the eldest. He was born in Hocking County, Ohio, April 23, 1856.

Our subject passed his boyhood days in his native place, enjoying such educational advantages as were to be obtained in the district schools of the vicinity. When fourteen years old he came with his father to Shelby County, and remained under the parental roof until reaching his majority, when he engaged in farming on his account in Richland Township, continuing on his first tract for two or

three years. In 1883 Mr. Kircher came to Strasburg and engaged in the hardware business. He has since added a good stock of merchandise and has a fine store and enjoys a large and lucrative patronage.

Our subject was married to Miss Clara Ruff. She was a daughter of John Ruff. Of three children born of this union only one is living at the present time. To him has been given the name of Edward G. Our subject has been honored by election to various township offices. He was Collector for two years, and has for some time been a member of the Village Board. He with his wife is a member of the Lutheran Church. In politics our subject is an ardent Democrat, believing in the sovereign right of the individual.



**E**DGAR ALLEN, who is numbered among the influential agriculturists of Shelby County, owns and operates a fine farm on section 26, Ridge Township. He is a native of Ohio, born in Fairfield County, April 18, 1854. His parents, George and Nancy (Carlisle) Allen, were natives of Maryland and Ohio respectively, and were married in the Buckeye State, where they owned a farm. In 1863 the father came to Illinois, and in Shelby County he purchased two hundred and twenty acres of land but little improved, paying for it \$18 per acre. He returned to Ohio, where he died in the winter of 1863-64, leaving eight children to mourn his untimely death.

The following is the record of the brothers and sisters of our subject: Sarah A., who became the wife of Anderson Hunter; William H.; Anetta, who married Milton Hunter and died in Shelby County; Angeline, who was united in marriage with George N. Arnold, and also passed away in Shelby County; Thomas, Theodore, Edgar, and Alice, the wife of M. E. Moore. In the spring of 1864, the widowed mother, accompanied by her children, came to Illinois and located on the land which had been purchased by her late husband. She still survives at the age of seventy-five years.

and her declining years have been made happy by the love of her children and the affection of her large circle of friends.

Mr. Allen passed a comparatively uneventful youth marked by no incidents of note. He aided his mother as much as possible in his childhood and alternated study at the neighboring district school with work on the home farm, where he received a practical training in agricultural affairs. When ready to establish a home of his own he was united in marriage, in February, 1884, with Miss Allie Brandt, the daughter of Adam Brandt, who still resides in Fairfield County, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Allen mourn the loss of one child, and have three surviving members of their family—Bessie, Maud and Theodore. Politically Mr. Allen is a staunch supporter of Democratic principles and has served in various minor offices, among them that of Tax Collector. Socially he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. His industry has been rewarded with success, and he is now the owner of one hundred and twenty-five acres of fertile land, embellished with good improvements and bearing a first-class set of farm buildings.



**M**ANLIUS T. SHEPHERD. The Shepherds on the paternal side are of French ancestry. The grandfather of the subject of this sketch was one of the patriotic Frenchmen who came with the distinguished Marquis de Lafayette to America, during the progress of the Revolutionary War, and participated with him in it. He was wounded in the battle of Yorktown, and rendered a cripple for the rest of his life. After the close of the Revolution, he married an American young lady and settled in Orange County, Va., where his three sons, Philip, Lewis and William were born and reared to maturity. William, the father of our subject was born in 1794, and moved to Kentucky in 1825. His profession was that of a school-teacher and a professor of vocal music, and was engaged in teaching in Virginia, Kentucky and Ohio, crossing the mountains many times on

horseback and alone. Highwaymen were at that time numerous and frequently for hours he carried his life, as it were in his hands.

Our subject's father was married in Kentucky in 1827 to Miss Eveline H. Ball, whose parents had settled in Jessamine County, Ky., in 1825. The father, John Ball was a wealthy land and slave owner, and his wife was an own cousin of the first President of the United States. Both sides of the family were highly connected with the best social element of the State of Virginia and had all the advantages of culture and education. William Shepherd remained in Kentucky until 1859 when he emigrated to Illinois, and settled in Sullivan, Moultrie County, where his decease took place in 1871. During the War of 1812 to 1814, he took an active part in the engagements as a private soldier. His wife, the mother of our subject, died in Sullivan, Ill., in 1874. There were born to William and Eveline H. Shepherd, five children; the eldest daughter married S. P. Alexander in Kentucky, in January, 1846. Mr. Alexander resides in this county and State. His wife died, leaving two children, one of whom was named James W. His decease took place in Sullivan, this State, in 1872. Louisa Bell, is the wife of W. W. Eden, County Clerk of Moultrie County. The family are now residents of Fresno, Cal. John B. the eldest son married Miss Sarah L. Hayden, of Shelby County, this State, and was at one time one of the business men of Sullivan, and is now a resident of Texarkana, Texas. Edwin L. married Miss Ann M. Hawkins, of Franklin County, Ky., and makes his home at Sullivan, this State.

Manlius T. the subject of this sketch, is the youngest of the family, and he was born in Franklin County, Ky., February 28, 1835. His early educational advantages were limited and what knowledge of books he possesses, has been attained by his own efforts outside of the school-room, as he spent but a short time in the district school of his native State. He is a man who possesses more than an ordinary amount of observation and industry, and added to these qualities is a retentive memory.

When young Shepherd was in his nineteenth year he left home to go out into the world. His

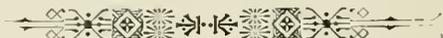
first employment began in 1851 and 1855, when he was engaged as guard at the Kentucky penitentiary at Frankfort. At that date there were but two hundred men imprisoned there. During a great part of the time, in which he was there occupied, he locked one of the main rows of cells in which slept Calvin Fairbanks, and one Doyle, who were under long sentences for assisting slaves to leave their masters. Every evening the name of each prisoner was called and he was personally acquainted with every man in the institution.

Our subject was next engaged as clerk in the Mansion House in Frankfort, Ky., where he remained for some time, and by his industry and close attention to business he gained the esteem and good will of his employers, and those with whom he came in contact. He remembers well John C. Crittenden, John C. Breckinridge, Charles S. Morehead, and John M. Harlan, present United States Judge. He afterward went to the Capital Hotel in the same city and remained there until 1857, when he went to Versailles, in Woodford County. He was well acquainted with Hon. Thomas F. Marshall, and also Buford, who killed Judge Elliot two years ago, (1889) at Frankfort, Ky., for deciding a great suit against him.

Mr. Shepherd continued as a hotel clerk until the spring of 1858, when he came to this State, stopping in Sullivan, this county, where he engaged with his brother, John B., in the grocery and restaurant business. He had about \$200 and this he invested in the business which was necessarily commenced on a small scale, but gradually grew to large proportions and gravitated into general merchandising. In that business the brothers continued together until 1862, when our subject came to Lovington with part of the stock, to which he made additions, and together they carried on an extensive business, and were the leading merchants of the two places for a number of years. They continued in partnership until 1867, when the partnership was dissolved, the older brother taking the stock and store-house in Sullivan, and our subject the Lovington store-house and stock. Mr. Shepherd continued the business in this place with great success, and in 1870, he added private banking to his business. This latter branch gradually

absorbed so much of his time that he began curtailing his merchandising, added the real estate business, and a few years later, went out of the mercantile business entirely, since which time he has given his whole attention to his private banking, and the care of his real estate, having about six hundred acres of land and being the owner of a large number of the best dwelling and business houses in Lovington and Sullivan.

On February 7, 1870, the subject of our sketch was united in marriage with Miss Maria J. Mullikin, a native of Johnson County, Ind. This marriage has been blessed by the advent of seven children. Justin M. has been a most progressive and ambitious student, and graduated from the Lovington High School at the age of sixteen years, receiving his diploma from Eureka College at the age of seventeen years. Ollie Jewel, Earl T., Blossom, and Paul T. died in infancy; Homer T., and Flossie, complete the family circle. Mrs. Shepherd, who is an estimable woman, and a leader of society in Lovington, is in her church relations a member of the Christian denomination. Politically our subject affiliates with the Democratic party.



**W**ILLIAM BECKETT. Among the prominent farmers of Shelby County, noted for its rich agricultural products, is the subject of this sketch, who is known and respected by all as an honest, upright and liberal citizen. He resides on section 2, Rural Township, his residence in the county dating from December, 1886. He was born in Brautbroughton, Lincolnshire, England, March 15, 1825, being a son of Thomas and Ann Beckett, who reared a family of seven boys and one girl, our subject being the only one who came to the United States, and remained here. One brother, Thomas, came to this country but remained only a short time.

Frank Beckett, a brother of our subject has two children in the United States, Arthur and Annie Mary, both of whom reside with our subject. May 17, 1849, he was married to Mary Ann Beckett at Skelling Thorp, England. She was born in

Waddington, Lincolnshire, England, June 9, 1829. After the birth of two children they in 1854, concluded they would try their fortune in the United States, first locating at Utica, N. Y., where our subject worked for some time in a soap and candle factory, later engaging in the express business.

In the spring of 1859, Mr. Beckett migrated to Illinois, locating at Springfield, where he engaged in the dairy business becoming sole owner of the principal dairy of that city. From Springfield, he came to Shelby County and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land, then all raw prairie which he paid for at the time but from the recording deeds having been misstated he was obliged to pay for one-half of it the second time. He still resides on the land first purchased, having added new land, however, from time to time, and is at present the owner of three hundred and sixty-four acres of well-cultivated land. He has been very successful in his business adding to his other agricultural pursuits the business of raising swine, in which he has been largely engaged.

Mr. and Mrs. Beckett have been blessed by the birth of seven children who are named as follows: John was born in Lincolnshire, England, March 7, 1850; Thomas was also born in England, December 1852, but died in Utica after their removal there, September 5, 1859; Mary Ann, now the wife of Samuel Wilson, was born in Utica, N. Y., April 26, 1857; Fanny C., was born near Springfield, June 19, 1859, and is now the wife of William H. Thomas; Frank Grant was born at Springfield, January 29, 1862; Abraham Lincoln was born near Springfield, March 1, 1865 and died May 5, 1888; Ada Matilda was born in Shelby County, September 5, 1867, and is now the wife of William Hartmann.

Mr. Beckett has always been very patriotic having been a strong Union man during the stormy times of war. He is also an ardent advocate of temperance but never paid much attention to politics in fact seldom voting. While our subject is a strong supporter of the cause of Christ, he is at present not a member of any church. His early training was in the Methodist Church and he still adheres to that faith. His family are members of

the Church of God whose house of worship is located on land denoted by him. He also paid two-thirds of the expenses necessary to building a church. Mr. Beckett is a man who is well-known and highly respected in the community in which he resides. He is the architect of his own fortune having but a few dollars in his pocket when he emigrated to America, but by industry and good management he has succeeded in accumulating a competence.



**J**OHN DIXON, Sr. The owner of the fine farm located on section 1, of Lovington Township, Moultrie County, is of Southern parentage, his father being Jacob Dixon, who was born in North Carolina, and his mother Ann Murry (Miller) Dixon, was born in Virginia, the State that is so noted for pretty girls, statesmen and good cooking. Soon after marriage they settled in Ross County, Ohio, where our subject's father died; the mother survived and came to Moultrie County, where she finally passed away at the residence of our subject. They were the parents of ten children, of whom our subject was the third in order of birth.

The original of our sketch was born in Ross County, Ohio, August 11, 1819. There he grew to manhood and was employed as were most of the young farmers of his age and day. His boyhood years were marked by his application to school duties and learning the routine of farm work. On reaching manhood he was married to Lydia Ray. Their nuptials were solemnized November 11, 1844. The lady was born in Ohio, November 15, 1822. They were the parents of nine children whose names are as follows,—Jacob, Mahala, Mary, Rachel L., Charity, Moses, Lydia E., John R. and Nancy E. Of these Mahala and Charity are deceased. Mrs. Lydia Dixon died in Lovington Township, July 18, 1871.

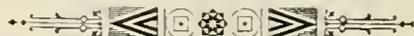
John Dixon was married the second time in Ross County, Ohio, April 8, 1877, to Mrs. Margaret (Henson) Springer. Her parents were Henry and Sarah

(Murry) Henson; they died in Ohio. By her first marriage she became the wife of Alanson Springer, who died in Jackson County, Ohio. By that union she became the mother of eight children, whose names are respectively—Louisa, Sarah, Drusilla, Pleasant, Wheelen, Titus, Hester J. and Lydia. Mrs. Margaret Dixon was born in Ross County, Ohio, March 27, 1817.

Our subject in his young manhood worked in a saw and grist mill, and in a felling and cording mill, which he followed until he was thirty years old, beginning this work at the early age of twelve years. Since that time, that is, at the age of thirty, he has followed farming and finds the peaceful serenity of this life to be more suited to his temperament than the business in which he was engaged in his youth. He is the owner of three hundred and fourteen acres of good farm land upon which he had placed good improvements having expended large sums of money in the erection of buildings, conveyance of water, drainage, fencing, etc. He also owns eighty acres in Buffalo County, Neb.

Our subject is a follower of the Democratic party believing thoroughly in the superiority of principle and executive power as exerted by that form of government. He has filled the office of Highway Commissioner most successfully in the township. Mrs. Dixon has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since fifteen years of age. Her husband is liberal in his religious belief. His first wife was a member of the Christian Church from the time she was sixteen years of age until her death. Mr. Dixon's advent into this State and county was made in March 1863, and the following February he settled on the farm where he now lives. He has somewhat dropped the active proprietorship of the place, and lives a semi-retired life, leaving the management of the place to one of his sons. All of Mr. Dixon's children who are surviving, have homes and families of their own, and are honored and respected members of the communities in which they live. Jacob Dixon married Orilda Fred, who died May, 1891. Mahala died when only about twenty-three years of age, at a time when life is so full of promise. Mary is the wife of Sylvester Arganbright. Rachael married F. O. Davis. Charity died when a young lady

twenty-two years old. Moses was united to Miss Dora Ballard. Lydia E. is the wife of Harmon Hoffman. John R. is still in the bachelor ranks. Nancy E. is the wife of J. S. Fred; Louisa is the wife of Joseph Sigler; Sarah married Ambrose Davis. Drusilla was united to Samuel Mulvany. Pleasant married Caroline Leach. Wheelen made mistress of the domestic affairs of his household, Elizabeth Steward. Titus married Nancy Sinclair. Hester J. and Lydia are deceased.



**G**EORGE FERRE, the leading business man of Dalton City, Moultrie County, located in this town in April, 1872, which date is identical with the founding of Dalton City. He is the proprietor of two flourishing stores in one of which he carries a general stock and in the other hardware. He was born in Perry, Pike County, Ill., January 6, 1845, being the son of Lucian and Ann (Ayars) Ferre, the former a native of Canada and the latter of England.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Daniel Ferre, was a native of Springfield, Mass., but passed the last years of his life in Canada and thus the father of our subject had his nativity in that dominion. There Lucian Ferre grew to manhood and was married. He had taken the trade of a blacksmith and concluded that in the newer regions of Illinois would be the best place to carry on his trade. He therefore migrated here, becoming an early settler in Pike County, locating at Perry, where he engaged in the manufacture of plows. In that early day Illinois possessed but one short line of railway, that from Naples to Jacksonville, therefore he was compelled to journey in primitive fashion to the new home, coming in a wagon except when crossing the lake.

In September, 1856, he determined to give up the plow business and devote himself to agricultural pursuits, removing to Macon County, and settling on a farm in the vicinity of the city of Macon. There he lived until death called him hence in 1875, his age being sixty-four years. His faithful and beloved wife had preceded him to

the spirit world, three months previous to his demise, having passed away at the age of sixty-five. They had a family of five children, namely: Louisa, who married H. H. Brengelman of Perry, Pike County, Ill.; William H. who died in January, 1875, leaving a family of two children: George, our subject; Sarah, who married J. H. Gibson of Macon, Ill.; Emily A. who resides at Perry. The father of this family was a man of ability and succeeded in accumulating a handsome property, and the later years of himself and wife were prosperous and comfortable ones. They were held in high esteem by the people with whom they made their home and were active in church work, he being a Deacon in the Baptist Church of Moweaqua.

The boyhood of our subject was passed in Perry and later on the farm in Macon County, where he received thorough instruction and practice in the duties of farm life and took his schooling in the district schools. This education was further supplemented by a course of study at Shurtleff College, Upper Alton, Ill. He pursued farming until some twenty-five years of age and then came to Dalton City and entered upon the business of buying and selling grain, and in the fall of 1872 purchased an interest in a general store, and as a member of the firm of Webb & Ferre, carried on business for five years, after which he became the sole proprietor and in 1887 added a hardware store to the list of his enterprises. His success has been marked and he is rapidly accumulating a handsome property. He now owns seven acres of land near Dalton, one hundred and sixty in Shelby County, Ill., one hundred and sixty in Macon County, Ill., and one hundred and sixty in Kansas.

A happy and congenial marriage was contracted November 17, 1875, between George Ferre and Eleanor Dalton, daughter of James Dalton. This lady was born in the North of England and as her mother died when she was quite a small child she was placed under the care of her uncle, Thomas Dalton, in whose honor Dalton City is named and was bought by him to the United States, and reared and educated under his fostering care. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ferre, Daisy L., Mabel and Guy. They are being

carefully and judiciously reared and educated and are being conscientiously instructed by their parents in the Christian faith. For nine years Mr. Ferre was Postmaster at Dalton. In politics he is a staunch and sturdy Republican and is also identified with the Knights of Honor.

