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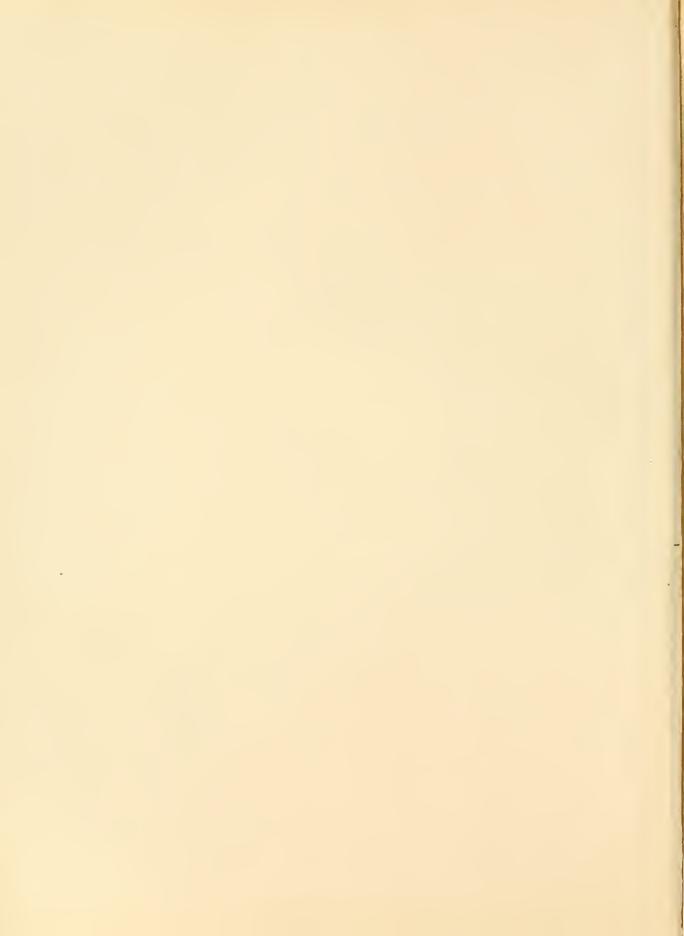


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Yours Truly Manoah Hedge

PAST AND PRESENT

OF

MAHASKA COUNTY, IOWA

BY

MANOAH HEDGE

TOGETHER WITH

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF MANY OF ITS PROMINENT AND LEADING CITIZENS AND ILLUSTRIOUS DEAD

ILLUSTRATED

CHICAGO: THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING CO. 1906

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Dedicated to the Pioneers of Mahaska County



PREFACE.



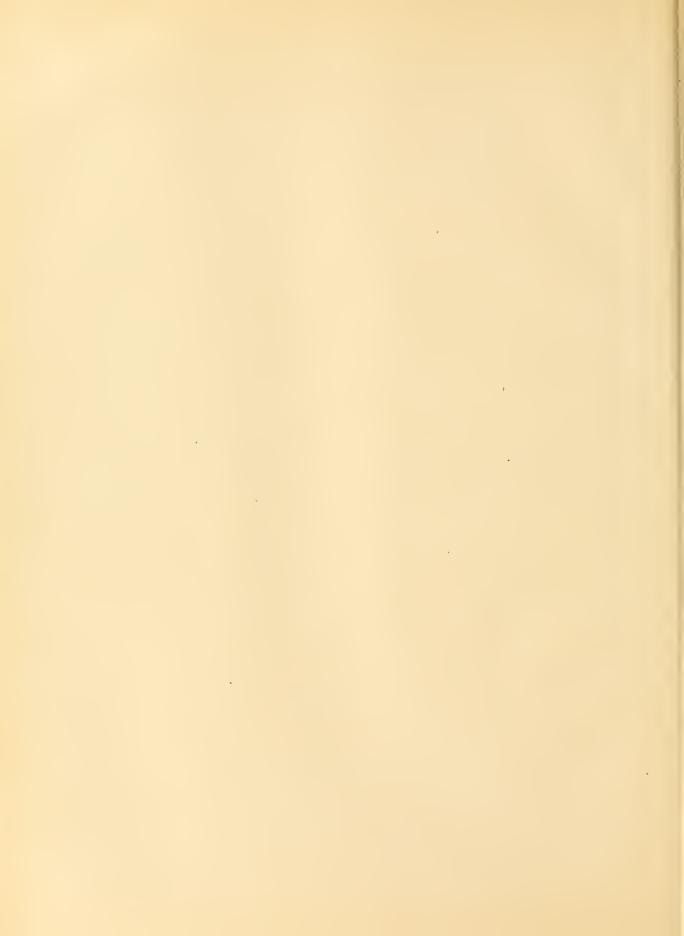
HE publishers take pride in presenting this volume to the public. The historical part is the work of Manoah Hedge, of Oskaloosa, Iowa, and the citizens of the county are to be congratulated on his services being secured by the publishers, as no man in the county is better qualified for the task. A perusal of the volume will show that his work is well done.

The biographical part of the work is the compilation of well qualified men, those long experienced in the business. They have gone to the people, the men and women who have, by their enterprise and industry, brought the county to a rank second to

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

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

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



HISTORICAL.

INTRODUCTION.

The history of a commonwealth like Mahaska county is the history of the upward struggles and achievements of individual life and the study of human life is always interesting. We have inherited the soil which in some measure has been made sacred by the privations and toils of a generation which in a few years will have no living representatives among men. The pioneers received these lands with rejoicing from the hand of nature, and have patiently subdued and nurtured the soil into its present richness and beauty. These heroic spirits now only modestly ask a resting place from their toils in the bosom of mother earth. These chapters have grown out of a desire to perpetuate their memory and the valor of their achievements. Two things have been kept constantly in the mind of the author, viz.: To see that each page should breath a spirit of appreciation for the work of the pioneers of Mahaska county and to make all the facts stated clear and interesting to the reader.

The almost exclusive source of information for the pioneer period has been the men and women themselves who were early on the frontier and know whereof they have spoken. To them most of all we are indebted for the facts and incidents herein related. As it would not be possible to give sketches or to make personal mention of any large number of persons, we have confined ourselves to the briefest outlines in the lives of only a few of the leading

spirits who were put forward in the organization and settlement of the county. The biographical department can be relied upon for extended personal sketches. It is not an easy task to write such a history, but the hours of thought in arranging and presenting these facts so as to make them interesting and readable have been lightened by the pleasure in the labor which prompted the undertaking. If the readers of this volume shall take as much pleasure in the perusal of its chapters as the author has in gathering and arranging the facts the compensation will have been mutual.

CHAPTER J.

THE FIRST IOWA EXPLORERS AND WHAT THEY FOUND.

The first inhabitants of Iowa and the Mississippi valley are known as the "Mound Builders." From the implements of stone and copper and the fragments of woven cloth and other trinkets which are found in the mounds which they left we have reason to believe that they had made some progress in the scale of intelligence. Strange as it may seem, these mounds have preserved the work of their hands, including skeletons, through the ages

without number that have elapsed since they became an extinct race. Of what absorbing interest it would be if we could know something of their manner of life, their numbers, customs, the purpose of these imperishable earthworks, how long they were here and the cause of their extermination; but aboriginal races preserve no history and further definite knowledge of this interesting race must remain forever unknown.

Two Frenchmen, James Marquette and Louis Joliet and their five French Canadian companions were the first white men who ever looked upon Iowa soil. Both these young men had been educated at a Jesuit college in France. Marquette was twenty-six years of age and had been a missionary among the Indians in the French possessions for a number of years. Joliet was twenty-seven years of age. He was thoroughly acquainted with the Indian life and customs, having conducted an Indian trading post for some years near Ouebec. The two explorers met at Mackinaw and proceeded to Green Bay and passed up the Fox river for some distance to a village of the Miami and Kickapoo Indians. This was the farthest western outpost to which even the zealous Jesuit missionaries had ventured. Calling a council of the chiefs and head men of the village they told them of the object of their voyage. The Indians tried in vain to dissuade them from pursuing so perilous a journey by telling them of the savage tribes they would meet and the monsters which infested forest and river, but the two young explorers were unmoved. Their minds were ripe for adventure, and they answered, "We are firmly resolved to do all and suffer all for so glorious an enterprise." They engaged Miami guides to pilot them across the portage between the Fox and the Wisconsin rivers. Here they dismissed their guides and embarked in the two little bark canoes which they had brought with them and for seven days they floated down the waters of the Wisconsin. On June 16, 1673, they were swept into the broad waters of the Mississippi river and beheld

the rugged bluffs on the western shore a few miles below where the city of McGregor now stands. Floating down on the bosom of its spacious waters they felt the inspiration of their great discovery. The Indians at Green Bay had told Marquette of the rumor of a great river far toward the setting sun and his consuming ambition to be among the first Europeans to look upon its valleys and plains and to carry a knowledge of the true God to its people had been gratified. The only supplies they had brought with them was enough Indian corn and dried meat to forward them on their journey. It was the delightful month of June, the month of singing birds and blooming flowers and new born foliage. Herds of buffaloes, deer and elk roamed the prairies and forests. They were passing through the richest and fairest region in the world. Yet it was an entire solitude. There were no signs of human habitation. Marquette called the river the "Broad River of Conception." Its present name is a compound of Algonquin words, "Missi" signifying great and "sepe," a river.

Floating down the current of the great river they lauded from time to time and supplied their camp with abundance of fish and game. Every day added new joys to the explorers. The prairies stretching on either shore and the fringing woodlands marked the course of the streams in the distance. All were laden with the rich perfume and fragrance of June. After eight days they landed in the western shore and discovered human footprints in the sand.

Marquette and Joliet left their five companions in charge of their canoes and followed the footprints to the river bluff. Here they found a trail leading westward across a prairie. They looked in vain for some sign of camp or wigwams but saw none. All had the stillness of a wilderness solitude but the waving meadows and the distant clumps of forest and thicket had an entrancing beauty. They followed the trail for six miles and saw another river and on its banks an Indian village. A few miles

further on the uplands there were other villages. The natives were greatly astonished at the approach of the white men but made no hostile demonstrations. They received them cordially and appointed four of their old men to meet the two strangers in council. quette, who had spent most of his young manhood as a missionary among the Indians in the lake region, could speak their language, which was a great delight to the natives. They informed him that they belonged to the "Illini" tribe, (meaning in their language, "we are men"). They smoked the pipe of peace together and extended them a most welcome greeting, inviting them to share the hospitality of their village. Marquette told them the object of their visit and that they had been sent to them by the French who were their friends. True to his vows, the good man told them in his first formal address of the great God worshiped by the white man and that he was the same as the Great Spirit which they adored. One of the chiefs addressed them as follows:

"I thank the black gowned chief and his friend for taking so much pains to come to visit us. Never before has the earth been so beautiful nor the sun so bright as now. Never has the river been so calm or free from rocks, which your canoes removed as they passed down. Never has the tobacco had so fine a flavor nor our corn appeared so beautiful as we behold it today. Ask the Great Spirit to give us life and health and come ye and dwell with us."

At the close of this fraternal conference the visitors were invited to a feast prepared by the squaws. Marquette has also given us a complete description of this feast. It consisted of four courses. The first was a preparation of corn meal boiled in water and seasoned with oil. The second course of boneless fish nicely cooked. The third roasted dog, which, when the visitors had declined with thanks they at once removed from sight. The last course was

a roast of buffalo, the fattest pieces of which were passed to the Frenchmen, who found it to be most excellent meat.

Marquette's narrative is rendered in verse in Longfellow's beautiful poem, "Hiawatha."

The two Frenchmen remained six days with their Indian friends, hunting, fishing and bathing. Every day with them was a day of feasting. The natives exerted themselves in every possible way to contribute to their entertainment and comfort. This is the generous and beautiful spirit shown to the first white men who visited Iowa. The stream on whose banks this conference and reception occurred was the Des Moines river and the place of their landing on the Mississippi is supposed to be near where the town of Montrose now stands, in Lee county. Marquette and his party could not be induced to remain longer. They were accompanied back to their canoes by an escort of six hundred Indians. They parted regretfully with their newly made friends, who gave them repeated invitations to renew their visit.

As an expression of his sincere friendship, the Illinois chief presented Marquette with an ornamented pipe of peace—the sacred calumet. This he was to suspend from his neck as a sure protection from savage tribes whom the party might meet. This expression of friendship proved a timely safeguard to the brave party of explorers. They continued their journey down the river, being carried on its current by day and camping at night on the shore. Frequent excursions were made, exploring forests and prairies and rowing up the streams which emptied into the Mississippi. They passed the mouth of the Missouri and called it "Muddy Water." The clear waters of the Ohio were called the "Beautiful River." In latitude 32 degrees we are told they came into the territory of a savage tribe which appeared on the bank of the river armed with bows, arrows and tomahawks ready for battle. The fearless Marquette was undaunted and held aloft his sa-

cred Calumet. These signs of peace checked the rage of the warriors and after a conference the chief invited Marquette and his party to their village, where they feasted them for several days, and furnished them with fresh supplies for their journey. Marquette was quite a different character from the Spanish freebooters of the south a hundred years previous to his visit. The explorers extended their journey as far south as the mouth of the Arkansas river, a distance of nearly eleven hundred miles. It was extremely hot. The Indian tribes were extremely hostile and Marquette was unacquainted with their language. Should the company be killed their discovery would never be made known to the civilized world. As in every case, from the first decision to embark in the exploration, until its close, these young men acted from a sense of duty. After considering the situation they decided it was their duty to return to Canada and make a report to their sovereign. For days and weeks they made their way against the current of the majestic river until they reached the Illinois. Here they learned from the Indians that in ascending this river they would find a shorter route than the way they had come. Going up the Illinois river for two weeks, they crossed the short portage to the Chicago river and reached Lake Superior. Here the two explorers separated, Marquette returning to resume his work as a missionary among the Indians, and Joliet going on to Ouebec to make a report of their joint discoveries to the governor of Canada. They had made a long journey of over two thousand miles without the loss of a man. Joliet received as a reward for his services the gift of the island of Anticosta in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. There is no record that Marquette ever received anything. He asked nothing, but counted it a pleasure to bear a knowledge of the true God to these wilderness tribes. James Marquette was at the top of the list of noble men sent out by the Roman Catholic

church to do missionary work in the Mississippi Valley and the St. Lawrence basin.

CHAPTER II.

FIRST WHITE SETTLERS IN IOWA.

It was one hundred and fifteen years after the exploration made by Marquette and Joliet until the first permanent white settlement was made in what is now the state of Iowa.

Julien Dubuque had the honor of forming such a settlement within the present limits of the city of Dubuque in the year 1788. He was born in the province of Quebec January 10, 1762, and received a good education; was a good writer and entertaining conversationalist. Going west at the age of twenty-two, he became an Indian trader. He settled at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, which was at that date the province of Louisiana. There was a Fox village on the western shore of the Mississippi where the city of Dubuque now stands named for the chief who presided over it, the village of Kettle Chief.

Lead had been discovered near the village in 1780 by the wife of a prominent Fox warrior. Young Dubuque succeeded by shrewd management and persuasive methods in gaining the confidence of Kettle Chief and his peo-He had given some attention to mineralogy and mining and obtained permission to eross the Mississippi and explore its western shore for lead ore, which he found in liberal quantities. Having secured the lease to a tract of land nine miles wide up and down the river, Dubuque took with him in that year ten Canadians, crossed the river and formed a settlement near the Indian village. The lease bears the date of September 22, 1788, and was drawn at Prairie du Chien. As Dubuque nad secured the friendship of Kettle Chief, himself and his companions were allowed to make their home in the Indian lodges in the village.

He had his overseers, smelters, wood choppers and boatmen. The point now known as Dubuque Bluff was the site of a smelting furnace. He kept a store, bought and sold furs, Indian trinkets, and did quite an extensive business in connection with mining ad preparing the ore for market. He gave employment to the Indian women and old men of the Fox tribe, the stately warriors counting it a disgrace to do manual labor of any kind. As a compliment to the Spanish governor, he gave the name of the "Mines to Spain" to his growing industry.

In common with most of the French traders he married an Indian woman and adopted in a large measure the Indian mode of life.

Twice each year Dubuque took a barge load of ore, furs, hides and other frontier products to St. Louis, which he sold or exchanged for goods and supplies for his settlement. He was known as the largest trader in the Mississippi valley and his semi-annual visits were often the occasion of banqueting and festivity in that frontier town.

He is described as a man of medium size but strongly built, black hair and eyes, having the courtly, gracious and polished manner of an accomplished Frenchman.

In the course of years of trade Dubuque became indebted to St. Louis merchants, which considerably involved his estate. His diplomacy always won for him a favorable hearing by those high in authority and influence, but he was not so successful as a financier.

He built homes for his people, encouraged farming and erected a mill. His settlement was known everywhere to possess all of the conveniences of which its remote frontier situation would permit.

For twenty-two years Dubuque and his colony of whites lived with the Indians, carrying on mining operations and trade with the settlement down the Mississippi river.

Dubuque died March 10, 1810, from an attack of pneumonia. The leader and pioneer of the first white colony in the future state of Iowa left no family. He was followed to his grave not only by his own people but by the population of the entire village, by all of whom he was beloved. He was buried on one of the bluffs, two hundred feet above the river. Some years afterward his friend, the Fox chief, was buried near his grave.

Dubuque's death brought great changes to the little colony. The Indians refused to allow the mining operations to continue, Schoolcraft says they burned down his house and fences and erased every vestige of civilized life.

During the twenty-two years that Dubuque was at the head of his settlement, from 1788 to 1810, the territory was owned by three different nations, viz.: Spain, France and the United States. The mines afterward came to be called "The Dubuque Lead Mines."

At the close of the Black Hawk war the mines were reopened and in 1833 there were 500 white people in the mining district. At a meeting of the settlers the next year the place was called Dubuque.

The next white settlement made within the limits of Iowa was by Basil Gerard, a French American, in 1795, in Clayton county. It contained over 5.800 acres and is known on Iowa maps as the "Gerard Tract." After the Louisiana purchase a patent was issued to Mr. Gerard by the U. S. government. This document is interesting because it is the first legal document granting land to a white man within the limits of the state of Iowa.

Louis Honore Tesson, a French Canadian, made the third settlement in 1799. He procured the liberty of establishing a trading post at the head of the Des Moines Rapids on the west bank of the Mississippi, and selected his

location in Lee county, where Montrose now stands. He erected buildings for a trading post, opened a farm and planted crops. Some of the seedling apple trees planted by Tesson bore fruit for seventy-five years.

The first Iowa school house was built in Lee county in 1830, and the first school was taught by Berryman Jennings. In that early settlement that year also was born the first white child within the limits of the state, Eleanor Galland, a daughter of Dr. Isaac Galland, who settled in Lee county in the spring of 1829.

Dr. Samuel C. Muir was an army surgeon located at different times at the frontier forts along the Mississippi river. He was a native of Scotland and a graduate of Edinburgh University and highly respected by every one as a man of rare culture. He had married a bright and intelligent Indian girl of the Sac nation. While located at Fort Edwards, now Warsaw, Illinois, he crossed the river and built a cabin where Keokuk now stands. Some time afterward the war department issued an order which required officers of the frontier to abandon their Indian wives. Dr. Muir refused to abandon his family and resigned his position as surgeon with the army. When he was urged to reconsider his action he took up his first born child and said: "May God forbid that a son of Caledonia should ever desert his wife or abandon his child." Himself and wife lived happily in their little cabin home on the Mississippi until his death in 1852.

CHAPTER III.

IMPORTANT LAND DEALS WITH THE INDIANS.

The name Iowa was first applied to a large district of country lying between Lake Michigan

and the Mississippi river. The Wisconsin river was the north line and the Illinois bounded it on the south. This extensive area was called Iowa county in 1829. It was so named because it had been the former home of the Iowa Indians. In about the year 1700 they migrated westward, crossing the Mississsippi and locating on the Iowa river. This tribe of Indians gave their name to the river on which they located and from it the territory and state were named.

On the 30th of April, 1803, France ceded to the United States her territory between the Mississippi river and the Rocky mountains, known as the "Louisiana Purchase," for \$15,000,000. In 1804 what is known as the State of Iowa was included in the District of Louisiana. March 3, 1805, it was organized into the Territory of Louisiana. In 1812 it was included in the jurisdiction of the Territory of Missouri. June 28, 1834, Congress provided that "All that part of the territory of the United States bounded on the east by the Mississippi river, on the south by the State of Missouri, on the west by the Missouri and White Earth rivers and on the north by the northern boundary of the United States, shall be attached to Michigan Territory."

The state of Iowa was embraced in this territory and for judicial purposes was made a part of Michigan. In September of 1834 the Michigan Assembly divided the Iowa District into two counties by running a line due west from the lower end of the island of Rock Island. The territory north of this line was named Dubuque county and all south of the line was called Des Moines county. The courts were organized in each county. The place of meeting for the county on the north was Dubuque, and Burlington on the south.

The first court was held in a log house in Burlington in April, 1835. The Governor of Michigan appointed the judges for these new counties. Isaac Loeffer was appointed to preside in Des Moines county and John King in Dubuque county. Judge King was the founder

and publisher of the Dubuque Visitor, the first newspaper established within the limits of the state of Iowa.

A census taken in 1836 gave the two counties in the Black Hawk Purchase, Dubuque and Des Moines, a population of 10,531.

The first book ever published descriptive of Iowa, or Iowa District, as it was then called, was published in 1836 by Lieutenant Albert M. Lea, for whom Lee county was named. Lieut. Lea was a civil engineer and a skilled draughtsman. His work as a soldier enabled him to explore much of the then unknown region in central and southern Iowa. Mr. Lea pays this tribute to the Iowa pioneers he had met while scouring about over the new country: "The character of the population settling in this beautiful country is such as is rarely found in other new territories. With few exceptions there is not a more industrious, orderly and energetic population west of the Alleghenies than are found in the Iowa District."

Mr. George Catlin, a famous Indian painter and historian, visited the Indian tribes in Iowa some years earlier than Mr. Lea and has many enthusiastic descriptions of the beauty and solitude of these western prairie lands. We give a short extract: "The stately march of our growing population to this vast garden spot will surely come in surging columns and spread farms, houses, orchards, towns and cities all over these remote wild prairies. Half a century hence, the sun is sure to shine on countless villages, silvered spires and domes, denoting the march of intellect and wealth's refinement in this beautiful and far-off solitude of the west, and we may perhaps hear the tinkling of the bells from our graves."

In the Louisiana Purchase from France on April 30, 1803, as in all purchases made by the United States, it was always the policy of the government to recognize the claims of the various Indian tribes to the territory which they occupied. No bona fide grant or guarantee

could be given by the government to any of these lands until the Indians' title had been satisfied by treaty and purchase.

A number of treaties were made with the Saes and Foxes, who occupied almost all of eastern Iowa.

A treaty made September 21, 1832, known as Black Hawk Purchase, opened the first lands in Iowa for settlement by the whites. This treaty was made on the spot where the city of Davenport now stands.

General Winfield Scott and Governor John Reynolds, of Illinois, represented the United States. The Indian tribes were represented by Keokuk, Pash-e-pa-ho, Black Hawk and other chiefs. The negotiations were conducted in a large tent erected on the west bank of the river. It is described as an unusually interesting scene. In contrast with the gay uniforms of the soldiers and the painted warriors, adorned in their very best costumes, were the hardy hunters and trappers who hung about the council to watch the proceedings.

June 1, 1833, was the date when the first lowa purchase was thrown open to the settlers. Antoine Le Claire acted as interpreter for this treaty. He had long lived among the Indians and had married an Indian wife. To show their strong friendship for him they had reserved for his wife 640 acres of land where Davenport now stands and an equal amount for himself north of Davenport, where the town of Le Claire is now located.

By this treaty the Sacs and Foxes ceded to the United States a tract of land containing six million acres extending from the northern boundary of Missouri to the mouth of the Upper Iowa river, having an average width of fifty miles west of the Mississippi river.

The consideration paid for this grant of land was the payment of an annual sum of twenty thousand dollars for thirty years, and also the sum of fifty thousand dollars of indebtedness which these tribes owed to certain Indian traders on the river. It was estimated that the cost to the government was about nine cents per acre for this splendid cession of lands. At this time the Sacs and Foxes numbered about thirty-five hundred persons. They moved their families over near the Des Moines river between Ottumwa and Agency City, which latter place became the new Indian agency.

On October 11, 1842, a final purchase was made from the Sac and Fox Indians of all their remaining lands west of the Mississippi. The treaty was negotiated at Agency by John Chambers, governor of Iowa Territory.

These deliberations took place also in a large tent. To insure good order a troop of dragoons from Fort Des Moines were present under the command of Captain Allen. There was always considerable display on these treaty occasions. The Indians loved show and parade and the government officials encouraged it so that the dignified chiefs and their braves might be properly impressed. The governor at this treaty wore a brilliant uniform of a brigadier general of the United States Army. He and his staff sat at one end of the tent on a slightly elevated platform. The chiefs were seated in front of this platform and the interpreter occupied a position between the two representative bodies. The Indians were likewise attired in their best. Each had purchased a new blanket at the agency. Leggins of white deer-skin, feathers, beads, rings and painted faces made up their apparel. It is said also that each chief carried a profusely decorated war club to give decorum to the occasion. There was much talk, for the Indians love to make speeches and listen to them. The words of each speaker were translated by the interpreter that it might be clearly understood.

The Indians pleaded eloquently for their charming hunting grounds with their beautiful forests and meadows. They loved Iowa as dearly as the white man does today. The compensation seemed a large sum to them, but it was as trash compared with the home of their forefathers.

The winter of 1842-3 was the severest that had yet been known in lowa. It was a trying winter on the settlers as well as the disheartened savages. The chief medicine man of the tribes who had strongly opposed giving up their lands, now said to the Indians: "This cold weather and these hardships have come upon you because the Great Spirit is angry at you. You have parted with the last of your possessions. You have sold the home of your fathers. Manitou is displeased."

The Indians had confidence in their prophet and observed solenm ceremonies to pacify the Great Spirit.

This grant of land comprised perhaps twothirds of the present state of Iowa, containing 10,000,000 acres, for which the disheartened and retreating red man received \$800,000 in annual payments, with five per cent, interest per annum,

It was this purchase from the Sacs and Foxes which included the territory from which Mahaska county was surveyed, the history and growth of which should be of absorbing interest to every citizen within its limits.

The early settlers almost always speak of this grant as the "New Purchase." The Indians were to vacate the eastern portion of these lands on May 1, 1843, and two years later they were to leave their beautiful lowa hunting grounds and cross the Missouri, never to return. They had been crowded westward from the state of Ohio. They lingered about their once cheerful camp fires, brooding sadly over their certain doom. Women wept as they went about the drudgery of gathering goods together for the household journey. Men were melancholy and silent as they looked for the last time on forest, stream and prairie. But there is no alternative. Primitive races must retreat or be absorbed by the aggressive forces of civilization. Over and over again history has written this almost unalterable decree. Only once in all recorded history has this law been reversed. When William the Conqueror came over to England from the continent in the year 1066 with his Norman-French army and subdued our forefathers, the gritty Anglo-Saxon never gave up his native tongue. He submitted as best he could to the dominion of the French Court, but clung with everlasting tenacity to his own language and his own individuality and in the end of the centuries the strong character and life of the Anglo-Saxon dominated and his once proud conquerors were absorbed and lost to sight in the jostle of the years.

CHAPTER IV.

SOME EARLY MAHASKA SETTLERS.

The settlement and organization of the counties in Iowa Territory was begun by the legislature by first organizing counties along the west bank of the Mississippi river. As each county was organized and the settlements moved westward it was made to include all settlers beyond its western border. This was done for legal and judicial purposes. It gave settlers located beyond the geographical borders on the west, election privileges and equal protection under the law. In this way Mahaska county commissioners exercised jurisdiction over the region as far west as the territory now included in the city of Des Moines. Among the county records is an order granting a license for one vear to John Scott allowing him the liberty of "keeping a ferry across the Des Moines river at the mouth of the Raccoon river near Fort Des Moines on the payment of the sum of ten dollars into the county treasury." The license limited the ferryman to specific charges, ranging from five cents for sheep and hogs to fifty cents for four horses and wagon.

The first cabin erected within the boundary of what is now Mahaska county was built on the flat north of Eddyville in the fall of 1842 by a Mr. William Mellvain, who was a hunter and trader of that period. Mr. Mellvain obtained permission from the Indians, as no settlements were allowed by the government until the following spring. The winter of 1842-43 was an unusually severe winter. The snow which fell in the fall remained on the ground until late in the spring. This cabin was occupied by the family of John B. Gray, who had arrived from Texas, November 1st, of that year. The cabin has only been destroyed in recent years.

Mrs. F. A. French, of Keokuk, who is the youngest daughter of the Gray family, states to the author, who was well acquainted with the family, that she distinctly remembers about her mother relating the incidents and the experiences of that trying winter, located as they were so far from civilization.

It has been stated by several historians of the county and state that a man by the name of McBeth had built the first cabin and that Mr. Gray secured it from him. This, however, must stand corrected, as we have this information from those who were on the scene. Mrs. Gray and Mrs. McIlvain were sisters.

Mr. McIlvain came from Indianapolis, Indiana, and afterward entered land out near Six-Mile, where he remained until the year 1850, when he joined one of the many caravans which crossed the plains to California in search of gold. A letter from his son, J. H. McIlvain, of Harlan, Kansas, corroborates the above facts.

Mr. Gray was born in Caledonia county, Vermont, April 9, 1809. His grandfather was a member of a New Hampshire regiment and lost his life while serving as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. In February, 1834, he emigrated to what was then known as the Black Hawk purchase, Michigan Territory, stopping near the little village of Flint Hills, now Burlington. The town had been laid out the pre-

vious fall. Had a small general store and a ferry boat. At a meeting of its citizens to give the town a better name Mr. Gray suggested Burlington, the name of his home town in Vermont. It was well received, and the company agreed that if Mr. Gray would put in a general store he should have the honor of naming the place. He consented to this proposition and remained in business in Burlington until 1838, when he removed to the republic of Texas. Finding things very unsettled in that country, he turned his property into horses and drove them north overland, selling them as he came through the states. The fall of 1842 found him as above stated. When the Sac and Fox reservation was opened for settlement on May 1, 1843, he entered three hundred and sixty acres of land two and one-half miles west of Eddyville, where he remained until his death in 1876.

Mrs. Gray was the daughter of a pioneer flatboat captain on the Mississippi and was inured to frontier life. She drove a team through on the return trip from Texas. On this long journey she was often separated from her husband for several days, camping where night overtook her with her three little ones.

Eddyville was then known as Hard Fish's Village, this being the name of the chief who presided over the inhabitants. At this time J. P. Eddy had a trading post near the Indian village and supplied the Indians and hardy woodsmen for twenty-five miles distant, or more, with blankets, saddles, guns, ammunition and other frontier necessities. His books were kept by Richard Butcher. These books are still in existence and show the names representing 2,004 Indians, who had open accounts at the post. The accounts are kept in the name of the head of the family and give the number of persons which he represented. Kish-kekosh, our Mahaska county chief, ran up a bill amounting to almost two hundred dollars. Other prominent chiefs whose names appear on these books are Wapello, Pashe-pa-ho and the wife of Keokuk. Mr. Eddy had a grant from the government of 640 acres of land lying on the east bank of the Des Moines river, and when the Indians moved toward the west in 1843 he laid off 160 acres into a town plat and called it Eddyville. At this time about one hundred of its population is in Mahaska county.

By the first of May, 1843, the date when the reservation was opened to settlement, many of the auxious settlers had quietly worked their way across the borders in spite of the vigilance of the patrolling dragoons, who kept constant watch on the eastern and southern border of the Indian reservation to keep off intruders. Wagons were not allowed to cross the line but a small company of men on foot without axes were permitted to pass into the "Promised Land" and make such observations as suited their fancy. Hatchets and axes were almost invariably smuggled in without handles in bundles or under the clothing, and handles were improvised when needed. These hardy children of nature when worn by the day's tramping, would lie down wherever night overtook them, and with some slight protection from the wild beasts would rest until the welcome dawn of another day.

Richard Parker, who was an early arrival in the New Purchase, told the author that he had often found himself alone when night came on when on these frontier exploits and would crawl into the thickest hazel brush, so as to make it quite impossible for wolves, which he dreaded most, or any other animal, to approach his hiding place without making sufficient noise to awaken him. Here, with his trusty gun well loaded and lying by his side, he would sleep soundly and sweetly until morning. These adventures, which seem thrilling to us, were a part of the hardy life of those who followed close upon the heels of the retreating Indians. They simply made the best of their surroundings and thought but little about it.

There was considerable relaxation in the rules governing the settlers as the time approached when all restriction should be removed. Perhaps hundreds of the newcomers had their claims selected before that date, and on the night of April 30, 1843, camped on the ground and had sharpened stakes and primitive torches already manufactured, so that when the moon and stars indicated the midnight hour they left their campfires with exultation and rejoicing to measure off as accurately as possible the three hundred and twenty acres which should be the home of the family, which awaited their return, near the border of the reservation. It was a night of too much joy and gladness to sleep and we are told that the woods rang with many a hurrali and cheer as they went with torch in hand over hill and valley, here driving a stake or there blazing a tree, or in some definite way marking the corners and lines of the land which should be the much-coveted abiding place of themselves and their children in the peaceful passing of the years. This was the delightful dream of the early settler. The first settlers avoided the prairies. Their ideal was a comfortable cabin in the edge of the timber, near a spring or a running stream, where game would be plentiful and fuel close at hand.

Dr. E. A. Boyer, who was one of the early pioneers in Scott township, was born in Maryland, March 13, 1816. His father was a slave holder at the time of his birth but liberated them and removed to Ohio, where the Doctor grew to manhood, receiving a medical education. Dr. Boyer was married in 1840 to Miss Mary Wiley, who survives her husband and still presides over the old home, which was built near where the first cabin stood on the banks of the Des Moines river, in Scott township. Although far advanced in years she has a distinct memory of most of the events that have transpired in the west in the sixty-five years of her residence in Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Bover came to lowa the same year of their marriage and made their home in Van Buren county until the opening of the New Purchase. He was one of those who staked off his land at midnight April 30, 1843. A cabin was built at once and his family removed to the new home. Mrs. Boyer says the temporary tloor of that first cabin was made of bark, and that those years brought them the fullest measure of happiness and contentment. The Doctor practiced his profession actively for fifteen years. In the days when the river traffic counted for much he had a general store at Rochester and Bellefountaine. He was enterprising and became wealthy, but made no one poorer. The Bover estate still has over a thousand acres of land in Mahaska county.

Van B. Delashmutt came at the same time and was a neighbor of Dr. Boyer and they were lifelong friends. Born in Virginia, he served two terms in the legislature of that state. Coming west to better his condition, he became widely known in Iowa and the west. He was a typical pioneer. His son, W. A. Delashmutt. states to the writer that when he crossed the plains in 1849 he was laid up for fourteen days in Salt Lake City with mountain fever. While in that condition, lying in his tent, he was visited by Brigham Young, who placed him under the care of a skillful physician, gave him comfortable quarters and visited him every day of his illness. The great leader told young Delashmutt that when his people were going through Iowa a few years before a large party of them had camped for the winter near his father's house and that his kindness to them had made his father's name a household word in many a western home. The young man had been absent from home that winter. The Mormon chieftain also stated that the Iowa people had been universally kind to his people and they should be well treated in passing through his dominion, but that the people of Illinois and Missouri should not be allowed to camp nearer to Salt Lake City than four miles, because of

their cruel and inhuman treatment of those who had embraced the Mormon faith. Mr. Delashmutt says that to his certain knowledge this rule was adhered to during his stay.

Poultney Loughridge came from Ohio to Iowa in 1842, wintering in a cabin four miles north of Richland. The following spring in March, himself and three others, John McAllister and Edwin and Robert Mitchell quietly slipped across the border of the New Purchase in search for choice claims. They made their selection in Spring Creek township, but decided not to return home but to remain on the ground until the land should be open for settlement. Fearful of being discovered by the Indians or the dragoons, they selected the most dense thicket that could be found in which to build a small cabin which would afford them temporary shelter and seclusion. On the night of April 30th they did not sleep. Stakes, torches and landmarks had all been selected. They had brought with them a pocket compass, which proved of much value in the wilderness. Mr. Loughridge's father was a surveyor and his son was versed in that science. As soon as the hour of midnight had passed they struck out, torch in hand, and before davlight their claims were all staked. Cabins were built as soon as possible for the families who were in waiting, and the conquest of the new farms began. For the first vear letters were mailed at Fairfield or Brigh. ton. Letter postage was twenty-five cents, but later reduced to ten cents. Produce was sometimes hauled to Fort Des Moines and exchanged for calico at twenty-five cents per vard, and other useful household supplies. Hogs were driven to Keokuk and sold for one dollar and twenty-five and one fifty per hundred pounds. Ague and fever were much dreaded. James Loughridge, the youngest son of the family, still owns the farm which his father entered.

Mrs. H. P. Martin, now in her eighty-third year, came to Spring Creek township, where she still lives, in 1843. Her husband staked off his claim by torchlight in the early morning

hours of May 1st of that year. He was accompanied by his brother, Silas. Mrs. Martin says the first years were very trying in many ways. They usually went to Bonaparte to mill. When Miss Hobbs was teaching the first school taught in the county she often staved at the Martin home, especially during these long milling trips. Ague was the scourge of the country in the summer and early fall. Those who were compelled to be early and late in the fields were the worst sufferers. Mr. Martin was a great sufferer at a time when he felt that he must be at work. He would go down on the prairie near Wright to cut grass for the stock. Late in the afternoon the hot fever would follow the chills, at which time he would hardly be able to account for himself, being so completely deranged. He always took the precaution, however, to prepare for himself a bed of hav on which to lie until his consciousness returned. Mrs. Martin says that when her husband failed to return at a reasonable time in the evening her anxiety for his safety would become so intense that she would take her baby in her arms and go until she would find him still at his work or on his way home, the wolves all the while howling about her pathway. It was a pleasure to sit in the presence of the good old mother and hear her talk in her entirely unaffected way about those primitive days in what is now Spring Creek township. She said she could not understand why a loving Providence had kept her through so many hardships and dangers to see the quiet days of these later vears. She has been a widow twelve years and is now living quietly on a small farm with her son Byron not far from the old home selected in the wilderness.

There is a charm in a quiet, peaceful life, whether it be in the strength of matured years or in the halo of a well preserved old age. Like the waters that flow to the sea, life is at first a fretful rivulet, then a stately river, and lastly a quiet and broad sweeping tide until it is swallowed up in the unknown. In all of these stages

when unaffected and natural, it is most interesting and beautiful.

CHAPTER V.

PIONEER MANNER OF LIFE—HUNTING, AMUSE-MENTS, DRESS.

When a settler reached the end of his long journey his first business was to select his claim and locate his residence. In the absence of section lines he determined the points of the compass by the sun at noon and in the evening. So many steps each way would measure three hundred and twenty acres more or less, which answered all necessary purposes for securing a claim. It was always understood that in the righting of irregularities by the final survey each settler would be absolutely sure to receive the full amount of his claim.

Having selected a location the most pressing business at hand was to construct a temporary house for the protection of the family. The style was not a thing to be considered. A shelter was the only thought in the minds of the first home builders. We do not read of many dugouts in Iowa, but thirty years ago the writer visited many such homes on the prairies of Nebraska. Even with dirt floors the average home was always kept neat and clean. The hardy settler usually had no means and but few appliances for home building. He was quite content with a cabin such as would afford shelter and protection from the winter storms and excessive weather. A one-room cabin fourteen or sixteen feet square, with a bark or clapboard roof and a roughly built stick chimney with a good big fireplace was joy and undisturbed contentment for years to come for the early settler. Doors and windows were not always immediately provided. A blanket often did good service in guarding the door until they found time to split the timbers, that when completed, would swing on its wooden hinges and fasten with a latch made of seasoned hickory. As for furniture, there was not room for much, and it was quite easy to improvise tables and chairs. Sometimes the door was taken from its hinges and used as a table on special occasions, and when needed no longer for that purpose, was lifted into its place again. In the earlier days, after the cabin was enclosed and made comfortable, the deft hand of the good housewife was generally equal to almost any emergency, and the father of the family was left free to look after outside affairs. How cheerful the old fashioned fireplace always seemed, with its huge back log and its crackling fire. The family sitting in a semi-circle around its wide mouth is a picture of contentment and unmeasured joy. No meniber of that circle can ever forget the scene or get away from the influence of its holy fellowship.

The site for the home of the early settler was usually on the edge of the timber, near a spring or running stream. The timber served as a protection from the storms of winter and the excessive heat of summer. Then the nearness to the timber afforded an immediate supply of fuel and logs for the cabin. Along the edge of the timber, also, the sod was more easily broken than on the prairie. A truck patch with the larger portion of it in corn was all that could be done the first year. These were the trying years for the early settlers. Mills were scarce and usually a distance of several days' journey. In a number of instances in this county, we are told, that after a long winter which caused the scanty food supply to run very low, it required the time of one member of the family during the spring months to be on the road to and from the mill, which was often sixty to seventy-five miles distant. The trip was often made on horseback, as there were no ferries, and the swollen streams had to be crossed in a canoe or raft and the horse or oxen would swim. In making these long and difficult trips the pioneer would camp at night on or near the prairie, where his team could feed on the grass. After a week or more of exposure and toilsome travel, he would be disheartened to learn on arriving at the mill that his turn would come in a week. He was lucky if he found a job to pay expenses while waiting. When his turn came he was expected to be promptly on hand to claim it, or another would take his place. His grinding finally ready, he was delighted to turn his face homeward and meet the dangers of the return trip. These milling trips occupied so much valuable time that it made the cost of breadstuffs extremely high.

Timber and prairie wolves were a great menace to the early settler. While it was quite true in a figurative sense that the pioneer had a hard time to "keep the wolf from the door," it was equally true in a literal sense. As the country became more settled wolf hunts were organized to rid the country of these pests. It is said that as many as fifty have been killed in a day at one of these regular wolf hunts.

There were times when it was impossible to obtain flour, and corn bread was an acceptable substitute. The ingenuity of the good mother was often taxed to supplement the supply of wild game. Corn was often ground on hand mills or a home-made grater and sifted through a piece of dressed deer skin which had been perforated by a hot wire or sharpened nail. Bread made from this contained all the healthful ingredients of the grain and could not fail to be sweet and untritious.

This is no imaginative description of the difficulties to be overcome in settling the soil of Iowa and Mahaska county. There are persons yet living who participated in these hardships.

The necessities of life were not large during

those first years. They had not yet learned the lesson of extravagance. Many a happy meal was eaten of corn bread and meat, prepared under the most humble circumstances by the cheerful and constant wife. No destitution was ever permitted in any neighborhood. What one had all were free to use while it lasted. The last pound of meat or peck of meal was generously divided with a needy neighbor. There was no selfishness. A cordial and generous life made all the days of the year happy days. The first settlers who came into this country thought themselves fortunate to get mail from their friends once in three or six months. After the days of post offices all news was several months old before it reached its destination. The postal authorities at that time allowed excess of postage to be paid by the person to whom the letter was addressed. Judge Seevers used to tell of a voung pioneer who was unable to raise the twenty-five cents back postage for the want of which he was not permitted to lift the letter from the office. He made periodical trips to the office to have the satisfaction of inspecting it until such time as he could raise the price which enabled him to secure it.

The perils and suffering to be encountered by the pioneers did not prevent them from being a cheerful and light-hearted people. Frolics were frequent. Whenever anything was to be done requiring more help than the family could supply, a day in the future was selected on which to make a frolic. These occasions were widely advertised, and everybody was made welcome, and as a rule the whole neighborhood planned their work to attend the gathering. There were the house-raising, log-rolling wood-chopping and the like for the men and quilting and sewing for the wom-On these occasions ample preparaen. tions were made to entertain the crowd with plenty of food and drink. With joking and a general merry-making time the work went on

until the allotted task was done. In the evening the fun-making began in earnest and continued far into the night, especially among the young people. A house-raising, which was always regarded great fun, would furnish a stimulus and excitement for a neighborhood for weeks previous and after the event.

The first cabins were built with the logs just as they came from the forests, round, with the bark on. A little later it was accounted an indication of good taste to chip off two sides of each log. Then came the more elegant home made of hewed logs, presenting a flat surface both inside and out. A good deal of preparation was necessary on the part of the host to have all in readiness for a house-raising. The timbers must all be prepared in proper-lengths, then cut and notched and ready to be laid in place. Men who were specially skillful with an axe were placed on the corners of the building to clip out just the right sized chip to allow the log to make a close fit.

Horse racing, foot racing and shooting matches were popular amusements. At these gatherings there were almost always tests of physical strength in some form and sometimes vicious fights were precipitated by an imagined insult or some boastful spirit whose superfluous vitality was chaffing to demonstrate that he was the best man in the crowd. He usually got what boasters deserve, a good "licking," from which time he ceased to be the champion of the neighborhood. A too free use of liquor generally brought on these pernicious contests. Most of these festivities wound up with dancing, which was always a favorite diversion with the early settlers.

There was but little attention paid to style in dress. During the first years the garments they brought with them were made to go as far as possible. A coon skin or a wolf skin cap was counted a luxury. The skin of the deer, known as "buckskin," was used by the men for the blouse, pantaloons and moccasins, and the women wore knit hoods and fabrics of their

own weaving until the general store came into the settlement.

CHAPTER VI.

CLAIM ASSOCIATIONS—THEIR LAWS—THE MAJORS CASE.

The earliest claims of the land west of the Mississippi river were made by the fearless pioneer farmers, or squatters. They had no titles or patents to the soil they occupied, no legal rights, and hence no protection by the United States Government. In many cases they were there because they had dared to violate an act of Congress prohibiting settlers from trespassing on the public domain. Even for many years after the lands were open for settlement the pioneers were a law unto themselves. Because of this condition there developed a system of popular government peculiar to the frontier communities of the west. It was known as the Claim Association, or Land Club. Each community had its own land association, the object of which was the protection of the actual settlers in their rights against speculators and "land grabbers." Cases of dispute arising between members of an association were settled by a Claim Committee and from their decision there was no appeal. The laws of these associations were the outgrowth of the strongest sense of justice and equity in the community and an intentional violation of these laws was punished by the strongest public condemnation. Sometimes tar and feathers and the lash were resorted to in order to emphasize the chastisement. The number of acres of land allowed to any one settler varied in the different communities from one hundred and sixty to four hundred and eighty acres. Boundaries to these claims were designated by section. and the township line if the Government survey had been completed, otherwise, by stakes, blazed trees, streams, hills and rocks.

The settlers continued to improve these claims until the date set by the government for the sale of the land. In the meantime all claims were recorded and marked off on a man of the township. On the day of sale this map was placed in the hands of a "bidder" chosen by the association for the entire community. A. S. Nichols was the bidder for the Oskaloosa community. As the auctioneer called the claims of the members of the association he would bid one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre which was the minimum price. As no one dared to bid against an original claimant, the land was invariably bought at that price. If an outsider was courageous enough to put in a counter bid he was roughly handled at once and compelled to withdraw his bid or risk his life in the hands of the members of the claim association, who were all there ready to deal swift retribution to the intruder on their frontier rights. At home as well as at the public sale, no one ventured to raise their voice against the law of the claim association. It was the best protection the country afforded and the supreme rule of the community for which it was created. New comers were practically compelled to respect its regulations. Robert Lucas, Iowa's first governor, subscribed to the constitution of such an organization in Johnson county, where he had purchased a claim.

Mahaska county had several of these pioneer organizations and they were thoroughly effective in always bringing equity and justice to the bona fide settler.

A distinguished citizen, who was one of the pioneers of that period, said in later years:

"The law never did and never will protect the people in all their rights so fully as the early settlers protected themselves by their claim organizations."

We are told that these claim laws had their origin in Jefferson county. Although they were not legally enacted, they were in a certain sense sanctioned by the territorial legislature, in 1839. They were "founded upon the theory

that a majority of the people had the right to protect their property by agreeing to such regulations as they deemed necessary to accomplish that object."

The officers consisted of a president, vice-president, a recorder of claims, seven judges—whose duty it was to adjust all boundaries in dispute—and two marshals. One of the judges was an officer who was authorized to administer oaths. Each member of the association was required to make fifty dollars' worth of improvements on his claim within six months after filing it, and improvements to the value of that amount each six months thereafter.

In those frontier days courts were many miles away, sometimes fifty or more miles from the place of dispute. With the embarassing methods of travel, causing long delays, the claim associations were almost a necessity.

The following well worded document, which forms the basis of these settlers' clubs, will doubtless be of interest to this more favored generation:

"Whereas, it has become a custom in the western states, as soon as the Indian title to the public lands has been extinguished by the general government for the citizens of the United States to settle on and improve said lands, and heretofore the improvement and claims of the settlers to the extent of three hundred and twenty acres has been respected both by the citizens and laws of Iowa.

"Resolved. That we will protect all citizens on the public lands in the peaceable possession of their claims to the extent of three hundred and twenty acres for two years after the land sales and longer if necessary.

"Resolved, That if any person or persons shall enter the claim of any settler that he or they shall immediately deed it back again to said settler and wait three years without interest.

"Resolved, That if he refuse to comply with the above requisition, he shall be subject to such punishment as the settlers see fit to inflict. "Resolved. That we will remove any person or persons who may enter the claim of any settler and settle upon it, peaceably, if we can, forcibly if we must, even if their removal should lead to bloodshed, being compelled to do so for our own common safety, that we may not be driven by ruthless speculators from our firesides and homes.

"Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to settle all difficulties that may arise.

"Resolved, That any settler who may have signed these by-laws, and refuses to do service when called upon by the proper officer, and without reasonable excuse, shall be fined the sum of ten dollars, to be divided among those who may have rendered the service necessary."

These resolutions sound like business, and in quite a number of cases in this county, the associations had some interesting business on their hands. A speculator from Iowa City who had entered and purchased a claim of a settler in the eastern part of the county, was visited by a committee of five members and when he showed no disposition to deed back the land, was brought to Mahaska county. On his steadily refusing to obey the laws of the claim association, he was taken to the Skunk river, bound and tied to prevent his swimming and thrown into the water with a rope attached to iis body. This was repeated three times, being allowed to remain under water a little longer each time. On being informed that if another plunge was needed it would be the last one, he concluded to give up the land and stay a while longer. He complied with by-law Number Two and received back the amount be had paid for the claim, less the expenses made necessary in adjudicating the case and the liqnor which had been consumed by the crowd during the chastisement.

The action of the club was often necessary in settling disputes of greater or less magnitude between claimants.

The case which became most noted in this county was that of Jacob II, Majors, who settled in Scott township in 1844. A widowed

mother, several brothers and two sisters had all settled and entered land in that community. It was afterward called the Majors Settlement.

After Mr. Majors had entered land for himself and his friends at the land sales in 1848, he also entered claims belonging to John Gillaspy, Jacob Miller and Peter Parsons. He claimed he did not know he was entering some one else's land but after making the discovery he failed to restore it to the proper owners.

A meeting of the club was called and his action denounced. Majors was inflexible. A delegation, including the neighboring clubs, visited the Majors home and found him in Oskaloosa. Messengers were sent after him but he declined to return. A crowd staid around the home until the next morning, when some of his outbuildings were burned and a number of hogs killed. On hearing of the destruction of his property, Majors agreed to make restitution, but in a few days changed his mind and determined to prosecute the leaders of the moband vigorously began by securing warrants for their arrest. 'The general public sentiment was against him and he made no headway in his prosecutions. Peter Parsons had been arrested and his trial was set for Monday morning. Sentiment warmed into indignation, and a mass meeting was called at Durham's Ford on Sunday morning previous to the trial of Some five hundred men gathered there and remained until Monday morning, when they hoisted the flag and led by martial music, this young army took up its march to Oskaleosa, armed with such equipments as the country afforded, and including members of the clubs from Marion and Jasper counties. The main body were on horse back. but the excitement and interest was widely spread, and a goodly number were on foot. They were met out on the Pella road by a delegation of Oskaloosa citizens, and halted for a parley, but could not be persuaded to disband.

Coming on into the town they stacked their arms under guard and formed in military order in the public square. Parsons was released and his trial postponed without date. A public meeting was called and the forenoon was spent in discussing the situation from both sides. Majors had been secreted in a room on the south side of the square, but within hearing distance of the speakers. We are told that Judge Seevers made a proposition that if the company would disband that Majors would be required to deed back the land to the rightful owners. To this the army consented and Van Delashmutt became security for the fulfillment of that promise. The crowd returned home and Majors made the deeds.

In the face of all this widespread indignation the incorrigible Majors began again to prosecute his neighbors who had been so active against him. Although he carried his gun wherever he went, by a well laid plan the club committee overpowered him, bound him and took him to Knoxville, where he was treated to a double coat of tar and feathers. The prosecution on both sides was kept up until Majors abandoned the contest, sold his realty in Scott township and moved into Missouri.

It perhaps should be stated here that the Majors family were highly esteemed and their old neighbors always speak of them as industrious and friendly people. The gentleman simply made the mistake of his life in resisting the just claims of the claim association.

CHAPTER VII.

CHIEF MAHASKA, MOST NOTED CHIEF OF THE IOWAS.

Our county bears the name of the most noted chief of the Iowa Indians, who at one time held dominion over a large part of the state of Iowa. He was the son of Manhawgaw, under whose leadership the tribe migrated westward from the region of the Great Lakes. They crossed the Mississippi river and made their home on the banks of the Iowa river near its mouth, and gave their name to the stream. An Indian legend cited by T. S. Parvin, who is excellent authority, says: "This tribe separated from the Sacs and Foxes and wandered off westward in search of a new home. Crossing the Mississippi river, they turned southward, reaching a high bluff near the mouth of the Iowa river. Looking off over the beautiful valley spread out before them, they halted, exclaiming, 'Ioway,' or 'This is the place.' " Their wandering in the years that followed reached as far west as the Dakotas.

They were in continual warfare with the Sioux, Osages and other western tribes. In a conference with the Sioux Indians Man-hawgaw was treacherously slain. The indignant Iowas resolved on an immediate revenge. They raised a war party, of which the son, Mahaska, was the legitimate chief. He modestly declined the honor, stating that he wished to accompany the expedition as a common soldier. He therefore conferred the leadership upon a distinguished and tried warrior until he should have opportunity to prove himself worthy of assuming command of his tribe. The expedition into the Sioux country was most successful as savages measure success, and young Mahaska brought home a bunch of scalps that left no doubt as to his ability and bravery as a leader. We are told that he was in eighteen battles against numerous bands of Indians and was never defeated. On his return from an expedition against the Osages on the north bank of the Missouri river he married four wives. It was a custom in his tribe when husbands or brothers fell in battle for the surviving warriors to adopt their wives or sisters. The young chief found on his return that four

sisters had been deprived of their protectors, all of whom he married. One of the youngest of these was Rant-che-waime, or the Female Flying Pigeon, who during all her life was his favorite wife.

In another foray against the same tribe, after his warriors had dealt the enemy a severe blow, he received a rifle ball in his leg. Bleeding profusely, he was easily tracked by his enemies, and sought a hiding place where he might rest and recuperate. This he found under a large log that lay across a water-course. Guided by the trail of blood that flowed from his wound, the Osages followed him to the stream where they lost his trail, for Mahaska had taken the precaution to step into the water some distance below the log, they supposing that he had crossed the stream at the place where he entered. He remained under the log with just so much of his face out of the water as enabled him to breathe. He had succeeded in completely throwing his pursuers off his trail. When the stillness of night had settled down upon all nature and nothing could be heard but the tinkling of the bells on the Indian horses as they fed in the valley, Mahaska crept out of his hiding place, caught one of the best horses, and, mounting, made off toward the north to join his tribe, whose home was then on the Des Moines river.

Arriving at the Missouri river, he tied one end of the halter around the horse's neck and the other he took in his teeth. Then driving the horse into the flowing stream, he compelled the animal to supplement his own strength as a swimmer and was safely carried across.

This was the Indian mode of meeting such difficulties. Through all these vicissitudes he clung to his gun and the three scalps which he had taken in the battle.

When he arrived home he was joyfully received by his people, and ordered the war dance. Being unable, on account of his wound, to lead the dance himself, he conferred that honor upon Big Axe, one of his trusted braves. As Mahaska placed the scalps in his hands he made it the occasion for an address which marked an epoch in his history. These were his words: "I have now revenged the death of my father; my heart is at rest. I will go to war no more. I told Manshuchess (meaning General Clark) when I was in St. Louis that I would take his peace talk. My word is out. I will fight no more."

Mahaska in our language means White Cloud. His home was near where the city of Eldon now stands at the old town of Iowaville. He was always the friend of the Americans and always rejoiced in the reflection that he never had shed American blood.

In 1824 Mahaska accompanied a select party of warrior chiefs to Washington to have an interview with President Monroe. They went by the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Wheeling, West Virginia, and thence by stage to the national capital. A "talk" was had with the president. Mahaska was presented with a medal and a treaty was concluded between the United States and the Iowa tribe. The treaty granted certain concessions to the United States for a satisfactory consideration. Provisions were made for supplies of blankets, farming utensils and cattle, and assistants in taking up agricultural pursuits. The conditions also stipulated that an annual payment of five hundred dollars should be made to his tribe for ten years.

Mahaska's favorite wife, Rant-che-waime, had accompanied him to Washington. One evening on coming to their hotel after having indulged freely in the use of firewater, through the day, the agent in charge of the company heard a racket in the room and hastened to the door. He found that the chief was settling an imaginary difficulty with his faithful wife. On hearing his approach, Mahaska, not caring to meet him just at that time, lifted the window sash and stepped out, forgetting that he was

lodging in the second story. The fall broke his arm. But so accustomed was he to such trifles that he insisted on riding out two miles the next day to see a cannon cast.

While in Washington he sat for a portrait to Mr. King, and we know something of the form and features of the noted chief. Mahaska was six feet two inches in height, possessed uncommon strength and activity and was a man of perfect symmetry of person and unusually handsome. He returned to his home from the east a man of peace. What he had seen and heard made a deep impression on his mind. He took the advice of the Great Father, the president, and built himself a double log house, lived in greater comfort, and began in earnest to cultivate his land.

The Iowas and Sacs and Foxes were deadly enemies. The last battle between these tribes was fought on the Des Moines river near the town of Iowaville in 1824. The entire force of the Iowa tribe had gathered on the river bottom, about two miles from their village to witness a horse race, with no thought of any imminent danger. They had gone out to enjoy the excitement of the occasion and were entirely unarmed. The Sacs and Foxes had been watching for just such an opportunity to deal a crushing blow to their enemies. Their spies reported this gathering to their chief, Pashepa-ho, who, with his warriors, were secreted in the forest near by.

Pash-e-pa-ho led two divisions to make the unexpected attack, while Black Hawk, then a young man unknown to fame, commanded a third division, which was to burn the defenseless village and murder its remaining denizers. Just at a time when the excitement was the highest and all attention was given to the two competitors in the race, the savage Sacs and Foxes swept down upon the unsuspecting and terrorized assembly with their piercing war whoop. The Iowa warriors rushed back to their village to find it in flames and their wives

and children falling beneath the blows of the tomahawk and war club of young Black Hawk's band. Their confusion and dismay prevented them from securing their arms, but they fought in desperation with clubs and stones, only to be massacred until there was left but a remnant of a brave and powerful tribe. As further resistance was utterly hopeless, those who remained after the awful slaughter surrendered. Their power was gone. Their national spirit had received a blow from which it never could recover. They lingered for a time about their old haunts but were hopeless and despondent. They were no longer an independent people and wandered about over the domain which was at one time their own land, and which will forever perpetuate their proud name.

When Mahaska was fifty years old he was foully murdered while asleep in his tepee on the Nodaway river. The deed was committed by one of his own band, whom Mahaska had caused to be arrested and placed in prison at Fort Leavenworth for going on the war path against the Omahas. The prisoner felt the disgrace so keenly that he determined to take revenge on his chief.

A delegation of his loval followers carried their murdered chieftain to the old haunts of the tribe on the Des Moines river about one mile east of the mouth of the Raccoon and there he was doubtless laid to rest by the river which he loved, with honors becoming a brave warrior and a true friend of his tribe. As savages leave but few monuments to mark the resting place of their dead the location of this old Indian burying ground was forgotten until the relentless hand of civilization revealed its whereabouts. It has long been included within the city limits of the city of Des Moines. In July, 1880, a gravel pit gang in the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad was digging in one of the gravel pits on the Des Moines river bottom and unearthed an occa-

sional human skeleton from its bed. Among them was one which attracted special attention because of the number of trinkets found deposited with it. A profuse use of war paint had preserved a fragment of the scalp on the skull and also a part of the skin on one hand. Among the relics were found a medal bearing the name and inscription of President Monroe on one side and on the other was stamped the bust of the distinguished author of the Monroe doctrine. T. J. Brunk had charge of the workman and these valued treasures of the lowa chieftain were placed in his hands. L. R. Rosebrook, of Oskaloosa, states that he examined the medal and found it as above described. The whereabouts of this historic medal is not known at this time, but an earnest effort is now being made to secure it for the Mahaska County Historical Society.

Mahaska, the second son of the great Mahaska, succeeded his father and became the ruling chief. He was a quarrelsome and drunken fellow, inheriting none of the ability and genius of his father. In 1838 the Iowas sold their interest in Iowa lands to the United States for \$157,000, which was kept as a trust fund; the interest at five per cent, to be paid annually to the tribe. They accepted lands beyond the Missouri river and became in some degree civilized.

During the civil war the Iowas were loyal to the union. Many of them enlisted in the army, making good soldiers.

This tribe, in common with most of the Indian tribes in America, were worshipers of the Great Spirit, whom they believed was the creator and ruler of the universe. They had a tradition that a long time ago a month's rain came upon the earth and drowned all living creatures except a few who escaped in a great canoe. The lowas were divided into eight claus. Each clan had its own name and had its own peculiar methods of cutting and wearing the hair.

In October, 1891, the Iowas had made such progress toward civilized life that they gave up their tribal relations and accepted lands in severalty.

In the journal left by Lewis and Clarke in their expedition up the Missouri river in 1804, they refer to this tribe of Indians as the "Ayouways." In the years that followed the orthography was changed to "Ioway"; later the "y" was dropped and we have the smooth sounding ing and beautiful word, "Iowa," with the accent on the first syllable.

CHAPTER VIII.

ORGANIZATION OF MAHASKA COUNTY.

By an act of the legislature of the Territory of Iowa, February 5, 1844, provision was made for the organization of the counties of Keokuk and Mahaska. This act provided that the inhabitants of all territory ranging north and west from the last organized county should be under the jurisdiction of said county for all judicial and other legal purposes. For this reason Mahaska county records show that its county commissioners controlled the scattered inhabitants of the territory as far west and including that on which the city of Des Moines is now located. Mahaska county territory was a part of the original Des Moines county. William Edmundson was appointed sheriff, and Micajah T. Williams was appointed clerk. Upon these two officials, according to law, devolved the duty of perfecting the organization. As there was no official in the community authorized to administer oaths, William Edmundson was also appointed justice of the peace by Governor Chambers, March 10, 1844.

M. T. Williams was a young attorney who had recently come into the new community from Mount Pleasant. The author knew him as an

accurate, painstaking and reliable business man. No selection could have been more fortunate than Mr. Williams for the task of making accurate records for the new county. He continued to serve as clerk of the court until 1854. He also served two terms in the state legislature and filled other important offices in the county.

William Edmundson, the first sheriff of the county, served from 1844 to 1850. He was also elected to that office in 1856 to fill a vacancy, serving until 1859. He was a good executive officer. The first sheriff of Mahaska county had quite an interesting experience in the pioneer life of the west. Born in Harrison county, Kentucky, on October 7, 1805, where he spent his boyhood and received a good common-school education. At twenty-two years of age he went with his father's family to Putnam county, Indiana. From that state in 1832 he enlisted in the Black Hawk war. His company reached the frontier, but were not actively engaged, as the war was of short duration. He made a trip to New Orleans with a boat load of provisions and was in Texas at the time it was passing through its revolution. After his father's death in 1836 the entire family moved to Des Moines county, Iowa, where he engaged While here he served for in farming. several years as justice of the peace and one year on the board of county commissioners. These experiences were valuable to him in view of his subsequent history. In 1843 Mr. Edmundson came to the New Purchase, locating on a claim near Six Mile. While there he received appointment as sheriff, and also justice of the peace. He represented this county in the state legislature during the sessions of 1847-8. In 1850 he went with a company of emigrants to California, where he remained until 1855, since which time his home continued to be at Oskaloosa, until the time of his death in 1862.

These two gentlemen had no easy task before them. Their first duty was to divide the new county into election precincts. There was no map or outline of the county. Indian trails were the only highways. No bridges or well known fords in the rivers. It sometimes required hours of search to find a settler's cabin hidden away in some sheltering grove. Having divided the county and its adjacent western territory into election precincts, they called to their assistance John W. Jones and William A. Delashmutt to aid them in finding and appointing a sufficient number of election officers for holding the first election, which took place on the first Monday in April, 1844. The elections were held at some settler's cabin having a cen-Nine election precincts were tral location. named, each having a board of five members, except Jackson. They were as follows:

Harrison—Brittain Edwards, John Newell, Jacob Hamilton, Ephraim Munsell and Col. Vance.

Spring Creek—Jonathan Williams, Isaac N. Seevers, D. Bowers, George W. Seevers and William Pilgrim.

Dr. D. A. Hoffman has among his relics and curios the box used in receiving the ballots at this first election in Spring Creek. The election was held at the home of Poultney Loughridge.

Jefferson—A. C. Sharp, Allen Lowe, Thomas Long. Thomas Stanley and John Long.

White Oak—John N. Butler, Henry Bond, Pleasant Parker, B. Stone and Jacob Hunter.

Six Mile Prairie—G. G. Rose, Thomas Wilson, Wesley Freel, William Bassett and John Patcher.

Monroe—John Hollingsworth, Isaac Bedwell, M. P. Crowder, Robert Ritchey and George Bailey.

Red Rock—William E. James, Samuel Geddis, Argus A. Martin, John M. Mikesell and John Jordan.

Jackson (now Scott)—Jacob H. Majors, Mr. Highland and Hezekiah Gay.

White Breast—J. B. Hamilton, Albert Vertreese, Elias Elder, Osee Matthews and Green T. Clark.

Red Rock and White Breast are now parts of Marion county.

The election returns showed the following officers to have been chosen: John White, probate judge; William Edmundson, sheriff; William Pilgrim, recorder; William D. Canfield, treasurer; W. A. Delashmutt, assessor; Brittain Edwards, coroner; A. S. Nichols, Wilson Stanley and Robert Curry, county commissioners; David Stump, surveyor; and John W. Cunningham, commissioner's clerk.

These gentlemen were sworn into office shortly after their election and constitute the first quorum of officers which appears on the records of the county.

The county commissioners met on May 14, 1844, and selected the first grand jury and petit jury. On the same day the county was divided into twelve election precincts. For the want of a suitable seal the commissioners selected the eagle side of a dime, which on July 17th was superseded by substituting a twenty-five-cent piece to be used as a temporary seal.

The first court ever held in Mahaska county was in July, 1844, by Joseph Williams, of Muscatine, who was judge in the second judicial district of Iowa Territory. The court had jurisdiction in both federal and local affairs and was supported by the government. Its sessions were held in a log house owned by William D. Canfield and located within the present city limits of Oskaloosa. The building was unfinished, being without a floor. By the use of some flour barrels and loose boards a platform and desk were improvised for the use of the judges. The other attendants at court fared as best they could. Major Thompson was United States attorney. Other attorneys present were W. W. Chapman, C. W. Slagle, George Atchison, Henry Templeton and John W. Alley. The last named gentleman was from Red Rock.

There seems to have been but very little business before this court, but they managed by frequent recesses and adjournments to remain in session for one week. The grand jury held its session in the hollow a quarter of a mile north of the square, hidden away in the tall prairie grass. There were no accommodations for strangers except in the cabin homes of the increasing population. As these were always open to the wayfarer, those in attendance at court sought lodging wherever it could be found.

The records show eight civil and four criminal cases on the docket. The jury case was an appeal by James Hall vs. Joseph Koons, and involved a conflict of claims. The grand jury brought in four indictments. One for larceny, two for assault and one for selling liquor to the Indians. In each of these indictments the United States was the prosecuting party.

On July 28, 1845, the first naturalization papers were granted by this court.

Judge Joseph Williams was quite a noted character in his time. At the time of his appearance in Mahaska county he was about fifty years of age and had been on the bench as a judge in the district courts of the Territory of Iowa for a number of years. From what is said of him, he seems to have had a good reputation as a jurist, but was very popular as an entertainer. He was especially skillful in the use of musical instruments, as well as being a good singer and an entertaining lecturer. He always had a faculty of making the most of the rude surroundings of frontier life, which made him welcome wherever he went.

We are told also that Judge Williams was a ventriloquist of peculiar power, and that he never failed to exercise his gifts on the uninitiated when opportunity offered.

Micajah T. Williams, clerk of Mahaska county, granted the first marriage license on May 30, 1844, to S. N. Nicholson and Eleanor May, and the marriage ceremony was performed June 2d by Levi Brainbridge, a justice of the peace. These parties, however, lived west of the present boundary of the county. In point of fact, the first marriage of persons living in the county.

ty occurred June 6, 1844. George Lawrence and Amanda Jered were the contracting parties. George N. Duncan was the justice who performed the ceremony.

We are told of one wedding occasion where the justice required the contracting parties to take an oath with up-lifted hands.

The first bill of divorce found on the county records bears the date of November 15, 1845. Rebecca Ash vs. Thomas Ash, in which the court granted the petition.

The first Mahaska county courthouse was built during the winter of 1844-45. The means were secured from the sale of certain town lots. the law requiring the proceeds of such sale to be set apart for the purpose of building a court house and jail. Mr. James Edgar had the contract for the erection of the building. It was a frame structure, 28x50 feet two stories in height. A house raising was advertised on a given day and the timbers were put in place with a frontier frolic. It was built on the northwest corner of the square, the lot now occupied by the Oskaloosa National Bank. The second floor was used for offices. The first floor was occupied by the county as a court room until 1855. It was also used for religious services and other public gatherings. In 1875 the building was sold and moved three blocks west on High Avenue, where it was used for a time as a hotel. Later it was partly destroyed by fire and gave place for buildings of a more substantial character.

We have no absolute census of the county until 1850, when its population is reported by the government census to be 5,989. In 1860 the census returns show 22,508; 1870, 25,202; 1880, 28,805; and in 1900, 34,273. The census returns of 1905 show a falling off in population of 2,941, reducing our population to 31,332. It is quite probable that the child is now living who will see Mahaska county with twice its present population.

CHAPTER IX.

PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS AND EARLY REMINISCENCES.

For a dozen or more years after the period of settlement in 1843, great emphasis was given to hunting both for sport and for profit. Ouite a number of persons in different parts of the county kept a dozen or more hounds and other dogs for the chase. The bounty on wolf scalps was the chief incentive for hunting that animal. William Frederick, Harry Williams, John Butler Delashmutt and pack of dogs and trained horses to ride on hunting occasions. When these hunters combined their forces for a special effort it furnished excitement and interest for whole neighborhoods for days, both prior to and following the event. It is related that on one of these occasions when several hunters had set a day to unite their forces for a big hunt, Butler Delashmutt was suffering with fever and ague so severely that he found it quite impossible to join the company. The start was made not far from his home, where the pack of hounds struck a fresh wolf trail and their hideous musie began. Mr. Delashmutt heard it and was thoroughly versed in its meaning. The spirit of the chase was too strong for him to remain in bed and he arose in spite of the protests of the family and hastened down to the stable and saddled his favorite steed who was chafing to join the fray. Summing his old courage he declared that fever and ague should not conquer him, and was soon in the lead of the cavalcade. The pioneer who related this story to us also stated that the old hunter thoroughly enjoyed the excitement of the day and did not have a shake of the ague again that year.

The Mormon trail was south of Mahaska county, but quite a number of Mormons passed

through this county on their slow march to the mountains. They were usually supplied with ox teams for hauling their plunder and conveying the sick and infirm. Many of them died and were buried in shallow and unmarked graves by the wayside. They appreciated kind treatment, but were uncommunicative. Occasionally they would hold meetings in the cabins of the settlers when permitted to do so. Men. women and children went on foot. Sometimes a few individuals pulled a cart or pushed a wheelbarrow. The single thought of reaching a promised land where they should be unmolested in their religious views and practices, dominated the entire life. Mr. Mose Davis, of Harrison township, relates that he was in Council Bluffs early in the fifties and saw the last detachment leave for the west from their settlement just above that city, on the opposite side of the river. They formed a long serpentine trail reaching away across the boundless prairie. Some of them had wheelbarrows, some carts, but all were afoot, the larger number driving ox teams. They were seeking for a city whose builder and maker was Brigham Young, and those who lived through the hardships and drudgery of the journey found it.

It is said that Keokuk with fifty of his braves with their squaws and papooses once visited Nauvoo to smoke their pipes of peace with his "brother," Joseph Smith. In reply to his recitals of their great expectations, the demoralized old chieftain said: "As for the new Jerusalem to which we are all going to emigrate, so far as we are concerned, it depends very much on whether there would be any government annuities, and as far as the 'milk and honey' which was to flow over the land, he was not particular—he much preferred whiskey."

Mrs. Emily J. Correll, who is a daughter of Poultney Loughridge, states that in the very early years when mills were so very far away and flour very scarce. Washington Threldkill dug out a hard wood stump near his cabin so as to form a kind of basin and fastened an

iron wedge to the end of a stick, giving it a handle, which he used as a pestle to crush shelled corn. When the corn was thoroughly beaten it was sifted and the fine portion used as meal, while the coarse particles were worked up into hominy. This contrivance proved to be of much value to the neighborhood and people came in good numbers to use it, taking their turn, just as they did at the mill. At one time in 1844 when supplies in the neighborhood were low, her brother, John Loughridge, accompanied a Mr. Thompson to Burlington for milling and goods. They had two ox teams. There was much rain that season and no bridges as yet in the territory. The oxen swam the streams and the wagons and their contents had to be carried over piece-meal. It was a most tedious and perilous journey and only dire necessity had prompted the undertaking. Eighteen days had passed without a word as to their welfare. The suspense became unbearable and her father determined to take up their trail on When he got as far east as Waugh's Point, now Hedrick, some twenty miles, to his great joy, he met them returning. They were almost as empty-handed as when they left home. The high waters had prevented the mills from grinding and bread stuffs were short. Mr. Loughridge returned the same night to relieve the anxiety at home.

Stephen Wharton, father of J. M. Wharton, came to lowa from Illinois in March, 1846. The only vacant cabin they could get was located on West High Avenue about three blocks from the square. It was without a chinmey or floor and chinked but not daubed. A good fire was kept in the center of the room and the smoke allowed to escape through an opening directly above. Mr. J. M. Wharton recalls the kindness of Mr. A. G. Phillips in making them welcome and in assisting them to become settled. He says that in that crude home his cheerful and patient mother made her family of nine rather comfortable, doing all her cooking about the fire. They remained in Oska-

loosa only a few weeks, just long enough for the father to make a claim and build a cabin.

Mr. Lafayette Brolliar, of Keokuk county, stated to the writer that when his father's family came to Iowa in 1844 he found a broad swath cut through the tall prairie grass and brush marking the line across which settlers were not allowed to pass into the Indian territory until the period of the opening of the reservation. The line extended northward from a point agreed upon, west of Fairfield, and was kept mowed out by government surveyors. In a few instances this line was tampered with by the settlers in order to secure a good location for a house or mill site which could be recognized only when the Indians gave their consent.

In the days of the stage coach during the '50s and early '60s Oskaloosa was a quite important station on the routes north and westward. For several years there were no stages or regular conveyances of any kind. A hack line ran to Fairfield. When the business grew Fink & Walker ran a stage twice a week to points down nearer to the river. Then came the Western Stage Company. The unbridged streams and sloughs made staging a difficult task, but the profits were large and the company became The time between Oskaloosa and the river was from one to two days. When the roads were good passengers could leave Oskaloosa in the evening and take breakfast in Des Moines.

There was a line of stages running up the river from Keokuk through Oskaloosa to Des Moines and from this point also directly north to Marshalltown. Another line left Washington and followed the divide westward crossing the north and south line at Oskaloosa and going on to Knoxville and the west. The stage barns of the Western Stage Company stood where the Young Men's Christian Association building now stands and the residence of the manager and agent of the company, Richard Lonsberry, was just across the street south. The old stage coaches came and went in those

days with stately dignity and precision. A faithful stage driver felt the responsibility of his charge as much as the modern conductor of a passenger train, and he ranked with that unselfish class of public servants. Occasionally a faithful stage driver went out with his precious load of passengers and the U.S. mail never to return.' Settlements were scarce and the long drives in the bitter cold weather were too much for even the hardiest natures. Public anxiety and sympathy were always keenly alive for the welfare of these heroic men in times of peril. A belated stage was often cheered as it wheeled up to the old Madison House. The driver always alighted with his passengers and passed his lines into the hands of the hostler, taking them again when he stepped up into his airy seat for a fresh start. Horses were changed every ten or fifteen miles when possible and were driven on the gallop between stations when the road permitted.

During the four years following 1848 long lines of teams of California gold lunters could be seen on the main roads leading westward across Iowa. They had large, strong wagons mostly drawn by oxen, because cattle could subsist on the grass on the way, while horses required grain. Scores of Mahaska county people joined the thousands from the eastern states to try their fortunes in the search for gold on the Pacific slope. These voyagers furnished a good home market for the surplus hav and corn of the settlers, in the early spring before the grass was of sufficient length to supply feed to the slowly moving caravans. Richard Parker, who lived on the old stage road southeast of Oskaloosa, told the writer that during the spring months in those years his cabin was the center of a veritable camp of travelers and that he cleared enough money to pay for a good farm. Several of the trains were fitted out in Oskaloosa and many of them carried quite a surplus of goods which they sold in the mountains and bordering the coast country at their own prices. One of these forty-niners told the writer that he received over three hundred dollars as his share of such profits on goods sold in the region of Salt Lake City. It is difficult to tell whether the county lost or gained in population by this general hegira across the plains. Many eastern adventurers became stranded and remained in Iowa. Others made the long journey, spent their substance and came back to Iowa to make a home. No person could cross Iowa without being impressed with its possibilities as a great commonwealth.

Driving stock to the market in the fall and winter was a task of the early stockman or "drover" as he was called. The prices ranged from one dollar and a half per hundred in the early years to three dollars per hundred just before the coming of the railroads. from this section was driven to Keokuk or Burlington. Buyers would select twenty or more trusty young men for a large drove and gather their stock together for the long, tedious march. Lewis Cruzen made three trips to the former place with large droves of hogs. They traveled very slowly, making from three to six miles a day. The last trip was made after the holidays in 1857, with one thousand and forty hogs in the drove. These young men received for their services fifty cents a day and no dinner on the outgoing trip, and were allowed seventyfive cents a day with dinner and pay for four days' march on the home trip, which was generally made if the weather was good, in two and a half or three days.

CHAPTER X.

EARLY OSKALOOSA—COUNTY SEAT CONTEST—OTHER FACTS LEADING UP TO DATE OF INCORPORATION AS A CITY.

The act of the legislature authorizing the organization of Mahaska county, appointed three

impartial commissioners from outside of its territory to visit the new county in the spring of 1844 and decide the question of locating the county seat.

This court was composed of Jesse Williams, of Johnson county, Ebenezer Perkins, of Washington county, and Thomas Henderson, of Keokuk county. These gentlemen were each paid at the rate of two dollars per day for their services. Three locations claimed the attention of the commissioners.

First, the geographical center of the county, about two and one-half miles north of Oskaloosa. It was rather an inviting location, only a little north of the ridge marking the divide between the Des Moines and the Skunk rivers.

Second, Auburn, a village which had been laid out at the head of Six Mile bottom, which extends six miles along the river, some miles beyond where Beacon is now located. This village had been platted a short time before in hope of securing the county seat. The advocates of this site were firm in the belief that the lack of timber on the open prairies would prevent them from being settled for several generations and that this location near the river which was then the only highway of the county would be the center of population in the county.

Third, The Narrows, meaning the narrowest point in the ridge forming the watershed between the two rivers. The timber from each stream almost joined at this point and left only this elevated ridge uniting the two prairies, one southeast and the other northwest. Before the prairies were settled the traveler could see this high ridge for fifteen or twenty miles. This was a great highway of travel between the Mississippi river and Fort Des Moines and on to the far west. There was at that time two cabins within the limits of the original city plat. One was the residence of Perry Crossman and wife and Mrs. Crossman's mother, Mrs. Jones, with her two sons, George W, and John W. Jones, and daughter Sarah, now Mrs. McWilliams, who is still a resident of Oskaloosa. The commissioners were entertained at the Crossman-Jones home and when they had carefully examined the three places desiring the county seat they returned to this cabin to compare notes and announce their decision. This decision bears date of May 11, 1844, a copy of which is as follows:

"Territory of Iowa, Mahaska County, May 11, 1844.

"The undersigned. Commissioners appointed by the Thirteenth Section of an act entitled, 'An Act to Organize the Counties of Keokuk and Mahaska,' after being duly qualified agreeable to the provisions of said Act, have come unanimously to the conclusion to locate the County Seat of said County, and do hereby locate said County Seat on the southeast quarter of Section Thirteen (13), in Township Seventy-five (75) of Range Sixteen (16).

"Jesse Williams,
"Thomas Henderson,
"Ebenezer Perkins."

The beautiful name of the seat of justice of Mahaska County was originally spelled Ouskaloosa. The name is associated in Indian history with a Creek princess. The Seminoles had made war upon the Creeks and destroyed their entire body of warriors and taken captive their families. Among these prisoners was an attractive and beautiful princess who finally became the wife of Osceola, a chief of the Seminoles, and he gave her the name of Ouskaloosa, meaning "The Last of the Beautiful."

The three Commissioners recommended the name of Ouskaloosa for the new County Seat. But owing to a difference of opinion on the part of the citizens of the county, they left the name of the new county to be settled by the County Commissioners. Quite a number of persons preferred the name Mahaska for the proposed town. The County Commissioners were A. S. Nichols, Robert Curry and Wilson Stanley. At their first meeting, May 14, 1844, Wm. D.

Canfield, disliking the name Mahaska, requested the Commissioners to make choice of another name. M. T. Williams, who was Clerk of the Board, proposed Oskaloosa. There were a number of persons present and the sentiment of all was taken. A large majority favored the name suggested by Mr. Williams, whereupon we find the following entry made by the Clerk:

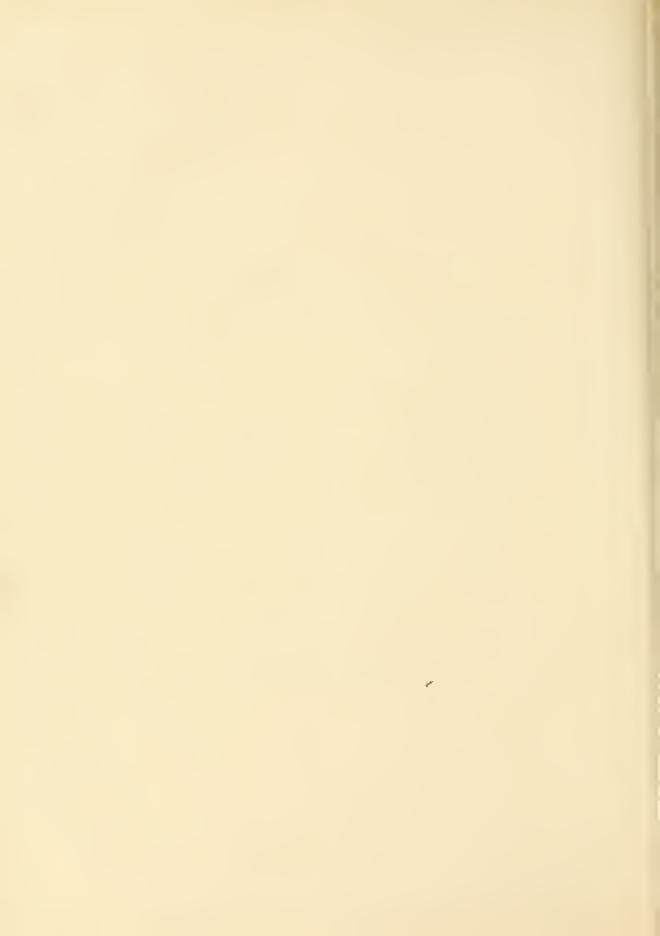
"Ordered, By the Board, that Oskaloosa shall be the name of the Seat of Justice of Mahaska County."

We are not told just why the name of this beautiful princess should have been in the minds of so many at that time. When Mr. Williams anglicised the word he left out the letter "u" and gave us the full, rounded, euphoneous name which is an inspiration to anyone who has ever been a citizen of Mahaska County. May its streets and homes and the lives of its people grow in beauty until the stranger who lingers but a short time within our borders will always think of this city as Oskaloosa, the Beautiful.

We are told that Wm. D. Canfield had built a cabin on his claim near where Seibel's mill now stands, in the spring of 1844, there being at that time a flowing spring in the draw which slopes to the southwest. While Mr. Canfield's home was not in the original plat of the city, it was the first cabin erected within the present city limits of Oskaloosa. The quarter section chosen by the locating commissioners as above described had been staked off by torchlight on the morning of May 1, 1843, by John Montgomery. John White had claimed the quarter section just north of town, and Felix Gessford had a half section just east. claim was sold to A. G. Phillips and included most of what is now East Oskaloosa. James Seevers had a claim just southeast of the Narrows. Mrs. T. G. Phillips tells us in her well written reminiscences of Mahaska county that when Mr. Seevers learned that the commissioners had chosen the Narrows as the loca-



SOUTH SIDE OF PUBLIC SQUARE 4864. OSKALOOSA.



ion he threw up his hat and exclaimed: "Proud Mahaska!" thus giving rise to that expression. The town of Oskaloosa was laid out by David Stump, the county surveyor, and Thomas Fansher, father of A. J. Fansher, carried the chain for him. A day in June was seected for the public sale of lots. There was trong opposition from the settlers out at Six Mile and the lot sale was a failure. After sacrificing several lots the commissioners stopped he sale and delegated to M. T. Williams the inthority to dispose of them at private sale. When a sale was made Mr. Williams gave simoly a certificate of sale with the guarantee of a leed when the board should obtain a title to the grounds from the United States. The records show that the lots sold from five to fifty dollars. The commissioners' records give a very complete report in Mr. Williams' own hand of this sale for the year 1845. The highest price paid for any one lot was fifty-six dollars.

Lot 5, Block 19, where the Downing House

now stands, was sold June 9, 1844, to Harmon

Davis for forty-one dollars. The election of his year entered largely into the county seat mestion, the Six Mile settlers working vigorously to have the location moved. Candidates were nominated according to their views on the juestion of location. The result of the election vas so large a majority in favor of Oskaloosa hat the question of location was forever settled. Gradually the town grew. Cabins multiplied apidly. Streets and roads were laid out. Saw nills were soon in the neighborhood and ran night and day to supply the demand for native umber. Frame buildings began to appear mong the rough log cabins. Charles Purvine built and opened the first tavern on the Downng House lot in the late fall of 1844. W. D. Canfield had entertained guests some months before, but-his house was of short duration. The 'Canfield" House was located where the Bashaw livery stable now stands. It is said of this louse that its proprietor was at times under the necessity of going out among the settlers and borrowing a supply of stores for his pantry until his goods should arrive from the river. Borrowing was a necessity of the times and no one hesitated to loan, even to the last quart of meal. At the time the town was located there were but few trees on the quarter section named. Tall prairie grass covered the surface everywhere. It was provided on the plat of the original survey that a public square should be reserved near the center of the quarter section on which the county seat was located. The square was surrounded by a fence. Later different individuals planted trees in the square and as a matter of local pride took care of them until their growth was assured.

Dr. Crowder says he distinctly remembers while going with his mother from the square northwest to where the old normal school building now stands they came on to a spotted fawn near the path, which bounded away and hid itself in the tall grass.

Mr. Micajah T. Williams built the first frame dwelling in Oskaloosa in 1845, doing the work with his own hands. It was located on the corner where the postoffice building now stands. To this home in the fall of that year he took his young bride, Miss Virginia R. Seevers, a sister of the late Judge W. H. Seevers.

Few names are more closely identified with the history of Oskaloosa than the name of Micajah T. Williams. He was a graduate of the Ohio law school at Cincinnati, and was admitted to the bar at the age of twenty-two. He came to Mahaska county in December, 1843, and as has been stated, was associated with William Edmundson, the first sheriff in the organization of the county. In 1846 he was one of the locating commissioners to locate the county seat of Polk county. One of the three commissioners failed to appear, and another, a Mr. Pinneo, was taken sick while making the necessary observations, and the task of completing the work fell upon Mr. Williams. When

the stakes had been driven fixing the site, Mr. Williams said to the company of men about him, "Gentlemen, I have not only located the county seat of Polk county, but I have fixed upon the site of the future capital of the state." It is said that the crowd went wild with enthusiasm and carried him about the village on their shoulders. The sequel of that prophecy shows how well Mr. Williams had studied Iowa. In the fall of 1854 he was elected to the State Legislature and again in 1861 he served the county in the same capacity with marked ability. Mr. Williams was a friend of education. His name appears as a member of the board of trustees of Oskaloosa College. The merest sketch of his life would require a chapter. He died in Oskaloosa, the city which delighted to do him honor, on Sunday, January 15, 1884, and he rests in Forest cemetery.

Baxter B. Berry built the first brick house in Oskaloosa. It is still standing on North First street, just south of the Christian church. In the year 1848 Mr. W. T. Smith purchased the place for four hundred and fifty dollars. Himself and wife began housekeeping in Oskaloosa in this home in 1849. Mr. Smith has been a prominent figure in the development of all the enterprises of the city and county until the year 1894, when he went to make his home at Des Moines. He was elected prosecuting attorney of the county in 1848 and the first mayor of the city in 1853, and filled that office a number of terms in after years. He was a liberal subscriber to and one of the chief promoters of Oskaloosa College, as the records show; was president two years of the Iowa Central Railroad, and in all like enterprises his name appears as an unselfish promoter.

So far as we have been able to learn, the chief business houses in Oskaloosa in about 1850 were as follows:

General Stores—Street Brothers; Wm. S. Dart; E. Perkins and Phillips & Moreland.

Dry Goods—H. Temple & Co., Jones & Young.

Tailors—M. Baldwin, James S. Chew, R. C. Campfield and Currier & Company.

Boots and Shoes—Wise & Matthews and J. M. Whitney.

Saddlers—W. S. Edgar and J. D. Fletcher. Eagle Hotel; jewelry, Santler & Co.; wagon maker, J. W. Rodgers; gunsmith, T. Schriver & Co.; stoves and tinware, B. Goodrich; furniture. B. D. Perkey.

The principal lawyers were M. T. Williams, J. A. L. Crookham, Wm. T. Smith, John R. Needham, Wm. H. Seevers, Eastman & Skiff and A. M. Cassady.

The physicians were C. G. Owen, N. Henton, A. Baker, E. W. Hyde and W. Weatherford,

Steps were taken in December, 1851, to establish city government. Attorney E. W. Eastman, afterward lieutenant-governor, presented a petition from the citizens to the county court requesting a special election at which the citizens might be permitted to vote for or against incorporation. The election was ordered and held December 27. 1851. There were sixty-three ballots cast "for incorporation" and sixty-one "against incorporation." At an election held January 3, 1852, E. W. Eastman, John R. Needham, A. S. Nichols, W. H. Seevers and M. T. Williams were chosen to prepare a charter. For some reason this committee did not act, and at the request of Wm. Loughridge, Judge Crookham ordered another special election held on May 28, 1853, to select persons to prepare a charter. The records show the following report of this election:

"Oskaloosa, May 30, 1853.

"Now comes S. A. Rice, one of the clerks appointed to conduct an election in the village of Oskaloosa for the election of three resident voters of said village to prepare a charter or articles of incorporation for the said village to become a city, holden on the 28th day of May, 1853, and files a return of said election, by which it appears that

1. T. Williams, S. A. Rice and Wm. Loughidge were elected by the voters of said village of prepare said charter or articles of incorporaon for said village to become a city, and it is nereupon ordered that the clerk of this court of otify said officers of their election, and it is authermore ordered that they prepare said narter or articles of incorporation and present nem to this court on or before the next regular erm of this court.

"J. A. L. Crookham, "County Judge."

On the 17th day of June the charter was preented to the court, and submitted to the people in the 28th, when it was almost unanimously attified.

The first city election was ordered to be held uly 2, 1853.

The charter under which the city was oranized defined the city limits, provided that s council should be composed of a mayor and wo aldermen from each of the four wards into thich the city was divided, provided for elecons and named the powers and duties of the ity officers.

On July 12, 1853, a meeting of the officers of the city was called at the office of W. T. mith, at which time Mayor Smith was duly utilified by Judge Crookham and the council has organized and held their first session as the two making power of the new city. At this me Oskaloosa had a population of about welve hundred. The city government of the city of Oskaloosa became effective July 2, 1853, with the following city fathers in charge:

Mayor—William T. Smith.

Marshal—Isaac Kalbach.

Clerk—William Loughridge.

Treasurer—James Edgar.

ouncilmen—

First ward—J. M. Dawson, R. R. Harbour. Second ward—I. N. Cooper, E. W. Eastman. Third ward—Tobias Leighton, Smith E. tevens.

Fourth ward—E. M. Wells, Henry Temple. Isaac Kalbach came to Oskaloosa in May, 1851, coming from Pennsylvania, a cabinet-maker by trade. He is the head of the well known Kalbach family and one of our much esteemed citizens. A majority of the years of his residence in Oskaloosa Mr. Kalbach has been in the lumber business.

William Loughridge was a young attorney of excellent ability who had recently come to Oskaloosa. In 1855 he was elected mayor of the city, and the year following he was chosen state senator. Later he served as judge of the Sixth judicial district and in 1866 he was elected by the republicans as representative in congress, in which body he served three years, where his ability won for him a wide reputation. James Edgar was one of the early settlers of Cedar township.

The young city is now full fledged and has entered the race for supremacy and usefulness in the peerless commonwealth of the west. We will study its growth in another chapter.

CHAPTER XI.

FACTS AND INCIDENTS ABOUT MAHASKA
PIONEERS,

There is no better way to learn of the struggles and embarassments of the early settlers than to relate the actual experiences and leave the reader to make his own comments. So we have decided to devote a few chapters to the recital of some of these interesting fortnightly happenings and incidents in the lives of the pioneers, just as they have been given to us by the old-timers themselves. Some of these are most pathetic, some heroic and others amusing, but all of them are interesting to the readers of this generation. They illustrate the wonderful resources of those whose life on the frontier had

brought them so close to the heart of nature and the unshrinking tenacity with which they threw their lives into the struggle for the conquest of the wilderness.

In the year 1843 Mr. Matthew Kinsman took a claim just east of Wright, building his cabin in the edge of the timber. In the fall of that year he made a trip to Pickerell's mill down on Skunk river below Brighton, about sixty miles distant, to lay in a supply of flour and meal for the winter.

During his absence one afternoon Mrs. Kinsman took violently ill. Their neighbors were several miles distant and she was alone with one daughter eight or ten years old and one or two younger children. Toward evening she felt that she must have relief before morning. There were no roads or pathways leading to the homes of her neighbors, or the child could carry a message. It was approaching evening and the child would be almost sure to lose its way. In her desperate loneliness she heard the tinkling of a cow bell on the prairie. She bundled up the little girl and sent her out into the gathering shades of the evening with the instruction to keep the cow moving and to follow her until she should reach the home of its owner and to tell him to make all haste to come to her assistance. It is not difficult to imagine the double anxiety and suspense under which the good woman labored until she was sure of the safety of her child. The little girl obeved her instructions strictly and brought the relief in a short time. A messenger was sent to Mr. Kinsman and found him at the mill patiently waitin his turn. He mounted his fleetest horse. and leaving the grist in the care of others he covered the distance home in the shortest possible time. No doubt there are a number of persons still living who knew Mr. and Mrs. Kinsman during their residence in this county. The pioneer who told us this story said he would ask for no better neighbors than they were for a whole lifetime.

In the fall of 1842 while the Indians still had possession of this territory, a party of seven hunters came up from Jefferson county and remained two weeks hunting mostly in the timber along Spring creek and the Skunk river. Judge Campstock, his two sons, A. J. and Samuel, and William Pilgrim were members of this hunting party. Painter creek and Spring creek were named by this party of advance nimrods. Painter Creek was so called because while camped on that stream they were serenaded by what they supposed to be a panther. The season of 1842 was unusually dry, and the hunters found pure water in Spring creek, which was supplied by a number of unfailing springs along its course. Hence the suggestive name.

The party killed five deer and other smaller game and from thirty-six bee trees secured two barrels of strained honey of excellent quality.

There were doubtless a goodly number of bears in the primeval woods of Mahaska county, but the following records are the only instances that have come down to us where this animal has appeared on the scene within the limits of the county.

Mrs. S. A. Phillips tells us in her book of reminiscences of Mahaska county that her uncle, Aaron Cox, and a Mr. Coontz, killed a young bear southeast of Oskaloosa. Samuel Coffin, who came early to the New Purchase, killed a young bear over on Skunk river early in the '40s, and a full grown bear was killed by Butler Delashmutt and William Frederick in the forests of Harrison township sometime in the '40s.

Wolves were bold and plentiful in the earlier years. Russell Peck is said to have shot seventeen from his cabin door during the winter of 1843-44. During the same winter Dr. Boyer, who was quite a hunter, found himself the owner of ninety-three scalps at the close of the season. A bounty of fifty cents was paid on each wolf scalp until the summer of 1845. At

neir meeting in July of that year the county ommissioners decided that it was making too eavy a draft on the county funds and abolhed it.

Game was abundant and that of the very noicest and best. Dr. W. L. Crowder, of Osaloosa, says that when a boy in his father's enerous home over on Spring creek, in Monbe township, he has often heard his mother reark that in that early day she had many times laced-the kettle filled with water on the crane ver the fire and then called to her husband that ne wanted a turkey. He had but to take his un from the antlers over the door and slip aietly down the creek a few rods to a cleared oot where the corn and wheat grew. This as one of their haunts. A single shot brought own the choicest of the flock and he was back ith his prize by the time the water was suffiently hot to dress it.

Prior to May 1, 1843, settlers were not alowed to cross what was called at that time the dead line," which marked the division between ne lands then open for settlement and those hich belonged to the Indians. Any one crossig this line into the New Purchase must recive permission from the military authorities r from the Indians, who were the owners of ie land. For months before the opening day, cores of enterprising men would take the risk nd wander about over the new territory selectig their claims in advance. On two such escaades Dr. Boyer was caught by the dragoons nd required to give an account of himself. On ne first offense he told the judge before whom e was brought that he was on the hunt of a ee tree to replenish his supply of sweets for is family. It was an unwritten law in the arly days that the bee hunter was a quite priviged character. He was not prohibited from unting bees anywhere and was allowed to cut ie tree when found. As the time was so short then all restraint would be removed, any exuse was accepted and the Doctor was exonerated. The second time he was taken as far as J. P. Eddy's trading post where Eddyville is now located. There the guards got on a spree and Dr. Boyer was miles away before they came to themselves.

W. A. Delashmutt tells us that himself and sixteen other settlers were marched to Fairfield by the dragoons through the April mud and snow, only to be promptly released by the kind hearted old judge before whom their case was brought. They had been taken from their camp over on the Des Moines river. They were not only released, but an order was given on the commissary for a month's provisions for seventeen men, which had been appropriated by the soldiers.

Mr. George DeLong, of Scott township, came to Iowa in 1842, locating for a time in Washington county. Mahaska and Keokuk counties were at that time under the jurisdiction of Washington county, it having been first organized. He says that six feet of snow fell that winter at various times and during most of the winter from November until April snow laid on the ground three feet deep. Grains of all kinds were plentiful but it was a hard winter on the settler. Stock froze to death for want of protection and attention which could not be given them and for the want of food, packs of wolves driven to frenzy howled about the settlers' cabins and menaced everything living.