**E**LDER WILLIAM A. BATES. The divine command "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," has for more than eighteen hundred years been accepted by a few who felt that they would accept the humble position of teacher to the people, for their dear Lord's sake. Every religion has its fanatics, but the purpose of none is so pure and unalloyed as that of the preacher to the simple agricultural classes of America. They are one with the people and no false notions of superiority can give them prestige over their flock. They can preach the life of the Divine man in all its simplicity, because they themselves, in a degree, live the same life.

Our subject resides on section 13, of Ridge Township, Shelby County. He was born in Grant County, Ind., his natal day being December 4, 1851. He is a son of David and Elizabeth (Bradshaw) Bates, both natives of Indiana. Both paternal and maternal grandparents were pioneer settlers of his native State. The parents of our subject died in Indiana, and of a family of eight children, only three attained their majority. They are, Rebecca, John Wisley and our subject. Rebecca married C. F. Lay, and resides in Miami County, Kan. John died in 1890 in Miami County, Kan. Our subject was only five years of age when his father passed away from this life, and one year later he lost his mother, and only those who have been orphans can appreciate the bereavement of the lad. Our subject had a guardian appointed with whom he lived for a time, after a previous residence with his relatives on the home farm. He attended the district schools and derived all the advantages to be had there.

At the age of seventeen the original of our sketch came to Shelby County and purchased

eighty acres of land. In 1874, he was married to Armina Bare, a daughter of Michael and Margaret (Dillinger) Bare. The lady was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., August 11, 1847. In 1848 the family removed to Ohio and in 1872 came to Shelby County, where she and our subject met and married. After marriage, he of whom we write, with his wife, went to Kansas, where they resided for a time in Miami, and then went across the line into Missouri. While West, he purchased forty acres of land and operated land which he rented.

In October, 1882, the family returned to Shelby County and our subject has since rented the land which he now occupies, operating two hundred and forty acres. Politically, Mr. Bates is a Prohibitionist, not only living, but teaching and preaching a total abstinence from all stimulants. Five little ones have come as buds of promise to cheer the home of our subject and wife. Of these, four are now living. They are Maggie, Cora, Bertha and John. Mr. Bates has been an earnest Christian and has officiated as minister over several congregations. He preached one year at Antioch, two years at Wilber Creek, two years at Union, and two years at Zion, at which place he is now preaching. He united with the Church of Christ when twenty one years of age, and had no special preparation for the pulpit, gleaning his theological training as best he could from books and conversations with learned, good men. During the time of his ministry with the churches above mentioned, he at the same time pursued his calling as a farmer, although he has given a portion of his time to his ministerial duties. He is a member of the church of Antioch, and occasionally preaches at that place.



**J**AMES SLATER. Pioneer life in the Prairie State was not, perhaps, so full of hardships as in some of the more densely wooded sections of our country, but those who came to this State in the early days can recount many tales of deprivation which sound strangely to the

ears of the younger generation. In the days when the subject of this sketch first lived in Illinois, there was no Justice of the Peace nearer than Shelbyville, and for four years after his coming here no property was assessed for taxation.

Mr. Slater was born near the city of Indianapolis, Ind., May 2, 1824. His parents were William and Jane (Wilson) Slater, the father being a native of Yorkshire, England, and the mother being born in Kentucky. They were married in Indiana and resided there until 1832, when they came to Lawrence County, Ill., and afterward to Montgomery County where they settled in 1844.

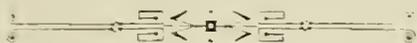
The subject of this biographical sketch came to Shelby County in the year 1848 and for four years previous had lived just across the line and within sight of the village of Oconee. Farming was his occupation and he did much pioneer work in Montgomery and Shelby Counties. His first marriage which took place in Montgomery County, Ill., prior to his coming to Shelby County, united him with a young lady of great loveliness of character, Miss Ann Morrell. Her married life was brief but full of cares and responsibilities, as was that of all early pioneer women. She died in 1853 after having become the mother of five children, one of whom died in early childhood; Jennie died in 1889. The two who survive are Horatio and Sidney, both of whom are energetic young farmers of character and enterprise, the eldest living in Fayette County and the younger in Oconee Township.

In 1863 our subject assumed a second matrimonial alliance with Avy J. (Turner) Ishmael. Seven children were born of this marriage, five of whom were gathered to the arms of the Heavenly Shepherd in early childhood, and the two who are living are Otis, who resides at home and Alta, now Mrs. Ed. Morgan who lives on a farm in this township.

Mr. Slater retired from the farm about nine years ago, and engaged in the business of merchandising. He owned and operated a store in Oconee, and there carried a full line of groceries, provisions, queensware, tinware, notions, etc., and enjoyed a lucrative trade. He always took an active interest in political affairs and worked with the Democratic party, believing that the principles

announced by the author of the Declaration of Independence are good enough for the guidance of the country in these modern days. He was Justice of the Peace for eighteen years, in Montgomery County. He was elected Supervisor from his township when he lived in Audubon, Montgomery County, and had served as School Director, having always taken a deep and abiding interest in the public school system. During his forty-seven years' residence in this vicinity he witnessed the development of this county from a wilderness to its present state of high cultivation.

The Oconee Lodge No. 392 A. F. & A. M., is the social body with which Mr. Slater was formerly connected, but at the time of his death he was non-affiliated. He held no church membership but was interested in the progress of churches and schools and all institutions looking to the progress of Oconee. He was distinctively a pioneer of this region and a man who had the confidence and respect of all with whom he is acquainted. Mr. Slater died August 28, 1891, aged sixty-seven years eight months and six days.



**G**EORGE W. BOYS. A member of a family highly respected and honored in the community in which he resides our subject is one of the pioneers in the central part of the State. He was there growing to manhood while Lincoln was maturing and preparing for the career which has made his name immortal. Mr. Boys resides on section 26, of Ridge Township, Shelby County. He is a son of Alexander and Virginia Boys, of whom notice may be found under the sketch of James Boys, in another part of this volume. Our subject's father was born in the beginning of the present century and when the War of 1812 occurred, he was old enough to remember something regarding it.

He of whom we write first saw the light of day in Vermilion County, this State, January 23, 1834. When only two years of age his family removed from that county and located in Shelby County. Here he grew to manhood and assisted

in the improvement of the farm, making his home under the paternal roof until he attained his majority. When twenty one years of age, he attended school for one winter, and the next year he was married to, Elizabeth Hardy, daughter of Thomas and Nellie Hardy. Their marriage was celebrated February 26, 1856. The lady was born in Fairfield County, Ohio. For the further history of her family see sketch of William Hardy in another part of this RECORD.

After marriage, Mr. Boys rented a tract of land which he operated for two years. He then purchased eighty acres in Todd's Point Township, there residing for several years, engaged in plowing, planting and reaping, and the general improvement of his place. They then removed to Ridge Township, and purchased a larger tract comprising one hundred and sixty acres, which was the nucleus of his present farm, which was at the time of purchase but a little improved. He is now the possessor of three hundred acres of finely cultivated and highly productive land, upon which he has expended large amounts in improvements. Although Mr. Boys follows general agriculture as his calling, he particularly favors the branch of stock raising and has many fine animals that are noted throughout the county for the purity of their breeding. For some years he devoted himself to wheat raising.

Mr. Boys and his amiable and charming wife have been the parents of eight children, six of whom are living. They are Ollie, Luella, Emma, Sarah, Cora and Hope. Of these, Emma is the wife of Lawson Killam. Sarah is the wife of Cyrus Killam. Politically, our subject favors the Democratic party and although he is much interested in local politics, desiring that the best man should receive the favors to be awarded, he has never been prevailed upon to accept office. Religiously, Mr. Boys is a believer in Christianity, but has never connected himself with any church, finding good in all. His daughter Ollie, however, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which she is an efficient worker. Our subject has felt that in being entrusted with the care of children, an almost sacred obligation is upon him to enrich their intelligence to the greatest possible

extent, and he has never spared any means to give his children the best educational advantages. Two daughters, after finishing at the home school, attended the Wesleyan College, at Bloomington, and two others finished at St. Mary's, near Terre Haute, Ind. Their course in the Shelbyville schools prior to their college life, was thorough and practical. His children are cultivated and refined women, who are adornments and desirable additions to the social and intellectual life of the community in which they live. Miss Cora is a teacher of music, in which art she is proficient, having a wide local reputation for the beauty and sympathy of her piano forte performances.



**D**ANIEL MOLL, of Moweaqua, one of the foremost stock dealers in this county, and an extensive land owner, is one of our substantial citizens who in the successful management of this business has added to the wealth of this section and has helped to establish its prosperity on a solid foundation. He was born in Bucks County Pa., which was also the native county of his father, who bore the same name as himself. His grandfather was likewise a Pennsylvanian by birth and was of German antecedents. He spent his last years at his occupation as a farmer in Bucks County

The father of our subject was reared on a farm and always followed agricultural pursuits, spending his entire life in the county of his nativity. He married Margaret Hines, a native of that county, and a life-long resident of that section of Pennsylvania. She was the mother of fifteen children that grew to maturity.

Daniel Moll, of this biographical sketch, passed his life on his father's farm, and when he was eighteen early years of age his father gave him his time. He started out even with the world, his only capital being a clear brain, strong muscle, a courageous heart, and right principles, but these were worth more to him than money, and by their aid he has been more than ordinarily successful in acquiring wealth. He made his way to Ohio after he left

the sheltering roof of his old home, and entered upon his career by working upon a farm by the month. He was so employed in the Buckeye State until 1853, when, thinking that he could do better in this State, he came to Shelby County with a team, and at first farmed as a renter. As soon as his means would admit, he bought forty acres of land in Pickaway Township, a half of which was under cultivation, and a log cabin adorned the place. Busy years followed his location there, but prosperity smiled upon his efforts, and he often judiciously invested his money in land, and at the present time has nine hundred fifty eight acres of valuable real estate, divided into five finely improved farms.

Mr. Moll continued his residence on his homestead until May, 1890, when he came to Moweaqua and purchased the pleasant place where he now lives. He has for many years been actively engaged in buying and shipping live-stock, commencing in a moderate way, and gradually building up a large business, which he still continues, he being one of the shippers in the county, all his stock going to Chicago. He is one of our solid business men, keen foresight and unerring judgment, united with honorable and generous dealings, marking all his transactions.

He stands high in financial circles, and public-spirit is one of his characteristics, he being always willing to use his means and influence to advance all enterprises that will in any way benefit city or country. He has always given of his time to help in the management of civic affairs, and has done good service as Highway Commissioner and as a member of the District School Board. As to his politics, he is a firm and unswerving adherence to the Republican party. Both he and his good wife are people of earnest religious character and are faithful members of the United Brethren in Christ Church.

Mr. Moll has been exceedingly happy in his domestic relations, as by his marriage in November, 1853, with Miss Coraline Wolfe, he secured a wife who has ever been watchful of his interests, and has cheerfully co-operated with him in the upbuilding of their home. They have five children, namely: Mary E., who is the wife of Jesse O.

Weakly, of Ridge Township; John, who married Miss Nelly Tolly, and lives in Pickaway Township; Clara A., the wife of Cyrus Weakly, of Pickaway Township; and William Henry, who lives at home with his parents.

Mrs. Moll is a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, and a daughter of Andrew and Susan (Stearns) Wolf. Her father, who is thought to have been a native of Pennsylvania, was a pioneer of Hawkin Township, Fairfield County, where he carried on his trade as a miller, and died at a ripe age in 1840. His wife, who was a Pennsylvanian by birth, spent her last years with a daughter in Carro County, Ind.



**J**ACOB STUMP. The most imperishable monuments erected to commemorate the virtues of our deceased friends are not built of perishable marble, but are found in the memories and affections of friends and fellow-men. Our subject, Jacob Stump, who passed away from this life to seek the light of upper day, April 8, 1876, was one whose monument though unpretentious, is as enduring as the memory of man, for his thoughts and acts and words were such as to make the world better and wiser and to bring humanity into nearer relation with the great Infinite. He was a genial, whole-souled man who was the confidant and friend of every person who needed a sympathetic ear in which to pour their joys or grievancees.

Our subject was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, October 20, 1820. He comes of Pennsylvania Dutch parentage, who were early settlers in Fairfield County, Ohio. His father and mother lived and died where our subject was born. They were both old people at the time of their decease, and had seen much experience in pioneer life. They were members of the German Reformed Church. Our subject grew to manhood and attained his majority in his native county. There he was educated and having an aptitude for study, he began his career as a teacher and was thus engaged until he was twenty-nine years old.

In 1849, Mr. Stump was united in marriage

in Pickaway County, Ohio, to Miss Sarah Brinker, a native also of that place, being there born March 13, 1827. She was the daughter of George and Mary (Shafer), natives of the State of Pennsylvania, and of Dutch ancestry with a mixture of Irish. After marriage in Pickaway County, George Brinker and wife began life as very poor people. They made a home far back in the depths of the woods of Pickaway County, Ohio, where they began their domestic life in the most primitive style. They were surrounded by wild game of all kinds, and before their little log cabin was built their cooking was done in the lea of two logs, which they rolled together in lieu of a fireplace. They were industrious and ingenious young people, and as their children increased and grew in stature and strength, they made a comfortable little home, where the parents lived and labored together for many years, surrounded by a family of children that were blessed with robust constitutions, and bright, clear, vigorous minds; and although they did not afford a great deal of style, they had plenty to live on and a comfortable abode. Here the parents lived until the time of their decease, being old people when taken away. For years their social life was closely connected with their church relations, being ardent members of the Methodist denomination. Mr. Brinker's home, humble as it was, was always large enough to entertain the traveling preacher, and they did not regard it as anything but a privilege to transform their house into a temporary sanctuary. The thought seems fitting that in the little house snuggled down among the great trees in God's own temple, that the handful of settlers should meet to hear the Gospel expounded.

Mrs. Stump, the wife of our subject, was early acquainted with pioneer life, and was fitted to be the wife of a man who was determined to make a place for himself in the world. After the birth of three of their children, one of whom died, Mr. and Mrs. Stump set out, in 1854, for what was then considered the wild West. They took the overland route, coming hither with teams, thus bringing their household goods and two small children. The journey was a difficult one, for the mother had a baby who was less than a year old, and who

was taken sick on the way, compelling them to make a stop of a week. Mothers of to-day, who are frantic if a physician cannot respond to their call within ten minutes to attend upon their children who are slightly indisposed, can realize the anxiety of the mother whose situation rendered it so difficult to alleviate the suffering of her little one. After reaching this State, they settled in Pickaway Township, on a farm in section 19, which was then only slightly improved. It comprised one hundred and sixty acres, and here they began life anew, and here they have lived and labored together until the father and husband was taken away. He lived, however, to enjoy the result of his early labor.

Mrs. Stump still owns eighty acres, and here she makes her abiding place. It is a well improved farm, and does not suffer from lack of care. The lady has been a hard worker, and for many years did the work that our grandmothers discarded, that of spinning her own yarn and thread, and then weaving it into cloth and carpets. After living to see her children grown up about her, and taking honorable positions in life, she is still hale and active for one of her years. One of her greatest pleasures and comforts has been in church work, both she and her husband having been for many years members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Stump was a great Sunday-school worker. Politically, he affiliated with the Democratic party, and occupied several local offices, having been Justice of the Peace for a number of years.

Mrs. Stump is the mother of twelve children, four of whom are now deceased. Their names are respectively: Mary, George, Henry, and an unnamed infant. The living children are: Catherine, Salome, Wayne, Elizabeth, Charles, John, Ida B. and Carrie. Catherine is the wife of John Porter, and resides on a farm in Todd's Point Township. Salome is the wife of Frank Sloan, who owns a farm in this township. Wayne, who took to wife Sarah Davis, is a farmer in this township. Elizabeth, who married S. B. Cole, lives on and operates the home place. Charles took to wife Lucretia Hoy, and lives on a farm in Pickaway Township. John resides with his brother-in-law, John Porter,

at this place. Ida B. is the wife of B. A. Richard, of whom a biographical sketch may be found in another part of this volume. The youngest daughter, Carrie, is the comfort and support of her mother's declining years; she is a well educated and refined woman, holding a desirable position in the public schools of the county.



**H**ON. ALFRED C. CAMPBELL, a distinguished veteran officer of two wars, was formerly one of the leading farmers of this county, and, as the proprietor of a large and finely improved farm, is still identified with its agricultural affairs although practically living in retirement in his pleasant home at Moweauqua. He is a son of one of the early pioneer families of Central Illinois, is noted in its history as the third child born of white parents in Sangamon County and is thought to be the oldest white man living who is a native of that county.

Our subject was born July 22, 1819, and comes of good Revolutionary stock and Scotch ancestry. The first of the Campbell family to come to this country from his native heaths in Scotland was the great-grandfather of subject, who came here in Colonial times and settled in South Carolina. His son Jeremiah was the next in line. He was born in Scotland and emigrated to South Carolina, and went from there to Tennessee in the early years of its settlement, before it became a State and when the Cherokee Indians held full sway there. He located at Hampton, Carter County and spent the remainder of his life there. He did valiant service in the Revolutionary War as a soldier under the gallant Gen. Francis Marion. His wife was a Miss Marr.

The father of subject, John Campbell, was born Nov. 24, 1790, in Carter County, Tenn. He was of a thoughtful and studious turn of mind, and made the best of his opportunities to obtain an education. In 1817 he came to Illinois, which was then a territory, and first located in Madison County. He was there married to Levina Parkinson, and in 1819 he started with a team for the unsettled

wilderness of Sangamon County. He was one of the first to locate there, and though the land was not then in market he made a claim on Lick Creek, and after building a log cabin for the shelter of his family, he entered actively upon pioneer work that lay before him, of evolving a farm from the wild country in which he had settled. He was of an energetic disposition, very capable, and by hard and unremitting labor acquired and improved a large tract of land, and became one of the most substantial men of his township. A man of his calibre was naturally called to positions of trust in the administration of public affairs, and among other offices he held that of Justice of the Peace many years. Possessed of considerable learning himself, he had a just value of a good education, and did all he could to advance the educational interests of his township by building a hewed log house on his own land for school purposes, the school being taught on the subscription plan. Politically he was a staunch Democrat. He died in 1874, thus closing a long and well-spent life, and leaving behind him the legacy of an untarnished name that is held in reverence by all who knew him.

When Mr. Campbell became a pioneer of Sangamon County, there were but few white settlers in Illinois, the Indians still retaining their old hunting grounds to a great extent. Kaskaskia was the capital of the State, Springfield had not been founded, and St. Louis, which was but a village at that time was the nearest market for the settlers to sell their products and obtain supplies. The people were home-livers, having to subsist on what they could raise and on the game such as deer, wild turkeys, etc., which were abundant. The wives and daughters of the pioneers had to card, spin and weave the wool and flax raised by the men, to make cloth for wearing material and other purposes. The father of subject lived to see a great change wrought, not only in the face of the country, but in the mode of living and the customs of the people.

The maternal grandfather of subject was William Parkinson a native of Tennessee. His father, Peter Parkinson, was born in England, came to America in Colonial times, and spent his last years in Carter County, Tenn. William Parkinson was

reared in Tennessee, and came from there to this State in territorial days. He was a pioneer of Madison County, whence he went after a few years to Lafayette County, Wis., of which he was one of the first settlers, and there he died in the course of time. His wife was a Miss Russell. The mother of subject was a worthy type of the pioneer women of Illinois who did so much to help their fathers, husbands and sons in reclaiming this State from the wilderness. She carefully reared a family of six children to the habits of industry and right living, of whom our subject is the eldest. The names of the others are William, Jeremiah, Joseph W., Peter C., and Caroline.

Born in the early years of the settlement of this State, our subject grew up amid pioneer surroundings, and was educated in the primitive schools of the olden times, which were taught in log houses that were furnished with rude slab benches, and greased paper pasted over the opening made by the removal of a log from the side of the building served instead of glass to light the interior. He was studious, and under such able masters as Daniel McCaskill, John Calhoun, who afterwards became famous in the Kansas border troubles, and Rowan Morris, he obtained a good practical education, including a good knowledge of mathematics and surveying. Thus well equipped mentally, he utilized his education by teaching several terms after he attained manhood. He selected farming as his principal life-work, however, and was engaged at that in Sangamon County until he came to this county in 1851, when he chose a desirable location on section 4, township 13 (now Flat Branch Township), range 2. He developed a fine farm of four hundred and ten acres and also gave his attention to the mercantile business, opening a store on his homestead, which he conducted there until the village of Moweaqua was founded in 1856. He then removed his business thither, and carried it on here until 1859. Returning then to his farm, he made it his place of residence the ensuing five years, though much of that time was spent in fighting for his country on Southern battlefields. Since the war he has lived practically retired at Moweaqua, though superintending his farming interests, as he still retains four hundred

acres of fine farm land in Moweauqua and Flat Branch Townships.

As before mentioned. Capt. Campbell has displayed his loyalty to the Government and his patriotism by service in two wars. After war was declared with Mexico he enlisted June 10, 1846, in Company D, Fourth Illinois Infantry, commanded by Col. E. D. Baker. He was elected Lieutenant of his regiment, and went with it from Alton to Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, whence, after a few weeks' drilling in army tactics, it was dispatched to Mexico by way of New Orleans. Ascending the Rio Grande River to Camargo, from that point the regiment marched back to Metamoros, and from there to Victoria, where our subject and his command were placed under Gen. Scott, and bore active part in the bombardment of Vera Cruz and the battle of Cerro Gordo. At Tampico, the captain dying, our subject was left in command of the company, and acted in that capacity until the expiration of the term of enlistment, and returning then to Illinois, arrived about a year from the time of leaving the State.

Capt. Campbell's experience in the war with Mexico made his services valuable in the great Civil War that followed in the United States several years later, when he volunteered in October, 1861, and went to the front as Captain of Company E, Thirty-second Illinois Infantry, commanded by Col. John A. Logan. For three years he was with the Army of the Tennessee, and during the latter part of the war his regiment was a part of the Seventeenth corps. The Captain saw much hard campaigning and fighting in Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina. He faced the enemy in the battles of Ft. Donelson and Shiloh, was active in the sieges of Corinth and Coldwater, and fought in the engagement around Vicksburg, Jackson and Kenesaw Mountain, and was with Sherman on his famous "March from Atlanta to the Sea," taking part in the various battles and skirmishes on the way. He was mustered out of the service in February, 1865, a war-worn veteran, whose record as a soldier was bright and reflected credit on the military of his native State.

Capt. Campbell cast his first Presidential vote for Martin Van Buren in 1840, and for more than half a century has been a Democrat of the deepest dye. His party honored him by electing him to the legislature in 1880 to represent the Thirty-third Senatorial District, including the counties of Shelby, Effingham and Cumberland. A flattering majority of his fellow-citizens' votes sent him to the General Assembly, and he fulfilled his duties while there with characteristic fidelity and public spirit. He was at one time Justice of the Peace, being an incumbent of that office two terms. In his social relations he is connected with the Masonic fraternity, and is now the oldest charter member of Moweauqua Lodge, No. 180.

May 3, 1838, Capt. Campbell was married to Polly, daughter of Peyton Foster, and a native of Kentucky. Their happy wedded life of nearly twenty years' duration was brought to an end by the death of the faithful wife January 9, 1858. She was the mother of these six children: John P., a resident of Spokane Falls, Wash.; Elizira E., wife of James W. Clark, of Moweauqua; Sarah C., wife of Edward Segar, of Decatur; Leonard W., a resident of Dallas, Tex.; Alfred C., now deceased, who married and left five children; and George W., deceased. Our subject was again married June 17, 1859, to his present estimable wife, formerly Miss Jennie Hurt, a native of Montgomery County, Ohio, and in her he has a true companion and devoted helpmate.



REV. ALBERT R. BECKETT. There is perhaps no more public-spirited man nor one more wide-awake to matters of general interest in the township of Oconee, Shelby County, than the gentleman whose name initiates this sketch, who is carrying on the work of a farmer and stock-raiser, along with arduous pastoral labors. He was born in McMinn County, Tenn., October 27, 1824. His father, Josiah Beckett, was a Virginian, and his mother, Barbara Souders, a Marylander. They have three sons and six

daughters of whom our subject is the youngest. They are: Annie, Thomas, Sabina, Elizabeth, Elza, Mary, Nancy, Susannah, and Albert R., our subject. Only four are now living. Eliza resides in Clinton County, Ky., as does also Susannah and Nancy in Missouri.

The parents of our subject removed from Tennessee to Kentucky while he was still young and there he attended school at Danville. He studied law for some time but decided not to enter practice. After eight years spent in Danville, he was married in Clinton County, Ky., in 1845, to Miss Louisa Shelley, who was born in that State in 1825, of Virginia parents who had removed to Kentucky in a very early day.

Albert R. Beckett remained in Kentucky until 1862 when he was obliged to flee to save his life. He had been robbed of everything he had by the so called Confederacy. He was frequently shot at and on one occasion he and his two sons were attacked while at work in the field. They heroically defended themselves, being well armed, but were finally obliged to retreat, leaving everything. They gathered the little family into a wagon and set out with an ox-team for the North. He had but seventy-five cents in money when he left the South. The ground traveled over by the party lay between the two opposing armies, hence no obstructions were presented to their flight.

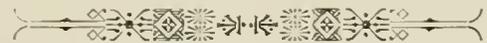
The family reached Charleston, Coles County, Ill., and remained there for about four years. Mr. Beckett bought forty acres of land which he finally sold and started to go to Ft. Smith, Ark., but while on the way he was attacked by guerrillas and wounded. He at once decided to return to Illinois and now made his permanent home in Oconee Township, where he still resides.

To Mr. and Mrs. Beckett were born eleven children nine of whom are now living; Elza who married Maria Titus, is a farmer and resides in Oconee Township; Albert R. married and resides in Missouri on a farm; John with his wife lives in this township; G. A. C. is married and lives near his parents; William C. lives with his wife in this township; Samuel is married and lives with his parents; Barbara Jane is married and lives in Oconee Township; Eliza Ellen is unmarried and is taking care

of her afflicted mother. Arcadia died in childhood. In addition to these children there were born a pair of twins, a boy and a girl, whom the father named Abe and Lincoln, giving the girl also the more feminine appellation of Clarinda. Abe died in infancy. His sister, Miss Clarinda Lincoln Beckett, married E. F. Barker, an attorney at Danville, Ind., who is also a noted orator espousing the Prohibition cause.

About thirty-three years ago Mr. Beckett experienced religion and soon after felt it his duty to preach the Gospel. He studied theological works and finally began to preach for the Baptist Church in Clinton County, Ky., and afterward in Coles County, Ill. He subsequently became imbued with the idea that our portion of punishment and tribulation was quite complete in this life and he espoused the belief of the Universalist and was ordained by the Universalist Convention of the State of Illinois some eleven years ago.

Mrs. Beckett has been a helpless invalid for the last eleven years. She believes that it is largely due to the nervous shock which she experienced during her husband's hazardous experiences in the late war. Mr. Beckett owns two hundred and forty acres of valuable land which he has in fine condition as he superintends it all personally. He takes an interest in public affairs generally, and is enterprising and public spirited. He is a Prohibitionist in sentiment and espouses the cause of the laboring men of the county, demanding that they have representation in Congress and elsewhere.



**T**HOMAS SINGER. It seems odd that while our Teutonic neighbors are generally conceded to be rather phlegmatic and slow, and notoriously a home-loving people, that at the same time they should be among the widest traveled people and have accomplished more in advancement in the general sciences, than any other nationality. Our subject, Thomas Singer, who resides on his farm located on section 6, Tower Hill Township, Shelby County, is a German by

birth and education, and his life has been one of varied experiences. Reared as a farmer lad in his own country, he had a taste for military training to which the lads of Germany are subjected.

Mr. Singer was born in Bavaria, Germany, November 8, 1831. He is a son of John and Caroline (Dorn) Singer, and is the only one of the family who have left the home nest and dared the dangers of the three thousand miles of ocean, to come to the United States. A half brother, John Habererlein, came with him. Our subject came hither in 1852 and after landing proceeded to Fairfield County, Ohio, where for some time he was engaged in work as a hostler.

In 1856, when the gold fever was at its height in California, the original of our sketch crossed the plains in order to seek his fortune in the land then productive of the precious metal, now yielding the richest harvest in its fruits and woods. He there remained for ten years, during that time being engaged as a farm hand for seven years, after which he kept a dairy near San Jose. He was reasonably successful in a financial way while West, although he had to contend with much sickness in his family. In 1866, he returned to the Central States, locating in Shelby County, where he purchased land upon which he now resides. This tract was originally railroad land and at the time of his location was virgin soil, its only product having been the wild flowers of the prairie; for this he paid \$13 and \$16 per acre. He now owns one hundred and thirty-one and a third acres, which is thoroughly improved and in a fine state of cultivation, the changes having been made by his own efforts.

Mr. Singer has erected a good farm residence upon his place. It is quite new, having been built in 1890. Just before his removal to California, our subject united himself for better or worse to Catherine Leyb. She was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, and was of German parentage, her parents being Nicholas and Elizabeth (Arnolt) Leyh. Several children have come to gladden the hearts and homes of their affectionate parents. Their names are John, George, Thomas, August, Elizabeth, Henry, Ellen and Clara. Politically Mr. Singer favors the Democratic party; its broad

platform more nearly approaching the idea which in early life he formed of the freedom of government in America. He, with his family, is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.



**W**ILLIAM J. BREHMER. The pleasant home belonging to the intelligent young man whose name appears at the head of this sketch, is presided over by a lady of true culture and refinement who makes it one of the bright spots in Prairie Township, Shelby County, and the best place on earth to her hard working husband and interesting children. Mr. Brehmer was born in Prussia, Germany, June 10, 1858, being a son of Charles and Caroline (Kasang) Brehmer, who came to America in 1861 and made Chicago their first stopping place. They remained in the vicinity of that city for about two years and then removed to this county, where the parents now own two hundred and ten acres of land, all of which they have changed from a raw prairie to a well cultivated farm, and upon which they have placed excellent farm buildings.

Our subject is the eldest of the five surviving children of his parents, his brothers and sisters being Lizzie, (Mrs. Theodore Werth); Fred, Emma and Anna. Farm training consumed most of the early years of our subject and he had but a scant opportunity for acquiring an education, although he did for a short time attend the district schools but the family necessities often demanded his help upon the farm, and the father did not appreciate as the son does the necessities of an American citizen in this line. He resided at home until 1881, when he was happily joined in marriage with Matilda, daughter of Charles and Margaret Kull, who was born in this county, October 9, 1861.

The father of Mrs. Brehmer resides on section 14, Prairie Township, to which he removed from Hocking County, Ohio, in 1856. He was born February 16, 1834, and is a son of Frederick and Hannah Kull of whom our reader will learn more in the biography of Mr. J. F. Kull upon another page of this book. He worked as a farm hand in

Hocking County, and after attaining his majority worked for one season in Miami County, Ind., but returned to Ohio until 1856, when he came to Illinois. His marriage in December, 1857, with Margaret, daughter of Adam and Catherine Lowery brought him ten children, of whom Mrs. Brehmer is the third in order of age. For a number of years he rented land but now owns sixty acres where he resides in Prairie Township, all of which he has changed from virgin soil to a well cultivated farm, and upon which he has placed good buildings. He is independent in his political ideas but tends to the Democratic vote rather than the Republican, and in his religious life he is in accord and membership with the Lutheran Church.

Six children blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Brehmer and the following named are living: Clara, Amelia, Nellie and Anna. Forty acres of fine land and a comfortable farm residence forms the estate of our subject, and by his industry and frugality he has been able to place all of these in an excellent condition. His political views have caused him to affiliate with the Democratic party and his position as School Director has given him an opportunity to work efficiently to the end that his children, and the children of his neighbors may have the best opportunities for education. He earnestly believes that such a training as may be acquired in the public schools is the best preparation for the duties and responsibilities of mature years. The Evangelical Lutheran Church is the religious body with which he finds himself in accord and here he makes his religious home and is a helper in every good word and work.



**E**MANUEL OMAN. The history of our subject is that of many farmers who have struggled to make themselves and families a home and social position in their chosen communities, hiding the little romances or tragedies that come to them as to others under a serene and impassive exterior. Not many of our farmers had the time or inclination to make verses to the field

daisy, or the field mice, as did Burns, but there have been whole volumes of poetry unwritten, surging under the rough exterior of many a ploughman or many a harvester. They are songs unsung.

He of whom we write is a farmer residing on section 26, and also owning land in sections 22 and 25, of Ridge Township, Shelby County. He was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, January 15, 1847, being a son of Samuel and Mary (Martin) Oman. The family were early settlers in the county and State in which our subject was born, and Samuel Oman still resides on the place where he was born seventy-five years ago. Mrs. Oman died when our subject was but seven years of age. She left to her bereaved husband, six children, and one child had been called away before its mother. The six living children are William, Emanuel, Catherine, Isabel, Adam and John.

The father of Mr. Oman married a second time, his wife being Sarah Pontius. Three children were the fruit of this marriage. Their names are Josephus, Elizabeth and Elmer. Our subject was reared on the home farm and attended the country schools, where he learned the three R's, and such other branches as were considered essential at that time. He continued to reside in Ohio until 1869, when he came to Illinois, settling first in Pickaway Township where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and on which he resided for eight years. He then came to Ridge Township and subsequently settled where he at present resides. He is now the owner of two hundred and forty-one acres of land which is well tilled and very productive.

The original of our sketch has been twice married. His first wife was Mary A. Reed, a daughter of William and Martha Reed. She was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, January 20, 1849, and came to Illinois where she died, December 16, 1869, leaving one child, whose name is William E. Their marriage was celebrated February 16, 1869.

In 1872, our subject was again married, his choice being Miss Viola Small, a daughter of Jacob Small. They are the parents of four children whose names are: Harley C., Clarence E., Cora B. and Luther J., all of whom are bright and intelligent and active members of society. Our subject

has joined the army of Prohibitionists, believing that the issue of prohibition is more important than the tariff or any consideration that other parties may be concerned with. He has served in the capacity of Constable, and has also been a School Trustee for some time. Both our subject and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They are held in the high estimation of their neighbors, being conscientious, Christian people and kindly and intelligent neighbors.



**J**OHN J. FRITZ In this gentleman we are pleased to call to the notice of our readers, one of the most prominent of the German American citizens of Ridge Township, Shelby County. He is thoroughly German in his sturdy industry, integrity and thrift, and American in his determination to make this land of freedom a happy home for himself and his posterity. His excellent farm bears the marks of thorough culture and good management, and the neatness and convenience of the buildings are a compliment to the owner which is more effective than words.

John Jacob Fritz, Sr., the father of our subject, was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, and came to this country and died in Ridge Township. His wife bore the maiden name of Rosanna Clay, who was also a native of Wurtemberg, and she also passed away in this township. Of their twelve children, our subject was the third in order of age, being born in Wurtemberg, Germany, March 19, 1833, and emigrating at the very early age of four weeks to a new world. They first settled in Lancaster County, Pa., and there made their home for three years, after which they went to Ohio, and lived in Morgan County, until a short time before their death, when they removed to Shelby County, Ill.