Mr. DeLong relates that on one of the crispy cold nights of that winter he was at Pickerell's mill waiting his turn for his grist in company with twenty-five or thirty others. They almost always had to wait a week at the mill and often twice that time. Men would bring with them a supply of provisions to last them for a time and when it was gone they would subsist on parched corn and wheat until the end of the probation. On this particular night they were all seated around the great fire-place in the mill parching corn and wheat and telling stories to pass away the time. To their

surprise there suddenly dropped down from the half-open loft above a hog weighing one hundred and fifty pounds or more. It had been frozen out of its nest and in wandering along the bluff against which the mill was built it had quietly walked on a plank which led into an opening of the second story of the mill and while settling itself the loose boards gave way. It had no more than landed on the floor than some one said, "Let's kill it and eat it." The suggestion was acted upon at once and Mr. DeLong says in thirty minutes it was dressed. skinned and slices of it being roasted on the end of a stick by the hungry settlers. Some one furnished a supply of salt and a feast was installed that made everybody happy.

According to the treaty of 1842, made at Agency City, the Sac and Fox Indians were to leave the state in 1845 for their reservation in Kansas. In October of that year the government furnished teams and wagons to convey the women and children and the aged men across the country from their camp south of Fort Des Moines to their destination in the southwest. But the able-bodied men to the number of about five hundred went down the Des Moines river in canoes to the Mississippi river, thence by steamer to St. Louis and up the Missouri to Kansas City. They passed Mahaska county one morning in a long line of canoes stretching up and down the river as far as the eve could see. Those who witnessed the scene describe it as an impressive spectacle. Most of them seemed cheerful and as they floated down the current past their old haunts they were jabbering to each other in seeming hilarity. R. I. Garden, who was a witness of the pageant, says that as they passed his father's cabin in Scott township they espied the family canoe pulled up on the shore, but on the opposite side of the river to which his father had gone on business. Two of the Indians left their canoes and waded toward the shore to add another boat to the number of their fleet

of canoes, but his vigilant mother called to them, whereupon they returned to their boats amid the laughter and derision of their companions. It was the powerful arm of civilization that made the mother's entreaty respected. While on the surface they seemed light-hearted, there must have been some serious and thoughtful minds among them. They were looking for the last time on the graves of their fathers and their delightful hunting grounds. With subdued and broken spirits they were drifting down the beautiful waters of the river they loved to sure oblivion and extinction as a race. There is eloquent blood in the veins of the genuine Indian. He spends his life in communion with nature and nature always inspires and elevates her children. In a few more generations the true Indian character will be lost. An amalgamation has been going on for years in the southwest that has produced a hardy and resolute people, just such a mixture of races as is necessary for harmony and the conquest of the rugged hills and extensive plains of the region which they now call their home land.

CHAPTER XII.

KISH-KE-KOSH, THE MAHASKA COUNTY CHIEF,
AND HIS PEOPLE.

The only Indian village that we have any record of in Mahaska county was the village of Kish-Ke-Kosh, located out near the Skunk river in what is now White Oak township. When Monroe county was first organized it was called Kish-Ke-Kosk county, but the name was afterward changed by an act of the legislature.

He is specifically described to us as having a splendid physique. Tall and straight as the arrow in its quiver, a fine, intellectual head, and an eye that delighted in humor. He was magnificent type of the Indian brave that no nore exists except in the best Indian literature. Prior to the year 1837, Kish-Ke-Kosh was only one of the principal warrior chiefs in the rillage of Keokuk. The warrior chief was interior in rank to the village chieftain, the latter anking next to the chief of the tribe, who held beloute sway over all under him.

In 1837 General J. M. Street, who was the adian agent at Agency City, conducted a deputation of Sac and Fox Indians to Washington City. The party included Keokuk, Black Hawk, Poweshiek, Kish-Ke-Kosh and fifteen other hiefs of the Sac and Fox tribes.

Kish-Ke-Kosh was always regarded as the lown and wit at all the tribal councils, and in his journey to the east he had opportunity to give full play to his humor and sarcasm. The lelegation took a steamer on the Mississippi, nost likely at Keokuk, and descended to the Dhio, thence up that stream to Wheeling, Virginia, where they took stage across the mountains to Washington, where the embassy was eccived by the president.

On their way out a party of ladies came on he steamer and were curious to learn all they ould about the party of Indians. A young nan accompanying the Indians, on becoming equainted with the ladies, took particular pains show the Indian trinkets and costumes, and cent so far as to finger the garments and ringes of the chiefs and comment on them the amusement of his guests. Kish-Ke-Kosh ook decided exception to the liberty taken by nis presumptive youth and determined to teach im some manners. So when the ladies had etired he stepped up to him and began vigorusly to minutely examine his clothing, feeling is hair, his watch chain and exhibiting his eeth to the much-amused company of observrs, chattering all the while in his native tongue. Before he had finished his pretended inspection he had taught the young man a lesson in considerate behavior not to be forgotten while his memory should serve him.

A party of Sioux chiefs were in Washington when the Sac and Fox chiefs arrived and as the two nations were constantly waging war, the government officials requested that a council be held with representative chiefs present from each of the tribes. The council was held in the chamber of the house of representatives. Kish-Ke-Kosh took his place in one of the large windows dressed in a buffalo hide which he had taken in combat from a Sioux chief. The mane and horns of the buffalo were used as a head-dress and its tail was allowed to trail on the floor. The Sioux were sorely grieved at his suggestive costume and indignantly protested, claiming that it was aimed as an insult to them. The presiding officer informed them that he saw no reason why Kish-Ke-Kosh should not be allowed to appear in his own chosen costume. A Sioux chief opened the discussion, complaining bitterly how the Sacs and Foxes had overrun their lands, burning their villages, driving them from their homes and killing their warriors. Next came Keokuk, the greatest Indian orator of his day. Each address was repeated by an interpreter. Webster, Clay, Calhoun and Benton had spoken in this same hall. Those who heard Keokuk's impassioned eloquence that day were ready to declare that the old chief had surpassed them all.

Kish-Ke-Kosh was next called upon to speak. He ridiculed the complaints of the Sioux, laughed at their weakness and mimicked their tale of woe.

From Washington they proceeded to make a tour of several eastern cities. At New York they received but little attention. When General Street attempted to show them the city on foot the party were so embarrassed by people crowding about them that they were glad to escape through a store into an alley and return to their hotel. At Boston an escort met them at

the train and on the second day they were shown the city in open carriages. Edward Everett gave them a banquet. On all occasions Kish-Ke-Kosh won popular favor by his witicisms, humorous stories and jokes, especially among the ladies. He returned home with many beautiful and costly presents which they had given him. For many years of his after life he took great pleasure in displaying these presents, saving they were given to him by the "white squaws." The ability displayed and the distinction won by Kish-Ke-Kosh on this tour of the east led to his promotion as a village chieftain on the banks of the Skunk river farther towards the frontier of the hunting grounds of the tribe. After Kish-Ke-Kosh had returned from the east he made a hard effort to inaugurate some reforms among his people. He taught his warriors that it was manifestly wrong for them not to assist their wives in the drudgery of the camp and in raising the corn crop. Although he set them an example by helping his own wife in her toil, his advice and example had little effect on his people. This village contained about two hundred and fifty inhabitants. A short time after the treaty of 1842 they removed westward, locating on the Des Moines river three miles southeast of where the capital of the state is now located. Here they remained until 1845, when they were conveyed in government wagons to their reservation seventy miles southwest of Kansas City.

Once the supreme rulers of a great commonwealth, they had become a crestfallen and humbled race, bandied about at the caprice of advancing civilization.

Some of the bark huts of Kish-Ke-Kosh village were still found in White Oak township when the white settlers came, and they afforded shelter to a number of wandering pioneer families in their search for a home in the New Purchase. Near the village was found the burying place. There were yet to be seen graves cov-

ered by rude slabs. Here their dead had been tenderly laid away with such ceremonies as in their estimation lightened the sorrow of parting with their relatives and friends.

The Sacs and Foxes generally have their gravevards on a hillside. The body was wrapped in blankets and laid out in full length. The graves were shallow. The Indians believed that people have souls which live somewhere after they die, and these souls delight to do the things which they did in their lifetime. Hence they laid on the grave or buried with them various articles; for men, knives, tomahawks, bows and arrows; for women, buckets, pans, ornaments and choice treasures. When children died we are told that they would place on the grave its baby board on which it used to lie, and its rude little toys. Then a little dog was killed at the grave to accompany the little one on its long jouney to the spirit land. They believed that animals and things had souls the same as persons and that the souls of these went with the departed to help them on their way to the happy spirit land.

When Lieutenant Zebulon M. Pike ascended the Mississippi river in 1805 he found Sac and Fox villages on both sides of the Mississippi river. He reported 1,750 Foxes and 2,850 In 1736, the Foxes having become greatly decimated by wars, had formed a confederacy with the Sacs. Both these tribes had come originally from the lake regions in the northwest. Fox river in Wisconsin took its name from the smaller tribe, and Saginaw. Michigan, received its name from the Sacs. Among the celebrated chiefs of these two nations were Black Hawk, Keokuk, Appanoose, Wapello, Poweshiek and Pash-e-pa-ho. During the first quarter of the nineteenth century the Sacs and Foxes were often at war with the Iowa tribe, the last battle being fought at Iowaville on the Des Moines river, near Eldon, about the year 1824. Authorities differ as to the date of this famous battle. Like many dates in Inian history, it is not very definite. At this attle the Sac and Fox tribes completely crushed neir rivals and forced them to surrender.

Savage and fierce as were these Sacs and oxes, they had periods of deep religious feror and their religious ceremonies were oberved with all the earnestness and sincerity of neir nature. In April, 1843, when Dr. James .. Warren with a party of five others were oming up the divide to look out for claims efore the rush that would follow May 1st of nat year, they came suddenly on to quite a arge camp of disheartened and retreating Inians. The Doctor, who had some knowledge f military tactics, suggested they march brough the place in military order. On enterng the camp they found these children of the orests to be engaged in worship and gave no ttention to their passing. The men were seated n a circle singing in a mournful, monotonous one to the rattle of what seemed to be beans n gourds, which were being shaken up and lown to regular time. The door of the tent vas closed to exclude intruders, but one of the white men, seeing that there was not the slightst spirit of molestation, had his curiosity so roused that he lifted the tent wall slightly and peeped under at the performance. The solemnaced worshipers did not allow their devotions o be the least disturbed by this ungrateful inrusion. An old squaw who seemed to be the only guardian of the place, saw the impertinent ellow and ordered him away. When he did ot promptly obey, she indignantly took hold of him, giving him a violent pull as she utered the word "Manitou," which was their sared word for God. She meant by this to coney to the rude white man the sacredness and eclusion of the exercises within.

Those were days of much heaviness of heart for the subdued Indians. They were about to eave forever the land of their fathers which hey loved. We are told that at Appointation, men who had never uttered the name of God but in blaspheny, were most fervent in prayer. It was the cry of the soul which would not be hushed in that hour of awful agony.

It was doubtless a feeling much like this that shadowed the gloomy heart of these Indian braves. Once the proud and happy monarchs of these western prairies and woods; now driven before the surging columns of civilization he knew not where. To his keen mind his doom was clear. In this thickening shadow his soul spoke to him of "Manitou," and he gave Him devotion.

CHAPTER XIII.

HOLLAND IN MAHASKA COUNTY.

Among the makers of Iowa there came in the summer of 1847 seven hundred Holland colonists and settled on what was at that time the principal highway across lowa, the divide between the Des Moines and Skunk rivers. It was religious persecution that brought them to America. They were dissenters from the established Reformed church and came to the great west to find a refuge. Of course, many of them came to better their worldly condition, but the founding of the colony had its origin in the inborn desire to be free, which has always existed in the blood of sturdy little Holland. Hallum says that in Holland self-government goes back beyond any assignable date. Iowa has produced many romances but none of them more interesting than the story of these Pella people.

The Dutch republic has been for long centuries the asylum for the persecuted. The French Huguenots found a refuge in Holland and the Pilgrims and Puritans sailed from its shores to the new world. The Pella pilgrims in Holland opposed the formalities of the Es-

tablished church. It gave no expression of their faith, being empty and meaningless.

Not being able to bring about any reforms in the Established church, they became Separatists, like the English Puritans under Robinson and Brewster. Several young men who had been trained in the universities and theological schools became leaders of these dissenters. One of these men, Henry Peter Scholte, became a prominent exponent of the advanced thought and the three congregations over which he presided seceded from the state church. He was tried and for a short time imprisoned. Then another long trial that cost him \$3,000 to defend himself against his persecutors. He was ordered to vacate his pastorate and soldiers were ordered to the infected district to prevent his people from meeting. He submitted to these increasing indignities with Christian patience and his followers multiplied. "They came to feel the longing for a new fatherland." A commission was appointed in 1846 to receive applicants for emigration, every one of which, if not well known, were required to bring certificates as to their Christian conduct and character and also as to their worldly condition. A permanent organization was formed and prepations were made for the emigration in the spring of 1847. Four ships departed for America between the 4th and 11th of April of that year. Many pathetic scenes are described on leaving the Fatherland. Family bonds were broken. There was much to urge them forward and many dear ties to be broken on leaving the home of their childhood.

Of the four ships, only one made the trip in twenty-six days. The other three were at sea from thirty-six to forty days. On the voyage a temporary government was instituted on each ship. Order and cleanliness were strictly enforced. We are told that the crews of the four vessels were deeply impressed with the daily religious services and exceptional decorum. The sailors could not understand why they were

compelled to leave their native land. When the ships landed at Baltimore the health offiers were so pleased with the cleanliness of their ships that they omitted the usual inspection, saving, "Oh, these emigrants are all right." One of them added, "Welcome to America." Strangers in a strange land, as they were, this greeting was a joyous note to them under the circumstances. They supposed they were coming to a wilderness and had brought with them all manner of household goods, chests, cabinets, plows, farm wagous-all of which could have been purchased in St. Louis. They had much to unlearn and many more things to learn. They journeved by the primitive American railroads and canals to Pittsburg, thence by steamer on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to St. Louis.

The journey was tedious and wearisome to these peasant people. The cars were so small that they scarcely accommodated eight persons with comfort and were drawn up steep grades by stationary engines. The emigrants were unaccustomed to mountains. There were no hills in the home land. They were accustomed to canal boats but these were so different. American boats climbed mountains by means of locks, crossed rivers and viaducts and passed through tunnels under mountains.

They were three weeks in making the journey from Baltimore to St. Louis. They reached St. Louis early in July. It was three months since they left Holland. Twenty had died on the sea voyage and four since they left Baltimore. They remained in St. Louis during July and a part of August. The weather was extremely hot to them and their accommodations were poor, but they were thankful for the cordial American welcome everywhere. One of the St. Louis Presbyterian churches was thrown open to them during their stay and they used it for both church and Sunday-school services.

The newspapers of the cities through which they had passed had published the report that they were possessed of much wealth and these rumors caused them to have to pay higher prices for what they needed than were paid by other emigrants who had the reputation of being in poor circumstances.

In truth, they had with them quite an amount of money, all in gold, which they kept guarded very closely. Money was extremely scarce at that time in the west, especially west of the Mississippi. At St. Louis H. P. Scholte, the president of the colony, joined them, after having made a tour of a number of the eastern cities in the interest of the coming settlement. He was much gratified at the cordial welcome extended to his countrymen everywhere he went. In New York he met many of the descendants of the Hollanders whose ancestors had come to America some two hundred years before.

From St. Louis they sent out five spies to report on a suitable place to form their settlement. Missouri was objectionable because of the slavery question; Illinois was seriously considered and it is stated that the town of Nauvoo, which had just been abandoned by the Mormons, was offered to them at a bargain. From the first Iowa had been regarded with favor and the commissioners to this state went to Fairfield to counsel with General Van Antwerp, who had charge of the government land office. The Dutch name attracted them. While there they met the Rev. M. J. Post, a Baptist missionary, in whom Mr. Scholte says he "noted the hand of God." Having been all over the New Purchase, he persuaded the commissioners to visit the divide in Marion county, which he called the "garden spot of Iowa." The commissioners were pleased with the beautiful rolling prairies, and accordingly bought two civil townships of land, paying the government price, \$1.25 per acre. This done, they returned to St. Louis to bear the good news to their people.

All were thoroughly glad to be on the move and a steamboat was chartered from St. Louis to Keokuk. They left St. Louis on Saturday afternoon and reached Keokuk on Monday morning. Impressive religious services were had on Sunday. In the addresses the colonists were compared to the Israelites entering the promised land. At Keokuk they purchased horses, oxen and wagons, into which their goods were loaded. They paid for everything in gold, much to the delight of the Americans, who were little accustomed to see so much money in the west. The seven hundred strangers attracted no little attention and their outfit formed quite a procession.

Some amusing things occurred as they were preparing for their overland journey. Mr. Matthias De Booy purchased a team and wagon for \$250 and loaded up his household effects and family ready for the march. But when the word of command was given his team refused to move a step. Persuasion and argument failed and he was about concluding that he was the owner of balky horses when an amused bystander assured him that his team was true and faithful, only they did not understand the Dutch of their new master, whereupon the stranger took them in hand, and speaking to them in the vernacular of the country, they at once started off so vigorously that the driver became fearful he should not be able to make them understand when to stop.

Up the Des Moines valley they came, some riding in wagons drawn by horses and others in carts drawn by oxen. To the scattered settlers they seemed a strange people speaking a strange language. Some rode on horses and many were afoot, the men in velvet jackets and the women wearing caps and bonnets. This young army of emigrants must have passed through Oskaloosa. After some days of travel they came on August 26, 1847, to a level place on the prairie ridge, where a hickory pole had been planted deep into the sod, and nailed across the top of it was a shingle and on the shingle the single word "Pella." It was September and

they had come to the end of their journey. They set about digging cellars and building dugouts for winter protection. From a saw mill at some distance they obtained lumber to build the first house, a long structure with upright boards and divided into compartments for each family. Prof. Newhall, a pioneer correspondent of the Burlington Hawk-Eye, who passed by the settlement some weeks after the Hollanders had arrived at their destination, writes thus of the new race which he found on this Iowa prairie:

"The men in blanket coats and jeans were gone and a broad-shouldered race in velvet jackets and wooden shoes were there. Most of the inhabitants live in camps, the tops of their houses covered with lint cloth, some with grass and bushes, the sides barricaded with countless numbers of trunks, boxes and chests of the oddest and most grotesque description. They are all Protestants who have left their native land, much like the Puritans of old, on account of political and religious intolerance and persecution. They appear to be intelligent and respectable, quite above the average class of European immigrants that have ever landed on our shores."

Many things were done at Pella which commend themselves to our highest and best civilization. They made provision before all else for the worship of God, for the instruction of their children, and for citizenship. Busy as they were, they observed the first Sunday in Pella, and have never neglected that sacred day since.

It is worthy of note that when some two hundred of the men took the oath of allegiance to their adopted country only two of the whole number made their mark.

For centuries in Holland it has been laid down as one of their laws that education is the foundation of the commonwealth. In the years that followed large additions were made to the colony. The community has prospered and has been greatly enlarged. Instead of the two original townships the settlement is now nearly forty miles long by ten or fifteen miles wide. They are always buying land but seldom sell. The language of the home in most cases is still Dutch. English alone is taught in the schools and is used in almost all public addresses and sermons.

The number of Hollanders in Mahaska county is estimated to be about three thousand. They are found mainly in Richland, Black Oak and Scott townships, with a goodly number in Prairie. Madison and Garfield. They are an unpretentious but prolific people. Strictly upright in everything, strict in their religion and sincere in all things. Their homes are kept clean and wholesome. These are qualities of a high type of citizenship.

On the first and second days of September, 1897, the people of Pella celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their settlement. Ten thousand gathered where the first seven hundred halted and began the conquest of the wilderness in 1847. Only a few of the pioneers remained. It was a memorable occasion for the descendants of these pioneers.

Their personality as a people has been much changed since the coming of their fathers. In another century or more they will have become gradually absorbed and lost in the great American family.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE FLOOD YEAR—1851.

Mr. Isaac Kalbach relates that himself and eight other passengers left Fort Dodge on a small vessel in the spring of 1851, coming down the Des Moines river to its mouth, and found the waters very low. So shallow in

places that to lighten the load, the passengers would often get off the boat and walk around a small rapids in the river. On May 12th the rain began to fall. These dates are clear in Mr. Kalbach's mind because of the fact that he arrived in Oskaloosa with his family on May 13th of that year.

The water fell in torrents and sheets almost every day for about a month. Then it began to let up some, but not wholly. Everything was flooded. Grist mills and saw mills and all industries of that kind were closed because of the floods. Their machinery was under water. The new roads of the county were practically impassable. Merchants could get no more goods, and the people found no sale for their products except the home consumption. Farmers could do but little work, tradesmen were idle, and business was paralyzed. There was corn enough in the county selling for ten or twelve cents per bushel, but corn meal sold for two dollars and fifty cents per bushel, because of the difficulty of getting it ground. Flour sold for twenty-one dollars a barrel and much of the time could not be had at any price. Hominy had to be made every day, as it would not keep longer than about twenty-four hours in hot weather. Many families used the mortar and pestle to reduce the corn to meal for more convenient use. John W. Jones, an Oskaloosa merchant, and John B. Stewart secured the loan of a pair of burrs from Duncan's mill, north of town, which they fished out of the water and brought to town and set them up just north of the old jail. They were enabled to make pretty good meal for their neighbors out of the corn that came to them, but made no effort to produce flour. Just about this time we find this note in the Herald of June 27th of that year: "We have learned that on Tuesday night last steamer laden with flour landed at Eddyville and there discharged its entire cargo. It is thought the boat will return in a few days and

ascend the river to Fort Des Moines. Success to the trade, we say,"

James Young, another enterprising Oskaloosa merchant, determined that he would have some goods from Keokuk if they were to be had. So he took a good team of horses and managed to reach the city and made a purchase of about eight hundred pounds of needed supplies for his store. On the return trip, he got as far up as Birmingham and there he hopelessly mired. Leaving his goods, he managed to reach home. One of his customers, Wesley Mettler, had a six-voke team of oxen which he used in breaking prairie. Mr. Young secured the service of these stalwarts and their owner to make the trip to Birmingham for his much needed supplies, which they did in the slow and sure method of these faithful servants of men.

During the period of excessive rainfall, flowing water was everywhere. Culverts and bridges in the country, and sidewalks and street crossings in town were swept away. Water ran across South Market street ten feet deep. After a hard rain the square and its adjacent streets would be covered with water. The city was not graded then as now. Fish, which had come up from the river, were left in ponds within two and three blocks from the square.

The events occurring out on the rivers in the county were both serious and tragic, especially on the Des Moines. Mr. George DeLong relates an incident with which he was conversant. Being unable to do much work, the men of the neighborhood spent much time about the river bottoms doing what they could to save the property of those who were suffering most. While in this work Van B. Delashmutt and a Mr. Dunn were in a skiff in the flooded district trying to rescue drifting property, when they struck a swift current and upset their craft. Delashmutt caught hold of a bending sapling and seeing that his companion was about to sink, he seized him by his hair as he was going under. Twisting around over the bending bush which was

almost submerged in the water, he clung with a death grip to his now senseless companion, holding his head out of the water as much as possible and calling to the men on the shore. of the men-Jarvis Boyd-took in the situation in a flash and mounting a spirited horse he entered the stream far enough above to swim by where the life and death struggle was going In spite of his best efforts the swift current carried him by. Undaunted, however, he landed as soon as possible and struck again into the angry waters. During this time Delashmutt was in imminent peril of being swept into the current with his heavy load. This time Boyd came near enough to seize Dunn and dragged him to the shore half dead for a time. He then made the third trip and brought in Delashmutt from his perilous situation.

Eddyville was under water and its people took refuge on the eastern bluffs. Dick Butcher, who was one of its enterprising merchants in that year, moved his stock of goods to the second floor and carried them out in boat loads to the foot of Cemetery Hill, where he retailed them out to his customers from a wagon.

The question of bread for the family when mills were many miles distant with no roads or bridges, was a hard question for the early settler to solve. In the spring of 1851 Dr. E. A. Bover and his neighbor, Van Delashmutt, found their supply of meal and flour almost exhausted. It was quite impossible to get anywhere because of the high water. They heard of a corn cracker some eight or ten miles up the river and sent W. A. Delashmutt with four bushels of corn packed on two horses. He arrived at Mr. Nossman's, the owner of the mill, only to find that it was out of repair. learning, however, of the pressing need, the mill was doctored up and by daylight next morning Mr. Delashmutt was ready to return with his four bushels of ground corn. During the day Dr. Boyer noticed a vessel ascending the river loaded with flour. He put out into the swollen

stream with two men and a large canoe. Hailing the steamer, he requested the captain to sell him a supply of flour. The captain told him it had been ordered by the government for the soldiers at Fort Des Moines and he could not sell it. Dr. Boyer told him he must have some flour if he had to scuttle the boat to get it. After some conversation the captain agreed to let him have two barrels of flour for the privilege of loading his vessel with rails which were floating about in drifts along the river. His vessel had made the trip from St. Louis and was short of fuel. Dr. Bover got his flour ashore and rolled it up by the side of his cabin, covering it with some boards. When his friend Van Delashmutt came over shortly afterward he took him out to show him his prize. He could not have been more dumbfounded if he had been confronted by a bear. How two barrels of flour could have reached that wilderness home unannounced was more than he could understånd. The true pioneer never enjoys a good thing alone, and Mr. Delashmutt got one of the mysterious barrels and its welcome contents.

We give below a number of extracts from the editorial pages of the Herald during the summer months of this disturbing year.

"The stage coach in attempting to cross a small stream between Ottumwa and Eddyville, Wednesday last, met with a serious difficulty by getting into deep and rapidly running water. The current being rapid and the animals becoming entangled, it was with difficulty that the driver and passengers were saved. In the struggle the coach turned over in the water and one horse was drowned. The driver and two passengers in the coach got out as best they could after taking a cold water plunge."

"One of the heaviest rains we ever witnessed occurred on Wednesday of last week. The rain literally fell in torrents for over an hour. The face of the whole country presents the appearance of one vast lake of rushing water. Much

damage has been done by the floating away of fences, bridges, etc. The corn has been injured by washing of the ground and portions of it will have to be replanted. The small creeks and other streams are much higher than was ever before known. It is said that scarcely a bridge or footlog remains over a stream in the whole country.

"The mail matter received here a few days since was completely saturated with water. One sack took a new route down the Des Moines river.

"Destruction of property on the Des Moines river has been very great. Whole farms have been cleaned of fences, grain houses and everything else of a movable nature. The river was never known to be so high before. The inhabitants of the bottom lands have been compelled to desert their houses and flee to the bluffs for refuge. A number of dwellings were carried entirely away. This calamity will doubtless Le hard on the citizens in the immediate vicinity of the river, as it has not only destroyed the present crops, but has taken away the old crops that were in store for the present season. Ottumwa, Eddyville, Red Rock and Fort Des Moines are almost submerged by the overflowing of the river.

"A man named Sendert DeYong, a native of Holland, was drowned at Union Mills, in this county, on Saturday last. He and a number of others were engaged in replacing the floor in the bridge. He was a much esteemed workman in the mill.

"We learn that a young man was drowned in the Des Moines river in the vicinity of Des Moines on Friday last. Two small boys were also drowned at Red Rock a few days ago."

The Keokuk Dispatch of June 6th of that year says:

"Mexandria is three feet under water and the Mississippi and Des Moines bottoms are submerged for miles, and still the rivers are rapidly rising and the floods descending. The inhabitants at Alexandria are driven into their second stories and cut off from communication. The state of things is most deplorable. Not only the city but the country for eight miles back is submerged. We can not but express the hope that they will accept the hospitalities of our city, which are most cordially tendered them."

Ottumwa Courier: "This is the greatest rise ever known by the whites in the Des Moines river valley, and probably will not occur again in the next half century. Owing to the wet weather and extremely bad roads we have not been able to get our supply of paper from the river. Our subscribers, therefore, need not be disappointed should there be no issue next week. This we regret but can not prevent. The fault is not ours. By the week after we expect to be on hands again, as usual."

During this year, when the roads were quite impassable, there was great interest in the building of plank roads in this part of Iowa, especially between Burlington and Oskaloosa. The old Herald files are filled with notices of public meetings for that purpose all along the line.

Oskaloosa was at that time very prominently considered as a most suitable location for the state capital. 'A correspondent of the Burlington Gazette of March 19, 1852, has this to say on that subject:

"Oskaloosa, the point to which all now center by common consent, is known to be one of the healthiest and most beautiful inland towns in the west. It can easily be made the focus of all the stage lines in the state, and, as if nature were destined to do for her what the state has blindly failed to do, it is a positive fact that no less than one railroad from Muscatine and two plank roads from Burlington, the one through Keokuk county and the other through Fairfield, are now pushing onward toward Oskaloosa, making her their declared destination. These facts, which are well known, if none

others, would proupt us to select Oskaloosa for the interessent of government."

CHAPTER XV

MANASKA COUNTY MILLS—SOME HISTORY RE-LATING TO THEIR ESCABLISHMENT.

One of the most difficult questions which the ploneers had to solve was the question which can only be solved by a good grist and. The ground was productive and brought forth abundant's, but grain in the crude state was annovers to use. Hominy and boiled wheat would not return fresh oug, especially in warm weather. \" of the old settlers with whom we have talked speak of the long miling trips with remarks. Hierce it was a great relief when good mills were established within the limits of the count. The mil that supplies the family with bread becomes a dear old andmark and every home is made to feel a sense of grantade to the miler, and the entire establishment which male home feasts possible. There are many things of interest connected with the establishmg if especial's the earlier mil's of this countrained of their applied worten, would make in interesting claimer. We give some of them.

The first mill built and put in running order in Mahaska county was the work of George N. Duncan. There is no record of the former life of Mr. Duncan, who was evidently an enterprising mun, with the fallest confidence in his lusness about — Samuel Gossege did the mechanical work on this unit. He was a colonet-maken by trade and operated the first shop of that kind of work in Oskaloosa. He came to the county in 1844. Was representative from Homne county in the state legislature in 1850 and mayor of Ostanium during the war period.

For some years before his death he was proprietor of the old Blackstone House in West Oskalossa.

One evening in 1844 when M. P. Crowder, father of Dr. M. L. Crowder, was returning from Oskaloosa, following an Indian trail, he noticed a horseman coming toward him and could readily see from the careless manner of the order that it was white man. So he waited for him. The two men had never met before. but after some conversation each learned that the other belonged to the same common brotherhood of homeseekers in the New Purchase. There was almost no reserve among strangers in those days. There was a kindred fellowship that made each counde in the other. Mr. Crowder told him he was opening a new home over on Middlecreek and asked the stranger of his plans. He said he was building a mill on Skunk river north of Oskaloosa but lacked sixty dollars of having enough money to purchase the necessary machinery to equip the mill. The idea of having a mill so near to himself and his neighbors appealed so strongly to Mr. Crowder that he said, without a moment's hesitation, not even knowing the stranger's name, that he had that amount of money in the house with which he had intended to enter his land as soon as it came into market, and that if the stranger would return the money when needed he would let him havertouse in solandable apurpose. The stranger went have with his newly made friend and the evening was spent in a pioneer conference. The next morning Mr. Crowder counted out to his guest, who proved to be Mr. George Duncan sixty-five dollars in silver. Sixty-five dollars was quite a snug sure of money in that day, especially when it had been sacredly laid aside for the purpose of purchasing a home for the family. No obligations or specified rate of interest was thought of by Mr. Crowder in raciong this loan. He simply thought of the unreasured a transage of a nearth grist will to the while community and to his own timely.



NORTH SIDE PUBLIC SQUARE 199 OSKALOOSA



 Duncan went to Burlington and completed purchase of the necessary machinery for his

Sanmel Coffin was given the task of bringthe first milling outfit to this county. We told that it required six yoke of oxen to ng the heavy castings from the river. Mr. ffin was a Titan of strength and endurance his early life, a typical frontiersman, who s equal to any occasion. He visited this mty in 1842 and brought his family in 1844. rs. Sarah Cruzen, his danghter, relates that his first visit her father and his two comnions, Daniel Votaw and William Rouse, ne suddenly upon five hundred Indians in up. They at first thought they would have ouble, but they were treated kindly and alved to go on in their meanderings. offin was the father of sixteen children, reprented this county in the state legislature one m, and was always a leading spirit in public terprises.

When Mr. Crowder learned that the Duncan ill was in full blast, he took his ox-wagon, ided up a grist and gave the new miller a call. Then he had been there a short time he noticed stepping out of the door that his team was ne. After looking about for them for a time went into the mill and told Mr. Duncan that believed the Indians had driven away his usty team of oxen. Mr. Duncan replied, "I ink you will find them up on the hill in my able, and I want you to take dinner with me day." He then told Mr. Crowder that when came to his mill he should never be comdled to take his "turn" like the other patrons. it as soon as the grist then grinding was out, s grain should next fill the hoppers. This rule e maintained as a distinguishing mark of riendship to Mr. Crowder as long as he owned e mill property. It scarcely need be menoned that the sixty-five dollars was gratefully turned to its generous owner in good time for ie land purchase.

We have given full space to this beautiful story of friendship because it emphasizes a phase of life among the better class of pioneers which is worthy of emulation.

The Duncan mill was built where the J. S. Whitmore mill now stands.

Messrs. Comstock and Pilgrim visited the South Skunk regions with a hunting party in 1842 and selected the present site of the Glendale mills as the spot for a mill site when this county should be opened for settlement. During the month of May, 1843, these two gentlemen proceeded to carry out their designs, and constructed a dam across the Skunk river at the above point, using brush and rock, which served them for a number of years. The mill was constructed under the direction of Alexander Mc-Cleery, a millwright, and a partner in the new enterprise. It was built almost entirely from the native woods, gearing wheels and all being hewn and chiseled out of the most suitable timber from the nearby forests. The mill was completed as a saw mill in 1844 and was operated night and day for a time to supply the growing demand for building material for the new settlements. A little later attachments were made for grinding corn, and in 1845 the management were able to turn out good wheat flour. In these early years these two Mahaska county mills had many customers from Fort Des Moines and vicinity. The records show that they registered their grists and waited sometimes as long as eight days for their turn. In the early days these two mills were known as the upper and lower mills. The fall of water is about six inches to the mile between them.

A quite important law suit appears on the county records between Mr. Duncan, who brought the suit, and the owner of the lower mill. Mr. Duncan claimed back water damages. Ex-Governor Eastman represented the prosecution and W. H. Seevers the defense. The defense won the suit and Mr. Duncan afterwards bought the lower mill.

The Huron mills were built on the Skunk river in Black Oak township in 1857 by Morris Brothers at a cost of some five thousand dollars. In 1868 the mills were bought by Reynolds & Bowdel, who enlarged and improved it, making it a ten thousand dollar property. Parker & Cramer purchased the plant in 1870 and did a good business for a number of years. The above mill was the successor to Warren's mill, built by R. B. Warren in 1846, afterwards burned, and rebuilt in 1850.

A grist mill was built in Oskaloosa in 1851 by Roop, Harbour & Co. In the following year it was used as a grist mill and a distillery. It was much enlarged in 1857. The property passed into the hands of Siebel & Co. in 1866 and the rooms formerly occupied as a distillery and whisky refinery were used as a woolen mill. In recent years the manufacturing feature has been discontinued and the property used as a grist mill.

The South Spring mills, in the south part of the city, was an old established grist mill, but has recently been rebuilt to be used as a factory.

Union mills, on North Skunk, in Union township, was built during the summer of 1849 by Jacob Wimer and Christian Brolliar. Mr. Wimer was quite a mill builder; he built and owned three mills in Keokuk county before this date and several in Missouri in the years following. Mr. Brolliar was the millwright when the Roberts mill was constructed, and was the leading workman in the construction of a number of mills in the counties west of Mahaska. Mr. Wimer put in a stock of general merchandise at Union Mills in the fall of 1849. Mr. James Bridges states that he opened a store at Indianapolis that year and he and Mr. Wimer chanced to be in Burlington making purchases at the same time. The mill did a large business in the years that followed. The custom that was drawn to the village induced two other general stores to spring up. A saw mill was kept in operation in connection with the power that run the grist mill. Mr. Isaac Kalbach, who was a cabinet-maker in Oskaloosa in the early '50s, says that he secured lumber from the mill at times when it was impossible to get other stock from the yards along the Mississippi river. During those years both the village and the mill did a good business and contributed much toward building up that part of the county.

Currier's mill in White Oak township was built by Charles Currier, in the early '50s. It has always made a superior grade of flour, and after more than fifty years of service still maintains its good reputation. Mr. Currier was a typical miller, honest, faithful and reliable. These are the expressive words used by his old neighbors in speaking of his labors of years ago.

Stone Ridge mill in Monroe township was built by Oliver and Henry Wimer in 1872. It was owned for a time by James Bridges and was afterward moved to What Cheer. The Baughman mill in the same township was built by a Mr. Cox in 1849. It was destroyed by fire in more recent years. The first iron bridge built in the county was built across the North Skunk at this mill. Several miles up the river was once located the Roberts mill. On its site a saw mill was built in 1849 by Wesley DePew. In 1870 Mark Roberts built a grist mill. After some years the property came into possession of a family of brothers by the name of Senate. They proved to be a set of robbers and were credited with belonging to a western bandit gang. They were driven out of the country.

CHAPTER XVI.

RECOLLECTIONS OF PIONEER DAYS.

In the happy hunting days of the pioneers there were those who spent much of their time about the camp fires in the forest. On their eturn from these hunting excursions it was the reat delight of these jolly sons of Nature to it around the home grocery—(every grocery ad a barrel of whiskey)-and relate their adentures and experiences. S. L. Pomerov reates one which he knew to be true. Two of hese old lovers of the trail whom the boys had icknamed Fox and Kangaroo, were over cross Skunk for an outing. One day around he camp fire Fox says: "I am a braver man han you are." Kangaroo replied: "I will not elieve it until you prove it." Whereupon Fox hrew his hat into the fire. Not to be outdone is partner did the same. Coats, jackets and very thread of wearing apparel followed until heir blankets were the only covering they had eft. Gathering up their traps they managed ome way to get across the river and started omeward. Passing a large pool of water, fox again challenged his companion's bravery, aying: "I can stay longer under the water than on can." The words were no sooner uttered han both men made the dive. Fox, who came p first, chanced to find himself under the preading roots of a near-by tree on the shore. le could breathe comfortably and awaited deelopments. In a short time Kangaroo came p, panting at a furious rate. When he could ollect himself he looked around for his friend. hen climbed out on the bank, and, becoming nore serious, took a long pole and prodded bout in the water. Fox now thought it was bout time for him to appear, and diving out ito deeper water came to the surface. Kangato was prompt in according to his companion s being the braver man of the two.

All the pioneers agree in the incredible numer of wolves in the country in the early days. They were the scavengers of the land, devouring whatever they could find, both living and ead. S. L. Pomeroy, who came in 1847, is full freminiscences of those beginning years in lahaska county. He was himself quite a unter. He kept two greyhounds for fleetness

on the trail, and a large, savage dog of mixed breed to do the killing, when the hounds had overtaken the wolf and had it pretty well worried out. All were well trained, and even if the wolf was in sight would invariably follow it at the horses' heels until the word of command was given for the attack. Mr. Pomeroy says when he chanced to take one alive he would sometimes bring the hunting outfit to town and have the boys form a circle in the public square, where the animal was let loose and compelled to run in the circle until it would break through and make for its life. Then the dogs of the town were let loose and the race began.

Hunting was the chief excitement of the times, and when a settler started to mill or on a journey, if his dogs chased up a wolf or deer he would often unhitch his fleetest horse and give chase. Jordan Whitacre, an old hunter who lived across Skunk river in Madison township, at one time shot seven deer without moving from his hiding place. A heavy sleet covered all nature and while hunting in the forest he came unexpectedly upon a group of seven who had not noticed his approach because of the cracking and crashing of falling branches everywhere. They took no notice of the report of his gun until the last one had falllen.

In 1848, James Woods, who lived on Middle creek came over to Samuel Coffin's to borrow some money. He found Mr. Coffin some miles from home breaking prairie. Mr. Coffin told him he did not have time to go to the house to get him the money, but if he would go over to the house he would find a package of money in a particular corner of the smokehouse. Take from the package the sum he wanted and put the rest back where he got it. No note or obligation whatever was given. S. L. Pomeroy was administrator of the Coffin estate and says this was a fair sample of the business methods of this large-hearted man. He aimed to deal in that way only with men of veracity and his losses were not overly large.

Back in the '40s when E. W. Eastman was practicing law in Oskaloosa, one spring he chanced to own a calf which he was quite desirous to dispose of at almost any price. So he bantered one of his constituents, a Major Neeley, for a trade. Said he would take anything. The Major said he had nothing to trade but chickens and turkeys. If he wanted that kind of a trade he should take until he was satisfied if he would catch them himself. "Very good," says young Eastman, congratulating himself. "You take the calf and if we can't get the fowls any other way I am a good shot with my rifle." The Major cautioned him to come quite early in the morning or late in the evening, as they were off to the woods during the day. Early one morning Eastman drove out to the Neelev home, some miles southeast of town, to bring in a buggy load of toothsome chickens and turkeys. The Major told him he had come a little late for the turkeys, as they were off for the day. Taking him out into a piece of deadened timber he showed him a prairie chicken here and there in the tree-tops. "Are these the fowls you promised I should have for the catching?" said Eastman. "O, yes," said Neelev; "our chickens and turkeys are all of the wild variety." The young attorney was too badly unnerved to try his skill as a marksman, but drove back home, making the mental record of defeat number one.

Perhaps the first pork packing done in this county was done by Leeper Smith in the winter of 1847-48 at the lower end of Six Mile bottom on the Des Moines river. It was an open winter and favorable to the business. The hogs were brought into Oskaloosa already dressed and hauled down to the packing house. The work was superintended by Henry Leister. Toward spring a large flatboat some fifty feet long and half as wide, was built of heavy native lumber with the expectation of floating the cargo down to some southern market when the spring rains should bring water enough in the river channel to make the trip with safety. That

year, however, proved to be a very dry year, and the spring went by without the usual freshet. A Dr. Lee had a similar packing house and boat further up the river. When these gentlemen saw in the early summer that the river route would not be available to them, they secured teams and moved their pork products overland to Keokuk, where it was sold or sent down the Mississippi on boats. A few years later they loaded their flatboats with corn which brought them a good price down the river because of the large demand for it by the emigrants on their westward march.

We examined with much interest several primitive articles owned by S. L. Pomerov. Among them was a hand-made hammer made seventy-five years ago and used in the family for three quarters of a century. A door with wooden hinges, having all its fastenings with pegs instead of nails, was made by John Morgan, north of Fremont, in 1848. An oak clapboard four feet by eight inches rived out by his father in 1855. A huge prairie plow made by Nichols & Tolbert in 1851, in their blacksmith shop, which stood on High avenue one block west of the square, where Lewis Brothers' implement store now stands. Mr. Prine says they kept the old servant pretty busy in those early years. It was drawn by six yoke of oxen and sometimes ten. This larger number, however, were only used when they were breaking young cattle to work in the yoke. A yoke of cattle broke to work were worth much more than those who had vet to be initiated.

An old-fashioned lantern carried by our fathers sixty or more years ago. It consisted of a perforated sheet of tin welded in circular form, with a conical top, into which a ring of convenient size was inserted for carrying it. A door of the same material hung on hinges and allowed a candle to be inserted on the inside.

John R. Baer showed us a receipt given by his father, G. W. Baer, to Thomas Fancher in 1848, when the former was county treasurer of Mahaska county. The receipt is written in a plain hand on a scrap of fool's-cap paper of a blue tint, and reads as follows: "Received of Thomas Fancher his taxes in full for the year 1847. January 7, 1848. G. W. Baer, T. M. C." Mr. Baer was a tailor by trade, his residence and shop being located on the west side of the square. In the year 1845 fire destroved both shop and residence. It was quite motable fire at the time, being the first that nad occurred in the village of Oskaloosa. Baer recalls the visit to Oskaloosa of a company of Musquakee Indians in the spring of 1848. They were led by their chief who was widely known as Old John Green. His father was quite well acquainted with the tribe, having n the year previous purchased from them their iurs. Because of an acquaintance formed in this way they called him the White Chief. The Indians were met on North Market street and they said to Mr. Baer by signs and scraps of proken English that they had been without food for three days. He told the chief to come down to the house and he would give him something to eat. Whereupon the whole company accepted the invitation and marched after their eader. Mr. Baer persisted in vain that it would be impossible for him to feed so many. They eplied that they were hungry and must be fed. After they had devoured all of the eatables in he neighborhood, the villagers loaned them a supply of pots and kettles and they were diected to a grove over on the hill on what is now North Third street. Here they camped over Sunday. On Monday the warriors went o Mr. Baer's residence, a half block north of he Christian church, and left in the care of Mrs. Baer all of their implements of war while hey went up to the old courthouse and repaid he villagers for their hospitality by giving hem a genuine war dance with all of its conusion, pow wow and frenzied gesticulation. t was always their custom to place their war equipment out of their reach before going into

these war dances, lest in frenzied excitement when the war spirit had taken full possession of them, some violence might follow. After a visit of less than a week they departed toward the northwest into their wilderness home. J. R. Gentry relates that one cold wintry night a loud rap was heard at the door of his father's frontier cabin in Jasper county which was then the home of the family. His father had gone to mill some days' journey away and his resolute mother demanded to know who was there. The answer came "John Green." As everybody knew Old John Green, chief of the Musquakee Indians, he was invited in. Asking for something to eat, Mrs. Gentry told him that her husband was away and she could not keep him for the night, but he should sit by the fire and warm himself, and she would share with him her scanty supply of food. She set before him a pot containing about a gallon of hominy in its crude state. To him it was a veritable feast, nor did he turn away until the last grain had disappeared into his capacious stomach. Then he silently wrapped his blankets and furs around him and disappeared into the night. Curiosity led the boys to watch which way he went. The old son of nature went to the hog pen, and driving them out of their warm nests. he lay down covering himself head and feet with his wrappings. The hogs piled up around him, and notwithstanding the relentless cold, with a full stomach to give heat within and the nearness of his not far remote relatives, he slept like a roach until the morning dawned, when he shook himself and went on his journey.

All the old settlers of this county with whom we have conversed, shake their heads when speaking of the annual prairie fires which swept the western prairies every fall after the frost had killed the grass and left a bed of dry straw covering the whole face of nature. The cautious settler always surveyed the land-scape far and near before retiring at night. If

there was an unusual light anywhere in the horizon some one of the household remained on guard throughout the night to give warning in case of its approach toward the cabin. In case of its approach a counter fire was started. Much damage was done in the early years by these fires. Mrs. G. B. McFall states that in their early home in Cedar township when one of these resistless fires was rolling across the prairie toward their home a sudden change in the wind reversed its course and saved their property from destruction.

CHAPTER XVII.

FIRST SCHOOLS AND THEIR TEACHERS.

The first school in Mahaska county was taught by Miss Semira A. Hobbs, who had come to the settlement in August previous to the time of beginning her school. A number of the settlers had been on their claims over a year and began to be desirous to have their children in school. A rude log house was built two and one-half miles east of Oskaloosa in the timber and on September 16, 1844, Miss Hobbs began her thirteen weeks of school. A very businesslike agreement was signed by both parties. Miss Hobbs agreed to teach the school for the sum of one dollar and twenty-five cents for each of the eighteen pupils attending the school. The names on the original contract and the number of pupils from each family are as follows:

Aaron Cox, 6; Nathan Coontz, 3; Brantly Stafford, 1; Poultney Loughridge, 5; John Cunningham, 3. Miss Hobbs had taught one term of school down in Henry county. The death of her widowed mother some months previous had left her an orphan and she had come to the New Purchase to make her home with her uncle and auut, Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Cox. She had a winning disposition, was quite

accomplished, and being always disposed to make the best of things, was heartily welcomed by the best people in the settlement.

Miss Hobbs afterwards became Mrs. T. G. Phillips and has written a volume of entertaining reminiscences of that period. Her own description of that first schoolhouse with its inmates cannot fail to interest the reader.

"The settlers set a day to repair to the woods on the borders of the sixteenth section, taking with them axes, mauls, wedges, froes, augers, saws and broad axes. They then proceeded to chop down some linn trees, not taking time to hew them, but built a cabin of round logs, leaving the bark on. They rived out boards of oak to cover it, putting weight poles on to hold the boards in place. The floor, benches and writing desk were made of puncheons. Puncheons are made of logs split and made smooth on one side by hewing with a broad axe. Some of the early settlers had become experts in hewing puncheons and riving clapboards. This temple of learning was supplied with a sod chimney, a hearth long and wide, not made with stone or brick, but with rich black loam. A log was sawed out of one side of the house, leaving a space eight or ten feet long, for the purpose of admitting light. One of these primitive carpenters with a pocket knife whittled out sticks the proper length, then placed them in an upright position at regular distances apart along this opening. Glass being a luxury not easily obtained, oiled foolscap paper was pasted over this improvised window sash. In laying the foundation of this edificce the architects were particular to observe the points of the compass. A door was made by sawing out logs to the proper height and width. No shutter was provided, only an opening looking toward the south., When the sun shone there was no trouble in telling when it was noon. Every one of the children were well behaved and obedient, tried hard to learn and made considerable advancement. These boys

and girls had pluck. They kept warm if they could but did not whine if they were a little cold. They were used to cold houses, with only a fireplace, where the face would burn while the back would freeze. When the cold became severe one of the kind, thoughtful mothers sent a coverlet to hang over the door. Deer and rabbits scampered over prairie and slough. These pioneers were good marksmen and along with their corn bread, had venison and prairie chicken in abundance. One evening on returning home from school the teacher was informed that the head of the family had killed a bear."

Mrs. Phillips still lives in Oskaloosa, now herself a widow, but honored and loved as in the days of her girlhood years. Of the eighteen boys and girls who sat around the big fireplace in that frontier school room three still remain in Mahaska county: Mary Loughridge Shaver, Emily Loughridge Correll, and Jas. Loughridge. The latter owns the original Loughridge farm in Spring Creek township and all live in Oskaloosa.

Miss Hobbs taught a second school in that log schoolhouse in the spring of 1845, and in the fall of the same year taught a term in a more comfortable cabin which was located on the corner of North Third street and A avenue.

In the year that followed almost every settlement in the county had some sort of a school during at least a few months in the year.

In the winter of 1844-45 a gentleman by the name of Samuel Caldwell taught a small school in East Oskaloosa in one end of a double log house belonging to A. G. Phillips. In the summer of 1845 James Johnson, a brother of Allen Johnson, the founder of the Methodist church in Oskaloosa, taught a school in an unfinished frame house on the south side of the square, belonging to Levi Smith.

One of the best schools of that period was taught in 1847 by Wm. Hearst. He occupied

the courthouse two terms and then removed to a frame building which he had built on the corner of B avenue and D street. On account of its color the building went by the name of Greencastle. He had some fifty pupils, among whom were Mrs. Eveline H. Needham, John R. Baer and his sister Mrs. Amelia Wilson, Mrs. Emily J. Coryell and H. B. Owen. Mr. Hearst was educated for the ministry and took up teaching for a time. When the tide of emigration to California set in he sold his school and outfit and in 1849 joined one of the western caravans.

In 1853 a school was taught in the Normal School building by Mr. and Mrs. George W. Drake. Both were graduates of Oberlin College in Ohio and were accomplished people. Mrs. C. P. Searle, then Miss Mattie Turner, also taught with them. The school continued for several years and we have heard only words of the highest praise for this school. Among its students in those years were John F. and James Lacey, James and William Edmundson, Mrs. H. J. Knowlton, S. H. M. Byers, John Baer, Mrs. Amelia Wilson and F. Walden.

After Rev. R. A. McAyeal came to Oskaloosa in 1856 he organized a school in the old United Presbyterian church, of which he was pastor. It was called a female academy. The church was located at the corner of High avenue and Third street.

Among the teachers of this school was a Miss Martha McKown, a young lady of superior culture and more than ordinary gifts. She was principal of the school and a devout member of the United Presbyterian church. An invitation came to her from the foreign mission board of that church to become a missionary in Egypt. The young man of her choice had extended his hand offering to become her life companion. She felt that this call to become a teacher among a benighted people in a wider field was a divine call. The ideal of every true woman is

to sometime become the mistress of a happy home where love reigns supreme. Such a congenial retreat was now offered her, and from a temporal standpoint her heart gave consent to the felicitous thought, but her loftier nature said to her. "You should give up this prospective joy to become a messenger of light to them who have it not." Miss McKown vielded to the voice of conscience, resigned her position and cheerfully gave her talents to teaching the gospel message and training the downtrodden race in Egypt. This she continued to do until she became blind. The excessive sunlight in that land is more than many of the natives themselves can endure without great suffering. After her eves had utterly failed Miss McCowen still continued to teach from memory. For forty years she instructed old and young how to lift themselves up into a better and nobler life.

Joseph McFall taught the first school in Cedar township northwest of Fremont, in 1846. Sarah Kinsman, afterwards Mrs. W. S. Edgar, taught the first school at what is now Concert schoolhouse. E. H. Bobbitt taught the first school in Fremont. Mr. Bobbitt is still living in White Oak township north of Wright. He is now past eighty years old. M. Doolittle was the second teacher in the little log schoolhouse at Fremont. His home is now in Washington, Iowa, where he is enjoying a hale old age. These men were the teachers of the village in the early '50s. When the log cabin had given place to the little brick schoolhouse a few years later we find among the honored list of teachers in that village the names of J. C. Chambers, William White, Alfred Gleason, Thomas Jefferson Seevers, W. A. Rankin, afterwards captain in the Thirty-third Iowa, Margaret and Sarah Canon, sisters of S. R. Canon, W. F. and Daniel Havdock, now at the head of the Havdock Manufacturing Company of St. Louis, Missouri.

John Scott, of Adams township, was one of the pioneer schoolmasters of this county. He was born in the lowlands of Scotland, his parents coming to Iowa at an early period. He was well educated and a tailor by trade, but never followed his trade in the west. He was a devout member of the Presbyterian church. He was chaste in his life and exacting in his habits. There was a vein of sadness that ran parallel with his pathway. The cause was only known to his most intimate friends. Before coming west he had won the heart of the girl of his choice and while he was preparing the home that was to be theirs to enjoy together, down to old age, her spirit was taken to the better land. He never married. He was living to be true to her. So for almost twenty years he taught the children of the adjoining districts. He took pleasure in their young lives and they loved and respected him. He owned a farm but always rented it and lived with the family. In the earlier days his comfortable home was known as "Buckhorn Tavern." He seldom turned a traveler away. The house got its name from a pair of large antlers being nailed above the door. Mr. Scott was always highly esteemed for his good judgment and character, but as the years advanced he became quite eccentric. He never owned any personal property of any kind, not even the furnishings of his own room. He accepted the equipments furnished by his tenants and when he chanced to be out of a tenant for a time he found a welcome home with one of his neighbors. And so he lived unembarrassed, waiting for the call to the spirit land. When it came it found him ready.

In the year 1845 Wm, Laurance took a claim in Madison township and built a claim cabin some 12x14 feet. It was located in the timber not far from where the present Madison schoolhouse now stands in the Cruzen neighborhood. He took a contract to furnish a certain number of rails for some adjoining improvement and

was hard at work at his task when his neighbors learned that he could teach school, and besought him to open a school in his cabin for the children of the growing settlement. When he persisted that he could not leave his work the settlers offered to complete his rail-splitting contract if he would accept the easier task of teaching their children during the winter. This he agreed to do and rude wooden benches were improvised and the school opened. So far as we are able to learn thirteen children attended that school during the winter of 1845-46. Wm. Shumake, Mrs. Hamilton Cruzen, Jacob and John Coffin and Mrs. S. L. Pomerov were among the number. This teacher of long ago gave himself during the school hours to giving his little claim cabin the air of an orderly place of learning. It was his custom to stand at the cabin door and bid the children good-night as they retired. Then taking his ax on his shoulder he would repair to the timber to prepare "night wood" for himself and a sufficient quantity for use during the next day. After barring his door to make himself secure from the wolves who gathered nightly in quest of the scraps about the place, he read for a time by the light of the big fireplace, and then lay down to sound sleep on a mattress of prairie hay. Mr. Laurance boarded himself, baking his corn cake on a flat rock before the big fireplace three times a day and roasting his meat on a forked stick. He was the fortunate owner of a cow that roamed about the woods eating buds and bark from the newly fallen trees. This cow supplied the pioneer teacher with milk and cream and helped to keep the school going while she protected herself from the wintry storms as best she could. Mr. Laurance served the new settlement as justice of the peace. Later he moved up into Prairie township and his family are now well known citizens of the county.

CHAPTER XVIII.

PIONEER DOCTORS.

Minor ailments were taken care of by the early settlers themselves. Mothers understood the medicinal properties of the native plants, barks and herbs. The Indians were very conversant with the simple remedies of the country and their advice was always freely given when sought for.

It is generally conceded that the Indians did not suffer from many diseases that came with civilization. They were doubtless better acclimated, but there were conditions produced by the cultivation of the soil which developed particular kinds of fevers. There were a number of things which contributed to make the new country appear unhealthy. Impure water, coarse and scanty food and the multiplied privations of the wilderness were extremely trying on the first settlers.

The prevailing diseases were intermittent fevers, fever and ague, or the "chills," which refused to yield to anything but the use of quinine, then a common remedy in its crude form.

Cuts and wounds were treated with poultices, the only antiseptic being hot or cold water, and it is interesting to learn that there were very few cases of blood poisoning. There were no laws governing the practice of medicine and self-made doctors sprung up who carried saddle-bags filled with bitter herbs and roots.

Dr. Seth Hobbs was one of the first physicians who practiced in the Narrows and vicinity. Dr. E. A. Boyer, out on the Des Moines river, was a man of culture and a highly esteemed physician. Being one of the first settlers in the county, he became widely known and for fifteen years had an extensive practice. A gentleman, then a young man, who was a neighbor of Dr. Boyer, stated to us that

he had frequently accompanied the Doctor on his perilous trips in the early days, when they often had to swim their horses across swollen streams and make long journeys. The pay never entered into the trip.

Once, after a long ride through snow and storm almost to Albia, where the Doctor had been called in great haste, when they arrived almost frozen, the Doctor preceded him into the house and immediately returned, telling him not to come in, as it was a contagious disease. He then laid off all his outer wrappings, went inside in his shirt sleeves and prescribed temporarily for the patient, and again took to the saddle for the long ride home, telling his patient to secure another physician, as it would not be possible for him to treat the case. Dr. Boyer's practice reached from Bonaparte on the south to Red Rock and occasionally to Des Moines on the north.

Dr. C. G. Owen came to Oskaloosa in 1845 and was a practicing physician in this county for forty years. Mrs. H. B. Owen, who came in 1852, relates some of his frontier experiences. We give one that will illustrate a phase of life among one class of early settlers. The Doctor was called some twelve miles into the country. It had been raining some through the day, and in the evening, when the message came for him, it had turned into sleet. was riding a strong, sensible black horse which he had named "Nig." He was so sure footed and obedient that the Doctor always felt safe on his back. When he had gone about ten miles he came to a narrow, swollen stream. It could not be forded as there was thick shore ice on either side. The only possible way he could continue his journey was to select the narrowest place in the angry stream and leap across it. There was only a possibillity of success, as the water was deep. Pioneer physicians were not accustomed to thinking much about their own safety and the good doctor informed "Nig" that he would have to make the leap. To this the pioneer Black Beauty tacitly consented to do his best, which he did in the darkness, and proudly carried his master over the danger. Reaching his suffering patient, he found the cabin in utter darkness; nothing in the room to make a light; no comfort of any kind. They expected the presence of the doctor to bring health and cheer to the home. Dr. Owen tied a button in the center of a small piece of cloth, which, when he had twisted he dropped into a saucer of some sort of grease which was brought out. When the cloth had become saturated with the melted grease it furnished a fair light as the end of it hung over the edge of the saucer. The Doctor was always a cheerful man and made the best of the circumstances and succeeded in giving the needed care to his patient, but never forgot the perilous ride and the cold reception of that stormy night.

Dr. Warren, father of Robert Warren, was an early settler in Black Oak township. Besides being a practicing physician, he made himself doubly useful to the settlers by looking after the spiritual welfare of the community in which he labored. All of the old-time residents speak his name with reverence. J. M. Wharton says that shortly after his father's family had located in West Garfield township, Dr. Warren called at their cabin and his good mother came to the door and called the children in. When the Doctor had read a portion of scripture, he offered a short prayer. This was his custom. Mr. Wharton said that the incident awakened a train of thought in his mind that has never left him. Coming to the county in 1843, he first stopped in Black Oak township in this county, but shortly afterward moved over into Marion county, three miles southeast of Pella, where he made a claim and remained until 1847, when he returned to this county and settled south of Peoria, where he resided until the time of his death, January 18, 1870.

Dr. D. A. Hoffman is one of the men who has rendered most faithful and constant service to Mahaska county people. Coming to the county in 1861, he has given his life to answer-

ng calls night and day, wherever the services of a competent physician were needed. A gentleman related to the writer that on the night of December 31, 1862, when the thernometer was 26 degrees below zero and as earful a storm raging as ever passed over Iowa, Dr. Hoffman responded to a country call in a ery critical case, and insisted on returning iome the same night, when stock of all kinds vas freezing to death by the hundreds. loubt cases like this might be multiplied many imes. Through cold and flood and heat Dr. Hoffman has lived almost a charmed life in his nore than forty-four years of service in minisering to suffering humanity in this county. In he course of these long years of almost uniuerrupted service as a physician, Dr. Hoffman as been a constant student of nature. He has ollected perhaps the finest private museum in his part of lowa.

Among the pioneer doctors in the northeast part of the county was a German lady by the name of Hoopes. Herself and husband constiuted the family and their home was over on diddle creek in Adams township, near what vas then known as Buckhorn Tavern. She was thorough-going, energetic character, and had equired some skill as a nurse, to which she dded a practical knowledge of herbs and simde home remedies. These herbs she carried in , cloth sack or when prepared ready to be adninistered, the liquid was conveyed in a jug so s to have a ready supply if the case demanded t. She answered calls day and night as a midvife. Her practice was in the late '40s and arly '50s. There were no roads leading anywhere in that early day. Mrs. Hoopes had a rusty young animal which seemed to partake of ier own resolute spirit, which she rode, answerng calls for eight or ten miles distant. She new every Indian trail, cow path and ford in he entire neighborhood and always led the way when sent for, and the messenger needed to ply is spurs to keep along with her. Her charges vere about one dollar per day, and her patients

seemed to get along about as well as those of the regular profession, so the old settlers say. The good lady was well respected and esteemed by her neighbors. She used the gifts she possessed and served her generation well.

Dr. Carter, afterwards Capt. Carter, practiced at Indianapolis for some years in the '50s and early '60s. Dr. W. L. Crowder relates that while he was a young man studying medicine he witnessed an operation by Dr. Carter in which he amputated the shattered arm of a gentleman who had met with an accident, using only a butcherknife and a common saw. The operation was entirely successful.

Dr. E. N. Woodworth practiced twenty years in the north and northwest part of the county. First at Georgetown and then at Peoria. He moved from this county to southern Missouri.

Dr. Amasa Fisher came to this county in 1854, locating north of Indianapolis, where he practiced medicine for twenty years or more. We find the names of Doctors S. S. Cook, David Mills, Matthew Griswold, Samuel Evans and Cyrus Bond, who in the early years looked after the ills of the settlers in the vicinity of Fremont. Dr. Wm. Edmundson, son of the first sheriff of Mahaska county, practiced in Fremont during the war of the Rebellion, from which place he moved to Denver, where he built up a lucrative practice.

Dr. L. F. Ellsworth, of Mauch Chunk, came to lowa in 1864 and for many years was a practicing physician in the northwest part of the county.

Dr. William Jarvis, of Rose Hill, began practicing in the east part of the county in 1847 and was a pioneer physician during most of the early years.

Dr. W. L. Crowder began practicing in 1864 at Springfield, just across the Keokuk county line. In 1876 he located at Rose Hill. In the course of his practice in those years he recalled the unusul fact of having eleven cases of fracture in a single week following a heavy fall of

sleet. Dr. Crowder has made Oskaloosa his home since 1884, and still keeps his mind fresh by study and in the practice of his chosen profession. The first county medical association was organized in the year 1855. The names of the men who appear on the old records as having perfected this organization are as follows: J. F. Smith, S. E. Rhinehart, F. W. Coolidge, G. Elkins, S. H. Evans, C. H. Harrison, C. B. McCabe, J. C. Macon, J. Y. Hopkins, Cyrus Bond and N. Henton. Many of the older citizens will recall the laborious life of at least a part of these men who in their day did a large practice and faithfully served their generation. The pioneers always speak with tender affection of the unselfish services of the men whose names appear in this article. An unselfish physician is a great factor in building up a community either new or old. He gets very near to the heart and life of the people whom he serves and is an unconscious builder of character as well as physical health. There are doubtless names of other doctors of whom the author has no knowledge, who should be included in this list of pioneer physicians.

CHAPTER XIX.

HISTORY OF ADAMS, BLACK OAK AND CEDAR TOWNSHIPS.

ADAMS.

This township took its name from President Adams. The first survey line were made by William and Alvin Burt in July and August, 1843. It originally formed a part of Monroe township, but was re-surveyed by Deputy Surveyor Stiles S. Carpenter in October, 1847, and made an independent township.

The first justice of the peace in the township was Matthew P. Crowder, father of Dr. W.

L. Crowder, of Oskaloosa. The first school was taught by A. N. Atwood in a cabin belonging to Squire Crowder.

Among the old settlers were Gideon Daugherty. William Vermilyea, A. Ruby, Adin Mc-Donough, John Ruby, Joel Briney, Adam Victor, Elijah Busby, James Roberts and the Mc-Lansborough family.

Back in the very early years an incident occurred in this township which illustrates the type of life of the early settler. James Roberts found himself one year with well filled cribs of corn, while his neighbors for miles around were destitute or had only a scanty supply, there being a general failure in the crops the previous year. Roop's distillery was in operation in Oskaloosa and was materially injured by the failure of the corn crop. Learning of Mr. Roberts' good fortune, Mr. Roop sent to the Roberts farm a clozen or more wagons and instructed the foreman to bring the corn in regardless of the price, as they must have the corn to keep the mills going. Mr. Roberts informed the teamsters that while he had more corn than he could possibly use himself, many of his neighbors had none, and would undoubtedly suffer if the corn left the neighborhood. While his neighbors had nothing to buy with, he had made up his mind that it was his duty to loan them all a sufficient quantity until they should be able to raise a crop. The pioneer who related this incident stated that his father borrowed one hundred bushels and returned the same quantity the next year. Many others availed themselves of Mr. Roberts' generosity, and the surplus supply of grain was used for the beneficent purpose of bringing happiness to the homes of the new settlers.

The first church in the township was a Methodist organization formed in the house of John Ruby in 1846.

The village of Lacey located on the Iowa Central Railroad on the western border of the township, has a Methodist Episcopal church, postoffice, general store, a grain elevator, and orms the center of an enterprising community. The South Skunk river forms the southern oundary and Middle creek flows diagonally cross the township toward the southeast. These two streams have favored quite an abunant growth of timber and given the township in abundant supply of water. The township as one hundred and forty-nine farms, whose unds are valued at \$233,066, with value of personal property at \$39,340, and a population of ,000 persons.

BLACK OAK.

Black Oak township was partly surveyed in 843 by United States Surveyor W. A. Burt and completed in 1845 by W. L. D. Ewing, who afterward became governor of the state of Illinois. At an early day there is said to have been a black oak grove on sections 8, 9 and 6, from which the township took its name. It is watered by Muchakinock creek and Skunk iver. This township originally belonged to ackson township, which extended at one time is far north as Poweshiek county.

C. Chipman taught the first school in the ownship and Dr. James H. Warren held the irst religious services at his own home. Dr. Varren emigrated to Iowa from Jefferson county, Tennessee, and settled in Lee county n 1841. Coming to this county in 1843, he ettled in Black Oak township, being one of its arliest settlers. Those who came with him up rom Lee county were John B. Hamilton, Robert Hamilton, Harry Miller, Green T. Clark and Henry McPherson. This company seem o have been "sooners," or early comers, as the lragoons would not allow them to pass Liberyville, the border of the New Purchase, with heir teams until May 1st. They therefore left heir wagons and families and packed their norses with what they supposed was enough provisions to last them until May 1st. On the 26th of April they reached the prairie on which Pella is now located. Here they camped for a time, intending to stake off claims on that inviting highway, but after contemplating the subject for awhile they concluded, just like almost all of the early comers, that it was too far from timber to be settled in many years, so they selected claims three miles to the southeast, nearer the timber lands. Their supplies running short, they sent Green T. Clark back to bring up the wagons. Before he had time to arrive they were entirely out of catables, and resorted to hunting in earnest, to supply their wants. One of two things they must do, find something to eat or starve. Robert Hamilton concluded he could best succeed in finding a turkey, and Henry Miller thought his quickest returns would be in locating a bee tree. Both were successful. Added to this piece of good fortune their wagons and supplies came the next day.

Dr. Warren returned to Mahaska county in 1847. He was among the first ministers of the Methodist Episcopal church in the county, and he never tired in ministering to the spiritual and medicinal wants of his large practice. He was especially successful in the management of miasmatic diseases. Those who were with him and shared the privations of his pioneer life, loved him best. It is an enviable record for a man to make when his faults are completely hidden by his virtues. Such is the record of Dr. Warren as it has come down to us.

Among the early settlers in Black Oak township were John Gillespie, William, Jacob and John Majors, Aaron Folk, Richard Quinton, William Owens, Henry Groves, John Randall, Fielding Betz, John Shoemake, Wesley Moreland and Jacob Miller.

Leighton, a village located in the southeast part of the township, was laid out February 9, 1865. The town was named for William Leighton, who, with John W. Carver, were the projectors of the new village, and at that time lessees of the Keokuk & Des Moines Railroad, running through the place. It has never had

a large growth, but furnishes a good market and trading point for the wealthy community surrounding it.

Black Oak has 163 farms, whose lands are valued at \$276,143, with personal property valued at \$63,913, and a population of 1,200 persons.

CEDAR.

The township lines of Cedar township were run by Alvin Burt in the fall of 1843. It is mostly prairie. There is some timber in the northeastern part of the township and also along Cedar creek, which crosses the southwest corner of the township, flowing to the southeast. When the author first saw this part of the county, in 1865, it was an unbroken prairie, with scattered settlements. In passing from Skunk river to Eddyville, crossing Cedar and Harrison townships, we traveled eight miles without passing a dwelling. While seldom out of sight of farm homes they were not located on the traveled highway. It took many years for the settlers to learn that the rich prairie farms held the wealth of the land.

Samuel McFall settled on section 11 in 1844 and built the first schoolhouse in 1846, where his nephew, Joseph McFall, taught a subscription school, the first in the township.

In the spring of 1844 religious meetings were held in the house of Samuel Barbee, near where the Concert Methodist Episcopal church was afterwards built in 1856 at a cost of \$1,700. This church has been the center of active Christian work for more than a half century. The names of the church officers at the time the building was erected were Joseph Paul, David Mills, John Zaring, Gideon McFall, M. Kinsman, David Beck, F. W. Lindsley, Thos. Paul and Jas. Wright. The church was dedicated January 3, 1858, by Rev. Cowles, of Oskaloosa.

William Morrow was the first justice of the peace in the township. George Lentz, J. Q. White, Christian Wild, Nicholas Allender, Jo-

seph and Smith Aldridge, G. B. McFall and their families were among the old settlers. In 1855 Wright & Winnett built and operated a quite extensive steam flouring mill on the farm known as the John Pugh place, northwest of Fremont. John D. Cochran now has the frame built into a barn. About ten years later the machinery of the mill was sold and removed to Wisconsin.

Cedar, located on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy road, in the west part of the township, is a growing village with good shipping facilities. It has a number of fine homes.

Cedar township has 247 farms with lands valued at \$254,651, and personal property valued at \$67,414, and a population of 1,800 persons.

FREMONT.

Fremont is one of the oldest villages in the county. It was laid out by William Morrow in 1848, and named in honor of John C. Fremont, who, according to current belief, with a party of explorers on their way westward in the late '40s, had camped for a time, most likely, at McEwen's Springs, a mile north of Fremont. General Fremont afterward became the first candidate of the republican party for President. Mr. Morrow built the first dwelling house and store building and opened a stock of general merchandise. Its postoffice was established in 1848 with its founder as postmaster. Before the days of railroads Fremont was quite an important town, being located on the "divide" which was then a well known and much traveled highway for overland emigration as well as teaming and staging from the river. In the '50s and early '60s J. H. White operated a quite extensive saw mill in Fremont which contributed much to the building up of that part of the county. Elisha Vance owned a large tan yard. In those years merchants with general stocks were John Q. White, Charles Adams, Solomon Way, Lee & Cochran and

Thomas Rankin. Simon Felsenthal ran an exclusive clothing store, and Peter Shepper was the druggist of the place. Nicholas Allender, John B. Raines, Phillip Akerman and James Hodson were the blacksmiths. The latter added to his popularity as a workman by making cow bells for the neighborhood. Fifty years ago the village blacksmith was looked to for a thousand things which are now turned out by machinery.

Jonathan Buzzard, Jacob Brown, George Lentz and Edwin Allen were wagon-makers, and the two cabinet-makers were Jacob Goehring and Christian Weil. Coffins were all made from native walnut lumber, because of its durability, and seldom kept in stock, as now, but made to order. Accompanying the order for a coffin was the length of the corpse to be buried in feet and inches. The cabinet-maker took his tools and rough lumber and worked night and day to have all in readiness for the funeral.

We are told that during the war period business in Fremont was almost paralyzed. With the coming of the Iowa Central Railroad in 1871, and the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy some years later, its merchants have had a prosperous trade. Its present excellent schoolhouse was built in 1890. An extensive tile factory is owned and operated by Walter Dawson.

The Fremont Gazette is the ably edited newspaper of the place. In the year 1902 a fire destroyed a good number of frame business buildings in the place. These were at once replaced by brick structures which have added much to the substantial appearance of the town, Canon & Gunn began business in Fremont in 1873, carrying a stock of general merchandise and also in after years doing a banking business. The partnership continued for thirty-one years. Fremont has four churches, Baptist, Christian, Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian. S. R. Canon relates that in the early years his brother, William S. Canon, secured from Col. James Thompson, of Fairfield, the contract for carrying the weekly mail over one of the star routes of the period. The mail for seven postoffices was carried in a mail sack on horseback. Leaving Fairfield the rider stopped at the following postoffices: Brookville, Abingdon, Marysville, Waugh's Point (now Hedrick). Fremont, Cherry Grove, south of White Oak in this county, and Oskaloosa. There was often not more than a hat full of mail to distribute. Almost no papers were taken. Fremont now has a population of about five hundred and fifty persons.

CHAPTER XX.

HISTORY OF EAST DES MOINES TOWNSHIP

EAST DES MOINES.

Des Moines township is known in the surveys as township 74 north of range 16, west of the 5th principal meridian. The township lines were surveyed by William A. Burt in August, 1843, and the section lines by William Dewey January, 1845. It took its name from the Des Moines river, which runs across the township diagonally toward the southeast, dividing it into two almost equal parts. From 1845 until 1885 it was known on the county records as Des Moines township. Ephraim Munsell was elected the first clerk. In the latter year the territory on the east side of the river was organized under the name of East Des Moines township. This division was made necessary by the river, which formed such a barrier as to prevent its citizens from effectual co-operation.

There is quite a growth of white oak, walnut and cottonwood timber along the bottoms of the Des Moines river.

In point of settlement this township was one of the very first. A party of six white men came into that section on April 26, 1843. It was composed of Ephraim Munsell, Isaac De-

Witt, Harvey Case, Phillip Schuyler, Mr. Scribner and Harry Brewer. They found Indian huts scattered along Muchakinock creek. The dragoous, mostly on horseback, were at that time patrolling the country, just as the mounted police do in Canada at this time. It was their business to keep order in the new country, but especially to prevent the whites from making their way into the New Purchase before May 1, 1843, the date fixed by the government when all restrictions should be removed and every one who cared could have his choice of the rich lands. These men had doubtless been granted the liberty to come into the country without their wagons and learn something of the choicest locations in the territory. They carried their axes in their knapsacks, and improvised handles when they were needed. On their way up the river they passed a burning wagon, which had been set on fire by the dragoons for venturing to trespass on forbidden territory. It was a pretty severe loss to some bold spirited fellow who hoped to escape the vigilant and somewhat reckless dragoons. These men were well treated by the Indians, who kindly took them to a fine spring of water and showed them about the country which they loved so well. With their hearts already breaking to part with their humble homes and the dear old scenes of their childhood, yet they refused not to make the newcomers happy. One night the men camped in the hollow trunk of a large fallen tree. Some days later a number of the settlers found temporary homes in the abandoned Indian huts until they could build a claim cabin.

John L. Hennis, Hollom Price, Daniel Downing and a Mr. Anderson were other settlers who had taken claims up on Six Mile Prairie. Colonel Rose and John Dusenberry were located on North Muchakinock, and on the south were the Benedict brothers, who had built a saw mill on the lower Muchakinock in 1843 and had added a pair of corn crackers

the next year. The mill was built in the simplest manner and did the coarsest kind of work. The burrs were made of the hard stone found in the river bottom. The old settlers say there was a larger flow of water in Muchakinock creek then than there is at this time, which was evidently true. Crude as was the old mill, settlers came to it with grists from beyond Fort Des Moines.

The first justices of the peace were Holland Benedict and John Brown. Des Moines and Harrison formed a single precinct for holding the first election, which was held at the home of Colonel Vance. The first school was taught on Six-Mile bottom about the winter of 1844 or 1845, in a log cabin. The first schoolhouse was built by private enterprise in 1848 and the school was taught by Adelaide Schuyler. We have not been able to obtain any particulars of this school except the above facts. The timber along the river was an inviting retreat for game of all kinds, and many a reminiscent story is related of the hunting feats of the early days. A sad incident occurred to a family by the name of Clayworth, who owned a home near where Muchakinock is now located. The father was working about an old well near the home when he chanced to drop the bucket into the well and went down to recover it. He was overcome by the poisonous gases which had accumulated at the bottom. Mrs. Clayworth missed her husband and when she discovered his condition she also descended into the well in the hope of rendering him some assistance. There were several children in the family, the oldest being but nine years of age. They gave the alarm to the neighbors and A. J. Baughman undertook the perilous task of rescuing the parents. Clayworth was still alive, and with sublime heroism was holding her husband's head above water. Mr. Baughman was not sufficiently overcome to prevent him from rescuing both of them, but before they reached the upper air both were beyond recovery.



EAST SIDE OF PUBLIC SQUARE 1864, OSKALOOSA,



East Des Moines township has one hundred and fifty-four farms whose value is \$78.535, with personal property to the value of \$16.527. It has a population of 900 persous.

GIVIN.

This village was laid out by Harry Brewer in 1870 and was so named in honor of John Givin, of Keokuk, then superintendent of the Keokuk & Des Moines Railroad. The first store was built by Mr. Brewer in that year. There was a postoffice at this point as early as 1862. Hiram Ethridge was the first postmaster. It was made a railroad station in 1871. At the time that Givin was laid out it was on land owned by Mr. Brewer. As stated above Harry Brewer was one of the very early comers to this township and entered one hundred and sixty acres just east of Givin on the hill where himself and his good wife patiently wrought, raising their family and maintaining a generous and orderly home. It was an informal home but always having an air of restful hospitality. Like many such western homes it was founded in open-hearted pioneer spirit and so remained until both father and mother were laid to rest in Forest cemetery. The old farm is now owned and occupied by the youngest son of the family, Harry A. Brewer.

The early settlers greatly dreaded the venomous bite of the ratlesnake. Whiletherewere comparatively few deaths resulting from its poison, whenever there was a victim the whole community held its breath until the danger was past. Every family had near at hand its home remedies to counteract the poison until the services of a physician could be secured, which was always done in the greatest possible haste. E. D. Brewer relates an instance which occurred in his father's family. His brother George chanced to have been bitten by one of those dreaded reptiles. His father at once saddled a spirited young horse, a favorite of the family, and riding to John Harper's, his closest neighbor

(neighbors in those days meant much more than it has come to mean in these later years), he told Mr. Harper to bring a doctor in the fewest possible minutes, even if it cost the life of his valiant charger. Mr. Harper covered the six miles to Oskaloosa in just twenty minutes. and fortunately found Dr. Rhinehart sitting in his buggy ready to make a call somewhere in the country. He gave the Doctor the same message and in another twenty minutes both were at the Brewer home. Whether by the skill of the good doctor or the potency of the home remedies which had been applied in the meantime, or both, the boy was saved. We doubt if our marvelous telephone could equal this record for swiftness.

MUCHAKINOCK.

This place took its name from the creek on which it is located. The work means muddy water and is of Indian origin. It is now a mere village, but twenty-five years ago it was the home of two thousand people, mostly colored. who worked in the coal mines. In 1873 the large coal fields in this section came into the possession of H. W. and W. A. McNeill and under their management reached an unexpected development. Between four and five thousand acres of land lying in East Des Moines and Harrison townships were mined, averaging the owners at least one hundred dollars per acre without entirely destroying the lands for farming purposes. Muchakinock was the center of these operations. In 1881 the stock of the coal company controlled by the McNeill brothers was sold to the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company for \$500,000. The company extended a branch of its railroad from Belle Plaine into these coal fields and built a depot and railway yards at Muchakinock. These mining operations were a great source of income to the people of Oskaloosa and Mahaska county because of the thousands of dollars that were continually changing hands in the community. With the extension of the road to Buxton and other coal fields across the Des Moines river Muchakinock has almost ceased to exist.

CHAPTER XXI.

HISTORY OF GARFIELD AND HARRISON TOWN-SHIPS.

GARFIELD.

Until 1882 this township was the west half of Oskaloosa township and has been closely associated in its history with the life of the city. In that year Spring Creek and Garfield townships were created and Oskaloosa township was confined to the city limits. Garfield township was named in honor of James A. Garfield, the brilliant statesman who was elected President of our republic of states in 1880. Robert Seevers, one of its pioneer farmers, was the first man to introduce Merino sheep and also to bring a herd of shorthorn cattle to this county. Henry Prine, S. L. Pomeroy and W. T. Smith, of this township, were among the progressive stockmen of the county. Garfield has for years had large coal mining interests. The township has two hundred and thirty-five farms whose value with its town lots is \$236,-565. The value of its personal property is \$53,-149. It has a population of 1,800 persons.

BEACON.

Beacon is a village located on section 27, two and one-half miles southwest of Oskaloosa, in Garfield township. It was laid out in 1864 under the name of Enterprise. On the completion of the Keokuk & Des Moines Railroad it was called Oskaloosa Station. About the year 1863, when Hiram Ethridge was postmaster at Givin, he opened a coal shaft at Beacon and

quite a community sprang up. They applied for a postoffice but were denied one because of their nearness to Givin and Oskaloosa. As Mr. Ethridge's interests were mostly at Beacon and it had the prospect of growing more rapidly, he decided to use his authority as postmaster and without any consultation or petition he went down to Givin one Sunday on a handcar and took the postoffice effects from the home of Harry Brewer, where it was kept, and brought it up to Beacon. The Givin community reported the matter to the postoffice department and in a short time received a second commission which deprived Beacon of an office. A second application to the department from Beacon brought a reply that their petition would be granted, but not under the name of Beacon, because there was at that time another office by that name in the state. This brings us to the year 1864, when the village and postoffice were founded under the name of Enterprise, which was changed some years afterward to its present name. E. J. Evans was the first postmaster. Beacon has been quite a business center in the past. Since the mines have been worked out adjoining it, its population has decreased. It has three churches, several general stores and good schools, with a population of about six hundred.

EVANS.

Evans is located in section 17, on Muchakinock creek. It was first called Elida, being the
name of the coal company which first began
operations there. When the postoffice was established it was named for D. J. Evans, whose
land was among the first to be mined. Mr.
T. J. Evans was the first postmaster. The
railroad men called it Knoxville Junction because of its being located at the crossing of the
two roads leading north and west. Evans has
been for years the center of the operations of
the American Coal Company, which, until re-

rently was owned and operated by W. A. Me-Neill. The population of the place has fluctuated with the coal development.

Bolton, a new mining town in sections 30 and 31, has a population of several hundred vorkmen and bids fair to become quite a vilage. It took its name from Mr. J. B. Bolton, he originator of the enterprise.

HARRISON.

Harrison is one of the four townships in the outhern tier of the county. It was laid out by Myin and William A. Burt in June and August, 1843, and its section lines were run by iovernment Surveyor George Wilson in the vinter of the following year. It was named or General William H. Harrison, who was lected President of the United States in 1840 y the whigs. He had lived among the pioieers of the west for more than forty years nd was loved by the western people. His party adopted the log cabin as their campaign ymbol. It was an extremely exciting campaign and quite demoralizing on account of the arge quantities of cider and liquors which were lrank at the rallies. This drinking was inended to symbolize the pioneer hospitality of he old hero, but many a young man dated the beginning of his intemperate life to the hard ider revels of that campaign.

This township has but little timber, its rich oil consisting mostly of rolling prairie. The coundaries of the township fixed in 1844 have een unchanged. The first elections were held to the home of Samuel Tilbets. The first white man's cabin ever built in the county was located in the south part of Harrison.

Of the large number of settlers in the early 40s but few remain. R. W. Moore, of Cedar, 8 perhaps the only man now living in the town-hip who was here in 1843. His father, J. F. Joore, staked out his claim in that year. James Spurlock, Jesse Newell, Samuel Cole, father of

Dr. D. L. Cole, and J. D. White are all spoken of as men whose lives and influence are still at work in that community. They had some ability as religious teachers and kept up meetings in their own and other neighborhoods, affording regular gatherings for the settlers, and trained their neighbors to the highest and best citizenship. Mahlan Thomas and his brother Benjamin were also here in 1843. Dr. Ross, who lived some miles east of Eddyville, is remembered as a useful man in the early years.

The first schoolhouse was built on the Jesse Newell farm and Thomas Ross, a brother of the Doctor, taught the first school, in 1846. He served also as township clerk. Each settler contributed his share of the logs and work to put up the schoolhouse, which soon came to be used as a church. It was called the Newell schoolhouse. In the early '50s James Allison bought out Jesse Newell, who went to Jefferson county, Kansas, and founded Oskaloosa, Kansas, which is now the county seat of that county. Families were trained in that school who went to make new homes in different parts of the west. Its successor is now known as Round Top school.

William H. Buffington, Joseph Funk, Silas and William Scott, Franklin Wall and T. R. Gilmore (afterward state senator) came into the township a little later. On the west side of the township were Samuel Vance, Butler Delashmutt, William Frederick, D. D. Miller, M. M. Davis and others.

A full grown bear was killed on the William Frederick place by Delashmutt and Frederick in the early years. In the battle for its life the bear killed one of Delashmutt's favorite hunting dogs, much to the chagrin of the old hunter.

Cedar chapel was built in 1869 and the post-office established in 1873. R. W. Moore was the first postmaster and gave the village its name. Some years later, when Wright station began to grow, there was an effort made to move the Cedar postoffice to Wright. When

Mr. Moore and others learned of the move they circulated a petition for the establishment of an office at Wright and recommended the name to the postoffice department because of the number of persons by that name in the community. The request was granted and J. A. Baitsell was made postmaster.

Wright is located in the corners of four townships and is in the center of an intelligent community.

Pekay and Lost Creek, in the south part of the county, are mining camps of varying population and activity. The latter place is operated by the Lost Creek Fuel Company and is ten miles southeast of Oskaloosa.

On January 24, 1902, there occurred an explosion in one of the shafts, which killed twenty and wounded fourteen men. It was the greatest catastrophe that has ever occurred in the annals of the mining industry in Iowa.

The explosion was produced by a shot fired by Andrew Pash in room No. 10 at mine No. 2. He was among the dead. A fund of almost \$3,000 was shortly afterward raised by special donations for the widows and orphans who were left penniless and homeless by this fatal accident.

Harrison township is rich in coal beds and several tragedies have occurred in the mining districts. A disaster which shocked the entire state occurred on the farm of William G. Briggs on the morning of August 12, 1871. A coal shaft had been dug a few hundred yards below the house. It was thirty-two feet deep and eight feet square, a ladder leading down to the bottom of the shaft. The water which accumulated in the opening was used for stock water and drawn by a bucket with horse power. Two sons of Briggs, Mahlon, aged eighteen, and Charles, aged ten, went out to the shaft on this morning to water the stock. While they were there a neighbor boy named Jimmie Cowden came along looking for some stray hogs, and was assisting them. The water was quite low in the shaft and the bucket failing to fill as usual, Charles, the younger boy, was sent down to fill it by dipping. He had only reached the bottom of the shaft when he called to his brother that he was suffocating, and Mahlon went immediately to his rescue, put his brother in the bucket, got in himself and called to the boy to draw them up, which he did at once, with the aid of the horse. But just as the bucket was approaching the top with its precious burden, voung Cowden noticed Mahlon grow faint, and losing his hold, he fell to the bottom. Charles was raised out, but insensible. The boy then called to William G. Briggs, the father, who was within hearing distance. He ran to the shaft and down the ladder, perhaps only thinking there had been an accident. Seeing his mistake, he started out but was overcome and fell into the water. Young Cowden then ran across a field more than half a mile to where there was a threshing crew, to give the alarm. On his way he met Anna Briggs, a fourteen-vear-old daughter, running to the shaft, and warned her not to descend into the shaft. But while he was gone the girl shared the fate of her father and brothers. George Briggs, a brother of William G. Briggs, was the first to reach the mouth of the pit, and being confident of his ability to do what he had done many times before, descended the ladder to his death. Edward Grier, an Irishman who hadworked in the family for four years, arrived with the crowd a little later and could not be dissuaded from going down. The crowd wanted to tie a rope around him, but in the excitement he would not wait, and shared the fate of those whom he had tried to rescue. Grappling hooks were obtained as soon as possible and the bodies raised. Six lives had been snuffed out inside of perhaps an hour, almost an entire family. William G. Briggs had been put forward by the citizens of his township as a candidate for the state legislature. On the morning of the accident he had stepped out of his door on his way to attend the township primary, holding the poll books in his hand. On hearing the confusion at the coal shaft he hastily laid them down and responded to the call for help which ended in such a thrilling tragedy.

Harrison township has 336 farms, whose value is \$290.978. The value of personal property is \$59,705. The corporate limits of the city of Eddyville extend across the county line into this township, adding about one hundred to its population, making the population of the entire township 1.600.

CHAPTER XXII.

HISTORY OF JEFFERSON, LINCOLN, MADISON AND MONROE TOWNSHIPS.

JEFFERSON.

This township was surveyed as a township and divided into sections by William Dewey in the winter of 1844-5. Although we have no definite knowledge as to the origin of the name, it is generally conceded that this township was named for Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the United States, the author of our decimal system of coinage and the writer of the Declaration of Independence. It is the southwest corner township, and was for a number of years after its settlement isolated by the Des Moines river. Moses Nowels, Hiram Covey and A. Flanders were among the first settlers in Jefferson. They came in April, 1843, and each staked off his claim on the memorable first day of May of that year. Van B. Flanders was the first white child born in the township. For several years they reached Oskaloosa, the nearest postoffice, by swimming

their horses across the river and taking the wagon and its load across in a canoe. Mr. Nowels introduced the first fanning mill into the county, having it brought up the river from Keokuk by boat. For a number of years the settlers did not aim to raise any grain but corn. When wheat became a part of the annual crop it was treaded out by horses on the threshing floor, or beaten out with the flail in the hands of the hardy frontiersman, and cleaned by pouring out the grain while the rapid motion of a sheet in the hands of two persons winnowed the chaff from the wheat, when the breeze was not sufficiently strong to do that work. This fanning mill was a great boon in the neighborhood.

The first school was taught by Mr. George W. Baer, on section 3 in a log schoolhouse. It was a subscription school, and taught about 1846. Jefferson township had rich lands and grew in population rapidly. Among the settlers who came later were Robert Wharton, who has been school treasurer of the township for forty years; Horace Lyman, P. G. Butler. Joshua Way, John Eveland, Thomas Lee, Henry Eveland, J. H. Evans, A. Rogers, John M. Lacev, Nelson Cone and Emanuel Hites. Besides the Des Moines river, Coal creek, Bluff creek and other small streams afford a good water supply. In April, 1843, just prior to the opening of the new purchase. Edward Davis and his eldest son, coming from Illinois, crossed the Des Moines river near where Eddyville is now located, and camped for a time at the mouth of the first creek flowing into the Des Moines on the west side of the river. On account of its high bluffs, they named it Bluff creek. Going some miles further they thought they discovered coal in the bed of the second creek, which they named Coal creek. Reconnoitering still further north along the river, they came to a third small stream which, from the cedar trees growing on its banks, was called Cedar creek. These streams have always borne

the names given them in that early day. Mr. Davis determined to locate on Bluff creek, and returned to its banks and awaited the opening day. Before the day had dawned he had staked off two hundred acres of land which became his home while he lived. Like many of the pioneers, the attachment to the farm became so strong that himself and wife could think of no spot more lovely to them, and chose to be buried in the soil that had nourished them in their lifetime.

Simon Covey, a son of Hiram Covey, was fifteen years of age when he came and is now living in Oskaloosa. He recalls many interesting reminiscences of frontier life. In 1845 his father and A. Flanders took a raft of logs down the Des Moines river to Bonaparte to replenish their supply of flour and meal. He was sent overland with a two-wheeled cart and an ox team to bring back the proceeds of the venture. The home supply of food was very short, and before he got to his destination his keen young appetite had devoured the last morsel, leaving him to make the last day's journey on an empty stomach. According to the custom of the time he jogged on without thinking much about so common a thing as running short of something to eat. About noon a fellow traveler shared his dinner with him. They brought back with them the proceeds of the sale, sixteen bushels of corn meal and two hundred pounds of flour. Mr. Covey says that both his father and mother were teachers in New York, their native state, and his mother taught the first school in Scott township, at Rochester. Their home was only a short distance across the river, and she took her children with her for the day, crossing the river in a canoe. She gave her family a fair education around the home fireside. Mrs. A. Flanders is still living with her daughter, Mrs. Daniel Mattox, on the home farm which her husband staked out on May 1, 1843.

Mining interests in Jefferson township have received a wonderful impetus in the last few years. Buxton, a mining camp of four or five thousand people, lies mostly across the line in Monroe county, but has several hundred of its population in this county. The Durfee mining camp, on sections 19 and 20, has a population of between three and four hundred; White City has five hundred; the Cricket mines have one hundred and fifty, and the Eveland mines about the same population. These mining camps vary in the number of their population as the demand for workmen is slow or active.

The township has 191 farms whose value is \$217.923, and personal property to the value of \$60,307. Its population as last reported by the county auditor was 2,400.

LINCOLN TOWNSHIP.

Lincoln township includes a territory outside of the city of Oskaloosa. The line marking its bounds extends in a somewhat zigzag form about the city, taking in several sections from the northeast corner of Garfield. It was created for the convenience of the property holders adjoining the city limits. It is scarcely necessary to mention that this little township bears the name of the great freedom-loving Lincoln. It has a population of five hundred, with 115 farms, whose value is \$83.626. The value of its personal property is \$69,527.

MADISON TOWNSHIP.

The township lines were run by the government suveyors in 1843, and the section lines four years later. This township received its name from James Madison, who was the nation's chief executive during the war of 1812.

The south fork of the Skunk river divides the township into North and South Madison. The south part of the township was settled first. Samuel Coffin. Jerry Libbey, Greenberry Coffin. Simeon Johnson, Benjamin Crispin, William Windsor, Enoch Shoemake and John Padgett were among the early settlers south of the river. The district north of the river was

for many years a hunting ground. John and Robert Mitchell, Milton Crookham and a few others had things their own way for years, on the north bottom. As already stated, the first school in Madison township was taught by William Laurance, in his town claim cabin. Like all of the early schools it was a subscription school, but well ordered and effective. A spelling school in those days was counted a greater luxury than an opera of today.

The settlers in this part of the county attended the land sales at lowa City, going on foot in companies and banded together under the club laws for protection.

From the earliest period there has been a deep religious sentiment among the people of South Madison. In some instances extreme and radical views have been taught.

The Duncan & Peck mill was started in this township in 1843, and its wheels have been kept moving almost constantly ever since. Sixtytwo years is a long period to have furnished bread to the children of men who have come within its circle. Few if any mills in the county have contributed so much to its civilization and comfort. This mill is spoken of by all the old settlers as the "Upper Mill." A saw mill was in operation at this place before the grist mill started, and it is generally conceded-did the first work of that kind in the county. A quarter of a century ago it was counted a fine piece of property. Of later years it has not aspired to do so extensive a business. It is now owned and operated by J. S. Whitmore.

The people of North Madison have a good shipping point in the village of Lacey on the Iowa Central Railroad, just across the township line. Mrs. Helen Bailey, a daughter of Simeon Johnson, who came to the township in 1847, has written a number of entertaining letters about the early settlement and pioneer customs of those early years. Mrs. Bailey still resides in Madison township in sight of the home owned and occupied by her father's fam-

ily. She has been an intelligent observer, not only of her own neighborhood, but of the great west, from the days when it was a wilderness. These personal observations and recollections are the very best material of which history is made.

MONROE TOWNSHIP.

This township is named for the author of the Monroe doctrine, and is the seventh of our townships which are named for Presidents of the United States.

Among the first settlers were Jacob Johns, James Bridges, Henry Wymore, William Kimberly, John Baker and Thomas Linsley. William Kimberly was a local Methodist Episcopal preacher and a very strong abolitionist. Those who sat under his preaching say that he never closed a prayer without offering a petition for "the poor black brother in bondage." For his views, which were then thought to be extreme, he was subjected to many indignities. These he bore with fortitude and rejoiced to be permitted in his advanced years to see the accursed institution of slavery wiped out. Jacob Johns is said to have been the first man to break the soil. He located on section 13 in the southeastern part of the township, and soon made for himself a good farm, which he enjoyed for many years. All of the pioneers unite in saying that they never spent happier days than in the comfortable old cabins of the early years.

North Skunk river runs diagonally southeast across the township, and Middle creek along the southern boundary. The township is well watered and timbered but has no railroad.

The first school of which we have any record was taught by Henry McMillan in the winter of 1852. He was a brother of the late Dr. B. F. McMillan, of Oskaloosa, and died on the western plains while en route to California in 1859. Like all the schools of that period, it was a subscription schools. The township now has

nine schools. The Center school, on section 21. is the handsomest and best equipped country school in the county. There are also many fine homes and well kept farms. There are several generations of the Brown family in Monroe township. William Brown and Matilda McMillan Brown came to the Spring Valley settlement in 1852 from Knox county, Ohio. They purchased a home on section 21 and while the log cabin was being built they lived in a temporary shelter. The family had been here about six weeks when Mr. Brown took chills and fever and died, leaving a family of seven boys ranging in age from six to twenty-one vears. Mrs. Brown had been a teacher in her earlier life and resolutely completed the home and engaged the Spring Valley school two miles distant, which she taught through the winter. She taught her family by the cabin fireside. She was a constant student herself and her home became the literary center of the neighborhood. Her spirit still lives in the second generation of the well known Brown families in the community. Two of her grandchildren, Justin Brown and Ethel Brown Garrett, son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Brown, are missionaries in China, and Bruce Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Brown, is a preacher of national reputation in the Christian church.

INDIANAPOLIS.

This village was laid out by Willis Baker in 1845. Mr. Baker named it for the capital of his native state, Indiana. James Bridges opened the first store in the place, bringing the goods from Burlington. He was the first postmaster. Mr. Bridges secured a land warrant in Indiana for \$112.50, and turned it in on his 160-acre claim. Land warrants issued to the soldiers of the war of 1812 were quite plentiful and could be had at very moderate prices. Mr. Bridges says that so hungry were the settlers for a trading point that he sold half his stock the day they were unboxed.

Up to twenty-five or thirty years ago Indianapolis was an attractive country village. The decline came when business went to the railroads. It still maintains good schools and churches and is the center of a thoughtful people. The township has a population of 1,000; has 209 farms whose value is \$241,614. The value of its personal property is \$41,801.

CHAPTER XXIII.

HISTORY OF PLEASANT GROVE, PRAIRIE AND RICHLAND TOWNSHIPS.

PLEASANT GROVE.

This township was suveyed about the same time as the other townships of the county, but not settled until 1850.

Amos Holloway, S. Whitaker, Noah Van Winkle, William Hambleton, John Wymore, John Wyatt, John Whitaker Benjamin Murrey were among its early These men, with their families, settlers. came from Ohio and Indiana. After they had erected cabins for themselves they proceeded to provide churches and schools for the growing settlement. The first school was taught by Richard Mayberry. This school was a private enterprise, but two years later the districts were organized under the law and three school houses were built. The township now has eight modern schoolhouses outside of Barnes City.

The township was named from a fine grove of timber which it contained. Coal and limestone are its mineral products. The northern and eastern portions of the township are mostly prairie. North Skunk river runs across the southwest corner, and by its tributaries the lands are well watered and drained.

Dr. Fisher is said to have conducted the first religious services in the township, which resulted in the organization of a Christian church in 1854.

Agricola, a village near the north center of the township, was laid out in the last named year by David Santee. It furnished a home market and trading place for the community until in recent years the coming of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad across the northeast corner of the township changed the center of business to Barnes City.

This village has an excellent school building, which, with its well ordered schools, is the pride of the place. It contains about three hundred population and is well represented with churches and commercial interests.

The township contains 190 farms, whose value is \$223,560, and its personal property value is \$47,909. It has a population of about 1,000 persons.

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP.

This township was originally a part of Madison township and was not separately organized until 1856. It received its name from the fact that there was almost no timber at all on its rich, rolling prairies. For that reason it was among the last townships to be settled and organized. Its homes and farms are now among the most valuable in the county.

Middle creek originates in Prairie township and drains almost its entire surface. It has no rock quarries or coal deposits.

The first settler was John Hiler, a half-blooded negro, who settled on section 3 in 1844. A man named Wallace came next from Indiana in 1845. Alexander Stewart moved from Pennsylvania in 1847, living alone for one year in his claim cabin before his family joined him. A. C. Doze came in 1848. Other settlers followed, locating mostly in the northern sections.

The first schoolhouse was built in 1856 in

the center of section 3, and Jesse Ballinger taught the first school. Shortly after the close of this term of school this young man professed the Mormon faith and took up his march to Salt Lake, where he has since made his home.

The first sermon is said to have been preached in the same year at the home of Levi Stewart, by John Curry, a Baptist minister from Virginia.

As the demand for public lands grew the township became the home of enterprising farmers who had learned the value of good prairie lands. The first election was held April, 1856, at the home of Jesse Grace on the southwest quarter of section 8. Alexander Stewart and T. B. Campbell were elected justices; Jesse Grace, assessor, and John McCrery, clerk. The trustees were Levi Stewart, P. Heitsman and J. R Jackson. Milton Crookham was elected constable and Robert W. Oldham and Alexander Morton supervisors. The oath of office was administered by J. B. Stewart, Esq., who was then a resident of Union township. Though the last to be organized Prairie is now one of the richest and best townships in the county.

The village of Taintor is located on section 6, of the Newton branch of the Iowa Central Railroad, and affords a trading point and market for the farmers of a rich section of country.

The township has 194 farms, whose valuation is \$397.041. Personal property amounting to \$142.190. The entire population is 2,600.

NEW SHARON.

This town was platted July 22, 1856, and is located on sections 13 and 24. After some searching for a suitable name, it was decided that the name of the postoffice should be Sharon. When it was found that Warren county already had an office by that name New Sharon was recommended to the postoffice department and was accepted by all as the name of the town.

Edward Quaintance erected the first building in 1856 and James Winder the second, in which he opened the first store for general merchandise in 1857.

Mr. H. J. Vaik the editor and founder of the New Sharon Star, has written a quite complete history of Prairie township, from which we quote:

"The growth of the town was decidedly slow until the years of speculation, as one of the natural results of the Civil war, which was inaugurated in this country in 1860. Gradually it developed until the close of the war, when the spirit of enterprise and speculation that was swelling every avenue of our commercial system with unhealthy vigor, pushed it rapidly forward. In 1870 the prospect for the early completion of the Central Railroad of Iowa through the town was so flattering that the attention of enterprising men in various parts of the country was directed thereto, and as a result the population of the town increased by hundreds. Like all other towns. New Sharon reached a point when a too rapid growth necessarily received a check. Between the years of '72 and '76 she added more than 400 to her population through emigration alone and could boast of about 900 inhabitants."

New Sharon was incorporated in 1871, the first election being held on October 4th of that year. H. M. Forney was elected mayor. A prohibition ordinance was the first act passed by the council, and the city has always maintained a clean record on the liquor question.

The city has had two severe fires in its history, one April 29, 1876, in which the damage amounted to \$30,000, and another December 14, 1886, resulted in a loss of \$16,000.

It is a good trading point, being well represented in the various lines of business. It has an electric light plant, a good system of water works, substantial business buildings and elegant homes.

Its present population is 1,300, and a large per cent of them are church-going people. The denominations represented are Friends, Methodist, Christian, Presbyterian and Baptist.

They have a fine school building and employ the best talent in their teaching force.

RICHLAND TOWNSHIP.

Richland township is in the northwest corner of the county. The name was suggested by William Laurance, who came in 1843, because of the productiveness of its soil. Its section lines were run in 1845 by James Grant, who afterward became a leading attorney, a district judge and a man of wealth. In the draft of his surveys among the county records are found located the claim of George Buckley, who was the first settler in the township, and built the first cabin about one mile west of the town of Peoria.

J. E. Godby, L. Miller, J. James, Thomas Baldwin, Moses Wasson, L. Osborn, Powell Bush and William Laurance are among the first settlers.

Moses Wasson was the first justice of the peace of the township, having been elected in 1846.

The first school in the township was taught by Miss Mary Westlake in 1847 in a log cabin belonging to T. Baldwin. The second was conducted by Warren Lathrop.

The Methodist Episcopal church in Peoria, built in 1856, was the first church. The first religious services, however, were held in George Westlake's cabin some time prior to the building of the church.

The very early settlers went to Whistler's mill, southeast of Sigourney, on North Skunk. A majority, however, went to Duncan's mill, where a register was kept of each grist and applications for grinding were waited on in the order in which their names appeared on the record. It is said that work was thus engaged

for two more weeks for a constant run day and night. This scarcity of mills, however, was only temporary. The Robert Warren mill was built on South Skunk in the southwest portion of the township and did a good business in its day.

Near the center of the township the village of Peoria is located. It was laid out May 21, 1853. by Theodric Spain on land owned by himself, George Westlake and Sanford Haines. The Hollanders have absorbed almost everything in that part of the township. There is a Methodist and Christian church, but they have fallen into decay for want of support. The best farm lands are in the northern and eastern portions of the township. The southwestern portion is broken and covered with timber. There are excellent quarries of building stone near Peoria. From these quarries some fifty years ago Jasper county obtained stone to build a courthouse. Granville, located on section 1, was also laid out by Theodric Spain. It served as a neighborhood trading place in the early years, but the business has gone to the railroads. Richland township now has ten schools. At least half of its population are Hollanders. who are among its best citizens. It has two hundred and twenty-two farms, whose value is \$218,060, and personal property to the value of \$48,991. Its last reported population was L.200.

CHAPTER XXIV.

HISTORY OF SCOTT, SPRING CREEK, UNION, WEST DES MOINES AND WHITE OAK TOWNSHIPS.

SCOTT.

As originally surveyed, Scott township was a full congressional township, but in more recent years almost the entire southern tier of

sections which are south of the Des Moines river have been set off into Jefferson township. It is known on the surveys as No. 75 north of 17 west of the 5th principal meridian. The Des Moines river cuts off the southwest corner of the township. Along the river in the southwest portion it is somewhat rough and there is an excellent growth of walnut, white oak and other timbers. In the north and west are undulating prairies, rich and productive. Dr. E. A. Bover, one of the very earliest settlers in the township, sold \$12,000 worth of black walnut lumber from his river lands on the Des Moines. When the township was organized it was named Jackson by the county commissioners. In the election of 1852, when Scott and Pierce ran for president, the township east a solid vote for the Mexican war veteran. When making the election returns to the county officials, Dr. Boyer requested that the name of the township be changed to that of Scott, not appreciating the democratic name. When asked for the petition he called attention to the solid vote in his returns. The board so accepted the election returns and granted his request. Mrs. Hiram Covey taught the first school in the township, at Rochester. The house was a well built structure for its day and served the district for several generations.

Among the very early settlers in this township were Dr. E. A. Bover, Van B. Delashmutt, Jacob H. Majors, John Majors, Joseph Tally, R. Garden, John Thompson and J. E. Utter. There were numerous settlements along the river from the first. In the summer of 1843 when everything was new and wild and occasional bands of Indians were passing through the country, several families, after locating their claims, built their cabins on Dr. Boyer's place in a circle for better protection and lived in common for the first year or two. They called their settlement "the Phalanx." Of this primitive community we have the name of Dr. Boyer, a man by the name of Norton, and John Pope, with their families, and two single men, George and John Rose. There were doubtless others whose names have not come down to us. During the first years there was abundance of game along the river. Dr. Boyer was a hunter of that period, always keeping choice hunting dogs and a spirited horse for the chase. During the first year he shot ninety-three wolves. Mr. R. L. Garden, of Tracy, has done valuable service in quite a number of well written descriptive letters of the early history of Scott township. He is the son of the pioneer, R. Garden, and has been an interested observer of its growth and development from the beginning. Of the old town of Bellefountaine Mr. Garden writes:

"The first town in Scott township was laid out at Talley's Ford, on the west bank of the Des Moines river, by Nathan Gregory and Ezra 11. Thissell, August 24, 1846. The first log cabin erected was by Ezra Thissell, with a log shed addition. One room was a residence and the addition for a store room. Mrs. Malinda Thissell was the first woman to live in the town and to her was given the honor of naming the town, which she named Bellefountaine, that being the name of a town in Ohio, near which she had resided before moving to Iowa.

Thissell opened a grocery store, which was a big boom for the settlement. It is not generally known, but true, that when the fifth general assembly, which convened at Iowa City on December 4, 1854, passed an act to relocate the state capital, that when the first ballot was taken on a new location, Bellefountaine came within one vote of being the choice and securing the location."

Doubtless this vote was influenced by the large calculations, then thought to be perfectly feasible, of making the Des Moines river a navigable stream the year round by means of a system of dams and locks at different places along its course. Rochester had been selected as the point in this county where there was to be built a succession of dams for slack water

purposes, and locks through which the boats might pass with an abundant supply of water.

As late as 1858 steamers made regular trips up the Des Moines river. James Hayes, who came to this county in 1856, had charge of Gateleys ferry during the summer of the first named year, and states that twelve boats passed up and down the river regularly. Among them were the following vessels: Clara Hine, Alice Skipper, Emma Harmon, Defiance, Michigan City, Des Moines City and the Des Moines Bell.

Bellefontaine had a hotel and several general stores in its more prosperous years, but necessarily retrograded with the coming of the railroads.

In the year 1846 Joseph Tally built and operated a ferryboat at the new village for the accommodation of westward travel. Prior to this time all transportation of travelers with their wagons and goods was made with a skiff and the horses or oxen swam the stream. This ferry boat was operated by means of poles and oars for some time, when it was changed into a rope ferry.

One of the clearest headed pioneers we have consulted states that the first appropriation for a highway made in Mahaska county was made by Judge Crookham in the early '50s for a rope to be used on the Bellefountaine ferry.

The village of Rochester, further down the river, was laid out by John Wright on October 26, 1850. About this time there was a great air line railroad route projected from Muscatine through Iowa, known as the Mississippi & Missouri River Railroad. In its survey through Mahaska county it was to cross the Des Moines river at Rochester. There was a good boat landing and quite a good country trade at its stores. In the late '50s Dr. Boyer ran a general store, both at Rochester and Bellefountaine. State Bank, had charge of both stores at different times. Marion White also had a store. The village never attained any prominence.

Olivet, a village located on section 9, is a station on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad. The village took its name from the Olivet Presbyterian church, which had been organized several years before. The village was laid out in 1877. The first house was erected by William Sumner, who also opened the first store. Samuel Casey was the first station agent and 11. D. Ross was the first postmaster. The village never made much growth, and now contains ten or a dozen families.

Scott township has some rich coal mines. It has seven schoolhouses. The county poor farm is located on section 24, in this township.

The township has 221 farms, whose value is \$169,669, and personal property to the value of \$33,407. Its present population is 1,200.

SPRING CREEK TOWNSHIP.

This township took its name from the creek flowing through it, which in some part is sustained by a number of springs along its banks. Until 1882 what are now Spring Creek, Oskaloosa, Lincoln and Garfield townships, were known as Oskaloosa township.

Poultney Loughridge, John McAllister, Edwin and Robert Mitchell and Patterson Martin were among those who staked off their claims by torchlight May 1, 1843. Poultney Loughridge was the founder of the United Presbyterian church in Oskaloosa. It was organized in the first schoolhouse built in the county, in about 1847. For a number of years services were held during the winter in his cabin and in the summer in the open groves.

Thomas Stafford and family came in the summer of 1843. Mr. Stafford belonged to the Society of Friends and formed a nucleus for quite a large settlement of those of his own religious views. The first Friends meeting house in the county was built in that settlement. In later years a building was erected and an academy

established which finally led to the establishment of Penn College. The first Friends vearly meeting in lowa was held in Spring Creek grove in 1863. Just how much of all these beneficent results is tracable to the life and character of Thomas Stafford it is difficult to tell, but the influence of the life of a man with a conviction grows like leaven. Mr. Stafford refused to become a member of the claim association because he was conscientiously opposed to its contemplated violent measures. Nevertheless the association gave him the same protection which they took to themselves. William Stafford's marriage to Miss Eliza Stanley was the first marriage in the township. The first birth was that of John Mitchell in 1844.

The first schoolhouse in the county was built and the first school taught in this township in the fall and winter of 1844 by Miss Semira A. Hobbs. A more complete account of this school is given in another chapter. The township now has ten schools.

In the summer of 1862 there occurred a freak in the big bend of the Skunk river, a description of which is worthy the pen of John James Audubon, the ornithologist. We refer to an old-time pigeon roost. It is the custom of these birds to repair in countless numbers to a selected spot in the forest and make it a rendezvous for a sufficient length of time to hatch and rear their young. This year they gathered on the Skunk river about four miles east of Oskaloosa on the William K. Sopher farm. Their roost covered between forty and fifty acres of timber land on both sides of the river. They covered the trees like swarms of bees. There was a never-ending roar and din that could be heard for miles away, especially in the evening on the return of the flocks from their foraging excursions through the day hundreds of miles away. Those who lived only a few miles away say that the noise was like the roar of a cataract or an approaching hurricane. Branches of the trees were constantly swaving and breaking

under the weight of the settling myriads that were constantly circling in the air or lighting on the tree tops. They came in such numbers as to darken the sun. Pandemonium reigned at the roost day and night. Out of such an aggregation of flocks, amounting to millions of individual birds, the air was constantly filled with the screams and fluttering of the wounded, the greetings of the incoming flocks and the departure of others. The constant fatalities of the living, and the falling of broken branches kept up a constant roar and confusion. Those who visited the roost killed pigeons and young squabs by wagon loads with clubs and poles. They were sold in the villages and towns about the country until there was no market for them. Naturalists tell us that these swift-winged little creatures will fly a mile in two and a half minutes and will keep it up for hundreds of miles. They assemble at these roosts for the annual hatching and rearing of their young, which grow into maturity in a few months and swell the vast migratory throng. The following year several hundred came back to the old roost for a time, but the gathering described above was the only genuine pigeon roost that ever occurred in the history of Mahaska county since the coming of the white man.

Spring Creek township has a number of rich coal mines. In the early '90s the mining village of Carbonado, several miles northeast of Oskaloosa, was a busy camp with a varying population for a number of years until the coal in the vicinity was worked out. The north half has been covered with timber and is somewhat broken, while the south portion is a rolling prairie. The township has 324 farms whose value is \$280,475, and personal property to the value of \$69,906. Its population is 1,600.

UNION.

When this township was first formed it comprised five congressional townships, viz.: Union and Pleasant Grove in Mahaska, and

Union, Jackson and Deep River in Poweshiek county. Hence its name. In the organization of Poweshiek county the last-named three townships went with it, and Pleasant Grove was organized in January, 1850, leaving Union the ordinary sized township containing thirtysix square miles and known as township No. 77 north of range 15 west of the 5th principal meridian. The township lines were run by Alvin Burt in July, 1843, and the section lines by Stiles C. Carpenter in October, 1847. The North Skunk river runs diagonally across the township from the northwest. Except in the southern sections the country is somewhat broken and was originally covered with timber. There are, however, very few farms that are not rich and productive. The very first settlers were John Morrison, Jacob Klinker and Jesse Moore. Among those who came a little later were John and James Widows, Nathan Brown, Jacob Dalby and Isaac N. Griffith near the county line, and farther south were the Bradshaws, John Graham, Robert Telford, John Deardorf, David, James and Reuben Kisor, Daniel Rogers, John McMaines, Benj. Groves. Auderson James, Fred Weimer and others.

The books of original entry among the county records show that the first lands purchased from the government in this township were the following: October 9, 1848, by Simeon Johnson, a part of section 1. Same date, by R. B. Ogden, a part of section 4. October 12, by Joshua Gorsuch, a part of section 11, Same date, Robert Telford purchased section 12. The first school was taught by Mrs. Dr. Fry, on section 11, and the next at Union Mills. This village was laid out by Jacob Weimer in 1849, and called Middletown, on account of its being about half way between Montezuma and Oskaloosa. Later the village took the name of the mills which were built by Mr. Weimer and C. Brolliar. Several stores sprang up and flourished on account of the patronage at the mills. At one time there was a carding mill and a

chair factory attached to the mill. A postoffice was established in 1855. The old mill and the village are things of the past. The abundant timber lands were inviting for wild game in the early years. Mrs. David Kisor recalls many pleasant memories of the log cabin days. One afternoon while sitting at her cabin window she saw a herd of deer pass quietly by the cabin window and out into the range. Like most of the pioneers the good old lady resolutely clings to the old home place where herself and her husband spent their happiest days and from which the family have gone out to found homes of their own. We are told that somewhere back in the late '40s three young men lost their lives during a flood in the river, and these were among the first who were buried in the beautiful cemetery grounds near Union Mills.

Some thirty years ago James Stiles Chew and others were instrumental in purchasing Bethel Grove, located on section 11, and having it deeded to the Methodist Episcopal church forever for camp meeting purposes. A chapel has been erected on the ground and the place serves as an inviting gathering place for the neighborhood. Since its purchase the community has changed, and but few members of that church remain, but the terms of the deed are unalterable, and as long as there is someone to see that the tax is paid, it must remain the property of the church who first accepted it. There is a good Methodist Episcopal clinrch on section 33, known as the Fairview church. The neat frame church standing on the eminence at Union Mills belongs to the Christian church. An organization of this church was formed here back in the '60s by N. E. Cory.

Union township has 225 farms, whose value is \$231,404, with personal property valued at \$54.819. Its population is 1,200,

WEST DES MOINES.

The settlement and history of this township are closely connected with East Des Moines

because it has only existed as a separate organization since 1885. Among its old settlers are: A. Brundage, John B. Thomas, Henderson England, J. P. McCrea and John Taylor.

Recent years have brought great developments in the coal fields in that part of the county. The Northwestern Railroad has extended its branch as far west as Buxton, which is a large mining center, almost wholly across the line in Monroe county.

Lakonta is the only postoffice in the township. It contains a population at present of about one hundred and fifty, but is growing. It has two general stores, a blacksmiths shop and a lumber yard. The large railroad yards located here require the constant services of three engines. The yards have eight or ten miles of track and are still enlarging.

This township has 111 farms, whose value is \$109.957. The value of its personal property is \$25.312, with a population of 700.

WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP.

White Oak township took its name from the abundant timber of that name predominating along the South Skunk river, which runs diagonally across the township. Among the first settlers in the township were Mexander Troy, M. Kinsman, Henry Bond, William Bridges, James Stanfield, John and William Butler, John N. Kinsman and others. On each side of the river channel for several miles the land is quite broken and has been pretty heavily timbered. There are seven or eight hundred acres of low lands which are not tillable, but valuable for their timber and pasture.

Rose Hill is located on sections 3 and 10, and was laid out on the completion of the Oskaloosa branch of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific to Oskaloosa in 1875. It is located about ten miles east of Oskaloosa. The first business house was built in that year by Baily & Stubbs. It prospered for a time and was incorporated in 1877. The postoffice was established in 1876 with H. L. Orr as first postmaster. It has sev-

eral good general stores, a bank, three churches, a good school and is a good market for the rich farming country of which it forms the center. There are a number of well kept homes, but the population is not more than about 250.

Where White Oak postoffice now stands William Bond built a crude saw mill in the beginning years, to help the settlers make a better use of some of the fine timber in its then quite extensive forests. The power was produced by the treading of a team of oxen. Because of the presence of these faithful creatures it took the name of Oxford. Then for a change it was called Slabtown for a time. It is said that in the early years several acres of ground were laid out in town lots and a number of buildings were erected. Later a steam engine was used. A pair of corn crackers were added to the mill, and it did grinding for the community. O. R. Gaskill ran a blacksmith shop, to which he added a few groceries to accommodate his trade. His stock began gradually to grow until it developed into a good general store in which he continued to serve his neighbors as postmaster and storekeeper for some twentyfive years.

The first school in the township was taught by Miss Sarah Kinsman. It is the persons who do the unusual things that find a place in history. S. M. Peddichord came from Kentucky in 1854. He was a wheelwright by trade, and constructed a lathe run by foot-power by the use of which he made chairs and the old-fashioned spinning wheels for the spinning of flax and wool for the neighborhood. Some of the chairs of his manufacture are still in use in the township. Currier's mill, located on section 7. has served several generations with flour, corn meal and other milling products. Near the postoffice is located White Oak church, and back of it the cemetery grounds. The Indian village of Kish-ke-kosh stood where Oscar Mc-Curdy's barn now stands, and just east on the hill was their graveyard, where they buried their dead. The settlers who came very early made use of the bark huts which they found still standing. Henry Bond lived in one of these huts until he got his cabin built. The dense woods and thickets of this township were a favorite resort for the pioneer hunter. He was almost sure to find game. This may have been the reason for the Indians locating their village here. White Oak township contains 277 farms valued at \$193.774, with personal property worth \$38,891. Its population is 1,800.

CHAPTER XXV.

EARLY OX ROASTS—MISSIONARIES FOLLOWED EARLY SETTLERS.

In the early days an ox roast was counted a great event. This luxury was only announced on occasions when the interest was at the highest pitch and a great crowd was expected. Our younger readers may be interested to know some of the particulars of such an event. We give them as they came to us from an enthusiastic pioneer, who participated in these occasions. A local committee where the feast was held had charge of the details. The day preceding the roast a trench was dug some ten or twelve feet long, four or five feet wide and as many deep. On the night previous, or early the next morning, a fire was built in this trench and kept burning until a heavy bed of coals was formed at the bottom. Then the ox was killed and dressed and cut up into pieces of convenient size, then laid on bars of iron which were placed across the trench over the bed of coals. The master of this part of the service watches the beef while it roasts, turning it with a pitchfork. When thoroughly cooked it is placed on improvised tables and everyone present was welcome to help themselves.



WEST SIDE OF PUBLIC SQUARE 1864. OSKALOOSA.



Such a banquet as this was held on July 3, 1853, Independence day coming on Sunday. It was made the occasion of the laying of the corner stone of the old Normal School building, as well as a Fourth of July celebration. Ferris Goodwin superintended the ox roast on this occasion. His son, James Goodwin, who lives near Rose Hill, has a distinct recollection of the event. Two thousand five hundred people are said to have been present and the event was considered the beginning of better things in an educational way for Oskaloosa. M. T. Williams read the Declaration of Independence and William Loughridge and W. H. Seevers were the orators of the day. After dinner there were numerous toasts and responses, among which were the following: "Here's to the goose that grew the quill that wrote the Declaration of Independence," M. T. Williams; "May the toper's bottle speedily be broken and the cause of temperance thrive," by S. S. Stewart. might be well to state that the use of the steel pen is quite a modern invention. Our fathers did all of their writing with a goose quill.

Fifty and sixty years ago all cattle ran out on the prairie. Milk cows usually wore a bell. The blacksmith who could make cow bells added many a shilling to his income. All stock was marked in some peculiar way, generally in the ear—smooth crop, swallow fork, upper bit, under bit or round hole. All of these marks were recorded by the owners with the township clerk, who settled all disputes with reference to the ownership of the stock. There was but one market a year for hogs and that was during the winter months. They were then collected in large droves and driven to the river. Generally to Burlington or Keokuk. They were sold by weight and had to be weighed with a large pair of steelvards. Each hog had to be handled separately. Breeching was improvised to place around the hog and this was hooked to a chain or rope which was fastened to a sweep like those used in lifting

a bucket of water from the well. When everything was ready the weigher said: "Hog up," and up he went until he was ordered down. The weight being ascertained, was recorded, and so the work went on until the weight of each bunch was known and turned into the drove. The accommodations for caring for stock on the road were poor, and the owner had often to spend the night with his hogs to keep them from freezing to death.

In Mahaska county, as in almost all parts of the world, the American missionary followed close on the heels of the first settlers. One of these young men was B. A. Spaulding of sacred memory. In 1866 he was county superintendent in Wapello county and gave the author his first certificate as a teacher in that year. A. J. Comstock says that in 1843, shortly after his father's family had settled in the county, a young man, who was a missionary of the Presbyterian church, came to their home. His father's family all belonged to that church and gave the stranger a cordial welcome. Just at that time his father had gone to Bonaparte to mill, and they were entirely without bread. His mother sent him two and a half miles to a neighbor who lived across the river to borrow some flour. He made the trip afoot, crossing the river on a large drift, but returned without any flour. There was none to be had. Then his resourceful mother went to the bran barrel and, carefully sifting a part of its contents, she obtained a sufficient quantity of pretty good flour to supply bread for the hungry missionary. While that would hardly be possible now, it was then, because of the less perfect method of bolting the flour.

In all great movements for the onward march of civilization the names of the real heroes are often lost sight of until the jostling of the years brings them to the surface. In August, 1843, the Methodist Episcopal conference met at Dubuque. The New Purchase had been open for settlement three months. This conference de-

cided to establish two missions in the new territory and to send young men to occupy the field. The whole district was called the Des Moines River District and extended from Farmington as far northwest as there were any settlements. At that time there was a dearth of names in this region and the name given to the field which afterward became Mahaska county was Muchakinock Mission. The name of the young man assigned to this mission was Joseph T. Lewis. He was the first Methodist preacher, if not the very first herald of the cross, who ever looked after his scattered flock in this new region. Mr. Lewis was a graduate of Woodward College, Cincinnati, Ohio. Trained as he was in the more polished life of the east, he was illy qualified for the hardships and exposure of missionary life in a new country. But he was not wanting in an unselfish and heroic spirit which was willing to endure hardness as a good soldier of Christ. He came on to the field assigned him and did his work faithfully until late in the fall of that He was without a home. The settlements were scattered and the cabins were all small. He had often to swim streams, picket his horse and camp out on the wild prairies with scanty food and covering. It began to tell on his health and his presiding elder, Henry Summers, sent him to Iowa City to teach in a school which the church was fostering there. was more agreeable to this training and culture. He remained in Iowa City a few years and then returned to his home in Cincinnati, broken in health. He lingered for a time and then went down to a premature grave from exposure while at work in the Muchakinock Mission. So the obituary announcing his death stated. It is a pathetic story of a young man who brought his contribution to the new west. We do not know that he organized a single church, but no human wisdom can measure the influence of the seed sown on that virgin soil. He willingly gave his life in the sowing, and

his name should be held in sacred memory by his brethren of another generation. Mr. Lewis was succeeded in his work in what the old records of Dubuque conference called the Muchakinock Mission, by Allen Johnson, who organized the first Methodist Episcopal church in Oskaloosa on October 13, 1844.

In the pioneer days the handling of money was quite a problem for the settler who was fortunate enough to have a sufficient quantity for his actual needs in securing a homestead. The modern banking system was then unknown and impractical in the west. Some interesting stories are told of the means resorted to in order to prevent robbery and preserve the cumbersome coin. E. D. Chew came to Oskaloosa from New Jersey in the spring of 1844 and landed from the boat at Keokuk late in the evening. For convenient handling he had placed \$3,000 in silver and gold coin in a keg and headed it up. He found it almost impossible to take personal charge of his treasure for the night and reluctantly left his ducats lying over night on the wharf with the other household stuff. At the lot sale in Oskaloosa that year he purchased the corner lot southeast of the square, now occupied by the Bertsch-Shurtz drug store, paving therefor \$50. He took a claim of several hundred acres northwest of the fair grounds, covering two farms, now owned by A. E. Caldwell and Fred Butler, which he retained and occupied most of his lifetime. The Caldwell farm changed hands recently at \$125 per acre, and Mr. Butler paid \$175 per acre for his attractive homestead.

Wesley Mettler was one of the industrious citizens of Oskaloosa in the earlier years. He was somewhat eccentric, but not wanting in persistent economy. At one time when his frugality had rewarded him with several hundred dollars in silver coin, he deposited it for safe keeping an old iron teakettle in the back shed kitchen. One morning he was chagrined to find that some thief with a vein of generosity

in his nature had relieved him of just one-half of his treasure. Some years afterward he found himself custodian of more than \$2,000 in gold coin. He owned a good sized farm at that time, just northwest of where the first ward school building is now located. With his usual caution he sought a secure hiding place for his hard earnings. This time he secreted the yellow metal under a near-by hay-stack where he was sure no one but himself would think of looking for money. Occasionally he slipped cautiously over to the place to experience the peculiar satisfaction there is in handling a much prized treasure. All unconscious to himself, his movements had attracted attention and one night his money was stolen. This seemed more than he could bear, and he mentioned his loss to a few of his friends, among them ex-Sheriff Dan Swearingen. To him he gave every clue of which he had any knowledge, and offered him one-half of the beautiful gold pieces if he would by any means secure the money. He did not care for the thief. Mr. Swearingen was not long unraveling the mystery and the money was restored. Hard as it was to part with the coin, the division was made. A thousand dollars was a dear lesson, but Mr. Mettler was exceedingly pleased to have recovered so generous a portion of his earnings with which to begin his old business again.

CHAPTER XXVI.

THE WAR PERIOD—TALLY RAID, SKUNK RIVER
ARMY—PEORIA RIOT.

As in many northern communities during the Rebellion, there was a misguided element in Mahaska county who was not in sympathy with the war measures of President Lincoln and his admirers. Organizations known as "Knights

of the Golden Circle," who held secret meetings and were in communication with similar societies throughout the state, are known to have existed in this county especially along its northern border. In fact, these associations of men were in sympathy with the Southern Confederacy, and were never more light-hearted than when victory came to the Southern army. In a letter to Secretary of War E. M. Stanton, dated March 18, 1863. Governor Kirkwood expresses the belief that these organizations were effected by paid agents of the Southern Confederacy.

On North Skunk river, near Indianapolis, three men were arrested on the charge of treason by the United States marshal. They were Silas Parr, B. A. Smith and Wesley Thomas, all public men. They were brought to Oskaloosa and placed in jail and a company of guards were ordered from Eddyville to prevent the possibility of their friends releasing them.

Some days after their arrest a company of several hundred men gathered and started for Oskaloosa for the purpose of liberating the prisoners. They held a parley on the north side of Skunk river and sent a committee to Oskaloosa to confer with the authorities. Little attention was paid to their presence, and after some threatening remarks of what they intended to do, they returned to their companions and the company dispersed to their homes.

After a short confinement Parr and Thomas were released on the payment of a small fine. Smith, being a man of limited means, was sent to Des Moines to serve out a six or nine months' imprisonment. His friends sent him a purse, but he sent the ransom money to his family, determining to submit to the sentence imposed after which he was permitted to go free.

TALLY RAID.

Confederate sympathizers were known in the north as "Copperheads." They were a badge of half a butternut or a copper cent as a breast pin. Perhaps the most rabid, disloval stronghold in Iowa was over in the forks of the Skunk rivers in Keokuk county, with allies in Mahaska, Poweshiek and Wapello counties. On Saturday, August 1, 1863, when our country was under its darkest cloud a meeting of "Peace Democrats," as they chose to call themselves, was held in a grove near English river, a half mile from the town of South English, which was of strongly Union sentiment. There were several hundred persons at this meeting. Their leading spirit was George C. Tally, a young Baptist minister, whose father was a Tennesseean. He was an open advocate of slavery as a divine institution and a defender of the Rebellion. They had gone to this meeting with arms secreted under the hay and straw in the bottom of their wagon beds. Some republicans were at the meeting and hot words had passed and butter-nut badges had been stripped from a couple of ladies who had displayed them.

Tally was an uneducated man, but endowed with much natural ability as a speaker. this occasion he was the chief speaker. Some of the party had made absurd threats that as they returned they would clean out the town of South English. These facts were made known in town and in the afternoon when the Tally forces were returning home they passed through South English just at the close of a republican meeting and found the entire town armed, making no effort to disguise their weapons. Excitement ran high and the streets were crowded. Tally was in the rear part of the front wagon with a revolver and bowie knife in his hands. The Union element bitterly hated the Copperheads, and taunted them as traitors and cowards. At this all of the company took up their weapons from the bottom of their vehicles and one man discharged, by accident he claimed, one barrel of his piece into the ground. This gave license for the firing to become general. Tally fell dead after firing two chambers of his weapon. One of the horses

drawing the front wagon was shot, which caused the team to run, and the fusillade ceased. Tally was shot three times. Once in the head and twice through the body. A democrat by the name of Wyant was severely wounded, but afterward recovered. Tally was carried to his home in Inka. The revolver and knife which he held in his hands when he received the fatal shots were so tightly clinched that they could only be removed with difficulty after the body reached home. That afternoon and night messengers were sent to adjoining counties to notify sympathizers. By daylight Sunday morning an army of variously estimated at from 500 to several thousand were on their way to a rendezvous agreed upon on Skunk river south of Sigourney. Here they formed a camp and spent the day molding bullets, gathering ammunition and arms. Bill Tally, a cousin of the unfortunate victim at South English, was selected as their leader. This hastily assembled body of men are known in history as the "Skunk River Army." Governor Kirkwood had been promptly notified of the occurrence, and with his usual foresight and activity was ready for the emergency. He at once ordered eleven military companies and a squad of artillery to proceed forthwith to Sigourney, where he himself with three aides met them on Wednesday. The governor made an address at the courthouse to the large assembly who were in waiting. He urged obedience to law, and promised the power of the state to bring guilty parties to justice. The army had called Charles Negus, a prominent Fairfield attorney, to act as their counsel, After a conference with the state authorities he wisely advised the leader of the army of the utter folly of trying to resist the legally organized state authorities. Col. N. P. Chipman was commander of the state guards. When Tally reported to his crude soldiery that they were called upon to disperse or face the state troops without delay, their courage gave way to more mature judgment and they concluded to disband. The temporary encampment was abandoned in as short a space of time as they had gathered. It is estimated that about 150 men from Mahaska county were members of that inglorious mushroom army.

PEORIA RIOT.

On August 22, 1863, a similar occurrence took place in this county, one-half mile west of Peoria, at a democratic rally. Capt. Simon G. Gary and Sergt, A. T. Alloway, both of Company H, Third Iowa Infantry, were in Peoria at that time at home on wounded furlough. Gary had been at this mass meeting in the forenoon and had had some trouble with some parties wearing butternut badges. In the afternoon after indulging in some liquor he returned to the meeting and took with him his comrade, Alloway, from whom he had borrowed a pistol. Capt. James A. Seevers, of Oskaloosa, was the speaker for the afternoon, and A. L. Shangle presided at the meeting. The two wounded soldiers got into an altercation with the disloval element and were persuaded to retire by some of their friends. As they were leaving the grounds a partisan named Mart Myers stepped in front and dared either of them to remove his butternut badge. The hated symbol was at once removed and Alloway and Myers clinched. In the struggle which followed Myers shot Mway, who was unarmed, through the body. Whereupon the soldier, now suffering from a second wound, snatched the weapon from his antagonist and threw him on the ground, and after striking Myers several times with his pistol, he fell to the ground completely exhausted. Immediately after the first shot was fired, it was followed by the discharge of a number of other weapons. Gary was wounded in the wrist and a Dr. Spain received a wound in the leg. Excitement and consternation followed and the meeting broke up. The few republicans present placed Sergeant Alloway in a wagon, but he expired before reaching Peoria. The dead soldier was to have been married in a short time to a cousin of the man who took his life.

Sheriff Frank Alumbaugh and two marshals shortly afterwards arrested Myers and he was placed in the county jail in Oskaloosa. After two lengthy and expensive trials, one in Ottumwa and the other in Albia, in which a hard effort was made by the defense to prove that it was the shot fired by Gary that killed his comrade, the county already having been at a large expense, with no hope of conviction, the case was dismissed, and Myers remained unpunished for his crime. There is not much wonder that such men went unpunished when we remember that it was estimated by Gov. Stone in that year that there were 30,000 members in the disloyal organizations of the state.

RAID ON THE TIMES OFFICE.

The Times was a democratic paper published in Oskaloosa. A. A. Wheelock was its editor. He was of the radical democratic type of that period and in commenting on the death of Alloway he is said to have referred to the murdered soldier as being "only a Lincoln hireling, employed in killing his betters." Several copies of the Times reached his comrades of Company H, Third Iowa Regiment, where they were on duty at Natchez, Mississippi. They were very justly indignant at that kind of journalist reference to their services in behalf of their country. A meeting was called and they decided that Mr. Wheelock should do one of two things, viz.: retract his ultra statement, or accept confederate money for his paper at its face value. Failing to do either of these, his paper should be suppressed just as soon as Company H should reach home. These alternatives were sent to the indiscreet editor by mail. He refused the first two and the soldiers determined to stop the publication of the paper. In March, 1864, a number of troops came home on veteran furlough, and among the number a part of Company H of the Third. At a meeting held at Eddyville, which was at that time the nearest railroad point, quite a number of veterans opposed violent measures; others were bent on carrying out the decision of the company while in camp. A delegation of veterans alighted from the stage at the Madison house and called at the Times office and told Mr. Wheelock they were comrades of Alloway, whose calling he had derided and belittled through his paper. They would be at home for thirty days and requested that his paper should be suspended for that length of time. When asked by what authority, their reply was: "By military authority." Mr. Wheelock stated in the next issue that he had been threatened by soldiers, that he wished no quarrel with them, but if his business was interfered with they would be called upon to settle with the democracy of Mahaska county. The Saturday following this publication was selected by the soldiers to make their work effective. The veterans had all been notified and were present, likewise a goodly number of the Times supporters were in town and were known to be armed. The Times office was near the northeast corner of the square, where the jail now stands. A squad of Company H, Third Iowa, visited the office about two o'clock in the afternoon, and going into the press room they quitly carried to the window everything that was in sight-forms, font and type, and threw it into the street. It was only the work of a few moments, and without touching anything else they met their comrades on the outside. The work was completed without a shot being fired and the suppression of the paper was effectual. Mr. Wheelock left the city and abandoned the field of journalism.

CHAPTER XXVII.

THE WAR PERIOD—KILLING OF THE MARSHALS
—OTHER WAR INCIDENTS.

During the draft of 1864 a number of men were drafted from Sugar Creek township in Poweshiek county, who failed to report themselves to the authorities. Under the law this disobedience to orders caused them to be treated as deserters. On Saturday, October 1, the provost marshal of the fourth district of Iowa sent out two deputy marshals to arrest the drafted men as deserters. These two officers were Captain John L. Bashore, of Centerville, and Deputy Marshal J. M. Woodruff, of Knoxville, whose headquarters were at Oskaloosa. On entering the township just before noon they met Mike Gleason, and thinking him a loyal man, they made some inquiry as to where they would find the drafted men. When they had parted with Gleason, they stopped with James A. Craver for dinner. From Mr. Craver the officers learned of the existence in the township of a somewhat secret organization knows as "Democrat Rangers." As they were known to be well armed the deputy marshals determined to report to Marshal James Matthews, their superior officer, whose headquarters was at Grinnell, before going further in their search.

After dinner they had proceeded only a short distance when they met John and Joe Fleener (relatives of Myers who had shot Alloway in the year previous), and Mike Gleason. The behavior of the men showed clearly to the officers that they were about to have trouble. Bashore sprang out of the buggy with his revolver in his hand and began remonstrating with the three men, saving they had no quarrel with them, but were in search of other citizens of the township. Woodruff remained in the buggy. After a short parley Bashore turned to join his fellow officer and John Fleener leveled a double-barreled shot-gun at the officer and shot him in the back. Woodruff was shot with the other barrel in the chest. A second shot struck him in the face, breaking his lower jaw. His team took fright and ran away, throwing him on his face. While in this position he was shot through the head and instantly killed. Woodruff was murdered where the Hickory

Grove schoolhouse now stands. We have the above brief facts from T. S. Craver, a nephew of J. A. Craver, who was on the ground a short time after the shooting and as a young man took note of every detail. Mr. Craver had six brothers in the army and still lives near the old homestead in Sugar Grove township. Gleason had received so severe a wound in the thigh that he was unable to get away, but had strength enough to approach Bashore and break his gun over the fatally wounded marshal. Bashore lived four or five hours and related all the particulars of the double murder of these union officers. The cowardly Fleeners made good their escape, leaving their confederate to his fate. In a very short time the citizens of the neighborhood, who heard the firing, came to the spot and removed the dead and wounded to the J. A. Craver home which was but a short distance away. Gleason was arrested. According to his testimony, after leaving the marshals in the forenoon, he went directly to Miller's sawmill where there was a meeting of the "Rangers" for drilling that afternoon, it being on Saturday. It seems that the three men named above were delegated by the company to take care of the marshals. Shortly after these United States officers were murdered, several wagon loads of these rebel sympathizers passed the spot where they were lying without offering the slightest assistance. Provost Marshal Matthews ordered two companies of militia, one from Grinnell and the other from Montezuma, and accompanied them himself to the scene of the shooting to assist in making the arrests. On Sunday Gleason and seven others were sent to Oskaloosa under guard. The names of the latter were Andrew Powers and son Joseph, Solomon Watson and son George, John Malony, Allen Daniel and Perry McFarland. Several other arrests were made. A part of them were sent to Davenport. But as sufficient evidence to convict was wanting, they were soon afterwards released. On Monday the bodies of the murdered officers were brought to Oskaloosa. A delegation of citizens met them outside the city. As they were escorted through the streets the church bells tolled and every mark of respect was shown to them as men who had been slain by the spirit of insurrection while at the post of duty. The following day the bodies were removed to Centerville and Knoxvillle, their respective homes. The most diligent search for the Fleener brothers was unsuccessful. They left the country and have never been seen in these parts since. It was quite well known in after years that they went to the frontier in Kansas and ever afterward lived under an assumed name. Mike Gleason, the misguided "Ranger," languished in the Oskaloosa jail for a number of months, awaiting the time when his wounds should be sufficiently healed to be brought to trial. When the trial was completed he was sentenced for a long term in the state penitentiary, from which he never emerged until the day came when he was carried out and buried in a felon's grave.

There were quite a number of quarrels and feuds about over the county at different times. To match the Skunk river army and the democrat rangers, in the north part of the county there was a union organization known as the Border Brigade. The presence of these antagonistic elements, each working in secret and often usurping authority which did not belong to them, made the war period a pretty warm time in Mahaska county. At one time a man by the name of Street, who had been sentenced to imprisonment for treason, was being brought by stage from one of the southern counties in the state on his way to Des Moines. The Skunk river army, who were always threatening but never did anything, passed a resolution to rescue the prisoner as he passed through Oskaloosa. About one hundred armed men appeared in Oskaloosa on the day he was expected and planned to intercept the stage. The authorities were warned of the probable interruption, and bringing with them a company of militia from Eddyville, passed the city by another route and coming in from the north, locked the prisoner in the jail. Seeing the militia the would-be deliverers struck out for home and the prisoner was taken on his way to Des Moines the same night.

Ten companies of infantry were enlisted in Mahaska county, the aggregate of which was about 1,000 men. Besides this number there were some 300 who enlisted in other commands in the state and who were recruited for the ten companies as their ranks became depleted during the progress of the war. This makes a total of 1,300 men who answered the call of patriotism and manfully took their places in soldier array between their home and southern treason.

In 1861 the entire population of the county was about 15,000. In that year four companies were recruited, viz.: Company H, Third Iowa; Company C, Seventh Iowa; Company H, Eighth Iowa; Company C, Fifteenth Iowa. In 1862 the following companies were recruited: Companies C, D, E and K, Thirty-third Iowa, and Company C, Fortieth Iowa. The following year Company I, Forty-seventh Iowa, was enrolled.

The Thirty-third Iowa Infantry contained more Mahaska men than any other regiment. Its place of rendezvous was at the county fair grounds named Camp Tuttle, in honor of Colonel Tuttle, the gallant soldier of the Second Iowa. In the year 1862, when the Thirty-third Iowa was encamped here while recruiting its ranks before going to the south, a company of women were organized to prepare such articles as the soldiers would find useful in their more active service in field and camp life at the front. One of these articles the boys called their housewife. It was a needle-book made like a folding pocketbook, fastened with a flap and button, and contained needles and pins, thread and buttons and such other articles as befitted a soldier's toilet. Among other articles presented to each individual soldier was a copy of the New Testament, given by the Mahaska County Bible Society. These tokens of affection were generally much prized by the men, and we know of some of them who have that Testament yet, and would not now part with it for its weight in gold.

Three companies of this regiment were from Keokuk county and three were from Marion county. The regiment was raised and organized by Colonel S. A. Rice, whose splendid record as a brave commander is a treasured memory of both county and state. It was sworn into service on October 1st, and numbered in all 980 men. The command left the barracks November 20th, marching to Eddyville, where they took the train for Keokuk, thence by steamer to St. Louis and the south, where they spent the winter of 1862-3 in the most active and trying service. The following spring Colonel Rice was placed in command of the brigade of which his regiment formed a part. and Lieutenant-Colonel Mackey became the first officer in the regiment. Elliott W. Rice, a brother of the above, was also a Mahaska county man. He enlisted in 1861 as second sergeant in Company C, Seventh Iowa Infantry. and rose to brigadier-general in 1864.

Captain A. J. Comstock, of Company C. Thirty-third Iowa, was a veteran of the Mexican war, having enlisted October 25, 1848, at Hannibal, Missouri, as a private in the Fourteenth Tennessee Regiment. He was the only Mexican volunteer from Mahaska county. But the treaty of peace had already been signed and the war practically over early in that year. News traveled slowly in those days, and it took some months to reach the north. Mr. Comstock was mustered out in August, 1849.

In 1862 the board of supervisors of Mabaska county passed a resolution offering a ten-dollar bounty warrant, which should be received for county taxes, to all volunteer privates from the county. The offer continued in

force until January, 1863. As in almost all of the loval communities of the north, the ladies of this county contributed much to the aid of the soldiers during the war period. Societies were organized which sent to the front sanitary supplies. Soldiers' widows and orphans were tenderly cared for, the Christian Commission, the Freedman's Aid Commission and all like organizations receiving generous contributions. During the summer of 1864 alone the following subscriptions were made by Mahaska county citizens: Sanitary Commission, \$1,000; Christian Commission, \$1,000; Freedman's Aid Commission, \$1,000; Soldiers' Orphans' Home, \$2,000; making a total of \$5,000 for these beneficent purposes.

A partial report of a committee appointed January 10, 1865, to solicit similar donations shows a total from the different townships of \$3,382.37. In November, 1864, ninety men were drafted into the service from seven townships, who had not filled their quota by enlistments. Only forty-five men were wanted, but it was the custom of the war department to have twice the number drawn, and when a sufficient number of men from a given township had passed the examination, beginning with number one, the others who had been called to report were excused.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

FIRST THINGS IN MAHASKA COUNTY—EAR-LIEST CABIN BUILT IN 1842.

The first cabin built in the territory of Ma haska county was built in the fall of 1842 by William McIllvain. He was a clerk at that time at J. P. Eddy's trading post. By profession an Indian trader and hunter, he secured

his permission to build the cabin from the Sac and Fox Indians, who hung around the trading post. The home was built for the family of John B. Gray, who arrived from Texas in November, and occupied the place until the following spring, when he took a claim just over the county line in Monroe county on a small stream since known as Gray creek. We have this information from the Gray family, and also from Mr. J. H. Melllvain, son of William Melllvain, now in Kansas.

The first judge of Mahaska county was J. A. L. Crookham. His term of service began in August, 1851, and ended in August, 1855.

David Stump was the first surveyor in the county, serving from 1844 to 1846. It fell to his lot to survey the original plat on which the city of Oskaloosa is now located.

The first grand jury in the county held its first session in the hollow, a quarter of a mile north of the square, surrounded by tall prairie grass. This was in the summer of 1844.

The first courthouse owned by the county was built on the northwest corner of the square during the winter of 1844-5. It was a two story frame structure. James Edgar was the contractor.

The first jail was built in 1845. It was built of logs and was located on the old jail site on North A street. After a prisoner named Lester had distinguished himself by boring his way out with a common auger, the building was plated high with iron.

The first school in the county was opened in a rude, doorless log cabin in the timber two miles east of Oskaloosa in September, 1844. It was taught by Miss Semira A. Hobbs, now Mrs. T. G. Phillips, of Oskaloosa.

A. S. Nichols was chairman of the first board of commissioners of the county. The financial affairs of the county were managed by three commissioners. Mr. Nichols had charge of laying out the original plat of the town of Oskaloosa.

He dug the first well in Oskaloosa. Poultney Loughridge, of Spring Creek, dug the first well in the county. The settlers depended on springs for water. Henry Stafford says there was a spring in the early years where the Presbyterian church now stands. When wells began to be dug it ceased to flow.

Mr. Nichols also started the first blacksmith shop in the county. He had customers who came from fifty miles west of Des Moines. There was no shop further west in this part of Iowa.

W. D. Campfield was the first treasurer of Mahaska county. His report for the year 1844 was \$505.63 as a total amount of taxes due. Amount collected, \$361.99, leaving a balance of unpaid taxes of \$143.64

The first appropriation for a public highway in the county was made about 1854 by Judge J. A. L. Crookham for a rope to stretch across the river at Bellefountaine for the use of the ferry boat. The request was made in the presence of John White. While Mr. Crookham hestitated, doubting his authority, Mr. White said to him, "I will stand by you if you make the appropriation." It would be interesting to know the full amount of money that has been appropriated by county and township boards for public highways since that cautious beginning.

The first brick kiln burned in the county was undertaken by Goodwin & Harbour in 1846, over on Spring creek. From this kiln the first brick house in Oskaloosa was built. It still stands the first house south of the Christian church, and is now occupied as a residence.

The first cemetery in the county was located on the ridge southwest of the second ward schoolhouse building. It was known as the Judge John White cemetery in distinction from the second cemetery on north Market street.

The first grave robbed in the county occurred at this cemetery in 1849. A California

emigrant had died and was buried here. An about-town fellow, known as Captain Moore, robbed the grave. It produced a great sensation at the time. Moore fled. He has the odious distinction of being the first grave robber in the county.

The first murder in the county occurred in Adams township, eight miles northeast of Oskaloosa, on Middle creek. It occurred in 1843, before Oskaloosa was born, 'William Johnson, who had a romantic and vicious history, was an outlaw. He always carried fire-arms to resist arrest. His cabin was located in a grove on what is now the Vermillia farm. He had bitter enemies, and one night while he was standing in front of his cabin fire about seven o'clock he was shot, the bullet passing through a crevice in the cabin wall. It was never known just who committed the deed. The next morning a grave was dug beside the cabin and in this the criminal was buried.

Major Neeley started the first livery stable in Oskaloosa. It was located just north of the Oskaloosa dry-goods store. In 1848 Henry Stafford purchased its belongings and moved it to the opera house corner. One day a party passed through town with two large elk. Mr. Stafford conceived the idea of having a team of reindeers and traded a horse for the two. He says he tried every way possible to train them to work with safety in harness, but utterly failed. Mr. Stafford had twenty-three head of horses and liveried as far west as Council Bluffs.

The first marriage license in the county was issued by county clerk M. T. Williams, May 30. 1844, to Samuel C. Nicholson and Eleanor May.

The first bill of divorce found on the records of the county is dated November 15, 1845; in the case of Rebecca Ash versus Thomas Ash. The court granted the petition and declared the complainant to be the injured party.

The first set of naturalization papers granted in the county was issued July 28, 1845.

The first meeting house in the county was built in Oskaloosa in 1846, by the Cumberland Presbyterian church. It was located on the lot now occupied by the residence of Dr. Hugg on First street one and one-half blocks south of the square. This congregation was organized by Rev. B. B. Bonham November 10, 1844, with a membership of twenty-two persons. The bell, which for a long term of years called the worshipers together was brought from Keokuk on a lumber wagon and was so hung in its place on the wagon that it rang all the way when the wagon was in motion. This bell is still preserved as one of the city's relics.

The first hotel built in the city was erected by Charles Purvine, on the Downing House lot in the summer of 1846. Jonathan Ogden was the mechanic. This lot 5, block 19, was sold to Harmon Davis, June 9, 1844, for \$41. Ever since the construction of this first little frame building the property has been used as a hotel for the entertainment of the public.

J. S. Chew came from Philadelphia in 1850. He made and sold the first ice cream ever manufactured in Oskaloosa. He was a man of varied talent; a local preacher, the first man in the county to take up the work of organizing Sunday-schools over the county.

The first teachers' institute ever held in the county was brought about by J. F. Everett, in the summer of 1858. Mr. Everett was then a young teacher in the county. Prof. Enos, of Cedar Rapids was president and Miss Emma Jack, secretary. No records of this institute have been preserved.

The first camp meeting in the county was held at a spring north of Oskaloosa, in what is now Gibbs' Grove, in the fall of 1847. There were stirring times at some of these meetings. Some of the pioneers can give the text of the great sermons to which they listened.

The first election for choosing officers for the city government of the city of Oskaloosa occurred on July 2, 1853. The election resulted in the following: Mayor, W. T. Smith; marshal, Isaac Kalbach; clerk, Wm. Loughridge; treasurer. James Edgar; councilmen—First ward, J. M. Dawson, R. R. Harbour; Second ward, I. N. Cooper, E. W. Eastman; Third ward, Tobias Leighton, Smith E. Stevens; Fourth ward, E. W. Wells, Henry Temple.

The first railroad in the county was the Des Moines Valley, built to Eddyville in 1861 and extended through this county three years later.

The first barrel of sugar ever retailed in Oskaloosa was hauled from Burlington by Harry Brewer.

The first Mahaska County Fair was held in the fall of 1852.

The first buggy brought to the county was owned by William Edmundson, who was the first county sheriff and organized the county.

The first frame dwelling in Oskaloosa was erected during the summer of 1845 by Micajah T. Williams. Mr. Williams did the work with his own hands. It was located on the corner where the postoffice now stands. It was the first home of Mr. Williams and his young wife, Virginia Seevers.

The first lumber yard in Oskaloosa was opened on June 13, 1865, by Isaac Kalbach. He hauled his first supply of lumber from Eddyville. Mr. Kalbach was a cabinet-maker by trade in his earlier life, and knew the superior advantage of working with pine lumber over the hard native woods. This yard still remains in the Kalbach family.

The first carding machines brought to Oskaloosa were placed in the mill erected by A. S. Nichols and Jonathan Adkins, north of the old iail site.

The first fauning mill brought into the county was introduced by Moses Nowels in Jefferson township. It was brought on a steam-

boat from Keokuk and used by the settlers for miles around in caring for their small grain until it was worn out.

The first newspaper in the county was issued July 2, 1850. For some months it was known as the Iowa Herald. Then the name of the paper was changed to the Oskaloosa Herald, the name it still retains, John R. Needham was its editor and Hugh McNeeley had charge of the composing work. It has been a regular visitor to its patrons now for more than fifty-five years.

The first bridge built across Skunk river was constructed by Major James Pomeroy for George N. Duncan during the winter of 1848-9. The frame was put up on the ice. The following spring a freshet swept the whole structure away.

The first county fair held in Mahaska county was held in the public square on Saturday, October 23, 1852. The officers were as follows: Poultney Loughridge, president; John Bond and C. N. Smith, vice-presidents; Thomas F. Seevers, secretary; Andrew Williams, treasurer. There were but few entries and but little interest. The race track extended from the west side of the square a mile or more along the ridge to the northwest. The second fair held a year later made a much better showing. At this fair William Frederick took the first premium on corn, having raised 138 bushels on one acre of ground.

Joseph T. Lewis was the first Methodist Episcopal preacher who was assigned by his conference to do missionary work in Mahaska county district. It was called Muchakinock Mission. He only labored for three or four months, as the exposure to which he was subjected broke down his health, causing his death some years later.

CHAPTER XXIX.

OSKALOOSA'S CEMETERIES—EARLY FUNERALS
—RECOLLECTIONS OF DEAD.

In the very early years, when death came to the home of the western traveler, some ridge or hill was selected on which to bury the dead. It would be a spot well marked by a huge tree or grove or stream. Sometimes, in the necessity of keeping up with the caravan, a grave was hurriedly dug by the side of the trail.

Thomas A. Stoddard, who passed through Fort Kearney, July 14, 1852, on his return from California to Iowa, counted 600 fresh graves by the roadside between that point and his Iowa home. He also states that up to the foregoing date the government records showed that 41,156 emigrants had passed through Fort Kearney going westward.

The first cemetery near Oskaloosa was laid out on an acre of land donated for that purpose by Judge John White, who lived on the ridge just southwest of town. Mr. White was the first probate judge in this county (1844-49) and retained the title throughout his lifetime in distinction to John White, the financier and banker, whose home was just north of Oskaloosa.

This cemetery was located on the ridge south-west of the second ward school building. Mr. George White, a son of Judge White, states that the first person buried there was a California emigrant who died while his caravan was passing through on their westward journey.

Quite a number of the early settlers, whose names have not come down to us, were buried in this old graveyard. One pioneer, who was a boy at the time, describes clearly the simple burial service. The crude walnut coffins and the wooden head boards which had the name of the interred inscribed upon it with oil and lamp black.

It is a serious reflection on the ingratitude of this city that this sacred spot has been allowed to be desecrated in so many ways. The people whose bones lie there, whoever they may be, fought the battle of civilization for us. enduring hardships and giving up life itself for the conquest of the wilderness. They have bequeathed to us this good land for which we did not toil. Their last resting place deserves to be protected and treated with reverence and gratitude. Unless we set the example to future generations, God's acre will only have a commercial value in the mind of the multiplied thousands, who shall take our places. As the plain marble slab and the unmarked grave have meant nothing to us, so the polished monument and the splendid mausoleum will mean nothing to the children of men, who shall struggle for an existence in Mahaska county in one or two hundred years from today. May heaven bless the memory of the unselfish life of the pioneer and keep us from being ungrateful to his dust.

On account of the wet and spongy condition of the soil in this first cemetery, the ladies of the city organized a society in 1848, which had for its purpose the raising of sufficient means to purchase and improve a five-acre lot a mile north of town. They raised money by making different articles of plain clothing and placing them on sale at the stores in Oskaloosa. With means thus acquired, they purchased from John White the plat of ground now known as the old cemetery. This was used as the city's burying ground until 1860. In June of that year a public meeting of citizens was called to organize a cemetery association. At this meeting P. Myers, J. R. Needham, C. F. Childs and William Loughridge were appointed as a committee to report articles of incorporation for adoption at the next meeting. Another committee consisting of Wesley Moreland, W. S. Edgar and William C. Rhinehart were appointed to select a site and ascertain the cost of lands suitable for the location of a new cemetery. At the next meeting the committee on articles of incorporation reported a suitable charter. We give the preamble in full because it contains a good list of well known names and shows the spirit of the founders of the new movement:

"Be it known by these presents that we, James Rhinehart, J. F. Childs, Henry Lyster, James A. Seevers, J. H. Macon, Eli Ketner, John Y. Hopkins, John R. Needham, James McQuiston, D. Warren Loring, Henry Howard, Philip Meyers, A. F. Seberger, Benjamin F. Ingels, N. C. Crawford, William Loughridge, James P. Dixon, Samuel A. Rice, M. L. Jackson, William M. Wells, John D. Gaunt, William S. Edgar, Samuel Ingels and Solomon E. Rhinehart, desiring to establish a new cemetery at or near the city of Oskaloosa, in the county of Mahaska and state of Iowa, do, hereby, in accordance with the provisions of an act passed by the seventh general assembly of the state of Iowa, entitled, 'An act for the incorporation of benevolent, charitable, scientific or missionary societies.' approved March 22d, A. D., 1858, adopt the following articles of association." The entire paper has the ring of completeness. It provided that the name of the society should be Forest Cemetery Association. On the adoption of the charter the following officers were elected: President, Rev. J. F. Childs; vice-president, Samuel A. Rice; secretary, James McQuiston; treasurer, D. W. Loring; director, W. S. Edgar. On August 20, 1860, the association purchased of William S. Dart twenty acres of land at \$50 per acre, lying northeast of the city. The land was surveyed, fenced and laid out in lots under the name of Forest cemetery. An average valuation of not less than five cents per square foot was determined by a committee and a day appointed on which lots were sold to the highest bidder, with the provision that each sale should bring not less than the price of the

assessed valuation. John R. Needham, James Seevers and W. S. Edgar were appointed a committee to report suitable rules and regulations. These rules, with the articles were published in pamphlet form. A majority of the projectors of this new cemetery are now sleeping in its bosom. In later years an additional tract of land, consisting of about twenty acres was added to the original purchase on the east. The Catholic cemetery is now located on a part of the grounds last purchased.

A house was built for the sexton in 1875. Many of the well known pioneers are buried in this city of the dead. A. S. Nichols, who was chairman of the board of county commissioners from 1844 to 1848, lies here. He supervised the surveying and platting of the town of Oskaloosa. We are told that he traded a horse for a claim of several hundred acres of land just west of town, which he afterward entered and improved, on a part of which Iowa Christian College now stands. Micajah T. Williams rests here, on the spot which he himself selected under the restful branches of a large oak tree. Mr. Williams was the first county clerk, and suggested to the county commissioners the name of this city. William Loughridge, who for years was the brilliant congressman from this district. His wife, Diploma Loughridge, was the first burial in the Forest cemetery. Her death occurred November 26, 1860, at the early age of twenty-five years. A gentleman who attended the funeral says the ground was a veritable tangle of hazel brush and forest trees at that time, and in no sense an inviting spot in which to lay a loved one. Since then there has been between four and five thousand laid to rest beneath its sod. The monument of Brigadier-General Samuel A. Rice is on one of the prominent drives. It is twenty-three feet in height and five feet and four inches square at the base. On the upper part of the marble column is carved the names of the eight battles in which the General engaged. It was erected by the Twenty-ninth and Thirty-third Iowa Infantry. The two Iowa regiments which were in General Rice's brigade. The gallant officer died of wounds received at the battle of Jenkin's Ferry. Captain Comstock, who was severly wounded in that engagement, says as General Rice rode over the field, in the heat of the contest, on seeing a number of his own brave men among the dead and wounded, he paused for a moment and, dismounting, with tears of sympathy, he shook hands with the wounded and expressed deep solicitude for the issue of the battle. Then remounting, he swept onward to meet the enemy's last, but desperate and unsuccessful attack. While riding down his left wing, he was wounded by a minie ball which caused his death.

The Grand Army of the Republic have grounds on the western slope of the ridge where thirty-five of their number have found their last resting place. Eighty-nine of the original members of the post are dead. Many of these, however, are buried in lots with their families. There are 218 members of the post vet living. The entire number of graves, which are annually decorated by their comrades, is 158. The above grounds now controlled by the Grand Army were purchased by an organization of ladies during the war. After the war had closed and the Grand Army of the Republic had been organized, this plot of ground was deeded to the post here and has been somewhat enlarged by a donation from the cemetery association.

Among the dead will be found the names of John R. Needham, the founder of the Oskaloosa Herald, elected lieutenant-governor of Iowa in 1861. As noted above, Mr. Needham was chairman of the committee on rules and regulations, and suggested the name of the association. He seems to have lived an unusually busy and useful life, for he died at the age of forty-four years.

William Edmundson, the first sheriff of this county, has a monument to his memory in this cemetery. Likewise his brother, Matthew Ed-

mundson, who was also a Mahaska county pioneer.

Rev. Asa Turner, who came to Iowa in 1838, and had much to do with the founding of both Denmark Academy and Grinnell College.

William H. Seevers, one of Iowa's supreme judges.

The talented M. E. Cutts, who died in his fifty-first year.

The studious and impartial Judge J. Kelly Johnson.

These and many of our most distinguished citizens of the earlier days are buried here. Near the entrance to the cemetery on Ninth street stands a large receiving vault which is used much in the winter when the ground is frozen.

There is a growing number of beautiful monuments and private vaults which adorn the grounds. Among the more prominent of these is the Ferrall vault and the Spencer vault, the latter now in process of construction. The management have already recently received a bequest of some \$10,000 from James McCauley to be used in building a memorial structure to his memory. With this fund it has been decided to build a memorial chapel on the cemetery grounds which will accommodate about 150 persons.

The present board of officers are as follows: President, W. R. Lacey; vice-president and secretary, John A. Kalbach; treasurer, W. Esgen; directors, W. P. Hawkins and Frank Glaze; superintendent, W. H. Cunningham. The last named officer has served the association for nineteen years. There have been but few changes in the entire board in that length of time. Mr. Cunningham was preceded by James McQuiston, who had charge of the association grounds for a long term of years.

The cemetery association now has a surplus fund of about \$20,000. This fund will continue to grow until the grounds are filled, and then form the basis of a permanent income which

will be used perpetually to keep in order and beautify the grounds of the association.

CHAPTER XXX.

RAILROADS OF MANASKA COUNTY—THEIR BE-GINNING AND GROWTH.

Early in the '50s an air line railroad route was projected through lowa by a company named the Mississippi & Missouri Railroad Company. Work was begun at Muscatine. The proposed route was surveyed directly through Mahaska county, crossing the river at Rochester. During Judge Crookham's administration of county affairs one hundred thousand dollars of county bonds as a subscription to the enterprise were voted to the company, but for some reason they were not issued. Soon after Judge Rhinehart was elected county judge in answer to a petition of more than one-fourth of the voters in the county, he submitted to the people the question whether he should subscribe in the name of the county \$150,000 more in bonds pavable in twenty years at ten per cent interest, payable semi-annually. The subscription was voted in March, 1856. Before delivering the bonds Judge Rhinehart required security from the company that the road should be built. The security was not given and the bonds were not delivered. In 1859 Judge Rhinehart called for an election to decide whether the loan should be rescinded or delivered to the company. A decided majority were against rescinding and bonds to the amount of \$200,000 were delivered to John A. Dix, president of the company, with the understanding that the road was to be completed to Oskaloosa before September, 1860. The company was to expend the sum of \$15,000 in Mahaska county during the summer of 1859, and the county was to pay interest on \$100,000 of the bonds until the road was completed to Oskaloosa. Certificates of stock to the amount of the subscription were given by the company and also bonds for the execution of its contract. In a short time the sale of the bonds was enjoined because parts of the agreement had not been complied with, and the only loan ever made by the county was annulled.

The bonds remained in possession of the company until 1870, when steps were taken by the board of supervisors to recover them. In this they were successful and William G. Briggs, chairman of the board, and the county auditor were appointed a committee to burn the documents.

H. R. Kendig says that in 1857, when the disposition of these bonds was in doubt, a delegation of gentlemen from Burlington, among whom were Fitz Henry Warren, afterwards General, and Judge I. C. Hall, representing the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy road, visited Oskaloosa and a public meeting was held in the old courthouse. The Chicago, Burlington & Ouincy was at that time completed to Rome. These men proposed to our financiers that if they would make over to them the bonds which had been voted to the doubtful Mississippi & Missouri road, the Chicago, Burlington & Onincy company would come up the divide from Rome and coming through Oskaloosa would take the third counties to Council Bluffs instead of the second tier, over which their route had been surveyed. They counted that they would gain a decided advantage in the management of their road bed on this upland route across the state. Although these men pleaded their cause earnestly and eloquently, the moneyed men in Oskaloosa failed to see the immense value to be gained by the offer, and turned it down. Everybody can see it now that it was the golden opportunity not only in the lifetime of one generation, but in the lifetime of a city. Just what Oskaloosa would have been all these years with a great transcontinental trunk line touching its life eighteen to twenty hours out of the twenty-four of each day, it is difficult to tell. It is said that E. W. Eastman became so discouraged over the failure to accept this offer that he left the city, locating at Eldora, and in after years was elected lieutenant governor of Iowa.

KEOKUK & DES MOINES.

The Keokuk & Des Moines Railroad was built from Keokuk to Eddyville as early as 1861. It was intended to extend it to Des Moines and then on north into Minnesota, Until it reached Des Moines some years later it was called the Keokuk, Des Moines & Minsota Railroad Company. Then for some years it was known as the Des Moines Valley. Later the name was changed to the Keokuk & Des Moines Railroad Company, which it retained until the road became a part of the Rock Island system in 1878.

From Eddyville the road was built up the Muchakinock valley through the southeast part of the county during the summer of 1864. The company which furnished the capital for the building of this road were Gilman & Son, of New York city. Certain alternate sections of land located ten miles on each side of the Des Moines river had been granted to them by the state in consideration of this public improvement. These lands had been granted by congress to the Des Moines River Improvement Company. This concession had been made by congress because of the belief then generally shared that the Des Moines river could, with a system of locks and back water dams, be made · a navigable stream throughout most of the vear. Upon the failure of this company these lands were transferred to the Keokuk, Des Moines & Minnesota Railroad Company on condition that they should assume certain obli-

gations and claims which were due the settlers from the improvement company. It was to the interest of the railroad company to build the road along the river adjacent to their lands and it was their intention to follow the stream, keeping above high water mark to Des Moines. Their plea was that they were compelled to avoid the prairies because of the drifting snows which had been a great source of expense to many western roads in previous winters. At the sessions of the legislature in 1863-4 the owners of the road desired to secure such legislation as would give them a complete title to their lands, in order that they might raise sufficient capital to continue building the road by mortgaging these lands. Mahaska county was represented in the legislature by Judge Crookham, and Poweshiek and Iowa counties by M. E. Cutts, who resided at that time at Montezuma. While these gentlemen favored the grant and were auxious to see the road built, they determined to oppose the bill unless the managers were willing to bring the road through Oskaloosa. When the bill was introduced into the senate, Mr. Crookham had an amendment presented by Senator Clarkson providing that the road should go within one-half mile of the square in Oskaloosa. After some debate it passed the senate and went to the house. The chairman of the house committee pigeonholed the bill and refused to present it to that body. he being on the other side of the question. The railroad men then declared that if the Oskaloosa amendment was insisted upon, they would build the road up the river without legislation and leave Oskaloosa out. John R. Barnes states that there was a distinct understanding between Dr. Boyer and the Keokuk managers of the road that at a suitable point on the Des Moines river along the line of the road above Eddyville a town site should be selected and that Dr. Boyer should have charge of platting. laying out and selling lots for the same. This fact was not known to the legislative lobby at the capitol.

The friends of the Oskaloosa measure finally determined to make the best compromise which they could with the railroad authorities. They agreed to support the bill which had passed the senate providing that the road should be built up the Muchakinock valley to the nearest point on that stream to Oskaloosa, and from there it was understood that the road would turn back to the Des Moines river. Back in 1860 an Oskaloosa company had been organized under the name of the Mahaska County Railroad Company, having for its purpose the building of a railroad from Eddyville to Oskaloosa. They had the road graded, partly bridged and furnished with ties. In the spring of 1864 the Keokuk, Des Moines & Minnesota road built upon this grade to Beacon and left the Oskaloosa company without compensation. An offer of several thousand dollars from Pella relieved the management of the road from fear of prairie snow drifts and instead of going back to the Des Moines river as they had intended to do, the road was surveyed through Pella and on to Des Moines, reaching that city in the fall of 1866. In the year 1874 the road was bought by the first mortgage bond-holders for \$1,175,-000 and called the Keokuk & Des Moines Railroad Company. Some years later it was leased to the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, which now operates it in connection with its other lines.

CHICAGO, ROCK ISLAND & PACIFIC,

For a number of years the terminus of this branch of the Rock Island was at Sigourney. In 1875 Superintendent Riddle proposed to the people of Oskaloosa that he would build the road into this city at once if they would furnish the right-of-way and raise the sum of \$20,000. The proposition was accepted by Oskaloosa and the money was raised by local subscription. By February of the following year

the trains were running into the city regularly. The road extends across the county directly westward to Knoxville, its present terminus.

IOWA CENTRAL RAILROAD.

While David Morgan was teaching in Spring Creek Institute two and a half miles east of Oskaloosa, he called the first meeting to consider the building of the Iowa Central Railroad. This was about 1863. Mr. Morgan was an organizer of unusual ability. He came to this county from Tennessee in 1800. was a brother of our Dr. J. W. Morgan. early as 1858, a north and south road had been talked of by J. B. Grinnell and others. The wealth of the Iowa coal fields had been recognized and the coming demand for fuel for the railroads being built farther north had been anticipated. But the breaking out of the rebellion paralyzed the undertaking for several years. A corporation was formed and an organization completed at New Sharon, January 5, 1865, with headquarters at Oskaloosa. The following officers were elected: David Morgan, president; A. C. Williams, vice-president; Z. T. Fisher, secretary; W. T. Smith, treasurer; directors, David Morgan, H. P. Pickerell, W. T. Smith, W. H. Seevers, Daniel Anderson, A. C. Williams, Peter Melendy, Z. T. Fisher and Reuben Michel.

During this year a railroad convention of delegates along the proposed line of the road from the state line to Cedar Falls was held at Oskaloosa. The first spadeful of dirt was thrown by President Morgan, with a silver spade, south of Cedar Falls, and at the same time a contract for twenty miles of grading was let. The indifference of the citizens of Black Hawk and Tama counties to the new road afterwards caused a new survey to be made through Marshalltown, and the grade was never used. W. T. Smith succeeded Mr. Morgan to the presidency and during his administration the grading was pushed.

After the usual vicissitudes in railroad building, the road was completed from Albia to Mason City and on February 4, 1871, the ceremony of driving the last spike took place, just across North Skunk river, about thirty-five feet this side of the Mahaska county line. The road has since been extended to connect with lines which run from St. Louis to St. Paul, and with the Peoria branch, which was built in 1882, is a most valuable adjunct to Oskaloosa and Mahaska county interests.

CHICAGO, BURLINGTON & QUINCY RAILROAD.

This road came to Oskaloosa from Winfield in the year 1883 and was successfully operated as a narrow guage until it became a part of the Chicago, Burlington & Ouincy Railroad system. On June 29, 1902, the entire 105 miles from Mediapolis to Oskaloosa, and the eighteen miles running from Winfield to Washington, were in twelve hours rebuilt and widened to a wide gauge road. Up to January 1, 1893, the road was known as the Burlington & Western Railroad. Since that date it has been operated as a part of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy system. During the spring of 1903 the road was completed to Tracy and now runs regular trains between Chicago and Des Moines.

CHAPTER XXXI.

ORIGIN, GROWTH AND HISTORY OF OUR COLLEGES.

PENN COLLEGE.

Everything good originates in the heart of some beneficent person who is not living wholly for him or herself. This is especially true of our institutions of learning. There is heavy toil and anxiety all along the pathway of all kinds of unselfish labor. But back in the beginning years there is a distinct character which grows brighter with passing time, whose faith and hope outreached his fellows, and gave birth to the new idea. Such a man was Thomas Stafford, whom everybody knew in the earlier days. His father came originally from North Carolina. The household goods were hauled in a one-horse wagon, and the family walked to Richmond, Indiana, Mr. Stafford was a devont member of the Friends' church, and was the head workman who built the historic Friends' church at Richmond, Indiana. Having accumulated a small fortune, he went with a number of friends to southern Missouri with the thought of building up a colony. country was not to his liking, and through the influence of his friend, Samuel Coffin, he came to Iowa in the summer of 1843, locating in Spring Creek township. Through his influence other members of the Friends' church became his neighbors, until there was quite a community of his own sturdy faith. A house of worship was built. This modest building is now doing service as the Friends' Mission Chapel, in West Oskaloosa.

Thomas Stafford lived to be eighty-seven years old. He sleeps in the pioneer cemetery, in Spring Creek township, which he himself helped to found.

Later, largely through Mr. Stafford's persistent labors and influence, the Friends established a school two and one-half miles east of Oskaloosa. The building was a substantial frame three and half stories high, and the school was opened November 27, 1860. It was known as the Spring Creek Institute, and was placed in charge of Prof. David Morgan, of Friendsville, Tennessee. This village was located not far from Knoxville in east Tennessee. The town had been built up and named by Mr. Morgan, who had charge of a flourish-

ing academy in the place. The breaking out of the Rebellion paralyzed all educational efforts in the south, and Mr. Morgan and his brother, Dr. J. W. Morgan, accepted an invitation to take charge of the new Friends' school, which had been established in this county under the care of the Friends' Yearly Meeting.

Those who knew Prof. David Morgan, the head of the school, say that he was a man of broad culture, possessing unusual force of character. He was a mathematician and taught these branches in his school. Dr. Morgan says that he preceded his brother some weeks, and when he opened the now historic institute seventy-five young men and women enrolled as students. Among the first graduates from the school were Prof. Jesse Macy, of Grinnell College, and Prof. M. Stalker, state veterinarian. At the end of three years the building took fire and was wholly destroyed.

After the destruction of the Spring Creek Institute by fire in 1863, steps were taken by the Iowa State meeting of the Friends' church to establish a college to be located at Oskaloosa. This organization was first called the "Iowa Union College Association of Friends." Under this name grounds were purchased from John White, north of Oskaloosa, and work was begun on the foundation. As usual in the beginning of every good and useful work, many difficulties were in the way. The foundation for the west wing of the present building was first undertaken. It was partly destroyed by a storm, but persevered in and completed in 1872, at a cost of \$17,000. A school was opened in the fall of that year under the management of Prof. J. W. Woody, who was president of the institution for four years.

At the Friends' annual meeting in 1873 the name of the school was changed to Penn College. The first term of collegiate work began September 9, 1873. On the retirement of Prof. Woody, the presidency was held by William B.

Morgan for two years. In 1879 Benjamin Trueblood became the head of the school and ably filled the office of president until 1890, when he was invited to become secretary of the American Peace Society, and editor of The Peace Advocate, which office he still holds. President A. Rosenberger, the present incumbent, was chosen by the board of trustees to succeed President Trueblood. The first class to graduate from the school was in 1875. Since that time there has been a graduating class each year. In the year closing 1905, the graduating class numbered thirty-two, the largest in the history of the institution.

The school is growing rapidly, both in a broader usefulness and in larger equipments. Seven years ago the endowment fund was \$20,-000; now it is \$106.000. But \$75.000 of this fund, however, is productive, the balance is in the shape of bequests and gifts which are not interest-bearing at present. The above sum does not include the generous gift to the school of \$10,000 by the late James Callahan, of Des Moines. The institution has been favored by a number of gifts in recent years. Through the subscription and influence of David Skull, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, \$10,000 endowment has come to the chair of English Literature, which has for some years been filled by Prof. Rosa E. Lewis. Other friends of the college have given generously to its support.

The number of students enrolled during the year just closed was 354. The management calculate that the school brings annually to this city \$45,000. The cost of the buildings and grounds as they now stand is \$64,000, and the institution is free from debt. The library is valued at \$1,000; the laboratories and museum, \$4,000; and the art collection, \$2,000.

The school is essentially Christian, and the Bible is one of its text-books with which every student must be familiar before graduation. In a recent summary of its alumni, we notice forty-two ministers and eighty-seven teachers who are filling important places from New York to Oregon. It is difficult to estimate the local value of such a school to this city and county, as well as to the general cause of higher education.

The present faculty and instructors of Penn College are as follows:

Absalom Rosenberger, president; Professor of Economics and Sociology.

Rosa E. Lewis, Professor of English Literature.

Stephen M. Hadley, Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy.

William L. Pearson, Professor of Biblical Literature and Exegesis.

David M. Edwards, Professor of History and principal of the preparatory department.

Edwin Morrison, Professor of Physics and Chemistry.

Ella H. Stokes, Professor of Philosophy.

Walter J. Meek, Professor of Biology and Geology.

Ethel C. Rosenberger, Professor of the German and French languages.

William E. Berry, Professor of Greek and Latin.

J. Emory Hollingsworth, Professor of Latin. Lola Irene Perkins, Elocution and Oratory.

B. A. Wright, Instructor in Bookkeeping and Stenography.

Louis F. Burnett, Instructor in Vocal Music. Elmer H. Gifford is the present financial agent.

OSKALOOSA COLLEGE.

At the first state convention of the Disciples of Christ in Iowa, held in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, in June, 1855, a resolution was passed to establish a college in Iowa, the location to be decided at a future time. Oskaloosa, Marion, Winterset and Mount Pleasant were desirous to secure the location. A. S. Nichols, of Oskaloosa, offered to donate ten acres of ground for such an institution, and the citizens of Oskaloosa, offered to donate ten acres of ground for such an institution, and the citizens of Oskaloosa.

loosa raised a subscription of \$30,050 and secured its location. This decision was reached at an adjourned meeting of the state convention held in Oskaloosa, October 10 to 13, 1856. The charter members of the board of trustees were the following: Aaron Chatterton, Richard Parker, Dr. C. G. Owen, J. Atkins, W. T. Smith, J. H. Bacon, A. S. Nichols, Matthew Edmundson, C. Hall, J. M. Berry, W. A. Saunders, J. Swallow, S. H. Bonham and S. H. McClure. At a board meeting in November, Aaron Chatterton, W. T. Smith and A. Johnson were appointed a committee on articles of incorporation. At a later meeting the report of the committee was adopted, and on motion of Aaron Chatterton, the institution was named Oskaloosa College. On June 27, 1857, the contract for the building was let to J. J. Adams for \$24,500 and Aaron Chatterton and J. F. Rowe were employed as soliciting agents to raise an endowment fund. The work was begun with energy and earnestness, and in a short time they had secured in endowment notes the sum of \$20,000. Everything looked auspicious for the beginning of regular college work in 1858. But when everything seemed promising the financial crisis of 1857 burst upon the country. Contractors failed, subscribers were unable to pay their pledges, debts were incurred, and mortgages and leins were followed by law suits. It seemed as though all was to be lost, when, with the help of a few friends, Richard Parker saved the enterprise from absolute wreck. He was treasurer of the college board and it became the passion of his life to see the work completed. By great self-sacrifice he raised enough money to save the property from sale, and made some progress upon the building of the walls. After four years of patient effort, one wing was enclosed. On June 9. 1860, the state convention of the church voted to raise a relief fund of \$10,000. Two young men, George T, and W. J. Carpenter, recent graduates of Abingdon and Eureka Colleges,

were secured to open a school in the fall of 1861. The first annual catalogue was issued in 1863. The building whose contract was let in June, 1857, was not completed until ten years later. The first students to finish the college course were Finley L. McGrew and George W. Seevers, who graduated in 1867. Those who acted as college president in the years that followed were: B. W. Johnson, F. M. Bruner, George T. Carpenter, G. H. Laughlin, R. H. Johnson, J. A. Beattie, A. M. Haggard, J. M. Atwater and A. J. Youngblood, A. F. Ross and S. P. Lucy acted as presidents pro tem for a short time, and J. M. Stoke conducted a normal school in the building for one year.

At the close of the normal school the halls of the old college were silent for a year. It was impossible to keep up the regular college course without a larger endowment fund, and the board decided to dispose of the building and grounds. Charles J. Burton, of Canton, Missouri, was prevailed upon to move his correspondence school, which he had built up in connection with Canton University, to Oskaloosa. Having purchased all of Oskaloosa College belongings, July 17, 1902, he re-chartered the school under the name of Iowa Christian Col-He has advertised extensively through advertising agencies, and has students in all parts of the world, wherever the English language is spoken. Last year the number of his correspondence students reached 700 and averaged throughout the year 600 students. He has been gradually building up a local school, which numbered last year 117. There were eleven graduates in the year just closed from the various departments. The study of the Bible is strongly emphasized in the correspondence work. Under the head of the business department, bookkeeping, shorthand and telegraphy are thoroughly taught. Regular college courses or parts of courses may be taken entirely by correspondence.

CENTRAL HOLINESS UNIVERSITY.

A third school of higher learning in Oskaloosa has been organized within the last year which bids fair to have a most promising future. Friends of the institution first purchased 220 acres of land southeast of the city in 1905. Later a portion of it was platted, and by the sale of lots and subscriptions, over \$40,000 have been realized to be used in the erection of the main building. The name of the new institution is to be the Central Holiness University. It is to be auxiliary to the growing interdenominational movement among an earnest body of Christians known as the Holiness people. They have no desire to form a new sect, but simply to cultivate a higher and purer spiritual life, both for themselves and for those whom they may be able to win to Christ. A contract has been let for the main building, and the campus will be connected with the city by the street car line. Every effort is being made to be ready to open the institution on September 11, 1906.

Rev. L. Milton Williams is financial agent. The following are the board of trustees with their offices: C. W. Moore, president; Ephraim Smith, vice-president; Ella C. Coffin, secretary; W. R. Gilmore, treasurer; L. Milton Williams, D. F. Brooks, George A. McLaughlin, Dr. D. S. Bunce, William C. Carpenter, Ella C. Coffin, George Ramsey, Mrs. George Ramsey, William Crosson, Ephraim Smith, C. W. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Gilmore, Edgar P. Ellyson, Wesley Shoemake, H. A. Beal and J. H. Shroyer, trustees.

At this time but three members of the faculty have been chosen, viz.: Prof. A. M. Hill, A. M., president; Prof. B. W. Ayers, Ph. D.; and Prof. D. F. Brooks. Other members will be added later. A large wooden tabernacle will be built during the summer for the accommodation of their state gatherings, camp-meeting and Chautauqua purposes. The management

confidently look forward to the establishment of a great institution of learning and religious influence. The Bible will be one of the textbooks of the school.

CHAPTER XXXII.

THE COUNTY PRESS—ITS DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH.

The newspaper is the people's great university. It has done wonders to unify the sympathies of civilized men and convince mankind that they are all brothers. The well conducted daily and weekly newspaper keeps us in touch with one another and our sympathies become broader than our neighborhood as we know of the prosperity or sufferings of earth's multitudes.

It was quite an undertaking to start a weekly paper in a town where its entire population was only about 800 people, but Mahaska county has never been wanting in enterprising men.

The first newspaper in this county was born in the brain and heart of John R. Needham, and the first number was issued July 2, 1850. For four months it was known as the Iowa Herald. On November 1, 1850, it went to its subscribers as the Oskaloosa Herald and has so continued for fifty-five years.

John R. Needham and Hugh McNeeley were its editors and publishers. The paper, when first issued, was a six-column folio. Both these young men were from Ohio. Mr. Needham seems to have been the leading spirit in the enterprise. He came to Oskaloosa in 1849; was twice elected senator from this county and also served one term as lieutenant governor of Iowa. From all that has been said and written of Mr. Needham since his death, he must have lived a

life which inspired men to their highest and best efforts. He had the unreserved confidence of his fellowmen.

Mr. McNeeley was apractical printer and was the mechanical head of the firm. A printing outfit had been brought from Cambridge, Ohio. It had been used in publishing the Cambridge Times and had been purchased at the sugggestion of Mr. Needham by his father. This was supplemented by the purchase of additional material by Mr. McNeelev in St. Louis, All was transported to Keokuk by the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, thence overland to Oskaloosa. Miles Prine says that he got the first paper that came from the old hand press on the day of its issue. His father had subscribed for the paper and sent him to the office for a copy. The press work was just ready to begin and he waited and was given the first copy.

The first Herald office was located on the second floor of a two story frame building on the southeast corner of the square, on the site where now stands the W. I. Neagle grocery.

Popular enthusiasm nourished the paper and it grew with the growth of the city and county. In 1858 the editorial management passed into the hands of Dr. Charles Beardsley, who piloted the paper through the war period. In the early '60s a small Herald extra—only a sheet giving the latest bit of news-was issued as the news demanded. Eddyville was then the nearest telegraph and railroad station. A messenger from the Herald office daily waited at Eddyville for the incoming train that brought the Burlington Hawk-Eve, which contained the latest news. Then this courier would ride with all speed to the city and the paper would be in the hands of the people before the stage coach carrying the mail could arrive. It is said that four times during the war every employe in the Herald office laid down his task to join the ranks of the troops going to the front.

March 16, 1865, the paper was issued under the management of Colonel C. W. Fisher and

W. E. Sheppard. A few years later Captain W. A. Hunter had editorial charge. H. C. Leighton and W. H. Needham, a brother of John R. Needham, became the owners of the paper in 1870. Both were young men of skill and ability and for eight years the paper saw good days. Henry C. Leighton, who was largely responsible for the editorial work, was called to lay his pen aside just when he seemed to be at the zenith of his usefulness. He was postmaster at Oskaloosa at the time of his death. January 31, 1878, and had served his party two years as chairman of the state central committee, winning a state reputation for his skill and energy. Mr. Leighton died when he was but thirty-five years of age. The editorial work on the paper was done for a time by Chas. Leighton, his brother, and Geo. R. Lee, both of whom were interested partners.

A. W. Swalm became connected with the paper in 1881. He was an editor of some years' experience and gave the Herald a distinct individuality.

The Evening Herald was published September 3, 1887, to meet the progressive spirit of the times. It was well received from the beginning and we now have a six-column eight-page daily which contains the happenings of the world as reported by the Associated Press.

On December 31, 1896, Chas. V. and Phil Hoffmann became the owners of the Herald property. Both gentlemen had served an apprenticeship in the various lines of the work in the office. Their management has been vigorous. Every want of the times has been met. It has been conservative without being narrow, outspoken in principle, but never radical.

On January 1, 1905, the Oskaloosa Herald company was organized and incorporated and Chas. S. Walling and Miss Maggie Hoffmann became stockholders. The company is organized as follows: Chas. V. Hoffmann, president; Phil Hoffmann, editor; Chas. S. Walling, manager; Maggie Hoffmann, secretary-treasurer.

Through the agency of the Herald Oskaloosa has become a news center. From the old Washington hand press, with a capacity of 120 copies an hour, the paper is now reeled off from a new Babcock Dispatch press at the rate of 3,000 per hour.

The Herald was started as a whig paper but has been republican in doctrine since the organization of that party.

In 1850 the Herald's entire outfit cost \$300. In 1860 it sold for \$4,000; in 1874 for \$12,000 and in 1881 for \$20,000. Since then it has steadily increased in value in a ratio equal to that of the past.

More than a score of newspapers of different faith and doctrine have been launched in Oskaloosa since the establishment of the first office in 1850. We are told that the Herald has never missed but two issues since its first publication. This was caused by high water during the first year of its life.

The Oskaloosa Times was first published in 1854, by Cameron & Ingersoll, then by R. R. Harbour and David Comes. Later it fell into the hands of A. A. Wheelock, whose drastic editorials so offended the soldiers in the field from this county that in 1864, when at home on furlough, they raided the office and partly destroved its contents, which ended its publication. William Leighton showed us a copy of the last issue of Wheelock's paper. Shortly after the suppression of the Times, Ira C. Mitchell established a paper called the Watchman, which had a short life. In 1866 P. C. Welch began the publication of the Democrat-Conservator. Later it was changed to the Iowa Reform Leader. About 1874 the Oskaloosa Standard came into existence and was conducted by Nelson D. Porter for some ten years. I. R. Eckart started the Oskaloosa Messenger, which was published for six years. In 1884 the Messenger and Standard consolidated and founded the Oskaloosa Labor Union. Out of this came a revival of the Oskaloosa Times, a straight democratic paper, edited by James E. Seevers until his death in 1896. In that year the Daily and Weekly News, which had been in existence about a year, consolidated with the Times, under the management of G. B. McFall. For a time the paper prospered. Later L. J. Anderson had charge. Some mishaps in the management caused the paper to suspend March 27. 1897, and the plant was sold to satisfy a mortgage held by Mrs. Zoa Seevers, widow of James Seevers, the former editor, who had practically given his young life to keep the paper moving. June 1, 1898, Richard Burke revived the Times and continued its publication as a weekly, Mrs. Burke uniting with her husband in the editorial work. They are cultured people and gave their readers a paper of high merit.

The Oskaloosa Daily and Weekly Journal was started in June, 1892. It was at first edited by George H. Blanchard, and was really the successor to the Farmer and Miner. At the close of the first year Mr. Blanchard severed his connection with the paper and it was edited for a time by Miss Anna Delashmutt, who had been the local editor. A year later Fred and Harry Davis and Alf. Wooster became interested in the paper and it was published under the firm name of Wooster-Davis Publishing Co. In 1897 L. J. Anderson became associated with the ownership and the firm became Wooster & Anderson until 1902, when the plant was purchased by C. E. Lemley and Richard Burke and consolidated with The Times. The paper was then issued as a daily and weekly, under the name of The Times-Journal, until December 1, 1904, when it was purchased by C. A. Dickens. On January 1, 1905, the daily came out as a morning paper, called The Morning Telegram. It gave a complete report of the Associated Press dispatches and was published at a heavy eost of labor and money. The paper failed to become self-supporting and on July 29, 1905. was sold to C. E. Lemley and H. S. Rosecrans,

who will continue the paper as a democratic weekly, under the name of The Oskaloosa Times.

Next to the Herald, the paper which has outlived all other contemporaries, is the Saturday Globe, published and well edited by Shockley Bros. & Cook. The paper was established by Alonzo Sherman, in 1881, and called The Telephone. It was first issued as a four-column folio and shortly afterwards enlarged to double that size. In 1882 it was sold to J. W. Jarnagin, who continued its publication for two years and won a fair degree of prosperity and recognition. In May, 1884, J. W. Johnson bought the Telephone office and formed a partnership with G. W. and T. M. Shockley. The firm was known as Johnson & Shockley Bros. The paper grew rapidly in public favor. July 1, 1804, Mr. Johnson sold his interests to I. W. Cook, changing the name of the firm to Shocklev Bros. & Cook. The Globe office is well equipped with modern machinery and its management is along the lines of advanced thought and methods. In addition to this representative weekly there is issued from the office each month the Iowa Sunday-school Helper, The Christian Endeavor News, The Congregational Iowa and Penn Chronicle.

The first issue of the New Sharon Star appeared January 22, 1873. Its office was on the second floor of the H. T. Wright building at the northwest corner of Main and Market streets. The building is now owned by George W. Way. H. J. Vail was its editor and publisher. The paper was a success from the first. In 1875 Mr. Vail erected a half block north of the first office the comfortable two story building 20x90 feet, which has since been the home of the Star. April 1, 1885, Mr. Vail sold the paper and its belongings to his brother, David Vail, who was its editor until January 1, 1897, when Ross A. Nicholson became the owner of the property. On August 1, 1900, H. J. Vail again came into

possession of the paper and is still at the helm. The Star has always been good property and its value has increased with the growth and prosperity of the territory which it covers. Mr. Vail has always been a clear and vigorous writer. A paper is what the editor makes it, and the New Sharon Star has won a creditable place in the journalistic field.

The Fremont Gazette is now in its fifteenth year of publication. After the usual years of battling for an existence it is now under the management of A. P. Norton, who purchased the paper in July, 1902, and has put the plant on a paying basis. It is much appreciated by the community which he serves. The paper was founded by Sam Sherman, who has a record of establishing twelve different papers in Iowa. In its existence it has had as editor Horace Greeley, a namesake of the great journalist, and Charles Pearson, who is now the editor of the Sucker State, at Mohamet, Illinois.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

OSKALOOSA FIFTY YEARS AGO AND OSKALOOSA TODAY.

Oskaloosa was incorporated as a city in July, 1853, and had at that time a population of about 1,000 persons. Three years previous its assessed valuation was \$754.170.

There was perhaps a score of sawmills in different parts of the county turning out lumber for permanent improvements both in the city and country.

At the close of the fiscal years ending June 30, 1852, there had been received at the post-office 13.958 letters. During the same time there had been mailed 15.762 letters.

The population of both city and county grew very rapidly. The original plat of the city

covered a quarter section of land lying on the divide known as The Narrows. The public square is located exactly on the water shed between the Skunk river on the north and the Des Moines river on the south. Since the square has been elevated and the band-stand erected it may be said with truth that the water falling from the roof on the north side goes to the river on the north and that which falls from the south side of the roof reaches the Father of Waters through the channel of the Des Moines river. The public square in Oskaloosa is 860 feet above the level of the sea. The bed of the Des Moines river at the southern boundary line of the county is 660 feet above the sea level, making a fall of 200 feet from the public square to the county line.

As is well known, there was not a tree on this ridge when the town was located. .The old Herald files show that John R. Needham, its editor, kept continually before his readers the value of planting trees. It is to him, in a large measure, that we are indebted for the overhanging boughs in many of the avenues of the city, which has earned for this place the name of "The City of Trees." A goodly number of men, who have laid out additions to the city, have been persistent tree planters. It was about 1853 when the first trees were planted in the square. They were nourished and cared for by different enterprising individuals. Aimost all of the original planting are gone. Dwight Downing calls attention to the large elm in front of the Downing Hotel, which he says was planted by A. F. Seiberger, who built the first story of the brick house known as the D. W. Loring home, on East High avenue. B. V. Seevers says that the large elm south of it was planted and nurtured by his uncle, George W. Seevers, who wrote the first carriers' address for the Oskaloosa Herald, January 1, 1851.

About this time brick began to take the place of native timber in the better class of

buildings. John H. Shumate built the old I. Frankel home on South Market street, also the Jonathan Adkins home. Wesley Moorland built the Dr. Rhinehart home. Both these places are south of the Congregational church. Samuel McWilliams built the brick edifice known as the Isaac Kalbach place across the street north of the Salvation Army barracks, and Samuel Ingels built the Greenough property, which still stands, west of the O. B. & F. stables.

It would be interesting to make a trip around the square in the early '50s, about the time that the village thought itself old enough to put on city airs. With the help of William T. Smith, the first mayor, and Isaac Kalbach, the first city marshal, we undertake the task. These venerable gentlemen are the two surviving members of the first city government.