He of whom we write, lived at home until he was eighteen years old, and then removed to Fairfield County, Ohio, and worked upon a farm until he came to Shelby County, in the fall of 1860. He then rented the land which he now owns in Ridge Township, and brought on his wife to whom he had

been united in Fairfield County, Ohio, in February, 1858. Her maiden name was Barbara Sauder, and she was born in Wayne County, Ohio, in September, 1841. After five years of renting, the young man purchased two hundred and twenty acres and he has now as fine an improved farm as is to be found in the township, upon which he has erected a good house and other excellent farm buildings. His farm has been increased from time to time by purchase until it now comprises six hundred and sixty acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Fritz lost two sons, William and Simon, in infancy. Those who survive are: John B., who married Emma Eversole; Lizzie, the wife of Clinton Eversole; James; Ella, who married Charles Beery; Edward, Samuel, and Charles B. The parents are members of the Evangelical Association in which Mr. Fritz has filled the offices of Steward, Trustee and Class-Leader. His political views incline him to believe that in the principles of the Democratic party are to be found the best governmental ideas. He has officiated as Highway Commissioner and as School Director and in both capacities has served faithfully and efficiently.



**E**DSON B. WEAKLY. An honorable position among the men to whom Shelby County is indebted for its present high state of its material development is held by Mr. Weakly, who resides on section 3, Ridge Township. The present condition of his farm attests to his ability as a financier and his judgment regarding agricultural affairs. As a citizen he is worthy of the respect and confidence that he has inspired by his honorable career. Not only is he a man of note in his own community, but he ranks among the most influential residents of the county. His success as a farmer has been unusual and he is also well known as a business man of ability and integrity.

Samuel Weakly, father of our subject, is well known among the citizens of this county, whither he came in 1852. He was born in Maryland, September 3, 1814, and removed to Ohio in 1824.

In Fairfield County, that State, he was married February 12, 1839, to Miss Maria Fetters, who was born in Ohio in 1820. This worthy couple sojourned in the Buckeye State for many years after their marriage, and after their removal to Illinois, located in Ridge Township, this county, where they passed the remainder of their days. The mother passed away January 10, 1862. To her and husband ten children had been born, as follows: Emanuel J., Alva P., Naomi, Mary J., Eliza, Annie M., Jesse O., Edson B., Ida and Katie.

The father contracted a second matrimonial alliance, choosing as his wife Rachel A. Petty, and of this union one child was born, Minnie B., who died May 6, 1889. The widow now survives, making her home in Assumption. The father died in Ridge Township October 21, 1890. He had been a member of the United Brethren Church since 1841, and was highly esteemed for his many excellent traits of character, ever seeking to do unto others as he would be done by. "Uncle Sam" as he was familiarly called, experienced many of the hardships of pioneer life, but by dint of perseverance and good judgment, became well-to-do, and at the time of his decease, left a good estate for his widow and children.

Ridge Township, this county, was the native place of Edson B. Weakly, of this sketch, and April 25, 1857, the date of his birth. His life has been characterized by no unusual events, but has passed quietly and uneventfully. In his youth he received the advantages of the district schools, and as he is a systematic reader, keeps posted upon all topics of general interest. Early in life he commenced to aid his father on the farm, and naturally when the time came for him to choose a calling, he became a farmer, and has always followed agricultural pursuits. He now owns forty acres of good land, embellished with good buildings and well improved.

On March 26, 1882, Mr. Weakly and Miss Martha J. Moll were united in marriage in Pickaway Township, this county. The bride was the daughter of Daniel and Caroline (Wolf) Moll, who are natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively, the father being born January 2, 1831, and the mother June 12, 1829, and are now living retired in

Moweaqua. Mr. and Mrs. Moll had a family of six children, viz: Lydia C., Mary E., Martha J., John W., Clara A. and William H. Mrs. Weakly was born in Pickaway Township, October 12, 1859, and to her and Mr. Weakly have been born two children, Homer H. and Daniel R. Politically, Mr. Weakly is a Republican, and religiously he and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the United Brethren Church.



**S**AMUEL MILLER is an intelligent and enterprising member of the farming community of Moweaqua Township. He was born in Somerset, Perry County, Ohio, December 12, 1833. His father, George Miller, was a native of Pennsylvania. He removed to Ohio in pioneer times, and his last years were passed in Somerset, where he carried on his trade as a stonemason. He served with credit as a soldier during the Mexican war. He married Susan, daughter of Frederick Leathers, and a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, of which her father was an early pioneer. She came to Illinois in 1854, and her last years were passed in a home southeast of Shelbyville.

When our subject was seven years old he went to live with Peter Kesler, a farmer of Fairfield County, Ohio. He remained with him two years, and then went to Preble County, and was with Reuben Pottenger two years. He then returned to his old home to live with his mother, who had married a second time, becoming the wife of Samuel Potter. He remained an inmate of his step-father's household until he was eighteen years old. At that age he went to Dayton, in his native State, to serve an apprenticeship of three years to learn the trade of a carriage smith. At the expiration of that time he did journey-work at Troy, Ohio, and later at Indianapolis and Lafayette, Ind., at St. Louis, Mo., and at Bloomington, Ill. In 1859 he started for the Pacific coast, going by the way of the Isthmus, and for two months he worked at his trade at San Francisco. From there he went to Portland, Ore., and was employed in

the same way in that city the ensuing three months. We next hear of him at Cloverdale, in the same State, where he opened a shop and carried on business as a carriage manufacturer three years. His place of residence after that for some time was at Eugene City, where he engaged in manufacturing carriages until 1864.

In the year last mentioned Mr. Miller returned eastward as far as this State, and was a resident of Mattoon one year. He then went back to Portland, resumed business as a carriage manufacturer, and while there took a Government contract to build army wagons. He remained in that city until 1868, and then conducted business at his trade in Albany, Ore. In 1870 he left that place and once more came to Illinois. He bought a farm in Long Grove Township, this county, and gave his attention to agriculture. Two years later he rented his farm, and going back to Oregon bought property at Albany, and resumed the manufacture of carriages and wagons, continuing in that line until 1872. He then sold out his business and returned to his Illinois farm, which he disposed of at a good price in 1881, and his next venture was to engage in the sale of groceries and agricultural implements at Moweaqua, carrying on a thriving business the following four years. He then sold at a good advantage, and bought the place where he now resides, and is devoting himself assiduously to its improvement.

Mr. Miller was married first in Cloverdale, Ore., in 1864, to Miss Mary Agnes Southwell, a native of Morgan County, Ill. Their wedded life was but brief, as the young wife died in 1865. The second marriage of our subject, which took place in 1867, was to Miss Mary Hand, a native of Kentucky. She died at Albany, Ore., in 1876, leaving three children, Agnes M., Arabella (wife of Everett Russell), and Effie Blanche. The marriage of Mr. Miller to his present wife, formerly Sarah J. Defenbacher, was solemnized in 1877, and has brought them two children, Cora Edna and Samuel. Mrs. Miller is a native of Decatur, Ill., and a daughter of Dr. Defenbacher, who was a German by birth, and was one of the pioneer physicians of Decatur.

A certain energy and force of character, versatility and shrewd business tact have marked the

acts of our subject ever since he began the battle of life on his own account, and have helped to place him among the substantial citizens of the county. He and his wife occupy a good position socially, and in them the Methodist Episcopal Church has two good working members. Mr. Miller's political sentiments are expressed by the platform of the Republican party.



**W**ALTER K. HOOVER, M. D. This gentleman and physician, who is a resident of Lovington, Moultrie County, is the son of the late David Hoover, who was born in Belmont County, Ohio, in 1824. His mother was Sarah Calhoun, also a native of Belmont County, Ohio. She was born in 1820. They first settled in Belmont County and afterward in Guernsey County and thence went to Macon County, this State, in 1864. He was a farmer by occupation. He died in Macon County, Ill., in July, 1890, and his wife preceded him some years to the better land. They were the parents of three children, two sons and one daughter, of whom our subject was the second child.

Dr. Hoover was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, June 2, 1855. He was only nine months old when his parents came to Macon County, Ill., where he grew to manhood and where he lived until 1888. He received his education in the common schools and in the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Ill., at which time he took up the study of medicine, but on account of ill health was obliged to relinquish his studies for awhile, but afterwards resumed them entering Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1880, where he graduated in 1888. Soon afterward he settled in Lovington, where he has been ever since engaged in the practice of his profession. He enjoys an excellent practice and has the confidence of the community. He remained on the farm until he was age, then and for about eight years engaged in trading and studying. He worked his way through and is a self-reliant man. He was married at Maroa, Ill., October 23, 1889,

to Miss Effie S. Bean, who was born in Morgan County, Ill., July 8, 1865. Her father was Joseph Bean, and her mother was Ellen Pratt. They are residents of Macon County, Ill. He is a farmer by occupation. Dr. Hoover has buried one child who died in infancy. He has been an active member of the Methodist Church since 1873. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Knights of Pythias, of which he is a leading member.

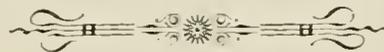


**J**EFFERSON P. GRAYBILL was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, near Lancaster, September 12, 1836. His parents were Samuel and Nancy (Pence) Graybill. Both were natives of Lancaster County, Pa. His father moved to Ohio in 1808 and was there married. They were of German descent. Of this family there were six sons and six daughters, eight of whom are now living. Our subject is the eldest son and fourth child. Of those living, Emily is the wife of Charles Vorys of Lancaster, Ohio; Nancy married Mr. Gesell and resides at Odell, Neb.; our subject; George who married Mattie Carlisle and lives in Lancaster, Ohio; Minerva, the widow of Henry Maller, who resides near Lancaster, Ohio; Mary, the wife of Mr. N. Middlesworth, who resides in Ringgold, Iowa; Samuel, resides in Morton County, Kan., and Lewis who is married and lives in Ohio. The names of the deceased are: Martha, Matilda, Isaac and Jacob.

Our subject came to Illinois in 1858, locating in Holland Township, Shelby County. He received his education in the public schools and at the Ohio University in Athens. He also took a course in Granger & Armstrong's Commercial College at Columbus, Ohio, from which he graduated in 1858. He commenced teaching after locating in Illinois, following that profession in connection with farming, for several years. For twenty-two years he has devoted his attention to farming exclusively. He was married June 30, 1867 to Miss Cynthia A. Syfert, who was born in this county, December 17, 1849. Her parents were George and Mary A.

(Neivling) Syfert. They were natives of Ohio, where they were married. They removed from Ohio to Holland Township and were among its pioneers. Eleven children were born to them, six of whom are now living, Mrs. Graybill being the fourth in order of birth.

Mr. Graybill has always taken an interest in political matters and has been a life long Democrat. He has held many offices in his township, having served four years as Supervisor; he was on the Building Committee of the Court House, having served one year on this committee, after his term as Supervisor expired he refusing to re-elected. He has been Collector of taxes, Township Clerk, Assessor, and served six years in succession as Highway Commissioner. Mr. Graybill gives liberally of his means to the support of religious enterprises, although he is not a professor of religion. Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Graybill, all of whom are living. Edward Clement is the eldest and is attending school at Normal, Ill.; Samuel J. is qualified to teach but prefers farming, and is now engaged in that laudable avocation; Clara May has been teaching two years in Shelby County; Mara Ida, is teaching in Fayette County, Ill.; Charles Walter, Thomas Perry, Victor Milton, Lewis Burton, Florence Edna, Anna Pearl and Nellie Fern. These latter seven reside at home with their parents.



**J**AMES W. RHODES, a prominent farmer of Shelby County, residing on section 9, Tower Hill Township, owns and operates one of the finest estates in the community. By a proper rotation of crops the land has been brought to a high state of cultivation, and the large harvests bear evidence of the thrift of the manager. Good buildings have been erected, the principal one being the residence, a commodious structure with an air of refinement within its walls, which proves the presence of a cultured lady.

The father of our subject, Green Rhodes, was a native of Tennessee, who came at an early day to

Shelby County, Ill., and was here united in marriage with Margaret Wakefield, a native of this county. At first the young couple resided in the vicinity of Shelbyville, whence they removed to Tennessee, and made it their home one year. However, they concluded that prospects in Illinois were more flattering than in Tennessee, and accordingly they returned hither and settled south of Williamsburg, where the father closed his eyes to the scenes of earth. His wife died in Pana, this State.

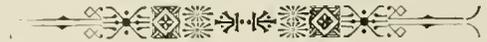
Our subject was the only son among five children, and was born in Shelby County, Ill., August 21, 1840. He passed his childhood upon a farm, and when about ten years old accompanied his mother to Dallas County, Mo., where he remained perhaps seven years. At the expiration of that time the family returned to Shelby County, where he has since made his home, being identified with the growth of the county and a witness of its development. His chief business in life has been farming, in which he has met with more than ordinary success, as he possesses those qualities of energy and industry which are essential to any calling in life.

The first wife of Mr. Rhodes was born in Shelby County, Ill., September 1, 1845, and bore the maiden name of Martha E. Pugh. After their marriage, which was celebrated in Missouri, they settled on the farm where Mr. Rhodes now resides in Tower Hill Township. The wife and mother died March 9, 1885. She had become the mother of seven children, viz.: Merritt E., who married a Miss Wiese; Margaret, and a son, both of whom died in infancy; Frank W.; Effie L., who passed from earth December 30, 1889, at the age of seventeen; John J. and Ida B. Mrs. Rhodes was a consistent member of the Episcopal Church.

Having considerable interest in the cause of education, Mr. Rhodes has served efficiently as School Director for several years. He has also taken an active part in political affairs and is a Prohibitionist. Any measure calculated to assist the community finds in him a strong supporter, and he is recognized as one of the pillars in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has been Trustee. By careful economy and good judgment

he has been enabled to increase his real-estate holdings until he is now owner of four hundred and forty-five acres of splendid land.

On March 14, 1889, Mr. Rhodes was united in marriage in Shelbyville, Ill., with Miss Ollie Brown who was born in Hancock County, Ohio, August 18, 1866. Mrs. Rhodes is the daughter of Dr. Abaaham and Helen (Buckingham) Brown, the former dying in Tower Hill Township and the latter still surviving. Eight children came to Dr. and Mrs. Brown, of whom Mrs. Rhodes was next to the youngest. She is an estimable lady and enjoys the high regard of all who know her.



**G**EORGE W. BARGER. A cursory glance at the biographical sketch of our subject will show that he is one who, buffeted by the adverse winds of circumstances and being, has overcome them all, guiding his life barge safely through the deep waves and sandy shallows, and anchoring it safely in a placid harbor. For what is life beside this? Do not heroes of battle, of invention, literature, the sciences and arts, all work in order that they may enjoy peacefully? So has our subject, and though comparatively a young man he has already attained a position in the township in which he lives that promises not only security and comfort for the present, but advancement for the future.

He of whom we write is the Superintendent in charge of the Moultrie County Poor Farm, an humble position, it is true, but one in which there are opportunities for showing the natural kindness and tenderness and sympathy that the Master has commanded in caring for his "little ones". He is now serving his fourth year in this position, and has filled it to the entire satisfaction of the community at large. The property is located on section 4, of Sullivan Township, and comprises one hundred sixty acres of land. The county also owns forty acres of timber land. Upon the farm is a good, two-story, brick structure, which serves as a home for some twelve to twenty inmates, men, women and children who perhaps were born to better things;

who have made their fight by which some one else will be benefited, and now, incapacitated for earning for themselves, the county takes care of its children, granting them a resting place and plenty of substantial nourishment.

The original of our sketch was born in Perry County, December 3, 1850, and is a son of George and Lydia (Davison) Barger. Our subject was but a boy when his parents died, leaving as the issue of that marriage, two children, himself and Lydia M. now Mrs. Huff, of Evansville, Ind. Both parents had been previously married, the father having had ten children by his former marriage, and the mother, three children, the latter bearing the name of Salmon. He of whom we write was reared in the family of a half brother, Charles Barger, in Perry County, Ill., and was early taught the duties of a farmer.

On October 10, 1870, Mr. Barger was united in marriage to Elizabeth J. Marshall, a daughter of William and Mary Marshall, who was born in Perry County, Ind. April 25, 1853. She was only an infant when left motherless, being the youngest of a family of twelve children. She lived at home until her marriage.

In 1872, the original of our sketch came to this State passing one winter in Shelby County, thence went to Cowley [County, Kan., where he purchased eighty acres of land near Arkansas City, remaining there two years, during which time he experienced all the hardships caused by the grass-hopper plague. In 1873, all the crops were destroyed in the space of a few hours, by the scourge which Moses brought into Egypt, and which has found its repetition so many times in Western American agricultural history. Mr. Barger returned to Shelby County in 1874 and renting land in Penn Township, for five years engaged in farming. In 1879 he came to Moultrie County and has since resided near Sullivan. In 1887, he was appointed Superintendent of the Poor Farm and took possession of the place in March, 1888. Under his able management, the Poor Farm is about self-supporting.

Our subject and his wife are the parents of five children, who are Bertie, Chester K., James A., Artemas Victor and Lela. Politically he of whom

we write is an adherent of, the Republican party by his vote and influence doing all he can to propagate and strengthen Republican doctrines. In his religious predilection he is a Baptist, while socially he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is the owner of eighty acres of land, located in this county.