Beginning on the Huber & Kalbach corner, there stood a two story frame building occupied by Ebenezer Perkins, who was one of the commissioners who located this city. He had a general store and lived in the rear part of the building. Next to him on the west in a wooden building was the postoffice, kept by Samuel Ingels. An "L" to this building also gave the family a home. Then came the largest brick block which had vet been built, called the Union block. It was completed in 1854, but had been in process of erection for several years. The 20-foot store rooms to the alley were built by their owners in the following order: Tobias Leighton, George Roland, John N. Kinsman and Samuel Ingels. Across the alley westward were frame buildings owned by John Waggoner and Thomas Thompson. Next was John Abraham's grocery and queensware store, and J. D. Fletcher, harness and saddlery store. The next two stores were brick, the first occupied by A. F. Seiberger with hardware, and the one on the corner by D. W. Loring's drygoods store, which he built and which his estate still owns. Across the street on the northwest corner of the square stood the old courthouse. On the Baldauf corner the first twenty feet was occupied by a frame building containing a general store, kept by W. S. Dart. On the adjoining lot south was his small brick residence standing back from the sidewalk some twenty feet. After a vacant lot came Dr. Hinton's drug store and then two buildings owned by W. S. Edgar and Jones & Young. Across the alley south was the first brick business building on the square, owned by W. B. Street and G. W. Baer. The adjoining lot was vacant, and on the next two lots were small wooden buildings containing groceries. One of them was kept by Wesley Mettler. It is stated that Mr. Mettler's frugal habits prompted him to invoice his little stock of groceries quite often. One day a customer called and found the door locked. Asking the reason, the proprietor answered, "We are devoicing, sir." On the Mahaska County Bank corner stood the old Oskaloosa House. It was a two story frame in front with a porch above and below. The proprietor was John N. Kinsman, Mr. Kinsman was elected county treasurer in 1860. We are told that during the early years this hotel had no superior in the town. Across the street south on the Will Seever's corner were one story frame buildings. Henry Howard kept a grocery store there at one time. Continuing east, at the Boyer corner was a two story wooden building in which A. G. Phillips kept a drygoods store in 1851. Then as far east as the alley on the south side of the square were small shacks of wooden buildings. In one of these Charles Evans, a brother of Captain Evans, kept a bakery for a time. Across the alley was first a one story frame and then a one and onehalf story, with some vacant lots. On the Neagle corner stood a two story frame, the second floor of which was for several years the home of the Oskaloosa Herald. On the eye-tooth corner southeast of the square was a one story frame in which John Hagev kept a grocery. Across the street to the north John Montgomery had a general store in a two

story frame on the corner, and a one story brick residence adjoining, set back into the lot. Next came a little frame building with a tin shop, and then the Madison House, which was known between the rivers as the home of the tired and hungry traveler. In the earlier years before the west was thoroughly organized, the hotel became the headquarters not only for the traveling public, but for stranded humanity from whatever cause. John R. Baer relates that in 1855 a California emigrant, returning east, was taken with cholera at this tavern. As there were no provisions for the care of such cases in the city, the patient remained at the hotel until he died. The authorities found it very difficult to get anyone to care for the body. The case appealed to his father, George W. Baer, and he volunteered to assist in preparing the body for burial. When all was over he took down with the same deadly malady. While he was vet ill. Mrs. Baer was smitten and died at the early age of thirty-five years. His father's only sister, who made her home in the family, also became a victim. She had cared for Mrs. Baer during her illness and went down rapidly to an early grave. The home of the Baer family at that time was in what is now an old story and a half weather-beaten house still standing at the corner of A avenue and B street. It is a mute sentinel of the old days, and has afforded shelter to an Oskaloosa family for more than fifty years.

The ground on which this old hotel stood has never been used for any other purpose except a hotel site. In 1856 Major F. L. Downing purchased the Madison House, and being especially fitted by nature and culture to handle the public, he made a great success. He related to a friend that during those early years when two or four stages stopped every morning for breakfast, he made \$6,000 in fifteen months from ten rooms.

In 1874 the old house was removed and an elegant three story brick, 60x110 feet, was erected and when furnished cost \$48,000. The

new building took the name of the proprietor and was called the Downing House. With but few interruptions Mr. Downing was connected with this hotel for twenty-five years, until the time of his death, April 4, 1881. He was at all times one of Oskaloosa's most enterprising citizens. In recent years the Downing has been remodeled and another story added.

Across the alley where the courthouse now stands was Yankee Smith's grocery. D. W. Oglevie had a clothing store on the next lot. Passing a vacant lot, John W. Irvin had a jewelry store. Next to the corner was Macon Brothers' drug store, and on the corner Hardy, Searle & Young kept a stock of dry goods. All these were temporary one story buildings. This corner and across the street north, when vacant, are said to have been the show grounds of the town in the earlier years. The northeast corner of the square at this time was without buildings.

The north boundary of the original plat is one-half block north of D avenue, and the east boundary one-half block east of Third street. The south is bounded by Third avenue and the west line is one-half block west of D street. To this plat have been added at different times additions to the city usually bearing the name of the person or firm who platted and sold the property. On the south and southwest were the first and second Montgomery additions, the Lacey addition the first and second Houtz additions, the Ninde Williams & Company addition, and the Southside. On the west we find the Marks, Loughridge & Cassady, West Oskaloosa and Baugh's addition.

On the north we have Crookham, Donahey, Hambleton, Whitacre, Westervelt, Ninde & Searle, Mendenhall, Mulhallen and Ridge Place additions. On the east were the W. T. Smith and W. H. Seevers first and second additions, Baer, Kemper, Hetherington, Street. Meyers & Smith, and in the southeast part of the city is

located O'Neill's recent addition. These and many other smaller additions appear on the city map. The city grew very rapidly in the later years of the '50s. Emigration to the state was very heavy in the years preceding the war of the Rebellion. During the four years of the terrible Civil war the nation gave almost its entire energies to the preservation of the Union. Internal improvements received but little attention.

In the summer of 1863 six frame buildings were burned on the south side of the square. These were rebuilt some years later, and on January 20, 1873, were again destroyed by fire. From the ashes of these two fires has sprung the Phœnix block, built in the latter year. In 1874 four buildings were burned on the northwest corner of the square, causing a loss of \$17,000. A fire on the north side of West High avenue in 1877 entailed a loss almost as large. The destruction of the opera house block in 1889 included besides the opera house, Byron S. Henry's furniture store and the postoffice. All the buildings in this block were rebuilt at once. Gradually the old frame structures were destroyed by fire, or became untenable and were replaced by more substantial brick buildings. The Centennial block, on the north side, was built in 1876, by 1. Frankel, Richard Parker and Christian Houtz. Joining it on the east is the Dixon block, erected in 1897. The Huber & Kalbach corner, now owned by Williams Brothers, was built in 1882. Across the street stands the W. R. Nugent corner, built in 1892, and the J. B. McCurdy buildings were completed in 1884. Adjoining these is the W. A. Seevers block. No. 2 now owned by John A. Kalbach. On the corner south of the Downing House are the Gibbs buildings, built in 1889. Mr. Gibbs also built the Globe block, adjoining the opera house, and the building now occupied by the Herald office on North Market, and several other creditable structures.

The McMillen block, on East First avenue, was built in 1881 by Dr. B. F. McMillen. The Evans block, on the southeast corner of the square, was built by David Evans. The W. A. Seevers brick block covers the southwest corner of the square.

The Lacey hotel, covering the southeast quarter of this block, is an elegant three story brick structure containing one hundred and forty rooms, and cost \$75,000. Among the newer buildings on the west side of the square are the Williams block, built in 1892; the Frankel building, now occupied by the Pfeifer-Belmont Co., was built in 1889, and the Samuel Baldauf corner, built in 1890. The Jones-Reigel and Fitch Brothers' new brick block on West High avenue, just completed, is a model structure. Its erection was made necessary by a destructive fire in February, 1905.

Our splendid courthouse, located on the east side of the square, was completed in 1885, at a cost to the county of \$145,000. Just east of the quarter block on which the courthouse stands. the new county jail is located. It was built in 1901, at a cost of \$25,000. The first bank in Oskaloosa was opened March 1, 1855, in the Union block, by W. T. Smith and M. T. Williams. The building now occupied by the Mahaska County Bank was built by Crookham & White in the early '60s, and has been used as a bank building since its erection. Mahaska County Savings Bank built the corner building now owned and occupied by the Oskaloosa National Bank, in 1876. It was converted to a national bank three years later by a vote of the stockholders. The Frankel Bank is located in the Centennial block on the north side. The building occupied by the Oskaloosa Savings Bank on the west side was built by Henry Price.

The Wightman block on the south side of East High avenue is a recent substantial improvement. Our elegant Y. M. C. A. building on East High avenue, completed in 1903, at a cost of \$40,000, is the measure which Oska-

loosa places on the life and character of its young men.

Oskaloosa has now about thirty-five industries, giving employment to nearly 600 people, to whom are paid in wages about \$240,000 per annum, and the annual output of the combined industries amounts to over \$2,000,000. While these figures do not show us to be a large manufacturing center, it is encouraging to note that it shows an increase of about 100 per cent during the last five years.

The Carnegie library was completed in 1903 at a cost of \$25,000. Its shelves now hold 5.175 volumes. The new postoffice building was completed in 1902 at a cost of \$75,000. The city has twelve churches, six school buildings, twelve miles of street paving, sixty miles of cement walk, thirteen miles of sewerage and water mains, sixty-two miles of improved streets, two telegraph and two telephone lines, and five railroads.

The improvements in 1904 amounted to \$683,700. Oskaloosa is the fifteenth city in size in the state. Its growth has always been permanent and healthful. Its population is now 10,108. If our republican institutions live this city and county is but a child in the number of its population to what it will be before the opening of another century.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

TWO USEFUL ORGANIZATIONS.

MAHASKA COUNTY FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

By F. F. Everett, Secretary.

In the early winter of 1892 a paper was circulated among the influential farmers of Mahaska county, for the purpose of obtaining

members to organize a Farmers' Institute. One hundred and thirty-four signers were secured to this petition, who signified their willingness to become active members in such an institute.

On December 17, 1892, the first meeting to organize was held, a form of constitution and by-laws was offered by Harden Tice and adopted. At this meeting J. G. Harrold was elected president; Samuel Jones, vice-president; W. T. Hites, secretary; Wilford Hull, treasurer; directors, Harden Tice, T. B. White and E. D. Arnold.

On December 24, 1892, the executive board met and decided to hold a two-days' session and set the dates as January 18 and 19, 1893, and also arranged the program for these days.

The first Mahaska County Institute was held January 18 and 19, 1893. Papers were read at these sessions on different subjects by A. J. Jewell, J. F. Everett, D. C. Garwood, Robert Thomas, Eli Ketner, W. H. Barber, T. Forsythe, R. C. Harris, R. Redman, John Moore, G. W. France, A. J. Lytle, E. C. Hull, Samuel Jones and Harden Tice. When Mahaska county built its fine courthouse in 1885, the board of supervisors decided that the farmers should have a place for holding meetings in the courthouse. So they set aside the small room in the southwest corner of the third story, to be known as the "Farmers' Club Room." This room will seat about one hundred people and was deemed by the board of supervisors to be amply large for all requirements of the farmers. In this room all the preliminary meetings and the first five or six regular sessions of the Mahaska County Institute were held. At the second session, held January 16 and 17, 1894, some prizes were given for farm products, and the first exhibition of farm products was made. These prizes were made possible by using the appropriation of fifty dollars from the state. From these first sessions, held in this small room the Farmers' Institute has grown steadily and

surely each year, until now the board of directors engage the opera house a year in advance for two days, and also occupy the entire courtrooms and jury and judges' rooms for four days, the latter two rooms being for the exhibition purposes. As many as 160 different people make entries each year, some making as high as fifty entries. At each of the two sessions on January 16 and 17, 1906, over 1,300 people were in attendance, and over 6,500 people attended the eight different sessions of 1906.

The institute now prints 2,000 copies per vear of a program and permium list. This list contains the program and premiums to be given the following year, also all the papers read before the preceding institute and the discussions as taken by a short-hand reporter. The photograph of ten children who won first and second prizes in different declamatory and oratorical contests, the names of all officers, directors township vice-presidents, judges and superintendents of the different departments for the following sessions. Advertisements of 200 of the leading merchants and farmers of the county and the rules and duties of the different officers. These make a book of 200 pages, in size, 5x8 inches. The books are printed in the summer and distributed each fall by the township vicepresidents, who visit the schools in their township and leave one book for each family. When visiting the schools the vice-presidents encourage the children to enter the township declamatory contests. The winners of the township contests enter the institute contests. Premiums to the amount of \$150 are given each year for these prizes: Seventy-five dollars on butter; \$60 on bread; \$180 are given on seed corn and other farm products accordingly. Such prizes and numbers of programs and premium lists are made possible only by the liberal donations and advertisements of the merchants of Oskaloosa. One day of each institute is set apart for the ladies and is known as"Woman's Day."

The ladies have their own officers, furnish the entire program and preside at all sessions on this day.

Prof. W. J. Kennedy of Iowa Agricultural College, probably the best known authority on live stock in the United States, stated in the course of his introductory remarks before the 1904 institute that he had been in active institute work for six or seven years in Canada, Illinois and Iowa, and had spoken at the best institutes in the county, and had studied their methods carefully. Professor Kennedy said: "I do not say it in flattery when I say that Mahaska county has the best institute that I have ever visited, and I am sincere when I assure you that you have the best institute on the American continent."

The officers of the institute for the year 1906 are as follows: President, A. J. Lytle; vice-president, Wilford Hull; secretary, F. F. Everett; assistant secretary, Charles Roe; treasurer, Wilford Hull; solicitor, J. H. Williams.

THE OSKALOOSA WOMAN'S CLUB.

BY MENZA R. BURKE.

The largest organization in Oskaloosa for women exclusively is the Oskaloosa Woman's Club. It was organized in April of 1895, and its object, as stated by its constitution, is three-told. First, to promote a spirit of comradeship; second, to assist in developing the higher type of womanhood; third, to strengthen, by organization, our effort in behalf of the interests of our city.

In accordance with the broad spirit evinced in this statement of purpose, the constitution of the Woman's Club makes eligible to membership "any woman sympathizing with the object of the club, who is eighteen years of age, and has been a resident of Oskaloosa for one year."

There were ninety charter members of the Woman's Club, and its first president was Mrs. C. P. Searle.

The first work undertaken for the interests of the city was for the establishment of a public library. In this the Woman's Club worked in conjunction with the Young Men's Christian Association. In June, 1895, two months after organization, the two societies entered into a working agreement concerning the library. The Young Men's Christian Association agreed to furnish a librarian and a room for the library. and to donate to it its 500 volumes. The Woman's Club agreed to donate \$100 to the cause within two months. Both parties fulfilled their pledges. The library remained under their joint control until after the spring election of 1899, when the qualified electors voted to levy a tax for the support of the public library. The Woman's Club and the Young Men's Christian Association then surrendered the responsibility of the management to the city.

The library then consisted of 2,000 volumes of well selected books. During the period of its connection with the library, the Woman's Club donated to its equipment \$800 in money, besides a quantity of books and periodicals.

The next great work undertaken by the Woman's Club was the establishment of a city hospital. In December, 1900, at its open session, the philanthropic department of the Oskaloosa Woman's Club, of which Mrs. Blanche Reed was chairman, fully discussed the hospital project and resolved to devote its best energies to raising money for the same. The club at large voted to aid in the work.

By runninge sales, by chain letters, by running the street cars on their first day's trip, by acting as patronesses for various entertainments, the club has succeeded in raising the sum of \$5,000, which now (March, 1906) lies in the Mahaska State Bank subject to the order of the board of hospital trustees.

Nor has the club been lacking in other altruistic work.

In the spring of 1901 the Woman's Club, acting with the Commercial Club, made a systematic effort toward beautifying the city. Prizes were offered for flower beds, gardens and lawns. The club furnished committees to look after these matters, and raised the funds necessary to pay the premiums.

The same season the club succeeded in establishing a rest room in the basement of the courthouse for the comfort and convenience of ladies and children trading in town or passing through. The general supervision of this room is still in the hands of a committee from the Woman's Club.

Through the efforts of the art department of the Woman's Club each schoolroom in the town has been presented with a fine large carbon or platinum photograph suitably framed. These pictures are copies of famous artists. The public library also has a fine frieze and a child's picture given by the same department of the Woman's Club.

During its eleven years of existence the club has aided various charities, public and private; it has also donated to a Young Men's Christian Association piano.

While it has never mixed in politics, it has advocated certain reforms which have crystalized into municipal law. The anti-spitting ordinance, passed by the present council, is an example.

At present the club is preparing to entertain the biennial convention of the Iowa State Federation of Woman's Clubs, which will meet in Oskaloosa in 1907.

For convenience of work the club is divided into seven departments: Eduction, history and travel, literature, philanthropy, music, home and current events and art. Each department may be sub-divided into classes at pleasure of the members.

The presidents of the club since the organization are as follows: 1895-96, Mrs. C. P. Searle; 1897-98, Miss Leoni McMullen; 1899, Mrs. Sam Baldauf; 1900-1901, Mrs. Richard

Burke; 1902, Mrs. A. A. Hugg; 1903-1904. Mrs. H. L. Spencer; 1905, Mrs. J. C. Williams. The membership of the Woman's Chil has grown from the original ninety to nearly 200.

CHAPTER XXXV.

SOME INTERESTING FACTS GATHERED FROM THE OLD COUNTY RECORDS.

The oldest records in possession of the county auditor appear on two quires of fool's-cap paper, fastened together with strong linen thread the thread being doubled to make it more secure. This precious old document of ninety-six pages is written in the clear, plain hand writing of Micajah T. Williams, the county clerk. Most of his life Mr. Williams wrote with a quill per of his own manufacture and it is fair to conclude that these old records were made with the quill carefully plucked from the wing of a wild turkey or goose, both of which were abundant in the early days. The ink used was most likely a home manufactured article but it is not materially obscured when we count the lapse of sixty years. Every item is spaced and numbered and bears the stamp of Mr. Williams well known conventional and exact manner of stating things. The first page starts out as follows:

"Mahaska county, Iowa Territory, May 13. 1844. Be it remembered that on this day Robert Curry and Abraham S. Nichols, having heretofore been duly elected county commissioners of said county, met at the county seat of the above named county for the purpose of holding a called session of the commissioners court of said county, Wilson Stanley, the other commissioner, not being present. Court was called and opened by the two commissioners who were present, and adjourned until tomor-



IOWA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE. BUILT IN 1864.



row morning at 9 o'clock." The next item is dated Tuesday morning, May 14, 1844, 9 o'clock, and relates to the qualifying of Wilson Stanley, the third commissioner. The board then proceded to select a grand jury and petit jurors for the first term of the district court which was held in Oskaloosa on the third Monday of the following July. The names of the grand jurors selected were as follows: James Vance, John Argabright, John Rose, Aaron D. Bowers, Richard Parker, Adam Cline, Michael S. Morris, Osee Mathews, George W. Jones, Jefferson Chitwood, Wellington Naseman, William Bean, James Heckinbatam, James Compstock, Adam Storts, William Welch, John Shelledy, Harmon Davis, John B. Steward, Brantly Stafford, Jacob Crane, Alexander May and John Vance.

The following persons were selected to serve as petit jurors for the same term of court: John Newell, Samuel Peters, John D. Baldwin, Thomas Brooks, Alfred Seevers, William Bovell, Robert Hammond, Thomas Fancher, Jacob Nordike, James Seevers, William D. Brown, James Ross, Alfred Hood, Solomon Barbee, Pleasant Parker, Green T. Clark, John P. Majors, Joseph H. Benedict, Thomas Williams, Isaac Parker, Wesley H. Freel, Robert Curry, Jr., and Benjamin Thomas.

The decision and the oath of the locating commissioners of the seat of justice are the next items of record. Then follow the boundaries of the twelve precincts into which Mahaska county and the adjoining territory to the west and north of it were divided for election purposes. We give them in the order and almost in the exact language in which they appear on this old home-made record.

White Oak Grove.—Ordered by the board that the following boundaries compose the first precinct for holding election. That townships number fourteen west and seventy-four and seventy-five north shall form said precinct and

the place of holding elections shall be at the house of Henry Bond.

Muchankinock—That township seventy-four north, fifteen west and that part of township seventy-four north of sixteen west, which lies east of Rice's creek, shall form the second precinct. Place of holding the election at James Vance's.

Oskaloosa.—That township number seventy-five north, and fifteen west, and all that part of township seventy-five north of sixteen west, that lies east of Rice's creek, shall form said third precinct, and the place of election at Oskaloosa

Harrisburg.—That township seventy-four and seventy-five north and seventeen west, and that part of seventy-four and seventy-five north, and sixteen west, and lying west of Rice's creek shall form the fourth precinct, and the place of election at G. W. Jones', in Harrisburg.

North Fork Precinct.—That township seventy-six and seventy-seven north, fourteen and fifteen west, shall form said fifth precinct, and the place of holding election to be fixed by the sheriff.

Skunk River Precinct.—That township number seventy-six and seventy-seven north of sixteen west shall form the sixth precinct, and the place of holding election shall be fixed by the sheriff.

Black Oak Grove Precinct.—That township number seventy-six and seventy-seven north, seventeen west, shall form the seventh precinct, and the place of holding election shall be fixed by the sheriff.

Lake Prairie Precinct—That township seventy-six and eighteen township west, and the place of holding election at the home of Levi Brainbridge.

White Breast Precinct.—That all the unsurveyed territory which lies west of Mahaska county except that part which lies north of John Mikesell and attached to Mahaska county for

election purposes, shall form the ninth precinct, and the place of holding elections at the house of Edward Billips.

Cedar Precinct.—That township number seventy-four and seventy-five and eighteen west, shall form the tenth precinct, and the place of holding elections at the house of George Henry.

Poweshiek Precinct.—That the west half of Powesheik county and all the unsurveyed territory lying west of said county and attached to Mahaska for election purposes, and north of John Mikesell, shall form the eleventh precinct, the place of holding elections shall be fixed by the sheriff.

Poweshiek Precinct, No. 2.—That all the east half of Poweshiek county shall form the twelfth precinct, and the place of holding election to be fixed by the sheriff.

Then follow various orders for small sums issued by the board to sundry persons for services rendered. The names of the judges of election in the different precincts and an order naming the 28th day of June, 1844, when the sale of town lots should take place. At this meeting it was also ordered that sealed bids would be received by the board of commissioners until the first day of July for the building of a courthouse at the new county seat. David Stump, county surveyor, was directed to survey and plat two dundred and ninety-two in lots and twenty-one out lots which should form the inclosure of the county seat.

M. T. Williams was appointed agent for the board when not in session and his duties defined, "To attend to the surveying and platting of said town and to such other business as may by him be deemed necessary." For this service the record shows that Mr Williams received the sum of \$7.50. In making these sales the clerk inserted a clause in each certificate issued by him to the purchaser which provided that said commissioners should not be required to make a deed for the property until they should obtain

a title to the same from the United States. At a later meeting the record shows that "David Stump be allowed the sum of \$78.75 for surveving the town of Oskaloosa, out of the funds accruing from the sale of said lots." At a meeting of the board, May 25, 1844, we have the order of the board that a grocery license shall be allowed to grocery-keepers in said county for the sum of \$25 per year, and at the same proportion for a shorter period." G. W. Jones & Company, Oskaloosa's first merchants, are allowed an order of \$1.75 for stationery furnished the board. Doubtless this old homemade record forms a part of this bill. terms on which lots were sold was that oneeighth should be paid in cash and the remainder be paid in two equal annual payments.

W. A. Delashmutt, the first assessor of the county, was allowed the sum of \$60 for his services for appraising the property of said county. William D. Canfield, the first tavern-keeper, was allowed the sum of \$5 for "boarding the hands while surveying town lots."

The amount of personal property reported in the year 1844 was \$46,661. A tax of fifty cents on each \$100 had been issued, making a collectable tax of \$233.30. Tax on 498 polls at fifty cents each, \$249.00; with a territorial tax of one-half mill on the dollar, \$23.33; total amount collectable tax, \$505.63.

On October 8, 1844, road viewers were appointed by the board to confirm the survey of a road leading from the northwest corner of the public square to Duncan's Mill. This commission was to meet on October 18, with David Stump, the county surveyor, and lay out said road as the law directed.

A large number of the orders issued by the county board of commissioners in 1844 were for services rendered by sundry citizens for work done on the Brighton road, the Fairfield road, the Eddyville road and the Iowa City road, as well as for other public highways. The meeting of January 6, 1845, opens with a

long list of orders for the bounty on wolf scalps, which are kept up through the year.

Other curious records to this generation such as the ear marks for the purpose of distinguishing cattle, hogs and sheep on the range. Pleasant Parker chose a swallow fork in each ear; William Jolly, a crop off the right ear; Samuel McFall, a swath crop off the left ear.

On September 25, 1845, the board appointed A. D. Jones to superintend the mason work and Christmas Heatherington to superintend the carpenter work on the jail built in Oskaloosa. The contract had been let to William G. Lee. The amount of expenditures of Mahaska county for the year closing December 31, 1845, was \$857.46.

On April 13, 1846, a license was granted to Joseph Tally to keep a ferry across the Des Moines river at Tally's ford, on the payment of an annual fee of \$5 to the county clerk. He was authorized to charge the following rates: Two horses and wagon, thirty-seven and one-half cents; four horses and wagon, fifty cents; man and horse, eighteen and three-fourths cents; single horse, ten cents; cattle, per head, eight cents; sheep and hogs, per head, five cents; and footman, ten cents.

It seems that one of the good citizens of the county had been shamefully maltreated by excessive taxation, and we find this alleviating record:

"Ordered that Robert Wilson be released of twenty-nine cents of his tax, which was assessed to him for the year 1845." This looks like a small sum to bring before the county commissioners, but when we remember that the twenty-nine cents would purchase almost onefourth of an acre of Mahaska county land, the transaction is given a new setting.

On January 6, 1846, we find the following: "Ordered that the road from Oskaloosa to Duncan's Mill be recorded and declared a public highway." A similar record is made of the road leading east to the line of Keokuk county

and west to Auburn, and several other roads in the county which had been recently established. Order No. 595, read: "Allowed G. W. Jones \$2.75 for furnishing candles and stationery for the use of court." Elsewhere we learn that candles were worth sixteen cents per pound. Many of the orders in these years were for services which accord with the beginning of things in a new settlement, such as road viewers, chain carriers, surveying, road grading and the like.

The receipts for grocery license for the year 1845 were \$100; for ferry, \$10; fines, \$10. The amount of county orders paid and cancelled by G. W. Baer, county treasurer, for the year ending December 31, 1846, was \$360.14

January 7, 1848, M. T. Williams filed with the board of commissioners his annual report as the agent for the sale of town lots. We give it in part: "The undersigned agent by your appointment for the sale of lots in Oskaloosa would respectfully report that since the 5th day of January, A. D. 1847, the date of my last settlement, I have sold thirty-eight lots amounting to the sum of \$622.00." This would give an average of \$16.37 per lot.

On the same date G. W. Baer, county treasurer, makes his report. One item may be of interest: "I have collected on the tax list for 1846 in all to this date, including interest, \$559.89."

It was ordered by the board of commissioners on April 10, 1848, "That all licenses issued for the purpose of retailing intoxicating liquors in Mahaska county, shall be thirty-three and one-third dollars."

The records above referred to are known as the minute books of the board of commissioners. One of these old blank books had been well preserved, but used for a time as a scrap book. It had evidently been brought from the east with the family effects, and necessity had converted it into a more dignified service. Necessity is often a good mother to modest men

and women. It calls out the splendid capabilities of heart and life, all unknown because unused.

There are a series of blank books in the office of the county auditor called road books. Book number one is dated December, A. D. 1844, and describes the "Territorial road commencing at a point on the old Indian boundary line in Des Moines township, in Jefferson county, where a territorial road from Fort Madison in the county of Lee, passing through the counties of Van Buren and Jefferson terminates on said boundary line on the nearest and best route to Agency City, in the county of Wapello, thence to Dahlonega, in said county, and from thence to the county east of Mahaska county, making the whole distance of said road from the old county line thirty-seven miles and twenty-two chains." Then follows a quite minute description of the entire route, making specific mention of what the traveler would pass. Timber, sloughs, prairie, creeks, ridges, etc. Stations are numbered from the starting point, distances in miles, chains and links between stations. The kind of trees on which the bearings were recorded nearest to the mileposts, such as white oak, sweet oak, wild cherry, white elm, red oak, black walnut, hickory, etc. The survey was made by David Stump, who surveyed the town of Oskaloosa.

A similar minute description is given of the survey of a territorial road commencing at the west door of the capitol of the territory, in Iowa City, in Johnson county, and covering a distance of sixty-seven miles and thirty-four chains to the east boundary of the public square in Oskaloosa. We have not been able to learn much of the life of this early surveyor, but his careful records have raised him in our estimation as a man of the strictest fidelity and more than ordinary ability in his chosen work. Extracts and comments on these old records might be extended indefinitely. These will serve to show something of what the pioneers had to contend with as they received this good land from the hand of nature. One thing will impress the reader; the patience, painstaking care and unselfish spirit of these toilers.





yours truly LGBlandhard

BIOGRAPHICAL.

HON. LUCIAN C. BLANCHARD.

Hon, Lucian C. Blanchard, who in public office as a member of the state legislature and on the bench has been actuated by a spirit of direct and immediate serviceableness, was born in Diana, Lewis county, New York, a son of Caleb and Penelope (Aldrich) Blanchard, natives of Rhode Island and Vermont respectively. The father, born in 1797, removed from New England to New York at an early period in the development of the latter state and became a prominent factor in local affairs. serving as supervisor and also as justice of the peace for many years. Judge Blanchard, born April 15, 1839, was only five years of age at the time of his father's death. He was educated in the common schools and the Carthage Academy at Carthage, Jefferson county. New York, and in 1858 came to the middle west, after which he attended the Rock River Seminary at Mount Morris, Illinois, for two vears. He also engaged in teaching for several years and in 1860 went to Pike's Peak, attracted by the discovery of gold there, but in the fall of the same year returned to the Mississippi valley and taught school in Jasper county, Iowa. He took up the study of law at Newton, Iowa, and in June, 1862, he enlisted for service in the Civil war as a member of Company K, Twenty-eighth Regiment of

lowa Volunteers. With that command he participated in the battles of Port Gibson, Champion Hill and the siege of Vicksburg. In his military service he was active and loyal and with a most creditable record returned to his home.

Returning to the north Judge Blanchard resumed the study of law and entered the law department of the University of Michigan, from which he was graduated in the class of 1866. He began practice in Montezuma, Iowa, and soon demonstrated his capability to successfully handle important litigated interests by reason of comprehensive knowledge of the principles of law and a correctness in their application to the points at issue. In the fall of 1868 he was elected circuit judge for a four-years' term, was re-elected in the autunin of 1872 and again in 1876, thus serving for three full terms or twelve years upon the bench. In a review of the legal history of the district at that time we find that his decisions indicate strong mentality, careful analysis, a thorough knowledge of law and an unbiased judgment. The judge on the bench fails more frequently perhaps from a deficiency in that broad mindedness which not only comprehends the details of a situation quickly and that insures a complete self-control under even the most exasperating conditions than from any other cause; and the judge who makes a success in the discharge of his multitudinous delicate duties is a man of well rounded character. finely balanced mind and strong intellectual attainments. That Judge Blanchard is regarded as such a jurist is a uniformly accepted fact. He removed to Oskaloosa in 1874 and following his retirement from the bench in 1880 continued actively in the practice of law until 1886, when he spent the summer in Europe.

Natural fitness for leadership combined with a public recognition of his devotion to the welfare of county and state led to Judge Blanchard's selection for representative in the house in 1893 and he served for one term of two years. In 1895 he was elected senator and was re-elected in 1899, serving in the twenty-sixth, twenty-seventh, twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth general assemblies. He took an important part in framing the legislation enacted during those periods. He served as a member of the judiciary committee and on a number of other important committees and he was largely instrumental in securing the passage of a law prohibiting the eighty per cent insurance clause in fire policies and was the author of the anti-combine insurance law. In 1900 he was president of the Iowa State Bar Association and was the candidate of his party for judge of the supreme court.

He stands high in Masonic circles, having attained the Knight Templar degree of the York rite. He was grand treasurer in 1879-80 and grand orator, serving also for many years as chairman of the committee of jurisprudence. With Judge Wilson, of Newton, Iowa, he prepared and published the Masonic Digest and he is a past master in Tri Luminar lodge at Oskaloosa. He is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and in 1890 was senior vice commander of the department of Iowa. He is now a member of the Iowa Vicksburg National Commission. He was a member of the International Congress of St. Louis in

1904 and he now devotes his attention to the practice of law with the other interests previously mentioned. His attention, however, is concentrated chiefly upon his legal business and his practice is extensive and of an important character.

On the 13th of January, 1870, occurred the marriage of Judge Blanchard and Miss Sarah Kilburn, daughter of F. A. Kilburn, of Montezuma, Iowa. To them were born a daughter and son, Rose and Claude, the former the wife of Dr. B. O. Jerell, of Oskaloosa. After losing his first wife Judge Blanchard was married, June 9, 1886, to Jozelle Williams, a daughter of Micajah T. Williams, of Oskaloosa. Her death occurred April 22, 1897, and Judge Blanchard was married to May Farmer, of Kirksville, Missouri, September 29, 1904. With a mind of much compass, laudable ambition and strong and unfaltering determination, Judge Blanchard has won a position of prominence in his chosen profession, his talents gaining him prestige as a lawyer at a bar which has numbered many eminent and prominent men. Moreover his official record is one that has reflected honor upon the district that has honored him.

CURTIS AUGUSTUS ABBOTT, M. D.

Dr. Curtis Augustus Abbott, to whom has been accorded a liberal patronage during the years in which he has engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Oskaloosa, was born in Athens county. Ohio, in 1869. His father, William Abbott, was born in Athens county, Ohio, and died in 1876, at the age of fifty-seven years. He removed to Kentucky when his son Curtis was but three years of age and although a blacksmith by trade he followed the occupation of farming for a long period and during the last few years of his life was a

merchant in Carter county, Kentucky, An earnest Christian man, he held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and took an active and helpful interest in its work. His political support was given to the republican party. In business affairs he possessed keen discernment and enterprise and became well-to-do. wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Coleman, was born in Ohio and died in 1900, at the age of seventy-four years. She, too, was an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In their family were twelve children, six sons and six daughters, all of whom reached adult age, and in the course of years represented various occupations. By a former marriage the father had had two children and one of these, James Abbott, was a soldier in the Union army during the Civil war.

Dr. Abbott attended school in Kentucky and at Valparaiso, Indiana, where he pursued his more specifically literary course. He afterward entered the Kentucky School of Medicine, at Louisville, in 1889, and was graduated in 1893. He took up post-graduate work in 1897 and spent one year in the Kentucky University, at Louisville. He also spent a year as interne in the post-graduate school in Chicago, and thus added to his theoretical knowledge broad practical training and experience. Following his graduation from the Kentucky School of Medicine he entered upon the practice of his profession at Beacon, Iowa, where he remained for four years, and in 1900 he came to Oskaloosa, forming a partnership with Dr. John F. Swarens under the firm style of Abbott & Swarens. This relation was maintained until February 20, 1906, and Dr. Abbott is now practicing alone.

On the 19th of August, 1903, the Doctor was married to Edith Allen, who was born in Illinois in 1879, a daughter of David and Adelaide Allen. The father was a farmer and mine superintendent. Dr. and Mrs. Abbott have one child, Maxine, born December 28, 1905. They

hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and occupy a very enviable position in social circles. Dr. Abbott votes with the republican party and has fraternal relations with the Knights of Pythias lodge, while in the line of his profession he is connected with the Mahaska County Medical Association. In his practice he is meeting with well deserved success, having carefully prepared for his profession and bringing to his work a sense of conscientious obligation which enables him to ably perform each day's duty.

WILLIAM H. KALBACH.

William H. Kalbach, a representative of commercial and financial interests in Oskaloosa, has attained a position of distinctive precedence among the business men whose efforts have contributed to general prosperity as well as individual success. The strong purpose, safe and conservative judgment and guiding will power which are strong characteristics in his business career contain the secret of his advancement and prosperity. He is one of Oskaloosa's native sons, born in 1858, his parents being Isaac and Christina (Koch) Kalbach, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, and of German line-The father, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume, is now living in Oskaloosa at the venerable age of eighty-three years, but the mother died in 1807, in the seventy-sixth vear of her age.

Williani H. Kalbach was reared in Oskaloosa and was a public-school student until the age of fifteen years, when he entered the hardware store of Cary Cooper, with whom he remained for six years as a clerk. He next went to New Sharon, where he established the private bank of Kalbach Sons & Company, continuing active in the management of that concern for six years. He then returned to Oskaloosa and en-

tered into partnership with C. Huber under the firm name of Huber & Kalbach. This was in 1885 and in 1890 the Huber & Kalbach Company was organized, which is still in operation, conducting an extensive wholesale and retail hardware business. In fact this is the largest enterprise of the kind in Oskaloosa, and Mr. Kalbach was the active manager until about a vear ago, the development and growth of the business being therefore largely attributable to his efforts. In 1895 he succeeded Judge William H. Seevers as president of the Oskaloosa National Bank and is still acting in that capacity. In 1892 the Union Savings Bank was organized with Mr. Kalbach as president and he also remains at the head of this institution. He was one of the promotors of one of the first independent telephone companies in the state of Iowa, known as the Home Telephone Company and was active in its management for six vears, when with the other original stockholders, he sold out the business, being unable to give it the time required. It had proved a successful venture in every respect.

In 1884, Mr. Kalbach was united in marriage to Miss Nell Seevers, who was born in Oskaloosa in 1864, and is a daughter of Judge William and Caroline M. (Lee) Seevers There are now two children: Lee, born in 1888; and Maria, born in 1891. Mrs. Kalbach is a member of the Episcopal church and Mr. Kalbach belongs to the Masonic fraternity and Elks lodge. Wherever found he is a social, genial, affable gentleman, whose friends are legion and all honor and esteem him for his manly virtues and genuine worth. As a man his business ability has been constantly manifested in one phase or another and everything that he undertakes he masters, so that the extensive and important commercial and moneyed concerns with which he has been identified have felt the stimulus of his untiring effort and cooperation and have profited by his keen discernment and sound judgment.

U. G. DECK.

U. G. Deck, a retired farmer, now filling the office of county recorder-which came to him unsolicited- has a record which many might be proud to possess, characterized as it is by fidelity to duty and by persistent purpose that exerted along well defined lines of labor has led to success. Starting out empty-handed and with the care of several younger children devolving upon him, he has steadily worked his way upward and his labors have at length won reward in a very desirable competence and the respect and esteem of his fellowmen. He was born February 28, 1868, in Carroll county. Ohio. His father, Martin T. Deck, born in Germany, came to the United States with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Deck, when three years of age. Having attained his majority he entered a claim of eighty acres in Carroll county, located thereon and made the place his home until 1878, when he came to Iowa and settled on what was known as the Rothell farm, five and a half miles northwest of Oskaloosa. About six months before his death he removed to another farm which he had purchased about six miles southeast of Oskaloosa, and there died soon afterward. He was an industrious, energetic and progressive farmer, who by earnest and well directed efforts accumulated a handsome competency leaving his family well provided for. In politics he was a stanch republican, eager for the success of his party and ever lending a helping hand to further its interests. He never sought office for himself but gave unfaltering support to the party candidates. Before his marriage he had spent about five years engaged successfully in merchandising in Colorado, and for a short time was in the gold mines, but his attention through life was chiefly given to his farming interests. He stood high in the regard of friends and neighbors and was uniformly respected. He was conservative in his opinions, never bitterly aggressive and through his devotion to principles of right and duty made an honored name. He wedded Maggie J. Harper, who was born near New Cumberland, Ohio, and was of Frish parentage. She held membership in the Presbyterian church and died October 7, 1881, at the age of forty-six years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Deck were born nine children: Allison F., a farmer of Spring Creek township, this county; Ira E., of Atkinson, Nebraska; U. G., of this review; Cora L., the wife of Worth McWhinney, a merchant of Clay county, Indiana: William L., a farmer of Bussey, Marion county; Maggie L., living in Sedalia, Missouri; Clara D., deceased; Burchard H., who has served in the United States regular army, and is now in Ottumwa, Iowa; and Maud B., who died at the age of four years.

To a limited extent U. G. Deck attended the common schools of Madison township, but is largely self-educated and has had to depend upon the school of experience for the instruction which has fitted him for life's practical and responsible duties. After the death of his mother he did the work of the household, cooking, etc. He was reared to the occupation of farming, which has been his life work save for a brief period devoted to the operation of a mine upon a farm which he purchased in 1897, in Garfield township about a half mile west of Beacon. As the years went by his earnest and indefatigable labor brought to him capital sufficient to justify his purchase of land and beginning farming on his own account he has prospered in his undertakings, becoming the owner of good land which he brought under a high state of cultivation. He now lives upon a tract of land of ten acres which he purchased when removing to Oskaloosa in 1903, on which he has built one of the modern residences of the city.

On the 10th of September, 1890, Mr. Deck was married to Miss Minnie H. Tullis, who was born in Mahaska county in 1871, a daughter of William H, and Anna Tullis. Her father was one of the pioneer farmers of the county and a veteran of the Civil war. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Deck have been born four children: Harry E., May M., Ralph M, and Helen G. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Deck belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics he is an earnest republican. He has held several township offices and in 1904 was elected to the office of county recorder, which position he is now ably and satisfactorily filling and which came to him unsolicited. Free from ostentation and display he is nevertheless a progressive citizen.

LISTON McMILLEN.

Liston McMillen, legist and author, whose influence in behalf of high standards in social and business life and in citizenship has left its influence for good in Mahaska county, where he is well known and in many other localities where his published volumes have been read. was born in Richwood, Union county, Ohio, on the 10th of December, 1847. His paternal grandfather, John McMillen, was a soldier of the war of 1812 and became a pioneer teacher and representative citizen of this county. He died at the age of eighty-four years and was buried in a quiet little cemetery in Monroe township by the side of his wife, who passed away at the age of eighty years. Their son, Benjamin F. McMillen, father of Liston Mc-Millen, was born in Wheeling, West Virginia, studied medicine and in 1868 came to Oskaloosa, where for many years he successfully engaged in practice, being recognized as one of the ablest members of the medical fraternity in this district. He was born in 1820 and died in 1889. In early manhood he had wedded Miss Caroline A. Maxwell, also a native of West

Virginia and a daughter of Robert Maxwell, a prominent pioneer and stock man, who resided near Cardington, Ohio, and died at the advanced age of ninety-one years, while his first wife, Mrs. Rosanna Maxwell, passed away at the early age of thirty years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin McMillen were born a son and two daughters: Liston; Leoni; and Lena M., the wife of Dr. William S. Windell, lecturer in Penn College, at Oskaloosa.

Liston McMillen began his education in the common schools in Richwood, Ohio, and continued his studies in Cardington until fourteen years of age, when he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, from which institution he was graduated in 1867. In April of the following year he came to Iowa and studied law in the office of Hon. G. D. Woodin, of Sigourney, being admitted to the bar in 1869. In the fall of the latter year he came to Oskaloosa, where he has since been engaged in practice and in point of residence he is the oldest practitioner of the city. His position, too, is among the foremost representatives of the bar and his capability, making him known far beyoud the borders of the county, has classed him with the prominent lawyers of Iowa.

Mr. McMillen is a republican in politics. Recognizing the fact that offices are few and aspirants many he believes that good standing at the bar has as much glory as comes to the office holder and has therefore concentrated his energies upon his law practice and kindred interests. He is the author of two volumes, one called Christian Hygiene, published in 1895. other is McMillen's Monograph on International Peace, published in July, 1905, the basic thought of which is the Golden Rule as being the essence of all jurisprudence whether national or international and all ramifications of law are simply evolutions of this principle. A copy of this work was placed in the hands of President Roosevelt during the Portsmouth conference and in the president's message issued the following December the same doctrine is announced and for the first time in any state paper the Golden Rule is mentioned. Mr. Mc-Millen and many friends of peace were highly gratified to find this confirmation of the doctrine in such influential public papers as the president's message. It is a seed sower the world over. Whether the president imbibed the thought from Mr. McMillen's book or not the correspondence grants encouragement to every worker for the splendid result no matter how humble his efforts.

Mr. McMillen's name appears in more than one hundred cases of published volumes of the supreme court reports of Iowa. He has been admitted to practice in the United States supreme court, the Ohio supreme court and in the Dakotas. Some of the cases which he has tried have become matters of recognized authority upon certain judicial principles. One especially is that of Smothers versus Hank, which is cited as authority in all modern works on questions concerning the degree of skill required of lawyers and physicians. Another notable case with which Mr. McMillen was connected was that of Allen versus Central, settling the question as to the right to sue a railway company whose property was in the hands of a receiver. The case of Whitaker versus Parker, in which Mr. McMillen was also one of the lawyers, clearly brought out the thought that the reasonableness of the story of witnesses must be taken into consideration in the weighing of testimony.

Mr. McMillen has always been a supporter of public improvement and progress and has been a close and earnest student of sociological, economic and political questions as well as those more directly connected with his profession. He manifests a statesman's grasp of affairs and keeps in touch with the trend of modern thought. He has never identified himself with any lodge or secret society for the reason that he has found ample fraternal and social life in the brotherhood of the church, his membership

being in the Congregational church. He is the author of a little treatise on the Proofs of the Resurrection of Christ and lectures on the subject as occasion offers, this being the field peculiarly adapted to his training and experience as a lawyer.

On the 14th of September, 1901, Mr. Mc-Millen was married to Miss Minnie Foreman, at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and they have one son, John Franklin, born June 14, 1902. Happy in his home life and in his social relations, Mr. McMillen has a nature that has constantly expanded under the influences of general development and has grown by his keen research and investigation into matters of public moment. His life exemplifies a rare and valuable combination of high ideals and practical methods.

JOHN R. BAER.

John R. Baer, who has been an active factor in business and official circles but is now living retired in Oskaloosa, is a native son of Indiana, having been born in Rockville, Parke county, on the 11th of March, 1839. His father, George W. Baer, was a native of Virginia and when a young man went to Ohio, where he remained until after his marriage to Elizabeth Lundy, a native of that state. Soon, however, they removed to Parke county, Indiana, and in 1843 went to Sarcoxie, Missouri. In the fall of 1845 they came to Oskaloosa, which was then a small village, having few business enterprises and but a small number of houses. The father followed the tailor's trade for a short time and then engaged in general merchandising. while later he bought, sold and shipped stock for many years. In this way he accumulated a handsome competency, but he lost his capital by financially accommodating a friend. early life he was an old-line whig, and under the laws of Iowa filled the office of collector and treasurer of the county for one term, acting in the latter capacity in 1847-8. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and died in that faith in 1892, at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife, an earnest Christian woman, passed away in May, 1855, when thirty-five years of age, dying of cholera. In their family were seven children, of whom three are yet living, namely: John R.; Amelia, who is the widow of Reason Wilson, of Oskaloosa; and George W., of the Indian Territory. Those deceased are: Rebecca, wife of John W. Murphy; Mary; Martha Henrietta; and Lloyd. By phy; Mary: Martha Henrietta; and Lloyd. By Clark county, Iowa, George W. Baer had two children: Elizabeth, the wife of L. D. Fowler, of Washington, D. C.; and Byron, of Nebraska.

John R. Baer was educated in the public schools and when a boy began clerking for the firm of Hardy, Searle & Young, with whom he remained for three years. He afterward spent two years on his father's farm in Oskaloosa township and was next employed by Benjamin Roop until the spring of 1860, when he drove across the country with ox-teams to a town seventy-five miles west of Denver, Colorado, there prospecting for gold. In the fall, however, he returned in the same manner to Oskaloosa, being fifty-two days on the outgoing trip and thirty-one days on the return trip. He then became a clerk for George M. Downs. of this city, the store being on the present site of the courthouse. In the previous fall he east a vote for Abraham Lincoln, which was his first ballot. He continued clerking until the 15th of July, 1861.

On that date Mr. Baer, responding to his country's call for troops, became a member of Company C. Seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry, which was the second company raised in Mahaska county. He was present with his regiment at the capture of Forts Henry and Donelson, in the battle of Shiloh and the siege and

battle of Corinth. He also participated in the battle at Pulaski, Tennessee, where he was detailed for service in the commissary department under Captain Palmer and Hon. C. C. Carpenter, ex-governor of Iowa, and thus acted until mustered out on the 10th of August, 1864, at Chattanooga, Tennessee.

When the war was over Mr. Baer returned to Oskaloosa and clerked for the firm of Jones & Tullis in a general store for two years. In the meantime Mr. Tullis purchased his partner's interest, and Mr. Baer bought the interest of John W. Tullis, and the firm of Tullis & Baer was formed and so continued for a year. At the end of that time our subject sold his interest to his partner and began dealing in stock, which he bought and shipped for three years. He next removed to Beacon, this county, where he became a clerk in the coal company's store, owned by the firm of Evans, Jones & Baer, the last named being his father. After three years the father sold out and John R. Baer withdrew from the store and joined his father in the partnership under the firm name of Baer & Son. Two years later the father sold his interest to J. P. Davis and the firm of Davis & Baer existed for one and a half years. The junior partner then returned to Oskaloosa and became a bookkeeper in the hardware store of C. Cooper, by whom he was employed for two years. He was next deputy sheriff of Mahaska county for a year and a half under Sheriff Barr, and when his former employer sold his hardware store to W. H. Todd, Mr. Baer returned to the store, where he acted as bookkeeper for a year, when the business was sold to Knapp & Spaulding. Mr. Baer then went upon the road as a traveling salesman until the fall of 1885, when he was elected on the republican ticket to the position of county auditor, which he filled for four years, proving a capable official and retired from the office as he had entered itwith the confidence and good will of all concerned. Re-entering commercial life, he went

upon the road for George Hall & Company, wholesale hardware dealers, with whom he continued for two years and later he was on the road for Huber & Kalbach Company, hardware dealers, for two years. He afterward served as deputy county auditor under J. B. Cruzen and W. T. Martin, filling the office for eight years, or until January, 1905, since which time he has lived retired.

On the 8th of November, 1866, Mr. Baer was married to Miss Frances Carnahan, a native of Ohio, who died in 1900, at the age of fifty-two years. Their children are: Nellie A., the wife of C. C. Pike, of Oskaloosa; Grace L., wife of C. W. Carr, of the same city; and Bernice L. Mr. Baer belongs to Triluminar lodge, No. 18, A. F. & A. M., having been made a Mason in 1866. He also holds membership relations with Phil Kearney post, G. A. R., and in politics is a stalwart republican, having stood lovally by the party which was the chief defense of the Union and of the administration during the dark days of the Civil war. He is a representative citizen of the town and county, interested in all movements which are a matter of civic pride, and his efforts in behalf of general improvement and progress have been effective and far-reaching

HON. J. KELLY JOHNSON.

Hon. J. Kelly Johnson, lawyer, legislator and jurist, is numbered today among those whose professional records adorn the history of the bar of lowa. A man of progressive ideas, fine attainments, high minded, making the most of his opportunities in life, Judge Johnson arose to a foremost place among the representatives of the legal fraternity and is said to have been one of the strongest and most able district judges of the state.

A native of Greene county, Ohio, J. Kelly Johnson was born August 22, 1841, a son of

Abijah and Elizabeth (Bailey) Johnson. The father was born in Warren county, Ohio, and married Elizabeth Bailey, a native of Virginia, by whom he had eight children: Sylvia B., J. Kelly, Micajah D., Rebecca O., Overton A., Warren C., A. Henry and Anna. The father was a farmer by occupation, and also engaged in merchandising and milling in Ohio. 1854 he removed from the Buckeye state to Crawfordsville, Indiana, where he carried on mercantile pursuits and in 1865 he came to lowa, where he engaged in merchandising for a number of years. In 1870 his wife died and in 1881 Mr. Johnson went to California to benefit his health, but death claimed him in the summer of 1882. Both he and his wife were members of the Society of Friends.

When a youth of thirteen years J. Kelly Johnson accompanied his parents on their removal to Indiana and supplemented his preliminary educational privileges by study in Wabash College, and in Battle Ground Institute, therein completing his literary course. He afterward entered the law department of the Michigan University at Ann Arbor, where he attended one winter. In 1865 he came to Oskaloosa and entered the office of J. R. Barcroft as a law student. Subsequently he continued his studies in the law school at Des Moines and in 1867 was admitted to the bar. He then went to Eddyville, Iowa, where he formed a partnership with Henry N. Clements, a fellowstudent at Ann Arbor, Michigan. Not long after taking up his abode in Eddyville he was appointed by the council of that village to the office of city attorney, which position he filled until his removal to Oskaloosa in 1868. Here he formed a law partnership with George W. Lafferty, with whom he continued actively in the practice of his profession until his election to the bench in 1883. In 1869 he had been appointed city attorney and the next year was elected to the office, which position he filled for six years. Not only was he connected with the execution of

the laws but also become a factor in framing them, for in 1879 he was chosen by popular suffrage to represent his district in the state senate and was a member of the eighteenth and nineteenth general assemblies of Iowa, acting as a member when the amendment for prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors was framed and submitted to the people. In the nineteenth general assembly he was chairman of the committee of the constitutional amendments. In 1882 he received his party's nomination of the sixth judicial district and in 1886 was re-elected on the republican ticket, at which time the democrat and greenback parties refused to put up a candidate against him. In 1890 he was re-nominated and re-elected. He continued upon the bench up to the time of his death, which occurred before the expiration of his third term. He was soon recognized as an able lawyer, thoroughly read in his profession, a faithful counselor and a fine speaker. His methods were well worthy of emulation and he enjoyed the highest confidence of his clients, so that his advancement in the profession was steady and sure. In the trial of a case he saw quickly every advantage and disadvantage, noted effects of any argument with remarkable rapidity and was recognized as combining to the fullest extent the qualities which go to make up a successful advocate. His course upon the bench was equally commendable and his position was indicated by the fact that the opposing parties would place no nominees in the field at the time of his second election. He was absolutely fearless in the discharge of his duties and favor could not tempt him from the straight path. He possessed a mind particularly free from judicial bias and he brought to his duties a most thorough knowledge of the law and of human nature, a comprehensive knowledge and calm and deliberate judgment. His decisions were models of judicious fairness, and he was of a type of the law that respects and protects, not condemns humanity. He was ardently devoted to his profession and was an orator of recognized ability.

On the 27th of April, 1871, Judge Johnson was married to Miss Ann E. Gruwell, who was born in Columbiana county. Ohio, and is a daughter of Dr. J. P. Gruwell, also a native of the Buckeye state. She came of French ancestry, while her husband was of Scotch lineage. She is now living in Oskaloosa at the age of sixty-five years and is a member of the Society of Friends, to which Judge Johnson also belonged. Her father, Dr. John P. Gruwell, came to Iowa in 1870, and practiced his profession for a number of years, after which he returned to Ohio, where his death occurred. Judge and Mrs. Johnson had seven children, of whom two died in infancy, the others being: Irving C., mentioned elsewhere in this work; Elizabeth, the wife of Fred W. Esgen, a wholesale grocer at Los Angeles, California; Carl, who is reading law with his brother Irving; Alice P., a teacher in the high school at Chariton, Iowa; and Emily, a student at Bryn Mawr College, near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Judge Johnson was a genial, courteous gentleman, a pleasing, entertaining companion, and had many stanch and admiring friends among all classes of men. As an energetic, upright and conscientious lawyer, a jurist and a gentleman of attractive, social qualities, he stood high in the estimation of the entire community. He died in 1894, at the age of fifty-two years, and his life had been one of such signal serviceableness that his death was deeply deplored throughout the entire county.

JAMES ARTHUR DEVITT.

James Arthur Devitt, a member of the law firm of Devitt & Burrell, practicing at Oskaloosa, was born in Dewitt, Clinton county, Iowa, June 1, 1872, and is a son of John and Mary (Murphy) Devitt, both of whom were natives of Ireland. The father, crossing the Atlantic to the United States in 1863, located in New Haven, Connecticut, where he engaged in teaching school. He afterward removed to Clinton county, Iowa, in 1870, where he continued his educational work up to the time of his death in 1874, when he was fifty-four years of age. His political views accorded with democratic principles. His wife also passed away in 1874, when fifty years of age. In their family were five children: John, an attorney at Muscatine, Iowa; Anna, the wife of James Thornton, a merchant at Dewitt, Iowa; Maggie, also of Dewitt; Nellie, the wife of Albert Johnson, of Chicago; and James A., of this review.

In the common and high schools of Eldora, Iowa, James A. Devitt pursued his preliminary education, while his law course was mastered in the Iowa State University, which he entered in 1894 and from which he was graduated in 1897. He then began the practice of his profession in partnership with Walter C. Burrell at Oskaloosa and has continued with him successfully to the present time, the firm being a strong one. Mr. Devitt has served for two terms as county attorney, elected in 1900 and in 1902. In the discharge of his duties he shows neither fear nor favor and is entirely free from partiality, standing firmly as conservator of the rights and liberties and the privileges of the people at large.

In August, 1901, Mr. Devitt was married to Miss Pauline Lewelling, who was born in Salem. Henry county, in 1878, a daughter of Lorenzo D. and Angie Lewelling. Her father in early life was a newspaper man and founded the Iowa Capital. Prominent in the west, he served as governor of Kansas from 1892 until 1894, and his influence has been a potent factor in developing the policy of the two states in which he has resided since crossing the Mississippi. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Devitt has been born

one son, James Lewelling. The parents are members of the Congregational church and Mr. Devitt has taken various degrees in the Masonic order and is also a prominent Elk, having served two terms as exalted ruler of Oskaloosa lodge No. 340, and as delegate to the grand lodge, B. P. O. E. His political allegiance is given to the republican party. He is a young man whose years, however, have seemed no bar to his progress and already he has gained an enviable position in a profession where advancement depends upon individual merit. Not by purchase or influence can it be attained, but through close and unremitting labor that brings broad knowledge, supplemented by keen analytical power and a readiness in grasping points as presented by the opponent as well as the strong features of one's own side of the cause. Mr. Devitt has been accorded a liberal clientage and his practice is constantly growing in volume and importance.

JOHN R. BUSBY.

John R. Busby, of Rose Hill, who is engaged in the banking-business and also carries on a general mercantile enterprise which he has conducted for twelve years, is one of Mahaska county's native sons, his birth having occurred in Oskaloosa, November 25, 1869. He is a son of Elijah Busby, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. The father was born in Carroll county, Ohio, and when a young man came to Iowa, settling in Mahaska county, where he was married to Eliza Bass. She was born in Indiana but was reared in Iowa, her father, William Bass, being one of the pioncer settlers of this state.

John R. Busby spent his youth in his parents' home, acquiring his education in the public schools of Mahaska county and afterward attending Des Moines College. He remained with

his father until nineteen years of age and for about a year engaged in teaching school. He studied pharmacy and afterward spent two years as a pharmacist in Des Moines. He then came to Rose Hill and purchased a drug and grocery store, since which time he has been identified with the business interests of this town. He soon built up a good trade and has enlarged the scope of his undertakings by putting in a stock of dry goods and shoes. He now carries a large and complete line of general merchandise and has a liberal patronage owing to his reliable business methods, his earnest desire to please his patrons and his reasonable prices. In 1900 he established the Rose Hill Savings Bank, a stock bank capitalized at \$15,000. The president is Robert Bass, while Mr. Busby is cashier. A prosperous business is being conducted and Mr. Busby has thoroughly acquainted himself with banking in all of its departments, so that he is able to give excellent service to the public. The institution has long since become a paying one and is a valued addition to business interests of Rose Hill. It is to the bank that Mr. Busby gives the greater part of his time and attention.

On the 1st of January, 1894, was celebrated in Jasper county the marriage of John R. Bushy and Miss Lulu Austin, who was born and reared in that county. She was educated in Oskaloosa and in Des Moines and is a daughter of Henry Austin, a native of Maine, who spent his boyhood and youth in the Pine Tree state. Later he came to Iowa and owned and conducted a big stock farm in Jasper county. He was a pioneer there, entering land from the government and was closely associated with the early development and progress of that part of the state. Mrs. Busby was reared and educated in Jasper county and by her marriage has become the mother of one child, Lois. Mrs. Busby belongs to the Friends' church but attends the Methodist Episcopal church at Rose Hill. Both Mr. and Mrs. Busby are deeply interested in the

work of the church and of the Sunday-school and he has served as Sunday-school superintendent for several years. They contribute generously to the support of the church and do everything in their power to promote its growth and extend its influence.

Politically Mr. Busby is independent and has never sought or held office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business interests and other duties. He is one of the active and prosperous business men of Mahaska county, a good financier and man of keen discernment. He is public spirited in an eminent degree and while advancing his individual interests has also contributed to the general welfare. He built a large double store building in the town, also a residence and has thus contributed to the material improvement of the village. He is ever ready to give aid and encouragement to all enterprises for the advancement of the community and he is well known in Oskaloosa and Mahaska county, he and his estimable wife enjoying the warm regard of a very large circle of friends here. Their influence is distinctively on the side of the just, the true and the beautiful, and their genuine personal worth is recognized by all with whom they have come in contact.

VERNOR EDWARD HAMILTON.

Vernor Edward Hamilton is treasurer of the Huber & Kalbach Company, wholesale and retail dealers in hardware. This is one of the most prominent commercial enterprises of the city of Oskaloosa—an important factor in the business activity. He was born in Grundy county, Illinois, in 1875, and comes of Scotch descent. His great-grandfather was an officer in the Revolutionary war, which indicates that the family was established in America in colonial days. Charles Vernor Hamilton, father of our subject, was born in Fulton, New York, and

was engaged in business as a hardware mer chant for many years. He possessed excellen business discernment and sound judgment which, combined with his indefatigable energy won for him the success which now enable him to live retired in the enjoyment of th fruits of his former toil. He makes his hom in Gardner, Illinois, and is now sixty-one year Fraternally he is connected with th Masons, while politically he is a democrat. H married Miss Ellen Huston, who was born in Grundy county, Illinois, is of Scotch-Irish de scent and is a daughter of Robert Huston. She is now fifty-three years of age. In the family of this worthy couple were seven children namely: Vernor E., of this review; Robert J. a professor in the Manual Training School, a Indianapolis, Indiana; Charlotte M., the wife of Edward A. Ellis, superintendent of schools at Geneva, Illinois; Clarence, deceased; Charles who is with the Huber & Kalbach Company one who died in infancy; and Frances Willard who is attending school. The mother is a member of the Presbyterian church.

Vernor E. Hamilton at the usual age entered the public schools of Gardner, Illinois, and steadily advancing through the different grades was eventually graduated from the high school there. He also spent two years in the University of Illinois, and thus well equipped by a liberal education for life's practical and responsible duties he entered business circles as an employe in the wholesale hardware house of Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Company, at Chicago. He was then eighteen years of age and he served successively as clerk, checker, price clerk, house salesman and traveling salesman, representing that firm in the different capacities for six years. In 1900 he came to Oskaloosa, where he engaged in the retail hardware business with J. F. Hamilton under the firm style of Hamilton & Hamilton. This relation was maintained until 1904, when he sold his interest in the business in order to become a stockholder in the Huber & Kalbach Company, wholesale and retail dealers in hardware. He is now treasurer of the company, which is conducting an extensive business, being one of the most prominent commercial enterprises of that city. He became thoroughly familiar with the hardware trade during the early years of his business career and was well equipped to undertake the arduous duties which devolve upon him in his present connection.

Mr. Hamilton maintains fraternal relations with the Masons and the Elks, but is independent in his political views. It is a noticeable fact in the commercial world that the young men are those who are powerful factors in trade circles, possessing unfaltering enterprise and energy that readily solve intricate business problems and are constantly alert for opportunities for the advancement and for broadening the scope of their undertakings. Mr. Hamilton is a typical representative of this class and each step in his career has been a forward one, leading him nearer and nearer to the goal of prosperity.

HORACE W. GLEASON.

Horace W. Gleason, a member of the bar of Oskaloosa, former representative in the general assembly and United States commissioner for the southern district of Iowa since 1904, was born in Warren, Grafton county, New Hamphire, May 2, 1846. His father, Salmon Gleason, was born in Langdon, New Hampshire, in 1804, and was of English ancestry, the first epresentatives in the United States having crossed the Atlantic in 1652 and settled at Vatertown, Massachusetts. They were Purians and one, Thomas Gleason, the first of the same in this country, was in charge of the Equasachems lands. Windsor Gleason, grandather of Horace W. Gleason, served as a mematic state of the Squasachems lands.

ber of the First New Hampsire Infantry in the Revolutionary war and was wounded in battle. Salmon Gleason, his son, was educated in Wilberham (Massachusetts) College, now Fiske University, and was ordained to the Methodist ministry at the age of twenty-five years. He filled a number of pastorates and was at one time presiding elder. Not only did he labor untiringly for the upbuilding of his church, but he used his oratorical power—being a fluent speaker—to advance the interests of abolition in the state of New Hampshire, lending his voice and efforts to the cause in which he so firmly believed. He was the first abolitionist in New Hampshire. In antebellum days he belonged to the freesoil party and when the republican party was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery he joined its ranks, easting his ballot for its first candidate, John C. Fremont, afterward for Abraham Lincoln, In certain business affairs he prospered, becoming a man of moderate means. His death occurred in Warren, New Hampshire, in 1889, when he had reached the age of eighty-five years and a life of great usefulness and influence was thus ended. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Jerusha Willard, was born in Hartland, Vermont, in 1803, and died in 1876. She, too, came of Puritan stock of New England ancestry and her father, Charles Willard, was one of the patriot army who fought for the independence of the nation. Others, too, served with the colonial troops and the great-great-uncle, Colonel Willard, was killed in the French and Indian war. Relies of the military service of her ancestors are still in possession of the family. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Salmon Gleason were born six children: Charles and William, who died in infancy; Salmon W., a retired miller living in St. Charles, Minnesota; George L., pastor of the Riverside Congregational church at Haverhill, Massachusetts; Orange Scott, a retired farmer living in Warren, New Hampshire; and Horace W.

In the common schools of his native town W. Gleason acquired his mentary education which was supplemented academic work in Newbury, mont, and also by study in the Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, preparatory to his entrance in Dartmouth College, where his collegiate work was done. His educational work, however, was interrupted by his service in the Civil war, for in August, 1862, in response to his country's call for aid he enlisted at Warren, New Hampshire, for service with the Union army, becoming a member of Company G, Twelfth New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry, with which he remained until August, 1865, when he was mustered out at Hampton, Virginia. He was at Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Drury's Bluff. Swift Creek, the last engagement at Fair Oaks, the battle of the Crater at Petersburg, was in the Appointation campaign, and at Gettysburg sustained a slight wound. From the above record it will be seen that he was in a number of the most hotly contested engagements of the war and he was promoted from the ranks to the grade of fourth sergeant, afterward became sergeant major, later was second lieutenant and eventually became first lieutenant.

When the war was over Lieutenant Gleason returned to his native state. He taught school for two years in Iowa, coming to this state in 1867, and first locating at Fort Dodge, where he engaged in the insurance business for a year. He then removed to Belle Plaine, Iowa, where he taught school and read law. He was admitted to the bar at Toledo, Iowa, in 1869, and began practice in Monroe, this state, where he remained for two years. In May, 1872, he came to Oskaloosa, where he practiced for fifteen years, after which he removed to Hutchinson, Kansas, continuing a member of the bar at that place for nine years. The succeeding five years were passed in Chicago, and in 1901 he returned to Oskaloosa, where his ability is

winning him recognition from a constantly increasing clientele. Careful in the preparation of his cases, his earnest effort and keen insigh into legal principles and complex situations have enabled him to win many notable forensic victories.

On the 21st of October, 1871, Mr. Gleason

was married to Miss Flora A. Howard, who was born in Reynoldsburg, Ohio, in 1853, a daughter of Henry and Mary Howard. He father came to Oskaloosa in 1855 and engaged in merchandising here among the early busines: men of the city. Mr. and Mrs. Gleason have become the parents of four children: Howard L., who is auditor of the Pullman Palace Ca-Company; Helen and Willard, who died in in fancy; and Warren E., who is with the Golden Eagle at Oskaloosa. The parents are commu nicants of the Episcopal church and Mr. Glea son is a member of the various Masonic bodie and of the Modern Woodmen camp. He i likewise a member of Phil Kearney post, G. A R., of Oskaloosa, of which he was at one time commander. He is senior warden of St. Jame Episcopal church and was lay chancellor of the diocese of Kansas and also a member of the standing committee. In the line of his profes sion he is a member of the Mahaska County Bar Association and has been a member of th Kansas State Bar Association and the Chicago Bar Association. It is evidence of his position in public regard among those with whom he i closely associated that in almost all of the dif ferent associations with which he has been con nected political, social, religious and fraternal he has been called to office. He was a directo of the Hamilton Club, of Chicago, the larges republican club west of New York city. While in his profession he has won a notable place, he is perhaps equally prominent in political circle and his opinions carry weight in the councils o the republican party because of his hearty sym pathy with its platform and his untiring effort for its success. In 1887 he was elected count attorney but afterward resigned the office. He represented Mahaska county in the seventeenth general assembly of lowa and proved an earnest and able working member of the legislature, being directly concerned in some of the important constructive measures of the session. He was appointed in 1904 as United States commissioner for the southern district of lowa. Progress and patriotism might well be termed the keynote of his character, these qualities having been manifest in all of his public service and his private business interests.

ELWOOD HATCHER.

Elwood Hatcher is now living a retired life in New Sharon, but for many years was closely identified with agricultural interests and at one time was the owner of six hundred and fifty acres of very valuable land in this county. He was born in Portage county, Ohio, August 19, 1853, and is a son of Joshua and Ann Eliza (Rosseter) Hatcher, the former born in Columbiana county, Ohio, in 1800, and the latter in the state of New York in 1811. The father was always a farmer by occupation and owned a tract of land in the Buckeve state but, believing that he might enjoy still better business opportunities west of the Mississippi, he came to Iowa in 1856, locating in Mahaska county near Indianapolis, where he purchased a farm of three hundred acres. He afterward bought more land from time to time and became one of the extensive property owners of this part of the county and in his farming operations was very successful. He possessed keen insight into business affairs and his unfaltering diligence proved an excellent foundation upon which to rear the superstructure of prosperity. He continued to make his home in Mahaska county up to the time of his death, which occurred near Indianapolis when he was seventyfive years of age. His widow reached the very venerable age of ninety-one years, passing away in Whatcheer, Iowa. They were both devoted and worthy members of the Christian church and Mr. Hatcher was an earnest republican although never an office seeker. In their family were six children, who in order of birth are as follows: Elwood, of this review; Elizabeth, the widow of William C. Beans, a resident of Mahaska county; Mary D., the deceased wife of Albert Lewis, also of this county; Emeline, who died in Ohio at the age of fifteen years: Erastus, who is living at Whatcheer, Iowa; and Washington, who resides at Norton, Kansas.

Elwood Hatcher spent his youth in his parents' home, remaining with them until twentyone years of age, and his early education was acquired in the common schools and was supplemented by one-term's study in Hiram College. In the spring of 1856 he left Ohio and made his way to Hancock county, Illinois. where for a year he lived upon a farm near Nauvoo, belonging to his uncle. On October 1, 1856, he arrived in Mahaska county, where he invested his capital in one hundred and twenty acres of land, of which about twenty-five acres had been broken. Only slight improvements had been made thereon. There was a hewed log house and a prairie stable, while otherwise the entire farm was in its primitive condition. Mr. Hatcher at once began to clear and cultivate his land and resided thereon until about fifteen years ago, when he retired from active business life and removed to New Sharon. He had prospered in his farming operations and in connection with the tilling of the soil bought, fed and shipped stock, which branch of his business he found to be a very profitable source of income. As his capital increased he invested more and more largely in real estate and at one time owned six hundred and fifty acres of farming land. He disposed of a part of this and sold the remainder to other parties. Now with a very desirable competence to supply him with the comforts and some of the luxuries of life he is living in well earned ease and comfort in a beautiful home in New Sharon, which he purchased on his removal to this village. He has rebuilt and added to the place and it is now a very attractive, commodious and comfortable residence.

Before leaving Ohio Mr. Hatcher was married on the 11th of March, 1855, to Miss Clara E. Lewis, who was born in Trumbull county, that state, and who died in Mahaska county, Iowa, January 17, 1890, at the age of fifty-four years, her death being deeply regretted by many friends as well as her immediate family, for she possessed excellent qualities of heart and mind. She had become the mother of eight children, of whom seven are now living, one having died in infancy. Those who still survive are: Emma, a widow, residing in Norton, Kansas; Charles E., who is living on a farm near Whatcheer, Iowa; Albert L., who resides upon a part of the old homestead; Ida M., the wife of James T. Simpson, who is living on the old Hatcher farm; Cora A., the wife of Eria Hawley, a resident of Horton, Kansas; and Ed, who follows farming in Union township, this county. After losing his first wife Mr. Hatcher was married June 6, 1891, to Mrs. J. K. Smith, nee Ferrell, a daughter of Fred Ferrell, who came to this county in 1857.

Mr. Hatcher has been a lifelong republican and although he has never aspired to office he served as trustee of his township for several years, being called to the position by his fellow townsmen who recognized his capability and fidelity. He was a member of the school board of Pleasant Grove township, was president of the Prairie Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, and president of the Whatcheer Fair Association for four years, taking an active and helpful interest in this work, which has been a stimulus to agricultural development. He belongs to the Christian church and is a very

pleasant, genial gentleman and has manifested a most public-spirited interest in the general welfare and has ever been willing to support any cause for the general good.

WILBUR A. McNEILL.

Wilbur A. McNeill, capitalist of Oskaloosa, was born June 12, 1843, in Springfield, Illinois. The ancestry of the McNeill family in America is traced back to two brothers who came from Scotland to the new world in 1770. One of these, Archibald McNeill, was a physician and settled in Georgia. The other, Gen. John McNeill, won his title by service in the British army and while on leave of absence settled in Kent county, Maryland. This was only a few years before the outbreak of the Revolutionary war and he noted the conditions among the colonies that led to the outbreak of hostilities. His sympathies were aroused in behalf of the oppressed and he forfeited his commission in 1776 by taking sides with the American troops in the war of the Revolution. General McNeill was the father of four The eldest, John McNeill, Jr., who became a lawyer by profession, removed to Cumberland, Maryland, in 1800 and was for many years judge of the orphans' court of Allegany county. By his marriage to Miss Mary Myers there were born five sons and three daughters.

One of these, the Rev. Francis Asbury Mc-Neill, was the father of the representatives of the name now living in Oskaloosa. He was born January 1, 1809, and was married in Frederick City, Maryland, to Miss Mary E. Cronise, who was born in that city March 4, 1812. Dr. McNeill was baptized by the Rev. Francis Asbury, the first bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church in America. He joined the church when very young and was received into the ministry at the age of twenty





Homerul



MAMMercill



rears. In 1833 he was ordained a deacon at Baltimore, Maryland, by Bishop Hedding and vas ordained elder in 1837 at Jacksonville, Illiiois, by Bishop Soule. He found time to pursue course of medical studies in addition to his vork in the ministry and was graduated from the Iniversity of Maryland at Baltimore in 1834. locating at Springfield in the spring of 1835, ie there practiced medicine and at the same ime maintained his pastoral connection with he church for over two years, after which he vas located by the conference at various points. le not only did much for his fellowmen in he way of ministering to physical and spiritual iceds but was also an active factor in political ife and an ardent opponent of slavery. It was his that largely influenced him to leave Maryand. He made campaign addresses throughout the state of Illinois in support of William Tenry Harrison in 1840 and was a delegate to he convention which nominated Henry Clay or the presidency. He also attended the Bloomington convention in 1856, which gave ise to the republican party in Illinois and at he time of the outbreak of the Civil war was member of the state legislature. The newspaper which he published in Ogle county was mong the first to advocate the cause of Abraiam Lincoln and of the martyred president ie was a very warm, personal friend and arlent admirer. After the outbreak of hostiliies between the north and the south he was apoointed surgeon of the Thirty-fourth Illinois nfantry by Governor Richard Yates, but Inter esigned on account of ill health and was aftervard appointed post chaplain at Paducah, Kenucky. Subsequently he filled a similar posiion in Louisville, Kentucky, but in 1865 left he service. His death occurred February 1. 872, at Mount Morris, Illinois. He had alvays maintained a high standard of conduct n every relation of life and had entertained principles that constitute the basic elements of good citizenship and Christian living.

His wife, Mrs. Mary E. McNeill, died at Springfield, Illinois, November 4, 1849, and Dr. McNeill was married again February 2, 1857. Miss Barbara E. Wagner, of Mount Morris, becoming his wife. Of the children born of his first marriage there are three living and two are residents of Oskaloosa. Mrs. Ann Norvella Little, born June 25, 1835, in Washington county, Maryland, lives in Chicago, Illinois. James Floyd, born October 15, 1841, in Springfield, where he was reared and obtained his education, enlisted for service in the Civil war, August 12, 1862. He joined the army for three years as a member of Company G. One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Infantry, and was promoted to the rank of sergeant major. He served until the close of the Rebellion and was honorably discharged August 15, 1865, after which he became clerk in the adjutant general's office in Illinois, acting in that capacity until the office was abolished. He was married November 18, 1872, to Julia E. Hibbs, of New York city, and they became the parents of two children. Walter F. and Mabel. Wilbur A. McNeill, of this review, is the next of the family. Hobart W. McNeill, one of the leading citizens of Oskaloosa, was born June 18, 1847, at Peoria, Illinois. mother dying soon afterward he was reared by an aunt in Allegany county, Maryland, and he attended the University of Virginia until that school was closed by the Confederacy. He pursued the work of his senior college year in 1865 at Rock River Seminary in Ogle county. Illinois, after which he read law and pursued a course of lectures in the University of Michigan in 1867. He was admitted to the bar in Springfield, Illinois, the following year and in 1869 located at Eldora, Iowa, where he formed a law partnership with Ex-Governor Enoch W. Eastman. In 1870 he entered the service of the Iowa Central Railroad Company, becoming their general agent in 1871. As special agent of the Iowa Valley Construction Company. which built the central railroad, he settled its affairs which in two years involved an expenditure of four million dollars and which were very much complicated. His report, made in New York city, was printed by the company and was accepted as a final and complete settlement of the business. In 1872 he was the secret agent of the St. Louis & St. Paul Railroad and became president of the road. In 1873 in connection with W. A. McNeill he undertook the development of the Mahaska coal fields, organizing the Iowa Central Company with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars and of the company became president. The stock soon sold at a large premium, the lowest sales being fifty and the highest one hundred and twenty-five per cent above par. This corporation was merged into the Consolidation Coal Company, which absorbed several other companies. In 1881 the stock was sold to the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company for five hundred thousand dollars in eash. In that year H. W. McNeill became assistant to the president of the Chicago. Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company and in November of the same year resigned to resume the presidency of the Dubuque International Improvement Company. He formulated the financial plan whereby was built the Masonic Opera House in Oskaloosa. He organized and was president of the Oskaloosa Power & Land Company, capitalized at fifty thousand dollars; the Oskaloosa Tanning Company, capitalized at twenty-five thousand dollars; the Oskaloosa Edison Light Company, with a capital of twentyfive thousand dollars; was vice-president of the Western Union Fuel Company, capitalized at two hundred thousand dollars: vice-president of the American Coal Company, with a capital of two hundred thousand dollars; vice-president and manager of the Iowa Iron Works Company, of Dubuque, capitalized at one hundred and fifty thousand dollars; vice-president of the Dubuque Steam Heating Company, capitalized at thirty-five thousand dollars; vicepresident and manager of the Rasmussen Western Railway Cable Company, of Chicago, Illinois, capitalized at two million dollars; was a director of the Farmers & Traders National Bank of Oskaloosa; and of the Oskaloosa Oatmeal Company with headquarters at Mason City, Iowa. Few men in the state operated more largely in business affairs than H. W. McNeill. He thought out new plans of action, ventured upon untried fields and carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook, being systematic at all times in his work and utilizing every opportunity to the best advantage. He became one of the most eminent and prosperous men of the state and was a typical American citizen, who while promoting individual success also largely contributed to the commercial and industrial advancement and prosperity of the county and the commonwealth. He was married May 15. 1869, to Miss Lizzie Phillips, of Eldora, Iowa, to which place she had removed from Allegany county, Maryland. She had been a childhood friend and playmate of her husband and was educated at Dr. Brooks' College in Baltimore. There was one child of this marriage. Anna, born July 12, 1873. H. W. McNeill died at San Jose, California, January 27, 1900.

Of Dr. McNeill's second marriage there were born four children, of whom two are living: Catherine M., born in Mount Morris, Illinois, May 20, 1860, received a liberal literary education and then devoted herself to the study of vocal music, spending two years in Chicago, after which she studied for three years under the best masters of London and Paris, completing her course abroad in 1886. She now lives with her husband, Dr. Walter Huffmann, in Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, Frank A. McNeill, born October 26, 1862, is now living in Tishomingo, Indian Territory.

The life record of Wilbur A. McNeill has been closely interwoven with the history of Oska-

loosa's development and upbuilding in later years. He acquired his early education in the old Sandstone Seminary at Mount Morris, Illinois, and in 1861, when but eighteen years of age, responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting in the Fourth Illinois Cavalry. He had a horse shot from under him at Shiloh and sustained such injuries as necessitated his discharge on account of physical disability, but his patriotic spirit was not to be quenched in this way and in 1862 he re-enlisted. While skirmishing at Griesson's Bridge below Memphis, Tennessee, and engaged in a hand-to-hand pistol duel he was severely wounded, being shot through the right breast, by reason of which he was again discharged from the service.

In 1873 Mr. McNeill associated himself with his brother H. W. in the coal business, operating first in Monroe county, Iowa, as secretary and treasurer of the Iowa Central Coal Company. Through all the changes that occurred in the organization of the corporations, as mentioned in the history of H. W. McNeill, W. A. McNeill had personal charge of the accounting and financial part of the business, which he managed with marked ability and signal success, and on his brother's death took entire charge of the business. In 1881 he established the Oskaloosa Livery & Transfer Company, his arrangements and appointments reaching such a degree of perfection that his business was unsurpassed by any similar concern in the state. He is now president of the W. A. Company, of Seattle, Washington, and the H. W. McNeill Company, Limited, of Canmore, Alberta, Canada.

To Wilbur A. McNeill there has come the attainment of a distinguished position in connection with the great material interests of the state and his efforts have been so discerningly directed along well defined lines that he seems to have realized at any one point of progress the full measure of his opportunities for ac-

complishment at this point. A man of distinctive and forceful intellectuality, of broad mentality and most mature judgment he has left and is leaving his impress upon the industrial and agricultural world.

H. E. CARVER, M. D.

Dr. H. E. Carver, who is engaged in the practice of medicine at Rose Hill, where he has been located for four years, was born near Oskaloosa, October 14, 1875. His father, Jerrel Carver, was one of the early settlers of Mahaska county and was married here to Miss Izora Freeman, a native of Ohio, who was reared and educated, however, in Mahaska county and for a number of years was a capable teacher in the schools of Oskaloosa, Jerrel Carver is still a resident of Oskaloosa and is respected as one of its worthy and valued citizens.

Dr. Carver was reared in the city of his nativity and at the usual age began his education, passing through successive grades until he had completed a course in Oskaloosa high school. He afterward attended Penn College and won the degrees of Bachelor and Master of Science. He afterward attended the medical department of the State University at Iowa City, and completed his course there by graduation with the class of 1869. While a senior he served for one year in the University Hospital and thus added to his theoretical knowledge broad and helpful practical training. After completing his course he located in the city of Oskaloosa, where he began practice, remaining there for three years, and in 1901 he came to Rose Hill. where he opened an office and has since followed his profession. Here he has built up a good business and is accounted one of the able and successful physicians of the county. Everything which tends to bring to man the key to the complex mystery which we call life is of interest to him, and he is quick to adopt all new methods of improvement and progress in his profession. He is a Master Mason, belonging to Rose Hill lodge, and he belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity at Oskaloosa. A young man, he has attained success which many an older practitioner might well envy, and his fidelity to a high standard of professional ethics has won him the regard of his brethren of the medical fraternity.

ALONZO MOBLEY.

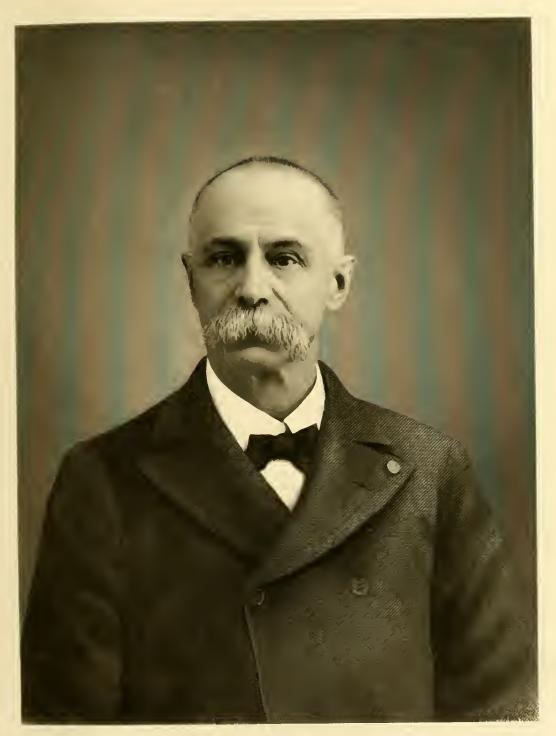
· Alonzo Mobley, president of the Oskaloosa Ice Company, was born in the western part of Mahaska county, on the 7th of September, 1860. His father, John B. Mobley, was a native of Belmont county, Ohio, and came to Henry county, Iowa, in 1852. In 1859 he purchased forty acres of land south of the Des Moines river and removed to Mahaska county. He settled in Centerville and there he engaged in carpentering and building, erecting the first house there and also a number of others, thus contributing to the early upbuilding and development of the town. He erected many houses in the western part of the county. Later in life he purchased a farm of one hundred and four acres and devoted his remaining days to general agricultural pursuits, there dving on the 6th of November, 1899. He was twice married, his first wife being Lucy Pratt, by whom he had three sons, Chester, Seth and George, all of whom served in the Seventh Iowa Cavalry during the Civil war. After losing his first wife he wedded Elizabeth Dana, a native of Washington county, Iowa, now living in St. Louis, Missouri. The sons and daughters of this marriage are James, Richard, Owen, William, Fred, Max, J. Brice, Alonzo; Mrs. May De Van; Mrs. Grace Moore, deceased; and Mrs. Carrie Snorf, who has also passed away.

Alonzo Mobley pursued his education in the district schools and for some time worked in mines. He afterward engaged in the conduct of a fruit farm, devoting his time and energies to horticultural pursuits until 1890, when he turned his attention to the ice business, with which he had been connected. In 1904 he began the manufacture of artificial ice and is today the president of the Oskaloosa Ice Company, which has a large trade, supplying many patrons. The plant is a well equipped establishment, supplied with the latest improved machinery in that line and the business has been carefully developed and is now one of the leading productive industries and profitable enterprises of Oskaloosa,

Mr. Mobley was married to Miss Elizabeth Henry, of Beacon, and to them were born two children, Byers and Roy. For his second wife he chose Belle Ruby, a daughter of Morton C. and Ella (Downs) Ruby, of Beacon. The children of the second marriage are Edward and Harold. The family reside in a beautiful home at No. 403 A avenue East in Oskaloosa, and its social functions are among the most attractive features in the social life of the city. Mr. Moblev is a member of the Modern Woodmen camp. He has made for himself a creditable position and honored name in business circles and although he started out in life empty-handed, he is today one of the prosperous residents of his native county.

COLONEL JAMES F. McNEILL.

Colonel James F. McNeill, now residing in Oskaloosa, Iowa, is a native of Springfield. Illinois, born October 15, 1841. His parents, Dr. F. A. and Mary E. (Cronise) McNeill, were natives of Allegany county, Maryland. Following his marriage the father removed to



J. F. M. Heill.



Springfield, Illinois, where he engaged in oreaching as a minister of the Methodist Episropal church. Later he took up the practice of medicine in Sangamon county, that state, and subsequently removed to Ogle county. Illinois, where he became a prominent and in-Auential citizen, being called to represent his listrict in the state legislature. He was born January 1, 1809, and died in Ogle county, Fehuary 1, 1872. His wife had passed away in Springfield several years previously. In their family were ten children but only three are now living: W. A., a resident of Oskaloosa; Ann N., the widow of H. I. Little, of Chicago: and James F. H. W. McNeill, a brother of our subject, died in 1900. He had been prominently identified with the business affairs of Oskaloosa and Mahaska county, being particularly active in the development of the coal mines in this locality and also in Canada.

Entering the public schools, James F. Mc-Neill passed through consecutive grades until he had completed the high-school course. On the 12th of August, 1862, he enlisted for service in the Civil war as a private in Company G, One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Infantry, and was promoted to the rank of sergeant major of that regiment and was honorably discharged August 15, 1865. Following the close of hostilities Colonel McNeill returned to Springfield, Illinois, where he was employed for many years in the First National Bank, until 1883, when he came to Oskaloosa and was made assistant cashier in the Farmers & Trades National Bank, which position he filled for ten years, being a popular and prominent official. In the meantime he had become connected with his brothers, H. W. and W. A. McNeill, in the development and operation of coal mines, having charge of other business interests in Mahaska county under the firm name of McNeill Brothers.

On the 18th of November, 1872, Colonel McNeill was married to Miss Julia E. Hibbs.

of Springfield, Illinois. Their children are: Walter F., now managing McNeill Brothers' interests in Scattle, Washington, and Alberta, Canada; and Mabel, now the wife of George M. Martin, traveling passenger agent for the lowa Central Railroad Company at Oskaloosa.

Colonel McNeill was an active member of the Lincoln Guard of Honor in Springfield, Illinois, and when the body of the martyred president was stolen he assisted in securing it and placing it in a permanent and secret burial spot. He was an active participant in organizing the Illinois National Guard, was the first assistant adjutant general of the Second Brigade, and as such officer issued the general order mobilizing that brigade, and at the date of moving from Illinois to Iowa was lieutenant colonel of the Fifth Infantry Illinois National Guard. The Colonel is prominent in Grand Army circles, having been twice elected commander of Phil Kearney post, No. 40, of Oskaloosa, Iowa, and is at this writing senior vice commander, Department of Iowa, Grand Army of the Republic. He is a man of affairs, who has been successful in his business dealings, vet is modest and unassuming in manner.

PHIL HOFFMANN.

Phil Hoffmann, editor and one of the owners of the Daily and Weekly Herald published at Oskaloosa, was born in this city, August 16, 1868, a son of Phillip and Eleanor (Addy) Hoffmann, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Ireland. The father was born in Steinweiler, Bavaria, October 13, 1830, and his parents were Peter and Anna (Pilatzgraff) Hoffmann. Phillip Hoffmann was the youngest of three children and the only one that left Germany, the others having died in childhood. After acquiring his literary education he learned

the glazier's trade in Strasburg, and for some time was engaged in making repairs on the famous Strasburg clock, a fact in which he took great pride. He came to America in 1853, arriving at New Orleans, and for two years he worked at his trade in Cincinnati and St. Louis. In 1855 he came to Oskaloosa, but finding that work at glass fitting was very limited here, he learned the cabinet-maker's and carpenter's trades, thoroughly mastering the work. He established one of the first grocery stores at Oskaloosa in 1885, conducting it for two years, when it was destroyed by fire, leaving him penniless. His death occurred after a brief illness, July 10, 1902.

Phil Hoffmann, whose name introduces this review, was educated in the public schools of Oskaloosa and in Penn College, being a graduate of the high school of this city of the class of 1885. While in school he was employed for three years in the drug store of W. S. Mays, at Oskaloosa, working nights and during the vacation periods. He also served as "devil" in the Herald office. After finishing his education he entered the editorial department of the Herald, where he was employed for five years, or until 1892, when, with his brother Charles V., under the firm name of Hoffmann Brothers, he purchased the Oskaloosa steam laundry, which he conducted until December, 1896. On the expiration of that period they disposed of the laundry and bought the Oskaloosa Herald plant of Colonel A. W. and Pauline G. Swalm, and the firm of Hoffmann Brothers as owners and proprietors succeeded to both the daily and weekly papers. The Herald had been established in 1850 as a weekly paper and the Daily Herald was started in 1887 by Swalm & Leighton. It was first a whig organ, and on the dissolution of that party advocated republican principles, having since been a champion of this or-The Herald has survived some ganization. twenty-six papers that have gone to the wall in Oskaloosa. The circulation of the Daily Herald has increased fourfold and the Weekly Herald fifty per cent since the present owners took charge. Charles S. Walling and Maggie Hoffmann became partners in the ownership of the office and plant in January, 1905, and the business was incorporated at that time under the style of the Oskaloosa Herald Company. The history of the Herald would seem an exemplification of the term, "survival of the fittest," having had a continuous existence of more than a half century, while other papers for lack of public support have had to suspend publication. The paper to-day is kept at an excellent standard and a good business is enjoyed both in the circulation and advertising departments.

On the 20th of September, 1905, Mr. Hoffmann was married to Anna M. Glaze, a daughter of F. W. Glaze, of Oskaloosa. Since 1904 he has been a member of the Masonic fraternity and also affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. He served five years in Company F, of the Iowa National Guards, the last two as first sergeant. Politically he has been a republican since casting his first presidential ballot, and he is a member of the Chicago Press Club.

JESSE H. PHILLIPS, M. D.

Dr. Jesse H. Phillips, successfully engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in New Sharon, was born in Barnesville, Belmont county, Ohio, August 2, 1851. His father, Barnett Phillips, was a native of Virginia, born in 1798, and when twelve years of age he accompanied his parents on their removal to Belmont county, Ohio, where he spent his remaining days, his death occurring within sight of the farm upon which his father had located on first settling in the Buckeye state. Barnett Phillips became a farmer and also a shipper of

live stock and in the early days he would drive the stock over the public highway to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, for shipment. He was twice married and by the first union had five children, of whom two sons are living: Elwood, now a resident of Barnesville, Ohio; and Elmore, who is living in Harrisonville, Jefferson county, Ohio. For his second wife Mr. Phillips chose Susan Heskett, who was born in Maryland in 1814 and died in Demorest, Georgia, at the very venerable age of eighty-eight years. their family were five children: Rhoda E., the wife of Henry Bromfield, a resident of Oklahoma; Martha, who is living in Demorest, Georgia; Jesse II., of this review; Elam A., who died in Ohio twenty-six years ago; and Anna, the wife of Levi Wilkinson, now living in Demorest, Georgia.

Dr. Phillips remained in his parents' home until twenty-one years of age and then began life on his own account. He had no definite idea then of becoming a physician. He had attended the common schools while under the parental roof and afterward pursued a course of study in the Normal school at Hopedale, Jefferson county, Ohio. Later he became a student in Lebanon, Ohio, and afterward engaged in teaching school, devoting three years to that profession while in Ohio and thence coming to Mahaska county, Iowa, where he engaged in teaching for thirteen years. He was a very capable and successful educator, incidentally recognizing the best methods of imparting instruction and never failing to leave a deep impress upon the minds of his students. In his school work his labors were attended with good results and he became recognized as an able representative of educational interests here. It was after his marriage that he decided upon the practice of medicine as a life work and with his family, then numbering wife and four children, he went to Chicago, where he pursued a course in the Hahnemann College, from which he received a diploma on the 25th of March, 1897. He then returned to New Sharon, where he has since engaged in the practice of his profession. There were at that time seven physicians in the town but now only Dr. Phillips and three others remain. He has a very extensive practice, covering a radius of ten miles and he is now practicing medicine and surgery in the locality where he taught for so many years. He has an intimate knowledge of the principles of the profession and is careful in his diagnosis, so that his judgment is rarely if ever at fault in foretelling the outcome of a case.

On the 16th of March, 1880, Dr. Phillips was married to Miss Ruth Hicks, who was born in Belmont county, Ohio, in 1859, a daughter of Abel and Ruth (Bolen) Hicks, both of whom are now deceased. The father served in the Civil war from Ohio and died one vear after his return from the army. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Phillips have been born seven children: Forest, Retha and Jesse, all of whom are students at Drake University in Des Moines; Ruth Lena, who will complete the course of study in the New Sharon high school in the class of 1906; one who died in infancy; and Walter Bryan and Ralph Willard, at home. The parents and four daughters are members of the Christian church.

Dr. Phillips has always been a supporter of the democracy when national questions are involved, but at local elections casts an independent ballot. He is a third degree Mason and his wife is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. He has served on the school board but otherwise has never consented to accept office. He possesses a large fund of the quality which we call common sense and which is too often lacking in the business world and it is this that has enabled him to accomplish what he has done. He proved a very competent and successful teacher and through his own exertion won the money that enabled him to study medicine. He is now a physician well versed in the

science of medicine and a large practice is an indication of the confidence reposed in him by the general public.

BYRON W. PRESTON.

Byron W. Preston, a practitioner at the Oskaloosa bar, was born in Newton, this state, February 13, 1858, a son of Sylvester S. and Amelia M. (Wild) Preston, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of New Hampshire. The father came to Iowa in 1857, settling in Jasper county, where he remained for many years, and then removed to Marseilles, Illinois, where he carried on merchandising. He afterward established his home in Grinnell, Iowa, and subsequently went to Los Angeles. California, where he is now living, but in 1883 he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died at the age of forty-seven years. In their family were ten children, all of whom are living.

Byron W. Preston, the eldest of the family, pursued his education in the public schools, in Grinnell College, this state, and in Poughkeepsie Business College, which he attended in 1876-7, completing a commercial course by graduation. He then returned to Grinnell, where he carried on merchandising with his father for six years and on the 31st of July. 1883, he came to Oskaloosa, where he took up the study of law under the direction of Judge Blanchard. Eight mouths later he was admitted to the bar, covering a two-years' course of reading in that time. It was in March, 1884, that he passed his examination whereby he was made a member of the Iowa bar according to the laws of the state and later he was employed in the office and subsequently became a partner of Judge Blanchard, with whom he practiced until 1890. The relationship was then dissolved between them and Mr. Preston

was elected to the office of county attorney which position he filled for two terms. On his retirement from the office he resumed the practice of law and in 1894 he became candidate for judge, but was defeated. He had filled the office of city attorney in 1899 and 1900 and in 1902 was elected district judge, assuming the duties of the office in January, 1903. He is now serving on the bench and is an able exponent of the law, unbiased by partisan measures or personal prejudices in the discharge of the duties that devolve upon him He will undoubtedly be renominated at the convention May 22, 1906, as no opposing candidate has as yet been brought forward and if nominated will doubtless be elected. In former years he took an active part in political work and in 1888-9 served as chairman of the republican county convention, while in 1895 he was a member of the state republican committee for his district. Devotedly attached to his profession, systematic and methodical in habit sober and discreet in judgment, diligent in research and conscientious in the discharge of every duty, courteous and kind in demeanor and inflexibly just on all occasions, these qualities enabled Judge Preston to take first rank among those who have sat upon the circuit bench of the district. He has practiced in all the courts of Iowa, handling many important cases during his connection with the bar and he is regarded as one of the strongest members of the legal profession in Iowa.

On the 6th of October, 1880, Mr. Prestor was married to Miss Nellie Blanchard, of Newton, Iowa, a daughter of M. A. and Mary E. (Lindley) Blanchard, of Newton, Iowa. Their children are: Edith the wife of Harry K. Spencer, of Oskaloosa and Blanchard W. Judge Preston is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained the Knight Templar degree. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Woodmen of the World and the Belows.



Bywn M. Preston,



nevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and he is a communicant of the Episcopal church, in which he has been vestryman for twelve years. His is a well rounded character in which due attention is given to the great questions effecting the sociological, economic, political and religious conditions of the country, and he has keen insight into these as well as into the intricate legal problems which claim his attention upon the bench. His reported opinions indicate his legal learning and superior ability, showing a thorough mastery of the questions involved, a rare simplicity of style and an admirable terseness and clearness in the statement of the principles upon which his opinions rest.

LEWIS M. BACON.

Lewis M. Bacon, who has been actively connected with public life in Oskaloosa, being called to various positions of honor and trust, is one of the native sons of Mahaska county, born in White Oak township, December 6, 1856. He is also a representative of one of the oldest families of the county. His grandfather, William Bacon, a native of England, came to this country at an early period in its development and here reared a large family of ten children. One of his sons, Martin Bacon, who was born in 1822, is now living in Oskaloosa, having made his home in Mahaska county for thirty-five years. He has reached the eighty-fourth milestone on life's journey and is therefore one of the oldest citizens of the county.

John Bacon, father of our subject, was born in Ohio and became an early resident of Mahaska county, where he entered land from the government in connection with his brother, Rufus P. Bacon. They lived in White Oak township and held their land together for some time,

but later sold out and bought other land in White Oak township, where John Bacon continued to carry on agricultural pursuits for many years. He was active and energetic in his work and through well directed labors attained to a position of affluence. He married Miss Nancy Wymore, who removed from the Hoosier state to Iowa and spent much of her residence in this state in Mahaska county. She had four brothers and two sisters who are yet living, namely: Robert E.; Jasper N.; Elam M.; Reuben; Amanda, the wife of James Hawkins; and Margaret, the wife of Dr. Garrett Elkins. Four of the family are deceased, there having been ten in all. John Bacon spent his last days in honorable retirement from labor in a pleasant home in Rose Hill, where he died in April, 1900, at the age of seventy-six years, having for about two years survived his wife, who passed away in 1898, at the age of fifty-six vears.

Lewis M. Bacon was a student in the common schools of the county and was reared upon his father's farm, where he remained until twenty-six years of age, early becoming conversant with all the work incident to the development of the fields and the care of stock. Thinking that he would find other lines of labor more congenial than farming, however, he in 1882 engaged in merchandising in partnership with C. L. Slatten, opening a drug store in Rose Hill under the firm name of Slatten & Bacon. Subsequently he was engaged in general merchandising as a partner of R. H. Stringfellow, under the firm name of Stringfellow & Bacon, and when his partner sold out, the firm became L. M. Bacon & Company. This firm dealt in groceries and men's furnishing goods. Later, under the firm style of Bacon & Bump, Mr. Bacon engaged in dealing in groceries and hardware for one and a half years. He next sold out, after which he conducted a hardware business alone in connection with the grain trade. In 1892, however, he disposed of his

stock of hardware but continued in the grain business and was associated for a time in the lumber business with J. H. Augustine. This was in the year 1899 and in the same year he built the present grain elevator at Rose Hill. He thus became a prominent factor in the commercial development of the town, contributing in large measure to its business activity and consequent prosperity.

While living in Rose Hill Mr. Bacon was also called to various public offices, serving as mayor for one term, as township clerk for four years, justice of the peace four years, president of the school board and president of the city council. He was postmaster during President Cleveland's second administration and in all of these offices he discharged his duties with promptness and fidelity that reflected credit upon himself and satisfaction to his constituents. Removing to Oskaloosa he became engaged in the realestate and insurance business here as a member of the firm of Bacon & Winkleman, which relation was maintained for three years, at the end of which time Mr. Winkleman sold his interest to Newton Coxe and the firm name of Bacon & Coxe continued until about two years ago. In the fall of 1904 Mr. Bacon was elected justice of the peace of Oskaloosa, receiving a majority of seventy-seven although he was a democratic candidate and the county returned a strong republican majority for President Roosevelt. In connection with the duties of his office he has engaged in the settling of several estates and he owns eighty-six acres of land, upon which are rich coal deposits, the mine being operated by the Atwood Coal Company.

In December, 1880, Mr. Bacon was married to Miss Destia Stringfellow, a daughter of G. W. and Amanda (Dixon) Stringfellow, of this county. They have one son, Pearly M., and they also lost a daughter, Effie, in 1889. Mr. Bacon, having spent his entire life in this county, is well known and his activity in public affairs has been of direct and permanent good to

the localities which he has represented in office. Patriotism and progress may well be termed the keynotes of his record and as in business life his public service has been characterized by keen discrimination and practical methods.

W. W. WRIGHT, M. D.

Dr. W. W. Wright is one of the young and active members of the medical fraternity of Mahaska county practicing in Rose Hill, where he has remained for the past nine years. He is a native son of Mahaska county, his birth having occurred in the city of Oskaloosa, November 9, 1867. His father, Alexander Wright, was a native of Ohio, in which state he was reared. There he wedded Mary Brown, a native of Virginia, born at Harper's Ferry. He later removed to Illinois, where he engaged in contracting and building, and he still makes his home in Oskaloosa, where for a long period he has been connected with building operations.

Dr. Wright was reared in Oskaloosa and was a public-school student there. He later took up the study of medicine and attended the State University at Iowa City, being graduated from the medical department with the class of 1897. He then located at Rose Hill and began the practice of medicine here. In the years which have since come and gone, he has built up a good business in the village and surrounding country and is now numbered among the capable physicians of the county.

Dr. Wright was happily married in Rose Hill on the 11th of October, 1904, to Miss Lois Slocum, a native of Mahaska county, who was reared and educated in Oskaloosa. She is a daughter of Eugene Slocum and a grand-daughter of Dr. Jarvis, one of the first settlers and a pioneer physician in Mahaska county, who for three years was also a merchant at Rose Hill. He is mentioned elsewhere in this

work. Dr. and Mrs. Wright began their domestic life where they now reside. They have an attractive and well furnished home, where good cheer abounds, where a kindly greeting is extended to all and where the hospitality is most generous.

Dr. Wright maintains an office in the business district and has telephone connections both at his home and his office, so that he may be easily reached by his patrons. He belongs to the Mahaska County Medical Society and keeps in touch with the advance of the medical profession through his perusal of medical literature. He holds membership in Rose Hill lodge, A. F. & A. M., and in the chapter and commandery at Oskaloosa, and is also a member of the Mystic Shrine at Davenport. Imbued with laudable ambition to attain success, he has closely applied himself to his chosen work and his energy and fidelity have been salient features in his professional life.

ABSALOM ROSENBERGER.

Absalom Rosenberger, president of Penn College and thus a leading representative of educational interests in this section of Iowa, was born near Thorntown, Indiana, in 1849. His father, James H. Rosenberger, was a native of the Shenandoah valley of Virginia and of German lineage. He was a farmer by occupation and removed from the Old Dominion when but fifteen years of age, having taken a strong dislike to slavery. Making his way northward, he settled in Thorntown, Indiana, where he lived until called to his final rest in 1865. He was a member of the Society of Friends and possessed the gentle spirit and kindly disposition so characteristic of the people of that religious sect. He married Elizabeth Mills, who was born in North Carolina and was of English lineage. tracting her ancestry back to the time of the arrival of William Penn and his colony in America. Her ancestors held property in Philadelphia and were identified with the Society of Friends, of which she also became a member. She passed away in 1863, at the age of forty-three years. In the family were eight children, four sons and four daughters. One son, Nathan, now a practicing lawyer at Muscatine, lowa, was at one time superintendent of schools of Jefferson county, this state, and is the author of a volume entitled, "Civil Government of lowa."

Absalom Rosenberger was a common-school student near Thorntown, Indiana, and afterward spent a year in the high school of his native village and one year in Spiceland (Indiana) Academy, while later he was graduated on the completion of the classical course in Earlham College at Richmond, Indiana, being numbered among the alumni of 1876. The degree of Bachelor of Arts was at that time conferred upon him. Leaving college he taught school for nine years in different high schools and academies and subsequently spent two years as a student in the law department in Michigan University at Ann Arbor, where he was graduated in 1887 with the degree of LL. B. He practiced law for two years at Wichita, Kansas, and in 1889 came to Oskaloosa to accept the presidency of Penn College, since which time he has remained at the head of the institution, placing it upon a high standard. its efficiency and the scope of its labors being constantly extended. As an educator in Iowa he has won foremost rank, for added to his ability to impart clearly and readily to others the knowledge that he has attained he also has the faculty of inspiring the teachers and pupils connected with him with much of his own zeal and energy in the work.

On the 5th of September, 1877, was celebrated the marriage of Professor Rosenberger and Miss Martha E. Kendall, who was born in Thorntown, Indiana, in 1857, and died July 3, 1905. There were five children born of that

marriage: Homer G., who is a graduate of Penn College of 1900 and is now a member of the class of 1907 in Rush Medical College at Chicago: Ethel C., who is a graduate of Penn College of the class of 1902 and has studied for two years in Germany and France, while at the present time she is serving as professor of modern languages in her alma mater; Lucile, who completed a course in Penn College with the class of 1905; Frank K., who died in childhood; and Helen, who is attending school.

Professor Rosenberger gives his political allegiance to the republican party and has been a close and earnest student of the questions of the day, keeping in touch with the trend of modern thought along political and other lines. He is a member of the Society of Friends and his efforts in behalf of the cause and its advancement have been far-reaching and benefi-Under his guidance Penn College has made continuous progress, for he believes in maintaining a high standard of scholarship, in employing competent teachers and putting forth every possible effort to make the school a preparation for the responsible duties of life, developing the physical and moral nature of the student as well as the intellectual. He is himself a man of broad scholarly attainments, whose collegiate training has been supplemented by his extensive reading, research and investigation in later years. Moreover, he is imbued with humanitarian principles and there is in him an abiding sympathy and charity which has gained for him the respect and trust of his fellowmen.

A. N. CALDWELL.

A. N. Caldwell is numbered among the early settlers of Mahaska county, having for many years lived within its borders, watching its growth and development as changes have occurred showing the advance of civilization.

He now follows the occupation of farming and in fact has made this pursuit his life work. He was born in Greene county, Tennessee, in 1839, a son of Thomas F. and Sarah (White) Caldwell, who were also natives of the south, the father following the occupation of farming in Tennessee. The son is indebted to the public-school system of his native state for the educational privileges which he enjoyed in early life. He gave his attention to the mastery of the common branches of learning and during much of the time he attended school only through the winter months, his services being needed upon the home farm during the summer seasons.

He left Tennessee when twelve years of age. becoming a resident of Mahaska county, Iowa. He attended school no longer after attaining his majority. He was the eldest of a family of eight children and was but fifteen years of age at the time of his father's death. He thus had to take the father's place in the family in the management of the work and providing for his younger brothers and sisters. Thomas F. Caldwell had just secured a claim of one hundred and sixty acres of land and was building thereon a house at the time of his demise. Mr. Caldwell of this review at once assumed the duties and responsibilities of carrying on the farm and improving the fields and throughout his entire life he has engaged in farming. He has for many years lived in this county, witnessing the greater part of its agricultural development, and the home property which he owns in Lincoln and White Oak townships stands as a monument to his enterprise and labor, indicating his careful supervision and diligence in its excellent appearance.

In September, 1875, Mr. Caldwell was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Stump and unto them have been born five sons: Charles C., Earl S., Fred B., Warren A. and R. W. Caldwell. The eldest son is now married and lives in Mahaska county, where he



a. N. Caldwell.



follows farming. Earl Caldwell is also married and is a resident farmer of this county. In his political views Mr. Caldwell has been a stalwart republican since the organization of the party, casting his ballot for each of its presidential nominees. Elected as a member of the board of county supervisors, he entered upon the duties of the office on the 1st of January, 1881, and served continuously in that capacity for six years. He has for thirty years been a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and his life has been in harmony with its principles and teachings. He has been straightforward in his business dealings, never being known to take advantage of the necessities of his fellowmen in any trade transaction and his life record is that of a self-made man. for from an early age he has been dependent upon his own resources. He has worked persistently and energetically as the years have gone by and his history proves the force of industry, economy and capable management in winning success.

JAMES SUMNER HAYES.

James Sumner Hayes, secretary of the wholesale and retail hardware concern of Oskaloosa, conducted under the style of the Huber & Kalbach Company, is a native son of Mahaska county, his birth having occurred here in 1864. His father, James Haves, was born in McDonough county, Illinois, and is now living at the age of sixty-seven years. He came to Iowa in 1856 with his parents, Nathanieland Priscilla Haves, the family home being established at Eddyville, Wapello county. The grandfather, Nathaniel Hayes and two of his sons, Isaac and Henry, were soldiers of the Civil war. James Hayes was a youth of eighteen years when he came to Iowa. Upon arriving at the age of manhood he located in Jefferson township, Ma-

haska county, where he remained until 1880. when he removed to Scott township. There he resided for six years. Later he and his son J. S. purchased land in Jefferson township, where they both resided until 1888, the father then being called to serve the county as steward of the poor farm, which position he filled acceptably for three years. He then bought a farm adjoining the old town of Rochester, which he still owns. He retired, however, and removed to Oskaloosa in 1000 and has since made his home in the city, enjoying a well earned rest in the midst of the comforts that have been secured by him as the result of the years of his former activity and enterprise. Fraternally he is a Mason and his political views are in accord with republican principles. He married Miss Nancy Margaret Whittinger, who was born near Indianapolis, Indiana, and died in 1901, at the age of sixty years. They had five children: William H., now deceased: James Sumner; Frank and Lily, who have passed away; and Harry W., who is traveling agent for the Huber & Kalbach Company of Oskaloosa.

In the usual manner of farm lads J. S. Hayes was reared and in the country schools acquired his education. He taught school for five years and in 1890, leaving the farm, he pursued a business course in the Oskaloosa Business College. In 1891 he entered the wholesale and retail hardware house of the Huber & Kalbach Company as stenographer and bookkeeper and has since been associated with this concern. He was made treasurer of the company in January, 1903, and acted in that capacity until January, 1904, when he was chosen secretary, which is his present connection with the house.

In 1887 Mr. Hayes was married to Miss Mary M. De Long, who was born in White Oak township, Mahaska county, in 1866, and is a daughter of George and Julia (De Witt) De Long, the father a farmer of Scott township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hayes have been born four children but the eldest died in infancy and Wil-

liam D. died in 1893, at the age of eighteen months. The others are Charles S., born in 1895; and Louis F., in 1904. Mrs. Hayes is a member of the Congregational church and Mr. Hayes is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity. His study of the political questions and issues of the day has led him to give his support to the republican party but he is not an aspirant for office, preferring to concentrate his efforts upon his business affairs and his labors are directed along lines of modern commercial progress and are proving an element in the successful conduct of the interests of the company of which he is now secretary.

FOSTER F. PARKER, D. V. M.

Dr. Foster F. Parker, engaged in the practice of veterinary surgery in Oskaloosa, is a native of Cedar county, Iowa, born February 22, 1875. His parents are D. L. and Elizabeth (Orr) Parker, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania. They spent their married life in Iowa, having come to this state when young. The father followed the occupation of farming in Carroll county for a number of years and in 1804 took up his abode in Ames, Iowa, whence he came to Oskaloosa in 1905, and he and his wife are esteemed residents of this city. In their family were two children, Foster F. and Jessie.

Foster F. Parker spent his boyhood days on the home farm and early developed a fondness for animals, particularly horses, being always a lover of fine, high grade stock. His education was begun in the public schools of Carroll county and he afterward attended the high school at Wallake, Iowa, where his parents resided for a time. He was graduated from that institution in the class of 1804 and subsequently entered the Iowa State College, at Ames, where he remained for some years, pursuing a scientific course and later a course in veterinary surgery, being graduated with the degree of D. V. M. in 1900. He began practice the following year at Belle Plaine, Iowa, and in the fall of 1901 came to Oskaloosa, where he has since remained, enjoying a high reputation here for his efficiency in the line of his chosen profession. He has established a general hospital for the treatment of horses and other animals and in its conduct is meeting with success. tainly well equipped by nature and training for the profession and in the work is meeting with a large patronage. While in college he was greatly interested in amateur athletics and was later a coach for the Penn College football team for a period of three years.

Dr. Parker is a member of the Elks lodge and of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, while politically he is a republican although not active in the work of the party. On the 1st of January, 1897, he was married to Miss Alice Myers, a daughter of John Myers, of Ames, Iowa, and their children are Joyce R., Guerden D. and Eldon Parker.

FRANK B. SHAFER.

Among the earnest men whose depth of character and strict adherence to duty have won for them uniform respect as well as a position of distinctive prominence in business circles, is numbered Frank B. Shafer now vice-president and cashier of the Frankel State Bank. He is also president of the Pfeifer-Balmont Company and is interested in a number of other enterprises of the city. He was born in La Salle county, Illinois, May 30, 1864. His father, Benjamin Shafer, was born in Knox county, Ohio, and is now living in Streator, Illinois, at the age of seventy-eight years. He came of German ancestry, the founder of the family in America having come to Illinois in 1835, set-

ling in Marshall county. This was Henry Shafer, who was accompanied by his wife. Their son, Benjamin Shafer, became a thrifty and prosperous farmer, who for many years carried on the work of tilling the soil but is now living retired upon a competency acquired through his own efforts. In politics he is an earnest democrat and for many years served as supervisor of his township. He married Juliette Reeder, who was born in Wisconsin, and is now living at the age of sixty-eight years. She is of French-Canadian stock, a daughter of Jacob and Jane (Lord) Reeder, the former a farmer by occupation. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Shafer were born three sons and a daughter: Jason, now deceased; Frank B.; Lloyd, who has charge of the plant of the Armour Packing Company at Streator, Illinois; and Zelma, the wife of Dr. George Dicus, a practicing physician at Streator.

Frank B. Shafer was reared upon the old home farm and was a student in the district schools in his early boyhood. Later he was graduated from the Streator high school and subsequently attended a business college at Valparaiso, Indiana. Entering upon his business career, he became an employe in a bank at Streator at the age of twenty years and remained there for three years, gaining an excellent knowledge of the banking business in its various departments. In 1890 he removed to Oskaloosa to accept the cashiership in the private bank of I. Frankel, which institution was incorporated as a state bank in 1805 with a capital of sixty thousand dollars, with I. Frankel, president, A. Frankel, vice-president and Frank B. Shafer, cashier. The last named is now vice-president as well as cashier. The bank was established upon a safe, conservative policy that has always been maintained and it has become a strong moneyed concern, having the entire confidence of the public. With the increase in his financial resources. Mr. Shafer has broadened the scope of his business activity.

In 1880 occurred the marriage of Mr. Shafer and Miss Lillie McCall, who was born in Oskaloosa, March 18, 1864, and is a daughter of Frank W. and Emma McCall, the former one of the pioneers of this city in the marble business. Mr. and Mrs. Shafer have four children, Hazel, Helen, Zelma and Carl. Mr. Shafer and his wife are members of the Congregational church, interested in its work and liberal contributors toward its support. He is identified with the Masons, Elks and Knights of Pythias fraternities and in politics is a stalwart democrat. He belongs to the Iowa State Bankers Association and the National Bankers Association. He is always courteous, kindly and affable and those who know him personally have for him warm regard, while in his business life he has persevered in the pursuit of a persistent purpose and has gained a most satisfactory reward.

LEROY E. CORLETT.

Leroy E. Corlett, recognized as one of the leading members of the republican party in Mahaska county and also a practitioner at the Oskaloosa bar, is a native of Clayton county, lowa, born March 18, 1875, his parents being John E. and Catherine A. (Crawford) Corlett, the former a native of the Isle of Man and the latter of Pennsylvania. The parents are now living in Elkader, Iowa, and the father has retired from active business pursuits. He has spent the greater part of his life in this state and was prominently identified with agricultural interests for many years. In the family were twelve children, of whom nine are living.

Leroy E. Corlett was educated in the schools of lowa, where he attended the district schools, also a high school, and the National Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio, Determining upon the practice of law as a life work, he began

reading under the direction of his brother, James E., at Elkader, Iowa, and he completed his law studies in Drake University at Des Moines, where he was graduated in the class of 1901. He continued in practice with his brother until January, 1903, when he was elected reading clerk in the house of representatives at Des Moines. In the summer of that year he located in Oskaloosa, where he opened a law office and he was appointed to take charge of the clerk's office of Mahaska county during the absence of Cliff B. West, county clerk, for the winter of 1905-6. He is a young man, but has already attained a creditable position in the ranks of the legal fraternity and his laudable ambition, earnest purpose and capability promise well for the future.

In June, 1902, Mr. Corlett was married to Miss Jennie M. Good, a daughter of L. F. and Hannah M. (Cross) Good, of Neoga, Illinois.

GEORGE S. PRINE.

George S. Prine, the owner of valuable farming interests comprising one hundred and seventy-three acres in Lincoln township, where he is also engaged in the breeding and shipping of Berkshire hogs, was born in Fayette county, Indiana, October 29, 1847. His father, Miles Kenneth Prine, was a native of Kentucky, and removed thence to Indiana, whence he came with his family to Mahaska county, Iowa, in the '60s, settling in Garfield township in that section on the Pella road now known as the Prine district. The Pella road in those days was a part of the old route from Burlington to Des Moines and was one of the much traveled highways of pioneer times. Mr. Prine devoted his energies to general agricultural pursuits. For many years the firm of M. K. Prine & Son was well known throughout the country as breeders of fine horses, cattle and

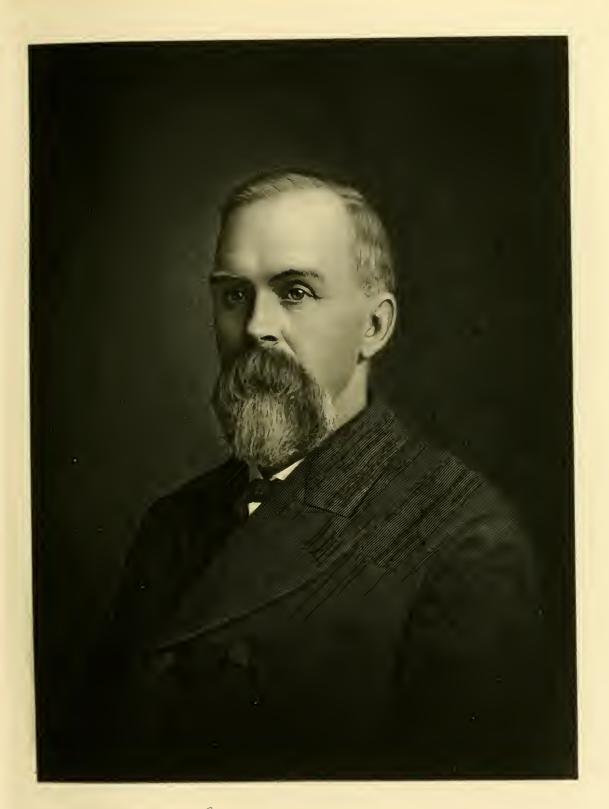
hogs, making a specialty of Berkshire hogs. The firm has had an existence since 1871 and the business has reached extensive proportions. In politics M. K. Prine was a stanch republican and for many years was a member of the board of school directors. He believed in the employment of competent teachers and in the establishment of good schools and did everything in his power to advance the cause of public education here. He was also greatly interested in the Mahaska County Fair Association, being for many years a director and superintendent. He departed this life in 1900, at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Nelson, was a representative of a pioneer family of Indiana, whose parents occupied the farm upon which George S. Prine was born. They were natives of Maine and removed from New England to the middle west at an early day. Mrs. Prine reached the age of seventy years, five months and ten days. For nine years she was confined to her invalid's chair and had sought help at Colfax and at the Medical Institute at Omaha, but was not materially benefitted there-Daniel and Henry Prine, brothers of Miles K. Prine, were prominent farmers of Mahaska county for a long period, the name having been associated for many years with the business development, especially along agricultural lines, of this part of the state. Joseph D. Prine, a brother of our subject, still occupies the old family homestead.

In the district schools near his father's home George S. Prine pursued his education and afterward attended the Oskaloosa Business College, from which he was graduated in the class of 1875. He had been reared to the occupation of farming and stock-raising, assisting his father from an early age, and there are few men better informed concerning the value of stock than he. For twenty-five years he never missed making an exhibit of stock at the Iowa state fairs and won many premiums. He





* SINETH FRINE



Geo, S. Prine



also exhibited at other state fairs and at the different county fairs. His 1)0sition in live stock circles is indicated by the fact that he was honored with the appointment to the superintendency of the swine exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis in 1904. He has also at different times been superintendent of the lowa state fairs. He is a member of the American Berkshire Record Association, having served for two years as the president of that association, and for three years was president of the Mahaska County Fair Association. For fifteen years he acted as secretary of the Iowa Swine Breeders Association, which was organized for educational purposes in the way of scoring stock. He has prepared many papers on the subject of stock-raising which were read before this organization. The meetings of the organization were held twice a year, on which occasion there was generally a big banquet. The election of officers was held in Des Moines and the exercises covered a week. He is one of the contributors to the American Berkshire love feast and sale. This is held at Kansas City, where one hundred bred sows are sold, only one being sold by each breeder, who must be there in person. The farm of Mr. Prine comprises one hundred and seventy-three acres of valuable land in Lincoln township, Mahaska county, adjoining the city, on which he buys and fattens cattle in large quantities and ships to the Chicago market and to the east.

Mr. Prine has been married twice. On the 10th of February, 1870, he wedded Mary Himes, a native of Ohio, who died a year later, and their son, Mford, died in infancy. On the 16th of August, 1876. Mr. Prine married Frances A. Zollars, a daughter of Uriah and Mary Zollars, who were natives of Pennsylvania and settled in Oskaloosa. The children of this marriage were Mary H., a musican of note, who is a graduate of the Oskaloosa high school; and M. Kenneth, who was born Febru-

ary 28, 1883, and died July 19, 1900, being killed in a runaway accident, the bit breaking in the horse's mouth. Before he passed away he expressed the desire that his mother should have the buggy and his father the horse, but Mr. Prine sold the latter at auction and gave the proceeds to the Young Men's Christian Association of Oskaloosa, of which the young man was an active member. He, too, was a graduate of the Oskaloosa high school and was very popular among his associates, being a young man of good moral character and pleasing disposition, who was well liked by all who knew him. He was a member of Company F. Fifty-first Regiment Iowa National Guards. He was the first of the Young Men's Christian Association to pass away, and a very fine portrait of himself now adorns the walls of the association rooms. Being an only son his death was a sad blow to his parents. His burial was conducted by Company F, with ushers from his class in the Oskaloosa high school, 1900.

Mr. Prine has always been an earnest republican in his political views. He is regarded as one of the representative agriculturists of his part of Iowa and has controlled business interests of great importance to the state at large and which have proved as well a source of much individual profit. He is a charter member and director of the Farmers National Bank of Oskaloosa. Upon his farm he has a splendid residence, commodious and substantial barns and sheds and all equipments for the care of crops and stock. His place is situated on the Pella road just outside the corporation limits of Oskaloosa. Coming to this county in his youth, he has since resided within its borders and has become interested in a business of much importance, his labors contributing in large measure to the improvement of the grade of stock raised in Iowa. The farming class have been greatly benefited thereby owing to the consequent advance in prices, and throughout Iowa and in other states as well Mr. Prine's opinions are regarded as authority upon many subjects connected with stock-raising.

GEORGE P. BERTSCH.

George P. Bertsch, senior partner in the Bertsch-Shurtz Drug Company in Oskaloosa, doing business at No. 202 First avenue east, is a native son of Iowa, his birth having occurred in Sigourney on the 4th of June, 1873. As the name indicates, the family comes of German lineage. The parents, Jacob and Katherine B. (Jacobs) Bertsch, were both natives of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and are now residents of Sigourney, where they are living at the ages of seventy-three and seventy years respectively. The father came to the United States in 1848, setling first in Baltimore, Maryland, where he followed the butcher's trade for two years. He then removed to Indianapolis, Indiana, and thence went to Washington, Iowa, and later to Davenport, Iowa, where he continued in business as a butcher for several years. In 1871 he removed to Sigourney, where he established a meat market, which he conducted successfully for a number of years, until feeling that his capital was sufficient to justify his retiring from further business life, he is now living in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and from the time he became a naturalized American citizen gave his political allegiance to the democracy until 1896, when he voted for William McKinley, again supporting him in 1900. In 1904, however, he cast his ballot for Judge Parker, the presidential candidate of the democracy. His wife came to the United States when a young maiden of seventeen years, joining her brother in New York. They afterward removed to Davenport, Iowa, and it was there that she gave her hand in marriage to Jacob

Bertsch. She is a communicant of the Catholic Unto the marriage there were born ten children, of whom only three are now liv-Two of the number bore the name of George P. Bertsch, the other having died before the birth of our subject. Jacob M. Bertsch. now living in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, is a photographer by profession. In earlier years he engaged in farming in Oklahoma but was in the cyclone at Snyder there in 1905 and on account of the destruction of his property he removed to Los Angeles, California, but has since returned to Oklahoma. Anna, the only surviving daughter of the family, is the wife of Edward M. Fritz, a cigar manufacturer, who is also a musician. He has been on the road as a conductor of leading bands of the country and is now located in Ottumwa, where he is giving instruction in music.

George P. Bertsch was a public-school student in his native city and is a graduate of the high school of the class of 1890. He then entered a drug store as a clerk and studied pharmacy, obtaining a pharmacist's certificate in 1892. In the fall of the same year he entered the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, from which he was graduated in 1894 and in the autunn of that year he came to Oskaloosa, where he purchased the drug store of Strain & Batterson. A year and a half later he admitted T. E. Boal, of Buda, Illinois, to a partnership under the firm name of Bertsch-Boal Drug Company, which relation was maintained until April, 1904, when Mr. Boal retired and was succeeded by Charles Y. Shurtz, of Ottumwa, who entered the firm and the present style of the Bertsch-Shurtz Drug Company was assumed. Their store is most advantageously located at the corner of First avenue and First street and their patronage is extensive. The store is well appointed and its tasteful arrangement together with the reliable business methods of the house have secured a large and growing patronage.

In 1806 Mr. Bertsch was married to Miss Anna Elizabeth Holdefer, who was born in Baltimore, Maryland, November 16, 1875, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Holdefer, the former a commission merchant. There is one child of this marriage, George Tracy, born in 1900. Mr. Bertsch is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of the Mystic Shrine and an Elk, and his wife belongs to the First Presbyterian church. He votes with the democracy and is a good business man who has been very successful by reason of the fact that he thoroughly prepared himself for the line of work which he has undertaken and has displayed close application and unremitting energy in carrying on his business. In manner he is rather retiring but he stands high in public esteem. With his little family he occupies a beautiful home on Third avenue east.

CLARENCE WATLAND, D. D. S.

Dr. Clarence Watland, who is engaged in the practice of dentistry in New Sharon with a well equipped office that indicates thorough understanding of the most modern methods known to the science, was born in Prairie township, Mahaska county, on the 10th of August, 1881. His father, Ole Watland, was a native of Norway, born in 1828, and when a young man he came to America in company with Goodman Watland. He first settled in Illinois near Leland and in the early '60s came to Mahaska county. He was married in Oskaloosa to Miss Bertha Strom, who was born in Norway, July 12, 1840, and came to America with her widowed mother, living for a time in Oskaloosa. Mr. and Mrs. Watland remained for a brief period in the county seat and then removed to a farm in Prairie township where Mr. Watland gave his attention to general agricultural pursuits up to the time of his death in 1892. He first purchased eighty acres of mimproved land, which he at once cleared and cultivated, transforming the tract into productive fields, from which he gathered good harvests. His sale of his crops enabled him to add to his farm from time to time and at his death he was the owner of a valuable property of two hundred acres. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, but he never held nor desired office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his farming interests. He held membership with the Society of Friends, or Quakers, to which Mrs. Watland, who yet resides in New Sharon, also belongs.

In their family were seven children: Amelia, the wife of Samuel Sawyer, a resident of Leland, Illinois; Gideon, a grain dealer of Iowa, who has recently sold his business and is now spending the winter in California; Henry, who was the owner of eighty acres of the old homestead Lut has sold the property, and is now living in New Sharon; Tena, the wife of Albert Rinder, living on a farm near Oskaloosa; Albert, a dentist of Albert Lea, Minnesota, who is a graduate of the New Sharon high school, and spent two years at Penn College at Oskaloosa, after which he won his diploma from the Chicago College of Dentistry; Ole, at home; and Clarence of this review.

In taking up the personal history of Dr. Watland we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in New Sharon and Mahaska county, for his entire life has been passed here and those with whom he has been acquainted from his boyhood days know that his has been a creditable record. He was graduated from the high school at New Sharon in 1900, and afterward spent four years at Iowa City, devoting two years to a collegiate course and two years to the study of dentistry. He later spent one year in the dental department of the University of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, and received his diploma from that institution on the 14th of June, 1905.

Immediately afterward he opened his office in New Sharon, and although less than a year has gone by, he has built up a very gratifying patronage, having a well equipped office on the second floor of the Sherman block over the Citizens Bank. He is thoroughly familiar with the most modern methods of dentistry and added to his theoretical knowledge is a mechanical skill and ingenuity without which the dentist is never truly successful. He makes his home with his mother and sister. He is a birthright Ouaker and his political views are in accord with the principles of the republican party. Among a large circle of friends and acquaintances here he is popular and his social qualities combined with his professional skill will undoubtedly bring him constantly growing success in his chosen profession.

JAMES C. SELLERS.

James C. Sellers, engaged in the insurance business, is truly a self-made man and his present enviable position in the business world and financial circles is due to his efforts and his fidelity to purpose which everywhere command respect and confidence. He is a native of Garrard county, Kentucky, born January 14, 1828. His parents, Nathan and Mary (Yowell) Sellers, were also natives of Kentucky and in 1830 removed to Indiana, where they resided until 1854, Mr. Sellers becoming well known there as a farmer and business man. His capability and worth led to his selection for various positions of honor and trust. He served as treasurer and assessor of the county, was also deputy sheriff and filled other local positions. In 1836 he traveled through the country on horseback to collect taxes and to make assessments. Leaving Indiana in 1854 he went with his family to Monroe county, Iowa, and later moved to Appanoose county,

where he lived for twenty years, his death occurring in Moulton in 1874, at the age of seventy-four years. His wife reached the advanced age of eighty years, passing away at Albia, Iowa, in 1876. The Sellers family were of Scott-Irish lineage, while the Yowells were of the same extraction. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Sellers wereborneight children, of whom five are living, namely: Burnettie, the wife of William Mercer, of Albia, Iowa: George D., a clergyman of the Christian church now located in Kansas; Moses Y., a physician of Moulton, Iowa; and Sue, the wife of A. J. Byrelee, proprietor of a hotel at Albia, Iowa. Those deceased are: Ann Eliza, the wife of James Reed; William C.; and Margaret J., the wife of William E. Neville.

James C. Sellers acquired only a limited education in his youth, attending the country schools and also continued his studies to some extent in Greencastle, Indiana. He spent the first twenty years of his life on a farm and in 1851 came to Iowa, making his way to Albia. Monroe county, where he taught school, following that profession in Albia and in Chariton, Lucas county. He afterward engaged in merchandising in 1852 and 1853. In 1854 he went to Albia, where he turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits and being joined that year by his father they together bought a farm of three hundred and twenty acres which they operated from 1855 until 1861. In 1857 the country became involved in a financial panic and Mr. Sellers lost heavily. He then began anew and taught school for several years, after which he once more turned his attention to farming and in 1866 engaged in the insurance business in which he has continued to the present time. He has continuously represented the Jowa State Insurance Company, of Keokuk, since 1867, writing his first policy for that company on the 8th of April of that year. He also represents the Westchester Insurance Company of New



2.6. Sellers



York, the Citizens of St. Louis and the Farmers Insurance Company of Cedar Rapids. He came to Oskaloosa in October, 1873, where he has since inaintained his office and at one time he was trustee and secretary of the board of Oskaloosa College. His business has grown under his careful direction and close application and he is now one of the well known representatives of insurance in this part of the state.

On the 29th of December, 1853, Mr. Sellers was married to Miss Aby Ann Read, a daughter of Vincent K. and Eveline O. (Tennant) Read. Their children are: Eva, the wife of Dr. Lee H. Dowling, of Los Angeles, California; Alice, the wife of Dr. S. A. Spillman, of Ottumwa, Iowa; Dell, the wife of E. A. Brown, editor of the Daily Press of Nebraska City, Nebraska; Carrie, the deceased wife of H. W. Comstock; and James C., who is engaged in importing in London, England. In 1842, when fourteen years of age, James C. Sellers became a member of the Christian church, which he joined at Greencastle, Indiana. He is now an elder in the Stone Chapel church of Oskaloosa and at one time was a deacon. He has ever been earnest and zealous in his advocacy of the church and in all reformatory measures that tend to uplift man and advance the moral progress of the race.

FRED A. PRESTON.

Fred A. Preston, attorney-at-law of Oskaloosa, is a veteran of the Spanish-American war. A third of a century had passed in the history of the country before new names were added to the roll of its military heroes and then came the call to arms in the spirit of liberty and in opposition to oppression and Mr. Preston responding, aided in the struggle which extended the colonial possessions of America. He is a

native son of Iowa, having been born in Grinnell in 1872. His father, Sylvester S. Preston, was born in Manchester, Vermont, and is now living in Los Angeles, California, at the age of seventy-three years. On leaving New England he removed to Iowa in the '50s, locating at Newton, where he followed farming for about five years and then removed to Grinnell, where he engaged in merchandising, having previously been in the same business for a short time at Newton. In 1885 he sold his store and since that time has practically lived retired.

Fred A. Preston was a public-school student in his native city and afterward attended Grinnell College. He came to Oskaloosa, in February, 1898, and entered the office of his brother, Judge Byron W. Preston, as a student, remaining with him until June of the same year, when his spirit of patriotism having been aroused. he enlisted as a member of Company F, Fiftyfirst Iowa Infantry at Des Moines. The regiment left the capital city June 15, 1898, for San Francisco, where they remained in camp until the 1st of October, when they embarked on the transport Pennsylvania for the Philippine Islands, arriving in Manila harbor on the 7th of December. The transport remained there for thirty days without the disembarkation of the troops and then steamed south to Illililo, where the troop ship remained for thirty days and then returned to Manila harbor, the men landing at Cavite, where the regiment went into barracks. There continued for a week and then went to the trenches where the boys staved until the following September. The regiment experienced many hardships and did considerable fighting and Mr. Preston then returned to San Francisco in November, 1809. reaching home on the 7th of the same month. He attained the rank of corporal, having made a creditable military record in the orient.

Following his return home Mr. Preston resumed his studies in the office of his brother, where he remained until the spring of 1900,

when he entered the law department of the State University and was graduated in June, 1901. Returning to Oskaloosa he formed a partnership with his brother, which continued until the latter went upon the bench in January, 1903, and at the same time Mr. Preston formed a partnership with H. W. Gleason, under the firm style of Gleason & Preston, a connection that has since been maintained with mutual pleasure and profit. Mr. Preston belongs to the Grinnell Congregational church and to the Modern Woodmen camp. In politics he is a republican, while in the line of his profession he is connected with the Mahaska County Bar Association. Already he has attained success that many an older lawyer might well envy and a constantly growing clientage is the unmistakable evidence of the trust reposed in his legal ability by his fellow townsmen.

WILLIAM T. MARTIN.

William T. Martin, now serving as deputy county clerk for two terms in the office of the county clerk of Mahaska county, was born in Louisa county, Iowa, February 22, 1857, his parents being Henry C. and Elizabeth (Jackson) Martin, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Indiana. The family comes of old Virginian ancestry, the grandfather of our subject, John Martin, having been born in the Old Dominion, in which he spent almost his entire life. One of the grandfathers of our subject left North Carolina on account of his distaste for slavery. A great-grandfather in the maternal line came from Ireland and he had four brothers, who were officers in the Irish army. In the maternal line Mr. Martin is also descended from the prominent Seth Thomas family. His grandfather, Joseph Jackson, a resident of Maryland, furnished four sons to the army in the Civil war, namely: Elias G., Reuben C.,

Jesse S. and Joseph J. Henry C. Martin came to Iowa in 1856, first locating in Louisa county, after which he removed to Mahaska county, settling near Fremont. This was in 1868 and he lived the quiet life of a farmer devoting his attention to the tilling of the soil upon the old home place for thirty-two years. He passed away in 1900, at the age of seventy-six years and is still survived by Mrs. Martin, Unto Henry C. and Elizabeth (Jackson) Martin were born six children, namely: William T.; Josephine, the wife of Samuel Rankin, of Fremont. Iowa; Jessie, the wife of L. E. Tidball, of Kansas; James B., of Kirkville, Iowa; Jennie, the wife of C. J. Triplett, of Fremont, Iowa; and Nelly, a teacher in the Fremont schools.

William T. Martin was educated in the district schools of his native town and spent much of his life upon the farm until 1900, continuously devoting his attention to agricultural pursuits save for three years, from 1891 until 1893 inclusive, when he served as steward of the poor farm. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, called him to several public offices. He was mayor of Fremont for one term, was school director and held other local positions. He was recognized as a leader in the councils of his party in the locality in which he lived, being a stalwart advocate of republican principles. In the fall of 1900 he was elected to the office of county clerk and in 1902 was re-elected so that he filled the position for four years and since January, 1905, he has acted as deputy county clerk under Cliff B. West.

On the 21st of August, 1887, Mr. Martin was united in marriage to Miss Elvira Triplett, a daughter of Mortimer and Nancy Triplett, of Fremont. Their children were: Leslie B., Fairy, Bessie, William McKinley and Lark M. Mr. Martin belongs to the Masonic fraternity, holding membership in Toleration lodge of Fremont and also the Knights of Pythias lodge

there. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp and has been chancellor commander of the Knights of Pythias fraternity. His public service has been characterized by unfaltering devotion to the general good and his reelection was a proof of his popularity and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow townsmen.

CHARLES M. PORTER.

Charles M. Porter, at the head of the C. M. Porter Lumber Company of Oskaloosa, also treasurer of the Oskaloosa Wood Working Company and president of the Oskaloosa Creamery Company, is a native son of Iowa and throughout his business career has been imbued with the spirit of enterprise and progress which have been the salient features in the rapid upbuilding of the middle west. His birth occurred in Iowa City, in 1863, his parents being John W. and Louisa A. (Morsman) Porter, both of whom were natives of Ohio. The father was descended from Scotch-Irish ancestry and came to this state before the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad was built. He and his father operated a stage line between lowa City. Cedar Rapids and Marengo, conducting a business for a number of years or until the railroad reached lowa City and thus rendered stage travel unprofitable. John W. Porter then turned his attention to the lumber business, in which he continued up to the time of his death. He was a man of prominence and of affairs, who prospered in his undertakings by reason of the keen discernment and careful management that he brought to bear upon all business transactions. He was a man of considerable breadth of mind and view and did not narrow his attention down to business interests alone, but became a public-spirited citizen and man of large enterprise, who co-operated in many movements for the general good. Both he and his wife were members of the Christian church, in which he served as an officer and in the work of which he took an active and helpful interest. In the Masonic fraternity he attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite and in politics was a republican. He took an active interest in the lowa state fair, served as its president and did all in his power to promote agricultural development through this avenue, stimulating the pride and ambition of the farmer by the exhibition of fine stock and farm products which were annually made. During the Civil war he helped raise a company at Iowa City and being elected captain went to the south with his command, but owing to the illness of his father he was compelled to resign a few months later and return home to take charge of his father's business. His death occurred in 1882, when he was forty-seven years of age, and he is still survived by his wife, who is now living in Iowa City at the age of sixty-two years. In the family of this worthy couple were six children: Charles M.; George, who died at the age of two years; Helen, the wife of A. II. Swett, a dry-goods merchant of Minneapolis: Edgar K., who is operating a stone-crusher plant and furnishing ballast for railroads at Page, West Virginia; and two who died in infancy.

Charles M. Porter, having attended the public schools, afterward became a student in the State University of Iowa, from which he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science in the class of 1886. He then went to Kansas and worked for the Chicago Lumber Company as manager of its yard there for two years. In 1888 he came to Oskaloosa and purchased the H. C. Moore lumber-yard, which he is now conducting under the name of the C. M. Porter Lumber Company. The business has assumed large proportions and his annual sales reach an extensive figure. He is thoroughly conversant with the lumber trade and places upon the market all kinds of building materials.

for which he finds a ready sale owing to his straightforward business methods and his earnest desire to please his customers. He is treasurer of the Oskaloosa Wood Working Company and president of the Oskaloosa Creamery Company.

In 1889 Charles M. Porter was married to Miss Maud VanFleet, who was born in Iowa City, Iowa, in 1868, a daughter of John R. and Ellen VanFleet. Her father was a pioneer resident of Iowa City and became a prominent man there, carrying on the banking business and also owning and controlling large realestate interests. His financial ability was manifest in the splendid success which crowned his efforts. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Porter have been born two daughters and two sons: Hilda, John W., Helen and Rex VanFleet.

The parents are members of the Christian church, in which Mr. Porter has held office and their devotion to the cause is manifest by active co-operation in the various societies and movements for the growth of the church and the extension of its influence. For three years he served as president of the Young Men's Christian Association at Oskaloosa and was holding that office when they erected their present building. He is a Knight Templar Mason and a worthy exemplar of the eraft, a member of De l'avens commandery. On the great political questions which divide the country into two parties he is found on the side of the republican organization. In this age of the world's history when the annals teem with the records of conquest of mind over matter rather than of man over man the history of the successful business man is always of interest and Mr. Porter belongs to that class who have based their business principles upon the rules which govern strict and unswerving integrity and indefatigable energy. Personally he is genial and though his time is fully occupied by the details of his business interests he vet finds time to devote to those of his friends whose calls are purely of a

social character. He is a thorough exemplification of the typical American business man and gentleman.

ALFRED W. BURDICK.

Alfred W. Burdick, an architect of Oskaloosa, whose proficiency in the line of his chosen profession has secured him a constantly growing clientage, was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1862. He is a son of Chester F. Burdick, who was born in Washington county, New York, and came of Holland Dutch ancestry, the name having been originally spelled Von Burdyke. He was a Methodist minister and for a number of years was pastor of churches of that denomination in Albany, New York, and also in Troy, New York, while he was presiding elder of a district for several years in those places. He was likewise located at different times at Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and Plattsburg, New York, and for a number of years was the financial agent of the Troy Conference Academy at Poultney, Vermont. He was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Julia Anna Pearsall, who was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey, a daughter of Phineas C. and Catherine (Morgan) Pearsall, of French and English descent. Her father was a near relative of Ex-Governor Theodore Randolph, of New Jersey. His business was that of a clothing merchant. His wife belonged to the same family as General Morgan of Revolutionary fame. Like her husband, Mrs. Chester F. Burdick was a devoted Christian, holding membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. He devoted nearly fifty years of his life to the active work of the ministry and became a leading divine of the Methodist denomination in New York. He was a man of scholarly attainments and of unfaltering zeal and his influence was of no restricted



Alfred W. Burdick



order. He died in 1895, at the age of seventyfour years, while his wife now survives him, living in Oskaloosa at the age of sixty-four years. They became the parents of a son and daughter, the latter being Jessie Meredith, now the wife of the Rev. Jay W. Somerville, pastor of the Central Methodist Episcopal church of Oskaloosa, who is represented elsewhere in this work.

Alfred W. Burdick, who is his sister's senior, was a public-school student in Albany, New York, and afterward attended the academy at Poultney, Vermont. Subsequently he spent a few years in Wall street, the great financial center of America, being connected with the banking and brokerage firm of Monroe & Wyckoff. In the meantime he attended Columbia University of New York city, where he pursued a course in sciences and also to some extent studied architecture. He was afterward in the employ of the Central Railroad Company of New Jersey under the superintendent of motive power, acting as assistant chief clerk in charge of repairs and new work on passenger and freight cars. His health becoming impaired, he retired from active business life for a few years and then took up his abode in Burlington, Vermont, where he opened an office. He was also clerk of the board of education there.

In June, 1901, he came to Oskaloosa, where he took up a number of special studies in relation to architecture in connection with a course in the Armour Institute of Technology in Chicago. In 1903 he entered the office of Frank E. Wetherell, an architect, remaining with him until Mr. Wetherell removed to Des Moines, after which Mr. Burdick continued the business under Mr. Wetherell's name for several months, but on the 1st of June, 1905, he embarked in business on his own account, continuing in the same office, and here he has since remained with an increasing clientage and bright prospects for the future.

Mr. Burdick is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, deeply interested in its work and its various activities, and he is now serving as secretary of the Sunday-school. His political views generally accord with the principles of the republican party, but he casts an independent ballot.

CHARLES B. WEST.

Charles B. West, of Oskaloosa, was born in Jackson county, Illinois, June 11, 1848. His father, Ezekiel West, was one of those hardy pioneers who from their eastern homes set out to conquer the wilderness wrest from nature the wild lands that now constitute in part the magnificent empire of the middle west. He came to Mahaska county when his son Charles was but a few months old, having made the journey in a wagon, after which he settled in Garfield township, where he became owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land now in possession of our subject. He was a public-spirited citizen and a loyal friend. It is recorded that once in the early settlement of this part of the state a grain famine prevailed, owing to the shortage of crops. Mr. West was more fortunate than most of the other settlers, having a good crop with considerable grain for the market. A number of speculators and some persons passing through the territory offered to purchase all of his marketable supply at a high figure. "Not a dollar's worth will I sell," replied Mr. West, "until my neighbors are supplied." This indicates the character of the man, for he always manifested a helpful and generous spirit. He died in 1866, honored and respected by all who knew him. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Susan Bateman, died in 1892. In the family, in addition to Charles, there was a son, Isaac Newton, who was a member of the Thirty-third Iowa Regiment and died in a hospital at Little Rock, Arkansas, during the Civil war. There were also three daughters: Mrs. Sarah J. Else, the wife of J. J. Else, of Oskaloosa; Susan, also of Oskaloosa; and Mary, who died in 1876.

Charles B. West was educated in the district schools and at Oskaloosa College until twenty-one years of age. After completing his education he began farming on the old homestead where he remained until 1878, when he removed to Oskaloosa and engaged in the agricultural implement business, admitting John Dusenberry to a partnership. They continued in business successfully for fifteen years. West in the meantime became the owner of farm property and now owns a splendid tract of land of three hundred acres, located partly in Garfield and partly in Scott townships. this tract he fattens large numbers of cattle, which he ships to the Chicago market and to the east, and his agricultural and stock-raising interests are bringing to him a gratifying financial reward.

In politics Mr. West is a stanch republican, believing firmly in the principles of the party. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity in Oskaloosa. In 1878 occurred the marriage of Mr. West and Miss Beranda Dusenberry. a daughter of John and Christiana Dusenberry, of the well known Dusenberry family of Garfield township. Unto this marriage have been born four children: Lena L., Clifford B., Fay W. and Walter Guy. The daughters, Lena and Fay, are graduates of Penn College, the former having completed the course in 1902 and the latter in 1905. Guy also finished his education in Penn College and is now in business with his father. Of the young men of Mahaska county it is safe to say that few of his age are better known to the public than Clifford B. West. He is a graduate of the State University, and in the fall of 1905 was nominated for the position of county clerk, winning the election by a large majority, having run several hundred votes ahead of his ticket. He is now the youngest county clerk in Iowa, and in fact, the youngest that has ever held the office in Mahaska county. The West family occupy a beautiful residence on Market street and K avenue and, as all who know them will testify, the members of the household are highly respected, having a host of warm friends in Oskaloosa and throughout Mahaska county.

ROBERT KISSICK, LL. B.

Robert Kissick, lawver, author, newspaper correspondent and literary critic, has since 1865 resided in Oskaloosa and though formerly engaged in the practice of law is now devoting his entire time to his literary work. He is a native of Mercer county, Pennsylvania, born May 4, 1843, and is a son of Thomas and Mary Ann (Lafferty) Kissick, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Ohio. Thomas Kissick was born in 1807 and crossed the Atlantic with his father's family at the age of sixteen vears, becoming a resident of Pittsburg. By trade he was a molder, but through many years devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits. His death occurred in 1869 and his wife passed away in Iowa in the fall of 1860. at the age of thirty-nine years. In their family were eight children, of whom the following are vet living: Captain William L. Kissick, of Oskaloosa; Robert; John L., who is living in Denver, Colorado; Florence, the wife of Dr. N. R. Hook, of Oskaloosa; Araminta, the widow of Rev. William Wilson and a resident of Ypsilanti, Michigan; and George L., of Albia, Iowa. Those deceased are: Lucetta J., who was the first wife of Dr. N. R. Hook: and James L., the youngest of the family.

Robert Kissick was a youth of fifteen years when he came with his father's family to Iowa,

arriving at Oskaloosa, April 7, 1850, the old home being established in Oskaloosa township upon a farm five miles west of the city of Oskaloosa. He accquired a common-school education and was reared to farm life, assisting in the labors of field and meadow until after the outbreak of the Civil war. On the 10th of August, 1862, at the age of nineteen years, he offered his services to the government and became a member of Company C, Thirty third Iowa Infantry, in which he was mustered in as a corporal. Shortly afterward he was promoted to the rank of second serge int and later became color sergennt of the regiment at Helena, Arkansas, in April, 1863. He served with the regiment in all its expeditions and campaigns until March, 1864. With his command he took part in the Vicksburg campaign, in what is known as the Yazoo Pass expedition, during February, March and April, 1863. This expedition was perhaps the most unique of any during the war or indeed of the world, going through the state of Mississippi by the way of the Yazoo Pass, the Coldwater, Tallahatchie and Yazoo rivers to Fort Pemberton, with a fleet of some thirty-five or forty gunboats and steamboats, traveling in all some seven hundred and fifty miles in going and returning. He also took part in the several campaigns against Little Rock, Arkansas, in August and September, 1863, under Major General Fred Steele, commanding the Seventh Army Corps, that city being captured September 10, 1803, where the regiment remained during the winter. On the 28th of March, 1864, at Little Rock, Mr. Kissick was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant and adjutant of the One Hundred and Thirteenth Regiment of United States Colored Troops, being at that time but twenty years of He was commissioned by authority of Abraham Lincoln and continued to serve with that rank until the close of the war.

When hostilities had ceased Mr. Kissick returned to Oskaloosa and became a student in

Hull & Piper's Classical and Normal School in 1865. He was afterward principal of the high school in Manchester, Iowa, in 1867-8, and has since been a resident of Oskaloosa. Having studied law under private instruction, he matriculated in the law department of the Iowa State University, from which he was graduated in the class of 1872. He then entered upon the practice of his chosen profession and was for many years a learned and able member of the Oskaloosa bar, but ten years ago, on account of ill health, he retired from practice and since 1894 has given his attention almost entirely to literary work.

His first published work was "A Philosophical History of the Formation of the American Republic," the first edition of which has been exhausted, and a second work, "Models of American Patriotism," is now in manuscript form. Something of the character of his first publication may be indicated by the following statement of Senator James Harlan: "Your history has placed the people of the whole country under the lasting obligations of gratitude." Professor A. L. Tidd, of Aurora Modern College, Aurora, Illinois, says: "Your work has struck the true chord of history. It is the very spirit and essence of American history and should be read by every citizen and future voter of the republic. Many have given statistics, but you have written history." Mr. Kissick is now preparing a history of the Thirty-third Regiment of Iowa Volunteer Infantry in the war of the Rebellion, 1861-1865, with an introduction on the causes and beginning of the war. He has also prepared an elaborate criticism on Lee's New School History of the United States and Channing's Students' History of the United States. He has written for leading papers of Des Moines, Chicago and Washington, D. C., and prepared and published a symposium on tariff revision in the fall of 1905, which was noticed by the big dailies of the country. Being a stalwart republican, Mr.

Kissick is active in the work of the party and as a strong and forceful writer has made himself felt along many questions of political discussion for the good of the country.

Mr. Kissick was married at Oskałoosa in November, 1868, to Miss Mary J. Pettitt, a daughter of David and Rebecca Pettitt, who came to Oskaloosa from Ohio, in 1864. They lost one child, Ralph W., while those still living are as follows: Frank P., of Albia, Iowa, who served for six years in the Iowa National Guard, resigning as captain of Company F, Fifty-first Iowa Infantry, in 1897. Guy E., who served in the Spanish-American war with the rank of lieutenant of Company F, Fifty-first Iowa Infantry, actively serving some time in the Philippines. Before this he served about six vears in the Iowa National Guard at Oskaloosa. Edwyne R., serving as a private in the same company with his brother in the Philippines, died on board the United States steamer, Senator, September 29, 1899, in Nagasaki harbor, Japan, when on the trip home, and was buried in Forest cemetery, at Oskaloosa. Norman J., is now second lieutenant in Company F, Fiftyfourth Regiment, Iowa National Guard, at Oskaloosa. Mary Irene completes the family. The sons seem to have inherited their father's military spirit and have become active members of the nation's standing army of volunteers.

Mr. Kissick is a member of Phil Kearney post, No. 40, G. A. R., of Oskaloosa, and was the second one chosen to the office of commander, serving for the year 1882, and is now the senior past post commander. For the past three years he has been adjutant. In politics a stalwart republican, his first vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln in 1864 while a soldier at Little Rock, and the same year he was commissioned an officer by the President when but twenty years of age. While he was seeking the office of a member of the board of control of state institutions in Iowa, in 1900, there were many eminent gentlemen who gave him their

endorsement. The Hon. Milton Remley said to him: "He is a gentleman of high character, learned, of general information and a high order of ability," while Judge Remley said of him: "I have been personally acquainted with Robert Kissick for nearly thirty years and have known him as a student and a careful analyzer of causes and effects in affairs which affect the condition of men." Hon. S. M. Clark said: "He is one of the men who has contributed to the large statesmanship of Iowa by his treatment of public questions." Many more equally favorable letters of commendation were written. The writings of Mr. Kissick show him to be a man of broad mind and scholarly attainment, who has carried his researches far into the history of the country, the purpose and aims of its people, their ambitions and accomplishments.

ALBERT COOPER.

Albert Cooper, of Oskaloosa, who is engaged in the nursery business, meeting with good success, is a native of Ohio, the place of his birth being Columbiana county, and his natal year 1839. He is a son of Evan and Mary (Middleton) Cooper, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The father was born in Lancaster county in 1801, and came of English lineage. He was reared to the occupation of farming, which he chose as a life work, and he removed from Pennsylvania to the Buckeye state at an early day, residing there until 1854. when he came with his family to Iowa, settling in Keokuk county, where he purchased land and carried on general agricultural pursuits up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1885. He was a prosperous man, carefully conducting his business affairs so that success resulted. His religious faith was that of the Society of Friends, and his political belief was in accord with the whig principles until the organization



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of the new republican party, when he joined its ranks and upon its ticket he was called to several local offices. His wife survived him, dying in 1881, at the age of seventy-five years. Like him, she was of English lineage and a member of the Society of Friends. In their family were eight children: William, who died in early manhood; Chalkley, who died when a young man; Martha, the wife of Benjamin L. Bates, a farmer of Keokuk county; Mark, who died in infancy; Hinchman, a furniture merchant of Arcada, Oregon; Albert; Ann, who became the wife of David Holloway and died on the old homestead; and Sarah, the deceased wife of Henry Bacon.

Albert Cooper was reared to farm life with the advantages of a country-school education. He taught for one term and since that time has given the greater part of his attention to the nursery business. In 1898 he came to Oskaloosa, where he established a nursery and has since successfully conducted it. He carries an excellent stock of nursery goods and his patrons have found that the trees and shrubs which he sells are inthrifty, hardy condition. He is always reliable as to price in all business transactions and has thus gained a growing trade.

In 1862 Mr. Cooper was united in marriage to Miss Sina Ellen Heald, who was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, July 21, 1844, a daughter of Abner and Sina Heald. Her father was a noted preacher of the Friends church. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper have six children: Ida, the wife of Alonzo Halstead, a farmer living near Grinnell, Iowa; Fannie, the wife of John B. Baxter, a mechanic of Pasadena, California; Elsworth E., a farmer of Keokuk county, Iowa; May B., the wife of Smith Clendennon, who is employed as a stationary engineer by the Crescent Coal Company at White City, Iowa; Earl E., who is engaged in farming near Grinnell; and Clyde G., deceased.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Cooper manifested his loyalty to the government by enlisting for service in the Union Army at Sigourney in Angust, 1862, becoming a member of Company H, Thirty-third Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He served for three years, was in the Department of Arkansas and the Department of the Gulf and took part in a mumber of important engagements. He attained the rank of second sergeant and was mustered out at Davenport in 1865, by order of the war department. He belongs to Phil Kearney post, G. A. R., of which he is now junior vice-commander.

In politics Mr. Cooper votes with the republican party, which stood loyally by the Union in the dark days of the Civil war, and in the spring of 1906 he received the nomination of his party for alderman from the fifth ward, but owing to his temperance principles, was defeated by a small majority, receiving one hundred and forty-five votes and his opponent one hundred and sixty-four. The issue was saloon or no saloon and the inclement weather had much to do with the result of the election. The ward is republican, and the cleanest in the city, and usually casts about five hundred votes. He is an active and prominent member of the Central Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has served as class-leader and took a leading part in the erection of the new house of worship, which cost twenty-two thousand dollars. He was succeeded in office by his son.

IRVING C. JOHNSON.

Irving C. Johnson, member of the Oskaloosa bar and referee in bankruptcy since 1900, his jurisdiction extending over Mahaska, Wapello, Monroe, Keokuk and Washington counties, was born in Oskaloosa in 1872, his father being the distinguished Judge J. Kelly Johnson, who is mentioned on another page of this work. The son pursued his preliminary education in the

public schools, passing through consecutive grades until he completed the high-school course by graduation in 1888. In the fall of the same year he entered Penn College, where he completed a classical course and won the degree of Bachelor of Arts upon his graduation in 1892. In the succeeding autumn he entered upon a post-graduate course in Haverford College near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he was graduated in 1893. He next entered the law office of his father under whose direction he pursued his reading, while later his preceptors were the members of the firm of Seevers & Seevers, of Oskaloosa. In May, 1895, he was admitted to the bar at Des Moines and entered upon the active practice of his profession in June of the same year. He has continued a member of the Oskaloosa bar with marked success. He has never aimed at signal momentary results but by a thoughtful and careful avoidance of mistakes, at permanent achievements. He has succeeded in all respects which constitute success as an attorney-at-law and these results have been attained by devotion to his profession and close attention to his business. The outcome is not the result of chance but results from his native abilities properly cultivated and at all times he has made good use of his opportunities.

In 1899 Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Mary Burnside who was born in Oskaloosa in 1873 and is a daughter of William and Hannah Burnside, of this city. They now have two children: J. Kelly, born January 27, 1902; and Hannah, born June 22, 1905. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church and their social position is an enviable one. Mr. Johnson is also a trustee of Penn College and of the Oskaloosa Young Men's Christian Association and is deeply interested in the moral and intellectual as well as material progress of his native state. In politics he is a republican and has been referee in bankruptcy since 1900. He is a member of the Mahaska County Bar

Association. In the walks of life where intelligence, honor and manliness are regarded for what they are worth he has by the practice of these qualities attained an honorable position at the bar and in the community, and won the respect of all who know him. He began life with a definite purpose in view, worked faithfully, honestly and with a will for its accomlishment and now enjoys a reputation that is by no means limited by the boundaries of his native city.

REV. FRANCIS PETER McMANUS.

Rev. Francis Peter McManus, priest of St. Mary's Catholic church, at Oskaloosa, was born in Scott county, Iowa, in 1868, a son of James and Mary Ann (Gallagher) McManus. The father, now living in Davenport, Jowa, at the age of sixty-two years, followed merchandising until 1890, when he was made a member of the police force of Davenport, to which city he had removed in 1877. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and in his political allegiance is a democrat. His wife, who was born in Ohio, died in 1876, at the age of thirty-one years, also in the faith of the Catholic church. In the family were a daughter and two sons, but the former, Annie, is now deceased. John was lost in Havana harbor on the battleship Maine, on February 15, 1898. The body was recovered and was interred at Havana, but after a year the remains were transferred to the Arlington National cemetery, at Washington, D. C. He was a fireman on the Maine and was twentyeight years of age at the time he lost his life.

Rev. McManus, the only surviving member of the father's family, attended the common schools in his early boyhood and also the parochial schools in Davenport and other places, including Beargrove and Adair. He entered St. Ambrose College in 1885, pursuing therein a classical course, from which he was graduated in 1880. He next entered St. Francis Seminary, at Wilwaukee, Wisconsin, from which he was graduated in 1893, and he was ordained to the priesthood in June of the same, year at Davenport by Bishop Cosgrove. was then assigned as a curate at St. Ambrose church at Des Moines, where he remained for about a year, after which he spent two and a half years at Brooklyn, Iowa. He then went to Colorado, where he remained for fifteen months for the benefit of his health, at the end of which time he was appointed priest of St Timothy's church at Cumberland, Iowa, where he remained for six years and four months. In November, 1904, he came to Oskaloosa and took charge of St. Mary's church. This has a membership of about one hundred and fifteen families and the church is in a prosperous condition, its various societies being in good working order, while the membership is in hearty sympathy with its principles, giving to him earnest co-operation in his work for the material and spiritual needs of his parishioners. His political support is given to the democracy.

JAMES B. BOLTON.

James B. Bolton, president of the bar association of Mahaska county and a resident of the county since the spring of 1863, was born in Knox county, Ohio, in 1839. His early educational privileges were supplemented by study in Martinsburg Academy, of his native state, and for three years he was an assistant teacher in that institution. Subsequently he attended Kenyon College in Ohio, pursuing his course there at the time of the outbreak of the Civil war.

His patriotic spirit aroused, he put aside his text-looks and volunteered for service with the Fourth Ohio regiment. Going to Laurel Hill, Virginia, he was there taken ill, and because of this disability was discharged. The colonel of the regiment was President Andrews of Kenyon College, who became ill about the same time that Mr. Bolton did and was taken home and died. In 1862 Mr. Bolton re-enlisted in Company A, Eighty-fourth Ohio Infantry, under command of Captain Merriott and Colonel Savage. During his three-months' service he was on duty most of the time at Camp Denison, Cincinnati, and helped build a pontoon bridge across the river between that city and Covington, Kentucky.

When discharged from the army Mr. Bolton returned to Ohio and in the spring of 1863 came to Mahaska county, where he has since resided. For a number of years he engaged in teaching school, following the profession for nine terms in this county, previous to which time he had successfully taught in the country schools of Ohio, giving his attention to the profession in the winter months, while in the summer seasons he followed farming. In the summer of 1865 he purchased three yoke of oxen and broke eighty acres of prairie near the Dunkard church, in the northern part of the county. He cultivated this until 1870, in which year he removed to the city of Oskaloosa and after reading law was admitted to the bar in December of that year. He has practiced here continuously since and has a good clientage, connecting him with much important litigation, his standing at the bar being indicated by his liberal practice and the uniform regard which is tendered him by his brethren of the legal fraternity.

In the spring of 1865, in this county, Mr. Bolton was married to Miss Ann McMains, a daughter of John McMains, and they became the parents of two children, but the daughter died before the birth of the son, L. C. Bolton, who is now the manager of the Bolton-Hoover Coal Company. He is also a prac-

ticing lawyer, who was graduated from Cornell College, and has practiced at this bar. For a number of years Mr. Bolton has been a Mason and has taken the degrees of the Knight Templar commandery and of the Mystic Shrine. He is a charter member of the Elks lodge of Oskaloosa and was the first exalted ruler here. During the long years of his residence in Mahaska county he has ever directed his labors for the benefit of public interests as well as for the development of a successful business career and he has made an honorable name for himself and a worthy place in the regard of his fellowmen.

ROBERT W. DYE.

Robert W. Dye, successfully carrying on general agricultural pursuits, owns and operates two hundred acres of land on sections 8 and 9, Harrison township. He has been a resident of Mahaska county since 1869, and is a native of Hampshire county, West Virginia, now Mineral county, his natal day being September 5, 1846. His parents were George R. and Rachel (Offett) Dye, both of whom were natives of the Old Dominion. The son was reared to manhood there, being fourteen years of age at the time of the outbreak of the Civil war. He came to Iowa in 1869, when a young man, making his way direct to Mahaska county, where he joined an older brother. He worked for a vear for his brother, after which he operated rented land for four or five years.

Mr. Dye was married in this county, February 9, 1873, to Miss Orlena A. Baughman, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of A. J. Baughman, who came with his family to Iowa in the fall of 1851, settling in Mahaska county, so that Mrs. Dye was here reared. She completed her education in the schools of Oskaloosa, having successfully engaged in teaching for

five years. After his marriage, Mr. Dye engaged in farming north of Oskaloosa for a few years and then purchased where he now resides, becoming owner of one hundred acres. He and his father-in-law together purchased two hundred acres. Mr. Dye located upon the property and began farming it, adding many improvements and placing the fields under a high state of cultivation. He later fenced and cross-fenced the place, thus dividing it into fields of convenient size, has laid many rods of tiling and remodeled the house which he occupies. He built a new barn, has repaired one that was already standing upon the place, and has added many modern improvements. When the property came into his possession it was in a somewhat dilipidated condition, but he has brought everything to a high state of improvement and is regarded as one of the substantial and leading agriculturists of the community. He has been a stock-raiser and breeder and this branch of his business has proved profitable.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dye have been born three children: Gertrude, the wife of Thomas Ritchie, a farmer of Harrison township, by whom she has one son, Robert H.; Edna F., the wife of I. A. Weaver, of Springfield, Illinois, by whom she has a daughter, Cleo Edith; and Mabel C., at home.

Politically Mr. Dye is a prohibitionist, supporting the party because it embodies his views upon the temperance question which he regards today as one of the most important issues before the people. He has never sought office nor desired political preferment, save that he has served as a member of the school board. He believes in the employment of good teachers and the adoption of progressive methods of instruction, the cause of education finding in him a warm friend. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and has served as trustee and steward. For thirty-seven years he has lived in the county, witnessing much of its development and progress. In 1886 he removed to





R.M. Dye



Mors R. Mr. Dye



Oskaloosa, where he made his home for about three years engaged in the patent right and implement business, but with this exception be has always given his attention to farming interests. He now has two good tenant houses upon his place and rents his land. He is well known in Oskaloosa and the southern part of Mahaska county and in Wapello county as well and is recognized as a man of good business ability and of integrity and worth. His wife is a well educated, refined and intelligent lady, who has been a true helpmate to her husband. She manages her household affairs with great care and the neat and attractive appearance of her home greatly reflects credit upon her supervision. The family is much esteemed in the county and the hospitality of the lest homes of this part of the county is freely accorded to Mr. Dye and his family.

STUART B. SHANNON.

Stuart B. Shannon, who is engaged in the furniture business in New Sharon, was born on the 16th of October, 1841, in the state of New Jersey. His father, David Shannon, was born in Warren county, New Jersey, and in early life learned and followed the wagonmaker's trade, but eventually gave his attention to agricultural pursuits. He continued a resident of his native county up to the time of his death, which occurred when he was seventy-nine years of age. He had wedded Catherine Angle, who was born in New Jersey and died in Alpena, Michigan, at the age of seventy-two years, while on a visit to her son. Stuart B. Shannon was the fourth in order of birth in a family of ten children: Isaac, a wagonmaker, residing in Bay City, Michigan; Daniel, who died in Bay City; Eliza, the wife of Phil Albertson, who died in New Jersey in 1905; Stuart B.; Emma, who is living in Warren county, New Jersey: John, a wagonmaker residing in Bay

City, Michigan; George, who is engaged in the furniture business in Alpena, Michigan; Charles, residing in Newark, New Jersey; Clarkson, who died in that city; and Louisa, who was the wife of William Cregg and died in Newark, New Jersey.

Stuart B. Shannon was reared upon his father's farm and attended the district schools. At the age of twenty years he entered business life as a clerk in a dry-goods store in Delaware. New Jersey, where he remained until after the outbreak of the Civil war. He then assisted in raising Company I, of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, and was to have been made second lieutenant. This was an independent regiment, which proceeded to Washington, and there Mr. Shannon was transferred and put in charge of a battery of light artillery, the command being attached to the Army of the Potomac. He participated in McClellan's campaign, was in the seven-days' battle of the Wilderness and was with Grant around Petersburg. He was at Newport News at the time of the great naval engagement between the Merrimac and Monitor, the first battle between the ironclads, and witnessed this struggle with a field glass. At the battle of Black River Mr. Shannon was injured by being thrown from a horse when his regiment was retreating, being surrounded on three sides by the rebels. The horse was shot and killed and in falling Mr. Shannon was thrown on some stumps and severely injured.

He spent six days inside of the rebel lines but swore he would never go to a rebel prison. He later joined Grant's army while on Wilson's raid. He was honorably discharged by reason of the expiration of his term of enlistment at Bermuda, near Petersburg, Virginia, after serving for three years and sixty days. Twenty years after the close of the war he made application to the government for a pension and now receives ten dollars per month.

When the war was over Mr. Shannon returned to New Jersey, where he was engaged

in the furniture business for a year. He then went to Bay City, Michigan, and for two decades was the leading furniture dealer and undertaker of that place. For ten years he occupied the only stone front building, and later he built a store of his own and also owned one of the finest brick residences there. He assisted in organizing and was the first president of the Michigan State Undertakers Association, and he was regarded as a most prominent and influential as well as successful business man.

In 1868 Mr. Shannon was married to Miss Hulda Titman, also a native of Warren county, New Jersey. They had traveled life's journey happily together for about eighteen years when Mrs. Shannon become ill with a cancer. took her to New York for treatment but without avail and she died in 1886. While he was absent Mr. Shannon left his business in the hands of others with the result that it was not capably managed, and he lost nearly everything he had. He had worked hard and had withstood the ill effect of the financial panic in which many other business men had gone down. Because of his losses he determined to make a start elsewhere and in 1887 went to Oskaloosa, where he again embarked in business, but the competition in that city was too great for his small capital, and in 1800 he came to New Sharon. Here he purchased a building, to which he has since built an addition, and has here successfully conducted a furniture store. no longer does any undertaking, but has a good trade in furniture and a well equipped establishment.

In 1888 Mr. Shannon was again married, his second union being with Miss Abbie Shannon, who was born in Warren county, New Jersey, but though of the same name is not a relative. By the first marriage there was one child, a son, who is engaged in the music business at Kalamazoo, Michigan.

In his political views Mr. Shannon has always been an earnest republican but has neither sought nor desired office since coming to Iowa. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and is a Knight Templar Mason, and belongs to H. C. Leighton post, No. 199. G. A. R., of New Sharon, of which he is a past commander. He has taken an active interest in the work of the post and maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades around its campfires.

TOM MORRISH.

Tom Morrish, postmaster of Beacon, was born in Yorkshire, England, February 15. 1861, a son of Moses and Elizabeth Morrish, both of whom are living in Colorado City, Colorado, Mr. Morrish of this review spent the first sixteen years of his life in his native country and with his parents came to America in 1879, the family home being established in the New River region of West Virginia. He had pursued his education in the schools of Leeds, England, and after residing in West Virginia for about three years came to Beacon on the 2d of August, 1862. Here he was engaged in coal mining until the 16th of September, 1897, when he became postmaster of Beacon. He has since filled the office to the satisfaction of all concerned and in addition to managing the affairs of the position he also conducts a job printing establishment and sells stationery and office sup-He has made for himself a creditable place in business circles in this village and enjoys the confidence and good will of his fellow townsmen.

On the 28th of June, 1886, Mr. Morrish was united in marriage to Miss Emma Silverthorn, of Beacon, and their son. Roscoe, is now mail carrier on the Beacon route, No. 2. The younger son, Harold, is at home. Mr. Morrish is connected with several fraternal organizations, of

which he is a valued representative. He is now a past master of the Masonic lodge and is a past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias lodge of Beacon. For several years he has been identified with other orders as well and his life exemplifies the beneficient and helpful spirit which constitutes the basic elements of these fraternities. In politics Mr. Morrish is an earnest and unfaltering republican and in 1894 was elected a justice of the peace in East Garfield township. He served as secretary of the school board in 1895 and his public service has been characterized by unfaltering fidelity to duty and by capability in the discharge of every task which has thus devolved upon him. On the 26th of March, 1906, he was elected mayor of Beacon and was installed April 2d for a term of two years.

REV. JAY WILBUR SOMERVILLE.

Rev. Jay Wilbur Somerville, pastor of the Central Methodist Episcopal church in Oskaloosa, was born in Johnsburg, Warren county. New York, October 12, 1800. He is descended from Irish ancestry, the family having been founded in America by Samuel Somerville, the grandfather, who left Ireland at the time of the rebellion of 1793 and came to the United States, locating in Warren county, New York, where he purchased a tract of land. Upon that farm he continued to make his home for seventy-eight years and there died in his onehundredth year. It was upon that same farm that Samuel Somerville, Jr., father of Rev. J. W. Somerville, was born, and there he, too, passed away after reaching the very venerable age of eighty-six years, his entire life being spent upon the old home property. Both he and his father were farming people and the former was a squire or country lawyer. The farm is still in possession of the Somerville

family. Both the Somerville and the Noble families trace their ancestry back to the time of William the Conqueror, at which time their ancestors removed from Normandy to the north of Ireland. Samuel Somerville, Ir., was a man of affairs and his opinoins carried weight in matters of local importance. In politics he was a whig and later a republican. He was called to fill various county offices and he also represented his district in the general assembly of New York, being the first man sent to the state legislature by the republican party. This was in 1857. The Somervilles were of the Methodist faith and the wife of the first Samuel Somerville was Sally Noble, who was converted under the teachings of John Wesley. Her father, David Noble, was a local preacher in America, being contemporary with Philip Embry, the first local Methodist minister in the United States. Samuel Somerville, Jr., was a member of the Methodist church for seventyfive years, took a most active and helpful interest in its work, long served in official positions therein and was a local minister. He married Miss Mary Elizabeth Waddle, who was born in Warren county, New York, and represented one of the first five families settling there, her ancestors having come from England to the new world. She was a descendant of the celebrated Rexford family of England. She held membership in the Methodist church and her earnest Christian character won her the esteem and love of those with whom she came in contact. Unto Samuel and Mary E. Somerville were born six children, namely: Jay Wilbur; Robert, who is game warden of northern New York; Mary Ella, the wife of Simeon Herrick. a resident farmer of Weavertown, New York: Jennie, who is living in North Creek, New York; Earl, a farmer residing on the old homestead in Warren county, New York; and Lee, a physician and surgeon living in the old Dr. Durant mansion, one of the handsome homes of North Creek, New York.

Rev. J. W. Somerville supplemented his early educational privileges by preparation for college in Trov Conference Academy at Poultney, Vermont, and after four years' study was gradnated in the class of 1886. He then entered Syracuse University and was graduated in 1890 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts and two years later the degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him. Going to Hutchinson, Kansas, he accepted the pastorate of the First Methodist Episcopal church there and remained for five years. He was ordained deacon in 1891 by Bishop Merrill and ordained elder in 1893 by Bishop Hurst. On the expiration of the five years spent in Hutchinson he accepted a call from the First Methodist Episcopal church in Lawrence, Kansas, and while there he was graduated in law from the State University and was admitted to practice in the supreme court of Kansas. In 1899 he came to Oskaloosa as pastor of the Central Methodist Episcopal church and for seven years has labored among the people of this city, the church under his guidance enjoying a period of substantial and healthful growth and proving a beneficial influence in the community.

On the 29th of April, 1890, the Rev. Somerville was married to Miss Jessie Burdick, who was born in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, in 1867 and is a daughter of the Rev. Chester F. Burdick, of the Troy (New York) conference. Three children bless this union: Earl, born in October, 1895; Mary, September 13, 1899; and Ralph, December 6, 1905. Like her husband, Mrs. Somerville is earnest and zealous in behalf of the work of the church and has been a most able assistant to him in his pastoral duties.

In his political views Rev. Somerville is a republican, keeping informed upon the questions of the day because he regards it the duty as well as the privilege of every American to understand the government of his country and to support the men who seem best qualified to uphold it. His labors, however, have been directed

most largely to his church work in its various departments. He is peculiarly gifted with the powers of organization and has therefore been especially successful in evangelistic work. He has great ability in raising money and has thus been enabled to clear a number of churches from large indebtedness. During his residence in Oskaloosa he has raised \$60,000 and it is his intention in 1906 to wipe out the entire debt of the church. The house of worship is one of the most substantial church edifices of the state and is of beautiful architectural design. It was erected at a cost of about \$40,000. The membership of the church is about 900 and the various societies of the church are now in excellent working condition and are accomplishing great good. Regarded from the standpoint of length of residence here Rev. Somerville is the oldest pastor in the city. He has been president of the Associated Charities of Oskaloosa for the past two years and has been very active in all movements in the city tending toward its best welfare. Those interests which are a matter of civic pride receive his endorsement and he co-operates earnestly, willingly and effectively in temperance work and in all charitable and benevolent movements which are kindred interests of the church.

DANIEL RIEGEL.

Among those interested in the development of the rich coal properties of this section of Iowa is numbered Daniel Riegel, of Oskaloosa, who as a self-made and enterprising business man well deserves mention in this volume. Born in Pennsylvania on the 25th of April, 1853, he is a son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Balett) Riegel, also natives of the Keystone state where they spent their entire lives, the father passing away in 1863, at the age of forty-six years. In their family were ten children but



Yours Truly Daniel Riegel



only four are now living: Daniel; Sarah, the wife of Jonas Gumbert, of Pennsylvania; John, of Pennsylvania; and Joseph, of Waverly, New York.

Daniel Riegel was only ten years of age at the time of his father's death. His educational privileges were limited and in early youth he worked on the home farm. In 1869, when sixteen years of age, he secured employment in the mines at New Philadelphia and in 1870 went to Summit county, Ohio, where he was connected with mining interests for more than ten years. In 1882 he came to Oskaloosa, Iowa, and was employed at standard mining for two years. He then engaged in business on his own account, opening a retail coalvard at Oskaloosa and later in Danville, Illinois, Subsequently he came to Oskaloosa and established the No. 1 Riegel Coal Company in 1898. The plant of the company was in operation for five years and in 1905 mine No. 2 of the Riegel Coal Company was opened. It is equipped with the most modern machinery and is now being successfully operated.

On the 20th of March, 1873, Mr. Riegel was married to Miss Mary P. Carl, a daughter of Samuel and Mary (Wadsworth) Carl, who were natives of Pennsylvania but lived for a time in Ohio. The father followed the occupation of farming and died in 1874, at the age of sixty-two years, while his wife passed away in 1853, at the age of thirty years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Riegel have been born four children, who are yet living: Cora E., the wife of Ed. Adair, a resident of Oskaloosa; Effie J., the wife of S. H. Hull, of Chicago: Lottie B. and Pearl F., both at home. Those deceased are Clemmie J., Bessie E. and Willie M.

Mr. Riegel is a man of domestic tastes, who finds his greatest happiness in the midst of his family and at his own fiveside. Moreover he possesses a social, genial nature, fine personal appearance and has displayed in his life many admirable qualities, while in his business career

he has won success through capable management and indefatigable energy.

MOSES CHILDRESS, M. D.

Dr. Moses Childress, practicing as a member of the firm of Hunter & Childress with offices at No. 125 North Market street, in Oskaloosa, was born in Unionville, Appanoose county, Iowa, in 1870. His father, Moses Childress, Sr., was a native of eastern Tennessee, and came to lowa in 1849, settling in Davis county, near Drakeville, where he secured land and followed the occupation of farming. He voted with the republican party and held membership in the Presbyterian church. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Celia Martin, was born in Lee county, Virginia, and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Childress died in 1886, at the age of eighty-two years, while his wife passed away in February, 1904, at the age of seventy-three years.

Dr. Childress, their only child, was reared in Unionville, Iowa, where he attended the common and high schools. At the age of sixteen years he went into a drug and jewelry store as a clerk and watchmaker, and at the age of nineteen he bought out his employer, conducting the business for about ten years in Unionville and other places. In the meantime he was devoting his leisure hours to reading medicine, and in 1895 he entered the Louisville (Kentucky) Medical College, where he received his diploma in 1897, while in 1898 he was graduated from the Barnes Medical College at St. Louis. In the fall of the same year he took an addendum degree at the National (homeopathic) Medical College at Chicago.

In the fall of 1898 Dr. Childress began the practice of medicine at Packwood, Iowa, where he remained for five years, meeting with good

success. He then went to Chicago, where he pursued a post-graduate course and in 1902 he came to Oskaloosa, where he practiced alone for a year. In 1903 he entered into partnership with Dr. Andrew J. Hunter under the firm style of Hunter & Childress with offices at No. 125 North Market street. In practice he has met his professional anticipations and has now a large patronage. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Savings Bank of Packwood, Iowa.

In 1892 Dr. Childress was married to Miss Lola Brown, who was born in Indiana in 1874, a daughter of Dallas M. and Eliza (Gibson) Brown. The father was a farmer and local preacher of the Christian church. Dr. and Mrs. Childress have four children: Bernice, Pearl, J. Rex and XRay. Both are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which the Doctor is serving as steward and is also treasurer of the Sunday-school. In his fraternal affiliation he is a Mason and politically is a republican. He belongs to the county and state medical associations and the Des Moines Vallev Medical Society, also the American Medical Association. Entering upon the practice of his profession with a sense of conscientions obligation concerning the duties devolving upon him, he has become a foremost physician in his adopted city. He is a man of deep research and a close student and his skill and ability are now widely recognized, while the confidence of the public in his superiority as a physician and surgeon are manifest in his already extensive and growing practice.

JOHN C. SCOLES.

John C. Scoles, photographer of Oskaloosa, who has won the highest honors awarded by the Iowa State Photographers Association, was born in Knoxville, Iowa, in 1866, and in the paternal line comes of Irish ancestry. His fa-

ther, Curtis W. Scoles, was born in Ohio, and was a painter by trade. He removed from his native state to Iowa about 1856, settling in Keokuk, whence after two years he removed to Knoxville, where his death occurred in 1900, when he was in his sixty-third year. He was an Odd Fellow and also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, being entitled to membership in the latter by reason of his active service in the Civil war. He enlisted in the Union army in 1862, serving until the close of hostilities and was a member of Company G, Eighteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. On one occasion he was disabled by a sunstroke which caused the loss of the sight of one eve. He served most of the time in Arkansas and Missouri and was ever a loval defender of the star and stripes. His political allegiance was always given to the republican party, which stood loyally by the Union in the darkest hour of our country's history. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Fannie Craddick, was born in Indiana, was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and died in Iowa in 1881, at the age of forty years. In their family were five children: Albert H., a blacksmith residing in Hamilton, Iowa: John C., of this review; Louie, the wife of Charles Jenks, of Knoxville, Iowa; and Hamilton and Keziali, both deceased.

John C. Scoles began his education in the public schools of Knoxville, and he learned photography there. In 1895 he embarked in business on his own account at Dexter, Iowa, where he remained for seven years, after which he spent two years in Stuart. He then came to Oskaloosa and purchased the photograph gallery of George Gesman, the principal studio of the city. He still continues in business here and is considered one of the best photographic artists in this part of the state. He is familiar with all modern processes and added to his thorough understanding of the mechanical work he also possesses much natural artistic taste as

seen in his judicious use of lights and shades and of posing. He belongs to the Photographers' Association of Iowa and he has a collection of medals that evidences his proficiency in his profession. These were awarded by the Photographers Association of Iowa. There are four classes in which entries for competition can be made. Mr. Scoles won first a medal as a first prize in the fourth class in 1900; then a medal in the third class in 1901; a medal in the second class in 1902; and in 1903 he took a medal as first prize in the second class, while in 1904 he took first prize in the first class. He is naturally and justly proud of these evidences of his superiority in the line of his chosen life work.

In 1803 Mr. Scoles was married to Miss Della Battles, who was born in Illinois in 1867, and is a daughter of C. P. and Frances Battles, the former a carpenter by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Scoles have one child, Thelma, born in 1901. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Scoles is an Odd Fellow and Modern Woodman, while politically he is a republican. Making good use of his opportunities he has prospered from year to year and has conducted all business matters carefully and successfully, displaying in all his acts an aptitude for successful management. His genial manner and unfailing courtesy add to his social popularity and have gained him many warm friends.

CHARLES V. HOFFMANN.

Charles V. Hoffmann, a member of the Herald Publishing Company of Oskaloosa, was born in this city. January 28, 1860. His father, Phillip Hoffmann, Sr., was a native of Germany and came to America in 1853. He went from New Orleans to Cincinnati, Ohio, and in 1855 came to Iowa, where he continued to follow the trades of cabinet-making and gla-

zier, which he had learned in his native land. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Ellen Addy, was a native of Ireland.

Charles V. Hoffmann acquired a publicschool education in Oskaloosa and in 1877 became apprenticed to the printer's trade in newspaper business, which he thoroughly mastered in all of its branches, gaining a practical knowledge of the work in the several departments. In 1889 he was elected treasurer of Mahaska county and by re-election served for two terms. In 1894 he turned his attention to the steam laundry business in connection with his brother Phillip and continued therein until December 1, 1896, when they sold out and together they purchased from Colonel Albert W. and Pauline Swalm the Oskaloosa Daily and Weekly Herald, which they are still conducting, being associated in this enterprise with C. S. Walling and Margaret Hoffmann. The business was incorporated in 1905 under the name of the Oskaloosa Herald Company. The papers occupy a foremost position among the leading journals of lowa and both daily and weekly have a large circulation which renders them an excellent advertising medium and their patronage in that direction is extensive and profitable. The papers are edited in the interests of the republican party and Mr. Hoffmann of this review has for a number of years been recognized as a leading advocate of republican principles, strong in his support of the party. He was appointed postmaster of Oskaloosa by President McKinley in 1897, was re-appointed in 1901 and again in 1905, so that he is the present incumbent in the office, and the fact that he has received the endorsement of his fellow townsmen for three terms is ample evidence of his public-spirited administration and his prompt and capable service.

On the 20th of May, 1890, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hoffmann and Miss Grace Seevers, a daughter of Hon. W. H. Seevers, of Oskaloosa. Their children are Gladys and

Guilford. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hoffmann have always resided in this city and their circle of friends is an extensive one, while the hospitality of many of the best homes of Oskaloosa is cordially and freely extended to them.

ELIJAH BUSBY.

Elijah Busby, now living retired on section 3. White Oak township, is one of the old settlers of Mahaska county, who for years was a prosperous agriculturist and for nearly two decades owned and operated a farm in Adams Later he removed to Monroe township. township and now makes his home in White Oak township. He dates his residence in the county from 1852. A native of Ohio, he was born in Carroll county, November 17, 1831. His father, John W. Busby, was born in Harrison county, Ohio, and was a son of John Busby, a native of Maryland, who became one of the first settlers of Harrison county, Ohio. The father, there born and reared, was married to Miss Anna Merryman, a native of Maryland. They removed to Carroll county, Ohio, where Mr. Busby opened up a new farm in the midst of the forest, developing a good property and there rearing his family. died upon the old homestead there, survived by his wife for a few years. In the family were the following children: Johnson, who same year; Abe; Elijah; Agnes; Elizabeth; John: Thomas, a soldier of the Civil war, now died in 1905; Jackson, who passed away in the deceased; Isaac; Aaron; Samuel, who died in infancy; Julia Ann; and Mary and Rachel, who died in infancy.

Elijah Busby was reared to farm life in Carroll county, Ohio, working in the fields and meadows through the summer months, while in the winter seasons he attended the public schools. In the spring of 1852 he came to

Iowa, settling in Mahaska county, where he worked as a farm hand for several years, at first receiving only ten dollars per month. He was married in this county on the 30th of April, 1857, to Miss Eliza Ann Bass, a sister of Robert Bass, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Busby was born in Bartholomew county, Indiana, and was brought to Iowa in her girlhood days. Following their marriage Mr. Busby rented a tract of land for a few years, after which he entered eighty acres in Madison county and also bought an adjoining tract of eighty acres. During the war he sold that property and invested in eighty acres of land in Adams township, on which he made his home for seventeen years, but his active farm labor was interrupted by his service in the Civil war. In the fall of 1861 he enlisted in the Union army, joining Company F, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, with which he went to Springfield, Missouri, and later to Arkansas. He was first under fire at Cottonplant and subsequently was in the engagement and afterward on duty at Vicksburg. He was captured at Bear Creek and, being sent to Libby prison, was there incarcerated until the fall of 1863, when he was paroled and went to Benton Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri. He rejoined his regiment at Vicksburg and after re-enlisting as a veteran he was granted a furlough and returned home in the fall of 1863. He spent a month with his family, during which time he sold his farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Madison county and bought eighty acres in Adams township. On the expiration of his furlough he returned to the army and remained with his regiment until the close of the war, being mustered out at Atlanta and receiving an honorable discharge at Davenport, Iowa, in July, 1865. He returned with a creditable military record, having ever been faithful and loyal to the cause which he espoused and doing active service on various He was in ten skirmishes. battle-fields.



Elizah Busly



Mr. Busby resumed farming in Adams township, where he cultivated and improved his land. He erected good buildings there, cleared and broke about forty acres and fenced his place. As time passed he developed an excellent property and there continued in active farming for seventeen years, when he sold out and bought a farm in Monroe township, comprising nearly two hundred acres. This he also began to further improve and he erected there a good barn together with various ontbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. There was a good house upon the place and he divided the land into fields of convenient size by well kept fences. He lived for seventeen years upon that property, after which he rented the place and removed to Rose Hill, where he purchased a tract of eight acres. He then repaired and added to the house and he now gives his attention to gardening and to keeping up his place, which is very neat and thrifty in appearance. He started in fowa with no capital, but possessed strong and determined purpose and upon that quality as a foundation builded his success.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Busby have been born six children, three sons and three daughters: William L., who is now engaged in the practice of medicine in Delta, Iowa; John R., who is mentioned elsewhere in this work: Homer E., a lawyer of Fort Dodge; Alice, the wife of J. W. Thomas, a lawyer and real-estate dealer of Fort Dodge; Emma, the wife of Jared Brown, a resident farmer of Monroe township, Mahaska county; and Lena, the wife of George W. VanNest, of Keokuk county.

In his political views Mr. Busby was a republican for a long period but later gave his support to the Greenback party and is now a Roosevelt populist. He served as justice of the peace in Adams township and also township trustee there and for many years has been a member of the school board. He has frequently been a delegate to the conventions of

his party and is interested in righteous management of county affairs along political lines. He belongs to the Grand Army post and his wife is a member of the Methodist church. Mr. Busby is one of the few remaining early settlers of Mahaska county and also of the veterans of the Civil war. He has led an active and honorable life crowned with successful accomplishment and Mahaska county has benefitted by his labors. He and his esteemed wife are now living in honorable retirement, enjoying the rest that has been so well earned and richly deserved.

NORMAN R. HOOK, M. D.

Dr. Norman R. Hook, physician and surgeon of Oskaloosa, was born in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, April 23, 1842. His father, Morgan M. Hook, also a native of Waynesburg, was a saddler by trade and in 1853 came to Iowa, at which time he located on a farm in East Garfield township, Mahaska county. He finally took up his abode in Oskaloosa, where he died at the age of seventy-three years. Opposed to the institution of slavery, he advocated the principles of the abolition party in early manhood and when the republican party was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery he joined its ranks. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Lappen, was born in Waynesburg and died at the age of seventy-four years. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Dr. Hook, the eldest in a family of nine children, remained upon the home farm until seventeen years of age and was a student in the country schools. He then attended the old normal school in Oskaloosa until twenty years of age, when in response to his country's call for troops he enlisted in 1862 for the Civil war, becoming a member of Company C, Thirty-

third Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He served for three years and was mustered out at Davenport on the 10th of August, 1865. He was promoted from the ranks to sergeant, second lieutenant and assistant commissary of musters of the Third Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, and was in the campaign that resulted in the capture of Spanish Fort and Mobile. He spent a year in the hospital at St. Louis, being ill with pneumonia and was afterwards made steward of the hospital. He also participated in a number of important battles and skirmishes and on all oceasions was found faithful to his duty, no matter what the character of the service, realizing that every task faithfully performed by the soldier contributed to the sum total of the success which crowned the Union arms.

When the war was over Dr. Hook returned to Oskaloosa and, having in the meantime résolved to make the practice of medicine his life work, he began reading in the office and under the direction of Dr. S. A. Rhinelart, who acted as his preceptor for two years. In fact he had spent one year in his office before enlisting. He afterward spent a year as a student in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Keokuk, Iowa, and was licensed to practice in 1866, at which time he opened an office in Fremont, where he remained continnously until 1874, when he pursued a postgraduate course at Keokuk. He remained in Fremont until 1885, at which time he removed to Lincoln, Nebraska, where he spent six vears and then took up his abode in St. Louis. Missouri, where he remained for three years. In 1894 he came to Oskaloosa, where he has now practiced continuously for twelve years.

In 1866 Dr. Hook was married to Miss Lucetta J. Kissick, who was born in Pennsylvania, a daughter of Thomas and Mary Kissick. She died in 1873, at the age of twenty-seven years, leaving two children: Charles Wilmer, who is now living in Oskaloosa; and Nellie K.,

who died at the age of eight years. In 1874 Dr. Hook was again married, his second union being with Florence K. Kissick, a sister of his first wife and a native of Pennsylvania. They had three children: Walter, who is now a clerk in Oskaloosa; William T., employed in a grocery store; and Pearl, who died in infancy.

Dr. Hook holds membership relations with the Masonic fraternity and Modern Woodmen of America. He is a democrat in his political views and has been alderman from the second ward, while for two years he served as health officer. He has also been a member of the board of education for three years and gives helpful support to every measure for the general welfare. He also served as a member of the board of education in Fremont and was senior warden in the Masonic lodge while living there. He was post commander of Hamilton Scott post at Fremont and a member of Farragut post at Lincoln, Nebraska. He was likewise medical examiner for the Woodmen in Lincoln and has also been medical examiner for the Woodmen in Oskaloosa. He is a busy and successful practitioner. He is also an industrious and ambitious student. Genial in disposition, unobtrusive and unassuming in manner, he is patient under adverse criticism and in his expressions concerning brother practitioners is friendly and indulgent.

WILLIAM H. CUNNINGHAM.

William H. Cunningham, superintendent of the Forest cemetery of Oskaloosa, is a native of Prince Edward county, Ontario, born December 10, 1846, and a son of Daniel and Charlotte (McDonald) Cunningham, who were likewise natives of Ontario and there remained until called to their final rest. In their family were three daughters and a son, who are yet living, namely: Hannah E.; Phebe Jane, who is the widow of William Vermilyea, a resident of Oskaloosa; Sarah A., the deceased wife of Dexter Maston; and William H.

In his home neighborhood William H. Cunningham acquired his education and upon the farm was reared, early becoming familiar with the arduous duties of the fields. He arrived in Oskaloosa in 1865 and here learned the marble trade, which he followed for more than twenty vears. During that long period he was employed at different times in Hamilton, Ontario, Cobleskill and Coxsackie, New York, and Council Bluffs, Iowa, returning to Oskaloosa in 1875. Here for twelve years he was in the employ of F. W. McCall and then went to Council Bluffs, where he remained for a short period, after which he returned to Oskaloosa and was with Mr. McCall until he became superintendent of Forest cemetery on the 15th of November, 1886. He still fills this position and has done much for the improvement of the cemetery grounds, working along economical lines that are very productive of excellent results. This developed his latent powers for landscape gardening and he has greatly improved and beautified the cemetery.

In 1867 Mr. Cunningham was married to Miss Ruth A. Garratt, a daughter of F. R. and Sarah M. Garratt, of Prince Edward county, Ontario. She died March 1, 1905, at the age of fifty-four years, leaving a husband and two sons, Ernest A. and Clarence E., both of Oskaloosa. The former was married in 1893 to Mary J. Foster, a daughter of H. and Mary Foster, and their children are Meryl A., Wilfred D., Mildred C. and E. Arthur. Clarence E. Cunningham wedded Clara Miller and their children are Marie and Evert.

Mr. Cunningham is a member of Tri Luminar lodge, No. 18, A. F. & A. M.; Hiram chapter, No. 6, R. A. M., De Payens commandery, No. 7, K. T. and the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He also belongs to the First Episcopal church and politically is a republican.

He is a man of generous impulses, kindly traits of character, of fine personal qualifications and good judgment. In his present position he has given eminent satisfaction and he has won during the long years of his residence in Oskaloosa the respect and good will of all with whom he has come in contact.

E. WEBB PHILLIPPE.

E. Webb Phillippe, who since 1892 has been engaged in the steam fitting and plumbing business in Oskaloosa, doing much contract work, was born in Cedar township, Mahaska county, in 1870. His father, Greenleaf Phillippe, was born in Bartholomew county, Indiana, and is of French descent, the first representatives of the name in America having settled in North Carolina at an early period in the colonization of the new world. The paternal grandfather, George Phillippe, died when Greenleaf was only three years of age, and his wife, Mrs. Agnes Phillippe, died during the infancy of her son. Coming from Indiana to this state in 1851, Greenleaf Phillippe settled in Cedar township, Mahaska county. He made the trip here with his parents and his father entered land from the government in 1852, a year after their arrival. Mr. Phillippe still resides upon the old homestead farm and is one of the worthy pioneer residents of the community. He wedded Mary Jane White, who was born in Indiana, and both are now fifty-eight years of age. They are respected and worthy Christian people, the former holding membership at one time in the Methodist church and the latter in the Baptist church. In their family were four children, namely: E. Webb; Asa G., who is living upon a farm adjoining the old homestead; Carrie A., the wife of H. B. Fellers, of Oskaloosa, lowa; and Cecil, the wife of William Dinsmore, a farmer of Cedar township. The parents now

make their home on the old homestead near Fremont, and are greatly esteemed by all who know them. In his political views Mr. Phillippe is a republican and has held various township offices.