PETER DIDDEA. The gentleman whose name is at the head of this sketch is a member of the well-known firm of Mantz & Dideea, of Stewardson. A biographical sketch may be seen of the senior member of the firm under the name of T. P. Mantz. Mr. Dideea is a wide awake, progressive business man. His interests are involved in several directions, in all of which he is successful. He was born in Schuylkill County, Pa., June 1, 1849 and is a son of Christian and Margaret (Gumabley) Dideea, who were natives of Germany, and in 1847, emigrated to the United States and settled in Pennsylvania and were there married. In 1857, they came to Illinois and first located at Sheffield, where the father worked as a coal miner, that being his trade; while at Sheffield he held the important post of road boss in the mine. In 1865 the family came to Shelby County and settled on a new farm in Prairie Township, their farm comprising eighty acres. Here the father died in 1871 while yet in middle life, being only forty-six years of age. The mother still survives and lives in Stewardson, having attained sixty-four years.

Our subject was one of nine children, seven of whom lived to be grown. Their names are Peter, Margaret, Jacob, Elizabeth, Frank, Carrie and Amelia. All of the children are respected members of society, being useful and intelligent men and women. The original of our sketch was a small boy when the family settled in Illinois. His first school days were passed in the public schools of his native place after which he attended the private schools of Sheffield, and finished at Teutopolis. In 1865 the family came to Shelby County, and he assisted in the improvement of the farm

on which the family settled. He resided at home until 1871, when he was married to Elizabeth Leffler, a daughter of Jacob and Catherine Leffler. She was born in Hocking County, Ohio, in 1849.

After marriage our subject rented some land and followed the calling of farming until 1881 when he came to Stewardson, and was for a space of two years, partner in the implement establishment of G. S. Baldwin. After this time he became a member of the firm of York & Mautz, and later, the business was carried on under the firm name by which it is at present known. Mr. Didee and his wife are the parents of six children, two of whom are living. They are Ida B, and Emma E. Our subject erected the finest residence in the town of Stewardson in 1888.

The original of Our sketch is a follower of the Democratic party, believing in the tenets of free trade and sovereign power. He has been awarded several local offices under his party, having been Constable from the time when he cast his first ballot, nine consecutive years. He also occupied the position of Township Clerk for three years. Socially Mr. Didee is a member of the Masonic fraternity, also the Modern Woodmen of America. He has with his other business, been engaged in the livery business since 1886, and is now a member of the firm of Didee & Turner. The firm has the finest livery stable in Shelbyville; they also have a good barn at Stewardson. Our subject also owns one hundred and twenty acres of land, and the firm of Mautz & Didee owns land which they cultivate.



**W**ILLIAM G. COVEY, editor and proprietor of the *Moultrie County News*, has had that paper under his control since December 15, 1887. It is a six-column quarto and a spicy weekly, issued at Sullivan, Ill. Mr. Covey succeeded J. H. Dunscomb in the management of this paper, which had its origin December 10, 1884, under the management of Messrs. Hollingsworth & Green, being the successor of the Sullivan

*Journal* which had a checkered experience. The gentlemen just named entitled their sheet the *Sullivan News* until December 25, 1886, when it became full-fledged as the *Moultrie County News*, having in the meantime become the property of Mr. Dunscomb, who changed its political color from Independent to Republican, the position which it now holds.

The *News* has a good circulation and a large advertising patronage and it is having an admirable success under the hand of Mr. Covey, who was a novice in the newspaper business when he took it in charge. He had formerly been an agriculturist in Coles County for some ten years and also taught for about three years in the public schools of the county. He came to Illinois in March, 1875, and taught for one year in Douglas County before settling in Coles County.

Our subject was born in Brattleboro, Vt., November 6, 1852. His Welsh ancestors were early settlers in Vermont during the Colonial days and the family was prominently identified with the early history of that State. For generations the old stock was content to remain among the Green Mountains, but during the present half century the younger members of the family became imbued with the Western fever and have scattered west of the Alleghanies. Most of the family who remained in Vermont are adherents of the Baptist Church.

Clark Covey, the father of our subject, was born and grew to manhood in Somerset, in the Green Mountain State, and after reaching his majority was married at Brattleboro to Lestina A. Farr, a native of the adjoining State of New Hampshire. She came of an old and highly respected New Hampshire family who had for generations farmed in Chesterfield. The early wedded home of this couple was in Brattleboro, where Mr. Covey conducted a meat market and later farmed for a while before coming to Illinois, in 1855. They settled in Bloomington, McLean County, and during the winter the wife and mother was stricken with typhoid fever and died in the prime of life. Her remains were subsequently taken back to New Hampshire and laid in the old cemetery at Chesterfield. She was a Universalist in religion.

The husband and father then returned to the old

home in the East and some time later contracted a second marriage, being then united with Mrs. Mary J. Cook, *nee* Layborn, a native of Pennsylvania who became the mother of two children, Cora L. and Walter E. Cora died at the age of three years and Walter is residing in Nebraska where he teaches vocal and instrumental music.

The mother of these children died in Vermont at the age of thirty-six years, leaving besides these just mentioned, two children by her previous marriage. At the time of her death Mr. Clark Covey was a soldier in the Civil War and the then acting Governor of Vermont, Mr. Holbrook, requested the Secretary of War to grant Mr. Covey a furlough that he might come home and look after the interests of the six little children who were left without anyone to care for them, and on this account he was also ultimately granted a discharge from service. While in service he had acted as cook for Gen. Stoughton.

Mr. Covey was some few years later married in Vermont to Harriet A. Stowe, a native of Massachusetts, but within a year he died after a short sickness, succumbing to an attack of diphtheria. He was a member of the Missionary Baptist Church and in politics allied himself with the Republican party. His youngest daughter was born some five months after his death. This child Lillian by name, was separated from the family and for eighteen years her whereabouts was not known, but the subject of this sketch, through information given him by a local biographical writer was recently able to locate her in Massachusetts. She had in the meantime become the wife of Edward Green, now of Leominster, Mass.

Our subject is the first born of the two children granted to his mother, his brother Arthur, being foreman in a large tape factory in Worcester, Mass., and having taken to wife Miss Lenora Lawrence. William G. Covey was well and carefully educated in his native State and Massachusetts, being granted an academic education, thus preparing him for the profession of a teacher, which he followed for five years in the East. He was married after coming West in Cole County, Ill., to Miss Emma R. Martin, who was born in that county August 20, 1852. She became a teacher before

her marriage and bears a high reputation as a cultured and intelligent woman. She is the daughter of John and Martha (Cassady) Martin, natives of Kentucky who came to Illinois with their respective parents when quite young and were married in Edgar County where they were early settlers. They afterward did pioneer work in Lafayette Township, Coles County. In that home all of their children were born and there the father died in January, 1875, having completed his threescore and ten years. He was a pillar in the old-school Baptist Church and a man who was honest from principle and the love of right. His widow, who still survives, is a member of the same church and resides at the old homestead in Coles County.

Mrs. Covey, the wife of our subject, had an excellent training and education and was ably fitted for the responsible position of wife and mother. Of the six children who have crowned the union of this couple, two have passed to the other world—Lillian B. and Lettie Lee—both of whom passed away while young. Those who still remain under the parental roof are Iva S., Walter S., Jessie B. and Hazel G. Mr. Covey while in Coles County was for some time in the office of Township Clerk. He is a sound Republican in politics and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and is also an Odd Fellow.



**J**AMES THOMAS. While it is not to be denied that a man is not only the architect of his own fortune, but also the molder and former of his own character, it is nevertheless true that nationality is a mighty factor in the inherent traits and qualities which a man must cultivate or modify. The warm, impulsive races of the South need to tone and strengthen their natural traits by strong principles to which they should unflinchingly adhere. And while the nations of the North are conspicuous for the sturdy integrity of its peoples, their natural sobriety of temperament should be warmed and lighted by the geniality and affability borrowed from the Southern natures.

Our subject is descended from a nation noted for strength of character and intellectual depth. The Thomas family are of Scotch and Welsh ancestry. The grandfather of our subject, Joseph Thomas Sr., was born in Scotland. He came to this country after his marriage to a lady whom it seems was of Welsh parentage. Their first settlement in this country was made in the State of Kentucky and there Joseph Thomas, the father of our subject, was born. He was about fourteen years of age when the family left Kentucky, and crossing the Ohio River located in Knox County, Ind., and here the senior Joseph Thomas and wife spent their last years, being old people at the time of their death. It was in Knox County, Ind., that Joseph Thomas, Jr., grew to manhood, reaching his majority in his adopted state. He there married his wife. The lady's maiden name was Mary Chambers. She also was a descendant of a Welsh family who, after the birth of part of their children, settled in Knox County, Ind. After marriage Joseph Thomas and wife removed to Sullivan County when it was new and unbroken. There they pre-empted a tract of Government land upon which they lived and placed valuable improvements. After a number of years the wife and mother died having attained quite advanced years. Her death took place in Sullivan County. Our subject's father, Joseph Thomas, then came to Illinois and spent his last years in Shelby County. He was ninety years of age when his death occurred. Both he and his wife were attendants on the Baptist Church, of which Mrs. Thomas was a member for long years before her death. They were pioneers well known for their kindness and hospitality. They located in Sullivan County, Ind. in the wilds and were surrounded by Indians. Game could be gotten in abundance.

The original of our sketch is the youngest of fourteen children, there being seven sons and seven daughters. Two of these died while quite young. The other twelve children grew to manhood and womanhood, all marrying and rearing families, with the exception of two sisters. All of the brothers and sisters are now deceased excepting our subject and two other brothers, Calvin and Alexander. The former is a farmer in this township. The latter a

farmer in Jasper County, Mo. Our subject was born in Sullivan County, Ind., August 24, 1834. Here he became of age and later removed to this State and was married in Pickaway Township, this county. His wife's maiden name was Malvina Casey. She is a native of Pickaway Township where she was born August 23, 1840. She is a daughter of John and Nancy (Denton) Casey, natives of Kentucky, where Mr. Casey was born in 1813. They were yet young when Mr. and Mrs. Casey came with their parents to this State settling Pickaway Township, Shelby County, when the place was new and unbroken. They purchased a tract of Government land and devoted themselves to improving a farm, but after some years left this place and went to Shelbyville. There the parents of Mrs. Thomas died, aged respectively seventy-two and sixty-eight years. Mr. Casey was a Democrat in politics. For one year he was a member of the State Legislature, sent from Shelby County, and was then elected County Judge, which place he filled for several years. He was also a member of the Board of Supervisors for several terms and Justice of the Peace for many years. He served through the Mexican War as Orderly Sergeant of his company, and saw some hot fire from both sides. He was known in the county as an active worker in the political cause, whether local or national. He had by a former marriage to the one we have mentioned, one child, Jemima. The mother was Mahala Jackson, who died at her child's birth. This daughter is still living.

Mrs. Thomas is the eldest but one of a family of twelve children. Only four, however, are still living. Our subject's wife was reared to womanhood in Pickaway Township, this county. She is an intelligent woman who has been the star of encouragement to her husband in all his undertakings. She and her husband are prominent members of the Baptist Church, of which body Mr. Thomas has been a Deacon for a number of years past. Politically our subject is a Democrat, as was his father who was a soldier in the War of 1812, and who fought with Gen. Harrison at the Battle of Tippecanoe.

He of whom we write and his amiable lady, are the parents of eight children, four of whom are

deceased, namely, Halie, and three others who died in infancy. The living children are William R., Mary J., Nancy J. and Clara A. William is his father's able assistant in running the farm and is a promising young man who is highly respected throughout the vicinity. All of the children are intelligent and well educated. Since marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have lived on their beautiful farm located on section 24, of Flat Branch Township. Here he owns three hundred and twenty acres which is all under cultivation with the exception of ten acres. The place boasts the finest improvements, and a good class of buildings, and the owners are proud of the fact that they have earned all that they possess by their own industry and foresight.



**N**OAH HOSTETLER. One of the residents and most prominent men of Lovington who has made himself felt in the commercial life of the town is he whose name is at the head of this sketch. Although an American by birth and education, he is of German ancestry and has always brought to bear in his business dealings the good common sense and thorough business principles for which that nation of people is noted. His father was Christian Hostetler and his mother Elizabeth (Hardman) Hostetler. The former was a victim of the cholera and died in 1831. Our subject's mother passed away from this world to a better land, in Orange County, Ind. They were the parents of four sons and five daughters and of these our subject was the eighth child in the order of birth. He was born in Orange County, Ind., February 9, 1826.

The original of our sketch grew to manhood on the home farm and in the latter part of 1852 he came to Moultrie County and settled near the village of Lovington, where he purchased a farm and thereafter engaged in agricultural pursuits until about 1872 when he removed to the village of Lovington, and embarked in the grain business, afterward adding the lumber business to his interests and later, enlarging his business so that it

included grain, lumber and hardware, and was thus engaged for several years. He has not, however, been actively engaged in business for the past few years, confining his attention to the care of his estate and a general oversight of the banking business which is now operated by his son, Leonard G. Hostetler and S. P. Drake. The firm is run under the name of Drake, Hostetler & Son. They carry on a general banking business and do a large and flourishing business.

Our subject was married in Orange County, Ind., 1849, to Miss Elizabeth Harman, who is a native of the same county in which she was married, her birth occurring May 12, 1829. Mr. and Mrs. Hostetler are the parents of four children. The eldest of these is a daughter, Margaret, who is the wife of Samuel S. Boggs. Calvin E., married Miss Ella Bowers, and has set up a home for himself, being engaged in farming in Moultrie County, this State. Leonard G. is engaged in the banking business in Lovington. The youngest son, William, died when about seven years of age. The gentleman of whom we write has filled the office of School Director and has been a member of the Village Board. In his political preference he is a Republican, being one with that party in his opinions as regards tariff, currency and other planks of the party platform. Our subject and his estimable and amiable wife are members of the Christian Church and are generous supporters and ardent and interested workers in the upholding of Gospel truths.

Mr. Hostetler is the fortunate possessor of nearly one thousand acres of land, most of which is located in Lovington Township. He is also the owner of valuable property in the village of Lovington. When actively engaged in farming, he made a specialty of stock-raising and the foundation of his fortune was laid in this way. He, of whom we write, and his wife are numbered among the representative people of Lovington Township, and although financially they stand among the best people in the county, money is not all in all to them, for they number among their friends more people whose intelligence and culture is pre eminent, than any other class. Mr. Hostetler is a broad minded and intelligent man to whom the

current topics of the day, both general and local, are very interesting and in which he is always well posted. A good conversationalist, knowing what to say, and being above petty gossip, he is at the same time a sympathetic, attentive and interested listener to any one who may have something that is worth listening to.



**J**OHAN CLARK. A well built and attractive house is a monument erected to the honor of the builder, speaking more truthfully than can words, of the dominant traits of his character. If he is thorough, it will be indicated by the firmness of foundation and the quality of lumber that he uses. If he be of an analyzing turn of mind, it will show in the detail, and if he have taste and culture, it will bespeak itself from the ridge pole to the cellar and from the front entrance to the rear. Our subject is evidently one who pleases his patrons in every detail in building, for he is one of the most successful dealers in lumber and house furnishing supplies in Moweaqua, having, previous to engaging in this business, made a reputation for himself as a builder.

Our subject is one of the firm of Berry & Clark, dealers in all kinds of lumber. Mr. Clark has been a member of the firm since it was started, September, 1889. He came to the county in 1854, and with his father, settled in Flat Branch Township. He has since lived in this county, with the exception of six years, extending from 1875 to 1881, at which time he was a resident of Montgomery County, Kan., where he was engaged as a cattle dealer.

While yet a lad, our subject learned the trade of carpenter which he has followed for many years. He has erected many of the best buildings both in the township and village of Moweaqua, and in Flat Branch Township. He has been a contractor and builder, and all the best buildings in Moweaqua

he has been more or less connected with during construction.

Our subject was born in Warren County, Ohio, April 14, 1842. His father, was W. R. Clark, a native of Ohio, and his grandfather was William Clark, also a native of Ohio, and one of the first settlers on the site of what is now the city of Cincinnati, at that time nothing more than a wilderness. William Clark had married while in Ohio, a Miss Rachael Ross. He and his wife lived in Warren County at an early day, and there died, an old man. He was of a Welsh family noted for their longevity. All his life was engaged in agricultural pursuits. His wife survived him and was a second time married, her husband being Mr. Decker, who left her a widow. She then came to Illinois, and died in Mercer County, this State, at the age of eighty-six years. She was of German ancestry.

W. R. Clark was the only son of his parents. He grew up in his native county and when Cincinnati became a village of some importance, and a commercial center for the region about, for a period of eighteen years he drove a six-horse team over the new country from Lebanon, Clarksburg, Milford and Foster Crossing, carrying flour, pork, whiskey and other freight, and bringing back supplies for the general stores in the country towns. In 1854, with his family he moved West, making the journey overland, his household goods as well as his family being conveyed hither by means of teams. They enjoyed camp life during this emigration and after a long trip they settled on a tract of Government land in Flat Branch Township, Shelby County, and the tract which he at that time located upon was never transferred until his death, he having passed away from this life on the farm which he had preempted, September 19, 1889. He was born February 14, 1802, and had become a well known man in this part of the country. He was quiet and unassuming in his personal bearing, but had had an experience that few men, even at that time, had enjoyed. He lived to see the country change from primeval wilderness to one of the richest commercial and agricultural districts in the country. His wife had preceded him, having died April 9, 1884.

Her birth occurred December 19, 1806, near Pittsburg, Pa. Her maiden name was Nancy Berger. She and her husband enjoyed fifty-two years of married life.