In the maternal line E. Webb Phillippe of this review is also a representative of one of the honored pioneer families of the county, for his grandfather, John Q. White, who was born in Dearborn county, Indiana, came to lowa in 18.19 and is now located at Fremont in Cedar township, where he entered land from the government. Although now eighty-two years of age he is still a hale and hearty man. In early days he was well known as a stock shipper and he conducted the first store in Fremont and was the first postmaster there. He married Miss Elvira Hough, who was born in Shelby county, Indiana, and is living at the age of seventyeight years. They were married February 8, 1844, and in their family were twelve children, nine of whom are vet living. They also have twenty-seven grandchildren.

E. Webb Phillippe was reared upon the home farm until seventeen years of age and attended the country schools in his early youth, and later received his diploma from the old English Business College at Indianapolis, Indiana. He afterward learned the trade of steamfitting at Indianapolis, and upon his return to Oskalcosa in 1892 he engaged in the steam fitting and plumbing business, in which he has since continued at No. 220 East High street. He has met with gratifying success, having done much contract as well as job work and his patronage is now extensive, making his business a profitable one.

In 1894 Mr. Phillippe was married to Miss Florence Lawson, a daughter of Joseph and Sarah Lawson and a native of Keokuk county, Iowa, born in 1872. Her father was a plasterer and contractor.

With the exception of the brief period spent in Indiana, Mr. Phillippe has always resided in Mahaska county and has now won a gratifying place in business circles by reason of his excellent workmanship, his earnest desire to please his patrons and his honorable dealing. He is a young man of marked enterprise not only in business affairs but also in all matters relating to general progress, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers this record of his career.

FRANCIS G. WELCH.

Francis G. Welch, whose fine farm, Forest Home, is situated on section 25, Harrison township, built his present attractive residence in 1883, and has a well improved property, there being good buildings, an orchard and all the accessories found upon a model farm of the twentieth century. At one time his landed possessions were quite extensive, but he has divided with his children, retaining possession of one hundred acres of rich land. He is, however, living retired, leaving the active work of the farm to others, while he is enjoying well earned ease. Mr. Welch is one of the old settlers of Mahaska county, having resided here since 1860. He was born in Harrison county, Ohio, August 19, 1836, a son of John Welch, who was also born and reared in Harrison county, where he acquired his education. He was married there to Miss Margaret Gilmore, also a native of Ohio, and in order to provide for his family he operated a farm. Both he and his wife died in Harrison county. In their family were six children, all of whom reached adult age.

Francis G. Welch was reared upon the old home farm and received a common-school education. When twenty-four years of age he drove a flock of eight hundred sheep through to Iowa and later made a second trip of this nature. Throughout his entire business career, he, too, has been identified with agricultural



Florelch



and stock-raising interests, and has won gratifying success.

Francis G. Welch was married in Ohiō, September 13, 1866, to Miss Margaret Simpson, a native of that state, and a daughter of John and Margaret Simpson. Mr. Welch on coming to the west purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Harrison township, Mahaska county, and forty-four acres of timber land near by, in Wapello county. He rebuilt the house and made a good farm there. Two children were born of that marriage: Laveruge and Omar S., both of whom are married, and are heads of families, living upon land given them by their father. Mr. Welch lost his first wife in 1874, and in 1876 married Elizabeth Slemmons, a native of Ohio and a daughter of Matthew Slemmons, who was likewise born in the Buckeye state, and is now living in Johnson county, Iowa, Unto Mr. and Mrs. Welch have been born three children: Anna, now the wife of C. W. Randell, of Harrison township, by whom she has two children, Frank and Charles; Slemmons, who is married and lives at home, his wife being Gladys Brown, a native of Iowa and a daughter of Austin Brown, of Wapello county; and Frank, who assists in carrying on the farm.

In 1883 Mr. Welch erected a good two-story residence, which he now occupies. He has also built substantial barns and outbuildings and has a good orchard upon his place. He raises high grades of stock and his land is well tilled, everything about his farm giving indication of his careful supervision. He has lived a life of industry and diligence and from the soil has gained a competence that now enables him to live retired. He added to his original possessions until he became the owner of six hundred acres of valuable land, which he has since divided with his children, retaining one hundred acres in his fine farm, Forest Home.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Welch are members of the Presbyterian church at Kirkville. Politically he is independent. He has been called to serve in several public offices, being a member of the board of trustees and assessor and at all times he is a public-spirited man, who champions every progressive movement for the benefit of his county. He is widely known in Mahaska county and his life record is in many respects worthy of emulation, proving what can be accomplished through strong and unfaltering purpose and also standing in exemplification of the fact that prosperity and an honored name can be won simultaneously.

JOHN W. IRWIN.

Nature seems to have intended that man should enjoy a season of rest in his later years. In youth he possesses the vigor and energy which bring him hope and promise and which enable him to put forth earnest effort and effective labor in the business world. Later these same qualities are guided by more mature judgment and experience and therefore prove more resultant factors in business life, and then in the evening of one's days when one's powers are somewhat diminished the individual should have accumulated a competence enabling him to put aside the more arduous cares and responsibilities. Such has been the career of John W. Irwin, who is now living retired in New Sharon after many years' active connection with agricultural pursuits.

He was born in Richland county, Ohio, November 11, 1830. His father, Jared Irwin, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1802, while his death occurred in Richland county. Ohio, in 1838, at the comparatively early age of thirty-six years. For several years he engaged in teaching school and at the time of his demise was clerk of the court of common pleas. He wedded Miss Mary Bund, a native of Richland county, Ohio, who died four years previous to

her husband's death, and later Mr. Irwin married again. By the first union there were three children: John W.; Jared, who went to California in 1850 and died there in 1864; and one who died in infancy. By the second marriage there was one child, Mary J., the wife of J. E. Ritter, who died in Mansfield, Ohio.

John W. Irwin was only four years old at the time of his mother's death and after four years his father passed away. A sister of his father was appointed guardian for him and his brother. He was sent to the common schools and later spent two years as a student in Vermilion College, now an auxiliary of Wooster University in Ohio, pursuing there a classical course. At the age of eighteen years he entered business life as an apprentice at the printer's trade but not meeting with the success in that work that he had anticipated he decided to learn the jeweler's trade, at which he served a three-years' apprenticeship. He afterward worked in that line at different places to perfect his knowledge of the trade—a custom which was called "tramping" and which was common at that time with all trades people. In 1855 he arrived in Oskaloosa, Iowa, where he established a jewelry store where the courthouse now stands, and as it was the custom of the merchants to plant trees in front of their places of business Mr. Irwin did so and there is now a fine tree standing in the courthouse vard which was set out by him.

While engaged in business in Oskaloosa Mr. Irwin was married, on the 19th of April, 1860, to Miss Mary E. Forby, who was born in Albany, New York, December 16, 1836, and was a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Heiny) Forby, the former a native of England and the latter of Albany, New York. In 1855 Mr. and Mrs. Forby came to Iowa, settling in Lincoln township, Poweshiek county, making their home upon a farm until called to their final rest. After his marriage Mr. Irwin continued

in the jewelry business until he enlisted for service in the army. He took his wife to her parents in Poweshiek county in September, 1863, at Grinnell, Iowa, joined Company C of the Fourteenth Iowa Infantry as a private. He was with that regiment until the battle of Shiloh, when the members of the company became scattered and later Mr. Irwin did detached duty until honorably discharged on the 13th of May, 1865. He was offered a commission but did not accept. He was never wounded nor taken prisoner but became ill with pneumonia during the service and his health was impaired through the hardships and rigors of the war, so that the country now grants him a pension of \$12 per month, which is indeed but a slight remuneration for the sacrifice which he made for the Union cause.

When the war was over Mr. Irwin located in Lincoln township, Poweshiek county, where he purchased eighty acres of wild land. He built the first dwelling on the farm and at once began to turn the sod and in course of time harrowed and planted his fields and eventually gathered good crops. He afterward bought one hundred and twenty acres additional and made his home continuously upon his farm until 1893, when he removed New Sharon, where he has since resided, having a beautiful home on West Market street. In all of his farm work he was enterprising and energetic and his careful management and keen discrimination in his business affairs brought him a gratifying competence that now enables him to live retired.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Irwin have been born five children, of whom four are living: Elizabeth, now the wife of James H. Allen, a resident of Union Mills; Jared, who died at the age of seventeen years: William A., a hardware merchant of Red Oak, Iowa; George F., who is living in Pittsburg, Kansas; and Gaylord, a resident of Lincoln, Nebraska. With the ex-

ception of the last named all of the children who have reached mature years are now married and have families.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Irwin hold membership in the Presbyterian church and have a large circle of warm friends in New Sharon and in the locality where they have so long made their home. In politics he has always been a demoerat, advocating free trade and at the same time being a believer in "sound money." He served on the school board and while living on the farm filled the different township offices, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity. He also served for four years and two months as postmaster of New Sharon under Grover Cleveland, for one year was a member of the village council and has been secretary of the Mahaska County Agricultural Association. He is a well posted man, reading broadly, and he keeps in touch with the trend of modern thought and with the world's progress. rest has been well earned and is richly deserved, and in the evening of his days he is now surrounded by many of the comforts and luxuries which go to make life worth the living.

EDWARD PRICHETT.

Edward Prichett, a veteran of the Spanish-American war, engaged in the practice of law in Oskaloosa, is a native of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, born February 6, 1874, his parents being John and Caroline S. (Miller) Prichett, natives of Kentucky and of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, respectively. The mother has now departed this life, but the father makes his home in Fort Madison, Iowa.

Mr. Prichett of this review was reared in that city, having accompanied his parents on their removal to Fort Madison when he was a little lad of four summers. His preliminary education was acquired in the public schools there

and he afterward attended the State University and the Iowa Collegiate School. He was graduated from the law department of the State University in June, 1899, and following his admission to the bar located for practice in Fort Madison, where he remained for several years, or until 1901, when he removed to Oskaloosa, where he has since followed his chosen profession. Here he formed a partnership with J. G. Patterson under the firm style of Prichett & Patterson with offices in the Mahaska County Bank building. Later they removed to the Neagle block and the relationship was maintained until Mr. Prichett was appointed to the office of justice of the peace on the 20th of June, 1904. in which position he is now serving, and since his election to that office he has practiced alone.

In the conduct of cases which come before him he has shown himself strictly fair and impartial in his rulings and with a comprehensive knowledge of the law that bears upon the cases in question.

In politics Mr. Prichett is a stalwart republican and has been a delegate to nearly all the state conventions. He was associated at one time with the old Fort Madison Plaindealer and this brought him into touch with the people while he was serving as city editor. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in which he has been lecturing knight. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp and was escort for one year.

He is a veteran of the Spanish-American war, serving with Company F, of the Fiftieth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He was one of the volunteers, responding to the first call and remained with his regiment until mustered out November 30, 1898. This regiment was the first to leave the state of Iowa to enter the active service of the United States and during his connection therewith Mr. Prichett held the rank of quartermaster sergeant, and acting sergeant major.

Mr. Prichett was the first member of his class in college to try a case in the supreme court, the case being one which involved a constitutional question. In his law practice he has displayed thorough understanding of the principles of jurisprudence and his devotion to his clients' interests is proverbial. He is active in all political campaigns of the county and frequently addresses the people upon the paramount questions and issues of the day. In argument he is always logical and at the same time he is an entertaining and forceful speaker.

WILLIAM OTIS NUGENT.

William Otis Nugent, interested in manufacturing enterprises in Oskaloosa, was born in Davton, Washington county, Iowa, in 1863, a son of Dr. W. R. and Rhoda E. Nugent, He came to Oskaloosa with his parents in 1876, when a youth of thirteen years and attended the graded and high schools of the city and also Oskaloosa College. He learned telegraphy and became an operator of the Iowa Central Railroad at Oskaloosa. Later he mastered the machinist's trade at Marshalltown, Iowa, and then went upon the road as locomotive fireman on the Iowa Central, remaining in that capacity for two and a half years, when he was promoted to engineer and thus served for eight years. At the end of that time another promotion came to him, making him roundhouse foreman at Marshalltown. He retained that position and that of acting master mechanic of the railroad for four years, when he again became connected with the operative department as engineer on a passenger train for five years. Resigning, he turned his attention to mining and the manufacturing business. In 1903 the Strouse locomotive stoker was patented. promote, introduce and manufacture the appliances a company was formed in 1904, capi-

talized at twenty thousand dollars with the following officers: W. H. Strouse, the inventor. as president; William O. Nugent, vice-president; and George A. Caffall, secretary and treasurer. In October 1905, the last named was killed on the railroad. He had sold his stock in the company to J. C. Hanna, and following the death of Mr. Caffall J. E. Whittaker assumed the duties as secretary and treasurer. The promoters were W. H. Strouse, George A. Caffall, C. F. Johnson, J. E. Whittaker and W. O. Nugent, and these gentlemen organized the company. The machine has proven of practical use and a brilliant future seems to be opening before the new concern. The machines are now being manufactured in Oskaloosa, and in the near future this enterprise will form the nucleus of a large industry.

In 1900 Mr. Nugent was married to Miss S. Arp Varner, who was born in Albia, Iowa, in 1882, a daughter of Joseph O. and Sarah Varner. Her father, a grocer of Albia, was an early settler of this state, coming from Ohio fifty years ago. Mr. Nugent belongs to the Masonic fraternity in which he has attained the degrees of commandery and shrine. also a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. In politics he was a democrat until Governor Cummings became candidate for chief executive of the state. He has become interested in considerable real estate in Oskaloosa, now owning much valuable property and his prosperity in business is the result of well directed effort, untiring industry and judicious investment.

OSCAR C. McCURDY.

Almost a century and a half ago George-Washington said, "Farming is the most useful as well as the most honorable occupation of man," and the truth of this assertion has been abundantly verified throughout the passing.





J.a., melaurdy



Mrs. J. a. Molourdy.

the rules which govern industry and unswerving integrity and is found in all of his dealings to be reliable and energetic—qualities which have won him the trust of his fellowmen and have gained him success.

JOHN P. HIATT.

John P. Hiatt, one of the pioneers in the real-estate, loan and brokerage business in Oskaloosa, in which he vet continues with a large clientage, was born in Henry county, Indiana, His father, William Hiatt, was a in 1842. native of Ohio. The ancestors came from Scotland to America at an early day and settled in Virginia. They were members of the Friends church. William Hiatt removed from Ohio to Indiana about 1830 and in early manhood his attention was given to cabinet-making, while in later years he followed farming. He remained in Indiana until the fall of 1864, when he removed to Oskaloosa, where, retiring from active business life, he enjoyed a well earned rest until his death, which occurred in 1884, when he was eighty years of age. He was a birthright member of the Friends church and his study of the political situation of the country led him to give his early support to the whig party, while later he joined the ranks of the republican party. He held minor township offices and was always interested in local advancement and progress. He possessed more than ordinary literary taste and was a great lover of books, which kept him well informed concerning the literature of ancient and modern times as well as all subjects of general information. Industrious in his business affairs he prospered and eventually gained a competency. He married Martha Pressnall, who was born in North Carolina and was of English ancestry. She, too, was a birthright member of the Friends church, and she died in that faith in

1893, at the age of eighty-nine years. In the family of this worthy couple were nine children: Julia A., now deceased; Abigail, the wife of Isaac F. Kenworthy, a retired farmer living at Whittier, California; Richard J., who died in 1900; Martha H., the wife of Valentine M. Farr, a gardener of Oskaloosa; Mary M., the deceased wife of Truman Cooper, of San Jose, California, a minister of the Friends church; John P.; William P., deceased; Lydia J., the widow of Anderson McGrew and a resident of Manchester, Iowa; and Elizabeth E., deceased.

John P. Hiatt, spending his boyhood days in the usual manner of farm lads, worked in the fields through the summer months and attended the country schools in the winter seasons. He was also a student in the academy at Spiceland, Iowa, and he remained upon a farm in Madison township until 1879, having purchased land there. He engaged in its cultivation and improvement until the year mentioned, when he came to Oskaloosa and opened a real-estate, loan and brokerage office. He has continued in the business to the present time and is practically the pioneer in this line in Oskaloosa. He owns a farm of two hundred and sixty acres in Scott township, also eighty-six acres in Harrison township and a business block in Oskaloosa. He likewise owns two residence properties on north Third street in addition to his home residence and is now a man of wealth, having conducted a profitable business and at the same time increased his posssessions through judicious investments in real estate.

In 1873 Mr. Hiatt was married to Miss Lourana E. Elliott, who was born in North Carolina in 1849, and is a daughter of Nathan and Mary A. Elliott. Her parents, who were of English descent, removed to Indiana about 1854 and were farming people there. They were identified with the Friends church. Mr. and Mrs. Hiatt have one daughter, Anna, who is now attending Penn College in Oskaloosa,

and the parents and daughter are all members of the Friends church. Mr. Hiatt exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and has held various township offices, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. Possessing natural ability and developing his latent powers by use, his success in his business life since coming to Oskaloosa has been uniform and rapid. His close application and his excellent management have brought him the degree of prosperity which he today enjoys.

HIRAM A. BEAL.

Hiram A. Beal, a retired farmer living in New Sharon, was born in Blackford county, Indiana, May 5, 1850, a son of Hiram and Jerusha (McDonald) Beal, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, born in 1813, the father on the 3d of July and the mother on the 10th of October. One of the great-grandfathers of our subject of the name of Cope came from England with William Penn and belonged to a family prominent in the early history of the Keystone state. A record of this family was prepared some years ago and printed. Hiram Beal was married in Ohio to Miss Jerusha McDonald and they removed from that state to Indiana. When their son Hiram was but two years old they became residents of Henderson county. Illinois, where they spent two years and in 1854 they arrived in Mahaska county. Iowa, which was then a frontier district, much of the land still being in possession of the government. Mr. Beal, the father, took up 240 acres of land in Prairie township and made considerable money by buying, improving and selling farms, owning a number of different farms in various parts of the county. At one time he traded for a stock of goods in Peoria and conducted a store for a short time.

He had the postoffice in his house and was postmaster for many years, there being no other office between his home and Oskaloosa at that time. His political views were in accord with the principles of democracy and he served as assessor and trustee of his township for several years. His religious faith was that of the Methodist Protestant church. In his family were seven children: Rachel, now the deceased wife of George W. Ackers, a resident of Adams township, this county: Nicholas, who is living in Prairie township; William, who died in New Sharon but in the meantime had lived in Nebraska for many years; Sparks R., who is also living in Nebraska; Elma, the wife of Robert Mitchell, a resident of Madison township, this county; Naomi, the wife of James Fisher, of Prairie township; and Hiram A., who completes the family.

Hiram A. Beal was reared under the parental roof upon the old homestead farm in Prairie township and is indehted to the public-school system for the educational privileges he received. He was quite young when brought to this county but he can remember many incidents of interest concerning the early days. Although but four years of age at the time of the removal here he remembers driving across the country from Illinois with teams. In those early days wild turkeys and deer were numerous and also snakes and wolves were in the county and it has been only a few years ago since Mr. Beal saw wolves here. In one summer they killed ten snakes, the shortest of which was more than ten feet in length. There was no railroad at that time and the pioneers marketed their hogs at Keokuk. The buyer would drive the hogs across the county, making further purchases along the way and sometimes would have as many as a thousand in a drove. The lumber for the first frame house which Hiram Beal, Sr., erected was hauled from Muscatine and oxen were used in breaking land. The pioneer women spun their own varn and wove their own cloth and the men wore homespun flannel shirts both winter and summer. Matches were in use though were very high in price and they had to be very saving of them and often the neighbors would borrow fire when out of matches. Kerosene was unknown and they made tallow candles and also frequently resorted to what was known as the "slut light." The first lamp that Mr. Beal of this review ever saw was in possession of an agent, who was not only selling the lamp but also a recipe for making a kind of oil. The nearest milling point was the Duncan mill in the vicinity of Oskaloosa and there the early settlers would take their grist to be ground. Great changes have come through the passing years yet there are many incidents of those early days that are remembered with pleasure. A warm spirit of hospitality abounded and the neighbors were always willing to help one another in their farm work or in building homes.

Mr. Beal of this review continued with his parents until twenty-five years of age, at which time he was married to Laura Clements, who was born in Van Buren county, Iowa, May 1, 1858. He had previously purchased eighty acres of improved land and the young couple began their domestic life thereon but after one summer spent there Mr. Beal sold his property and bought a farm of one hundred acres. During the first ten years of his married life he moved twelve times, buying and selling property and often making as much or more than he could have done by settling down and farming one place. About twenty years ago, however. he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, partly lying in Richland township and partly in Prairie township. There he lived for seventeen years, developing an excellent farm which was very productive and well improved. Three years ago, however, he sold that property and took up his abode in New Sharon, purchasing the house of Jacob Watland on West Market street. Here he has since lived retired.

enjoying a rest which is truly earned and richly deserved. Since taking up his abode in the town he has purchased two farms, one in Union township, and one in Prairie township, and he also owns twenty-two acres within the city limits. He bought one hundred and fifty-four acres in Prairie township and another tract of fifteen acres adjoining.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beal have been born four children and the family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of death. These are Estella, now the wife of Ezra Gable, a resident farmer of Union township, by whom she has one child now eight years of age: Sparks R., who is living upon a farm in Union township, which he purchased from his father; Burt, who is living on his father's farm in Prairie township; and Leslie, who resides on another of our subject's farms in Prairie township.

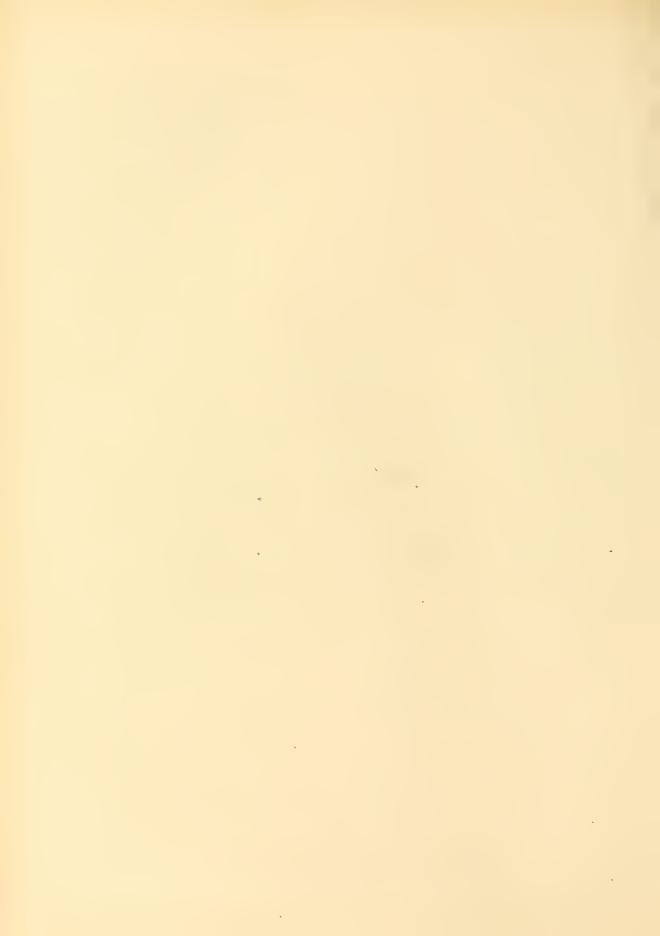
Mr. Beal was formerly a democrat but now gives his political allegiance to the prohibition party, while he and his wife are members of the Friends church. He is of rather reserved nature but of genuine personal worth and those who meet him socially entertain for him the warmest regard. He has gained many friends during his residence in the county, which covers a period of more than a half century.

JOHN ARNOLD.

John Arnold is the owner of a valuable farm of two hundred and fifteen acres on section 15, Harrison township. His birth occurred in Eddyville, Iowa, January 1, 1858, his father being David Arnold, who is represented elsewhere in this volume. Upon the old homestead farm in Harrison township, Mahaska county, John Arnold was reared, while his education was acquired in the common schools. He remained with his father until his marriage, which was celebrated in Wapello county, November 7.



John Lenold



883, the lady of his choice being Miss Florence Bassinger, who was born and reared in Wasello county, completing her education in the high school at Eddyville. She is a daughter of acob Bassinger, a native of Germany, one of he early settlers of lowa, who took up his bode in Wapello county in 1847. He was a prominent and well-to-do farmer, who reared is family and spent his remaining days in that ounty, his death occurring there in May, 1898. His widow still survives him and now makes er home with her daughter, Mrs. Arnold. Mrs. Bassinger is a native of Kentucky and in her naidenhood was a Miss Morgan. Her girlood days were passed in Iowa, so that she has ow been a resident of this state for sixty years.

Following his marriage Mr. Arnold located n Harrison township, and in 1885, took up his hode at his present home, where he has erected good, neat two story dwelling and two good arns. He has also fenced his place and has hus divided it into fields of convenient size. He has also set out an orchard and has three undred select fruit trees. He planted a pine rove and other ornamental trees, which add reatly to the value and attractive appearance of his place and his farm shows every evidence f careful supervision and practical methods. into Mr. and Mrs. Arnold has been born a on, Floyd H., a young man now at home. They have also reared an adopted daughter, Dorothy Jeanette Arnold, who became a memer of the household when but four weeks old. the received as a prize at the Farmers Instinte. January 16, 1906, a large, fine lamp, wining this in the oratorical contest.

Politically Mr. Arnold is a stanch republican, tho has voted with the party since casting his rst presidential ballot for General Garfield. He as never sought or desired office, giving his ime to his farm and business interests. He and is wife are members of the Methodist Episcoal church, and Mr. Arnold is one of the trustees. They have both been residents of this

part of the state throughout their entire lives and have thus seen much of its growth and development, Mr. Arnold having broken, cleared and developed considerable land, so that he has contributed to the general progress of the county. He is a successful farmer and business man, held in genuine esteem, and both he and his wife have many friends who greatly enjoy the hospitality of their home.

CHARLES S. WALLING.

Charles S. Walling, one of the stockholders in the Oskaloosa Herald Company and manager of the paper since 1905, was born December 6, 1868, in this city, his parents being Henry and Mary J. Walling, the former a brick mason by trade. Educated in the public schools he passed through successive grades until he completed the high school course by graduation in the class of 1885. Two weeks later at the solicitation of the superintendent and editor of the Herald he entered the office and has since been connected with the Herald. For ten years he had charge of the job department and was made advertising solicitor in 1902. He then purchased an interest in the business and became manager in 1905. The paper was incorporated in that year and Mr. Walling serves as manager of the business department for both the weekly and daily editions.

For five years Mr. Walling was a member of Company F, of the Third Regiment of Iowa National Guards, and resigned after having been elected captain from the position of first sergeant. In 1805 he joined the Iowa Brigade Band and while connected therewith played several instruments. In 1900 he was elected manager and has continued as such to the present time although he does not now play with the band. Mr. Walling was married June 28, 1894, in Oskaloosa, to Miss Mary Knight, who

was born near this city. Her father was a soldier in the Thirty-third Iowa Regiment. In their family are three daughters and a son, Ivyl, Arthur, Meda and Josephine.

MATTHEW DAWSON GILCHRIST.

Matthew Dawson Gilchrist, the organizer and the senior partner of the hardware house of the M. D. Gilchrist Company, is a native of Fayette county, Pennsylvania, born in 1853 and is of Scotch-Irish descent. His father, Matthew D. Gilchrist, was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, and was a farmer by occupation, following that pursuit until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when, in 1862, he responded to the call for aid, enlisting at Oskaloosa, as a member of Company K, Thirtythird Iowa Infantry, with which he served until killed at the battle of Helena, Arkansas, on the 4th of July, 1863, when forty-five years of age. He had come to Iowa in 1856 and had settled in Oskaloosa. He was a member of the United Presbyterian church and was a supporter of the republican party. He married Parthenia McDonald, who was born in Favette county, Pennsylvania, and was of Scotch lineage. She, too, held membership in the United Presbyterian church and her death occurred in 1877, when she was fifty-seven years of age. Both she and her husband were held in the highest regard, possessing many excellent traits of heart and mind. In their family were ten children, six of whom reached adult age, namely: Mary P.; Malcolm M., who is editor of the Sun-Times at Morgan Hill, California; John, a dealer in granite and marble at Clarinda, Iowa: Parthenia K., the widow of C. I. Jackson, who was a farmer of Rose Hill, Iowa; Matthew D., of this review; and Harry C., who died in 1891.

Matthew D. Gilchrist acquired his early education in the district schools of Spring Creek

township, Mahaska county, and afterward became a public-school student in Oskaloosa, pursuing his studies until he had mastered the high-school course. He afterward worked on a farm by the month for about five years, when, thinking that he might more readily attain success in a commercial life, he entered the grocery house of S. J. Dutton, of Oskaloosa, as a clerk, remaining in his employ for five years. On the expiration of that period he became a salesman in the dry-goods and clothing store of Bover & Barnes, with whom he continued for five years. He afterward spent four years in the county treasurer's office as deputy under Captain J. H. Warren, after which he was called to the office of county treasurer by popular suffrage, and filled the position for three terms or from 1884 until 1890. He then clerked in the hardware store of Paul & McPherrin and in 1893 he bought out the hardware business of Frank C. Lofland, since which time he has been connected with this line of trade. When he purchased the present establishment the firm name was F. C. Lofland & Company, Frank Huber having an interest in the business. Mr. Gilchrist purchased the Lofland interest and the firm name is now the M. D. Gilchrist Company. A large and well selected line of both shelf and heavy hardware is carried, and a liberal patronage is enjoyed, for the partners of the house command the continued support of the public. while the earnest desire of the proprietors to please their patrons insures a continuation of trade.

In 1877 Mr. Gilchrist was married to Miss Laura P. Barr, who was born in Mahaska county, Iowa, in 1855, a daughter of Alfred and Maria Barr. He was one of the pioneer farmers of the county, coming from Indiana in 1854 and settling in Adams township. He was originally, however, from Ohio.

Mr. Gilchrist exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and fraternally he is connected in his business career, which has been marked by earnest purpose and close application. Each with the Masons. There is no element of chance step has been carefully and thoughtfully made. From a humble position of a farm hand he has steadily worked his way upward, realizing that earnest purpose and indefatigable energy can overcome many difficulties and obstacles and will eventually win success.

WILLIAM LAFFERTY KISSICK.

William Lafferty Kissick is a retired farmer of Oskaloosa, whose income is largely received from the coal interests which he owns. He was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, on January 27, 1841, and is descended from Irish ancestry. His father, Thomas Kissick, was born in Ireland, March 8, 1807, and came to the United States when seventeen years of age with his parents, Robert and Sarah (Rankin) Kissick, and his three sisters, the family locating first in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. The grandfather was a linen weaver and farmer and Thomas Kissick followed the same pursuit in Ireland. After coming to America he worked in a foundry at Pittsburg, but as times became hard and many industries were shut down, he began work as a farm hand in Columbiana county, Ohio. Soon, however, he returned to Pittsburg and later went to Mercer county, Pennsylvania, and bought a farm, and it was while residing there that he was married. His life was upright and honorable, in consistent harmony with his professions as a member of the Congregational church. Strongly opposed to the institution of slavery he became an abolitionist in antebellum days, and afterward joined the ranks of the new republican party, which was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery. He died September 1, 1869, having lived to see the emancipation of the black race. His wife, who

bore the maiden name of Mary Ann Lafferty, was born in Pennsylvania, September 26, 1820, and was of Irish parentage. She, too, held membership in the Congregational church and her death occurred September 23, 1860. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kissick were eight children: William L.; Robert; Lucetta Jane, the first wife of Dr. N. R. Hook, of Oskaloosa; Araminta, the widow of William Wilson, who was a Congregational minister at Tonica, Illinois, and was lost in a snowstorm in Wyoming about ten years ago; John L., a conductor, residing at Laramie, Wyoming; Florence, the second wife of Dr. N. R. Hook, of Oskaloosa; George L., a merchant of Albia. lowa; and James L., who died December 1. 1889, at the age of thirty years.

William L. Kissick was a public-school student in Pennsylvania and was reared upon a farm, where he remained until eighteen years of age. His parents removed to Iowa in 1850. settling upon a farm in Garfield township, Mahaska county, where both died. He remained with them upon this farm until he had attained his majority, when he enlisted for service in the Civil war at Oskaloosa, becoming a member of Company C. Sixteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He served under General Grant at Vicksburg, and under General Sherman, with whom he went on the celebrated march to the sea. He continued with the army for three years and eight months, and was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky. July 19, 1865. He joined the regiment as a private and was successively promoted to the ranks of corporal, third sergeant. second lieutenant, first lieutenant and finally became captain of the company in which he enlisted. His first enlistment was for three years and on the expiration of that term he veteranized on the 4th of January, 1864, at Vicksburg, Mississippi, and in April, of that year, was given a thirty-days' furlough. After spending that time at home he returned to the front. The first engagement in which he participated was

the battle of Shiloh, April 6 and 7, 1862, followed by Iuka, September 19, 1862, Corinth, October 3 and 4, 1862, and the siege of Vicksburg in May and June, 1863. He was in the Atlanta campaign under Sherman and was captured at the battle of Atlanta July 22, 1864, and taken to Andersonville prison, where Captain Kissick remained in the stockade for two months but was exchanged in time to march with Sherman from Atlanta to the sea, which march proved that the Confederacy was like an empty shell, the men having been drawn from the interior to defend the border. He suffered many privations of southern prison life at Andersonville and remembers that the last meal provided him there was of raw cornmeal. After rejoining his regiment he had command of his company. He was twice struck by spent balls but was not crippled. That he displayed meritorious conduct upon the field was shown by the fact that he won promotion from time to time until he became captain of his company.

When the war was over Captain Kissick returned to Oskaloosa, where he engaged in the grocery business with E. W. Hull, an uncle, continuing in that line of trade for two years. He then returned to farm life and finally purchased the homestead place in Garfield township, where he remained until 1905, when he sold the farm but reserved valuable coal rights. The coal is now being mined and grades high and from this Captain Kissiek receives a good income. The mine is being worked by the Bolton-Hoover Coal Company, of Oskaloosa.

On the 9th of August, 1865, Captain Kissick was married to Miss Mary E. Hook, who was born in Guernsey county. Ohio, and died January 5, 1881. In the family were two children: Cora M., now the wife of O. R. Jones, a wealthy farmer and stock-raiser of Fairbury, Nebraska, by whom she has seven children; and Lulu O., who married W. R. Thomas, a farmer and stock-raiser who is living in Audubon county, Iowa. Captain Kissick married his

present wife, Sarah E. Kent, March 6, 1883. She was born in Noble county, Ohio, in 1852, and was a farmer's daughter. By this marriage there have been born three children: Emily, now a student in Penn College; Mary, who is engaged in teaching; and William Perry, at school.

The parents are members of the Reformed church, and Captain Kissick belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, and gives his political support to the republican party. He is now connected with no active business interests but has an excellent income from his coal mines. He made a splendid record as a soldier, and has been equally loyal in citizenship in times of peace. His business record, too, although marked by no startling events, has been characterized by the steady progress which eventually reaches the objective point, and he is now one of the men of affluence in the county.

THOMAS BRIGGS.

New Sharon is an attractive haven to many retired farmers, who after long and close connection with agricultural interests are now enjoving well earned rest, having acquired through earnest and indefatigable labor the competence that enables them to put aside further cares and spend the evening of life in honorable retirement. To this class belongs Mr. Briggs and his genuine personal worth and upright life have made him a representative citizen to his community. He was born in Belmont county, Ohio, February 4, 1837, a son of William and Jane (Romans) Briggs, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania. He is a great-grandson of Israel Shreeve, who was a colonel of the Revolutionary war. His maternal grandparents were from Holland and his paternal grandparents from Scotland. In Holland there is a fortune



MR. AND MRS. THOMAS BRIGGS.



of sixty million dollars to which Mr. Briggs is rightfully one of the heirs, but they have never been able to prove their claim, and there is also an estate in Scotland, a portion of which should come into his possession. William Briggs and Jane Romans were married in Ohio and the latter died in that state during the early boyhood days of her son Thomas. The father afterward married again, his second wife being Hannah Krew, who was born in Virginia, and following her death he wedded Rachel Kirk. He was a farmer by occupation and owned and occupied a farm in Belmont county, Ohio, where he made his home until 1868, when he disposed of his property there and came to Maliaska county. Here he purchased a farm in Union township, whereon he made his home until his death, which occurred when he was sixty-three vears of age. In his family born of his first marriage there were four children: Mary, now the wife of Miflin Ong, living with her son in North Dakota; Thomas, of this review; Evan, who resides on a farm in Prairie township; and Jordan, who died at the age of two years. One son, Elwood R., born of the second marriage, is living in Oberlin, Kansas.

Thomas Briggs remained with his parents during the period of his minority, and in early life he attended a district school held in a log building, but later became a student in a classical school, which was superior to the district school, for the members of the Society of Friends believed in giving their children good educational privileges and provided them with a competent teacher and a good school building. At the age of twenty-one years he went to work on a farm by the month, being thus employed for one season. His father then purchased more land, and Mr. Briggs of this review worked his father's land for a year. The father then sold out and came to Iowa, while our subject continued to cultivate a rented farm for two years. In the meantime he sent money to his father to buy land for him and in 1871 he came to Mahaska county, settling on a tract of land of seventy acres, which the father had previously purchased for him. This was but partially improved. There was a small log house upon it and a prairie stable, and he lived in the little log cabin home for several years.

He then purchased another farm of eighty acres, upon which he built a good frame barn and later a house. He now owns two hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land on sections 28 and 29, Union township, and there were two good houses upon this farm, which are now occupied by his son and son-in-law. For many years he carried on the work of the fields and annually gathered good crops, but in . October, 1905, he left the farm and purchased a nice home in New Sharon, where he is now living retired.

On the 3d of October, 1868, Mr. Briggs was married to Miss Margaret E. Spear, who was born in Guernsev county, Ohio, February 10, 1842, her parents being John and Elizabeth (Meek) Spear. The father was born in Scotland and died in Jefferson county, Ohio, at the age of ninety-five years. He was a wheelwright by trade, and always followed that pursuit. His wife, a native of Ohio, died in Guernsev county, that state, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. In their family were twelve children, five of whom are living, four being residents of Ohio. Unto him and Mrs. Briggs have been born eleven children: Estella I., the wife of G. W. Baker, a railroad conductor, of California, by whom she has four children; Dilwin H., a carpenter of Whittier, California, who married Dora Castor, of Iowa: Albert A.. who is residing on his father's farm and he married Sadie Branson, by whom he has three children; Carrie E., the wife of Rastus Shadley, who is working for her brother, Albert, and by whom she has one child; Eldon T., of Rudd, Iowa, who married Jessie Roundie and has one child; Cora, who died of scarlet fever when ten years of age; Carl Lewis, a barber, of Chicago, who married Isa Graham and has one child; Mary Edith, the wife of W. F. Orr, living in Lacey, Mahaska county; Clifford, who died at the age of five years; Hattie M. D., at home; and William, who died at the age of two years.

Mr. Briggs has always been a stanch advocate of republican principles. He has held school offices but would accept no other positions of a public nature. He is a brithright Friend, and both he and his wife are members of the Friends church, and are faithful Christian people and earnest students of the Bible. In former years he found one of his principal sources of recreation in hunting prairie chickens and often came in with ten at a time, while on one occasion he killed five at a single shot. Wolves were numerous in those days and there are still some in the woods to the north. Through many years he gave his attention largely to farm labor and his enterprise and diligence brought him the success which enables him to live retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil.

WILLIAM N. HOOVER.

William N. Hoover was born in Jefferson county, Iowa, August 2, 1842, and died in Oskaloosa, October 16, 1900, at which time the community mourned the loss of a representative and valued citizen. He was of German descent and a son of Jonas and Mary Hoover, who came to Iowa at an early day in the development of this state, the father following the occupation of farming here.

William N. Hoover obtained a commonschool education and in his youth worked at farm labor. He also became a mechanic, possessing much natural ingenuity and skill in that direction. He also engaged in prospecting for coal and as a promoter of the coal industry of the state gained a very gratifying competence. About 1875 he established a distillery upon his farm and in connection with this operated a grist mill, conducting the business for some time, having the only distillery of the kind in Iowa. He possessed excellent business capacity and enterprise and won more than an ordinary measure of prosperity.

On the 11th of May, 1864, Mr. Hoover was married to Miss Mary J. Whittaker, who was born in Spring Creek township, this county, September 7, 1843, a daughter of Samuel L. Whittaker of McLean county, Illinois, who was of Scotch and German ancestry. Her father came to Iowa about 1840, settling in Mahaska county among the Indians. He took up a claim and became prosperous, devoting his attention to general agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1852, when he was but thirty-seven years of age. He lived an honorable and upright life in consistent harmony with his professions as a member of the Christian church. He married Jane Parker, of Indiana, who was of Scotch and English descent and was also a member of the Christian church. They became the parents of six children, of whom Mrs. Hoover was the third in order of birth. The mother died in 1898, at the age of eighty years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hoover were born two children. Perry H., the elder, born in 1865 and now following farming in Spring Creek township, married Mollie Roberts and has two children, Elsie B. and Alvin, aged respectively twelve and four years. Charles A. Hoover, born in 1867, is the younger son. The boys attended the country schools and also Penn College, after which they worked upon the home farm.

Mr. Hoover continued actively in business up to the time of his death. He was highly esteemed by his neighbors and friends and was a loving husband, a kind and indulgent father. In manner he was very unostentatious and unassuming but yet he did benevolent acts and was generous to a fault, though he never cared to let his left hand know what the right hand had done. He was a valued member of the Society of Friends and he leaned toward democracy. A gentleman of good personal appearance, he was very energetic in his business affairs and whatever he undertook carried forward to successful completion. Mrs. Hoover is also a member of the Society of Friends and the sons have a birthright in the organization.

ALBERTIS P. NORTON.

Albertis P. Norton, owner and publisher of the Fremont Gazette, was born near Koszta, Iowa, August 29, 1867, his parents being Edward H. and Medora (Richardson) Norton, the latter a daughter of John M. Richardson, who is now living at the age of eighty-nine years. Edward H. Norton was born in the state of New York in 1845 and came to Iowa with his parents in 1852. His wife was born in the same state in 1847 and came to lowa with her parents in 1853. Both have since been continuous residents of Iowa county, this state, and Mr. Norton has followed the occupation of farming as a life work. When their son Albertis was but seven years of age they removed from the farm near Koszta to Marengo, Iowa, where Edward H. Norton entered the draving business, in which he continued until 1898, when he had accumulated enough means to purchase a farm. He then invested in property and now resides in peace and contentment upon his farm about four and a half miles south of Ladora and twelve miles from Marengo, the county seat of Iowa county. Unto him and his wife have been born four children. The eldest son, Theren L. Norton, died in Washington, D. C., in 1894. He was a printer by trade and was working in the government printing office at the time of his death. Albertis P. is the second of the family. John A. Norton is a carpenter of Marengo, Iowa, and Lettie Norton was married in 1904 to George P. Byrne, a resident of Genoa Bluff, this state.

A. P. Norton of this review pursued his education in the public schools of Marengo, Iowa, passing through the grammar grades, but never entering the high school, as he put aside his text-books in order to help earn a living for the family. He was a boy of steady habits, willing to work, and when but twelve years of age he accepted a position as carder in the woolen mills of Scheuerman Brothers. This was in July, 1879. He continued with that firm until after their removal to Des Moines, Iowa, in April, 1882, going with them to that city, where he remained until the fall of the same year, when he returned to Marengo and spent the winter months in school. In the spring of 1883 he began work in a grocery store, where he was emploved until the following October, when he gave up the position and again entered school, working nights, mornings and Saturdays in a printing office, while on the other week days he pursued his studies. In the spring of 1884 he accepted a position with the Marengo Democrat and in June, 1885, was made foreman of that office, a position which he held until July 1, 1902. He then purchased the Fremont Gazette and has since conducted the paper, which under his management has grown in circulation and has been placed upon a paying basis, being now one of the official papers of Mahaska county. It is the only paper published in Fremont and is independent in politics. In his personal views, however, Mr. Norton is a stalward republican, adhering closely to the political faith of his forefathers, all of whom were ardent advocates of the principles embodied in the republican platform.

Mr. Norton was married January 7, 1897, at the Episcopal parsonage in Iowa City, Iowa, to Miss Flora M. Wilson, whose father, D. H. Wilson, was a prominent attorney in Marengo, Iowa, and was also a veteran of the Civil war. At the time of her marriage she was a stenographer in her father's office. Her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis F. Wilson, were among the first settlers of Iowa county, having located there in 1846. Lewis F. Wilson was one of the first commissioners of the county, helped to lay out the town of Marengo and was closely associated with the work of public progress and development. He lived to be about ninety years of age. George Beardshear, the maternal grandfather of Mrs. Norton, was also an early settler of the county and aided in laying out the town of Marengo. Mr. and Mrs. Norton have but one child. Marcia Leola Norton, who was born January 27, 1901.

Mr. Norton, in the spring of 1889, joined Marengo lodge, No. 30, K. P., was elected chancellor commander in July, 1890, and was chosen representative to the grand lodge in July, 1891. He has since attended every session of that body as representative or member of some committee except the session of 1904. withdrew from Marengo lodge in February, 1905, and joined Fremont lodge, No. 417, K. P., at its institution and was made chancellor commander. At the expiration of the term, January 1, 1906, he was elected keeper of the records and seal and while connected with Marengo lodge he filled that office for ten years. He joined Eastern Star lodge, A. F. & A. M., and the Woodmen camp in Fremont in 1903, and he is a representative to the Knights of Pythias grand lodge for the session of 1906.

JOHN CAMBRIA WILLIAMS.

Hon. John Cambria Williams, attorney at law and mayor of Oskaloosa, whose personal popularity is shown by his re-election to his present position in a republican city, while he is a stalwart advocate of the democracy, has in his public life demonstrated a breadth of vision and a singleness of purpose that are above partisanship, while personal advancement is ever made subservient to the general good. His life record began in Naperville, Illinois, in 1851.

His father, Robert Williams, born in Wales, came to the United States in 1850, settling in DuPage county, Illinois, while soon afterward he removed to McHenry county, making his home near Woodstock, where he purchased a farm, upon which he spent his remaining days, his death occurring in 1873, when he was seventy-eight years of age. He was a communicant of the Episcopal church and in his political views was a republican. He married Harriet Parry, who was born in Wales in 1809 and died in 1868. They were married in Wales and like her husband, Mrs. Williams was a devoted Episcopalian. Unto them were born three children, but two died in the little rockribbed country from whence the parents came to the new world.

John C. Williams was a student in the common schools of Illinois and was graduated from Penn College in 1877. He taught school for a time and was elected county superintendent of schools in 1877, filling the position for one term. He had come to Oskaloosa in 1872. and after devoting the succeeding eight years to educational work, he entered upon the study of law in 1880 in the office of Bolton & McCov. with whom he read for two years, being admitted to the bar in 1882. Prior to coming to Iowa he had engaged in the manufacture of cheese and in Oskaloosa he established the first cheese factory in Mahaska county, but after his admission to the bar he concentrated his energies and efforts upon the practice of law and has since been a successful and able member of the Oskaloosa bar. He first entered into partnership with Judge L. C. Blanchard, the relationship continuing for two years, and for four vears he was in partnership with W. R. Nelson, but for the past fifteen years he has practiced He prepared his cases with care and



JOHN C. WILLIAMS.



precision, presents his cause with force, his deductions following in logical sequence so that the trend of his reasoning is clear and he seldom fails to win the verdict desired.

ln 1878 Mr. Williams was married to Miss Lillian Boyce, who was born in Salem, Iowa, in 1859, a daughter of Titus and Lydia C. (Dorland) Boyce, the father one of the pioneer farmers of Henry county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Williams had two daughters and a son but the daughters, Bertha Harriett and Helen Louise, are both deceased. The surviving child is Walter R. Both Mr. and Mrs. Williams are members of the Episcopal church and Mr. Williams belongs to the Masonic fraternity, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias lodge. In politics he is a democrat, earnest and stalwart in defense of the party and its principles. Various political honors have been conferred upon him and the duties thereby devolving upon him have been ably discharged. He was county superintendent of schools for one term, city solicitor for three terms and is now serving for the second term as mayor of Oskaloosa, giving to the city a public-spirited, practical and progressive administration. He has made a close study of its needs and possibilities and has met the one and taken advantage of the other to promote the city's substantial development. He is also a member of the public library board and a member of the board of the Commercial Club, which draws its membership from the best class of citizens of Oskaloosa, men who are banded together to advance the city's welfare along lines of general improvement. Twice he has received the nomination of his party for district judge and the fact that the republican majority is normally from five to six thousand and that he was beaten the first time by only one hundred and twenty-eight votes and the second time by five hundred votes, thus running far ahead of his ticket, indicates his personal popularity and the esteem in which he is held in this

section of Iowa. He is interested in all those affairs which are a matter of civic pride and he stands for opposition to misrule in municipal government and embodies in his public work a rare and happy combination of the idealist and the practical reformer.

HENRY S. ROSECRANS.

Henry S. Rosecrans, a representative of journalism in Oskaloosa and a factor in democratic circles in Mahaska county, was born on a farm four miles northeast of Washington, Iowa, October 18, 1867, his parents being Henry and Elizabeth (Dickey) Rosecrans, both of whom were natives of Licking county, Ohio. The father was a farmer by occupation and in 1849 came to Iowa, settling upon a tract of land of two hundred and ninety acres in Washington county. The same year he went to California and succeeded in getting some gold. Two years later he returned to Washington county, Iowa, and he afterward sold his farm and removed to Keokuk county, giving his attention to the milling business in Sigourney for eight years. He afterward carried on merchandising in Whatcheer during the latter part of his business career, and he died January 21, 1904, at the age of seventy-nine years. He was a brother of General W. S. Rosecrans of national military fame, and of Bishop S. H. Rosecrans, of Columbus, Ohio.

Henry S. Rosecrans of this review was one of a family of four children, all of whom are living, the others being Menza, the wife of Richard Burke, of Oskaloosa; A. D., who is living in Globe, Arizona; and W. J., of Hocking, Iowa.

Henry S. Rosecrans acquired his early education in the public schools of Keokuk, Iowa, and in the high school and academy at Washington. He began learning the printer's trade

in the office of the Sigourney Review, at Sigourney, Iowa, of which W. R. Hollingsworth was editor. He continued there for eight years and then went to Whatcheer, where he was connected with the mechanical department of the Reporter. In 1897 he came to Oskaloosa and took charge of the mechanical department of the Oskaloosa Times, with which he has since been connected, becoming editor and one of the proprietors on the 1st of August, 1905, under the firm style of Lemley & Rosecrans, his partner being C. E. Lemley. The Times was established by J. E. Seevers in 1885 and has always been a democratic paper, being the principal organ of the party in Mahaska county. Since coming under its present manager the Times has made substantial and gratifying advancement and has been a leading and important factor in shaping the democratic policy in Mahaska county.

On the 11th of June, 1890, Mr. Rosecrans was married to Miss Grace M. Borland, a daughter of J. C. and Lydia (Hand) Borland, of Chicago. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. Without special advantages in his youth his advancement in the newspaper field has come in recognition of his ability, fidelity and a thorough understanding of the business, and while capably managing the financial interests of his paper he at the same time gives to the public a bright and entertaining journal devoted to the dissemination of local and general news as well as to political principles and beliefs.

WILLIAM BURNSIDE.

William Burnside, of Oskaloosa, is president of the Hawkeye Lumber Company, owning and operating eighteen yards in the state. He is a native of Guernsey county, Ohio, born in 1842. His father, James Burnside, was the son of

William and Margaret Burnside, who, emigrating from Ireland, settled near Londonderry, Guernsey county, Ohio, where the father followed the occupation of farming. James Burnside was given good school advantages and engaged in teaching for several years in his early manhood. In 1845 he moved with his family to Keokuk county, Iowa, going via the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to Keokuk, and the rest of the way overland by team. The family passed through the trials of the pioneers in this state, having to build their own log house after reaching their destination, and to split rails for all fencing that was done. The father died in the following February at the age of thirty-five, leaving the wife and four children, the eldest a girl of eight years. In the face of entreaties on the part of relatives to have her return to Ohio and her friends, Mrs. Burnside decided to take up the battle for existence and the raising of her family, single-handed in the new country. Enduring the most severe privations and hardships because of straitened financial circumstances as well as the peculiar trials incident to pioneer life, she succeeded not only in giving each of her children a good commonschool education, but in bringing them up along the very strict religious lines which had been followed by her Scotch-Irish ancestors. She was one of thirteen children of Robert Wilkin who was one of Ohio's Scotch-Irish pioneer farmers. She died in 1865, at the age of fifty-three. Her strong character and the heroic way in which she uncomplainingly met the task of raising her four small children in this new country, under such trying conditions, made a lasting impression on them, and had a very large bearing on their lives.

William Burnside attended the country schools of Keokuk and Washington counties, and also an academy in Washington, Iowa, and likewise pursued academic work in Monmouth, Illinois, attending the latter institution after the war. He also pursued a commercial course in

Galesburg, Illinois, in 1868. At the age of twenty years he enlisted in Company A, Twenty-fifth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, August 20, 1862. He served with that regiment until January 23, 1864, when he was transferred to the Fifty-first United States Colored Infantry and was mustered out June 16, 1866, as first lieutenant at Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He was with Sherman's command until after the siege of Vicksburg and was continuously on active duty. When the war was over he returned to Washington, Iowa.

In September, 1868, Mr. Burnside came to Oskaloosa and opened a real-estate, abstract and loan office, purchasing the only set of abstract books in Mahaska county from Charles A. Cronev. He rented from the county part of the recorder's office for seventeen years which was at that time in the rear room of the building now occupied by the Mahaska County State Bank. In eight years he sold his abstract books, but continued in the real-estate business for some nine years more. On account of failing health he engaged in raising stock and bought and shipped horses. In 1888 he turned his attention to the lumber business, purchasing the lumber vard of C. Taylor & Company, at Oskaloosa. In 1891 he admitted his son, Ralph H., as a partner. In December, 1901, the business was incorporated as the Hawkeve Lumber Company with William Burnside as president; Z. W. Hutchinson, of Muscatine, vicepresident; H. H. Hutchinson, of Osceola, secretary; H. S. Howard, of Oskaloosa, treasurer; and Ralph H. Burnside, general manager.

On the 23d of December, 1868, William Burnside was married to Hannah A. Henderson, who was born in Ohio in July, 1846, and is a daughter of John A. and Elizabeth A. Henderson, who came to lowa in 1854 and located in Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Burnside had eight children, of whom Ralph H., the eldest, is represented elsewhere in this work. Charles H. is now assistant professor of mechanics and en-

gineering in the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Mary Hortense is the wife of Irving C. Johnson, an attorney at Oskaloosa. Harry H. died in infancy. John H. is a traveling buyer for the Old Oregon Lumber Company at Seattle, Washington. Elizabeth H. is attending the State University of Illinois at Urbana. Margaretta H. is a student in Penn College. Alice H. is studying music. All seven of the children are graduates of Oskaloosa high school.

The family are members of the United Presbyterian church. Mr. Burnside has been an elder in the church for about thirty years and for twenty years was superintendent of the Sabbath-school. The law of destiny accords to energy, industry and ability, success, and the truth of this is verified in the life of Mr. Burnside. In his business affairs he has shown wisdom and perseverance. His life has been one inviting scrutiny and his career with its success may well serve to encourage others.

JOHN M. PUGH.

John M. Pugh, extensively and successfully engaged in the real-estate business in Oskaloosa, is a native of McLean county, Illinois, born on the 26th of March, 1857, his parents being Samuel T. and Elizabeth (Mackintorf) Pugh, both of whom were natives of East Tennessee, and following their marriage they settled upon a farm in McLean county, Illinois, becoming pioneers of that locality, but soon afterward on account of illness they returned to their old home in Tennessee and there Mr. Pugh was drafted for service in the Confederate army. He went to Vicksburg and for months was in the siege of that city and eventually starved to death there. His remains were afterward taken back to Tennessee for burial. His widow was left with five children and she managed to keep her family together. She lived until 1871, passing away at the age of thirty-six years. The sons and daughters of the household are: Minnie, now the wife of William Dobson, of Ulysses, Nebraska; William D., residing in Peoria, Illinois; John M., of Oskaloosa; Joseph E., who is living in Los Angeles, California; and one who died at the age of twenty years.

John M. Pugh had but limited opportunities for acquiring an education, for in early life he and his brother worked out and earned the money to educate the younger members of the family. He has made his own way in life and deserves much credit for the success which has crowned his efforts. He was farming for twelve vears near Delavan. Illinois, and then came to Mahaska county, making his way to Fremont, where in 1890 he bought a farm, residing thereon until 1898. The demand for farms in this part of the state was so great that he gradually merged his interests into the real-estate business. His neighbors from Illlnois came until he had located nearly four hundred farms or homes for them. Henow gives his entire attention to the real-estate business, for five years being a member of the firm of Pugh Brothers, of Oskaloosa, his partner being J. E. Pugh, but since that time he has been alone in business. Within the last two years he has not only handled Iowa property but has also bought and sold land in North Dakota and is one of the leading land dealers of Mahaska county. He has done much for the village of Fremont in the way of its upbuilding and improvement, having established elevators and other enterprises there. He may well be termed a promoter and one whose labors have been effective along the line of general progress as well as individual success. He removed to Oskaloosa in 1901, where he has a fine home.

On the 8th of January, 1879, Mr. Pugh was married to Miss Mahala Vandeventer, a daughter of the Rev. David Vandeventer, minister of the Presbyterian denomination. Five children have been born of this marriage, but two died in infancy. Those living are: Percy J., who is now living on a farm in Cedar township belonging to his father; and Estella M. and Warren, both at home.

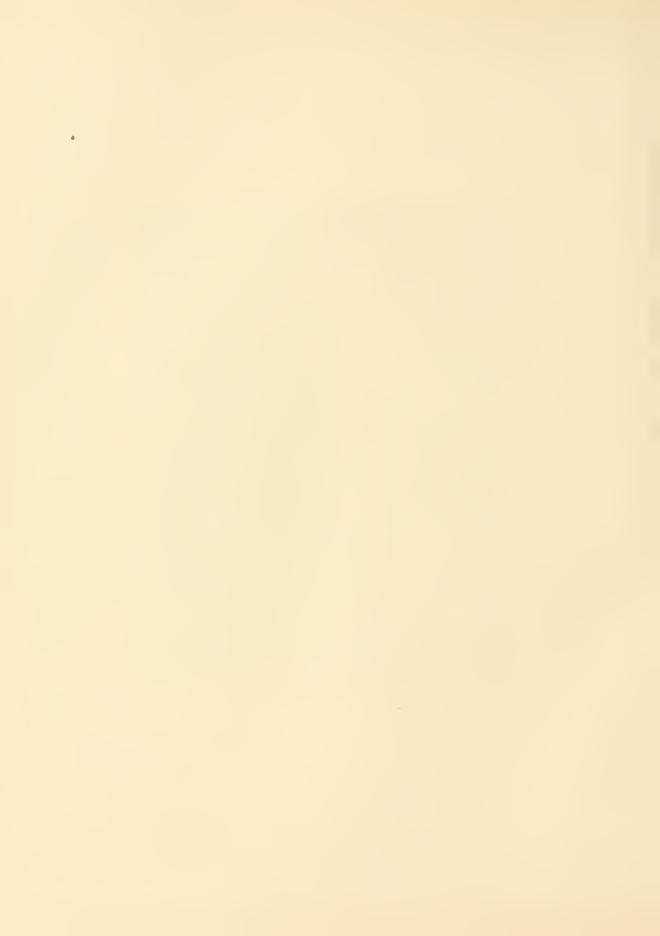
Mr. Pugh is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has filled all of the chairs in the local lodge. He is also connected with the Knights of Pythias and has been a delegate to its grand lodge and he belongs to the Woodmen of the World. Deprived in his youth of many of the advantages which many regard as essential to success in life he has nevertheless made rapid and substantial progress in the business world. A man must essentially formulate and give shape to his own character and this Mr. Pugh has done, so directing his labors that he has won an honorable name as well as a competence. His work, too, has been of a character that has been of direct benefit to Mahaska county, proving a factor in bringing many families to the county and thus advancing its growth and prosperity.

EDWARD EDRIS.

Edward Edris, living on section 17. Spring Creek township, is one of the prosperous farmers and dairymen of Mahaska county and owns a well improved and valuable tract of land of two hundred and eighty acres divided into two farms. He has lived in this county since 1854, and is therefore one of its old settlers. His birth occurred in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, on the 5th of August, 1828. His paternal great-grandfather, John Henry Edris, was of Arabian ancestry. His son, Andrew Edris was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, where occurred the birth of Henry Edris in 1801. The last named was reared in his native state and was married in Bucks county to Miss Mary M.



EDWARD EDRIS.



Walborn, a native of the eastern part of the state. He followed farming in Bucks county and there reared his family, and spent his entire life, his death occurring there about 1847, while his wife passed away in 1844.

Edward Edris was reared in the county of his nativity, upon the old homestead farm and acquired a common-school education, after which he attended a high school for a year. This was an institution conducted under the auspices of the Society of Friends or Ouakers. When a young man he started westward to Ohio, and after living for a time in Montgomery county, that state, went to Tippecanoe county, Indiana, He learned the cooper's trade in Ohio and followed it also in Indiana. In 1854 he made his way to Oskaloosa, Iowa, where he carried on a cooper shop for ten years, when, determining to devote his attention to agricultural pursuits he purchased land and located on a farm. He began here with sixty acres of land, which he at once commenced to improve and cultivate. He later bought more land from time to time, and now owns two farms in Spring Creek township, which are well developed properties. He has a large residence upon the home place, also a commodious barn and all other modern equipments, and in connection with general farming he carries on dairving, which business he has followed for thirty years, having good Guernsey and Jersey cattle and other high grade stock.

Mr. Edris was married first in Oskaloosa in October, 1855, to Miss Mary Imus, a native of Ohio, who was reared in that state to the age of ten or twelve years, after which she removed to Illinois and subsequently came to Iowa. She was a daughter of Charles Imus, of English birth, who, after emigrating to the new world, lived at various places prior to coming to Mahaska county, Iowa. Mrs. Edris died while on a visit to Ohio in October, 1889. Of the four sons born of that marriage, three are now living, but Charles Henry, who was married and

became a traveling salesman, died in 1903, at the age of forty-five years. Those who still survive are Perry F, a farmer and gardener, of Oskaloosa, who is married and has ten children; Edward Arthur, now of Colorado; and Frank M., who is upon the home farm, which he cultivates in partnership with his father. He is a man of good education and exemplary habits, of strict integrity and genuine personal worth. He was married in Neligh, Nebraska, in 1901, to Carrie Nichol, a daughter of D. F. Nichol, a farmer residing in Mahaska county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Frank Edris has been born a daughter, Florence.

In 1905 at Grand Junction, Colorado, Edward Edris was married to Anna Baker, a native of England, who resided in Ohio and was educated at Oberlin College in that state. She was a teacher in the south for five years and later engaged in missionary work for twenty-two years. She has been an active church worker throughout her entire life and has been exceptionally successful in her educational labors for the intellectual and moral development of her fellowmen.

Politically Mr. Edris is now a stalwart republican, but at one time voted with the democracy. Locally he casts an independent ballot, but at state and national elections always advocates republican principles, and his son Frank is a supporter of the same party. Mr. Edris has served in a number of local offices and in all community affairs is deeply interested, his loyalty being proven by his co-operation in measures for the general good.

JAMES G. PATTERSON.

James G. Patterson, who since 1901 has engaged in the practice of law in Oskaloosa, was born in Jasper county, Iowa, August 6, 1871, a son of William J. and Elizabeth (Steel) Patter-

son, both of whom were natives of Scotland. The year following their marriage they sought a home in the new world, settling in Ohio, whence they afterward came to Iowa. They lived for a few years upon a farm in this state and then returned to Ohio when their son James was only a few months old. In 1880, however, they took up their abode in Jasper county, this state, and in 1881 settled upon a farm in Mahaska county, where they resided for a long period, being closely connected with the agricultural interests of the locality. Three years ago they came to Oskaloosa, where Mr. Patterson is now living retired in the enjoyment of a well earned rest.

In the public schools James G. Patterson acquired his early education and was afterward graduated from the State University at Iowa City, completing the course in the College of Liberal Arts in 1899. He then determined upon the study of law in the same institution and was graduated from the law department in Tune, 1901, and was admitted to the bar in that year. Previous to this time he had read law with the firm of Bolton & Bolton and had also been a teacher in the public schools of Mahaska county. Following his graduation from the law course he entered upon practice in Oskaloosa, where he has since remained and the business accorded his is a public recognition of the confidence reposed in his skill and ability in the handling of important litigated interests.

Mr. Patterson is a republican in his political views and active in the local ranks of the party, putting forth earnest and effective effort in its behalf. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and is prominent and popular socially. He is a man conservative in his view, of sound judgment and recognized ability and although yet a young man his opinions have been a weighty element in molding public thought and action in this city. Possessed of laudable ambition for success—without which there is no advancement in business life—he is steadily progress-

ing in his chosen field of labor and is already recognized as the peer of many of the strong and able members of the Oskaloosa bar.

PROFESSOR FRANK W. ELSE.

Professor Frank W. Else, superintendent of the city schools of Oskaloosa since July, 1905, and well known in educational circles in Iowa, was born in Mahaska county, November 5, 1871, a son of J. J. and Susanna (Gearhart) Else, natives of Ohio and Kentucky respectively. The Else family come of Scotch-Irish origin but later generations of the family were residents of England, whence the first American ancestor came to the new world. The name of Whittaker originated in England and in the maternal line Professor Else is descended from that ancestry. Prior to their marriage the parents of our subject became residents of Mahaska county and following their marriage they took up their abode in Madison township, where Mr. Elsie has resided for more than a half century. His life has been devoted to general agricultural pursuits but he is now living retired. In 1873 he was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife, who died at the age of thirtythree years. He afterward married Mrs. Jennie Green. By the first marriage there were born six children, of whom five are living: William, a resident of Kansas; Lewis, at home; Cora, the wife of B. F. Shoemake, of Oskaloosa; Fred, of Madison township; and Frank W.

In the public schools of Oskaloosa Professor Else began his higher education, passing through successive grades of the high school until he had completed the course with the class of 1891. After teaching school one year he attended Penn College, from which he was graduated in 1896 and then spent one year at Haverford. Later he pursued a professional course

in the State Normal School. During his course in Penn College he was editor and manager of the college paper. In the meantime he had taken up the profession of teaching which he first followed in the district schools, while from 1897 until 1899 he was principal of the Webster School in Oskaloosa. In the latter year he accepted the superintendency of the schools of Mount Pleasant, where he remained for six years, and in July, 1905, he was called to the superintendency of the city schools of Oskaloosa.

In 1899 Professor Else was married to Miss Mary Himes, a daughter of D. A. and Anna (Dixon) Himes, of this county. They have one child, Dorothy Anna. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are prominent socially. Professor Else belongs to the Masonic fraternity. He has great zeal and interest in his work and believes in maintaining a high standard of scholarship. He is constantly seeking out new methods for the improvement of the schools that the work of public instruction shall be effective as a preparation for life's practical and responsible duties. He has become recognized as one of the strong and able educators of Iowa and under his guidance the schools of Oskaloosa are making substantial progress.

JUDGE W. H. SEEVERS.

When the history of Iowa and her public men shall have been written Judge W. H. Seevers will be numbered among her illustrious citizens, for he had a distinguished career as a member of the bar and of the supreme court of the state. Following his retirement from the office of chief justice of Iowa he resumed the practice of law in Oskaloosa. He was one of the pioneer residents of Mahaska county and was born in Shenandoah

county, Virginia, April 8, 1822, a son of James and Rebecca (Wilkins) Seevers. In his youth he resided in Frederick and afterward in Clarke county, Virginia, where he entered upon the study of law. He came to Oskaloosa, June 22, 1844, and continued a resident of this city to the time of his death. He pursued the study of law under the direction of Milton T. Peters and was admitted to the bar in the district court of Mahaska county in 1846. He at once entered upon the practice of his profession as a partner of William T. Smith, which connection continued until 1852. He was subsequently associated with his brother James under the firm name of William H. & James A. Seevers and several years later M. T. Williams, now deceased, was admitted to a partnership under the firm name of Seevers, Williams & Seevers. When James A. Seevers entered the United States service at the time of the Civil war the firm style of Seevers & Williams was adopted and several years later the partnership was dissolved, at which time Mr. Seevers became associated with M. E. Cutts, now deceased. This connection continued until 1876, when Judge Seevers was elected to the supreme bench of Iowa.

For many years he had figured prominently in public life. He was elected to the general assembly of Iowa in 1847 and again in 1875, but resigned during his second term in 1876 upon his appointment to the supreme bench of the state. He had been elected and served as county attorney in 1850 and 1851 and in the spring of 1852 was chosen judge of the third judicial district of Iowa. He served upon the bench for four years and his record as a judge was in harmony with his record as a man and lawyer, distinguished by a masterful grasp of every problem presented for solution and by strict and unswerving devotion to duty. Called to the highest tribunal of the state, he served for thirteen years on the supreme bench of lowa and during two years of that time was

chief justice. His service on the bench was distinguished by the highest legal ability. To wear the ermine worthily it is not enough that one possess legal acumen, is learned in the principles of jurisprudence, familiar with precedence and thoroughly honest. Many men, even when acting uprightly, are wholly unable to divest themselves of prejudice and are unconsciously warped in their judgments by their own mental characteristics or educational pe-This unconscious and variable culiarities. disturbing force enters more or less into the judgments of all men, but in the ideal jurist this factor becomes so small as not to be discernible in results and loses its potency as a disturbing force. Judge Seevers was exceptionally free from all judicial bias. His varied legal learning and wide experience in the courts. the patient care with which he ascertained all of the facts bearing upon every case which came before him, gave his decisions a solidity and exhaustiveness for which no members of the bar could take exception.

Judge Seevers was prominently identified with the educational interests of Oskaloosa and with various interests bearing directly upon the welfare and progress of the city. He took an active part in the organization of the Iowa Central Railroad Company, served as a member of its board of directors for many years and was at one time vice-president. He was also a stockholder in the Mahaska County Savings Bank and in the Oskaloosa National Bank, acting as president of the latter for a number of years. He took an active interest in the development of the coal resources of the county and was a stockholder and director of two local companies formed for this purpose.

Judge Seevers was married in Oskaloosa, February 20, 1849, to Caroline M. Lee, a native of Ohio, who died in 1903. By this marriage there were born seven children. Virginia E. became the wife of Henry L. Briggs and died in 1881, leaving a daughter. Carrie L, is

the wife of James C. Fletcher, a real-estate dealer of Chandler, Oklahoma, by whom she has two children. Harry W. was married May 18, 1887, to Stella M. Wilson, a daughter of Rezin and Amelia (Baer) Wilson. His wife was born and reared in Oskaloosa and they have one child, Grace, now thirteen years of age. Grace Seevers is the wife of Charles V. Hoffmann and has two children. Nell Seevers is the wife of William H. Kalbach, a hardware merchant of Oskaloosa, and has two children. William H. Seevers is a merchant of Altus, Oklahoma, and has two children. All of the members of this family were born in Oskaloosa.

After retiring from the supreme bench Judge Seevers resumed the practice of law in Oskaloosa. He continued to make his home in this city until his death, at which time the state mourned the loss of one of its representative and honored men. No man was ever more respected, ever more fully enjoyed the confidence of the people or more richly deserved the esteem in which he was held. In his life time, the people of his state, recognizing his merit, rejoiced in his advancement and in the honors to which he attained and since his death they have cherished his memory. In his private life he was distinguished by all that marks the true gentleman and in his public career he displayed the profound legal wisdom and the quiet dignity of an ideal follower of his calling.

WILLIAM C. ANDERSON.

William C. Anderson is one of the extensive landowners of Mahaska county, his home farm comprising four hundred and thirty-six acres on section 23. Spring Creek township. Here in addition to tilling the soil he is engaged in raising and breeding stock, and his life record proves that success is not a matter of genius but is the outcome of clear judgment, experience and indefatigable energy. He is, moreover, en-





W. C. ANDERSON'S CHILDREN.



MR. AND MRS. W. C. ANDERSON.



titled to representation in this volume as one of the old settlers of the county, for he has made his home within its borders since the 4th of March, 1857, arriving here when a young man of about twenty-three years.

Mr. Anderson is a native of Ohio, having been born in Licking county on the 3d of April. 1834. His father, William Anderson, was a native of Maryland and was there reared and married, Miss Amelia A. Perygo, who was also born in that state, becoming his wife. Mr. Anderson's first property consisted of two slaves that were given him and when he removed from Maryland to Ohio, these slaves accompanied him to the Pennsylvania line. In the latter state he gave them their freedom papers and a supply of clothing. Settling in Licking county, Ohio, he opened up a farm in the midst of the forest and there, surrounded by the green woods, he tilled the soil, which he had first to clear and break. His remaining days were passed upon the old homestead, and there he died in August, 1860, at the age of sixty-six years. His wife survived him, passing away in 1868.

William C. Anderson spent the days of his boyhood and youth in Ohio, and is largely selfeducated, having but limited privileges in his youth in that direction. When a young man he came westward to Iowa, settling in Mahaska county in 1857. He afterward entered one hundred and sixty acres of land in Page county, near Clarinda, and after holding that property for a few years he sold it. In 1862 he fitted up an ox team, and thus equipped crossed the plains to Idaho with a large train of about one hundred teams. He made his way to the gold mines of that district and spent one season in a search for the precious metal. In September, of the same year, he bought two horses, using one as a pack horse, while he rode the other, and thus traveled home to Iowa, arriving in Mahaska county in November.

On the 23d of December, 1863, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Rachel C. Rice, a native of Indiana, and a drughter of W. H. H. Rice, who, coming from Indiana, became one of the first settlers of this part of the state, arriving in the fall of 1853. He bought land in Spring Creek township, broke the prairie, built a house, and in the course of years developed a large farm of several hundred acres. He was one of the prominent and substantial agriculturists of Mahaska county and assisted materially in its early development and improvement. Here he reared his family, and he yet resides upon the old-homestead farm at the very advanced age of ninety-three years. He and his wife, who is a few years his junior, are numbered among the few remaining pioneer settlers of Mahaska county. They are the parents of two sons and two daughters, who are all married and settled near them, and they also have grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Mrs. Anderson was reared and educated in Mahaska county. After their marriage the young people went to Ohio on a wedding trip, arriving there on New Year's day of 1864. It was a fearfully cold day, the mercury dropping to forty degrees below zero. They remained in Ohio until June, and upon the return trip Mr. Anderson brought with him a flock of sheep, a span of horses and a shepherd dog, driving the sheep across the country to Mahaska county, where he arrived in August. He then settled upon a part of the farm which he vet owns and began the cultivation of the land, at the same time engaging in the sheep industry. He followed that pursuit for two years, after which he sold his sheep and his dogs. He then began raising cattle and made a business of buying, feeding and fattening cattle, selling from one to three carloads each year, and also about the same number of hogs until the year 1898, since which time he has concentrated his energies upon the cultivation of his land. Mr. Anderson

commenced here with one hundred and sixty acres, but as he prospered he added to his property from time to time and within the boundaries of his farm now has four hundred and thirty-six acres. Upon the place he has built a substantial residence and has a good barn and other outbuildings. He also has two good dwelling houses beside his own home and two other barns upon the farm, so that there is ample accommodation afforded for tenants.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have been born five children who are yet living and they also lost one. Charles A., residing in Seattle, Washington, is an express messenger on the Great Northern Railroad. Lorena is the wife of William H. Zollars, a farmer of White Oak township, by whom she has four children: Clay, Cecil and Dulcea, twins, and Lida. W. F. Anderson, who is married and carries on the home farm, has two children, Judson and Llovd. H. W. Anderson, who is in the city delivery mail service in Oskaloosa, has four children: Carroll, Leslie, Wallace and Thelma. T. R. Anderson is at home. Alice died in Denver, Colorado, at the age of twenty-six vears.

Politically Mr. Anderson has always been a democrat since casting his first presidential ballot for James Buchanan in 1856. He has since voted for each nominee of the party at the head of the national ticket, but has never sought or desired office for himself, preferring to give his attention to his farming pursuits. His wife is a member of the First Presbyterian church. Mr. Anderson has been a resident of the county since 1857, and his wife since 1853.

He has watched the growth of Oskaloosa from a crossroads village to its present proportions when all of the advantages of city life may be enjoyed. He has also helped to improve and make the county what it is today. He has been a hard-working and industrious man and he and his estimable wife have labored

earnestly and long, enduring hardships and privations together. They have worked together and as the years have passed their labors have been crowned with success. Here they have reared and educated their children, who are a credit to their name, and they are numbered among the worthy pioneer settlers of the county. Their home is noted for its hospitality and good cheer and their circle of friends is very extensive and all wish that they may live long to enjoy the fruits of their united labors.

HERMAN C. HOMER, M. D.

Dr. Herman C. Homer, physician and surgeon, of Oskaloosa, is one of Iowa's native sons. and the spirit of enterprise and progress which have been the dominant factors in the development of the middle west as exemplified in the lives of the people, is also manifest in the professional career of Dr. Homer, who, in a calling where advancement depends upon individual merit, has made steady progress. He was born in Black Hawk county, Iowa, July 27, 1869, a son of Harlan P. Homer, a native of Cortland county, New York, who, in 1856, came to Iowa and has since been a resident of Black Hawk county. He occupies a position of distinctive prominence and influence there. His attention in business affairs has been given to general agricultural pursuits, while politically he is an earnest and influential republican, representing his district in the state legislature in 1875-6. He has also served in a number of local offices, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, his preferment coming to him unsolicited.

Dr. Homer after attending the common schools became a student in the State Normal at Cedar Falls and later in Harvey Business College at Waterloo. His medical education was acquired in the College of Physicians and

Surgeons at Chicago, from which he was graduated in the class of 1898. He began practice in Horton, Bremer county, Iowa, where he remained for two years, after which he did work in the Post Graduate College in Chicago and also in the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat College in 1901. He afterward practiced in Whatcheer, Iowa, for nine months coming thence to Oskaloosa, since which time he has been a member of the medical fraternity here. He belongs to the Mahaska County Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Association and the Des Moines Valley Medical Association, and thus keeps in touch with the onward progress of the profession as investigation, research and experiment are continually broadening knowledge and promoting skill and efficiency. He is examiner for the Phoenix Life Insurance Company, of Hartford, Connecticut, the New York Life Insurance Company, the Central Life of Des Moines, Iowa, the Royal Union of Des Moines and the Mutual Pioneer Life Insurance Company of Davenport, Iowa. In addition he has a large private practice in medicine and surgery and his patronage is extensive for the treatment of the diseases of the eve, ear, nose and throat, of which he has made a specialty.

On the 3d of August, 1898, Dr. Homer was married to Miss E. Lillian Wilson, a daughter of W. A. Wilson, of Waterloo, Iowa. He is prominent fraternally, holding membership relations with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Modern Brotherhood of America, the Modern Woodmen of America. the Tribe of Ben-Hur, the Woodmen of the World and the Woodmen's Circle. He is in thorough sympathy with the beneficent and also the insurance principles of these orders and he is popular both socially and professionally. His practice has increased along lines of substantial growth and he draws his business largely from the best class of Oskaloosa's citizens. He is conscientions in the performance of every professional duty and his strict adherence to a high standard of professional ethics has won him the regard of his brethren of the medical fraternity.

J. C. MASTELLER.

J. C. Masteller, carrying on general farming in Madison township, was born in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, November 26, 1842, his parents being Jacob and Ellen (Blaine) Masteller, the latter a cousin of the renowned statesman, James G. Blaine. children of the family were George, who was taken a prisoner by the Confederates in the Civil war and died at Annapolis, while hostilities were still in progress; James Curtis, who is living in Creston, lowa; Elmer, a farmer, of Madison township, but living in Oskaloosa; Richard, of Oskaloosa; William, of Cass county, Iowa; Mrs. Mary Anderson, who resides in Mattoon, Illinois; Mrs. Annie White. a resident of Harvey county, Kansas; Mrs. Carrie Smith, of Oskaloosa; and Jennie, deceased. The family came to Mahaska county in 1855 and settled in Oskaloosa. For some years they lived in Spring Creek township and then removed to Madison township, taking up their abode upon a farm on the New Sharon road in 1864.

J. C. Masteller was a youth of about thirteen when he accompanied his parents on their removal to lowa and was about twenty-two years of age when he took up his abode upon the farm which has since been his home. He was reared to agricultural pursuits early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist in connection with the work of tilling the soil and caring for the stock. His education was acquired in the public schools and throughout his entire life, since attaining manhood, he has given his attention to general

farming and stock-raising, having now a well improved property which gives evidence of his careful cultivation and supervision in its neat and thrifty appearance.

Mr. Masteller was married in 1871 to Miss Sarah J. Farrell, a daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth Farrell. They have a daughter, Kate, who is now the wife of R. D. Humphrey, a resident farmer of Madison township, and three children have been born of this union: Clara, Cecil and Edith.

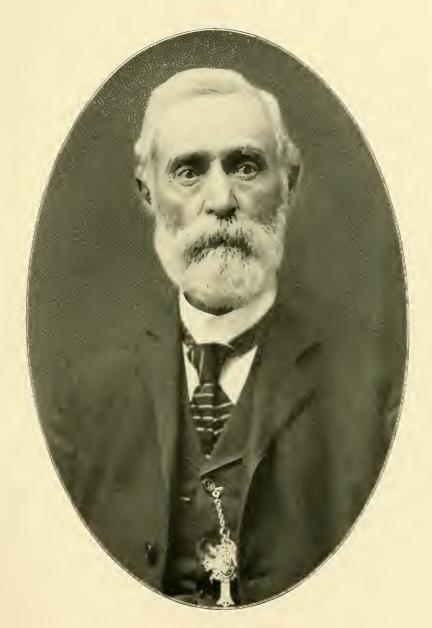
In his political relations Mr. Masteller is a republican, having always supported the party since age gave to him the right of franchise, and for one term he has served as justice of the peace, being called to that office in 1893. He has been township trustee since 1894 and has been school director and road supervisor. In community affairs he is interested, giving a public-spirited support to many measures for the general good, and in his farm work he is found to be a reliable, energetic and prosperous business man.

D. A. HOFFMAN, M. D

Dr. D. A. Hoffman, whose position in the ranks of the medical fraternity in Oskaloosa is among the foremost, was born in Jackson, Ohio, September 28, 1824, and although he has now passed the eighty-first milestone on life's journey he is still a factor in professional ranks here, his life having been one of great usefulness and activity. His father, Daniel Hoffman. was a native of Woodstock, Shenandoah county, Virginia, born January 18, 1790. He learned the gunsmith's trade under the direction of his father and with the family removed to Ross county, Ohio, in 1806. He served as a private soldier in the war of 1812 and at its close went to Harper's Ferry, Virginia, where he worked for a short time in the armory. In

1814 he engaged in mercantile pursuits at Circleville, Ohio, and two years later removed to Jackson, that state, where he made his home until his death in 1861. He held many important offices, serving as county commissioner, as clerk of the courts and as a member of the Ohio legislature. He married Julia James, who was born on what is now called Neal's Island in the Ohio river between Marietta and Parkersburg, West Virginia, April 10, 1800. They were married in 1818 and theirs was a very happy union. Mrs. Hoffman died at Jackson, Ohio, in 1863. Her father, John James, removed from Connecticut to Ohio in 1787, six months after the first settlement was made at Marietta by General Putnam. Daniel Hoffman was the father of six children, namely: Colonel John J. Hoffman, of Garnett, Kansas; Ripley C., a practicing attorney of Columbus, Ohio; David A., of this review; Charles B., who died in infancy; Cornelia V., the wife of J. L. Long, of Jackson, Ohio; and Daniel W., who practiced in Ottawa. Kansas, until his health failed, when he went to Circleville, Ohio. He was a major in the Ohio Heavy Artillery in the Civil war and he died in the Buckeye state, December 31. 1875. The eldest son, John J. Hoffman, was captain of a company of infantry, enlisting for three months' service in the Union army. Later he re-enlisted and became lieutenant colonel in the Second Virginia Cavalry.

Dr. Hoffman of this review attended the common schools of his native city until 1838, at which time he entered his father's store as a salesman, there remaining until the fall of 1841, when he became a student in the Ohio University at Athens, where he remained for two years. Thinking that he would find professional life preferable he took up the study of medicine at home and in the fall of 1844 went to Athens, Ohio, where he continued his preliminary reading for a period of two years under the direction of Dr. William Blackstone. He attended lectures at Cleveland, Ohio, dur-



DR. D. A. HOFFMAN.



ing the sessions of 1846-7 and 1847-8 and was graduated on the 24th of February of the latter year. Dr. Hoffman entered at once upon practice in Ohio, following his profession in both Jackson and Logan. In May, 1861, he came to Oskaloosa, Iowa, where he has since engaged in active practice. In April, 1883, his son was admitted to a partnership under the firm style of D. A. and R. C. Hoffman.

Dr. Hoffman was married November 16, 1848, to Miss Emily Smith, of Logan, Hocking county, Ohio. They have four children: Edgar B., who is living on a farm about eight miles west of Oskaloosa; John A., an attorney practicing in Great Falls, Montana; Effie L., the widow of J. F. Rogers, who died in Kansas in August, 1883; and Ripley C., who is practicing with his father and is represented elsewhere in this work.

Dr. Hoffman has accumulated the finest private cabinet of curiosities in the way of collecting birds and minerals to be found in the state of Iowa. He likewise has a splendid library of medical, scientific and miscellaneous works and is a man of broad research and general knowledge, his scholarly attainments being at once manifest in his face and in his conversation. With a mind continually broadening to the influences of knowledge he is today one of the honored and representative citizens of Oskaloosa. Dr. Hoffman is now in his eightysecond year, but old age need not suggest, as a matter of course, want of occupation or of interests. Indeed there is an old age which grows better and stronger with the passing years both intellectually and spirtually and gives out of its rich stores of wisdom and experience to others, and such has been the life of Dr. Hoffman. A member of the Masonic fraternity, he has been worshipful master of the blue lodge, high priest of the chapter and first eminent commander of the commandery at Oskaloosa, filling the last named position for five years. His identification with the Masons

dates from 1846 and with the Odd Fellows from 1847 and he is also a Knight of Pythias. He has had ample opportunity in his professional career to exemplify the spirit of mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness which constitute the basic elements of these orders.

R. J. OLDHAM.

R. J. Oldham, now living a retired life in Eddyville, was for years a prosperous and enterprising farmer and stock-raiser of Mahaska county, and is still the owner of a valuable farm of five hundred acres in Harrison township, which is well equipped with modern improvements and is an excellent property. Mr. Oldham is a native son of the county, having been born in Harrison township, October 29. 1857. His father, Abram B. Oldham, was a native of Shelby county, Indiana, born in 1830. The father, Robert Oldham, was a native of Kentucky and a son of Squire Oldham, one of the first settlers of that state. He later removed with his family to Indiana, and Robert Oldham was there reared to manhood. Following his marriage he engaged in farming there on his own account and subsequently came to Iowa, settling in Mahaska county in 1848. He bought land in Harrison township and spent his last years here, taking an active and helpful part in the substantial improvement and development of the county, which was a pioneer district at the time of his arrival. Much of the land was still unclaimed and uncultivated and the work of improvement had been scarcely begun.

Abram B. Oldham came to Mahaska county with his father when a young man and remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority. He assisted in the arduous task of developing a new farm amid pioneer environments and surroundings, and his labors

were crowned with a measure of success because he early became familiar with the best methods of caring for the fields and producing crops. He was married here in 1855 to Miss Sarah White, a native of Warren county, Indiana, and a daughter of Joseph White, who was one of the first residents of the county. arriving here in 1846. Abram B. Oldham located in Harrison township and purchased a tract of land of forty acres, which he began to cuitivate and improve. He bought more land from time to time and owned eleven hundred and twenty acres, constituting an excellent property and making him one of the most extensive landholders of the county. He was very successful both in his general farming interests and stock-raising. He fed cattle for the market and his operations as a stock-dealer were an important source of income. Upon the farm he reared his family and spent his last years, his death occurring there July 24. 1894. His wife survives him and now resides in Eddyville. When he passed away the community mourned the loss of one of its valued and representative citizens, for his work in behali of the county had been of a substantial and beneficial nature, and through his private interests he had also contributed to the general welfare.

R. J. Oldham is one of a family of eight living children and the eldest son. He was reared upon the old home farm, no event of special importance occurring to vary the routine of farm life for him in his boyhood days. He attended the common schools but is largely a self-educated man, and in the school of experience has learned many valuable lessons. He remained with his father until he had attained his majority and then started out in life on his own account. He was married in Indiana, in August, 1893, to Miss Sarah B. Moore, a native of that state, where she was reared and educated. She is a daughter of Thomas B. Moore, of Ohio, and a cousin of R. W. Moore, whose

sketch appears elsewhere in this work. After his marriage Mr. Oldham engaged in farming on the old homestead for a time but later removed to Eddyville, where he engaged in merchandising. Three years were devoted to the sale of goods at that place, after which he traded his stock for land in Butler county. Kansas.—a place of eleven hundred and twenty acres. Following his father's death he took charge of the old home farm, continuing, however, to make his home in Eddyville. He has since given his supervision to the farming interests, which are carried on with the assistance of hired help. He is also a stock-buver and shipper, being one of the successful dealers in this part of the state. He operates quite successfully in live stock, feeding cattle and hogs, shipping a number of carloads each year. He is likewise a stockholder in the Farmers National Bank of Oskaloosa.

Mr. and Mrs. Oldham are the parents of two children. Mary and Tom, and the family is prominent in social circles. Politically Mr. Oldham is a republican where national issues are involved, but at local elections votes independently. He believes in the employment of competent teachers, in the support of good schools, and his allegiance is a valued factor in the control of many public enterprises. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, takes an active part in its work and is also an interested worker and teacher in the Sunday-school. She is identified with various auxiliary societies of the church and her labors in its behalf are effective and far-reaching. Mr. Oldham belongs to the blue lodge of Eddyville. to the Royal Arch chapter and to the commandery, and has filled various offices in the fraternity, including that of master and representative to the grand lodge of the state. He is well known in Oskaloosa, and in both Mahaska and Wapello counties as a prosperous farmer and stock-dealer. He possesses excellent business ability, keen discrimination and unfaltering enterprise—qualities which form a safe foundation upon which to build the superstructure of success. He has been found reliable in all of his business undertakings as well as in the relations of public and private life, and he and his estimable wife enjoy the warm regard of a very extensive circle of friends.

DR. WILLIAM MARION JARVIS.

Dr. William Marion Jarvis, of Rose Hill, now eighty-one years of age, is living a retired life, but was for years a successful and capable practitioner of medicine and a business man of well known ability. When the work of improvement and progress had scarcely been begun in Mahaska county he cast in his lot with its pioneer settlers, taking up his abode here in the spring of 1849. He is a native of Kentucky, having been born in Fleming county, February 16, 1825. His father, John Jarvis, was a native of Kentucky and was reared and married there, the lady of his choice being Elizabeth Cord, a native of the Blue Grass state. In the year 1822 the father removed to Parke county, Indiana, where he was well known as a business man, trader and farmer, and there he reared his family. In 1852 he came to Iowa, joining his son, Dr. Jarvis, in Mahaska county.

The Doctor spent the days of his boyhood and youth in Parke county, had acquired his preliminary education in the public schools and, determining upon the practice of medicine as a life work, had prepared for this calling by study in Terre Haute and in Waveland, Indiana. He was a student in the office and under the direction of Dr. Pence, of Terre Haute and also assisted him in his practice. He likewise studied under Drs. Ballard and Russell, of Waveland, Indiana. He did not have the opportunity of carrying out his plans of

completing the college course, but through private reading and study he continually broadened his knowledge and promoted efficiency as a practitioner. From his Dr. Pence he learned effective methods of curing two diseases prevalent in pioneer communities- fever and ague and peritonitis. The latter was very bad owing to the fact that the people lived in claim cabins and the breaking of the prairie sod produced malaria and caused ague. Even as late as the year 1905, Dr. Jarvis received assurance of his effective professional work in those pioneer days from a woman who said that her father after suffering from the ague for a year obtained remedies from the Doctor which completely cured him, so that he was never again ill from that complaint. was also successful in his treatment of various other diseases. In connection with his practice he engaged in the drug business in Indiana and in 1849, when still a young man, he came to Iowa, locating in White Oak township, Mahaska county, at old Rose Hill, where he entered upon the practice of medicine, his patronage coming to him from many miles around.

Dr. Jarvis was married in this county. October 30, 1849, to Miss Frances Maria Bolles, who was born in Montville, Connecticut, December 15, 1826, a daughter of Reuben P. Bolles. The family were among the pioneer settlers of New England, coming to America from England about 1640. Reuben Bolles was reared in Connecticut and was married there to Frances Cornelia Baker, who was also descended from one of the early pioneer families of that state. Reuben Bolles, leaving New England, removed to New York and a year later went to Sandusky, Ohio, where he resided until 1827. He then drove across the country to Iowa, locating first in Louisa county, and in 1844 coming to Mahaska county.

Dr. Jarvis engaged in the dry-goods business at Rose Hill until 1849, when he and others formed a company and with a number of teams started westward for California. The Doctor continued in the dry-goods business there and also bought land and developed three farms, one of two hundred and forty acres and another of ninety acres. He also owned coal lands and operated in various active enterprises, helping to improve and upbuild the county. He was in active business until about 1894, when he puchased the property on which he now resides and has since rebuilt and remodeled the house, transforming it into a good residence. He has also planted an orchard which is just coming into bearing.

Unto Dr. and Mrs. Jarvis were born the following children. Julius, a business man residing in Smith Center, Kansas, is married and has two children, Reuben P. and Charles. John P. is a telegraph operator living in Sedan, Kansas. Mrs. Jennie Jarvis Slocum, now a widow, is residing with her father and has three children, who were reared by their grandfather, Dr. Jarvis, and have now reached mature years. These are: Belina Slocum; Mrs. Lois Slocum Wright, the wife of Dr. Wright, who is represented elsewhere in this work; and Mamie, one of the teachers in the schools of Rose Hill. Fannie Jarvis is the wife of Herbert Cox, of Oskaloosa.

Dr. Jarvis was originally an old-line whig and assisted in organizing the republican party, supporting its first presidential candidate, John C. Fremont. He has served as justice of the peace for nine or ten years, has filled the office of supervisor and organized the Rose Hill postoffice, which was the second postoffice of the He acted as postmaster for many years and in every public position has discharged his duties with marked promptness and fidelity. He and his wife are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, which they joined soon after the organization of the church. Dr. Jarvis is one of the charter members of Oskaloosa lodge, I. O. O. F. Mrs. Jarvis has always been deeply and helpfully inter-

ested in the cause of temperance. She joined the Washingtonian Temperance Society in 1841 in Louisa county, Iowa, when fifteen years of age, and has never taken a drop of alcholic liquor except as a medicine since that time and since joining the Women's Christian Temperance Union in 1885 she has not used alcoholic remedies even as a medicine. She was converted to Christ and joined the Cumberland Presbyterian church in 1857 at old Rose Hill schoolhouse and the following year Dr. Jarvis also became a member of the church. Since that time they have been readers of their church paper, which was first published in St. Louis, Missouri, and is now published at Nashville, Tennessee. Mrs. Jarvis organized a Women's Christian Temperance Union at Rose Hill, February 5, 1885, and became a life member in 1895. She also belongs to the Rose Hill Missionary Society under the auspices of the Methodist church. Dr. Jarvis is also deeply interested in many movements for the intellectual and moral progress of his community and no citizens of Rose Hill or this part of the county are held in higher respect than this worthy couple, who have now traveled far on life's journey, Dr. Jarvis having passed the eighty-first milestone. Their mutual love and confidence has increased as the years have gone by and theirs has been an ideal marriage relation.

JAMES C. HANNA.

James C. Hanna, possessing untiring energy and quick perceptive power that enables him to form his plans readily and execute them with dispatch, has since 1896 been a prominent representative of the productive industries of Oskaloosa, being now president of the Hawkeye Overall Company. His business record has demonstrated the truth of the saving that suc-



J. C. HANNA.



cess is not the result of genins but is the outcome of clear judgment and experience. A native of Des Moines county, he was born on the 12th of March, 1854. His paternal grandfather, James C. Hanna, came to Iowa to make a permanent location on the 1st of September, 1837. He had visited the state in 1836 and the following year removed to Iowa by wagon, bringing his money in a nail keg. The farm which he purchased has since been in possession of the family and has always been free from debt. It is now owned by James C. Hanna and his sisters and is a valuable and well improved property. The grandfather prior to coming to Iowa had been engaged in merchandising in Union county, Indiana. He was a prominent and influential citizen of Des Moines county, esteemed for his gennine personal worth and admired for his business successes. He was killed by an ox dragging him down two years after he came to Iowa, being at that time forty-four years of age. His wife survived him and died at the age of eighty-four vears.

James L. Hanna, father of our subject, was born in Indiana and after reaching adult age was married to Elizabeth Moore, a native of Virginia and a daughter of Francis Moore, who was born in County Antrim, Ireland, and on coming to America settled at Moundsville, West Virginia. He became a resident of Des Moines county, Iowa, in 1837, improved a farm there, built a brick residence and successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits for a long period. He was a prominent and helpful member of the Methodist church and took an active part in settlement building and in the church work, doing all in his power to promote the cause of the denomination with which he was affiliated. His life was honorable and upright and he left behind him an untarnished name.

The marriage of James L. and Elizabeth (Moore) Hanna was celebrated in Iowa in

1839, having settled in Des Moines county with their respective parents previous to that time. Mr. Hanna turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits, entering eighty acres of land from the government. His labors resulted in the improvement of a splendid farm and as his financial resources increased he extended the boundaries of his property until his aggregate possessions included six hundred and forty acres of valuable land in Des Moines county. He, too, was deeply interested in the intellectual and moral progress of the community and put forth effective energy and effort for the upbuilding of the church in his locality. He was likewise president of the school board, was township trustee and justice of the peace, while for a period of twenty-four years he served as postmaster of Parrish. Over the record of his official career there fell no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil, as at all times he was loval to the trust reposed in him, discharging his duties with ability of superior order. In the family were eight children and those vet living are as follows: Rebecca, now the wife of Isaac Philips, who is living on the old homestead farm; Franc, the wife of T. E. Rhodes, of New London, Iowa; James C., of this review; John M., of Kansas City; Sadie, the wife of Dr. Harry Zaizer, of Burlington, Iowa; Elizabeth, the wife of W. P. Cleaver, of Oskaloosa; W. B., a physician at Mass, Michigan; and Mary E., who became the wife of R. A. Alexander and died November 6, 1904, at the age of fiftyfour years.

Mr. Hanna pursued his early education in the public schools and afterward attended the Denmark Academy at Denmark, Iowa, Howe's Academy at Mount Pleasant and the Iowa Wesleyan University. He was reared upon the home farm and after completing his education took up his abode on a farm in the home neighborhood in 1878, comprising one hundred acres of land from the government, on which his grandfather settled when he removed from

Virginia to this state. For a number of years thereafter Mr. Hanna carried on general agricultural pursuits, cultivating and improving his farm until the 3d of March, 1891, when he sold that property and removed to Monmouth, Illinois. While living upon the farm he rebuilt the house, making it one of the best residences in the neighborhood. He made several radical changes for the convenience of raising stock and carrying on his farm work and in his business there was very successful. While living upon the farm he also served as township trustee of Danville township, Des Moines county, was a school director and also president of the board.