Our subject is the youngest but one of nine children, now living. Two of his mother's children had died at an early age. He grew up in his native county, enjoying the limited advantages as to education and social life that were to be had at that time. When the first three years' call was made for volunteers to go to the front to quell the rebellion, our subject responded. He enlisted August 14, 1861, in the Seventh Kansas Cavalry, Company F. The Colonel in command being C. R. Jennison, and F. M. Maloney serving as Captain. The regiment in which he served was known as the noted Jayhawkers, and they served in the Sixteenth Army Corps, being engaged in Missouri, Kansas, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi. Our subject was a participant in the battles of Corinth, Iuka or Tupelo, Oxford, Water Valley and Coffeyville. The regiment was under the general command of Gen. Grant and was the first to penetrate into Oxford, Miss., being in the advance of the main army from Holly Springs to Coffeyville.

The original of our sketch during his military experience, was fortunately never seriously injured, but was once knocked off his horse by a spent ball. He was never captured, nor spent a day in a hospital. During all his service he reported every day for duty. He saw much hard fighting during the three years he spent in the army. He veteranized at Corinth, Miss., and became recruiting officer of the regiment. He was honorably discharged at St. Louis, Mo., after three years and seven months of service, in 1864. He had received the honor of being advanced to the position of First Lieutenant of his regiment, and was on special duty as Court Marshal at St. Louis, Mo., for some time. He was also offered the Provost Marshalship in Northern Missouri, but refused to serve.

After our subject's discharge from military life, he returned to Shelby County, this State, and took upon himself the obligations of married life, his wife having been a Miss Charlotte A. Goodwin,

who was of English ancestry and birth, having come to the United States when but thirteen years of age, her only kinsman in this country being Dr. Richard Dawson Goodwin, of St. Louis. Mrs. Clark died in St. Louis on May 19, 1871. She was in the prime of life at the time of her taking away.

Mr. Clark again married, the second partner of his joys and sorrows being Mrs. Nancy H. Jones, a native of Illinois. She died one year after her marriage, while yet in her young womanhood. The little daughter that she left to be a comfort to her husband, followed her mother when but four years old. By a former marriage, Mrs. Clark was the mother of two children, Eliza J. Brickey, who lives with her step-father, and Charles W. Brickey, who took to wife Stella Henry, now a resident in Moweaqua Township. The lady is a daughter of Ex-Representative Thomas Henry, of Windsor, Ill. Mr. Clark's first wife was a member of the Baptist Church. His second wife was a member of the Christian Church. She was the daughter of Levi Jones, now deceased, a prominent minister at an early day in Montgomery County, Kan.

Our subject is an adherent of the Republican party. He is much interested in local as well as national affairs and has been closely identified with all the local offices from Supervisor down. He is a Past Commander of J. V. Cleming Post, No. 363, of the G. A. R. in Moweaqua.



**B**AYLESS A. RICHHART. The Richhart family have for years been prominent in this country. The oldest progenitor known to our subject was his grandfather, Henry Richhart, who was born and reared in Pennsylvania, coming of Pennsylvania Dutch stock and parentage. He was a farmer by occupation, in Pennsylvania. He moved to Ohio and there died at the age of sixty-eight years. While a young man he married Susanna Lawyer, who was also of Dutch ancestry; she, like her husband, passed her life in her native State, and there passed away at

the age of about forty years. The aged couple were sturdy, stanch, true-hearted representatives of the Quaker State. To them were born fourteen children, three of whom are yet living, namely: Henry, Mrs. Barbara Johnson and Catherine Brainer. Henry is a farmer and dairyman at Niekerson, Kan. Mrs. Brainer is now living in Morgan County, this State.

The father of our subject was William Riehart and was one of the large family above mentioned. He was born December 13, 1816, in Ross County, Ohio. There he was reared and early learned the science of farming. When he reached manhood he was married in Pickaway County, Ohio, to Miss Elenore Nichols, a native of the county wherein her marriage was celebrated. The lady was a daughter of Bayless Nichols, and was born December 31, 1784, in Virginia, and died in Ohio, May 3, 1812. Her father was twice married, his first wife being Melinda Rutledge. She died leaving five offspring. The second wife of Bayless Nichols, was Sarah Griffith. After their marriage they spent the remainder of their lives in Ohio, being old settlers there. Their parents came respectively from England and Virginia, the father of Bayless Nichols being a native of the British Isles. He came to America when a young man and was early married to Elizabeth Glover, their nuptials being celebrated, strange to say, during the strife of the Revolution, and although the groom was not long from the mother country, he did not demur that his bride's wedding outfit was homespun and the work of her own hands, as on principle, she would not pay any duty on foreign goods. They were married in Virginia, where their fifteen children were born. They moved to Ohio where they spent the remainder of their lives. They were Methodists in religious belief, and Whigs in political following.

After marriage, William Riehart, the father of our subject, began life with his bride in Ross County, Ohio, and some years after the birth of their first child, came to Illinois during the '10s, journeying hither with their household goods overland, by means of teams. They settled in a new part of Morgan County, near Arcadia, where they entered a farm which in later years was improved to a high degree. It was at this place that our subject

opened his eyes to the light of this mundane sphere, his natal day being September 24, 1850. He was the second child and the first born to his parents in Illinois. There were five sons and four daughters in all. Only three of the sons are now living. They are our subject, John and William. The latter is a farmer in this county, and John is a farmer at Strawn, Coffey County, Kan. Both have taken to themselves wives who are good and noble women. The father died in Morgan County on his farm, March 18, 1856. He was a good man and had a large circle of friends where he lived, who mourned his loss. Politically he was an old-line Whig, and in his religious views, a Methodist. He was a quiet, unpretentious man, but genial and kindly in his disposition. His wife, who survived him, married Lewis Dean. One child was the outcome of this union. Mrs. Dean, who is now sixty-five years of age is yet active and ambitious. She lives in Moweaqua, and is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of that place.

The original of our sketch was reared to manhood in Morgan County and when about twenty years of age moved to Logan County, Ill. and after two years spent there, he removed to Macon County in 1872 and six years thereafter came to this county. He was first married in Logan County, to Miss Maggie B. Stein, who was a native of Pennsylvania, and who, when very young, came with her parents to Illinois, settling first in Flat Branch Township, Shelby County, and after some years, the parents, Samuel and Elizabeth (Macklin) Stein, moved to Moweaqua and there died at an advanced age. Mrs. Riehart, the wife of our subject, died in Flat Branch Township, on the farm on which she was reared, October 8, 1883, being then only twenty-seven years of age. She was the mother of five children, one of whom died in infancy. Those living are Bertha A., Nellie E., Russell E. and Mabel.

Mr. Riehart was a second time married in Pickaway Township, to Miss Ida B. Stump. Their marriage was celebrated April 5, 1885. The lady is a native of Pickaway Township, where she was born January 31, 1864. She was brought up in the county in which she was married and is a daughter of Jacob and Sarah Stump, who are natives of Ohio.

being married in Pickaway County, Ohio, and later coming to Illinois, where they settled in Pickaway Township. There they purchased and improved a tract of land and there Mr. Stump died in the spring of 1876, while yet in the prime of life. Mrs. Stump is yet living on the old homestead, having attained sixty-three years of age. She, as was her husband, is a very active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Richhart is the mother of two children whose names are Rollin F. and Bessie A.

Mr. and Mrs. Richhart are members of the United Brethren Church. The gentleman has been honored by several positions in the township gift, having been Road Commissioner, Supervisor and Assessor, besides holding minor offices. He is a prominent Republican in his locality. There is a saying that "He who shoots at a midday sun, though he may not hit, shoots higher than he who aims at a bush," and this has ever been the mode of procedure of our subject. He can truly say that he is a self-made man, ever having worked to reach the mark which he had set high for himself. He has thus far overcome every difficulty that he has encountered in his career and has already won a flattering degree of success. He owns a beautiful home which is on three hundred and forty acres, located on section, 1, of Flat Branch Township. Here he has a fine residence recently built on the site of one that he lost by fire.



**S**AMUEL FUGET. Among the names held in honor in Shelby County, that which introduces these paragraphs has for many years had a place. He who bears it came hither in 1871 and has been a potent factor in the well-being of the citizens, bearing a worthy part in the battle of life as a private individual, and acting with ability in prominent positions to which he has been called. He is one of the number before whom discouragements flee, and who surmount obstacles that lie in their way without letting the world into the secret of their existence. He has therefore gained a competency where many would

have failed, and has pushed to a successful conclusion affairs that in other hands would have resulted far differently.

Many years ago William Fuget and Sarah Kunkle were united in the holy bonds of wedlock, and began their wedded life in Pennsylvania, of which State they were both natives. They resided for many years in Cumberland County, where both died at a goodly old age. Of their nine children the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, and he was born in Cumberland County, September 12, 1844. He passed his youth in the usual manner of farmer lads of that period, alternating attendance in the district schools with farm work. Until he was twenty-one years old he lived in the Keystone State, whence he removed in 1865 to Pana Ill., and engaged in different occupations.

In August, 1871, Mr. Fuget arrived in Shelby County, and locating in Tower Hill, began working in a flour mill. For a time he rented the mill and afterward bought a one-third interest in it. This interest he sold and became the head miller of the Anchor Mills in Tower Hill, owned by John Runkle & Son. This responsible position Mr. Fuget is still filling to the satisfaction of all concerned. His pleasant home is presided over by a lady of culture, with whom he was united in marriage in Pana Ill., in January, 1874. She bore the maiden name of Miss Shaffer and was a native of Pennsylvania. Her parents, John and Christina (Davis) Shaffer, were natives of Pennsylvania. The father is living with our subject and the mother is deceased. Mr. Fuget and his estimable wife have a family of three children — Minnie M., Lora E. and Grace E. Minnie M. is the wife of M. H. Fenton, of Tower Hill, and Lora E. is the wife of George E. Allen, of Arkansas.

Mr. Fuget has been called upon to fill various official positions and has honored every position which he has filled, by proving capable, faithful, and eminently trustworthy. He is at present serving as Supervisor of Tower Hill Township, has been Township Collector, and has held several school offices in the village. He also served as President of the village and Trustee for several terms. Politically he is an ardent supporter of

the principles of the Democratic party, and takes a lively interest in everything that affects the prosperity of the city or county. Socially he belongs to the I. O. O. F., the K. of P., and the Modern Woodmen of America. With his wife, he has won a secure place in the affections of his associates and is highly esteemed for fine social qualities and noble character.



**S**KELTON BIRKETT, Sr., stands among the influential citizens of Shelby County, and to him and men of his indomitable will, wide experience, unsurpassed business acumen and far-reaching public spirit, it is indebted for its high standing among its sister counties in this great Commonwealth of Illinois. Our subject is a leading farmer and stockman of this section, his extensive agricultural interests centering in Todd's Point Township, where he has an attractive home and eleven hundred acres of land, all lying in a body, in a high state of cultivation, its soil of marvelous fertility and its valuable and well-appointed improvements rendering it a model farm.

Mr. Birkett was born August 13, 1820, near Kiswick, Cumberland County, in The Vale of St. John's Parish of Crosthwait, England, on a farm which was also the birthplace of his grandfather, Daniel Birkett, who spent his entire life, as did his father before him, upon that estate, which he owned, besides owning two other farms. His son John, the father of our subject, also passed his whole life on that pleasant English farm, while his brothers, Clement and John, and his sister Rebecca came to America. The former settled in Missouri where he lived the remainder of his days; John was a farmer and died in Shelby County; Rebecca died in Moultrie County, this State. The father of our subject was a farmer and stock-raiser and lived to the good old age of seventy-seven years, his death occurring in November, 1873. His wife whose maiden name was Mary Skelton, died June 3, 1847, when she was forty-seven years of age.

She was the mother of ten children, seven sons and three daughters, and five of them are yet living.

He of whom we write was the fourth child born to his parents, and he passed his early days in the home of his birth, where he received a careful training in all that goes to make a good man and a useful citizen. He was given the advantage of an education in the local schools, and when not in school was acquiring practical experience in agriculture on his father's farm that was of use to him in after years in the prosecution of his chosen calling on American soil. Christmas Day, 1839, was a memorable day for him, as he then left behind him his old home with its many pleasant associations and went out to the island of St. Croix, where he had two uncles, Clement and John Skelton, who owned estates there, to see what life held for him in the West Indies, and there he was engaged as a planter on a sugar plantation for eight years and three months. Failing health warned him that he must seek another climate, and he decided upon the United States of America. He embarked on a vessel bound for New York, arrived safely, and two weeks later boarded a steamer for Philadelphia, on his way to this State. From the Quaker City he went by rail to Chambersburg, and then by stage to Pittsburg, Pa., from there by the same conveyance to Massillon, Ohio, whence he went by canal to Cleveland, from that city by Lake Erie to Toledo, and thence by way of Lovington to Terre Haute, Ind., whence he came to this county, traveling by canal and stage to Shelbyville.

The date of the arrival of our subject in this county was August 31, 1848, and though not one of its earliest settlers he may be denominated one of its pioneers as he has done as much as any other man to develop its great agricultural resources, and has been a potent factor in the advancement of its interests in various directions, generously using a part of the wealth that he has acquired within its borders to further all worthy enterprises to promote its growth and benefit the public. In the busy years that followed his settlement here, he has not been too much occupied in attending to his private affairs to be able to do his duty as a citizen, and he has devoted some of his valuable time to aid in the management of civic interests,

bringing to his official duties in the various responsible positions that he has filled the same aptitude for business, promptness, and unerring judgment and untiring zeal that have characterized him throughout his career.

His personal standing is of the highest, and whether in public or in private life he has always borne himself as an honorable, upright gentleman, all worthy of the implicit confidence which his conduct has inspired in his fellow-citizens. Among other important offices to which they have called him is that of Supervisor, and he has represented Todd's Point Township on the County Board of Supervisors ten years. He was a member of that honorable body when the present court house was in process of erection at the county seat, and as one of the building committee he carefully superintended every detail of work, and used his influence to have it built in a style of architecture combining strength, utility and beauty, and at a reasonable cost. Politically, Mr. Birkett has been identified with the three leading parties that have held sway since he came to this country. At first he advocated the old-line Whig policy and subsequently became a Republican, but in 1876 he joined the Democrats, as he considered that the Republican party had outlived its usefulness and had begun to abuse its great power, so that a change was necessary in the interests of a pure government.

Mr. Birkett's financial standing is the result entirely of his own efforts, as he started out in the world empty handed, with the exception of £25 of English money was which given him by his father, and which he returned to him the following year. He had a better capital, however, with which to build his fortunes in his fine physique, clear brain, and the solid traits of character that have made him successful in life. After his arrival in this county he worked on a farm in Todd's Point Township, and the following year entered a section of land in the same township on sections 17, 18 and 20, and in the ensuing March he entered upon its improvement, breaking the wild prairie and fencing one hundred and sixty acres of it. He began to stock his farm by the purchase of one hundred head of cattle and seven hundred sheep,

and thus entered upon his prosperous career of stock and sheep raising and wool business. He has made his home upon that section of land that he has developed from the wilderness into one of the choicest farms of the county, upon which he has placed every needed improvement, including roomy barns for his stock, a commodious dwelling, etc. He has purchased more land since his first investment, and now has eleven hundred acres all in one tract. He at one time had thirty two hundred acres of land in this State and in Kansas, two thousand of which he gave to his sons.

Mr. Birkett has been eminently happy in his domestic relations, and shows to the best advantage in his home, not only as a husband and father, but in the character of the most courteous and genial of hosts, dispensing a generous hospitality to friend or stranger who may happen beneath his sheltering roof, cordially assisted by his estimable wife, who is always thoughtful and considerate for the comfort of all about her. Our subject was first married February 13, 1850, to Miss Mary Bland, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Henry Bland. She was a resident of this county at the time of her marriage, and had gathered many friends about her, who were attracted by her fine womanly character and great worth, and at her death February 9, 1865, sorrowed with her family in their great bereavement. By that marriage there were seven children, of whom the following is recorded: Henry, a resident of Springfield, married Grace Adams, and they have one child; John, who was a resident of Kansas at the time of his death in his twenty-second year, by drowning while in bathing in the river; Skelton a farmer, residing in Greenwood County, Kan., married Grace Gleason; Harriet died at the age of two years; George is a farmer of Greenwood County, Kan. Mary married George Becker, a merchant of Wichita, Kan.; Elizabeth is the wife of Dr. A. U. Williams, of Hot Springs, Ark.

January 17, 1867 our subject was married to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of John Lenover, an old resident of Shelby County, and in her he has a devoted wife. Two children have blessed their union, of whom but one is living, Arthur. Mr.

Birkett was reared in the Church of England, and has remained true to the faith of his fathers. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is identified with its every good work, charitable or religious. The former Mrs. Birkett was also a member of that church.



**H**ON. W. G. COCHRAN, Speaker of the House during the Thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly, is well known not only in Sullivan but throughout Southern Illinois as a leading attorney and an influential citizen. He has resided in Moultrie County since he was four years old, although his residence in Sullivan permanently dates only from April 1891. He was formerly located in Lovington and vicinity, where he won laurels in his profession and as a politician. His advent as a student of the law began under Judge Miner in 1877, and May 23, 1879 he was admitted to practice at the bar. Since that date he has been progressing constantly and is regarded as one of the staunchest Republicans in the county.

In 1888 Mr. Cochran was nominated by the Republican party for Representative and was successfully run on the minority ticket. After his election to the State Legislature he felt the embarrassment of being compelled to enter the Legislative halls without knowing the State Executive or any of the State officers, or even a member of either branch of the Legislature. But he was possessed of a genial disposition and frank, open manners which soon won him the confidence of all with whom he came in contact and the respect of every member of the law-making body of the State. When it became necessary to elect a Speaker of the House an old soldier was looked for, and among that class Mr. Cochran was entered in the race with Judge Cooly, the well-known "heavy weight" of Knox County.

On the third ballot Mr. Cochran won the race. It is well known that he filled this place of trust with great success and to the satisfaction of the members of both parties. While a Republican he looked closely to the interests of his constituents

and made many friends who rejoiced in his election to the Speakership. On his return home he was nominated by his party for Senator and polled more votes than his party ticket, which is much in the minority. While in the Legislature he served as a member of the Judicial Committee and was Chairman of the Municipal Committee.

Not without a struggle, however, did Mr. Cochran attain to success in this life. He was reared in this county, having no advantages for a schooling and working on the home farm. At the age of seventeen the war broke out, and at this youthful age he sought an opportunity to enter in the defense of his country early in 1861, but was refused admission by the Captain of the company where he made application. About one year later he succeeded in securing a place in the ranks as a private of Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry. The regiment was composed of young men who possessed the fighting qualities of veterans. Their presence was soon felt in the South and they did service at the siege of Vicksburg. They also participated in the battles of Clarendon, Little Rock, and went on an expedition to Red River to meet Gen. Banks. They afterward continued their march through Arkansas and as they went along did good service in frightening the enemy out of the country and suppressing the sharpshooters.

Young Cochran stood his army life nobly and endured many hardships, but he was always prepared for duty and did his part without flinching. He was promoted to be Sergeant, and at the expiration of three years was mustered out at Pine Bluff, Ark., and honorably discharged from the service at Springfield, Ill. in August, 1865. Although he had seen a great deal of hard fighting he had fortunately escaped uninjured and had never seen the inside of a prison or hospital. He had just attained to his majority before his term of enlistment expired, and to illustrate the progress he has since made it may be said that when he entered the service his enlistment papers bear only his mark, as he could not write at that time.

For several years after the close of the war Mr. Cochran was engaged in farming pursuits near Lovington, but his heart was meanwhile with his

books and he later followed his natural bent, the study of law. He has a brilliant, daring eloquence which with his sparkling wit makes him an attractive speaker. At the beginning of an address he is cool and calm, but gradually warms to the subject. In politics he is intensely Republican, but his personal friendships and influence extend to all parties. He is a member of the Masonic order and has been honored with some of their highest offices, having membership with Blue Lodge, No. 288, and Chapter No. 171, at Lovington. He has served several terms as Master and has also been chosen High Priest. He is a Knight Templar in the Commandery at Sullivan. In church and Sunday-school he is an active worker, having been a faithful Christian since the late war. His membership is in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and since 1868 he has preached when called upon to do so, and has been heard expounding the Scriptures in almost every place of meeting in the county. In Lovington he was a member of the Sunday-school for twenty-seven years and was Superintendent for fifteen years of the time.

The birth of the Hon. Mr. Cochran occurred near Frankford, Ohio, the oldest town in the State, located in Ross County, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 1844. He came of comparatively poor but highly respectable parentage, his ancestors being people of steady habits and moral character. His father, Andrew Cochran, was a native of Pennsylvania and a son of another Andrew Cochran, born in the same State. It appears that the family had lived in the Keystone State for many years and came of a mixed stock, strongly adhering to the Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry. The elder Andrew Cochran grew to manhood upon a farm and was married to Miss Margaret Hewitt, whose love he had won by his heroism. The Hewitt family was once trying to cross a swollen river and all seemed destined to be drowned in the rapidly flowing stream, but young Cochran showed his natural bravery and rushed to the rescue. By heroic effort he saved the life of two of the daughters, the remaining members of the family having already been borne down the rushing river. A marriage to one of the daughters soon followed and proved a happy union.

The brave young Cochran and his wife began

life poor in this world's goods but labored together for some years in their first home. Desiring to better their condition they resolved to go to the wilds of what was then the new country of Ohio. At an early day they settled in Ross County and there opened up a new home in the woods where they died at a ripe old age. They were Christians and reared an honorable family. The son Andrew was only a small boy when his parents started out in Ross County and there he grew to a stalwart manhood. He married into a good family, his wife, Jane Foster, being one of a pair of twins. The other twin is now Mrs. Isabell Gregory, and survives at the age of eighty five years, being quite active and hearty.

After their six children had been born to Andrew Cochran, Jr., and his good wife, they decided to follow the example of their ancestors and locate in a new country. In 1849 they gathered together their worldly goods, and with wagons and teams started for Illinois, camping by the way and the father and sons sleeping at night under the canopy of the heavens. After a somewhat long and tedious journey they landed at their destination and pitched their tents not far from Lovington, where the father secured a small farm. There the father and mother lived and labored until their death. The good wife and mother passed away in November, 1881, and had reached a good old age, having been born in 1806. The father who was born in 1808 survived until January 5, 1889, and passed from earth on the same day that his son was to start for the State capital to accept his office of trust as the representative of the people of Shelby County. He had been a life-long Democrat and cast his only Republican vote when he gave his suffrage to his son W. G., who had grown up a Republican in his political faith. Andrew Cochran was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church but in the absence of that church here, joined the Methodist Church.

Of the six children our subject was next to the youngest. Two of the daughters are now deceased. The survivors are Isabell, wife of William C. Foster, of Decatur; Charles, a farmer on the old Cochran homestead; Andrew W., a farmer in this county; and our subject. The wife of our subject

bore the maiden name of Charlota Keyes and was born in Ohio, her parents being Virginians. The father, James Keyes, was a farmer and died in Loveland, at a good old age. Mrs. Cochran was reared and educated principally in Sullivan County and has made a good wife to her worthy husband, to whom she has borne six children. Prudence is deceased. The survivors are—Oscar, a successful teacher in this county; Grace M., a graduate of Lovington High School; Archie B., Arthur G., and Laura C., all of whom are under the parental roof and are bright, intelligent children.



**THOMAS BINKLEY.** Amid the fertile farm lands of Lovington Township is a tract of eighty acres belonging to the gentleman abovenamed and devoted by him to general farming. It is pleasantly located on section 24, and is embellished with every necessary structure. To say that the owner is one of the most prominent farmers in the community gives but a slight idea of the respect he commands, for he is looked upon as one of the most intelligent citizens to whatever class they may belong. A good neighbor and a reliable business man, he also merits the gratitude of all who are pleased with the advance of civilization in this section.

Mr. Binkley comes of substantial forefathers. His father, Daniel Binkley, was a native of Perry County, Ohio, and was a chair maker by trade. The mother, whose maiden name was Catherine Zartman, was also a native of Perry County. The worthy couple passed their entire wedded life in Ohio, where the father died in 1868; five years later the mother came to Moultrie County, and died in Lovington Township in 1880. Our subject was the only son in the family, and he had one sister, Amelia A., who became the wife of B. M. Clark and died in Lovington Township in 1881.

The birthplace of our subject is Perry County, Ohio, and his natal day August 25, 1838. His youth was passed uneventfully in coming his lessons at the district school and gaining practical knowledge of the way to conduct a farm. He began the battle

of life for himself at an early age and when he was able to establish a home of his own he was married in his native county, September 20, 1868, to Miss Matilda, daughter of John and Charlotte (Gomas) Fisher, natives of Perry County, Ohio. Mr. Fisher followed the occupation of a farmer and died in Perry County, where also his wife passed away. A large family of children had been born to them, ten in number, and Mrs. Binkley was the second in order of birth, having been born in Perry County, Ohio, September 10, 1839.

After his marriage our subject located in Perry County, Ohio, where he engaged in farming. They made their home in the Buckeye State until 1873, when they removed to Moultrie County, Ill.; afterward they removed to Piatt County, whence after a residence of six years, they returned to Moultrie County and located in Lovington Township. Unto him and his estimable wife thirteen children have been born, ten of whom are living, as follows: Amanda C., the wife of George E. Foster; Amelia A., who married Charles Redman; Acta C., the wife of Irving Houseworth; William E., Charlotte, Oscar, Liberta, Daniel R., Walker O. and Lambert. The three deceased died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Binkley are consistent members of the German Reformed and Lutheran Churches and are active in every benevolent enterprise. He has served the people in several offices, among them that of School Director. He has always followed agriculture and his successful and honorable career is worthy of emulation.



**WILLIAM A. WEBB** is the popular druggist at Dalton City, Moultrie County, and in the compounding of medicines and remedies, is considered very expert. He is a dealer in grain, buying from the country around, which is rich in its cereals, and finding a ready market with the large grain buyers of Chicago. Our subject has been engaged in business at the same stand since 1873, at which date he became associated with George Ferro, under the firm name of Webb & Ferro, dealing at first in the general mercantile business.

and also in the grain business. He has remained constant to his post of business ever since, and is now one of the oldest business men in the place, and the leading grain merchants in the town.

Mr. Webb is a native of Kentucky, being born in Boyle County, May 27, 1841. He is a son of William R. and Jane (Moore) Webb, natives of Virginia and Kentucky respectively, but married in the latter State. In 1837 they emigrated to Parke County, Ind., and lived on a farm for a short time. Thence they removed to Greencastle, In 1859 they removed to Decatur, Ill., and there became proprietors of the Oglesby House, now known as the St. Nicholas. In 1862 they removed to Mason, having traded the hotel property for a farm. Our subject's father subsequently retired from the active business of agricultural life, and made his home in the village of Mason; he there died in 1874. His wife had expired some years previous while residing in Decatur.

Our subject is one of a family of eight children, all of whom lived to be grown. By name they are as follows: Lucy, Margaret, Theodocia, Richard, Jane H., Lewis F., William A. and Edward S. Margaret married Joseph Ferguson, and is now a resident of Wichita, Kan.; Theodocia became the wife of William H. Baird, of Mason, Ill.; Lewis resides at Mason. The father of our subject was a Whig in his political preference, and during life was the incumbent of several local offices. He served as Justice of the Peace for several years. In his religious preference he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he was a Class-Leader, and throughout life a liberal supporter of the Gospel work.

William Webb passed his early life in his father's hotel and on reaching his majority he entered the grain trade at Mason and continued to be thus employed until he came to Dalton City, at which place he became one of the first merchants. He sold out his interest in the store to Mr. Ferro and gave his entire attention to his grain trade. He was also for four years station agent at Dalton. He also dealt in live stock, and in 1891 established his drug business.

Mr. Webb was married in 1874 to Miss Retta B. Jeffries, of Philadelphia, Pa. The lady is a daugh-

ter of Thomas J. Jeffries, a machinist and a manufacturer of car springs in the above named city. Mr. and Mrs. Webb are the parents of one child. Politically our subject is a Republican, having been brought up to that party and platform, and having imbibed the theories as held by the Republicans by inheritance and youthful association as by cool judgment. Our subject has at different times held various local offices. Socially he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In the line of his business he also deals quite largely in agricultural implements and machinery.



**H**ON. FRANK SPITLER. This well-known member of the legal profession has made his home in Sullivan, Moultrie County, since March 1885, and is devoting himself to his practice in partnership with Isaac Hudson. This firm, which was established in August, 1888, has gained prominence throughout Moultrie and the adjoining counties and conduct its business successfully. Mr. Spitler has been associated with other lawyers since he became a member of the bar, being formerly in partnership with ex-Judge H. M. Miner, now in the West, and prior to that with A. C. Monser, now of California.

Mr. Spitler was born in Marion County, Ill., January 28, 1853 and is the son of Judge T. A. and Gilly R. (Kelley) Spitler. The father was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, and the mother in South Carolina, and they both arrived in Illinois in 1840. The following year they were united in the holy bonds of wedlock, in Marion County, where they followed the business of farming in Alma Township. Then the father is yet living at the advanced age of seventy years; he has always been an active worker and is still hale and hearty for one of his age. He was a staunch old-line Democrat and served his party faithfully and well on many occasions, during his younger years. For some years he was Supervisor of the township, discharging the duties of the office to the satisfaction of his constituents. He was also for a time Associate Judge of the county, and is now held in excellent repute on ac-

count of his fine character, general intelligence and useful life. He is a consistent member of the Baptist Church, as was also his wife.

On December 31, 1888, the mother of our subject passed from the busy scenes of earth, and the New Year, which brought to all of earth's children their joys and sorrows, brought to her a realization of the "Great Beyond". She was at the time of her demise sixty-six years old and had become the mother of fifteen children, eight of whom survived her. A good woman, her life was devoted to her husband and children, and it was her great object to prepare her sons and daughters for responsible positions in life. Her eldest son Henry, was a soldier in the Civil War, serving as a Sergeant in the One Hundred and Eleventh Illinois Infantry, and belonging to Company K. He died in the hospital in Kentucky.

Our subject grew to manhood upon his father's farm, engaged in various pursuits which belong to the life of a farmer. He received a good common-school education, which he supplemented by a thorough course of study at a Baptist College. He utilized his knowledge as a teacher, following that profession for several years and earning the money to educate himself. He taught school at Benton, Ill., for three years and was afterward Principal of the schools at Odin, Ill., for two years. When he commenced to read law, he was a student under Judge Williams of Benton, Ill., and later read with Judge Pollock, of Mt. Vernon, Jefferson County. In 1884 he was admitted to practice at the bar, and has since devoted his undivided attention to his profession. In 1888 he was nominated by the Democratic party, of which he is a staunch supporter, to the State Legislature, and represented the Thirty-third District in the Thirty-sixth Session. He was a member of various important committees, among them that of State Institutions. He served his constituency faithfully and advanced the interests of his community to the best of his ability.

Mr. Spittler was married, March 20, 1888, in Sullivan, to Miss May McCaig, a native of Ohio, whence she accompanied her parents to Illinois and was reared to womanhood in Sullivan. She is a mother of one child, Clarke. In his religious views Mr. Spittler is a Baptist and adheres to every cause

calculated to advance the interests of the city socially, morally and educationally. He gives liberally of his earnings to the church and all public-spirited enterprises. When it was decided to build a Baptist Church in Sullivan, Mr. Spittler came to the front and was an active worker in securing means and helping materially the completing of the structure, which is a credit to the people and the city. As a lawyer, he pleads his cases with force and shows his ability as a student; his daily applications, research and practice have given him a wide reputation as a successful counsel and reliable advocate, which with his personal qualities have attracted to him a large circle of friends and patrons.



**J**EDEDIAH H. SILVER was born in Hopkinton, N. H., November 3, 1823. His father, Jeremiah Silver, was a native of the same State and our subject's paternal grandsire. John Silver was born in Massachusetts and removed thence to New Hampshire where he engaged in farming and in 1837 moved to Michigan and settled in Cass County, becoming a pioneer farmer. He made his home during the latter portion of his life with his son-in-law.

The father of our subject was reared and married in New Hampshire. He there learned the trade of mason and followed it in Hopkinton until 1827, and then with his wife and five children and his father-in-law, mother-in-law and two brothers with their families removed to Michigan. They came West with teams as far as Buffalo and then putting all on a steamer, they went to Toledo, Ohio, and there purchased a small place. They did not remain at that place, however, but on the crest of the Westward wave of immigration went to Cass County Mich., which was then very sparsely settled. Indians were still frequent visitors and there were plenty of deer and wild turkeys. Our subject bought a tract of land and devoted a great part of his time to the improvement of his farm. He resided there until after the death of his wife and spent his last days with his children in Cass County, his decease occurring in 1876.





Isaac Longenbach

The maiden name of our subject's mother was Sally Hastings. She was born in Hopkinton, N. H., and died in 1849. Five of her children were reared to years of maturity. They are by name, May, Jedediah H., Lydia, Margaret and John. Our subject was only four years of age when his parents moved to Michigan, hence he was reared to an experience of pioneer life. He learned the trade of a mason in young manhood and followed it in connection with farming, residing on the home farm until 1848, and thence removed to Edwardsburg and there engaged in the practice of his trade until 1858, and thence removed to Shelbyville, where he purchased a lot and built thereon a brick house, which was comfortable and commodious. He followed his trade for two years and then exchanged his city property for a farm in Ridge Township, making that his home. He managed the farm while he followed his trade and after a residence of two years there, he rented it for four years and then purchased a home two miles north of his former farm and there resided until 1876, when he came to Shelbyville and entered upon his official duties as Sheriff of the county and here he has since resided.

Mr. Silver was married in 1865 to Julia A. Mead, a native of Chautauqua County, N. Y., and the daughter of Barak and Clarissa (Brown) Mead. Mrs. Silver died in 1876. She was the mother of six children—Emma C., Edward A., Barak M., Wilbur H., J. Judson and Hattie. He of whom we write is a Democrat in politics. He served for four terms as Township Collector and was elected Sheriff in 1876 and re-elected in 1878, serving two full terms.



SAAC LONGENBACH. It is something to climb the white summit of life where one can look over the far reaching years that span so much of—feeling shall we say?—the feeling of intense gladness or sorrow that the youth experiences, the modified pleasure or pain of middle life and the retrospective of old age. It seems to Mr. Longenbach, about whom this sketch is written, that his seventy years are a panorama spread out

before him, picturing, not only his own life, but the events that are making history. Located comfortably on his farm on section 20, Pickaway Township, Shelby County, he is enjoying the autumn sunset of life. Universally esteemed, his friends will notice with pleasure his portrait on the opposite page and will read with interest the following paragraphs.