In May, 1896, Mr. Hanna came to Oskaloosa and organized the Hanna Manufacturing Company, of which he became president. A plant was located in the old Simpson church building, where the business was conducted until 1901, when a new building was erected on First street, the business having outgrown the original capacity. On the 1st of March, 1905, they removed to the old Crookham mill property and rebuilt the present building fortyfour by one hundred and twenty feet and two stories in height with basement. They manufacture working men's clothing, including overalls and engineers' jackets. The business was originally carried on under the name of the Davenport Garment Company, but today is known as the Hawkeye Overall Company. The plant is equipped with the latest improved machinery, including two needle machines and a Reese button hole machine and altogether is one of the best equipped factories in the west. The company was incorporated for thirty thousand dollars with a paid-up capital of fifteen thousand dollars. Its product is sold in Texas, Oklahoma, Indian Territory, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois and is officered as follows: J. C. Hanna, president; R. K. Davis, vice-president; and John A. Crookham, secretary and treasurer.

On the 5th of February, 1878, Mr. Hanna was married to Miss Fanny E. Stanforth, of Cass county, Nebraska, who died October 15, 1882, at the age of twenty-eight years, leaving two children, Jessie M. and J. Elbert. He was again married September 1, 1886, his second union being with Miss Sarah J. Findley, by whom he has one child, Mildred F., born February 12, 1894.

Mr. Hanna belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp. He is a progressive citizen, distinctively a man of affairs and one who has wielded a wide influence. Since coming to Oskaloosa his success has been uniform and rapid. Justice has ever been maintained in his relation to patrons and employes and those who are in his service know that promotion will come in recognition of capability and loyalty. He has been watchful of all the details of his business and of all indications pointing toward prosperity and from the beginning has had an abiding faith in the ultimate success of his enterprise.

RALPH H. BURNSIDE.

Ralph H. Burnside, of Oskaloosa, was born in that city in 1870 and was a student in the public schools until he had graduated from the high school in 1887. At the age of seventeen years he entered the employ of his father, driving a team, and later he was made bookkeeper, acting in the latter capacity for a number of years, during which time he became familiar with the various offices of the business. In 1891 he was admitted to a partnership and upon the incorporation of the concern under the name of the Hawkeve Lumber Company was made general manager. This company is now operating extensively in lumber in Iowa, having eighteen different yards. In December, 1905, the Hawkeve Timber Company was organized and of this

Ralph H. Burnside also became general manager. He has been for the past four years a director in the Northwestern Retail Lumbermen's Association and in January, 1906, was elected president of that association at its annual meeting held in Minneapolis,

In 1893 Ralph H. Burnside was married to Miss Clara Snowden, who was born in Fairmount, West Virginia, in 1870, her parents being James E. and Catherine (Davis) Snowden. Her father was a minister of the Congregational church and in 1870 came to Oskaloosa, Iowa, as pastor of the first Congregational church here, while at the present time he is located at Cedar Falls, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Burnside have two children: Catherine, born in 1895; and Robert Snowden, in October, 1899.

The parents are members of the United Presbyterian church, in which Mr. Burnside is serving as treasurer and has also been superintendent of the Sunday-school for several years. He takes a very active interest in church and kindred work and for five years was president of the Young Men's Christian Association and has been one of its directors for fifteen years. He votes with the republican party but is without aspiration for office.

RIPLEY C. HOFFMAN, M. D.

Dr. Ripley C. Hoffman, successfully engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Oskaloosa, is a native of Hocking county, Ohio, born November 12, 1860, and a son of Dr. D. A. and Emily (Smith) Hoffman, both natives of Ohio. The son acquired his education in the public schools of Oskaloosa, having been brought by his parents to this city when but eleven months old. Having mastered the elementary branches of learning, he continued his studies in Penn College until he had reached the senior year. He then put aside his literary text-

books in order to take up the study of medicine in 1880, matriculating in Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated in 1883 and with the exception of two years spent in Salt Lake City he has practiced continuously in Oskaloosa in partnership with his father. He was graduated from Jefferson College with honors, and had the first honorable mention at the graduating exercises as ranking member of the class. For the past two years he has been vice-president of the alumni association of the college. He is a general practitioner and keeps well informed in all departments of the science of medicine and surgery. His high standard of professional ethics has won him the esteem and regard of his brethren of the medical fraternity. He belongs to the American Medical Association, the Des Moines Valley and the Mahaska County Medical Societies. He was a delegate to the Pan-American Medical Congress which met at Washington, D. C., in 1893.

Fraternally Dr. Hoffman is a prominent Mason and he also belongs to the Elks and Modern Woodmen of America. He is past commander of the Knights Templar commandery, which position he held for three years and he has been high priest of the chapter and illustrious master of the council. He has likewise been treasurer of the grand council since its organization in 1900 and has been representative to the grand council in Iowa from Oregon. He likewise belongs to the Mystic Shrine. He was made a Mason in 1882 in Tri Luminar lodge, No. 18, A. F. & A. M., at Oskaloosa and has become one of its strong representatives, ranking high in Masonic circles.

In June, 1892. Dr. Hoffman was married in Salt Lake City, Utah, to Miss Maud Crosby, a daughter of the late Judge Crosby, who died in California. Their children are Stuart S. and David R. Dr. Hoffman is a man of strong personality, of large physique and well proportioned and his physical prowess stands him

in good stead in his professional work, which is often of an arduous character, many demands being made upon him for his services. He has continually advanced in touch with the progress of the profession and is deeply interested in all that tends to promote the efficiency of the physician.

TRACY RIGGS.

Tracy Riggs, a farmer and contractor, whose life exemplifies the term "dignity of labor." has through earnest purpose won success in the business interests which claim his time and attention. He was born in the village of Chardon near Cleveland, Ohio, on the 6th of January, 1837. His father, Dwight Riggs, was a native of Connecticut, born May 12, 1807, and was married four times, his first union being with Susan Page, who died in Ohio. One child was born of that union, Sarah, who became the wife of Curtis Ives and was a resident of Wapello county, Iowa, where her death occurred September 4, 1896. For his second wife Dwight Riggs chose Clarissa Makepeace, who was born in New York, March 9, 1818. By trade Mr. Riggs was a machinist and following his removal to Iowa in 1842 he located in Mount Pleasant, where he worked at the machinist's trade, giving considerable time to the task of setting up woolen mills for the purpose of carding wool. He also constructed the first woolen mills in Quincy. Illinois. After living for a time in Mount Pleasant he removed to Des Moines county, Iowa, where he resided for a year and in 1852 he came to Mahaska county, settling at Union Mills, where he purchased and for twenty years operated the woolen, grist and carding mill at that place. This was one of the pioneer industries of the state and for a distance

of one hundred miles people brought wool to be carded by him. The wool was then made into varn through the operation of a hand loom and was woven into cloth. The mill which Mr. Riggs owned was built in 1849, and his connection with the industrial life of the state made him very widely known. He located in Iowa three years before its admission into the Union and in those early days the work of progress and improvement seemed scarcely begun, for there were great stretches of prairie land and also timbered tracts that gave no indication that a white man had ever visited them. Mr. Riggs of this review can remember going with his father to Agency when the Indians received their pay from the United States for the Iowa lands and has seen as many as three hundred red men at one time passing through Mount Pleasant. After operating his mill for a number of years Mr. Riggs purchased a farm in White Oak township, upon which he lived until the time of his death. His second wife, the mother of our subject, had passed away in Mount Pleasant on the 9th of October, 1841. There were three children by that marriage, namely: Tracy, of this review; Susan, who became the wife of Thomas Watson, of Stafford, Kansas, and died in the winter of 1905-6; and Carrie, who married George Wells and died in Oskaloosa thirty-eight years ago. For his third wife Mr. Riggs chose Mary E. Crandall, by whom he had two sons: Franklin, who was a soldier of the Civil war and died after its close; and Albert, who died November 6, 1898. The fourth wife of Mr. Riggs was Mrs. Mary Bridges, who is still living in Wright, Iowa. There were two children by that union: Hattie, now the wife of James Griggs, a resident of Cedar, Iowa; and Amy, the deceased wife of Carl Wendel, living in White Oak township. The father passed away in White Oak township at the very venerable age of eighty-one years and thus the county mourned the loss of one of its honored and rep-



TRACY RIGGS.



resentative pioneer men—one who had contributed in large measure to the early improvement of the state and who had aided in laying broad and deep the foundation for the present prosperity and upbuilding of Iowa.

Tracy Riggs was a youth of only five years when brought by his father to this state. He continued with him until twenty-three years of age and assisted him in his milling operations and in the farm labor. When a young lad he entered the common schools and afterward attended the high school at Mount Pleasant. Having mastered the milling business in principle and detail during his boyhood days, after leaving home he became proprietor of a inill at Union Mills, Iowa, which he owned and operated for twenty years. He then removed to a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Pleasant Grove township. This was all raw land, most of it being covered with timber and a log shanty constituted almost the entire improvement on the place. Mr. Riggs at once began its cultivation and development and in the course of a few years where once stood the tall forest trees were seen waving fields of grain, giving promise of rich and abundant harvests. As year after year passed he continued the work of the farm, bringing his land under a very high state of cultivation and he continued to make his home thereon until about two years ago, when he removed to New Sharon. He also built and operated a sawmill on his farm, continuing the work of manufacturing lumber there for several years. twenty years he has been engaged in building bridges in Mahaska county, which he constructs on contracts made with the board of supervisors. He formerly had contracts for building all of the county bridges but found that the amount of work required was too great for one man to handle and he is now bridge builder for the northern half of the county. Perhaps no man in the locality has greater appreciation of the value of the invention of the telephone than has Mr. Riggs, for he finds that it saves him many long drives, enabling him to superintend from almost any point the work of bridge building in its various stages. He has a private wire from his residence in New Sharon to the central office at Union Mills and from that point there is a mutual telephone service all over the eastern part of the county. Mr. Riggs was one of the promoters of the enterprise and aided in the construction of the first line. He favors every progressive movement that tends to prove of practical benefit along business, intellectual or moral lines, and he has wielded a wide influence, being pre-eminently a man of affairs. He still gives personal supervision to the bridge-building and does considerable work himself. He owns three good farms, comprising nearly two hundred acres of land, and his property interests are the visible evidence of a life of well directed energy and thrift.

On the 1st of July, 1860, Mr. Riggs was married to Miss Phoebe C. Carver, who was born in Terre-Haute, Indiana, May 24, 1842, a daughter of Pleasant and Mahala (Bodenhamer) Carver, the former born at Elizabethtown, Kentucky, May 10, 1819, and the latter in North Carolina, November 29, 1814. They came to Mahaska county, Iowa, in 1849, settling at Union Mills, where their remaining days were passed, Mr. Carver departing this life September 16, 1901, while his wife died at the age of forty-four years. For a long period he conducted a grocery store and was postmaster of Union Mills during the period of the Civil war. He also purchased a farm, upon which he made his home for some time. and he continued an active factor in business life until about five years prior to his death. when he lost his evesight. In his family were four children, namely: Mrs. Phoebe C. Riggs: Jerel, who is living in Oskaloosa; Mrs. Elizabeth Wymere, a resident of Colorado; and William, who died in Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1905. After losing his first wife Mr. Carver was again married, his second union being with Rachel Graham, who died at Union Mills, February 21, 1905. By that marriage there were born seven children, all of whom are living. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs has been blessed with nine children but three died in infancy. Those still living are: Addie, the wife of Newton Darling, a resident of Union township: Horace E., who is living on a part of the old home farm; Howard A., who makes his home on a farm of his own in Pleasant Grove township; Oscar O., a resident of Barnes City, Iowa; Walter H., a farmer of Pleasant Grove township; and Lucy, the wife of James Lemmon, also of Barnes City.

Two years ago Mr. Riggs removed to New Sharon, where he purchased a nice home, which he has painted and remodeled and converted it into a comfortable and attractive residence. In politics Mr. Riggs has always been a strong republican and for thirty years was a member of the township board of Pleasant Grove township. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, with which he has affiliated for a number of years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Riggs are enjoying good health and they have a pleasant and comfortable home, while by all who know them they are held in highest respect. Both are representatives of prominent old families connected with the county from pioneer times and they can well remember the early days when rattlesnakes and wolves were numerous and when various evidences of frontier life were to be seen. Their fathers used the flint and steel before matches were invented and candles were used before kerosene was placed upon the market. All of the clothing was homespun and the settlers were denied many of the comforts which are now deemed essential to life. Mr. Riggs rejoices in the changes which have occurred and has kept in touch with the trend of modern progress and improvement. He is a gentleman of genial disposition and pleasant manner and is an entertaining, companionable gentleman, whose reminiscences of pioneer life are most interesting.

JAY G. ROBERTS, M. D.

Dr. Jav G. Roberts, who in the practice of his profession is making a specialty of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, was born in Iroquois county, Illinois, on the 9th of August, 1874, a son of Sidney O. and Martha J. (Ramsey) Roberts, natives of Vermont and Illinois respectively. The father is a direct descendant of Roger Williams and his mother, who bore the maiden name of Louise Dver, was a direct descendant of Mary Dver, who was hanged on Boston Common for her belief in the religion of the Friends or Ouakers. Sidney O. Roberts became a captain in the Civil war, serving for four years as a member of the Ninth Illinois Cavalry, his rank coming to him in recognition of meritorious conduct on the field of battle. After the war he went to Illinois, recognizing the value of the prairie land, from which he developed a rich and productive farm, whereon he also carried on stock-raising. For many years his attention was given to agricultural pursuits, but about eight years ago he retired from active life with a very desirable competency and died April 16, 1905, at the age of sixty-four years. His widow still survives him. In their family were two sons and a daughter: Jay G.: Kay C., who is living in Kankakee, Illinois; and Grace, also a resident of Kankakee.

Dr. Roberts acquired his early education in the public schools of his native town and afterward attended Greer College at Hoopeston, Illinois, while subsequently he became a student in the department of pharmacy of the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, from which he won his degree of Ph. G. He like-

wise attended Rush Medical College, the medical department of the University of Chicago, and was graduated with the class of 1899. He took post-graduate work in the Chicago Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat College and before his graduation from Rush Medical he entered upon active practice in Chicago in 1898, having taken the state board examination in that year. In 1800 he located in Hastings, Nebraska, whence he returned to Chicago in 1903, and in 1904 he came to Oskaloosa, where he has since While in Hastings, although he practiced. engaged in general practice, he also devoted special attention to mental and nervous diseases and occupied the chair in the section of nervous and mental diseases in the Nebraska State Medical Society. He is the author of a number of valuable articles on different medical subjects including "Neurasthenia," which was read Lefore the Nebraska State Medical Society, May 8, 1901. He is also the author of a paper called "Autointoxication in Relation to Mental and Nervous Diseases," which was published in the American Medicine of Philadelphia and in the Philadelphia Medical Journal. He also read a paper before the Nebraska Pharmaceutical Society entitled "The Relation of Pharmacy to the Medical Profession." His writings have been received with favor, showing original investigation and deep thought, and their value has been recognized by the medical fraternity. He belongs to the Mahaska Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. Since coming to Oskaloosa he has devoted his attention exclusively to the eve, ear, nose and throat, and in the line of his specialty has met with constantly growing success viewed from both a professional and financial standpoint.

In 1902, Dr. Roberts was married to Miss Louise Carnehan, of Hastings, Nebraska, and they have one son. Gilbert J. They hold an enviable position in social circles of the city, having already won many warm friends here.

while the hospitality of their own home is greatly enjoyed by those who know them because of its undisputed sincerity and warm heartedness. Dr. Roberts belongs to the Masonic fraternity, but his attenion has been chiefly given to his professional duties, which are discharged with a sense of conscientious obligation. He ever keeps before him a high standard of perfection which he is continually striving to reach and, broadening his knowledge by research and investigation, he has been enabled to perform valuable service for his fellowmen in the line of his specialty.

JOHN H. PERRY.

John H. Perry, who for forty-one years has been engaged in the printing business in Oskaloosa, has in the course of an active career kept in touch with modern methods, for development has been as marked in the "art preservative" as in any line of business or professional activity. He has found in the work-a-day world incentive for earnest and persistent effort and upon the sure foundation of indefatigable labor has builded his success. Born in Zanesville, Ohio, on the 20th of February, 1848, he is a grandson of William Perry, who was born in Maryland and served as a soldier in the war of 1812. He came to Oskaloosa, Iowa, in 1860. and in this county as well as in former years followed the occupation of farming. He died in 1873, when eighty-five years of age. He had seven daughters and three sons, of whom the living are: William, of Chicago; and Emily, who is the widow of Henry Walker, also of that city.

Leroy S. and Sarah (Josselyn) Perry were natives of Ohio and the latter was a daughter of Ambrose Josselyn, who was a sailor on the high seas, making trips between New York and Enropean ports. He died in Zanesville, Ohio, in 1870, at the age of eighty years, while his widow, who in her maidenhood was Miss Adams, survived him for four years. Mr. and Mrs. Lerov Perry continued residents of Ohio until their son John was seven years of age, when in 1855, they removed to Oskaloosa, where the father followed the painter's trade. He died July 25, 1874, at the age of fifty-two years, while his widow, yet surviving him, makes her home in Seattle, Washington. In their family were eight children: John H.; A. M., a resident of San Francisco, California; C. M., of Oskaloosa; Ida M., the wife of John Keating, of Seattle, Washington; Mary, the wife of A. L. Kelsall, of Seattle; F. L., of the same city; and two who died in infancy.

John H. Perry acquired a limited education, for at an early age he entered business life. He learned the printer's trade and in 1865 entered the Herald office at Oskaloosa, remaining there for twenty years. In 1895 he established his present printing business and for forty-one vears he has been connected with the trade in this city. He is thoroughly conversant with the work in every department and is now enjoying a large trade as a job printer, turning out excellent work. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and in 1899 he was elected city assessor on the citizens' ticket for a term of four years and in the spring of 1905 was re-elected to that office on the republican ticket, so that he is the present incumbent, his re-election coming to him in recognition of his capable service during his first term.

On the 10th of June, 1885, Mr. Perry was married to Miss Jennie Rinard, a daughter of Henry and Sarah Rinard, natives of Indiana, and their children are: Leighton R. and John Walter. In 1871 Mr. Perry was made a member of Tri Luminar lodge, A. F. & A. M., and he has also taken the degrees of the Royal Arch chapter and of the Knights Templar commandery. He is recognized as a reliable business

man of Oskaloosa and a strong element in his success is that fact that he has continuously persevered in the department of labor in which he embarked as a young tradesman, thus gaining a thorough knowledge of the business in every department together with a proficiency which comes from long experience.

ROBERT BASS.

Robert Bass, a prosperous farmer and fruit-grower, of White Oak township, his property being on section 10 not far from the village of Rose Hill, is numbered among the worthy and honored pioneer settlers of Iowa. He came to the state in 1843 and since 1845 has lived in Mahaska county. Few residents have longer been witnesses of the development and progress of the county and at all times he has taken an active and helpful part in the work of advancement.

Mr. Bass was born in Boone, Kentucky, May 9, 1827. His father, William L. Bass, first opened his eyes to the light of day in the same state in 1802, representing one of the oldest families there. He was reared and married in his native locality, Miss Margaret Roberts becoming his wife. Her birth occurred in Kentucky in 1803. Mr. Bass followed farming in that state and subsequently removed to Bartholomew county, Indiana, where he opened up a tract of land, transforming it from a wild condition into one of rich fertility and productiveness. In 1843 he came to lowa with his family, settling in Van Buren county, and after two or three years he arrived in Mahaska county in 1845. Here he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government and developed a farm in Union township, spending his remaining days thereon, his death occurring in 1885, while his wife passed away in 1883. Both were more than eighty years of age at the



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time of their demise. They had long been worthy and honored pioneer residents of the county and as such certainly deserve mention in this volume.

Robert Bass was the eldest of the family of six sons and three daughters, all of whom reached mature years and three sons and three daughters are vet living. He came to Iowa when a young man of seventeen years and remained with his parents until he had attained his majority. He worked by the month as a farm hand for several years, first receiving ten dollars per month and later an increased wage. Saving his earnings, he was eventually enabled to purchase forty acres of land near Oskaloosa, and later he traded that property for two hundred acres of raw land in Adams township. paying thereon a difference of one hundred and twenty dollars. This he at once began to break, placing the fields under cultivation, and as the years passed by he carried on his farming operations with success. Choosing a companion and helpmate for life's journey, he was married in Mahaska county in 1863 to Miss Mary Ann Roberts. He continued farming thereafter for some years, or until his wife died, leaving two children. He had made a good farm, had fenced the place and built a comfortable dwelling and good barns. Eventually, however, he sold that property and bought a farm of eight hundred acres in Monroe township. Although in one tract this is practically three farms with three sets of buildings thereon.

On the 4th of July, 1865, Mr. Bass was married the second time, when Miss Martha J. Algood Lecame his wife. She was born in Montgomery county, Indiana, and is a daughter of John H. Algood, one of the early settlers of Iowa, arriving in this state about 1847. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bass have been born seven children and of this number six are yet living. By the first marriage there was a daughter and son: Rosa, now the wife of W. E. Stringer, of Mon-

roe county; and J. A. Bass, a farmer, of Pratt county, Kansas, who owns twelve hundred acres of land and is extensively engaged in raising stock. The children of the present marriage are: Mary B., the wife of W. E. Moore, a farmer, of Adams township, Mahaska county; Charles, who carries on farming in the same township; Frank, also living in Adams township; Nellie, who died at the age of ten months; R. W., who is engaged in the drug business in Monona county; Agnes, the wife of Frank Bacon, a resident farmer, of Adams township; and Paul T., who follows farming in Monroe township.

Mr. Bass has given to each of his children eighty acres of land, thus enabling them to start well in life. He was one of the organizers and stockholders of the Rose Hill Savings Bank, and is now its president. In 1902 he purchased a small farm near Rose Hill, where he now resides, and since locating here he has planted a nice orchard and much small fruit. He has repaired the buildings and improved the place and gives his time to keeping it in good condition and also to the cultivation of fruit. In former years he was very extensively engaged in farming and his labors brought to him a gratifying financial reward that enabled him to provide liberally for his children and now enables him largely to live retired, but he has a nature to which indolence and idleness are utterly foreign and he could not content himself without some business interest.

Mr. and Mrs. Bass are members of the Methodist Episcopal church in which he is serving as one of the officers, and they take a very active interest in church and Sunday-school work. In politics Mr. Bass has been a life-long democrat since casting his first presidential vote for Franklin Pierce in 1852. He was elected and served as justice of the peace, filling the office for several terms. He has also been township treasurer and for about twenty-five years has been a member of the school board. He has

served as a delegate to county and state conventions and he is never remiss in the duties of citizenship, but on the contrary is ever alert to public interests, doing all in his power for general progress. For sixty-one years he has lived in Mahaska county and has therefore been a witness of almost its entire growth and development. He has seen it opened up and improved as the white men have reclaimed the district for the uses of civilization and he has borne his full part in advancing the onward movement.

GEORGE H. CARLON.

George H. Carlon, one of the leading representatives of business interests in Oskaloosa, where he is engaged in contracting and building, also in the manufacture of paving and building cement and in the execution of contracts for the building of cement sidewalks and curbing, was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, July 20, 1850. The Carlon ancestors came to America from the north of Ireland. Robert Carlon, the grandfather of our subject, and three of his brothers crossing the Atlantic to the new world in colonial days. One of the number served in the Revolutionary war but later they became separated and nearly all trace of the family is lost. The White family is of Scotch descent and representatives of the name are now in Mercer county, Pennsylvania. George H. Carlon is a son of B. F. and Zenebia (White) Carlon, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The mother died when her son George was four years of age and the father with his family afterward removed to Monmouth, Illinois, where two years later he was married to Elizabeth Stubbs. He was a mechanic and builder and worked in various parts of the United States. His death occurred in 1902, when he was seventy years of age.

After attending the public schools in Monmouth, Illinois, George H. Carlon continued his studies in the Monmouth high school, and in early life he learned the trade of a machinist and engineer. He began as a builder in Monmouth and afterward followed that pursuit in Bloomington, Nebraska. In 1881 he came to Oskaloosa, where he continued his work as a builder and contractor. Here in 1884 he also began the manufacture of paving and building cement and has done a large business in paving the streets of Oskaloosa and other cities. He has also erected many buildings from cement blocks and up to the year 1906 he has contracts for building fifty miles of sidewalk in Oskaloosa alone and over twenty miles of curbing. He operates a cement block plant in Oskaloosa and as a manufacturer and contractor is doing an extensive and profitable business, his being one of the leading productive industries of the city.

On the 17th of March, 1874, occurred the marriage of Mr. Carlon and Miss Sarah Margaret Sweger, a daughter of Samuel Sweger, of Kirkwood, Illinois, who was a contractor and builder and died January 30, 1906, at the age of eighty-two years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Carlon have been born six children: Charles H., of Oskalocsa; Harry F., also of this city; Minnie, who died at the age of thirteen years; Trixie, who died at the age of four years; and Bessie F. and Nina R., both at home.

Mr. Carlon is a member of the Central Methodist Episcopal church. He belongs to Tri Luminar lodge No. 18, A. F. & A. M., having been made a Mason in November, 1873. He also holds membership with Hiram chapter, No. 6, R. A. M., and is a member of the Mystic Shrine. He belongs to the lodge and uniformed rank of the Knights of Pythias, has filled all of the chairs in the former and is a member of Commercial lodge, No. 128, I. O. O. F. A republican where national questions and issues are involved, he votes independent locally. He has

prospered in his business affairs and now has a pleasant home and a profitable, productive industry and as the years have gone by his life record has demonstrated the force and value of untiring effort, keen business discernment and of true worth of character.

JOHN L. SANDERS.

John L. Sanders, who is engaged in selling monuments for an Oskaloosa firm and makes his home in New Sharon, was born in Orange county, Indiana, on the 6th of December, 1845. his parents being Aaron and Naney (Hollowell) Sanders, both of whom were natives of North Carolina, the former born October 4. 1811, and the latter July 7, 1818. They were reared in the Old North state, where they married, after which they removed to Indiana, taking up their abode upon a farm in Orange county, where the death of Mrs. Sanders occurred June 26, 1855. In 1857 Mr. Sanders removed from Indiana to Marion county, Illinois, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until his life's labors were ended in death in November, 1881, when he was seventy years of age. He was born and reared in the south and was a stanch democrat, his sympathies being with the Confederacy during the Civil war but after the war he came to see plainly that the result was all for the best. In the family were nine children: Jonathan, who died on a farm in Marion county, Illinois, when forty-four years of age; Elwood, who was married and had a family and who died during the Civil war while serving as a member of Company H. Eightieth Illinois Infantry; Henry, who was also a member of the same company and died in February, 1905, at his home in Marion county, Illinois; Nancy and Myram, who died in childhood; Robert, who was a member of the Forty-ninth Illinois Infantry in the Civil war and died at the age of forty-nine years; John L., the seventh in order of birth; William, who is living on the old homestead; and Aaron, who died at the age of eighteen months.

John L. Sanders remained at home until after the outbreak of the Civil war. He was not old enough to enlist without his father's consent, being only fifteen years of age when the strife was begun. At two different times he tried to join the Union army but his father forced him to return home. On the 15th of December, 1863, however, just after he reached the age of eighteen years, he succeeded in joining Company E, Sixty-second Regiment of Illinois Infantry, under Captain L. L. Humphrey and continued with that command until honorably discharged for disability at Fort Gibson in the Indian Territory on the 30th of January, 1866. He was with the company in all of its service until he became ill in the winter of 1865-66 and for four weeks he was in the hospital before being sent home. He still suffers from the effects of his army service and the government now grants him a pension of fourteen dollars per month. He made a creditable military record and his undaunted patriotism was shown by the several attempts which he made to join the army, as well as by his service upon the field of battle. He now has his discharge papers framed together with pictures of himself and his officers.

When the war was over Mr. Sanders returned to his father's home in Marion county, Illinois, where he worked for three years on the farm. He was then married on the 23d of May, 1869, to Miss Ellen Quaintance, who was born in Ohio, April 26, 1848, a daughter of Joseph K. and Phoebe (Brewer) Quaintance, also natives of the Buckeye state, the father's birth having occurred April 25, 1812, and the mother's on the 24th of August, 1815. They came to Mahaska county in 1853, settling on a farm south of New Sharon. Later Mr. Quaintance sold that property and removed to Illinois

and it was while living there that his daughter Ellen formed the acquaintance of Mr. Sanders, to whom she gave her hand in marriage. On the 6th of September, 1869, Mr. and Mrs. Sanders, accompanied by her parents, started for New Sharon, driving across the country with teams and arriving at their destination on the 1st of October. There was but one railroad in the country at that time and the nearest station was Beacon south of Oskaloosa on the Des Moines Valley Railroad. Mr. and Mrs. Quaintance continued to reside in New Sharon until death, the former passing away January 28, 1871, and the latter dying at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sanders in New Sharon in 1896.

After coming to this county Mr. Sanders devoted his time and energies to farming for a number of years or until 1881, when he removed to the village of New Sharon and bought two lots, upon which he erected a residence. He then engaged in carpenter work, which he followed until a few years ago and since he has abandoned building operations he has been engaged in selling monuments for an Oskaloosa firm. About a year ago he sold his original home in New Sharon and purchased a residence nearer the center of the town.

Unto him and his wife have been born seven children: Laura, now the wife of William Briggs, living on a farm near New Sharon and by whom she has four children, Eva, Harry, Clara and Paul; Marion L., a graduate of the New Sharon schools and for one year a student in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, who is a Methodist minister at the south end of Puget Sound in Washington; Emma, who is teaching her eighth term in the primary department of the public schools of New Sharon; and Myrtle and Edna, who are telephone operators in New Sharon. The second and third members of the family died in infancy.

In politics Mr. Sanders has always been an earnest republican. He served for one term on the school board, for four years as street com-

missioner and has been village assessor, and was urged to accept the nomination for the city council but declined. He is a commission appointed to handle the soldiers' relief fund as he belongs to H. C. Leighton post, No. 199. A. R., in which he has held every office, no serving as chaplain. He also belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and both he and his wi are members of the Methodist Episcop church, their connection therewith antedating that of any other of its members, for all ha been called to their reward or removed els where, who were affiliated with the church the time they came to New Sharon. Mr. Sa ders is a well informed man, who has been great reader, and he has kept in touch with the trend of modern thought. He has not a enemy in the world to his knowledge and would be difficult to understand how any or could feel enmity toward him, because of h genial nature, his kind disposition and his co sideration for others. He has always been robust man until of late years and when he e tered the army at the age of eighteen years I weighed two hundred and two pounds. I has watched much of the county's growth as development, for there were only nine or to houses in New Sharon when he arrived he and there was no railroad in the village a though the Iowa Central was built soon after His wife remembers the wolves and deer which were in the county when her parents first can here in 1855. Both are held in the highest e teem, their friends being almost co-extensiwith the circle of their acquaintances.

LEWIS M. TOWNS.

Lewis M. Towns, residing on section I Spring Creek township, is one of the substanti farmers and stock-raisers of the county, he farm comprising two hundred and twenty-two



MR. AND MRS. L. M. TOWNS.



A resident of the county since 1858, he is well known within its borders. He was born in Harrison county, Missouri, December 23, 1857, and is a son of Levi Towns, whose birth occurred in Stark county, Ohio, in 1830. The grandfather, Israel Towns, was an early settler of Ohio and Levi Towns was reared in Stark county, where he remained until he went to Missouri in early manhood. He settled in Harrison county, where he engaged in teaching for several years. He was married in Missouri to Miss Rachel Connor, a native of that state and they remained residents of Missouri for several years thereafter. In 1857 they came to Iowa, settling in Mahaska county, where Mr. Towns secured a farm, then a tract of raw land, He had traded land in Missouri for one hundred and twenty acres here and with characteristic energy he began to clear and break the land, upon which he built a log house, beginning life in true pioneer style. For several years he lived in that cabin home, but afterward erected a substantial and modern frame dwelling. He also built two good barns and bought land from time to time thus extending the boundaries of the place until the farm now comprises two hundren and twenty-two acres, all of which has been placed under the plow, save a tract of forty teres of timber. Upon this farm Mr. Towns lost his wife in 1867. He is now residing with his son, Lewis, at the age of seventy-six years. He filled the office of township trustee for two or three terms, and was interested in all matters of general progress and improvement.

acres of land which is valuable and productive.

Lewis M. Towns is one of a family of four sons and three daughters, six of whom are yet living. He remained upon the farm with his father, receiving good educational privileges and has always resided upon the old homestead since coming to the county. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for him in his youth, but he has ever manifested a spirit of loyal and progressive cit-

izenship and of trustworthiness in business that makes his record a creditable one and worthy of emulation.

On the 16th of October, 1884, in Spring Creek township, Mr. Towns was married to Miss Maggie Martin, who was born in Pennsylvania and was reared in this state from girlhood days, being but eighteen months old when brought to Iowa by her father, W. S. Martin. who removed from Pennsylvania to Mahaska county and became a farmer of Spring Creek township. After his marriage Mr. Towns operated the home farm for a few years and then located on a tract of land in Monroe township, where he purchased one hundred and thirty acres of land. There he lived for ten years, carrying on general agricultural pursuits and further improving the property. He tiled the place and added modern equipments. Later, however, he purchased the old home farm and has built to and remodeled the house. He has also tiled the land and he uses the latest improved machinery in carrying on the work of the fields. This is a well developed farm property and in connection with the cultivation of erops he also engages in raising and feeding stock, fattening a carload or two of stock for the market each year besides a large number of hogs.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Towns have been born three sons and two daughters: Blanch and Beulah, twins, who are at home; Truman A.; Homer M.; and Paul C. Politically Mr. Towns is a stauch republican where national issues are involved, but at local elections, where only the capability of a candidate is to be considered, he casts an independent ballot. He has never desired or sought office but gives his time to his business. He has, however, served on the school board. Both he and his wife, are members of the Oskaloosa United Presbyterian church and enjoy the warm esteem of all that class of citizens who have due regard for all that is upright and honorable in life. Brought

to the county when only a year old, Mr. Towns has since resided within its borders, and has long been accounted one of its progressive and prosperous farmers.

MRS. AMELIA S. (BAER) WILSON.

Mrs. Amelia S. (Baer) Wilson is one of the oldest citizens of Mahaska county in years of continuous connection with this section of the state, having for more than six decades been a resident of Iowa. She now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Harry W. Seevers, in Oskaloosa. She was born in Rockville, Indiana, September 17, 1841, and is a daughter of George and Elizabeth Baer, who in 1844 removed from the Hoosier state to Iowa, settling in Oskaloosa. It was the pioneer period in the history of the county when the work of improvement and development seemed scarcely begun. Mr. Baer did considerable trading in furs with the Indians and because of his prominence in business life they called him the chief of the town. They would ride into Oskaloosa in great numbers and camp on the hill near the present site of Dr. Leener's home. At that time there was quite a grove of crab apple and plum trees on the hill. The Indians would make their way to the home of Mr. Baer and stack their guns—a method which they used to show that their visit was a peaceful one. At night they would hold a war dance in the old courthouse. After trading and begging around for several days they would all go for their guns and ride away yelling and shooting their arrows into the air, frightening the children half to death and eausing not a little terror to some of the older people. After a few years had passed, however, one seldom saw an Indian in the town.

Amid such surroundings Amelia S. Baer spent her girlhood days and in the fall of 1858 she gave her hand in marriage to Rezin Wilson.

the wedding ceremony being performed by the Rev. W. F. Cowles. Her husband was a member of the firm of Dixon & Wilson, saddlers of Oskaloosa. Unto this marriage were born four children: George W., who is now living in Clinton, Iowa; Harry R., deceased; Stella M., the wife of Harry W. Seevers, a real-estate dealer of Oskaloosa; and Lena E., the wife of Leslie E. Dewey, who are residents of this city. Since the death of her husband, in July, 1891, Mrs. Wilson has made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Harry Seevers, at No. 836 East High avenue in Oskaloosa. Almost sixty-three years have passed since she came to this county and her mind forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present, while upon memory's wall hangs many pictures of those early days with their pioneer experiences and frontier environments.

THOMAS C. BEACH.

Thomas C. Beach, a retired farmer living in Oskaloosa, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Jacksonville, January 11, 1832. His parents were Caleb and Mary Ann (Hewett) Beach, the former born in Newark, New Jersey, in 1803, and the latter in New York city, in 1807. Mrs. Beach was the daughter of English parents, who first located in New York city and finally removed to Lexington, Ken-Her father was the Rev. John M. Hewett, a Baptist minister. Her mother was a member of the Christian church and became one of the first representatives of that denomination, having had the distinction of being baptized by Mexander Campbell, the founder of the church. Caleb Beach removed from New Jersey to Lexington, Kentucky, where he resided for five years, during which time he was married. He afterward came to Illinois, settling in Jacksonville, where his remaining days

were passed. He was a carriage-maker by trade and always followed that pursuit in order to provide for his family. His death occurred in 1838, when he was only thirty-three years of age. His wife long survived him and died about 1800. In their family were five children: Eliza G., Augustus H. and Middleton H., all deceased; Thomas C., of this review, and Robert C., who is an attorney at law, practicing in Oakland, California. After losing her first linsband Mrs. Beach became the wife of Joseph Campbell and they had six children, namely: Susan M., who has passed away; Sally F., the wife of John Allen, a minister of the Christian church at Spokane, Washington: Emma C., the widow of John M. Ewing and a resident of Jacksonville, Illinois; Ella, Johanna and Mary Belle, all deceased.

Thomas C. Beach attended the district schools of Illinois and was reared on a farm after reaching the age of ten years. He came to Iowa in 1853, settling in Richland township, Mahaska county. He was then twenty-one years of age. The occupation to which he had been reared he determined to make his life work and he here purchased and entered land, upon which he remained for thirteen years, transforming it into a good farm. He next bought a farm four and a half miles northwest of Oskaloosa in what is now Garfield township, residing thereon until 1902 when he retired to the county seat, where he now resides in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. In his farm work he was always practical and his labors brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and enabled him to gather therefrom rich harvests.

On April 17, 1853, Mr. Beach was married to Miss Martha Campbell, who was born in Scott county, Illinois, June 3, 1833, and died February 3, 1904. She was a daughter of Joseph and Sophia (Kennedy) Campbell. Her father was a cabinet-maker and later a farmer. Mrs. Beach belonged to the Christian church

and was a most estimable lady, having the warm regard of many friends. By her marriage she had, become the mother of five children: Mark W., a farmer living in Spring Creek township, this county; Luke L., deceased; Thomas C., living on the old homestead farm; Joseph C., who resides in Spring Creek township; and Mary E., at home.

Mr. Beach, who was made a Mason about 1860, has attained high rank in the order and is a member of the Mystic Shrine. He has long been recognized as an active member of the republican party, whose opinions carry weight in its local councils, while his labors in its behalf have been effective and far reaching. He was justice of the peace for six years and was a member of the fifteenth general assembly. After an interval of a number of years he was again called to that office, representing Mahaska county in the twenty-fourth general assembly. He was interested in much constructive legislation and each question which came up for settlement received his earnest consideration, while his support of every measure for which he voted was that of a public-spirited citizen who places the welfare of the commonwealth before partisan measures and the general good before self-advancement.

CHARLES LLOYD BARNHOUSE.

Charles Lloyd Barnhouse, who in 1888 began publishing music for bands and orchestras and has since continued the business, having for fifteen years been located in Oskaloosa, where his trade has been increasing from year to year, was born in Grafton, West Virginia, in 1865. His father, George R. Barnhouse, was a native of Marion county, West Virginia, and was a railroad machinist or blacksmith in the railroad shops. He came of German descent and displayed many of the sterling characteristics of his ancestors from the fatherland. Dur-

ing the Civil war he was in the government employ as a farrier and blacksmith. At one time he lived in Illinois, but afterward returned to West Virginia. Subsequently, however, he again went to Illinois, settling in Aurora, where he was employed in the railroad shops up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1901, when he was fifty-seven years of age. He had membership in the Methodist Protestant church and was an ardent republican, unfaltering in his support of the principles of the party. He married Harriet S. Davis, who was also born in Marion county, West Virginia, and who is now living in Oskaloosa at the age of fifty-seven years. She, too, is a member of the Methodist Prostestant church. In their family were two sons and two daughters: Charles Lloyd; Lillie C., now deceased; Daisy C., the wife of John W. Tibbs; and Herbert W., a music printer residing in Oskaloosa.

Charles L. Barnhouse pursued his early education in the schools of Grafton, West Virginia, and early manifested much musical taste and talent. He became an expert cornet player and went upon the road with a theatrical company, being thus engaged for about three years. He afterward had charge of the band at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, for three years and at Burlington, Iowa, for one year. In 1891 he came to Oskaloosa and took charge of the Iowa Brigade Band, of which he was leader for fifteen years. In the meantime, in 1888, he had begun publishing music for bands, orchestras and miscellaneous musical organizations. entered upon this work at Mount Pleasant and continued in the business in Burlington and Oskaloosa. He now has a well equipped printing plant and is conducting a successful business, which is increasing from year to year. His musical publications are in demand in all parts of the world and he has a large trade throughout the United States and Canada. His own compositions and his arrangements of music are for bands and orchestras.

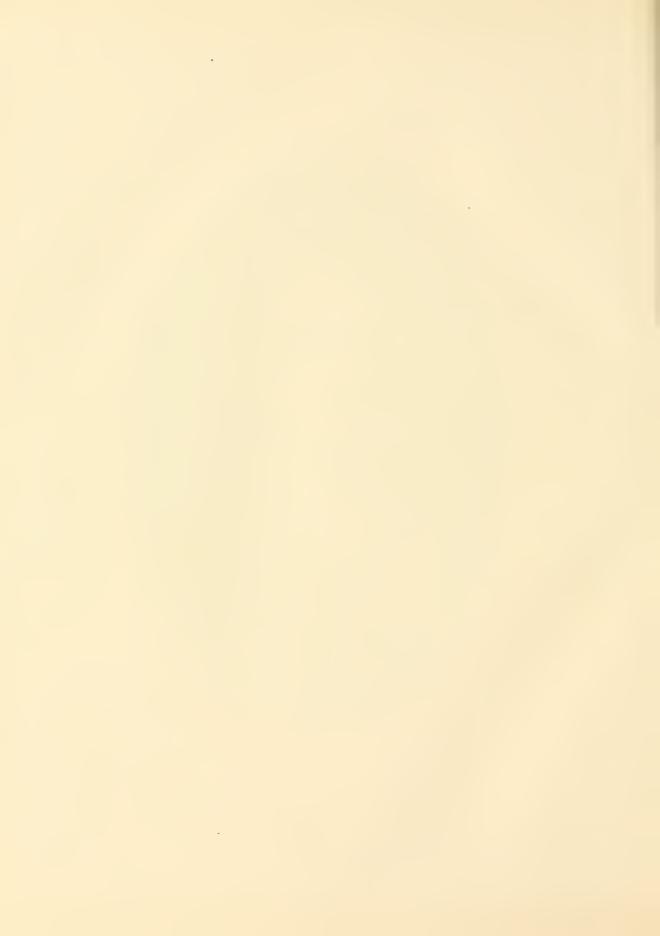
In 1886 Mr. Barnhouse was married to Miss Josephine B. Scott, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1868 and was a daughter of J. H. and Mary E. (Hare) Scott. In the family are four children: Jamie M., Lloyd, Dorothy and Irene. The parents are members of the Congregational church and Mr. Barnhouse belongs to the Masonic, Knights of Pythias and Elks lodges. He is serving as a member of the board of trustees of his church and is interested in its progress and also in the work of the different fraternal organizations with which he is connected. In politics he is a republican. His thorough understanding of the art of music and his love therefor combined with native talent has enabled him to give to the world many interesting productions of this character and his business both as a composer and publisher is proving profitable and gratifying.

GEORGE H. RAMSAY.

George H. Ramsav, of Oskaloosa, engaged in the development of rich coal fields of Mahaska county, is a native of the north of England, his birth having occurred in County Durham on the 29th of December, 1844, his parents being William and Ann (Heckels) Ramsay, who were also natives of England. The paternal grandfather, William Ramsay, was a coal miner, who spent his entire life in his native country. The maternal grandfather, Richard Heckels, was manager of mines in England. William Ramsay, Jr., father of our subject, was also manager of a mine and died when his son George was but eight years of age, he having at that time reached the age of forty-five vears. Following the death of her husband Mrs. Ramsav came to the United States with her family of seven children, making her way to Illinois in 1863, at which time George H. Ramsay was eighteen years of age. The fam-



GEORGE H. RAMSAY.



ily home was established in Morris, Illinois, and the mother's death occurred in Streator, that state, in 1875, when she was fifty-eight years of age. Only two of the children are now living, namely, George H. and John, both residents of Oskaloosa. The others were: William T., who was a manager of mines in Oskaloosa; Richard, a mine manager of Braceville, Illinois; Joseph, who was a coal operator of Des Moines; Margaret, the deceased wife of Richard Waters, of Davenport, Iowa; and Mary Ann, the deceased wife of Newick Longstaff, of Oskaloosa.

Mr. Ramsay of this review largely acquired his education in night schools. Like the others of the family, through several generations, his life work has been largely in connection with the development of the coal fields. He began work in the mines when only ten years of age, being thus employed in England until he came to America with his mother at the age of eighteen years. He spent four years in Morris, Illinois, after which he removed to Pekin, later to Coal Valley, subsequently to Streator and afterward to Braidwood, being engaged in coal mining at those various places. He next came to Iowa and spent five years in Monroe county as manager of mining interests at Albia, Iowa, acting as assistant superintendent under Mr. Whiteman in the Excelsior mines. He continued with that company for sixteen years. when, in 1893, he began business for himself, opening mines at Beacon, Iowa, under the name of the Garfield Coal Company. He has since operated at Evans, Iowa, opening different mines, which have proved successful. Mr. Ramsav is still the active manager of the business and is associated in the conduct of the mines with his two sons, William C. and John His mining ventures have proved very profitable and are now bringing him a large measure of success.

In December, 1868, Mr. Ramsay was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Caswell, a daughter of Robert Caswell, of Coal Valley, Illinois, and their children are: William C. and John H., both of Oskaloosa; Ann, the wife of Frank Ewing, of this city; Elizabeth; Estella; Margaret; Dorothea; Clara; Robert; and Roy.

Mr. Ramsay has for thirty-four years been a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, having become a member in Braidwood, Illinois. He is a man of generous impulses, in whom the poor and needy find a friend and all those who are worthy of assistance. He does not believe in indiscriminate giving which fosters idleness or vagrancy but is quick to notice a faithful service on the part of an employe and to reward it as opportunity offers. He is spoken of as a good substantial citizen and he has led a life worthy the respect and esteem which are uniformly accorded him. He may well be called a self-made man and in this country where labor is unhampered by caste or class he has steadily worked his way upward, enjoying the advantages which come through earnest, persistent effort and the success which is ever the reward of diligence when guided by sound judgment.

LUCIUS RANDALL ROSEBROOK.

Lucius Randall Rosebrook, who in 1894 became a resident of Oskaloosa, where he is now engaged in the coal trade, was born in Lancaster, New Hampshire, March 7, 1848. His father, Lucius Mitchell Rosebrook, was a son of Eleazer Rosebrook, who served as a captain in Whiteomb's Rangers in the Revolutionary war and rendered valuable aid to the cause of independence. The family was founded in New Hampshire in 1687 and the ancestors were either of Irish or Norman French blood. Through many generations representatives of the name remained in the old granite state, contributing to its material, intellectual and moral

progress. Lucius M. Rosebrook erected the first house ever built on the summit of Mount Washington, the famous White Mountain resort, while his wife was the first woman to ever cook a meal there. He also had charge of the construction work of the railway between Boston and Worcester, Massachusetts, which was the first railway line built in the United States. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Perkins, was also a representative of an old New England pioneer family, and her grandfather was a soldier of the Continental Army and fought in the battle of Bunker Hill. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lucius M. Rosebrook were born the following named sons and daughters: Freeman D., who is in the United States mail service and makes his home in Chicago; Lucius R.; Mary, the wife of Charles Ackert, of Dixon, Illinois; Anda L., the wife of Matthew Ackert, also a resident of Dixon, Illinois; Hettie E., the wife of A. A. Williams, who is living in Manson, Iowa; and Emma J., the wife of J. F. Holly, of Lorimor, Iowa.

Lucius R. Rosebrook spent the first six years of his life in the state of his nativity and in 1854 accompanied his parents on their removal to Dixon, Illinois, where he was reared and educated. He came to Iowa in 1879, settling first in Marion county, where he engaged in the grain business. He afterward turned his attention to the coal trade in 1882 and in 1885 removed from Marion county to Ottumwa, Iowa, and in 1894 came to Mahaska county, since which time he has lived in Oskaloosa and has here continued in the coal trade, having now a large and profitable business, which he has secured by reason of his earnest desire to please his patrons, his straightforward dealing and his reasonable prices.

Mr. Rosebrook was married, October 25, 1869, to Miss Fannie L. Smith, of Harmon, Illinois, and their children are Lillie B., Edith M., Jessie M., Fay S., May J., Grace L., Harry H., Pearl H., Freeman D. and Frank S. For

his second wife Mr. Rosebrook chose Mary A. Mechem, of Dixon, Illinois.

Mr. Rosebrook has considerable talent as an amateur carver and sculptor. He cut with a pocket knife out of Indian pipestone in relief an allegorical entitled "A Square Deal," representing capital and labor. It is a remarkable work, in which the figures of capital and labor are held in scales in equilibrium. He began this work fourteen years ago and recently he has added the busts of President Roosevelt and Governor Cummings to the group, which is unique in design and interesting to the highest degree. He has certainly displayed exceptional talent in the art of wood carving and sculpture, his work attracting much more than local notice and display high artistic taste. In his business life he has manifested the strong purpose and indefatigable energy which always attain results and he is now conducting a good business in his adopted city. He was made a Mason in Warren county and has since attained to the Knight Templar degree, being a member of De Pavens commandery.

JOHN P. WHITE.

John P. White, president of district No. 13, of the United Mine Workers of America, residing in Oskaloosa, was born in Coal Valley, Rock Island county, Illinois, February 28, 1870. His father, Joseph White, was born in Ireland and about 1855 crossed the Atlantic to the United States, locating in Rock Island county, where he was in the railroad employ. He was a member of the Catholic church and he voted with the democracy. He married Catherine Burns, also born in Ireland. His death occurred in 1873, when he was fifty-five years of age and he is still survived by his widow, who has reached the age of seventy-six years and makes her home with her son John.

She, too, is a communicant of the Catholic church. In their family were seven children: Mary, now deceased: James B., a coal miner living in Appanoose county, Iowa; Thomas J., a mechanic at Pekay, Iowa; Anna, who is twin sister of Thomas and the wife of James D. Martin, a farmer of Monroe county, lowa; Joseph, who lost his life in the coal mines in Lucas county, Iowa, at the age of nineteen years; Mary Ellen, the wife of John J. Brown, a miner at White City, Mahaska county; and John P.

In the public schools of his native town John P. White began his education, which was continued in the schools at Lucas, Iowa. He went into the coal mines at the age of fifteen years at that point and remained at Lucas until 1899, going to Oskaloosa the following year to make his home, having been elected to the office of secretary and treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America, district No. 13, in August, 1889. Early in his connection with mining interests he had come to realize the necessity of the miners being banded together for mutual protection and for the advancement of their interests, for wealthy owners had every opportunity, if unscrupulous, to exercise oppressive measures. He became an active member in the United Mine Workers of America and has since been identified therewith. In 1904 he was elected president of district No. 13, and has his headquarters at No. 105 High street west. This district covers the state of Iowa and also Putnam county, Missouri. His field of work is therefore a large one and of more than ordinary importance. He has been a most active and earnest worker in the order and is a man of fine presence, who is largely self-educated and self-made but who has made steady advancement throughout his entire life both in the lines of business success and of mental improvement. He is an organizer of marked ability and has the quality that attracts friends from all classes.

In 1801 Mr. White was married to Miss Ida Berthold, who was born in Burlington, Iowa, in 1872, a daughter of Gottlieb and Anna Berthold, the father of bookkeeper for the White Breast Fuel Company. Mr. and Mrs. White have five children: Thomas, Paul, Marie, Gladys and Mildred, all of whom are now living with the exception of Gladys. The parents are members of the Catholic church and Mr. White is a stalwart democrat in his political views and affiliation. He belongs to the Foresters of America as well as to the organization in which he has taken such an active and prominent part until his worth and ability have won recognition in his election to the presidency of the district.

WILLIAM BULLERS.

William Bullers, proprietor of a photographic studio in Oskaloosa, is a native of Port Carbon, Pennsylvania, born December 31, 1855. His parents, John and Jane (Ferguson) Bullers, are natives of England and Nova Scotia respectively and largely spent their married life in Pennsylvania, although the father passed his boyhood days in New Jersey, having come with his mother to this country when two years of age. He was a coal miner and during his residence in the Keystone state largely made his home in Schuylkill county but later in life came to Iowa, settling in Whatcheer, where he died in 1883, at the age of fifty-two years. His widow is vet living. In their family were six children, of whom the five surviving are: Ann. the wife of Thomas Walls, of Oskaloosa; Sarah J., the wife of Charles Bacon, of Mahaska county; Mary, the wife of James Cochran, of Garfield township, Mahaska county; Samuel. of Hamilton, Iowa: and William. One son, John, died at the age of sixteen years.

William Bullers received but a limited education and when only seven years of age started

out to earn his own living by picking slate in the coal breaker, after which he had only the advantages of a night school. He continued to work in the mines in different capacities and when twenty-one years of age came to Iowa, arriving at Delta on the 20th of April, 1877. He was employed in the mines at Whatcheer for three years and at the end of that time began photographic work on a small scale. He remained at Whatcheer and eventually was conducting a regular photographic gallery. In 1893 he removed to Oskaloosa, locating on High street west, and on the 26th of September, 1806, came to his present location on Market street, since which time he has done an excellent business in photography, being thoroughly familiar with all of the latest processes of design and finish. He has made a study of outdoor work and has attained a high degree of proficiency in this department of photographic art, having a keen, personal appreciation of light and color and form, so that he has produced excellent results.

On the 22d of June, 1882, Mr. Bullers was married to Miss Mary L. Gruber, a native of Ohio, living in Whatcheer, Iowa, at the time of their marriage. They have four children, William G., Perry F., John L., and Thomas C. They have gained many friends during the period of their residence in Ośkaloosa, where they are now widely and favorably known.

WILLIAM W. EBY.

William W. Eby, filling the office of county treasurer, in which position he has served continuously since 1899, discharging his duties with a promptness and fidelity that has led to his re-election, was born in Richland county, Ohio, in July, 1842. His parents were Jackson and Barbara Eby, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The father's birth oc-

curred in the year 1815 and the mother first opened her eyes to the light of day in December, 1821. In early life Jackson Eby learned the miller's trade, which he followed for a number of years and in 1832 he left Pennsylvania for Ohio, where in 1837 he purchased a farm. The following year he built a flour and saw mill on that place and was there engaged in the manufacture of lumber and flour in addition to tilling the soil and improving his fields.

William W. Eby began his education in the public schools of Richland county. Ohio, but put aside his text-books when quite young, for he was only seventeen years of age when he left the schoolroom in order to enter the military service of his country. He joined the army at the age of eighteen in October. 1861, becoming a member of the boys in blue of Company C, Sixty-fourth Regiment of Ohio Volunteers. This was an infantry command and he was on active duty with his company until he was wounded in battle on the 31st of December, 1862. In March, 1863, because of his injuries, he received an honorable discharge.

Returning to his home William W. Eby resumed work upon his father's farm and was thus employed until September, 1868. He was an only son and much of the labor of the farm devolved upon him. His early privileges were quite limited, but in later years he has made the most of his opportunities and in the school of experience has learned many valuable lessons, while through his earnest labor and perseverance he has won a comfortable competence. His training at farm labor was not meager and he early became familiar with the best methods of caring for the fields and cultivating the crops.

In November, 1865, he sought and won a companion and helpmate for life's journey, being united in marriage to Catherine T. Richie. He took his bride to the home farm and was



W. W. EBY.



engaged in general agricultural pursuits until 1868, when because of ill health, caused by his army service, he was forced to abandon that work. Removing to Noble county, Indiana, he there engaged in the lumber business, conducting his vard for thirteen years with excellent success. At length, however, he sold out there and in the spring of 1882 came to Iowa, where he has since made his home. He located in Oskaloosa and worked at the carpenter's trade until January, 1890. In that vear he accepted a position in the courthouse, being under Charles V. Hoffmann, who was then county treasurer. He filled a clerical position in the office until 1893. He afterward served for four years under Mitchell Wilson, filling the position from 1894 until 1898. In 1899 he was elected to the office of treasurer and his previous experience as deputy well qualified him for the discharge of the duties of this position. He has been in office continuonsly since, now serving for the third term, his re-election coming to him in recognition of his ability and loyalty to the trust reposed in him. He is a stalwart republican, having always stanchly supported the party which was the defense of the Union during the dark days of the Civil war and which has always been the party of reform, progress and improvement.

A man of strong domestic tastes, Mr. Eby is devoted to his home and family and finds his greatest delight at his own fireside. When not busy with the duties of his position he may usually be found in his own home. Unto him and his wife has been born but one child, Edith Eby, who is now the wife of H. E. Runyon. They were married in 1888, are now residents of Des Moines, Iowa, and have three children: Erma, Leta and Iola Runyon. The father is manager of the C. C. Prountry Grocer Company at Des Moines.

Mr. Eby maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic, belonging to the post at Oskaloosa, which he joined in the winter of 1883. In 1903 he became a member of the Masonic fraternity. He has for forty years been a devoted member of the Presbyterian church and during thirty years of this time has been one of its office holders, acting for a long period as ruling elder. His life has been honorable and upright, characterized by devotion to public and private duty and as a citizen he is today as loyal to his country as when he followed the stars and stripes upon the battle-fields of the south.

HON. A. J. JEWELL.

Hon. A. J. Jewell, who is proprietor of the Elmwood farm, a well known and valuable property of one hundred acres, is numbered among the old citizens of the county, having lived in this part of the state since the fall of 1855. He is now successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits and is also an active factor in public life. At one time he represented his district in the state legislature and has on various occasions been a valued factor in support of progressive, public movements.

Mr. Jewell was born in Ohio, February 14, 1830, and is a son of Stephen Jewell, a native of Pennsylvania and a son of Jonathan Jewell, who was born in New Jersey. The paternal grandfather was a Revolutionary soldier for seven years and the Jewell family comes of English ancestry, having been established in New Jersey at an early period in the colonization of the new world. Jonathan Jewell removed from New Jersey to Pennsylvania and afterward became one of the early settlers of Licking county, Ohio, taking up his abode in the midst of the forest, where he cleared and developed a farm. Stephen Jewell was married

in Pennsylvania to Elizabeth Martin, a native of the Keystone state. Mr. Jewell was a farmer of Ohio and there reared his family, spending his life there, his death occurring about 1868. His wife had died some years before and he was married a second time.

A. J. Jewell was reared in Licking county. He was given good school advantages, attending common schools and afterward Martinsburg College. He learned the carpenter's and joiner's trade in early life and afterward carried on business as a contractor and builder for three years. Ambitious and energetic to win success he accordingly embraced every opportunity for honorable advancement.

Mr. Jewell was married near Martinsburg, Ohio, in 1855, to Miss Jane Wilson, a native of Licking county and a daughter of Robert Wilson. Following their marriage they removed to Iowa, settling in Oskaloosa, where Mr. Jewell was connected with building operations for a time. His first contract was for the building of a barn for Dan Nelson in the winter of 1855-56. He continued in business as a contractor and builder for several years but eventually bought a farm near Oskaloosa, locating thereon and began the improvement and development of the land, at the same time carrying on building pursuits. While living upon that farm he lost his first wife. Later he sold the property and purchased where he now resides. He fenced the place, erected a good dwelling and barn and has brought the farm under a high state of cultivation. 1860 he returned to Ohio and resided there for two and a half years, during which time he volunteered to serve with others in the protection of Cincinnati, which was threatened by an invasion of the rebels. His company was called the Squirrel Hunters and numbered some twenty thousand men. They were in the service for about a month and were then discharged. Later Mr. Jewell returned to his farm in Mahaska county and has since given his attention to general agricultural pursuits. He has one hundred acres of rich and productive land, situated on section 22, Spring Creek township, known as the Elmwood farm. Here in connection with his son, P. J. Jewell, he is engaged in the raising and breeding of stock and both are men of good business ability, who are meeting with success in their undertakings.

By his first marriage Mr. Jewell had one son, Charles Jewell, who is married and resides in Utica, Ohio, where he is engaged in the hardware business. For his second wife A. J. Jewell chose Maria Williamson, who was born in Ohio but was reared in Iowa. death occurred upon the home farm in Spring Creek township, October 22, 1896. By this marriage there were two children who reached adult age. Pliny A. Jewell, who was married in Mahaska county in 1884 to Etta Mitchell, who was born and reared here and is now engaged in farming and stock-raising with his father. The daughter, Ada, became the wife of W. L. Campbell and died, leaving one son. On the 1st of March, 1898, Mr. Jewell was married to Nellie Kennedy, a native of Lee county, Iowa, and a daughter of Josiah Kennedy, one of the early settlers of the state. He married Julia Ann Scott, the first white child born in Scott county, Illinois.

Politically Mr. Jewell was reared a democrat and cast his first presidential ballot for Franklin Pierce in 1852. His next vote, however, supported John C. Fremont, the first republican candidate in 1856, and he voted for each nominee at the head of the republican ticket since that time, being in hearty sympathy with the principles and policy of the party. He has been called to various local offices and in 1889 he was elected representative from his district to the state legislature, serving in the house for one term, during which time he was a member of numerous important committees, discharging the duties of his position with credit and distinction. He was at one time a member of the

United Presbyterian church, but now belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. One of the well known men of Mahaska county, he has resided here for a half century, and has aided materially in its upbuilding and progress. He is regarded as one of the public-spirited men and has wielded a wide influence, his efforts ever standing for right, progress and improvement. His wife is a lady of cultured and refined tastes and gives excellent supervision to her attractive home. Mr. Jewell has now passed the seventy-fifth milestone on life's journey and at all times has commanded the respect and esteem of his fellowmen and is today accounted one of the representative citizens of his community.

EDWIN PERRY.

Edwin Perry, secretary of district No. 13. United Mine Workers of America and also president of the board of education in Oskaloosa, to which position he was elected by the largest vote ever given to a candidate for the office, is a native son of Wales. He was born on the 17th of November, 1854, his parents being Robert and Elizabeth (Roberts) Perry, the former a native of England and the latter of Wales. The father was a coal miner and died in 1860 at the age of thirty-two years. The mother came to the United States with her three children in 1869 and her death occurred in Pennsylvania in 1875, when she was fortytwo years of age. Both Mr. and Mrs. Perry were members of the Welsh Presbyterian church. Of their children George and Mary are now deceased, leaving Edwin Perry the only surviving representative of that marriage. After the death of her first husband Mrs. Perry married again, becoming the wife of John Hughes, a coal miner, and unto them were born seven children: Ed T., Jesse, Mary E., Robert, Llewellyn W., one who died in infancy and Sarah.

In early boyhood Edwin Perry attended the common schools of the little rock-ribbed country in which he was born, but when only ten years of age he went into the coal mines of Wales and in 1869 he came to the United States with his mother, settling in Shenandoah, Pennsylvania, where he entered the anthracite mines, being thus employed for seven years. In 1876 he came to Oskaloosa and for some time his principal occupation was coal mining. He was, however, for five years in the employ of the Oskaloosa Gas and Electric Light Company as foreman of the plant and secretary and superintendent of the company. He then returned to the mines and was identified with the work until 1902, when he became an officer of district No. 13, United Mine Workers of He was chosen vice-president of the organization and in the fall of the same year was elected president, while at this writing he is secretary and treasurer, having filled the last named position since April 1, 1904.

In 1877 Mr. Perry was married to Miss Anna A. Rouse, who was born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, in 1861, and was a daughter of George and Mary Ann (Casey) Rouse, the father a brick mason by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Perry have become the parents of seven children: Nellie, now the wife of Jay Minard, a farmer living near New Sharon, Iowa: Jessie R., the wife of Albert Meadows, a coal operator at Ottumwa, Iowa; Wilfred H. and Edwin, both deceased; Ethel, employed by the Home Telephone Company in Oskaloosa; Lyle, a student in school; and Gwendolyn. Mrs. Perry belongs to the church of the Latter Day Saints. Mr. Perry is identified with the Knights of Pythias and the Foresters of America. In politics he is a republican and is influential and active in the local ranks of the party. He has been clerk of Oskaloosa township and

has served on the Oskaloosa school board for three years, acting as president of the board during the last year. He had the distinction of receiving the largest vote ever cast for a candidate for a city office in Oskaloosa, for out of about fourteen hundred votes he received twelve hundred, a fact which indicates his personal popularity as well as the confidence displayed in his powers to work effectively and earnestly for the school interests of the city.

DAVID KISOR.

David Kisor, deceased, was for many years a respected and valued resident of Mahaska county, where he followed agricultural pursuits. He was born in Knox county, Ohio, July 2, 1822, his parents being John and Elizabeth (Bolton) Kisor, who were natives of Virginia and were of German descent. David Kisor spent his youth upon the old home farm in Ohio and received but limited educational privileges, for the schools were in a primitive condition and his aid was needed in the farm work. He was married June 6, 1850, to Miss Margaret Braddock, who was born in Knox county, Ohio, July 22, 1828, and was a daughter of William and Nancy A. (Cathers) Braddock, both of whom were natives of Virginia.

In the fall of 1850 Mr. Kisor and his wife came to Mahaska county, driving across the country with teams from Ohio, twenty-six days being spent in accomplishing the trip. They passed the first winter in their little cabin where coal banks are now located. In February, 1851, Mr. Kisor purchased a claim of one hundred and sixty acres and traded eighty acres of it for the eighty acres in what became his old homestead. It was upon this farm that he made his home until his death and his widow has lived here continuously for about fifty-five years. The farm was covered with a brush

thicket when he took possession of it and a log cabin had been built, while about three hundred rails had been cut on the farm. They lived in the log house until 1857, when a small frame house was built and is still standing. Mr. Kisor afterward added to his first eighty acres, increasing his landed possessions from time to time as his financial resources increased until he was the owner of five hundred and eighty-six acres. He was always a hard worker and his death was undoubtedly hastened by the close and unremitting attention which he gave to his business.

About 1894 Mr. Kisor was striken with paralysis and for five years, four months and thirteen days lay helpless, his wife caring for him all this time until he passed away on the 13th of June, 1899. He had been a kind and affectionate husband and father, was conscientious and honorable in all his dealings and was a very religious man, who for many years held membership in the Christian church and was most faithful to its teachings. In the early days he was a whig. After he became converted he joined the church and never voted again. He thought war a great wrong and would not help elect a man who had the power to declare war. He took no interest therefore in politics aside from voting at school elections.

Mr. and Mrs. Kisor were the parents of five children, of whom four are living, Dwight M. having died at the age of four years. Martha E. is the widow of Porter Hedge and resides at Lincoln, Nebraska. Sylvesta Bell is the wife of Oliver Hedge and resides near Oskaloosa. Melissa Adell is the wife of J. G. Cordner, living in Lincoln, Nebraska. Zona May is the wife of George W. Cassidy, who is living two and a half miles southeast of Oskaloosa. Mrs. Kisor is a bright and intelligent lady, who, though well advanced in years, still lives upon the home farm, renting her land but keeping the dwelling which was built by her husband, for no place else seems so much like



MR. AND MRS. DAVID KISOR.



home. She relates in an interesting manner many experiences of the hardships, privations, trials and pleasures of pioneer life. Once during the high water when the mill could not be operated for two weeks their only food was bread made from cornmeal grated on a piece of tin, the corn being boiled to make it soft enough to grate. They had but little when they came to Iowa, and all that they possess came through hard work and economy, and as the years passed by they prospered and became owners of a valuable farm property, which is still owned by Mrs. Kisor. She now has two hundred and sixty-six acres.

JAMES W. TROY.

James W. Troy, following farming on section 2, White Oak township, not far from the village of Rose Hill, isone of the extensive landowners of the county, his farm comprising five hundred and eleven acres of very productive and valuable land. He was born in Garfield township, this county, August 10, 1855, and is a son of Charles R. Troy, a native of Ohio, who came to Iowa in 1843. He was born in Clermont county, Ohio, November 26, 1824, a son of Benjamin and Nancy (Robinson) Troy. The grandfather died in 1832 in Morgan county, Illinois, and the grandmother passed away in Garfield township, Mahaska county, in 1871, at the age of sixty-eight years.

Charles R. Troy owned one hundred and twenty acres of land, his half of the original entry. He was married April 11, 1851, to Amanda Lighter, a daughter of Andrew and Nancy Lighter. As stated, he arrived in Iowa in 1843, being one of the first settlers of Mahaska county. His wife was a native of Kentucky and she, too, became one of the pioneer settlers of this county, coming here with her parents. Mr. Troy had entered one hundred

and sixty acres of land in connection with his brothers Abraham and Daniel, and on selling that property they each made another entry of eighty acres three miles north of Oskaloosa, west of the Pella road. Upon that property Charles R. Troy made his home and reared his family, living there for forty-two years. About 1887 he sold the farm and took up his abode upon the place where his son now resides. He had lived there exactly twelve years, when, on the 28th of April, 1903, he passed away at the age of eighty years. His widow still survives him and yet resides upon the farm with six sons and a daughter, James W. being the only one married.

Under the paternal roof James W. Troy spent his boyhood days, and in the common schools acquired his education. He assisted his father in carrying on the work of the home place in early life, and has always been associated with his brothers in their business affairs. They own the farm together, and Mr. Troy has added to his possessions from time to time until he now owns five hundred and eleven acres. He has put good buildings upon his place, including a barn, corn cribs and hay sheds. He has also added a windpump to his other improvements, and he has the latest machinery to facilitate the work of the fields. In addition to raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he raises some full-blooded Duroc Jersey and Chester White hogs and Aberdeen Angus cattle. All his breeding stock is registered or else eligible. He frequently attends the state fairs in order to sell stock, but has never been an exhibitor for the sake of His fine herd is known as the premiums. White Oak herd and he is regarded as one of the leading stock-breeders of this part of the

On the 23d of March, 1898, James W. Troy was united in marriage to Miss Vena E. Howell, a native of Mahaska county and a daughter of Levi Howell. Her father is a native of

Illinois and settled in this state at an early day. He and his wife are still living, their home being in White Oak township, south of Rose Hill. Mr. and Mrs. Troy have become the parents of one child, a son, Walter L., now seven vears of age. The parents attended the Christian church at Rose Hill and Mr. Troy was a member of the Odd Fellows lodge, of Oskaloosa, and when he came to Rose Hill organized the new lodge, since which time he has passed through all of the chairs. He is also a member of Rose Hill camp, M. W. A. Politically he is a stanch republican, always supporting the men and measures of the party. He has served as clerk of White Oak township for six years, but otherwise has never sought or held office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, in which he has met with excellent success. He is today one of the prominent and representative farmers of the community and is a worthy representative of an honored, pioneer family.

THEODORE KENT SMITH.

Theodore Kent Smith, whose sterling integrity and genuine personal worth made him a valued citizen of Oskaloosa, where for many years he was extensively and successfully engaged in the jewelry business, was born June 1826, in Schuvler Falls. Washington county, New York. His father, Herman Smith, was a miller by occupation and served in the Revolutionary war on Lake Champlain with the rank of lieutenant. He married Lucy Beckwith. Following the removal of the family to Plattsburg, New York, Theodore K. Smith there spent his boyhood days, and mastered the common branches of English learning but left school at the age of fourteen years to enter business life. His father had met with financial reverses and it was

necessary that the son should aid in his own support. He had been reared in a good Christian family of the Methodist faith, and lessons of industry, integrity and sobriety were early instilled into his mind. For four years he was connected with the jewelry business in Fort Ann, New York, and afterward removed to Northfield, Vermont, where he continued in the same line of trade. While living in the former city he was married to Sarah Slocum and unto them was born a son, E. A. Smith, who is now living in New Sharon, Iowa. The wife and mother died in Fort Ann, New York, and in 1853 Mr. Smith was married to Miss Clara L. Beckwith, of St. Louis, Missouri. He continued a resident of Vermont for four years and then removed to St. Louis, Missouri, where he spent one year. He afterward passed two years in Hannibal, Missouri, and two years in Macon City, Missouri, and on the 21st of May, 1861, arrived in Oskaloosa, where he established a jewelry store. In 1870 he erected a two story brick building on First avenue West, known as the T. K. Smith Jewelry House, and the same year he purchased and rebuilt a commodious and comfortable residence on Third avenue East, where he lived until his death. He was known as one of the foremost jewelers in the state of Iowa, drawing an extensive patronage from all sections of Mahaska and adjoining counties. He was thoroughly reliable in all of his business dealings and he carried a large and well selected line of goods. so that he was able to meet the varied tastes of the general public.

By the second marriage of Mr. Smith there were seven children added to the household. His second wife was a daughter of a Methodist minister, and was educated in a Catholic convent in St. Louis, Missouri. She was married at the age of eighteen years, and by this union were born the following named children: Addie and George Smith, both now deceased: Herbert F.; Daisy L., the wife of L. H. Green-

wood, of Topeka, Kansas; Mrs. Clara L. Hearne, the widow of William E. Hearne; and Louis E. Smith, of Oskaloosa.

In his political affiliation Mr. Smith was a stanch republican and held the office of councilman from the third ward, but was not active in politics as an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs which were capably and profitably conducted. He was a man of quiet tastes and habits, never seeking prominence socially or politically. He had, however, a large circle of warm personal friends. He possessed agenerous disposition and was a man of large heart, kindly disposition and genuine worth and his word was as good as his bond. He died March 2, 1893, at his home in Oskaloosa, at the age of sixty-six years, eight months and nineteen days, after a residence of almost a third of a century in this city.

DAVID ARNOLD.

David Arnold, residing on section 15, Harrison township, is one of the few remaining old settlers of this part of the state, dating his residence in Iowa from 1854, while since 1862 he has made his home in Mahaska county. He was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, September 22, 1832. His father, Solomon Arnold, was a native of Washington county, Pennsylvania, and a son of David Arnold, who removed to Ohio with his family when his son Solomon was a lad of fifteen years. There the latter was reared and in Jefferson county, Ohio, he was married to Miss Barbara Stonebroke, a daughter of Jacob Stonebroke, a native of Pennsylvania, who lived to the very venerable age of one hundred and two years. Solomon Arnold was a farmer of Tuscarawas county, and upon the farm which he there developed and improved he also reared his family. By trade he was a carpenter and joiner, but during much of his life his attention was given to agricultural pursuits and upon the old homestead in Ohio he passed away.

David Arnold spent the days of his boyhood and vouth upon his father's farm in Ohio and when a young man came to Iowa, arriving in this state in 1854. He was married in Eddyville to Miss Eliza Steel, who was born in Pennsylvania and was reared in Pittsburg. In Eddyville he was connected with a packing business and also the operation of a saw mill, and while still conducting business interests at that point, he made his home for a time in Mahaska county. He later located where he now resides on section 15. Harrison township, purchasing here forty acres of raw land, which he cleared and developed, transforming a wild tract into productive fields. He is an enterprising business man and has carried forward the work of improvement to the best of his ability. He lived first in a log house, but later erected a good, neat frame residence in 1875. A year or two later he built a good barn and he now has a valuable and well improved farm of eighty acres.

In 1891 Mr. Arnold was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died in November, of that year. There were three children of that marriage. John, the oldest, is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Eli D., living with his father, married Laura Nedefesser, who was born and reared in Mahaska county, a daughter of John R. Nedefesser, a native of Germany and one of the early settlers of this county. He and his wife died when Mrs. Arnold was a child. Three children have been born unto Eli D. Arnold: Eva, the wife of Ben Newman; Louis E.; and David E. Mary J. Arnold, the daughter of David Arnold, is the wife of John Fox, a substantial farmer of Harrison township.

Politically Mr. Arnold has been a life-long republican, supporting the party since its organization. He was elected and served as town-

ship trustee and has also been road supervisor for eight or nine years, and school trustee. He and his son and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. For fifty years Mr. Arnold has been a resident of the county and has helped to improve and make it what it is today. His life has always been characterized by unfaltering industry and perseverance and in all his business relations he has been thoroughly reliable and trustworthy.

S. V. REYNOLDS.

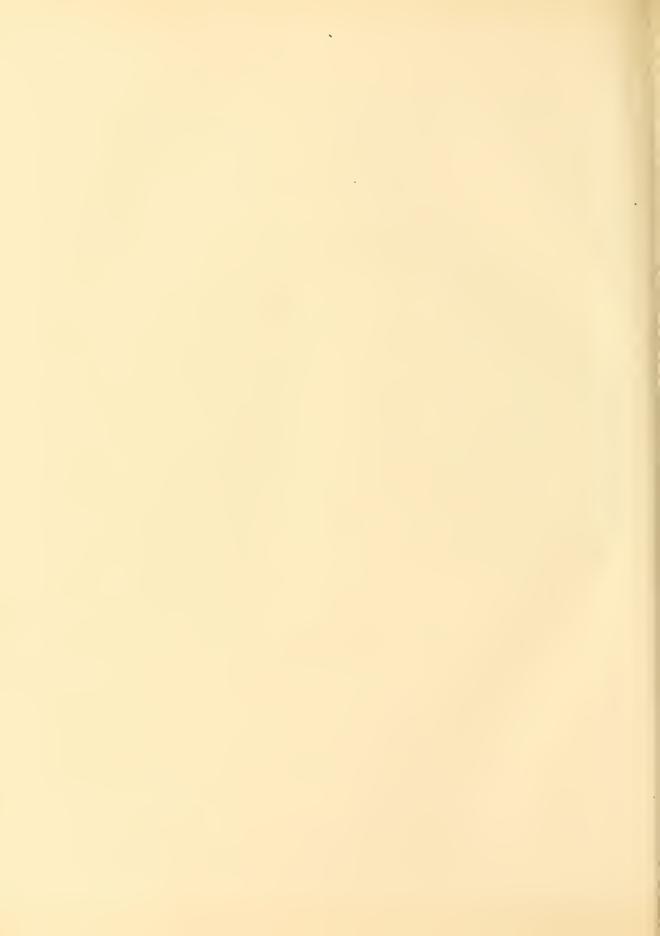
S. V. Reynolds is serving for the second term as mayor of New Sharon and in his administration is displaying the same spirit of reform and progress and of opposition to misrule in public affairs that has been manifested by such well known political reformers as Folk, of Missouri, Lafollett, of Wisconsin, Fagin, the mayor of Jersey City, and others. business interests are those of a real-estate dealer and attorney-at-law and in his profession he has won distinction, while in his land operations he has met with very gratifying success. Mr. Reynolds is a native son of Iowa, his birth having occurred in Poweshiek county, on the 21st of July, 1867. His parents were Alford and Marian (McDonald) Reynolds. The father, who was born in Tennessee, March 29, 1823, was a son of Joseph Reynolds, a native of England and a farmer by occupation. ford Reynolds was reared upon a farm in Tennessee to the age of eleven years, when, in company with his parents, he removed to Indiana, where he was married in 1844. He came to Iowa in 1846, accompanied by his wife and one child. They located in Keokuk county and two years later removed to Poweshiek county, where he died in 1895, although in the meantime he spent some years in Mahaska county, being a minister of the Christian church at

Peoria, where he preached from 1880 until 1889. He became identified with that denomination as a preacher at the age of twenty-two vears and throughout his entire life continued in the active work of the ministry and also carried on farming. Following the period of his residence in Mahaska county he returned to Poweshiek county and was instrumental in building the West Liberty church, doing all of the carpenter work himself and raising the funds to meet other expenses in connection therewith. Mr. Revnolds of this review still aids in support of the church, which is about three and a half miles east of Searsboro. Rev. Alford Reynolds was married to Miss Marian McDonald, who was born in Kentucky, February 24, 1823, a daughter of Henry and Ann (Hopkins) McDonald, the former of Irish and the latter of Scotch descent. Her father served as a soldier in the war of 1812 and was wounded at the battle of the Thames, while serving with a Kentucky regiment under Colonel Dudley. Mr. Reynolds of this review is the youngest in a family of ten children. His father was a very able man and a great debater and took a most active and helpful part in establishing the Christian church upon the western frontier of Iowa. His energy and upright life won him the respect, confidence and good will of all with whom he was associated and he passed away March 12, 1895, at the age of seventy-two years, his memory remaining as a blessed benediction to all who knew him.

S. V. Reynolds spent his boyhood days upon the home farm and after attending the district schools spent one year as a student in Oskaloosa College and one year in Penn College. He taught school for thirty-three terms in Mahaska county, after which he devoted one year to the real-estate business. Later he became a student in Iowa College of Law, a department of Drake University at Des Moines, from which he was graduated on the 17th of May, 1899, having completed a regular two years'



S. V. Reynvelle



course in five months. Locating at New Sharon on the oth of June, 1899, he opened an office for the practice of law and for the realestate business and has since devoted his attention to operating in land and to his profession. During the first year of his connection with business interests here he sold land to the value of three hundred thousand dollars. He has since been in partnership with L. H. Sherman in the real-estate business under the firm style of Sherman & Reynolds, engaged in buying and selling lands in Canada, Minnesota and North Dakota and they also handle from twelve to fourteen hundred acres of land in Mahaska county each year. At one time they had twenty-eight hundred acres in this county. Mr. Reynolds has also made substantial advancement at the bar and in 1905 formed a partnership with J. C. Heitsman in order that he might have some one share his business cares, which were growing too arduous. Their law library is worth three thousand dollars and is one of the best in this part of the state and they have a large and distinctively representative clientage, being retained as counsel for the defense or prosecution in almost every important case that comes up in the district.

Mr. Reynolds was married August 11, 1889, to Miss Emma McCutchen, who was born October 16, 1869, in Richland township, Mahaska county, and is a daughter of Jonathan and Maria McCutchen, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of New York. Her father came to Iowa in 1856, locating in Oskaloosa, where he engaged in merchandising, while later he conducted a mercantile enterprise in Peoria, while his last years were devoted to farming. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds have been born two children: Clemmie Marian, born March 28, 1893; and Cato S., April 11, 1900.

Mr. Reynolds has long been recognized as a leader in democracy in this district and was the candidate on the party ticket for representative in 1895. He ran far ahead of his ticket

although he was defeated, and in 1900 he was candidate for county attorney. In 1904 he was elected on the citizens' ticket as mayor of New Sharon and was re-elected in 1906. Too much can not be said in praise of his public service. The affairs of the city had been managed in an incompetent manner and when he took charge he brought to his duties not only good business capacity and enterprise but also a spirit of lovalty and an opposition to anything like misrule in public affairs. He has placed the city upon a business administration and has instituted many modern reforms and improvements. During his incumbency the electric light plant has been instituted and all of the income of the office has been turned over to the city, there being no graft in connection with the management of the affairs now. In 1906 there were three hundred and thirty votes cast and Mr. Reynolds received a majority of forty-one. thus running ninety votes ahead of his ticket. He was the only one on the ticket elected. Mr. Reynolds is a strong man, strong in his capability and force, strong in his honor and good name, strong in his allegiance to all that he believes to be right in public or private life. He has done much for New Sharon and is justly accounted, without invidious distinction, the foremost citizen of the town.

BURROWS W. CHEW.

Burrows W. Chew, a retired merchant of Oskaloosa, has through well directed and earnest effort in former years become possessed of a competency that now enables him to live retired. It is no unusual thing in this land where opportunity is unhampered by caste or class for the young man of strong purpose and laudable ambition to work his way upward, and it is the record which the American citizen holds in greatest honor. Mr. Chew was born in Glou-

cester county. New Jersey. in 1824. His father. Elisha D. Chew, also a native of that state. was of English descent. The great-grandiather and others of the Chew family, then residents of Germantown, Pennsylvania, were soldiers of the Revolutionary war. Elisha Chew became a farmer by occupation and removed from New Jersey to Oskaloosa in 1845. He entered a tract of land from the government of five hundred and and twenty acres northwest of town and became identified with the agricultural development of the community. A prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, he was also a preacher of that demonination, and his influence in behalf of the church and of moral development was of no restricted order. His political support was given to the republican party. He married Miss Elizabeth Heritage, also a native of New Jersey, but of Swedish descent. Her death occurred in 1874, when she was eighty-one years of age, while Rev. Elisha D. Chew died in 1880, at the age of eighty-six years. They were the parents of six children: Asa, Elijah, Ann, James and Sarah, all now deceased: and Burrows W., of this review. Of this number, James was a Methodist minister.

Burrows W. Chew spent his boyhood days in the usual manner of farm lads. He went to school during the fall and winter months and after putting aside his text-books learned the machinist's trade in Gloucester. New Jersey, following that pursuit in the east for eight years. In 1853 he came to Oskaloosa, Iowa, where he resumed work at his trade, and in 1863 he turned his attention to merchandising, which he conducted for one year. He next entered the marble business in partnership with H. A. Smith, with whom he was connected for a year. after which he followed blacksmithing and the machinist's trade for thirty-five years. 1883 he went to Texas, where for about twelve years he conducted a hardware store, after which he returned to Oskaloosa. About ten years ago he retired from active business pursuits and has since rested in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil.

In 1846 Mr. Chew was married to Miss Susan S. Rheiner, who was born in Philadelphia in 1823 and died in 1863. By this union there were six children: Emma C.: Albion R., a hardware merchant residing in Texas; Melvina M., the deceased wife of John Lyons: Elvira W., the deceased wife of Marion Hoops: Frank W.: and William Granville, also deceased. In 1867 Mr. Chew was again married, his second union being with Miss Sarah Jane Wright, who was born in Ohio and died in 1869, at the age of thirty-six years. Mr. Chew is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and his political support is given to the republican party.

A. D. NORRIS.

A. D. Norris, living on section 14. Spring Creek township, gives his time and energies to agricultural pursuits. He owns a well improved farm of one hundred acres, and is a native son of the county, having been born in Garfield township, Mahaska county. May 3. 1861. He is a son of Shadrach Norris, mentioned elsewhere in this work, and is the eldest of five children. He was reared in this county and educated in the common schools, remaining with his father until the latter removed to Oskaloosa, and during that period aiding his father in all departments of the farm work.

On the 27th of December, 1899, Mr. Norris was married to Miss Emma Wasson, a native of West Virginia and a daughter of S. B. Wasson, who removed from West Virginia to Iowa about 1865, locating in Mahaska county. He was a substantial farmer of Spring Creek township, and is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Norris was reared and educated

here, and prior to her marriage successfully engaged in teaching. After her marriage she began her domestic life upon a farm, where she now resides. Mr. and Mrs. Norris are rearing a boy, Russell Bridges, now five years of age. Mr. Norris has fenced and repaired his place and now has a valuable and well improved property, on which he raises various cereals and also feeds and fattens stock for the market. His business is well managed, and his efforts are capably directed.

Politically Mr. Norris is a stanch democrat but without aspiration for office. He has served as trustee of Black Oak township, and as a member of the school board but otherwise has neither sought nor desired political preferment. He has always lived in this county, and the fact that many of his stanchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood days to the present is an indication that his life has been all that is exemplary of the public-spirited citizen, whose life is actuated by commendable rules of conduct and manly principles.

LOUIS E. SMITH.

Louis E. Smith is a jeweler of Oskaloosa, whose business has increased eightfold since he purchased the establishment of which he is now proprietor. Such a record is certainly an indication of splendid business capacity and enterprise, and Mr. Smith is regarded as a valued addition to commercial circles in his native city. He was born in Oskaloosa, November 8, 1874, a son of Theodore K. and Clara (Beckwith) Smith, who are mentioned on another page of this work. He pursued his education in the public schools until he had completed the high-school course by graduation with the class of 1892. He then entered Penn College and subsequently was graduated from the Chicago Opthalmic College. He was then employed in his father's store as a jeweler. His first business venture, however, was at selling newspapers, which occupied his attention between the ages of ten and eighteen years outside of school hours. In 1892 the father's health failed, followed by his death in 1893. During the period of his illness Louis E. Smith, associated with his sister, Mrs. Clara Hearne, carried on the jewelry business in Oskaloosa, and in 1900 Mr. Smith purchased the store, which he has since conducted and enlarged, his business having grown eightfold since he assumed the management. In 1902 he established a branch store at Albia, Iowa, which he conducted for some time and then sold out at a gratifying profit in January, 1906. The extent and volume of his business is somewhat indicated by the fact that he employs four watch-makers and three opticians and his stock has been largely increased in all lines, especially in the department of gold and silverware. He is watch inspector for the Iowa Central, Rock Island and Wabash Railroads. In 1904 he removed his business from 120 First avenue West, to his present location on the west side of the public square, where he has tripled his space to accommodate his extensive stock that is demanded by his constantly growing patronage.

On the 14th of April, 1904, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Martha Waggoner, of St. Louis, Missouri, a daughter of Sol E. Waggoner, president of the Citizens Insurance Company of Missouri, and a prominent man, who was one of the managers of the World's Fair. Mr. Smith belongs to the Masonic fraternity, holding membership in Hiram chapter, No. 6, R. A. M., and De Payens commandry, No. 6, K. T., in which he has filled all of the chairs, and in the Mystic Shrine. He is likewise a member of the Elks lodge and the Iowa State Association of Opticians, the American Association of Opticians and the Iowa Retail Jewelers Association, and is one of the three com-

posing the membership committee of the last named association. He belongs to the Congregational church, and to the Young Men's Christian Association and is vice-president and a member of the board of directors of the Commercial Club, at Oskaloosa. These various membership relations indicate the character of the man, showing his recognition of his obligations to his fellowmen and his city as well as to his individual interests. He commands uniform esteem and well merits the high position which is accorded him through the consensus of public opinion.

JUDGE J. A. L. CROOKHAM.

Judge J. A. L. Crookham, pioneer, lawyer, banker, statesman and philanthropist, was a son of George L. and Sarah (Lake) Crookham and was born in Jackson county, Ohio. His paternal grandfather was, at the time of the Revolutionary war, taken prisoner and held for about eight months on the Western Reserve in Ohio and forty years later, when the Indian lands were put on the market, he returned to that country, bought the land and located on the same spot where he had been held as a prisoner, spending his remaining days there. He was a blacksmith by trade and made arms for General Washington during the Revolutionary war.

George L. Crookham was born in October, 1779, and died in Jackson county, Ohio, February 28, 1857. In early life he was a salt manufacturer at the Scioto Salt Works in partnership with Asa Lake and they were among the first to engage in that business in Ohio. In early life he learned the blacksmith's trade of his father, but when seventeen years of age abandoned it, his taste being in another direction, and turned his attention to mathematics, in which he excelled. He was also a great reader and student and invariably spent eight

hours per day in his study, which was a small log house built of jack-oak logs, which he called his Jack-oak College. Here he taught his children and here was his library of valuable books and a large number of valuable manuscripts which were afterward burned because of his extreme views on the questions of temperance and slavery. He was an old federal whig and assisted many a colored man to gain his freedom, his home being on the underground railroad of that day and his own son, Jefferson G., at one time drove a team that carried a load of these unfortunate people farther north. Mr. Crookham was a well read lawyer and physician and although he knew almost nothing about the workings of his large farm and never had anything to do with his extensive herds of cattle, he knew all about the bugs, insects and reptiles on the place and his scientific attainments were of a superior order. He was president of the first temperance society ever organized in Jackson county, where he lived, and was one of the most prominent abolitionists there, writing many articles for the newspapers on these topics. He married Sarah Lake, who was a native of Boone's Lick, Kentucky. She was born in September, 1779, and died in Jackson county, Ohio, January 9, 1852. Her father, Daniel Lake, was a compeer of Daniel Boone and also a Revolutionary soldier. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Long Island when seventeen years of age and was given to the Indians by the English and carried out to the Western Reserve in Ohio. He was liked and adopted by the chief and being sent out hunting, he escaped after about a year's captivity, walking all the way back to his old home. In 1820, or forty years later, he took a claim where the Indian wigwam was, and the spring out of which he drank when in captivity was on his land. He died on this claim in 1843.

His daughter Sarah became the wife of George L. Crookham and they were the parents of sixteen children: Horatio, who died at





John a & Crootsham



A, C, Crookham



the age of twenty-two years, was at that time superintendent of construction on the Ohio & Erie canal; Martha, the widow of J. W. Hanna, died in Missouri in 1905; Euclid married Samuel Montgomery but both are now deceased; Horace, a farmer, died in Marion county, Iowa, November 18, 1881; James died on his farm in Virginia; Vashti, who passed away April 9, 1894, was the widow of Abner Lewis, who died in Memphis, Tennessee, during the war; John A. L. is the next of the family; Milton, a wealthy farmer of Mahaska county, is deceased: Lawrence is a resident farmer of Pickaway county, Ohio; Norval died at the age of six years; Oliver C., Emily G. and Louisa are all now deceased; Jefferson G. was in partnership with the Judge in the profession of law; and Sarah L. and Amarillas C. are deceased.

Judge Crookham was reared on the home farm in Jackson county, Ohio, until he lacked two months of his majority, when he went to Kanawha and took a contract for and cut forty thousand hooppoles. He also entered one hundred and sixty acres of land in Jackson county, at one dollar and a quarter per acre. He then boated one summer on the Kanawha river, after which he removed to Darwin, Illinois, where he taught school for three years, reading law during the time under the direction of Judge Harlan. Thence he went in charge of a cargo of produce to New Orleans and on his return stopped near Helena, Arkansas, and read law with Judge McKee. He then returned to Illinois, sold his land and started to Oskaloosa in August, 1845, making the trip on horseback. He bought two lots in this city but remained here only a short time because of the fever and ague that he contracted. He returned to Illinois to a point above Burlington, where he taught school for twelve months and continued his study of the law under C. M. Harris and Cyrus Walker. Returning again to Iowa he was admitted to the bar in Lee county and practiced his profession there until August. 1847, when he again came to Oskaloosa and engaged in the practice of law, most of the time alone. He formed a partnership with Hon. James Rhinehart, which continued for several years and one partnership with Hon. H. W. Gleason, which association continued about seven years. He at once entered into the immediate life of the people and the community and became widely known on account of his activity and his endless zeal in the pursuit of his work. It was natural that in the early organization of the county the first judgeship should fall to his shoulders, where it rested most worthily for a term of four years, from 1851 until 1855.

The Judge perhaps defended more criminal cases than any other lawyer in Iowa. It was his rule to defend and never to prosecute a case and fortunate indeed was the law-breaker who secured his services. His practice in this regard covered a large amount of territory and he was employed in important cases over the entire state. A lawyer of great caution, he prepared his cases with a great deal of care and was untiring in the production of the necessary evidence to sustain his theory of a case. On March 26, 1855, Judge Crookham was appointed commissioner by Governor Grimes to re-locate the state capital of Iowa, and it was he who drove the corner stake that located the site and this in accordance with the requirement that the capital should be within a certain radius of the forks of the Coon and Des Moines rivers. The Judge was a man of inestimable worth to the community and Mahaska county and the city of Oskaloosa owes much to his effort and enterprise. There was never a public enterprise that was not sanctioned and assisted by him. Many are the stories that might be related of the liberality and generosity of the man. He was a keensighted business man and vet dared to risk much upon his judgment as to the future of the country. He prospered in his business enter-

prises and died possessed of thousands of acres of land in Mahaska county and different states. He organized and was the president of the Mahaska County State Bank from its beginning until his failing health compelled him to resign. He prospered in his extensive stockraising interests upon his farms and in his flouring-mill business, and while he thus advanced, others were also assisted and the city of Oskaloosa above all felt the sustaining force of the support of this man. It was largely due to his efforts that Oskaloosa College came to this city and he gave thousands of dollars toward its support only to see it, in his old age, taken by unprincipled men after being enjoined by the courts, to another city. Penn College was also encouraged by him and knew his assistance. There was no worthy cause in the city that did not feel the force of his material aid. In procuring the location of the Iowa Central Railroad through this county he spent two years raising subscriptions and obtaining the right of way, for which he received no compensation, besides which he donated twentyfive-hundred dollars in aid of the enterprise. In securing the Des Moines Valley Railroad he paid a six-hundred-dollar subscription, besides spending a great deal of time, and was also largely instrumental in securing the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad through this city, giving liberally of his means and time. In fact there is scarcely an enterprise in the county which he did not promote both by his means and influence.

Judge Crookham was never an office seeker and though recognized as one of the most astute politicians in this part of the state and always an enthusiast for the success of the republican party, yet he never sought the honor of office at the hands of his friends. He represented the house in the state senate in the sessions of 1864 and 1867 and took an active part in formulating a great amount of valuable legislation during his term. The original bill

granting aid to the families of soldiers who were in the army was introduced by him but the bill as passed only allowed one-half the amount asked for in the original draft. also introduced a bill to extend the elective franchise to all the colored men who enlisted in service from Iowa and who had received honorable discharges. At the session of 1867 he introduced a bill amending the constitution of the state by striking out the word "white," which amendment was adopted by the people and made Iowa the first state in the Union to grant that privilege to the colored race. He served as chairman on the committee on banks and banking in the senate and was the most prominent member of the judiciary committee. The Judge was twice married, first to Elizabeth Delashmutt, a native of Virginia, who was reared in Iowa. She was of French descent on the paternal side and English on the maternal. Of this union there were two children, both living: William, who resides in Oskaloosa and is an attorney but is not practicing on account of ill health; and Euclid, who is now a teacher in the San Francisco high school. The Judge's second marriage was solemnized with Anna Clarissa Carter, a native of Pennsylvania, who was reared in Ohio until years of maturity and came with her parents to this county in 1851. Here her father and mother died at an advanced age. Miss Carter at the time of her marriage was a successful teacher in this county and some of the most prominent citizens of Mahaska county were her pupils. To this union there were born three children: Sara Crookham Davis, the wife of Rufus K. Davis: Joseph II. Crookham, a prominent stock-raiser and farmer, living on a large farm near Leighton; and John A. Crookham, now president and general manager and also principal owner of the Hawkeve Overall Company. This factory is built upon the site of the old South Spring mill, in which Judge Crookham was interested for more than fifty years.

In April, 1897, Judge Crookham suffered a stroke of paralysis, from which he never entirely recovered and on the 2d of May, 1901, after four years of patient, uncomplaining suffering, he quietly passed away at the age of eighty-three years, six months and three days. He was the last of a galaxy of great men who were intimate professional associates, including Judge Loughridge, Judge W. H. Seevers, Micajah T. Williams, George Eastburn, John R. Needham, General Samuel A. Rice, M. E. Cutts, A. N. Cassady and others.

JAMES A. STUART.

James A. Stuart, living on section 4, White Oak township, owns and controls a valuable farm of one hundred and eighty-five acres and is classed with the representative and prosperous farmers of his community. He has been a resident of this county since 1852, and is therefore one of its pioneer settlers, having for more than a half century witnessed its growth and aided in its development, neglecting no duty of citizenship. He is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Logan county, November 20, 1831. His father, James Stuart, was also born and reared in Ohio and was there married to Miss Elizabeth Hanger, a native of Virginia, and a daughter of John Hanger, who was likewise born in the Old Dominion, settling in Logan county, Ohio, at an early day. James Stuart, Sr., was a son of Thomas Stuart, a pioneer of the Buckeye state, dating his residence from the early days when the Indians constituted a large part of its population. In Logan county James Stuart, Sr., followed the occupation of farming and reared his family of ten children. He lived to the age of sixty-six years, while his wife passed away at the age of seventy-five years. In his business he prospered as the years went by and built one of the fine farm homes of his adopted state.

James A. Stuart was the eldest son of his father's family, and was reared upon the old home farm, attending the common schools, while in the summer months he assisted in the work of the fields, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. When he was twenty years of age he came to Iowa and bought land, and the next year he took up his abode upon this property. He first invested in one hundred and sixty acres of land, which now constitutes the old homestead farm.