The gentleman of whom we write belongs to a family whose interests are closely identified with the pioneer history of Ohio and Illinois. His grandfather, Balsom Longebach, came to this country in the early part of the present century and settled in Somerset County, Pa., where he spent the remainder of his life, passing away while yet in middle age. Before leaving Germany, which was his native land, our subject's grandfather had married a German lady, who died at an advanced age in Pennsylvania. Our subject's father, Jacob Longenbach was a native of Pennsylvania and was one of a large family. He spent his early years as a frontiersman and was a soldier in the War of 1812, serving as a scout for the Continentals. He was thrown among the Indians a great deal and learned their language and habits. While acting as a scout he had to hide in the timber and lived on acorns and roots for days at a time. Later he became a farmer and was united in marriage with Miss Eleanore Shope, a native, like himself, of Pennsylvania, but of Irish parentage.

After marriage Jacob Longenbach and his wife removed to Fairfield County, Ohio, at a very early day, cutting the timber off the land where the city of Lancaster now stands; there they lived for a long time in the woods and among the Indians. He finally sold his place and moved into the wilds of Pickaway County, Ohio, where they purchased and improved one hundred and sixty acres of wild woodland. Later the family sold this place and purchased a second farm in the same locality, where the father spent his last years, dying when about sixty-two years of age, about 1835. His wife survived him many years, passing away on the old farm in Pickaway County, Ohio, after reaching three-score years and ten. She was a good woman and a loving helpmate.

Our subject is the youngest of eight children.

2

six sons and two daughters, who all lived to be men and women with families of their own. Our subject and one brother, Solomon, now a retired farmer in Nevada, Mo., who has reached the age of seventy-three years, are the veterans of the family, although other members of the family have lived to a good old age. Mr. Longenbach, the subject of this notice, was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, December 17, 1821, and was reared to manhood in his native place, where he celebrated his majority.

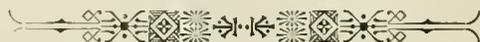
Isaac Longenbach set up a home for himself in 1852, making mistress of it Elizabeth Cole. The lady, like her husband, is a native of Pickaway County, Ohio, being there born in 1835. She is a daughter of Richard and Hannah (Burwell) Cole, natives of Pickaway County, Ohio, but come, it is thought, of Scotch ancestry. When quite advanced in years Mrs. Longenbach's parents came to Shelby County, and here Mrs. Cole died at the age of seventy years. Later Mr. Cole died while making his home with his daughter in South Dakota, at seventy-six years of age. Both were members of the Methodist Church.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Longenbach made their home for a few years in Pickaway County, Ohio, whence, in 1856, they removed to Illinois, coming hither by teams and camping out on the way. They located in Pickaway Township, where Mr. Longenbach pre-empted a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 20. The land was entirely unbroken, and here our subject and his wife began their pioneer experience, and here have ever since made their home. Mr. Longenbach has since added to his purchase and has erected good buildings upon his land. He has made a comfortable fortune by hard work and wise investments.

Mrs. Longenbach died at their home February 27, 1873, being then in the prime of life. She was a member of the German Reformed Church, a true wife and a kind neighbor. She was the mother of ten children, of whom the following are yet living: Jacob, Mary E., Eliza A., Sarah J., Agnes A., A. Lincoln, Isaac W. and Emma H. Jacob took to wife Nancy Schwartz; they own and reside on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in this town-

ship. Mary is the wife of John Pinkston, a farmer and landowner in this township. Eliza married Edward Mathias and they live on and own a farm here. Sarah is the wife of Franklin Shride; they are farmers here also. Agnes is the wife of Mattison Stivison; they own one hundred acres of land in Todd's Point Township. A. Lincoln took to wife Ellen Neal and is a farmer in this township. Isaac, whose wife was Hattie Brinke, is also a farmer in this township. Emma H. is the wife of Andrew Fletcher Shride; they make their home on Mr. Longenbach's farm.

Our subject is a Republican in his political preference, having been an adherent of that party since Lincoln's time, and having supported the Union in its hours of adversity by influence and means. He has filled almost all the local offices in the gift of the township, and is honored by all who know him.



**D**AVID G. SANNER, V. S., prominent and well-known as a wealthy farmer and stock-raiser, residing in Penn Township, Shelby County, has large landed interests in this, Macon and Moutrie Counties, and has contributed extensively to the development of the great agricultural resources of this section of his native State, as one of the most enlightened and advanced men of his class within its borders. He is much interested in raising fine road horses, the Hambletonian strain being his favorite, and he also bears a high reputation as one of the most intelligent and skillful veterinary surgeons in Shelby County.

May 16, 1812, is the date of the birth of our subject in one of the pioneer homes of Madison County, of which his father, Samuel Sanner, was an early settler. The latter was a native of Northumberland County, Pa., and in early manhood he married Barbara Paul, a native of Preston County, W. Va. In 1833 he came to Illinois with his family, and located in the wilds of Madison County, nine miles north of Edwardsville. During the many years that he lived there he applied himself

busily to his pioneer work, and in due time was well rewarded by becoming the possessor of a goodly amount of property. In 1886 he took up his abode in Penn Township, and there his remaining days were passed in tranquility and comfort until he closed his eyes in the dreamless sleep of death. He left behind him a good life-record and a memory that is cherished with reverence in the hearts of those who knew him.

Our subject was the eighth child in a large family of children, twelve in number, and in his childhood he had ample opportunity to acquire habits of industry and steady application that have been of use to him in his after life, as his father wisely determined that his boys should be able to do all kinds of work on the farm, while at the same time he desired that they should have an education. Our subject was well equipped in that respect, as in his youth excellent schools had already been established in Madison County, and he attended them whenever opportunity offered, and gained a sound knowledge of mathematics, and other common branches. When the war broke out he was scarcely more than a boy, but he was eager to fight in defense of the old flag. Owing to circumstances over which he had no control, however, he was obliged to abandon the thought of enlisting until the fall of 1864, when he left the parental home, September 3, to enroll his name as a member of Company A, One Hundred and Forty-fourth Illinois Infantry, under command of Capt. George W. Carr, the regiment being mustered in at Alton. He was disappointed that his regiment was detained at Alton to do garrison duty instead of being sent to the front, some of the men being sent to Missouri, so that he saw no active service in the field. He was soon detailed for service in the regiment band, and remained at Alton during the winter of 1864-65. The war closed the following spring, and he was honorably discharged July 14, 1865, and mustered out at Springfield.

Returning to his father's farm after his experience of life as a soldier, Mr. Sanner came with the family from his native county to this county in the spring of 1866. He continued to be an inmate of the parental household on section 21, Penn Township, until he established a home of his own,

securing as an efficient helpmate to preside over it, Miss Mary E. Freeland, then a resident of Milan Township, Macon County, to whom he was wedded in April, 1870. Her father, David J. Freeland, was a native of North Carolina, whence he came to Moultrie County, this State, when he was a boy of fifteen years. He was engaged in farm work in that and Coles County some years, and then took up his residence in Milan Township, of which he is now one of the most extensive landholders. He married for his second wife Martha Sawyer, a native of Coles County, and Mrs. Sanner is their eldest child.

When he married Mr. Sanner commenced his independent career as a farmer on a half section of land in Milan Township, and resided on that place for six years. At the expiration of that time he came back to Penn Township to take charge of his father's farm on section 21. In 1877 he took possession of his present homestead, a beautiful farm of three hundred and twenty acres, finely located on section 23, Penn Township. He still retains his Macon County farm of half a section, renting that and a part of his farm in Penn Township, and he has a thousand acres of land in all, including fifteen acres of timber in Moultrie County and town property in Bethany. He is extensively engaged in general farming, having his farm well stocked, and he pays particular attention to breeding fine roadsters of Hambletonian blood. He has a thorough knowledge of the horse, having made a careful study of the animal for years, and is an acknowledged authority on all questions pertaining to it, as but few men observe the good points of a horse quicker, or detect its weak parts sooner than he. He is also a successful veterinary surgeon of twenty-five years standing.

A man of an active temperament, an indomitable will and a large nature, our subject has won his way to a high place among our most valued and useful citizens. His has been a busy life, but not by the force of sheer hard work has he acquired his property, his labors having been directed by a clear, well-balanced intellect, by practical business methods, and by excellent powers of discrimination and judgment. In all his dealings he has borne himself with unswerving adherence to the princi-

ples of truth and probity, and his reputation is unblemished. The Sanner family is noted for their devotion to the Republican party and our subject is no exception, he being one of the strongest advocates of the Republican policy in this part of the State, and has been since in early manhood he cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1861. Socially he is identified with William Penn Camp, M. W. A., and he is also a member of Prairie Lodge, K. of H. He is a stockholder in the Prairie Home Building and Loan Association, and all enterprises to promote the growth of the county find in him cordial support.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanner have been truly happy in their married life and their home has been gladdened by the birth of children, of whom they had ten, namely: Charles Wesley, Carrie Belle, Franklin Ellis (who died in infancy), Samuel Walter, Cyrus David, Orville Arthur, Lawrence Lester, Robert Lincoln, Etta May and Martha Barbara.



PETER S. BOGGS, M. D. Belonging to a family that is noted for the patriarchal years to which its members attain, our subject has proved to be no exception to the rule, for he has already passed the mile-post of four score years, and is yet hale and vigorous. His life, which has been equally divided between attention to his profession, which was that of dentistry, and during his later years, to farming, has always been so balanced as to leave a development and maturity of mind and body unimpeded or unobstructed by ulterior considerations. He is now a resident of a good farm located on section 25, in Lovington Township, Moultrie County, and so genial and kindly disposed is he toward all human beings, as to have gained the love as well as respect of those with whom he has dealings, and they hope for him many years still of health and happiness.

Peter Boggs' father was Alexander Boggs, who died a victim of the cholera in Germantown, Ind. His mother was Magdelaine Schaffer, who died in Milton, Ind., at the age of one hundred and six years, lacking a few days. The father was of Eng-

lish descent, and the mother of German ancestry. After setting up housekeeping, they were the center of quite a brood of children. Nine little ones grew up under their kind and protecting care, and of these the Doctor was one of the oldest members. He was born in Lancaster County, Pa., October 2, 1809, and he spent the early part of his life in Mt. Joy, being engaged in the acquisition of knowledge and the fitting of himself for collegiate work. When about sixteen years of age he went to Philadelphia for the purpose of studying dentistry. He was so fortunate as to be able to gain Dr. Samuel S. Fitch as a preceptor, and of him he learned the profession to which we should all be so grateful for relieving us of pain, but one which is regarded with fear and trembling by the majority of people. On finishing his course of dental study under Dr. Fitch, who pronounced him competent and an expert practitioner he returned to his native State where he lived until 1833 and then removed to Ohio, where he practiced dentistry in all of the larger towns of the State. Thence he went to Indiana, in the winter of 1842-43, and was there also an itinerant practitioner of dentistry, pursuing his calling in all the large towns in the State.

In 1855 Dr. Boggs came to Illinois and settled on section 25, of Lovington Township. He continued the practice of his profession for several years and indeed has always been ready and willing to alleviate a pain by the use of his forceps. He is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land in this place, which he has cultivated up to 1891, when he gave over the active proprietorship of his farm to a tenant, and is now determined that the remainder of his life shall be devoted to the less arduous work of watching the ways and means of others as they conduct the necessary work of the farm.

Our subject was first married in Baltimore to a lady whose maiden name was Alice H. Pennell, a beautiful woman who enriched and sweetened his domestic life, and who offered an encouraging word for every discouragement he met in business transactions. Her ancestors came to this country with William Penn. She bore him three children whose names are respectively Mary A., Joseph P., and

Lizzie S. Mary and Lizzie are both deceased. Mrs. Boggs died in Lovington Township in the summer of 1858, and three years after Mr. Boggs was again married in Decatur, Ill., in August 1861, to Miss Louisa Gehret, who was born in Center County, Pa., August 20, 1832. By her he became the father of three children, whose names are Walter L., Carrie F., and Edith A.

In his political preferences our subject is and always has been a Democrat, feeling that the principles of the old party which were framed and formed by some of the best and wisest men that the nation has ever produced, cannot have so greatly changed as to have degenerated to any great degree. Dr. Boggs is a strictly temperate man and has never smoked or used tobacco in any form.



**D**AVID C. CHASE. Age falls upon some men like a gracious benediction at the end of the lesson of life. With whitened hair and measured tread, the venerable aspect of age is an open book in which even the youngest and most thoughtless can read the story of life, whether the experience has been one of adventure, and colored and broided o'er with romance and tragedy, or whether adopting a fixed principle as a guiding star, the aged man has ever steered his course by its guidance. Our subject has just passed his three-score years and ten, and any one who looks upon his rugged but serene face can see therein that his has been an experience guided by the principles of rectitude and honor; that no matter how frail the superstructure may now be, that the base and foundation is of adamantine firmness; for character never grows old.

David C. Chase is a native of Indiana. His parents, however, both came from the Empire State. His father was William J. Chase, and his mother Eunice (Chamberlain) Chase. They married in Indiana, and settled immediately after their union in Washington County, where they lived and made the journey of life together until

death claimed them for its own. Our subject's father was a shoemaker by trade, although he was engaged to some extent in farming, but his preference was for the exercise of the trade that he had learned in youth. Both parents were victims of the cholera, and both passed away in the month of August, 1833. They had six children and of these our subject was the eldest.

The original of our sketch was born in Washington County, Ind., May 25, 1821. Left an orphan at the age of twelve, he was obliged to struggle as best he could for a maintenance. He went to Lawrence County, Ind., and there grew to manhood, learning in the meantime the blacksmiths' trade, which he followed until 1852, and the imagination pictures the smithy at the meeting of the roads, where farmers brought their horses, and over the injured tire of an ancient vehicle, discussed crops and politics and every subject within the ken of the rural mind, "from Homer down to Thackeray, and Swedenborg on hell." The fact remains, however, stripped of fancy, that our subject succeeded in his work, receiving such returns for his labor as to justify him in taking unto himself a companion and wife, which he did June 26, 1845, in Orange County, Ind. His bride was Miss Hannah Hostetler, a daughter of Christian and Elizabeth (Hardman) Hostetler. They had nine children, Mrs. Chase was the seventh in order of birth; she was born in Orange County, Ind., December 1, 1823. In 1852 Mr. Chase and his wife came to Illinois, and settled in Coles County, there living until January, 1853, when they came to Lovington Township, this country, since which time he has here been a resident. He lived on his farm which he had purchased upon first coming here, until the fall of 1885, when with his family he removed to the village of Lovington. He now rents his farm, which comprises one hundred acres of good land, and it brings him in a very good income. Three children have grown up about our subject and his wife. Elizabeth E. is the wife of Thomas Spilker; Francis M. married Miss Margaret Morthland; and David C. took to wife Miss Mary Haley. Three children died in infancy.

Since coming to this State, Mr. Chase has fol-

lowed agricultural pursuits, and has been reasonably successful in his chosen calling. In politics he has ever taken an active interest, and is an ardent adherent of the Democratic party, having very positive views in regard to the efficiency of the governmental principles and rule of that power. Mrs. Chase, who is a kindly and intelligent old lady, has been a member of the Christian Church since girlhood. Her husband is a Universalist in his belief. Mrs. Chase is a sister of Noah Hostetler, of Lovington, of whom a more extended history can be found in another part of this volume.



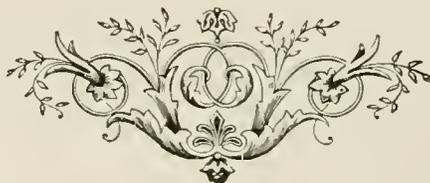
**HOLLAND S. GRIFFITH.** The owner of a fine farm in Todd's Point Township, Shelby County, Ill. The gentleman whose name is at the head of this sketch was born in DeWitt County, this State, January 3, 1867. He is a son of Baard Griffith, one of the noble pioneers of the State, of whose labor and struggles with early difficulties the present generation is in the enjoyment of the advantages that are the natural result thereof.

Our subject's father was a native of Pickaway County, Ohio, and was there reared and educated; there also he met and married his wife and soon afterward removed to Illinois. Their first home in this State was in Macon County and thence they moved to DeWitt County and located a tract of Government land residing upon it for two years. It was advantageously located being only eight

miles northeast of Clinton; here our subject was born. Mr. Griffith Sr. was a very enterprising man and possessed of excellent judgment, and entirely suited to cope successfully with the difficulties of pioneer life. He entered and purchased other land in the county and became quite extensively interested in real estate in Kansas, where he became the owner of one hundred acres in Chase County and also became interested in the stock business there.

In 1880 our subject's father accompanied by his family, started overland for Kansas and in that manner traveled quite extensively through that State making a residence of one year upon his land there. In 1882 the family returned to their home in DeWitt County and there remained until the death of the father, his decease occurring November 16, 1890. The widow and the mother of our subject was, before her marriage, a Miss Sarah Reed; she was a native of Ohio and still makes her home in DeWitt County. She is the mother of five children who are still living. They are Byard, Dell, Holland, our subject, Nellie and Melvin.

Holland Griffith was reared on the home farm and early learned the duties incident to farm life. He attended school in the neighboring district and assisted with the farm labor in the intervals. He made his home with his parents until twenty-three years of age and then settled on the farm where he now resides. It is a beautiful tract on section 31, Todd's Point Township, and comprises one hundred and sixty-four acres of good and arable land. Here he devotes himself to general agriculture and his efforts thus far have been crowned with a pleasing degree of success.



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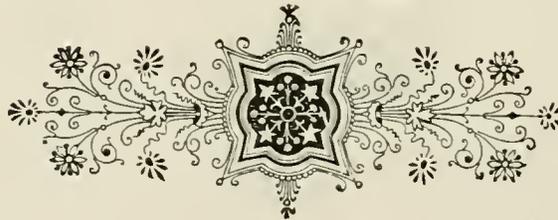
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