Mr. Stuart was married in Logan county, Ohio, in July, 1852, to Miss Vincinia Hawley, but they were soon separated by death, Mrs. Stuart passing away on the 25th of April, 1853. On coming to Iowa Mr. Stuart began to farm and improve his property and built thereon a eabin home. In the second year thereafter, in the spring of 1854, he was married to Miss Mary Jane Harris, a native of Keokuk county, Iowa, and unto them have been born six children, of whom three are living, the eldest being Elizabeth, the widow of Arthur Goodspeed, who died March 15, 1906; Cora, of Oskaloosa; and Emma, the wife of L. S. Gable, of White Oak township. The mother of these children passed away and Mr. Stuart was afterward married again, at which time Mary Feaster became his wife. She is a native of Iowa and a daughter of Hezekiah Feaster, who was born in Indiana. This union was blessed with three children, but two died in infancy. Lewis being the only one now surviving. Since the death of his third wife Mr. Stuart has made his home with his son Lewis. who lives upon the old home farm.

On coming to this county, Mr. Stuart resolutely began the work of developing and improving the property and from time to time he Lought more land until he owned two hundred and eighty acres all of which is well improved and valuable. He also built a good two-story house in 1870, has good barns upon his place

and substantial outbuildings, and altogether the farm is a valuable one equipped with modern equipments. He has deeded to his son Lewis ninety-five acres of the old homestead, and he makes his home with this son. Lewis Stuart was married February 27, 1896, to Miss Stella Moore, a native of Mahaska county, Iowa, and a daughter of Harvey Moore, of White Oak township. They have one child, Eva.

Mr. Stuart is one of the oldest and most farmers and residents of White Oak township. He is now in his seventy-fifth year and has led a life of activity and usefulness, in which his earnest labor has been crowned with prosperity. He is a Master Mason, belonging to the bluelodge at Rose Hill and politically he has been a lifelong republican. He espoused the cause of the party when it was somewhat unpopular to do so, and he cast his first presidential ballot for John C. Fremont, since which time he has supported each presidential nominee at the head of the ticket. He was for two years on the county board of commissioners, now called the board of supervisors, but he has never sought nor cared for office, preferring to give his time and attention to his Lusiness interests. Great changes have occurred since he came to this county, pioneer conditions have given way before an advancing civilization. The little cabin home has been replaced by a substantial farm residence, crude machinery of the early days has been supplanted by the improved farm implements of the present and in all the work of progress Mr. Stuart has been interested and has kept in touch with the trend of modern events.

MRS. SARAH COOK.

Mrs. Sarah Cook, of Cedar township, is numbered among the few remaining old settlers of Mahaska county, dating her residence here from June, 1853. A native of Indiana, she was

born in Tippecanoe county, near Lafayette, on the 15th of December, 1834. Her father was Benjamin Eastburn, a native of Pennsylvania, whence he removed to Ohio and was there married in Highland county to Miss Elizabeth Haigh, whose birth occurred in Washington, D. C. Her father, Job Haigh, was a native of England. In early life he became a mechanic and worked on the capitol building in the city of Washington. Subsequently he removed to Ohio, where he resided for several years and afterward took up his abode in Tippecanoe county, Indiana. Benjamin Eastburn became a farmer of Indiana, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits for a number of years and in 1853 came to Iowa, settling in Cedar township, Mahaska county. Here he purchased land, becoming the owner of six hundred acres, which he cultivated and improved, transforming the property into a good farm. For a long period he was numbered among the prosperous and enterprising agriculturists of his township and upon the old homestead he reared his family and spent his last years, his death occurring on the 20th of March, 1873. His wife survived him for some time and passed away on the 24th of March, 1882. Mrs. Cook is one of a family of four sons and three daughters, of whom two sons and the daughters are vet living. Her brother, Job Eastburn, was a well known stock-buyer and shipper of Mahaska county for many years and a partner in that business with Philip Akerman until the death of the latter. Mr. Eastburn has now for a number of years been a prominent live stock commission merchant of Chicago. The other living brother is Minor Eastburn, of Hillsboro, Iowa. Her sister, Mrs. E. J. Stockton, has resided upon the same farm for over a half century. The other sister, Mrs. Hattie Davis, is living in Mississippi.

Mrs. Cook spent the first eighteen years of her life in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, and with her father came to Iowa in 1853. Here





she gave her hand in marriage on the 3d of April, 1854, to Dr. S. S. Cook, who was also a native of Indiana, born near Richmond, in which locality he was reared and educated. Following the completion of his public-school course he took up the study of medicine and as a young physician came to Iowa, entering upon the practice of his profession in Keokuk county, where he remained for ten years. He then came to Mahaska county. In 1863 he enlisted in response to the country's call for aid, joining the army as a surgeon, in which capacity he rendered valuable service to his regiment until his death on the 15th of January, 1864. He was a prominent and well known physician in this part of the state, his ability winning him high rank, while his professional service was of inestimable value to his patients. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, taking the degrees of the blue lodge, and his life was in many ways exemplary, winning for him the respect, confidence and good will of those with whom he came in contact.

After her husband's enlistment for the war Mrs. Cook returned to her father and resided with him for a number of years. At the death of Dr. Cook she was left a widow with three children. The eldest, Albert N., reached mature years, was married, began farming and carried on agricultural pursuits until his death, October 27, 1870. Rose, the only daughter, who was a teacher in Harrison and Cedar townships before her marriage, is now the wife of Dr. Bear, of Des Moines, Iowa. The younger son is S. S. Cook, who is represented elsewhere in this work. After the sons were old enough to operate a farm Mrs. Cook purchased a tract of land of forty acres adjoining Fremont, whereon she now resides, her sons beginning the task of cultivating and improving the fields. At a later day she purchased forty acres additional and now owns a valuable farm of eighty acres just north of the corporation limits of Fremont. She has added to and

rebuilt the house and now has a good, neat, frame residence. There are also substantial outbuildings upon the place for the shelter of grain and stock and in the management of her property Mrs. Cook has displayed excellent business ability and enterprise. She is a member of the Baptist church, to which her daughter-in-law, Mrs. S. S. Cook, also belongs. Mrs. Cook has resided in Iowa for fifty-three years, either in Mahaska or Keokuk counties and has therefore been a witness of much of its growth and development. She has seen the founding of towns, which have grown into thriving cities, has watched the transformation of wild land into productive farms and has been interested in all that has been accomplished in the way of general progress. In social circles she has won many warm friends and she is greatly esteemed and beloved throughout the community in which she has now long made her home.

ROBERT T. NEWELL.

Robert T. Newell has been an influential factor in public life as well as in business circles in Mahaska county for many years, and is present mayor of Fremont, where he has resided for nearly a third of a century. He is numbered among the few remaining settlers of the state, having for seventy years resided within the borders of Iowa, taking up his abode here on the 3d of July, 1836, when Iowa was still under territorial government. life record began in Barren county. Kentucky, on the 25th of February, 1832. His father, William Newell, was a native of the same county, born in 1805, while the grandfather, Robert Newell, was born in Virginia, whence he removed to Kentucky about 1780. Newell family is of Welsh ancestry and was established in Virginia at an early period in the colonization of the new world. William Newell was reared in Kentucky and was married there to Miss Mary Ann Goodall, who was born in that state March 19, 1811. Mr. Newell was a farmer by occupation and in 1834 removed to Illinois, and after eighteen months came to Iowa in 1836. He settled in Van Buren county and his death occurred the same year. Iowa was still a under territorial government and was largely a wild and unimproved region, the homes of the settlers being widely scattered while Indians were found more numerous in the state than white men. His wife long survived him and reared their family of children, of whom Robert is the eldest. The others are: Nancy C., the wife of W. W. Whitkake, of California; and Mrs. Ann E. Johnston, a widow residing in Mount Zion, Van Buren county, Iowa.

Robert T. Newell was reared in Van Buren county amid the wild scenes of pioneer life and is almost wholly a self-educated man. He never attended school for a day save in one of the primitive log schoolhouses of that early period. There was not a pane of glass in the building, the windows being made of greased paper and the methods of instruction were almost equally primitive. He was reared to farm life and when still a vouth learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner, in which he served a three years' apprenticeship, receiving only ninety dollars during that period in compensation for his services. He was afterward employed as a journeyman for about three years in Van Buren and Jefferson counties and was thus closely associated with the early development and improvement of the state.

Mr. Newell was married in Van Buren county, Iowa, March 1, 1853, to Miss Polly Ann Lynn. He continued to make his home in Van Buren county until 1853 and then went to Jefferson county, where he lived a year. He afterward established his home in Wapello county, where he also resided for about a year, devoting his attention to teaching there. He

afterward went to Keokuk county and was a teacher in three different counties. His first term of school was taught in Illinois. He also engaged in business as a contractor and builder in Keokuk county and thus became closely associated with the material development and upbuilding of that locality. In response to the country's call at the time of the Civil war he enlisted on the 19th of August, 1861, joining the First Iowa Cavalry. He went south and was promoted from the ranks, becoming first lieutenant and regimental commissary. He was mostly engaged in scouting duty in northern Arkansas and Texas, and at three different times was ill in the hospital. When he veteranized he was accorded a thirty days' furlough, and after rejoining his regiment he served until the close of the war, being mustered out in Texas and honorably discharged on the 19th of March, 1866.

Returning to Keokuk, Mr. Newell remained a resident of that part of the state until 1874, when he removed to Fremont. Here he opened a shop and continued in business as a contractor and builder, employing from five to ten men. The field of his operations extended over three counties-Keokuk, Wapello and Mahaska. He continued in that line of business for sixteen years and there are many substantial buildings in the three counties, including farm residences, schoolhouses and churches that stand as monuments to his skill and ability. He contributed in substantial measure to the improvement of Fremont, not only in the line of his chosen pursuit but also as a private citizen, cooperating in many progressive measures.

In 1868 Mr. Newell lost his first wife, who died near Martinsburg on the 18th of December, of that year. There were six children by that union, of whom four died in infancy. Willard F., who became a railroad man, died on March 11, 1904, at the age of fifty years. The only surviving child of that marriage is Mollie, now the wife of Albert Brier, of Fairfield,

Iowa. On the 27th of September, 1870, in Fremont, Mr. Newell was married to Miss Nancy Cannon, who was born and reared in Pennsylvania, a daughter of James F. Cannon, who removed to Iowa from the Keystone state. This union was blessed with three children, of whom two sons are living: James C., who is married and holds a good position in Fremont; and Edwin H., who is a painter and decorator by trade and resides at home.

Squire Newell, as he is usually called, has · · been a lifelong democrat, casting his first vote for James Buchanan in 1856. He served as township assessor of Keokuk county, as justice of the peace of Wapello county and also as township clerk. He is now justice of the peace in Fremont and the present mayor of the town, and has been notary for a number of years. He has acted as a delegate to county and state conventions, and in the discharge of his duties has shown unflinching lovalty to the public good. At the present time he is giving Fremont a business-like, practical, yet progressive administration, favoring all measures of progress and improvement that promise to be of direct and immediate serviceableness. Newell is a Mason, holding membership in the blue lodge of Fremont, in which he has filled all of the chairs. He is a past master of the blue lodge at Martinsburg and also in Fremont and at one time was identified with the Royal Arch chapter. He Lelongs to the Eastern Star lodge, of which his wife is a charter member, and since its institution she has served as its treasurer. Both Mr. and Mrs. Newell belong to the Presbyterian church, in which he is serving as treasurer and in the work of which they take an active and helpful interest. life has been one of continuous activity, in which has been accorded due recognition of labor and now with a comfortable competence acquired through earnest effort he is enjoying well merited rest from business cares, but is giving his time and attention largely to the public service. His worth is recognized by his fellow townsmen, form whom he has won warm and lasting friendship.

WILLIAM C. McDOWELL.

William C. McDowell, one of the active and prosperous farmers of Cedar township, living on section 15, where he owns one hundred and sixty acres of good land within a mile of Fremont, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Franklin county on the 29th of July, 1861. He is a son of Matthew V. McDowell, who was also a native of Franklin county, and was there reared and married, Miss Margaret Hall becoming his wife. He removed from Pennsylvania to Illinois about 1857, settling in Tazewell county, where he opened up and improved a farm. Subsequently he returned on a visit to his birthplace in Pennsylvania, but he reared his family and spent his last days in Illinois, where he died in 1892, while his wife passed away in January, 1895.

William C. McDowell was the eldest in a family of four sons and three daughters. One son, James T., is deceased, but William, John D. and Robert R. are living. The sisters are Mary V., who passed away in February, 1905, and Jane N. and Louisa, who are residing in Tazewell county, Illinois.

William C. McDowell largely spent his boy-hood days upon the old home farm in Tazewell county, where he acquired good common-school advantages. He remained with his father until he came to lowa when a young man in the spring of 1892. Here he purchased a farm, which he began to improve, living thereon for a year, after which he sold that property and spent the four succeeding years in Fremont, where he was engaged in buying good stock. In 1897 he purchased his present property, an improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres

on section 15, Cedar township. It is tiled and fenced, and here, in addition to cultivating his crops, he also raises and feeds stock. He is a good business man, reliable and enterprising and his labors are being attended with success.

On the 12th of January, 1897, in Fremont, Mr. McDowell was married to Miss Nellie McClain, who was born and reared in this county. There are four children of this marriage, Hadley V., Robert S., Florence J. and Bertha L.

Politically Mr. McDowell is a stanch republican but without aspiration for office. He belongs to the Presbyterian church, while his wife is a member of the Methodist church. He is identified with the Knights of Pythias fraternity at Fremont, and both are held in high esteem in the community where for fourteen years Mr. McDowell has made his home, while his wife has spent her entire life in this county. He is regarded as one of the prosperous and progressive farmers of his township, and is now thoroughly identified with the interests of the county, being recognized as one of its public-spirited citizens.

ALBERT J. AUGUSTINE.

Albert J. Augustine, who is engaged in realestate speculations wherein his keen business discernment has enabled him to make judicious and profitable investments, was born in California in the year 1858, and is of German lineage. His father, Albert Augustine, born in Germany, came to the United States with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Augustine, about 1830, the family home being established in Pennsylvania, where they resided for about five years, the father devoting his energies to farming upon a tract of land which he had purchased there. About 1835 he removed with his family to Washington county, Iowa, and thus settled upon the frontier, entering a tract of land from the government and carrying on farm work until he became a prosperous citizen of his adopted state.

Albert Augustine, the son, was reared to manhood amid the wild scenes and environments of frontier life in Washington county and attended school there, while in the summer months he assisted in the arduous task of developing a new farm. About 1842 he came to Mahaska county, settling upon a farm a mile and a half west of Oskaloosa, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until after the discovery of gold in California, when, with the hope of rapidly realizing a fortune on the Pacific coast, he started, in 1849, accompanied by his wife and two children, with a party traveling with a wagon train of several wagons. They left Mahaska county in May, 1849, starting on their way to the gold fields, and after seven long and weary months of travel across the sandy stretches and through the mountain passes of the west they were gladdened by the sight of the green fields of California. They had remarkable experiences, owing to the Indians, to climatic conditions and to privations incident to travel across the plains in those days. Indians stole their cattle and otherwise harrassed them, but in December, 1849, they reached Sacramento. Mr. Augustine was at that time practically penniless, but in six months had accumulated seven thousand dollars, which he invested in town property. The town, however, after enjoying a season of booming, collapsed and left him again without money. He finally established a store in a mining camp and his wife was the only woman in the camp of five hundred souls. He remained there for about eighteen months and in 1852 returned by way of the water route to Oskaloosa. In 1856 he again took his family across the continent with a wagon train of ninety wagons, of which he was captain, making the overland journey to Oregon and thence proceeding southward to California, where he once more went into the



Aphrepustine



mines. He remained there until 1861, during which time he accumulated about twelve thousand dollars. He then settled in Washington county, lowa, where he purchased a farm, making his home thereon until 1867, when he sold that property and removed to Missouri, where he purchased land, on which he lived for a year. He then returned to Mahaska county and purchased a farm in Monroe township, near Rose Hill, living thereon until 1894, in which year he retired to Rose Hill, his death occurring there in 1896, when he had reached the age of seventy-two. Although he met reverses, obstacles and difficulties at different times, he was a man of good business ability and eventually won prosperity. He was a member of the Christian church for thirty years, served as one of its elders and was held in high esteem. His fraternal relations were with the Masonic lodge, and he voted with the republican party.

His wife, who in her girlhood was Dorothy Meyer, was born in Germany, in 1828, and died in June, 1904. She came to the United States in her girlhood days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Meyer, who settled upon a farm in Pennsylvania, when that section of the state was still largely unimproved. They afterward came to Mahaska county, Iowa, taking up their abode about a mile and a half west of Oskaloosa, where the father secured claims, entering land until he owned one thousand acres at one time. He became one of the extensive and prosperous farmers of the county and remained upon the old homestead property up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1856. daughter, Mrs. Augustine, was a member of the Baptist church and was a remarkable lady, whose many good qualities of heart and mind endeared her to those with whom she came in contact. By her marriage she had thirteen children, eight of whom reached adult years, namely: Mary Jane, the wife of R. T. Spates, a farmer of Monroe township; Daniel, a retired farmer living at Rose Hill, Iowa; Michael G.,

who has retired from farm life and resides in Delta, Iowa; Albert J., of this review; Frank T., who died in 1892; John H., a real-estate broker of Oskaloosa; Dora M., living at Rose Hill; and Jennie V., who died in 1894.

Albert J. Augustine, born in California during the temporary residence of his parents in that state, was largely reared in Monroe township, Mahaska county, where he spent his youth upon a farm and attended school through the winter seasons. He remained upon a farm until 1890, when, retiring from agricultural pursnits, he removed to Rose Hill and there engaged in merchandising and dealing in live stock, making his home at that place for six years. In 1896 he came to Oskaloosa, where he now resides and continued to deal in live stock until 1901, since which time he has been speculating in real estate and has handled considerable valuable property, his sales therefore bringing him a good financial return, so that he is now numbered among the capitalists of his city.

In November, 1880, Mr. Augustine was married to Miss Ellen Moore, who was born in White Oak township, Mahaska county, in 1860, a daughter of William and Adeline Moore. The father was a pioneer farmer of Mahaska county, who died in 1886, at the age of seventy-two years, while his wife passed away in 1903, at the very advanced age of eighty-seven years. Mr. and Mrs. Augustine have become the parents of five children: Dorothy Adeline, a teacher in the Grant school, in Oskaloosa; Josephine M., who is bill clerk in the wholesale hardware store of Huber & Kalbach; Marjie L., who is employed in the Central book store; Grover, who died at the age of seven years; and Arthur L.

Mr. and Mrs. Augustine hold membership in the Christian church, and his name is also on the membership rolls of the Masonic and Elks lodges. He is recognized as one of the leaders in democratic circles in Mahaska county and was mayor of Rose Hill and a school director of Monroe township, while at the present writing he is serving for the third term as councilman from the fourth ward in Oskaloosa. In the field of political life and business activity he has won distinction and is today numbered among the leading, influential and honored residents of Mahaska county where he has steadily worked his way npward until, having long since left the ranks of the many, he stands among the successful men of the county.

JOHN R. JAMISON.

John R. Jamison, one of the active and progressive farmers and sheep-raisers of Mahaska county, owns and operates a neat and valuable farm of two hundred acres within three miles of Oskaloosa. It is situated on sections 28 and 29. Spring Creek township, and here he conducts his business along progressive lines of farming, so that his success is well merited. He has been a resident of Mahaska county since 1858 and was born in Canada near the city of Toronto, February 13, 1832. His parents were Andrew and Mary Jane Jamison, natives of Ireland, who in 1824 removed to Canada. After remaining there for a short time they went to Harrison county, Ohio, about 1835, and in that locality John R. Jamison was reared, assisting his father in farm work. He also attended the common schools, but the advantages of education were very meagre as compared with the methods of instruction at the present

John R. Jamison remained at home until his twenty-fifth year, when he rented land and began farming on his own account. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey, he chose Miss Sarah Welling, to whom he was married on the 14th of August, 1856, a daughter of John Welling, a native of Ohio. Mr. Jamison

farmed in that state for two years after his mar-He then invested his savings in sheep and in connection with Mr. John Milliken purchased six hundred ewe sheep, which he drove across the country to Iowa, making his way to Prairie township, this county. There they camped and corraled their sheep and later Mrs. Jamison joined her husband there, making the journey by rail to Iowa. He engaged exclusively in the sheep business for eight years, meeting with success, and when the government compelled him to give up his prairie grazing, he purchased one hundred and fifteen acres of land, which is now a part of the home place, in Spring Creek township, Mahaska county. Here he has continued in sheep-raising in connection with general farming, and has enlarged the boundaries of his place by an additional purchase of eighty acres. He has improved his land, bringing it under a state of rich fertility and he has added to the house and built good barns and outbuildings until he now has a neat and attractive home as well as a valuable farm. He still continues in the sheep industry and has done much for improvement in breeding. He now raises only registered grades of the improved American Merino sheep, and his efforts in this direction have been of material benefit to the county, doing much to improve the grade of sheep raised and thus advance the price.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jamison have been born ten children, of whom six are now living. They lost three in infancy, while James C. passed away at the age of seventeen years. Those who still survive are: Jessie, at home; Fred, who is married and lives in Nodaway county. Missouri; John, who is married and makes his home in Bellville, Republic county. Kansas: Dane, who operates the farm for his father, although living in a separate house, and who married Luna Cruzen, a daughter of Harvey Cruzen, of this township, by whom he has seven children, Hazel, Bert, Frank, James, Marie, Majorie and Clarence: Bert, the next member of the father's

family, is married and lives in Oskaloosa; Sadie, a young lady at home.

Mrs. Jamison and her family attend and are members of the First Presbyterian church of Oskaloosa. Politically Mr. Jamison is a lifelong republican and cast his first vote for John C. Fremont, since which time he has supported each nominee of the republican party. He has been a school director and treasurer for some years, but has never sought for office nor cared for notoriety, preferring to give his time to his home and business. He has witnessed much of the upbuilding of Mahaska county and its development along lines of modern improvement until there is no trace left of pioneer conditions, but on the contrary every evidence of an advanced civilization is here seen.

SOLOMON BROWN.

Solomon Brown, an active, energetic and successful farmer living on section 10, White Oak township, where he owns and operates one hundred and fifty-nine acres of arable land, was born upon this farm September 26, 1855—a fact which indicates that he is a representative of one of the pioneer families of the county. His father, Jonathan Brown, was a native of Morgan county, Ohio, and was reared in Marion county, that state, where he resided until after he had attained his majority. He was there married to Miss Elizabeth Reed in 1852. The lady was a native of Delaware and a daughter of Job Reed, who was likewise born in Delaware, whence he removed with his family to Marion county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Brown followed farming in Ohio and in the second year after their marriage came to Iowa, where he purchased one hundred and nineteen acres of land and also entered from the government forty acres more. It was entirely wild and unimproved and he at once began to clear and cultivate the place. He had to perform the arduous task of breaking the sod and preparing the land for cultivation, but in the course of time he had transformed the tract into richly cultivated fields. He built thereon a good house and barn, also substantial outbuildings and developed a neat and valuable property, being recognized as one of the enterprising agriculturists of the community. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brown were born nine children, of whom three died in infancy. The eldest is Nancy, the wife of T. J. Shipley, a resident of Keokuk county. Iowa. Solomon is the next of the family. J. L. is living in Rose Hill, where he is conducting a hardware store. Alice is the wife of C. I. Ellis. Sarah is the wife of C. L. Vanlaninghan, a popular merchant of Rose Hill. William is at home. The father of this family departed this life in 1885, at the age of fifty-seven years. The mother, however, is still living in her seventy-fifth year and makes her home with her sons. Solomon and William.

Upon the old homestead farm Solomon Brown was reared and in the public schools of the neighborhood acquired his education. In his youth he aided in the work of the fields and since his father's death he has operated the farm upon which he has always lived with the exception of a period of two years from 1898 until 1900, when he resided in Oskaloosa, filling the office of deputy sheriff. He has a well kept farm and raises some stock. He also keeps high bred Plymouth Rock chickens and the breeding of those fowls adds not a little to his income. In all of his business interests he is active and enterprising, and his labors are attended with a measure of success which shows that his work is of a practical nature. He attends the Methodist Episcopal church of which his mother is a member. His political allegiance is given to the democracy, and while never seeking office, he supports the men and measures of the party. The only positions he has

ever filled are those of deputy sheriff and constable, acting in the latter capacity in White Oak township for seven years. He finds ample incentive for the exercise of his talents and energies in his business affairs and has come to be recognized as one of the substantial farmers of the county.

RICHARD W. MOORE.

Richard W. Moore is one of the prosperous farmers of Mahaska county, owning five hundred acres of valuable land in his farm in Harrison township, and in addition to the tilling of the soil he is also extensively and successfully engaged in raising cattle, heavy draft horses and fine mules. His residence is situated in the town of Cedar, where he also conducts a lumber yard and he is one of the organizers and a director of the Farmers National Bank of Oskaloosa, so that his business interests are varied and extensive.

Mr. Moore is a native of Indiana, his birth having occurred in Warren county in 1842. His father, John F. Moore, was born in Ohio and was of Scotch-Irish descent. He, too, was a farmer by occupation and with his father removed from the Buckeye state to Indiana. In 1843 he came to what is now Mahaska county, Iowa, and entered a tract of land in Harrison township, where he lived up to the time of his death. He transformed his claim from a wild and unimproved district into one of rich fertility, being a thoroughly progressive farmer and man of good business ability. He engaged largely in the raising of cattle and sheep, keeping a number of thoroughbreds and in his business undertakings he prospered, becoming the owner of considerable property. wedded Mary E. Maddox, who was born Ohio and was of English lineage, her grandparents having come from Eng-

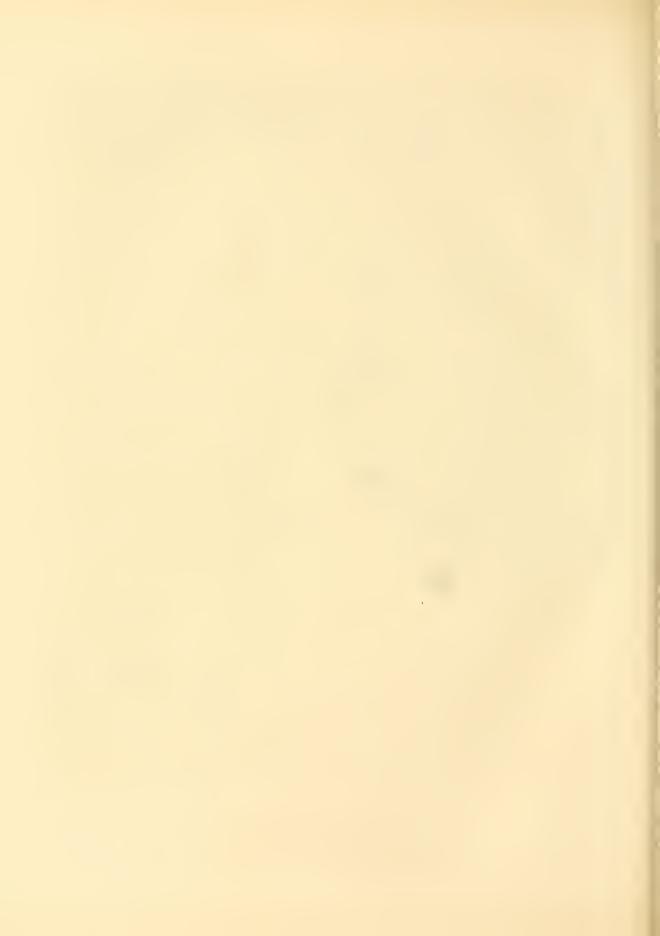
land to America, while her father, Fred Maddox, emigrated from his native country of Newfoundland to the United States. Both Mr. and Mrs. Moore were members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he served as a steward and trustee. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and he held various township offices. He died in 1888, at the age of seventy-two years, and his wife passed away in 1893, at the age of seventy-five years. They were the parents of eleven children.

Richard W. Moore, the second in order of birth, was reared upon the home farm and attended the "Swayback" school-a little log school near his father's home. He was reared to the occupation of farming and has made that pursuit his life work. He began farming on his own account in Harrison township and yet owns five hundred acres of very rich and productive land. Here he raises considerable stock, including heavy draft horses and fine mules. The farm is improved with modern equipments and everything about the place indicates the careful supervision of a progressive owner. Hemakes his home, however, in the village of Cedar and there conducts a lumber yard. He joined with other men of affluence in establishing the Farmers National Bank at Oskaloosa and has since been one of its directors. His business capacity is broad and his judgment sound and accurate and in his various interests he has carefully directed his labors so as to win suc-Mr. Moore built and moved into his home on the prairie (now Cedar) in the summer of 1868. During the fall he and his neighbors began to build a church, which was completed in 1869 and was called "Cedar Chapel." The Methodist society was organized at the home of Mr. Moore in 1869 by the Rev. D. C. Smith, and had five charter members.

In February, 1864, when a young man of twenty-one years, Mr. Moore enlisted for service in the Civil war, joining Company B of the



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Thirty-sixth Iowa Volunteer Infantry at Ottumwa. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Marks Mills, Arkansas, and was incarcerated for ten months, the date of his capture being April 25, 1864. He was afterward exchanged and rejoined his regiment and was mustered out at Davenport, Iowa, in September, 1865. He participated in a number of important engagements and is now a member of Phil Kearney post, G. A. R., at Oskaloosa.

It was not long after his return from the war that Mr. Moore was married in 1866 to Miss Mary E. Cole, who was born in Ohio in 1842 and is a daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Ross) Cole, the father a farmer by occupation and a local minister of the Methodist Episcopal church. Her mother, Sarah Ross Cole, was born in Harrison county, Ohio. Her parents came to Iowa in 1848, settling in Harrison township. Both are now deceased. Her parents, though well-to-do, were noted more for their intelligence and piety than for wealth. Before her marriage, Mrs. Moore was a teacher in Wapello county. Since then her home has been her realm. Her delight is in the church, the missionary society, Sabbath school and her household duties as well. Mr. Moore, while away at his work so much, is satisfied that all is well at home, for "his heart doth safely trust in her." Unto Mr. and Mrs. Moore have been born five children: Hila V., who became the wife of George E. Steele, a farmer, and died leaving two children, Alva and Elsie; Charles C., who died at the age of three years; John, who died in infancy; Harriet Belle, the wife of Oliver Votaw, a farmer of Cedar township, by whom she has one child, Vesta; and Frank F., who lives with his father but is now in South Dakota. The parents are consistent and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which Mr. Moore has been a trustee and steward for thirty-five years. His political views are in accord with republican principles and he has served as township clerk and trustee, while at the present writing, in 1906, he is serving for the second year as supervisor. He has also been a member of the township board of elections for twenty years. In 1873, under President Grant's administration, he was appointed postmaster of Cedar and held the office for one term. During President Arthur's administration he was re-appointed and served for another term. Mr. Moore is pre-eminently a busy man, watchful of opportunities and in his utilization of the advantages which have come to him he has persistently and energetically worked his way upward, his business career being at all times as commendable as it is successful.

SHADRACH NORRIS.

Shadrach Norris, of Oskaloosa, was born in Holmes county, Ohio, July 7, 1832, a son of Levi and Margaret (Hockenberry) Norris, natives of New York and Ohio respectively. When a young man the father went to Ohio, where he followed farming. He was a member of the German Reformed church.

Shadrach Norris was educated in a log schoolhouse and reared on the home farm. In 1854 he began farming with a brother-in-law, operating one hundred and sixty acres for two years. In the spring of 1856 he located five miles west of Oskaloosa in what was then Oskaloosa township, but is now Garfield township, Mahaska county. He had traveled westward with Abraham Griffee, with whom he made his home for three years. After Mr. Griffee removed to Oskaloosa he remained on the farm for two years. He then rented his father-inlaw's farm for one year, after which he went Colorado, making the Denver, with a train of three ox-teams. After traveling six weeks, carrying a load six thousand pounds of flour, οť

and supplies on each of the three wagons, they reached their destination but found the Indians were so numerous that it was necessary to watch closely for fear of attack. In Colorado they sold their supplies and Mr. Norris then returned to his family, consisting of his wife and two children, Alfred and Frank. others of the party were his father-in-law. Peter Blanz, and wife and brother-in-law, Peter Blanz, Jr. The party reached Mahaska county in the fall of 1864 and Mr. Norris bought one hundred acres in Scott township in connection with his father-in-law, operating the farm for seven years. Eight years later he traded his farm for two hundred and eight acres of land in Black Oak township, which he owned twentyone years, transforming it from a wild condition into one of rich fertility. He also built a large house and barn there, but in 1893 sold the property and in January, of that year, bought the Lewis Hillary farm of one hundred and seventy-two acres, in Spring Creek township. In March of the same year he bought a farm on the Iowa City road, in Spring Creek township, of one hundred and eleven acres and operated the two properties with the assistance of his four sons, Alfred D., John F., Lewis F. and Peter L., but eventually sold the one humdred and eleven acres to Peter L. Norris. In June, 1901, he took up his abode in Oskaloosa and has since lived retired. However, he bought twenty acres of land in Spring Creek township, and in the spring of 1906 built a residence in which he makes his home. He has been a large stock-raiser, making a specialty of horses, cattle and hogs. For several years he served as trustee of Black Oak township, and is a member of the school board, and he belongs to the German Reformed church.

In June, 1860, Mr. Norris was married to Barbara Blanz, a daughter of Peter and Catherine (Shier) Blanz, natives of Germany, who came to America when their daughter was only eleven years of age, removing from Ohio to

Iowa a few years later. Mr. and Mrs. Norris have five children: Alfred D., John F., Lewis F. and Peter L., all farmers of Spring Creek township; and Barbara Ella, the wife of William S. Cruzen, of Madison township.

MANOAH HEDGE.

Interested in community affairs to the extent of active, hearty and helpful co-operation in many movements for the general good, Manoah Hedge is numbered among the valued citizens of Oskaloosa. The Hedge family is of English lineage and was established in Virginia at an early day. Aaron Hedge, the grandfather of our subject, became a pioneer schoool teacher of Ohio, and spent much of his active life in Guernsey county, that state. He was not only connected with the progress of the community, but did what he could for its moral development as an active and consistent member of the church. He died when about seventy years of age.

His son, George M. Hedge, was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, and was there married to Miss Belinda Atkinson, also a representative of an old Virginian family. Her father, Robert Atkinson, was a farmer and spent most of his life in Ohio, being a pioneer settler in Guernsey county. Mr. and Mrs. George M. Hedge resided for twenty-six years in Coshocton county, Ohio, and in 1865 removed with their family to Eddyville, Iowa, where he engaged in the nursery business until 1872. He then removed to Oskaloosa, where he lived retired, having become somewhat of an invalid from a stroke of paralysis. He, however, owned a small fruit farm south of the city and confined his attention entirely to its supervision. He was a man of quiet and unpretentions habits; never wavered on public questions; and never intruded his opinions upon those who did not seek to know

them. Majorities meant nothing to him in deciding what ground he should take. It is a pleasant memory to his family that his character and judgment were such as to cause him to be chosen several times as a peacemaker in an adjoining neighborhood where there were grevious differences to be settled. Both he and his wife were lifelong members of the Christian church. His death occurred in 1888, when he was seventy-two years of age, and his wife passed away in 1804, at the age of seventyeight years. She was gifted as a sweet singer, and was dearly loved by her family and friends for her beautiful life. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hedge were born eleven children, three of whom died in infancy. Five are yet living: Sarah, the wife of O. A. Mulvane, of Newman, Illinois; Manoah, the fifth in order of birth; Isabelle, the wife of Richard Charles, of Prairie City, Iowa; Oliver P., of Spring Creek township; and Violet, the wife of E. H. Calkins, of St. Louis, Missouri, Anderson, Aaron and Porter all served in the Civil war, and now sleep in soldiers' graves.

Manoah Hedge was born in Coshocton county, Ohio, June 22, 1846. While in Eddyville, Iowa, he attended the high school and later became a student n Oskaloosa College. He was reared to farm life and began teaching in the winter of 1866 in Wapello county. Iowa, having charge of a district school with an enrollment of seventy-six pupils. He continued teaching in the country schools for some years and in the meantime devoted much of his leisure hours to study. He became principal of the schools at Beacon, Mahaska county, in 1878, and was afterward principal of the schools at Prairie City, Iowa, for two years, and for the fourth ward schools of Oskaloosa for two years. In 1886 he was elected county superintendent of schools in Mahaska county, filling the position for four years, or two terms. On retiring from the office of county superintendent in 1890, he became a partner in a book store in Oskaloosa under the firm name of Johnson & Hedge, which afterward became Hedge Brothers. He was associated in the conduct of this enterprise until 1902, when he sold out and turned his attention to the wall paper business, in which he has since continued.

Not alone in business line has Mr. Hedge contributed to general prosperity and progress but has assisted in the development of the county along many lines beneficial to the people at large. He has for a number of years been president of the Mahaska County Sunday-School Association and was a member of the board of the State Sunday-School Association for several years. He has been active in temperance work and in temperance reform generally. During all these years he has been a student, continually broadening his knowledge by reading, investigation and Since 1865 he has been a memthought. ber of the Christian church and for more than twenty years has been one of its elders. He was one of the original members of the board of the Young Men's Christian Association in Oskaloosa, and acted in that capacity until the elegant building for young men was completed. He has written more or less for local papers and educational journals and during the four years which he served as county superintendent edited an educational column in the Oskaloosa Weekly Herald.

On the 21st of February, 1877, Mr. Hedge was united in marriage to Miss Laura Skaggs, of Chillicothe, Missouri, who died in September, 1892, at the age of forty-two years. Their children were: Violet, at home; Edna, who died in infancy; and Laura, the wife of Harry E. Cannon, of Fremont, Iowa. On the 19th of December, 1900, Mr. Hedge was married to Anna Brolliar, a daughter of Lafayette Brolliar, of Richland, Iowa. They have one child, Hazel, now four years of age.

Mr. Hedge has always had a most profound admiration for the pioneers of the west and the

work which they did in reclaiming the wild region and developing it into a rich commonwealth supplied with all modern equipments and improvements. This interest led to his compilation of material which has gradually grown until he felt the importance of compiling an accurate work, setting forth the events beginning with the pioneer days of Mahaska county and covering a period of more than half a century down to the present year of progress. This material is to be found in systematized form within the covers of this volume and will remain as a permanent record not only for the present but for the future generations, its value increasing as the years go by.

CARRY A. EASTBURN.

Carry A. Eastburn, living on section 11, Cedar township, who follows the occupation of farming, owns a valuable property of two hundred and fifteen acres. He is one of the native sons of the county, having been born February 6, 1856, upon the farm where he yet makes his home. He is a son of Captain Sanford Eastburn, a native of Indiana and a grandson of Benjamin Eastburn, a native of Ohio. ford Eastburn was reared in the state of his nativity and in 1851 came west to Iowa. He was married here to Nancy Ferguson, a native of Indiana and a daughter of John Ferguson, who was also born in that state and became one of the early settlers of Mahaska county. After his marriage Mr. Eastburn began farming on his own account and improved and fenced a place, built a good house and carried on the work of cultivating his land for some time. It was subsequent to his marriage that he enlisted for service in the Civil war, becoming a member of Company K, Thirty-third Iowa Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for three years. At the end of that time he was promoted to the captaincy of another company, with which he continued throughout the remainder of the war and was then honorably discharged. He was a true and loyal soldier and made a creditable military record, winning promotion in recognition of gallant and meritorious service. He died in 1891, at the age of fifty-eight years, while his wife passed away in October, 1903, at the age of sixty-six years. They were the parents of six children, of whom five are now living.

Carry A. Eastburn, the eldest, was reared upon the home farm and assisted in carrying on the work of the fields. His educational privileges were those afforded by the common schools, wherein he pursued his studies during the fall and winter months while with the coming spring he took his place in the fields to aid in the work of plowing, planting and harvesting. He also spent two years in the Baptist College at Pella, Iowa. At the age of twentyone he took up his abode upon a farm in Mahaska county and aided in its development and improvement for some time but eventually sold that property. He afterward purchased one hundred and thirty-two acres of the old homestead farm, which had been entered by his grandfather and upon this place has lived continuously since 1891. He afterward added to it a tract of thirty-five acres and subsequently made an additional purchase of seventy acres, so that the farm now comprises altogether two hundred and fifteen acres of land, which is rich and productive. He has built a good barn and other outbuildings and has a well kept and valuable property, which is conveniently and pleasantly located about a mile from Fremont. so that the advantages of town life are easily accessible.

Mr. Eastburn was married November 18, 1882, to Miss Florence White, a native of this county and a daughter of John Q. White, a native of Indiana, who came to Iowa in 1848 and settled upon a farm near the Sanford East-





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burn property. Mr. and Mrs. White are still living and now reside in Fremont. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Eastburn were born five children, one of whom died in infancy. The eldest living is Nancy Opal, the wife of Roy Garrett, of Cedar township, by whom she has one child; Fred Raymond, who attends school and assists in carrying on the home farm; Belle Marie and Mary Manilla, both of whom are in school. The parents attend the Christian church, of which Mrs. Eastburn is a member.

Mr. Eastburn belongs to the Masonic fraternity, has held various offices in the lodge, his membership being now with the lodge at Fremont, of which he is worthy exemplar, being in hearty sympathy with the teachings and tenets of the craft. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, has served through its chairs and is past grand. He likewise belongs to the Knights of Pythias frater-· nity of Fremont and he and his wife are connected with the Eastern Star and the Rebekahs. Politically Mr. Eastburn is a stalwart republican, unfaltering in his advocacy of the principles of the party, for he believes that it embodies the best ideas of good government. He has never sought or desired office, however, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs and both as a farmer and stockraiser is meeting with a creditable and desirable measure of success. The fact that many of his stanchest friends are numbered among those who have known him from his boyhood days to the present is an indication that his life has been an honorable and straightforward one.

BRUCE JARVIS.

Bruce Jarvis, a veteran of the Civil war and a prominent pioneer settler of Mahaska county, devotes his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits, living on section 14, White Oak township, where he has two hundred and

thirty-five acres of land. He has lived in this county since 1854 and the years have wrought a marvelous change here as the wild prairie has been transformed into rich and productive fields with here and there good farm houses, while in the villages every mark of modern improvement along industrial and commercial lines is also found. He was born in Parke county. Indiana, June 25, 1843, a son of John Jarvis, a native of Maryland. The father removed from his native state to Kentucky and subsequently to Indiana. He was married in Kentucky to Miss Elizabeth Cord, a native of that state, as was her father. Following his marriage he went to Indiana, where he lived for several years and then came west with his family in 1854. He entered land and bought claims in White Oak township, owning there about three hundred acres. His attention was closely given to agricultural pursuits up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1865, while his wife passed away in 1862. In the family were thirteen children.

Bruce Jarvis came to Iowa with his parents, was reared upon the home farm and acquired a common-school education. When a young man he worked out by the month as a farm hand and when eighteen years of age, his spirit of patriotism being aroused, he enlisted at Oskaloosa as a defender of the Union, becoming a member of Company C, Seventh Iowa Infantry of Volunteers, under Major McMullen. The regiment rendezvoused at Burlington and was encamped there for some time. The troops afterward proceeded southward to St. Louis, going to Benton Barracks, where they were stationed for some time, and later continued on their way to Iron Mountain, Missouri. They were at Cape Girardeau, and from that place went to Bird's Point, opposite Cairo, Illinois. The first battle was fought at Belmont, where a large percentage of the company to which Mr. Jarvis belonged were either killed or wounded. so that the regiment had to return to St. Louis

to recruit. Later they returned to Kentucky and participated in the battles of Fort Henry and Fort Donelson and in the engagements at Corinth and Shiloh. They afterward proceeded to Pulaski, Tennessee, under General Dodge, and were with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea. Mr. Jarvis was relieved from duty at Atlanta, Georgia, returned to Chattanooga and was mustered out August 17, 1864. He was in the battle of Atlanta when General McPherson was killed on the 22d of July. He was wounded on one occasion and was twice in the hospital with pneumonia. He participated in a number of important engagements, and his valorous service made his military record a most creditable one.

After returning home in 1865 Mr. Jarvis began farming, renting land for two years, and in 1867 he purchased where he now resides. It was all covered with brush and he had to clear this away before he could plow the land and improve the place. All of the work here has been done by him. He first purchased one hundred and sixty acres, and he has since built a good two-story house and two good barns and outbuildings. He now has a valuable farm equipped with all modern accessories and conveniences. He bought land from time to time, becoming the owner of two hundred and thirty-five acres, constituting one of the valuable farm properties of the locality.

On the 7th of December, 1868, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Jarvis and Miss Dell Jackson, a native of Iowa, and a daughter of Colvin Jackson, of Rose Hill. They have become the parents of five children, of whom one died in infancy, while four are still living. Fred was graduated from Iowa State University with the degree of Doctor of Medicine, and is now successfuly engaged in practice in Delta, Iowa, where he is very widely and favorably known. He married Irene Parsons, a native of Iowa City. Jannie is the wife of Elmer James, of Rose Hill. He is a rural mail deliverer,

while his wife is engaged in teaching school at Rose Hill, a profession which she has followed for eight years at that place and in the county for twelve years. Blanch is the wife of Fletcher Bump, a farmer of White Oak township, and they have one child, Mervin, seven years of age, who is attending the Rose Hill school. Dwight, the youngest, is a student in a medical college at Iowa City, from which he will graduate in June, 1906, at the age of twenty-four years.

In order to provide for his family, Mr. Jarvis has always followed the occupation of farming, and he raises stock, feeding all his grain. His business interests have been well managed and he is recognized as a practical and progressive man, whose labors are a resultant factor in winning success. The family attend the Christian church, of which Mrs. Jarvis and the children are members. Jarvis belongs to the Grand Army post at Rose Hill, and in politics he is a stalwart republican, never missing a presidential election since casting his first ballot for Abraham Lincoln. has served as township trustee and as school trustee, and the cause of education finds in him a warm and stalwart friend. In matters of citizenship he is as true and loval as when he followed the old flag upon southern battle-fields.

P. L. NORRIS.

P. L. Norris, living on section 15, Spring Creek township, is an active and energetic man, now giving his attention to general farming and stock-raising. He owns and operates a farm of one hundred and eleven acres, and the place is neat and thrifty in appearance, indicating his careful supervision. He was born in Scott township, this county, April 26, 1867, and is a son of Shadrach Norris, whose history appears elsewhere in this work. Upon the old home farm he was reared and was educated in

the Black Oak and Scott Center schools. He remained with his father until he had attained his majority and was married in Spring Creek township on the 22d of November, 1899, to Miss Melissa B. Wasson, a daughter of S. B. Wasson, who is living on section 15, Spring Creek township. He was born and reared in county Antrim, Ireland, and when a young man came to the new world in 1853. He settled first in Washington county, Pennsylvania, where he worked on a farm for five or six years. In that state, in 1856, he married Grace McBurnev. He afterward removed to what is now known as Brue, West Virginia, where he followed farming for two years, living there at the time of the Civil war. In 1865 he came to Iowa, being in Oskaloosa on the 9th of April, 1865, when Richmond surrendered. He later bought a farm and located in Spring Creek township and subsequently took up his abode where he now resides. He has built a good house here, has fenced his land and has carried on the work of improving his farm. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wasson were born the following: Mary, formerly a teacher; James, of Montana; Emma, now Mrs. A. D. Norris; Samuel B., of Colorado; John, of the state of Washington; William B., carrying on the home farm; Melissa, the wife of P. L. Norris; and Elizabeth, who died in 1886.

After his marriage, P. L. Norris located where he now resides and after renting the land for two years he purchased it. He has since further improved the property, building here a neat residence and has fair outbuildings. The fields are well fenced and he is farming along modern progressive lines, annually harvesting good crops, while at the same time he raises full blooded Percheron horses and shorthorn cattle, and makes a specialty of feeding and fattening hogs.

Politically Mr. Norris is an earnest democrat where national issues are involved, but at local elections votes independently. He has always been a resident of Mahaska county and has therefore witnessed much of its growth and development. He is well known in Oskaloosa and other parts of the county and his genuine personal worth as well as his business integrity makes him a man whom to know is to esteem and honor.

FRED R. BECK.

Fred R. Beck, one of the young and active business men of Fremont, where for three years he has been engaged in the lumber and grain trade, was born near this town, in Wapello county, at Island Center, May 28, 1880. His father, George W. Beck, was a native of Ohio, and a son of David Beck, who removed from Ohio to Iowa in 1849, becoming one of the first settlers of Wapello county. There George W. Beck was reared to manhood and was married in this part of the state. He settled on a farm in Mahaska county, where he carried on general farming for several years but later sold the property and took up his abode in Wapello county, where he owned and operated a farm for some time. Afterward he settled in Fremont, where he turned his attention to the grain trade. He was an active business man for many years and carefully and successfully conducted his varied interests, but is now living retired. In his family were four children: Jesse, who is engaged in the newspaper business at Centerville; Burton, agent for the Oregon & Northern Railroad Company, at Tacoma, Washington; Fred R., of this review; and Arthur, at home.

Fred R. Beck was reared in Fremont and pursued his education in the public schools, followed by a three years' perparatory course in Penn College, at Oakaloosa, and a course in Wesleyan University, at Mt. Pleasant, where he entered the scientific department. He was graduated from that institution in the class of

1903. After completing his course in college, he returned home and took charge of the lumber business of the Rand Lumber Company and also the grain trade with his father. He is an active, enterprising and successful young business man, who has thoroughly acquainted himself with the lines of commercial activity with which he is now connected. He handles a considerable volume of business annually and is wide awake, alert and enterprising.

Mr. Beck is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Fremont lodge, in which he is now serving as junior warden, and he is also connected with the Eastern Star. He belongs to the Phi Delta Theta, a college fraternity, and also to the Knights of Pythias lodge, of Fremont, and the Modern Woodmen. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a young man of examplary habits and good business ability, diligent and progressive, and is a public-spirited citizen.

GEORGE W. AKERMAN.

George W. Akerman resides in Fremont, where for sixteen years he has been engaged in the real-estate business. No history of this part of the county would be complete without mention of the Akerman family, for through more than a half century representatives of the name have been closely associated with business activity and development here. They have always stood for good citizenship, for public progress and business activity, and in an analyzation of the life record of George W. Akerman it will be found that he is a worthy scion of his race. He was born in Fremont, August 19, 1862.

His father, Philip Akerman, was a native of Bayaria, Germany, being born there January

20, 1829, and emigrated to this country with his parents in 1833, settling near Hamilton, Ohio, where young Philip grew to manhood. On November 8, 1850, he was married to Miss Johanna Frederica Goehring, who was also a native of Bavaria, Germany, and in the year following came to Mahaska county, Iowa, and settled at Fremont. Mr. Akerman at once identified himself with mercantile and agricultural interests in the county, eventually becoming one of its most extensive landowners. Although he came to America a poor boy he accumulated and owned several hundred acres of land and was an extensive dealer, feeder and shipper of stock, in which enterprise he was for a number of years associated with J. H. Eastburn and John Q. White as partners. The former is now a prominent and well known stock commission merchant of Chicago, and the latter is now retired from active business and resides in Fremont. These gentlemen were among the heaviest feeders and shippers of stock in this part of the state and in an early day handled immense numbers of western and southern cattle, which they fed and fattened in Mahaska county. The most cordial and friendly relations existed between the partners in addition to their business dealings. Each enjoyed the most implicit confidence and esteem of the other and they were associated in business for a number of years with mutual pleasure and profit.

Miss Johanna Frederica Goehring was born in Bavaria, Germany, December 9, 1825, and came to this country in 1848. She settled near Hamilton, Ohio, and was married, as stated above, to Philip Akerman, in 1850. To them were born six children, five of whom are now living. Harmon Akerman was born April 4, 1854, married Ollie McClain and five children were born to them—Earl H., John L. and Fred C. being the surviving ones, two having died in infancy. Emma C. Akerman was born December 20, 1858, and married L. A. Springer. Two



Suo M. Okerman



children were born to them, Walter A., and Alma F., the latter dying December 23, 1894, aged six years, one month and eleven days. George W. Akerman was born August 19, 1862. (See sketch elsewhere.) Albert M. Akerman was born September 19, 1864, and married Clara Dinsmore, a daughter of Dr. D. C. Dinsmore, of Kirkville, Iowa. Two children were born to them—Philip C. and Harry D. He died September 27, 1805, aged thirty-one years and eight days, and was interred in Albia cemetery. At the time of his death he was the manager of the Hiteman Supply Company store, at Hiteman, Iowa. Maggie M. Akerman was born August 13, 1866, and married C. N. Neil. Lettie B. Akerman was born March 6, 1868, and married S. E. Heinzman. To them were born two children—Philip Ward and Jack E. Mrs. Philip Akerman, the mother, died at her home in Fremont on February 14, 1802, aged sixty-six years, two months and five days. Philip Akerman, the father, died on February 27, 1895, aged sixty-six years, one month and seven days.

George W. Akerman was reared upon the home farm and he and his brothers became his father's assistants in carrying on the work of the home place and in managing his stock business. After arriving at mature years he engaged in the livery and horse business in Fremont and also operated in real estate on a small scale. Subsequently, however, he sold his livery barn and turned his attention to the hardware and implement business, at the same time continuing as a real-estate dealer. After two years he sold his store and has since given his time and attention to his real-estate operations, being associated in this work for several years with J. M. Pugh. In 1904 he opened a realestate office in New Sharon and placed it in charge of C. C. Caves and C. F. Dinsmore, and at the same time entered into partnership relations with C. L. Dean & Brother, in the conduct of a real-estate office in Hedrick. He is

operating in Fremont and he now handles a large annual business in lands in Mahaska, Wapello and adjoining counties and various states. In 1905 he negotiated realty transfers to the value of over six hundred thousand dollars, this including the sale of both town and country property. Mr. Akerman owns large landed interests adjoining Fremont and is also owner of several well improved farms in Mahaska county, and has assisted to develop and make Fremont what it is today. In 1903 he built a good two-story business block, in which his office is located. He has also erected one of the finest residences of the town. In addition to his real-estate operations he is a stockholder in the State Bank of Fremont, one of the solid financial institutions of Mahaska county.

Mr. Akerman was married in Fremont, November 24, 1892, to Miss Rita J. Sigafoos, and to them were born three children: Izah Louise was born December 21, 1895, and died December 23, 1895; David Lincoln was born May 26, 1897; and Fairy May, August 24, 1899.

Rita J. Sigafoos was born in Brooklyn, Iowa, March 4, 1867. Her father, Dr. Russell Bigelow Sigafoos, was born in Holmes county, Ohio, April 16, 1830, where he was reared and educated. There he studied medicine and engaged in the practice of his profession for a time but emigrated to Iowa in an early day, settling at Brooklyn, where he continued in the practice of medicine. He was married on September 10, 1862, at Brooklyn. to Miss Cynthia Louisa Drake, who was born in Holmes county, Ohio, May 9, 1836, and died February 9, 1874. To them were born two daughters—Rita J., as mentioned above, and Fairy Mayfield, who first saw the light of day on March 4, 1865. The family came to Mahaska county in April, 1877, and settled in Fremont, where the Doctor continued the practice of medicine until his death, which occurred on January 25, 1897. He was one of the pioneer physicians of the state and was recognized as an able representative of the medical fraternity. He served one year in the war of the rebellion in Company H, Twenty-eighth Iowa Infantry, and was lieutenant of his company. Fairy Mayfield Sigafoos was married to T. N. Doolittle on September 5, 1890, and they have one child, Alfred Bigelow Doolittle.

Mrs. Akerman was reared and educated in Mahaska county and became one of its teachers, following that profession for several years prior to her marriage.

Mr. Akerman is a lifelong democrat but has never sought nor desired office. He did serve, however, as a member of the town council and served one term as township trustee, and has frequently been a delegate to numerous county conventions. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and Woodmen of the World lodges in Fremont, and has a very extensive circle of friends. He has been a resident of the county throughout his entire life and has therefore witnessed much of its growth and development as it has emerged from frontier conditions to take on the improvements and evidences of an advanced civilization. He is pre-eminently public spirited and his co-operation can be counted upon to further the public welfare. He is well known throughout the state as a man of strict business integrity, thoroughly reliable and trustworthy and his life record proves that success and an honored name may be won simultaneously.

DANIEL K. UNSICKER.

Daniel K. Unsicker, who is one of the prominent business men and representative farmers of Mahaska county, has been successfully engaged in the grain and lumber trade at Wright since 1898. He is one of the more recent arrivals in Mahaska county, having become a resident here in 1896 but during this period has demonstrated

his right to rank with its representative citizens and merchants. He was born in Tazewell county, Illinois, March 9, 1857, and as the name indicates, is of German lineage. His father, John Unsicker, was a native of Germany and became one of the pioneers of Tazewell county, where he located in 1849. He opened up a large farm there and became a prosperous agriculturist and stock-breeder, dealing in pure-blooded shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs and Norman horses. He raised his family upon the old farm and there he spent the greater portion of a useful and well directed life, passing away in October, 1887.

Daniel K. Unsicker remained upon the home farm with his father until he reached his majority and during the period of his youth received good educational advantages at the village school and in the Evergreen City Business College, at Bloomington, Illinois, where he completed a course of study that well qualified him for the practical and responsible duties of a business career. He was graduated from that institution in the class of 1880, and afterward became a partner of his father as a breeder and dealer in pure-blooded shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs and Norman horses. They succeeded in building up a large and profitable business, the extent of their operations making them well known as stock-dealers in Illinois.

D. K. Unsicker was married in the spring of 1886 to Miss Lizzie Zimmerman, a native of Ohio, who was reared and educated in that state and a daughter of Squire Zimmerman, who was a prominent Ohio farmer. Mrs. Unsicker has indeed been a faithful companion and helpmate to her husband on life's journey, sharing with him in the joys and sorrows, the adversity and prosperity which checker the careers of all. They have become the parents of three children, Vesta B., Carl C. and Helen M., all under the parental roof.

Following his marriage Mr. Unsicker rented a tract of land which he farmed for two years

and then bought a farm in Livingston county, Illinois, where he located, there carrying on general agricultural pursuits in connection with the breeding and sale of stock. He lived upon that place for eight years, at the end of which time he sold the property for almost double what he had originally paid for it. Coming to Iowa he made a prospecting tour over the state, spending about two months in selecting a location. He bought a farm of four hundred and ninety acres near Wright, in Spring Creek township, Mahaska county. Here he located and began the further improvement of the property. He is a progressive agriculturist, successful in his farming operations and in his stock business. From time to time he has added to his property until his farm now embraces nearly one thousand acres. He erected an attractive residence, good barns and outbuildings, has fenced his place and has added to the productiveness of the soil by tiling, having thirtysix miles of tiling upon this farm. It is one of the best drained farms in the state, and in several ways Mr. Unsicker has been equally resourceful and enterprising in improving and developing his property. In 1896, prior to removing to Iowa, he entered into partnership with E. Kennell under the firm name of D. K. Unsicker & Company, grain merchants. He then established elevators and began business in connection with the grain trade at Fremont, Butler and Wright. He bought and shipped large quantities of grain and carried on a prosperous business. In 1901 he sold his interests in the Fremont and Butler grain business and bought out the interest of his partner in the Wright elevator and the business at this point. Here he has continued as a grain merchant and in 1905 he formed a partnership with Mr. Knudson in the lumber business, since which time they have carried a full line of lumber and building materials, and are now numbered among the progressive and prominent business men of the county. Mr. Unsicker removed from

the farm to Wright and erected here a neat and substantial residence. He leases the farm for grain-raising, and has a good tenant upon the property.

Politically Mr. Unsicker has been a lifelong democrat but without aspiration for office. He has, however, served in various local positions of trust and honor, to which he has been called by his fellow townsmen, and in 1901 he was nominated by his party for candidate for the legislature. He made the race, and at the election carried the full party strength. He is a successful financier and business man, of ready recognition of opportunities, of keen enterprise and sound discrimination, and he has so directed his labors and energies that prosperity has followed his efforts and he stands today among the most prominent and successful landowners and grain and lumber merchants of Mahaska county.

OLIVER SAMUEL ELLIS.

Oliver Samuel Ellis, closely connected with many corporate interests of Oskaloosa has become one of the valued factors in business circles here, for he belongs to that class of representative men whose activity, enterprise and adaptability enable them to produce results and add to the general prosperity as well as to individual success. He was born in Mount Pleasant, lowa, April 14, 1865. His father, Fernandas Ellis, a native of Ohio, was of Scotch and German ancestry and in early life studied photography. About 1860 he came to Iowa, settling in Mount Pleasant, and in 1866 removed to Oskaloosa. He married Harriet J. Thompson, a native of Pennsylvania.

He was a member of the Presbyterian church and was an exemplary follower of the Masonic fraternity, while his political allegiance was given to the republican party. He died in 1867, when thirty-two years of age and later Mrs. Ellis became the wife of Samuel D. Knowlton, now deceased, who was a farmer and at one time a business man in Oskaloosa. In his last years he lived retired in New Sharon, his death occurring there. Mrs. Knowlton, however, yet resides in New Sharon, and is sixty-two years of age. By her first marriage she had two sons, the younger being Walter F. Ellis, who is manager of the Sioux City Iron Works, at Sioux City, Iowa.

Oliver S. Ellis is indebted to the publicschool system of Oskaloosa for the educational privileges which he enjoyed in his youth. He was brought to this city when only about a year old and attended the primary, grammar and high schools, thus becoming well qualified for the practical duties of a business career. At the age of fourteen years he entered the wholesale grocery house of Wright & Spencer, now the H. L. Spencer Company, as office boy and gradually won promotion which came to him in recognition of his capability, untiring devotion to the firm and his unremitting dili-He was made successively shipping clerk, house salesman and traveling salesman and in the early part of 1900 became general manager for the H. L. Spencer Company, wholesale grocers, which is his present connection with the house. He has been identified continuously with this commercial enterprise since entering business life, and no higher testimonial of capability could be given than this fact. He has, however, extended his efforts to other lines, becoming financially interested in various important business concerns which contribute to the commercial and industrial activity of Oskaloosa. He has for ten years been treasurer of the Green & Bentley Drug Company, wholesale and retail dealers in drugs. For several years he was president of the Lost Creek Coal Company, of which he is now director and he is a director in the Rex Fuel Company of Durfee, Iowa, and has an interest in the National Grocery Company, of Chicago, which owns and controls thirteen different houses. He is likewise a director in the Western Grocery Company, owning and operating six different places of business, and he has various other commercial and mining interests.

In 1887 Mr. Ellis was united in marriage to Miss Edith Parkburst, who was born in Mahaska county, near New Sharon, in 1867 and is a daughter of Henry C. and Matilda (Fox) Parkhurst, the father a retired farmer now living in Oskaloosa. Mr. Ellis is a valued member of various societies, belonging to the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained the Knight Templar degree, and also to the Elks lodge. He votes with the republican party. He and his wife occupy a beautiful home at the end of Second avenue, East, called Old Orchard Place, and its hospitality is one of its most pleasing and attractive features, making it the center of a cultured society circle. Honored and respected by all, there is no man who occupies a more enviable position in business circles than does Oliver Samuel Ellis, who has spent almost his entire life in this city and whose prominence is not alone the result of his success but also has come by reason of the straightforward business methods that he has ever followed. He has been watchful of opportunities and in matters of business judgment is rarely at fault, so that he has made judicious investments that have returned a gratifying income.

SAMUEL HESS.

Samuel Hess, owning and operating a farm of three hundred acres on section 17, Richland township, was born in West Virginia, August 10, 1833. His parents, Jacob and Elizabeth (Dawson) Hess, were natives of the Old Do-



MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL HESS.



minion, and when their son was only six weeks old they removed to Champaign county, Ohio, where the father purchased a farm and made his home until his death, which occurred in 1838, when he was fifty years of age. His wife long survived him, passing away at the age of eighty-five years. In their family were seven children, of whom Samuel is the youngest. The record is as follows: George, who married and died in Ohio; John N., who died in Ohio about four years ago; Jacob, who died in Utah about six years ago; Susan, who became the wife of Thomas Middleton and died in Ohio; Margaret, who married Joseph Swisher and died in Ohio; and Ellen, who became the wife of Jefferson Bertner and passed away in the Buckeve state.

Samuel Hess, the youngest and the only one now living, was but five years of age when his father died. He made his home with his mother until the age of fifteen years, when he went to work on a farm by the month. He had but very limited education, and from an early age was dependent upon his own resources and worked earnestly and persistently to gain a start in life. He was employed at farm labor until his marriage, which was celebrated September 15, 1859, Miss Elizabeth Swisher becoming his wife. She was born in Champaign county, Ohio, June 14, 1841, and is a daughter of Joseph Swisher. Samuel Hess and O. G. Hess, although not related, married sisters. Soon after their marriage Samuel Hess and his wife, accompanied by Joseph Swisher and his familv, started for Mahaska county. Mr. Hess had three horses and some harness, a bed and some bedding, which comprised his entire worldly possessions. After arriving in Richland township, Mahaska county, they remained for eleven days with a Mr. Milledge, an uncle of Mrs. Hess, at the end of which time Mr. Swisher purchased land, a part of which Mr. Hess rented. His first purchase of land comprised eighty acres on section 17, Richland township. About twenty acres had been broken which, together with an old log house, constituted the entire improvement. He soon afterward bought eighty acres adjoining the original tract from his father-in-law. This was partially broken and there was a small frame house upon it containing three rooms and a shed kitchen. There was little plastering and they often found in the morning that all liquids in their house had been frozen over night. The furnishings of their house comprised two beds, a three-legged stool and one chair until they could have chairs made at Peoria, Iowa, There was an old thatched roof stable upon the place. It seemed that the work of improvement had scarcely been begun. Mr. and Mrs. Hess experienced hard times if anybody did, and yet there was much pleasure and enjoyment in their work knowing that they were developing a good farm. Both worked earnestly, untiringly and indefatigably as the years went by, and they have certainly earned and deserved the rest which they are now enjoying. Today Mr. Hess owns three hundred acres of as good land as can be found in the state of Iowa, and in the midst of his farm stands a comfortable and commodious frame residence. There are also three large barns upon the place and good fences, eighty acres being enclosed within woven wire, hog-tight fences. He uses the latest improved machinery in carrying on the farm work, and has principally raised corn and hay, all of which he feeds to his stock. Their early experiences were not unlike those that fall to the lot of all pioneer settlers. They were poor people and had to manage as best they could, but their enterprise and labor has brought to them very gratifying success, and they are now numbered among the substantial citizens of the community. In the early days the house was lighted by grease lamps and heated by an open fireplace, yet they had a stove with which they did their cooking.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hess have been born seven children: John N., who died when but

twenty-three months old; George, who was born June 7, 1862, and has resided for a time in Nebraska, but is now upon the home farm; Alonzo, who was born in 1864 and died at the age of seven years; Harrison, who was born September 27, 1866, and is now living in the state of Washington; Edward, who was born October 14, 1868, and married Janette Lenhart, living in Madison county, Iowa; Cyrus, who was born October 10, 1870, and married Tena Harris, their home being on eighty acres of land belonging to his father; and William, who was born July 11, 1874, and is still at home. The youngest son manages the place and works the land for his father, devoting his attention to general farming and making a specialty of the raising of Jersev red hogs and black polled cattle. Mr. and Mrs. Hess are very hospitable people, and Mrs. Hess has proven a most estimable helpmate and companion to her husband, largely assisting him in his work by her careful and able management of the household affairs. She belongs to the Christian church. Mr. Hess gives his political support to the democracy, but has never sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, which have been capably directed, so that now he possesses a handsome competence. No longer does he find it necessary to live economically and frugally as in pioneer days, for his labor has brought him a good financial reward, and he is today the owner of one of the fine farms of Richland township.

FRANCIS HANMER LORING.

Francis Hanmer Loring, engaged in the real-estate and abstract business in Oskaloosa, is a representative citizen and a veteran of the Civil war, whose life record has at all times been characterized by high ideals and manly principles. He was born in Centre Belpre,

Washington county, Ohio, July 9, 1832. His father, Oliver Rice, also a native of Centre Belpre, was born January 20, 1790. The grandfather, Daniel Loring, removed from Sudbury, Massachusetts, to Marietta, Ohio, where he arrived on the 1st of January, 1789, with the second party that followed the advent of General William Putnam, who opened the northwest territory, penetrating into that region in the preceding year. Daniel Loring settled at Centre Belpre, where he secured land by allotment, after which he gave his attention to general farming. He was also justice of the peace, a position of considerable honor and prominence in those days. The farm which he developed was the birthplace and home of his son Oliver and it was there that Daniel Loring died in 1823. He was a revolutionary soldier and a pensioner of the war.

Oliver Rice Loring, father of our subject, was a farmer by occupation. Under the old system of judicial procedure in Ohio he sat on the common pleas bench for fifteen years. In connection with five others he organized the First Universalist church at Centre Belpre, this being the first organization of that denomination west of the Alleghany mountains. He was a stanch supporter of the church, ever active in its work and doing all in his power to promote the moral development of his community. He enlisted for service in the war of 1812, but was in no active battles. His political support was given to the whig party and he strongly endorsed the principles advocated by Henry Clay. Distinctively a man of affairs, he wielded a wide influence in the community where he resided and his support was given to every movement for the general good. He did everything in his power to advance intellectual and moral improvement and to uphold the legal and political status of his community and his efforts were of direct and permanent benefit. He married Miss Frances Howe and unto them were born three children: Daniel Warren, who was

born in 1821 and died in 1898; Lucy R.; and Jesse D. Daniel W., born in Belpre, came to Iowa in 1851 and in March, 1853, wedded Mary K. Soule, of Marietta, Ohio. In the same year they came to Oskaloosa, where Daniel W. Loring followed merchandising until his death. All of his children are now deceased with the exception of one son, Frank, who is a merchant at Sac City, Iowa. The daughter became the wife of Rev. Martin L. Edwards, a Universalist minister. They lived at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, where her death occurred in 1870, when she was forty-six years of age. Jesse D. Loring was born in 1826, became a resident of Oskaloosa in 1853, followed merchandising here and died in 1871. After losing his first wife Oliver R. Loring married Miss Orinda Howe, a very distant relative of his first wife. She was born in Poultney, Vermont, January 20, 1799, and died in April, 1889, at the very advanced age of ninety years. Oliver Rice Loring, her husband, died in the vear 1873, at the age of eighty-four years. She was a daughter of Peter Howe, who removed to Washington county. Ohio, in 1803 and settled on the Muskingum river at Rainbow, four miles above Marietta. He, too, served with the patriot army in the Revolutionary war. He was a member of the celebrated Howe family which numbered many loyalists or tories and also many distinguished patriots. Peter Howe was a farmer and he reared a large family, including Mrs. Orinda Loring. The daughter was a member of the Universalist church and a most estimable lady. By her marriage she became the mother of nine children, of whom five died in childhood. The others are: Francis H., of this review; Delia M., the wife of Edward Morris, a minister of the Universalist church living on the old homestead at Centre Belpre, Ohio; Eletha, who became the wife of Augustus W. Ford, who removed to Logan county, Iowa, in 1863, and there followed banking, his wife dying a short time after their arrival in this state; and Corwin, who joined the Forty-seventh Iowa Infantry during the Civil war, becoming a member of Company C at Oskaloosa in 1864. He died in the service of camp fever at Helena, Arkansas, when twenty-three years of age.

Francis H. Loring pursued his education in the common schools of Belpre, Ohio, and in the Liberal Institute at Marietta, Ohio. He taught school for five terms and remained upon the old home farm, assisting in its cultivation and development, until the 26th of July, 1862, when he also responded to the call for aid, enlisting at Belpre, Ohio, as a member of Company G, Ninety-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was mustered out at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio, June 25, 1865, after nearly three vears of active field service. He was first with the Army of West Virginia, but during most of the time was with the Army of the Cumberland and he participated in the engagements of Resaca, Dalton, Kenesaw Mountain and Atlanta, and was with Sherman on the famous march to the sea. The last battle of importance in which he participated was at Bentonville, North Carolina. He was very fortunate in that he was never wounded nor captured nor was he reported off duty during a single day of his three years' service. Soon after entering the army he was commissioned captain of his company and during the last year of the service was on detached duty, being in command of a battalion of four companies in the Eleventh Ohio Infantry. He received his commission as major by brevet after the close of the war.

When the country no longer needed his services Major Loring returned to his old home in Ohio and in August, 1865, came to Iowa, settling in Oskaloosa, where he embarked in merchandising, in which he continued until 1885. He then engaged in the life insurance business until 1898 and during that time made his residence in Waterloo for four years. Returning to Oskaloosa, the Cowan, Hambleton & Loring

Company, abstract and real-estate dealers, was organized, and Mr. Loring has since been one of the partners. They have a large clientage and their business has assumed extensive and profitable proportions.

On the 24th of January, 1863, Mr. Loring was married to Miss Delia N. Armstrong, who was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, in 1839, but at the time of her marriage was living in Belpre, Ohio. She was a daughter of James Armstrong, a railroad contractor and a pioneer of Columbiana, who was also a steamboat operator. For about thirty years Major and Mrs. Loring traveled life's journey together and were then separated by the death of the wife on the 31st of August, 1893. Five children had been born unto them: Elizabeth M., who died in 1896, at the age of thirty years; Charles M., who was born in 1869 and is assistant treasurer of the J. I. Case Plow Company at Racine, Wisconsin; Caroline A., living in Dallas, Texas; Mabel H., the wife of Archibald E. Powell. a route agent for the Wells-Fargo Express Company, stationed at Colorado Springs, Colorado, by whom she has one child, Francis L., now four years of age; and James Warren, dispatcher in the office of the Cedar Rapids & Iowa City Interurban Railroad, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Mrs. Loring was a member of the Congregational church and was a most estimable lady, devoted to her family and her friends, so that her death was the occasion of deep and wide-spread regret.

Mr. Loring is a member of the Masonic fraternity and belongs to Phil Kearney post, No. 40, G. A. R., of Oskaloosa, of which he was one of the first commanders. He has been grand treasurer of the grand lodge of Masons, grand high priest of the grand chapter, R. A. M., and was grand commander of the Knights Templar of Iowa. His position in the Masonic circles in the state is thus indicated, for he has been honored with high and important offices. His political allegiance is given to the repub-

lican party, but he is without aspiration for office. In no duty of citizenship, however, is he remiss, for he has a public-spirited interest in the general welfare and does all in his power as a private citizen for the welfare of his county, state and nation.

CHARLES D. RANDELL.

Charles D. Randell, respected and honored in the community where he resides, is classed with the representative citizens and a life of well directed activity and thrift has been crowned with success, making him a prosperous farmer of the county. He now owns a neat and well improved farm of three hundred and twenty acres and everything about his place is kept in good condition. He also has forty acres in Wright, where he resides. He has made his home in Mahaska county since the fall in 1867 and is a native of Ohio, having been born in Gallipolis, Gallia county, August 13, 1845. His father, Augustus Randell, was also a native of that county, born August 17, 1823. The grandfather, Richard Randell, was a native of Massachusetts and was of Scotch descent, the family having been founded in America in Colonial days. On leaving the old Bay state in 1798, Richard Randell removed to Ohio, settling in Gallia county, where he opened up a farm in the midst of the wilderness. The district in which he located was a forest region and there he hewed out a farm, clearing away the timber in order to place the land under the plow. He was married to Miss Lucy Sprague in 1822. Upon the old family homestead there Augustus Randell was reared early assisting his father in the arduous task of developing new land, while in the public schools he acquired his education. He was married there, September 28, 1844, to Miss Rebecca Jane Mitchell, a native of Pennsylvania, born in



& & Ranchell



Armstrong county. Following his marriage Mr. Randell engaged in farming in Gallia county and there reared his family. In 1852 he left for Illinois, driving three horses to a wagon, and settled in Hancock county, where he joined an uncle who had been living there since 1850. His father also subsequently removed to Illinois. Augustus Randell opened up a farm in Hancock county and there reared his family, giving his remaining days to general agricultural pursuits. He died in Bowen, November 17, 1895, at an advanced age, while his wife passed away in February, 1882. They were worthy people, respected and esteemed by all who knew them and Mr. Randell led a very busy and useful life crowned with a gratifying measure of success, which made him one of the substantial farmers of his community.

Charles D. Randell, the oldest of a family of six sons and three daughters, all of whom grew to mature years, while at the present time all of the sons and one of the daughters are yet living. His boyhood and vouth were passed in Hancock county, Illinois, upon the old home farm, for he was a young lad at the time of the removal of his parents to that place. He was educated in the public schools and during the periods of vacation he worked in the fields, thus gaining practical knowledge of the best methods of tilling the soil and producing crops. In 1865 he went to Kansas, where he hired out to drive an ox-team through to the mountains. He spent the winter of 1865-6 at Central City. Colorado, and the following summer was in Boulder Valley. In the fall of 1866 he returned to Illinois with team and wagon but walked most of the way. On again reaching Hancock county he operated his father's farm until coming to Mahaska county later in the same year. Here he purchased forty acres of land which was raw and unimproved and for which he paid nine dollars per acre. He broke this with horse teams and as he prospered in his undertakings he later purchased more land from time to time and now has about five hundred acres of good Mahaska county land, his fields being rich and productive. Upon the farm he has erected a neat frame residence, also good barns and outbuildings and the place is likewise well fenced and tiled. There is a bearing orchard and a grove, together with many ornamental trees around the home, which add to the value and attractive appearance of the place. He has many walnut and elm trees and the young trees which he planted years ago have grown to splendid size and are an attractive feature of the farm. Altogether the place is neat and thrifty in appearance and the property is a monument to the labor and enterprise of the owner.

On the 22d of December, 1870, Mr. Randell was united in marriage to Miss Sarah C. Moore, a daughter of John F. and Mary (Madox) Moore, living near Kirkville, Iowa, and a sister of R. W. Moore, who is represented elsewhere in this work. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Randell have been born two sons and six daughters: Seth A., a prominent farmer of Harrison township, who owns two hundred acres of well improved land; C. W., also a farmer of Harrison township, who has a well improved property there; Mary, the wife of David Gwin, who owns two hundred acres of good land in Harrison township; Clara A., the wife of W. A. McBurney, who is operating her father's farm together with his own farm adjoining; Florence, the wife of C. N. Mc-Burney, a resident of Harrison township; Esther, Estella and Belle at home. For many years Mr. Randell continued the active operation of his farm and in connection with the tilling of the soil was formerly engaged in raising and breeding stock, feeding from one to four carloads of fat cattle annually. Leaving the farm in 1905 he went to Nebraska and visited different parts of that state, also Kansas, and Denver, Colorado Springs and Salida, Colorado, spending three or four months in the west

and gaining an intimate and accurate knowledge of that section of the country. Since his return he has made his home in Wright, where he has erected a neat residence.

Politically Mr. Randell has been a lifelong republican, casting his first ballot for General U. S. Grant in 1868, and has since voted for each presidential nominee of the party but has been without political aspiration for himself, although he has been elected and served in numerous township offices, called to these positions by his fellow citizens who recognize his worth and ability. It is needless to say that his duties have been discharged with promptness and fidelity and he has frequently served as a delegate to numerous conventions. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and takes a most active part in the work of the church and the Sunday-school and the daughters are teachers in the Sunday-school. Randell is a charter member of Wright lodge, I. O. O. F., and he and his wife and daughters are connected with the Order of Rebekalı. He is one of Mahaska county's successful farmers and has helped to improve and make the county what it is today. Here he is well known as a careful business man, who has by his own labor and enterprise accumulated a valuable property, including a large farm and good home in Wright. He is today one of the substantial citizens of the county and his history shows what may be accomplished by earnest purpose and indefatigable effort. He has won not only success but also an honored name.

SETH A. RANDELL.

Seth A. Randell, the eldest son of Charles D. and Sarah C. (Moore) Randell, was born in Cedar township, October 6, 1871, and acquired his early education in the country schools near his boyhood home, later attending Penn Col-

lege and the Oskaloosa Business College. On the 19th of February, 1895, he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Hoover, a daughter of David and Angeline Hoover. Her father died May 8, 1883. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Randell have been born four children, namely: George D., Pearl, Anna and Clara.

After his marriage Mr. Randell was engaged in farming near Bowen, Hancock county, Illinois, for two years, and on his return to Mahaska county at the end of that time he purchased the Ed Carpenter farm one mile west of Wright, where he now resides, owning and operating two hundred and twelve acres of good land. In connection with general farming he is quite extensively engaged in stockraising, annually feeding from three to four carloads of stock, and he is today numbered among the most promising young men of Harrison township.

H. H. GLASSCOCK.

H. H. Glasscock, living on section 3, Spring Creek township, gives his attention to general farming and stock-raising, his landed possessions embracing nearly three hundred acres, upon which are four sets of good farm buildings and other modern improvements. He has lived in the county since 1877, being a young man of twenty years when he arrived here. His birth occurred in Union county, Ohio, January His father, Joseph Glasscock, was 7. 1857. born in Virginia and was there reared. He was twice married, the first time in Virginia and the second time in Ohio, on which occasion he wedded Shady Stratton, a native of the Buckeye state. For a number of years Mr. Glasscock continued farming in Ohio, but in the fall of 1867 removed to Missouri and located in Johnson county, where he carried on farming for ten years. He then sold out there and removed to Mahaska county, settling in Oskaloosa, where he was engaged in the livery business for a short time. Later he located on a farm north of town, and he died in this county on the 13th of February, 1892. His wife passed away in December, 1886.

H. H. Glasscock was largely reared in Johnson county, Missouri, and is practically a selfeducated as well as a self-made man. He was engaged in herding sheep for his father in Johnson county, and after coming to Iowa he worked for one year by the month, while later he rented land and engaged in farming on his own account. Then, wishing a companion and helpmate for life's journey, he was married in Oskaloosa on the 10th of April, 1879, to Miss Delpha A. Hoover, who was born and reared here, and was a daughter of James Hoover, one of the early settlers of Mahaska county from Indiana. In the fall after their marriage the young couple removed to the farm whereon they now reside. Only a small part of the place had been cleared, while a little frame building had been erected. Mr. Glasscock began to further clear and develop the place, and his labors soon wrought considerable transformation in its appearance. He at first had only fifty acres of land. This he fenced and cleared. placing the fields under the plow and as he prospered in his undertakings he purchased more land from time to time. He has since rebuilt and remodeled the house, has also put up two good barns, has planted an orchard, has divided the place into fields of convenient size by well kept fences, has a windmill for pumping water and has other modern equipments. In fact, his is a well improved property, indicating the progressive vet practical spirit of the owner, who in connection with the tilling of the soil also raises and feeds stock, fattening a carload of cattle and also a load of hogs annually for the market.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Glasscock has been born one child, Maud, now the wife of D. M. Rod-

gers, a substantial farmer of Spring Creek township, by whom she has two children, Bernice Josephine and Mary Rodgers. Politically Mr. Glasscock has been a lifelong republican, but has never been an aspirant for office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs. He is, however, interested in seeing good men in office, and he is a believer in good schools and teachers. He has served on the school board for ten years, and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. His wife was reared in the Friends church and, like her husband, is highly esteemed by all who know her. Mr. Glasscock has worked earnestly and persistently year after year in his efforts to establish a home and farm and his work has been rewarded in the acquirement of a gratifying competence.

WILLIAM A. MOORE.

The farming interests of White Oak township find a worthy representative in William A. Moore, living on section 17. Activity and thrift are crowning points in his business career and his well directed efforts have made him the owner of a valuable farm of one hundred and sixty-five acres, which in its neat and well kept appearance indicates his careful supervision and practical methods. More than a half century has passed since he came to the county, for the year of his arrival was 1855. He was born in Boone county, Indiana, November 16, 1854, a son of Wilson F. Moore, a native of Kentucky, who when a youth was taken by his parents to Indiana. There he was reared, assisting his father in clearing and improving a timber farm. He was educated in the common schools and received practical training in all departments of agricultural labor. His parents were Laban and Nancy Moore, who also came to Iowa and occupied a farm near Cedar.

Mrs. Nancy Moore died April 1, 1906, at the very venerable age of ninety-six years.

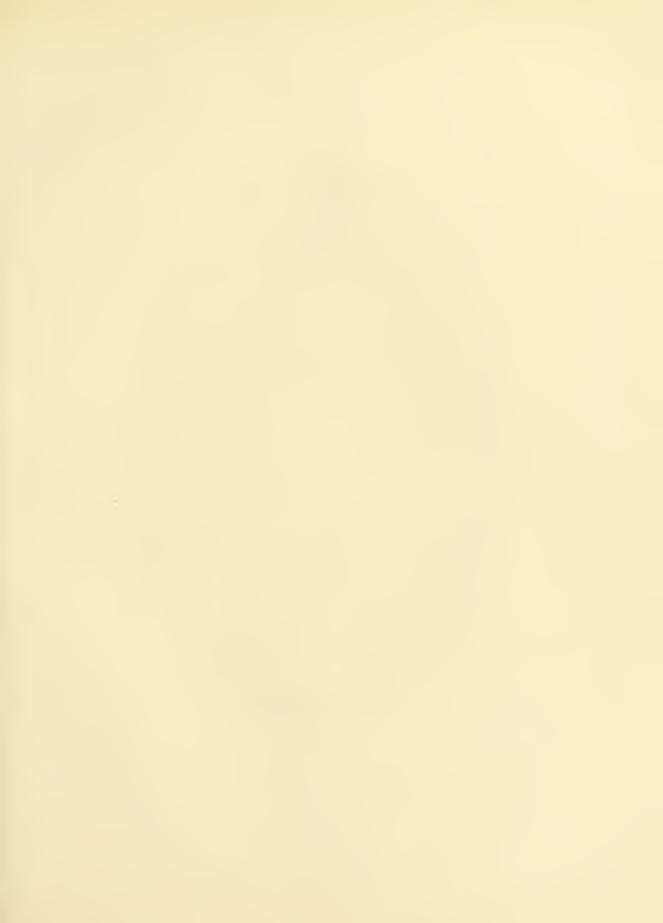
Wilson Moore was married in Indiana to Miss Fannie Perkins, a native of that state and a daughter of Robert Perkins, who went to Indiana from Kentucky when a young man. There he owned and improved a farm and five years after his marriage he came to Iowa. There were eight children born of this union, all of whom reached maturity. Wilson Moore purchased eighty acres of land upon his arrival in this state, built a dwelling thereon and began to clear and cultivate his farm. As he prospered in his undertakings he invested his capital in more land, from time to time, until he became the owner of a good farm property, but he now lives in Rose Hill. In 1886 he lost his first wife, since which time he has married again and now maintains his residence in the village.

William A. Moore was reared upon the old home farm which he assisted his father to clear and improve, giving him the benefit of his services until he was twenty-one years of age. He had only common-school advantages, but in the school of experience has learned many valuable lessons that have made him a successful business man. He was married December 30, 1876, to Miss Jennie Smock, a native of Wapello county, Iowa, and a daughter of Archibald Smock, who was born in Indiana, whence he came to Iowa in early manhood, settling in Wapello county. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. William Moore located on the home farm but lived in a house separate from the father's home. He then assisted his father in carrying on the work of the fields, and for five years rented land from his father, after which he purchased forty acres of the tract. He later bought more land from time to time as his financial resources permitted until he now has a valuable farm of one hundred and sixty-five acres. soil is rich and productive and returns good crops, so that he annually harvests good crops of corn, wheat and other grains. In 1904 he built an attractive two-story residence, and he has also built a good barn and outbuildings and has the place well fenced. It is one of the most attractive farms in White Oak township equipped with all modern accessories and improvements. Mr. Moore raises good grades of stock, principally Durham cattle. He has also raised a good many mules and feeds both cattle and hogs.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Moore have been born four children, all of whom are yet living. Hattie, the eldest, is a teacher in the schools of Pleasant Grove. She has devoted five years to this work and is very capable and successful. William W., living at home, has, however, engaged in farming on his own account for the last three years. Orin E., also at home, assists in operating the farm. Eva Pearl is vet under the parental roof. Mr. and Mrs. Moore attend the Union church at White Oak, but both are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and is a Mason of Rose Hill lodge, while his wife is connected with the Eastern Star. His political allegiance is given to the democracy, and he never falters in his support of the party. He has served as township constable for sixteen vears, justice of the peace for two terms and school director for twenty-five years, and every movement for the benefit and welfare of the county receives his endorsement. He is active and energetic in business, and at all times thoroughly reliable and the qualities of his manhood are such as in every land and clime awaken regard and respect.

MEEKER BIGGS.

Meeker Biggs, deceased, was one of the pioneer settlers of Mahaska county and a man whose example is in many respects worthy of emulation, for he displayed marked





MRS. MEEKER BIGGS.



MEEKER BIGGS.



strength of character in his efforts to overcome the difficulties and obstacles in his path and work his way upward to a position of affluence. He was born in Knox county, Ohio, January 6, 1828, and died upon the old home farm in Union township, this county, August 11, 1902, being then more than seventy-four years of age. His parents were Harred and Elizabeth (Hard) Biggs, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. His boyhood days were spent upon his father's farm in Knox county and he acquired a district-school education but his advantages in youth were rather meager. On the 3d of May, 1852, he married Miss Margaret Ann Beers, who was born in Morrow county, Ohio, May 18, 1832, a daughter of Byron and Elizabeth (Pitney) Beers, both of whom were natives of New Jersey and spent their last days in the Buckeye state, the father's death occurring when he was eighty-four years of age, while the mother passed away at the age of eighty years.

On the 10th of September, 1853, Mr. Biggs and his wife started for Iowa, making the journev across the country with teams. They were four weeks upon the way, lacking four days. A cousin of Mr. Biggs desired to come west and drove one of the teams in order to pay for his board and a chance to ride, and Mr. and Mrs. Biggs rode in a buggy. Reaching Mahaska county Mr. Biggs purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land from Judge Seevers, of Oskaloosa, which has since been the family home. Only a small part of this had been improved, most of it being covered with timber. A double log house had been built, in which they lived for a few years, when Mr. Biggs erected a frame residence, hauling the lumber from Iowa City. He traded ten oak rails for ten walnut rails because they could be worked up easier. From these he made a bedstead, table and other furniture. He made a cupboard which was fastened to the wall and was in use for a number of years. Mrs. Biggs

says those were the happiest days of her life, for though there were privations to be borne incident to the settlement of a frontier and they worked hard and lived plain they had no such troubles as came to them in after years. Their cash capital when they arrived in this county consisted of twelve hundred dollars. At one time they lost six hundred dollars but they did not allow this to worry them. Mr. Biggs never gave a mortgage on his place, being determined to have a home free from debt. The labors of the husband in the fields and the careful management of the wife in the home were the means which won them success and as the years passed by they became possessed of a gratifying competence.

In his political affiliations Mr. Biggs was a democrat. He was very reticent, talking little, but was a deep thinker and kept well informed on all the questions and issues of the day. He served as treasurer of his school district but would accept no other office. He was a devont Christian, holding membership in the Christian church and was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him. During the last five years of his life he was a great sufferer. Several years ago Mrs. Biggs met with an accident which has made her a cripple and for ninety-seven days she lay in bed. Now, however, she is able to get around the house by the aid of a cane. She is a woman of great determination and excellent business ability and at her husband's death became the executrix of the estate and thus saved several hundred dollars by settling up the business herself. For fifty-three years she has lived upon this farm. Friends have advised her to sell and remove to town but she prefers the old home while able to stay here. She owns two hundred and five acres of good land, worth one hundred dollars per acre, and she now rents the land but occupies the old home, having a lady companion with her. Her only child, Iowa America, became the wife of Charles Brooks and died at

the age of twenty-two years. Mrs. Biggs has never used a pair of glasses and today can thread a needle almost as well as she ever could although she feels that her eyesight has been failing in the last six months. She relates many interesting incidents of the experiences of the early days and is one of the worthy pioneer women whose life is closely interwoven with the history of the county and within its borders she has a very wide circle of friends.

W. A. HOOVER.

W. A. Hoover, devoting his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits on section 4. Spring Creek township, is one of the prosperous farmers and prominent stock-breeders of the county, dealing in pure blood Chester White hogs. His farm is an attractive property, forming one of the pleasing features of the landscape. It comprises two hundred and thirty-eight acres of well improved and valuable land, and in his work of cultivating it Mr. Hoover displays an enterprising spirit, which enables him to overcome all difficulties and obstacles in his path. He was born in this township, March 7, 1855. His father, James M. Hoover, was a native of Indiana and a son of Jonas Hoover, who came to Iowa from Indiana, being one of the first settlers in Mahaska county. He is said to have built the first log house in Oskaloosa and at all events he was closely associated with the pioneer movement that resulted in laving the foundation for the present progress and upbuilding of the city. He was a shoemaker by trade and also a tanner and currier and before coming to Oskaloosa conducted a tanyard at Pleasant Plains.

James M. Hoover, father of our subject came with his father to Mahaska county and was here reared amid the wild scenes of frontier

life. He was also married here to Miss Eunice Cox, a native of Indiana, in which state her girlhood days were passed. He settled on a farm in Spring Creek township, where he entered one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land. He broke, fenced and improved the place, transforming the wild tract into productive fields and as his crops brought to him a good return he added to his land from time to time, owning several hundred acres. Subsequently he went to Kansas with a daughter and became ill. There he died September 5, 1885. His wife survived him for several years, passing away August 29, 1890.

Mr. Hoover was the only son and had but one sister, Delpha A., now the wife of H. H. Glasscock, who is mentioned on another page of this work. W. A. Hoover was reared in Spring Creek township and is indebted to the common-school system for the educational privileges he enjoyed save that he has learned many valuable lessons in the school of experience. In his youth he broke the virgin soil and he has also broke and cleared three timbered farms, cutting away the trees, grubbing out the stumps and clearing away the brush, so that the breaking plow might make unimpeded progress in turning the furrows in the fields. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Susan Ballenger, to whom he was married in Spring Creek township on the 9th of December, 1880. She is a native of Adams township, Mahaska county. and a daughter of Jeremiah Ballenger, a nativé of Illinois, who was born September 21, 1826, and was reared in that state, after which he came to Iowa in early manhood, settling in Mahaska county about 1856. He was married here to Miss Christena Starlin, a native of Ohio, and their daughter, Mrs. Hoover, was reared in Mahaska county. Mr. and Mrs. Hoover began their domestic life upon the farm where he now resides. He began here with one hundred acres of land which he had to clear

of stumps, but as fast as possible he transformed the place into fields of rich productiveness. He later bought more land from time to time and upon his farm has erected a good next residence. three substantial barns and outbuildings. has fenced and cross fenced his place and now has a valuable property, harvesting golden grain as a reward for his earnest and persistent labor in cultivating the fields. In 1880 he began the breeding of Chester White hogs, in which he has since dealt, and has built up a very extensive business. In 1904 he won twenty-three premiums at the St. Louis Exposition and in 1905 he won twelve premiums and the championship at the Iowa State Fair, a fact which indicates that he is one of the prominent breeders of Chester White hogs in the country, his stock being of the highest grade. He has also carried off a large number of premiums at the Illinois State Fair, and has a reputation that has made him known throughout the United States and Canada as a breeder and dealer in pure-blooded Chester White hogs. He received at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis a diploma—the only one given for the best Chester White sow of any age, such diploma being awarded to no other exhibitor. Mr. Hoover receives orders and ships his hogs to all states of the Union, and is widely known as a most reliable and enterprising business man, whose ability and energy have won him success, while his honesty has become proverbial with all who deal with him. His place is regarded as headquarters for breeders who want to obtain the best grades of Chester White swine. He makes a business of exhibiting stock at the leading fairs, a custom which he has followed for years.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hoover have been born three daughters: Fannie B., Delpha A. and Zella C., all of whom are attending school. The parents and two children in 1890 went west, spending one winter in Salem. Oregon. Mr. Hoover has traveled quite extensively throughout the country, visiting a number of states and most of the leading cities in the Union. Politically he is independent. He was reared in the faith of the Friends church. Both he and his wife have spent their entire lives in this county, and he has helped to improve and make it what it is today, for in all matters of citizenship he co-operates along lines of general progress and improvement, withholding his support from no movement which he believes will be of public benefit.

HORACE CROOKHAM.

Horace Crookham, living on section 29, Spring Creek township, is one of the native sons of Mahaska county, born in Prairie township, March 3, 1854. His father, Milton Crookham, a native of Ohio, became one of the early settlers of Mahaska county. He was married, January 17, 1847, to Mary Bunn, a native of Jackson county, Ohio, born March 29, 1829, and a daughter of Peter Bunn. In 1848 Mr. Crookham came to Iowa and entered four hundred acres of government land. Eventually he owned twenty-five hundred acres, becoming one of the richest farmers of the county. He made judicious investments in real estate and was watchful of all business opportunities pointing to success, and by his eareful purchases and well directed business affairs he gained a splendid measure of prosperity.

Horace Crookham was one of a family of twelve children, of whom three are now living. He was the fifth in order of birth, and was reared upon the home farm, receiving a common-school education. He remained with his parents until his marriage on the 18th of December, 1879. Miss Emma Lindly, a native of Pennsylvania, becoming his wife. Her father, B. F. Lindly, settled in Mahaska county. After his marriage Mr. Crookham began farming for

his father on land in Richland township, where he remained for thirteen years. He then came to Spring Creek township, where he had previously purchased one hundred acres, upon which he now resides, the farm being conveniently situated about two and a half miles from Oskaloosa. Here he has made substantial improvements, and has added to the dwelling and has built a barn at a cost of one thousand dollars. His father died in 1891, and his mother the year previous. Mr. Crookham was one of four heirs.

Politically Mr. Crookham is independent, casting his ballot for candidates whom he regards as best qualified for office rather than for party. He served for one term as justice of the peace, has also been school trustee and was treasurer of Richland township.

W. J. WILLHOIT.

W. J. Willhoit, who carries on general farming and also engages in the breeding and raising of pure blooded shorthorn cattle, is conducting his business interests on a tract of land of one hundred and ten acres on sections 6 and 7. Spring Creek township. It is situated within a mile and a half of Oskaloosa and is one of the oldest and best improved farms of the county. In addition to this property Mr. Willhoit also owns a farm of two hundred and seventy-four acres lying in Spring Creek and Adams townships. He is one of the pioneer settlers of the county, dating his residence here from 1851 and he has a very wide and favorable acquaintance among the old settlers and also many friends among the more recent arrivals.

Mr. Willhoit is a native of Kentucky, born October 25, 1849. His father, James M. Willhoit, was a native of Virginia, born October 24, 1819. The family is of German ancestry,

three brothers having come to America and settled in the state of New York, while later they removed to Virginia. James M. Willhoit was reared in the Old Dominion and when a young man removed to Kentucky. He was married in Owens county, that state, to Miss Harriet Stringfellow, a native of Kentucky, born in Owens county, February 6, 1823, a daughter of Henry Stringfellow, a native of the Blue Grass state. In the year 1851 James M. Willhoit came to Mahaska county, Iowa, casting in his lot among the pioneer settlers who reclaimed this region for the use of the white race. He bought land in Adams township, located thereon and began opening up a farm, but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, his death occurring on the 6th of April, 1854. His wife, surviving him, reared her family upon the old homestead farm, doing a mother's full duty toward her children. She passed away July 4, 1898, amid the deep regret of many friends as well as her immediate family. She had seven children, four sons and three daughters, of whom four are now living. John H. Willhoit, brother of our subject, owns and operates the old homestead in Adams township. The surviving sisters are: Mrs. Mary E. Bass, a widow, lives in Monroe township and owns the old home property, which once belonged to her maternal grandfather; and Mrs. Maranda Parr, also a resident of Monroe township.

W. J. Willhoit spent his youth upon the home farm and a common-school education was supplemented by study in Penn College. In his youth he assisted in the farm work as opportunity offered and his age and strength increased. He remained with his mother until twenty-four years of age and for a few years carried on the work of the home property. On the 22d of January, 1880, however, he made preparations for having a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Josephine Wymore, who was born in this county, March 7, 1861, and was here reared and educated. She is a daugh-



Willis J. Willhors.



ter of F. M. and Matilda (Parr) Wymore. Her father was one of the first settlers of this locality, coming to Iowa from Indiana.

Following his marriage Mr. Willhoit located on a small farm in Spring Creek township, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits, cultivating and improving his land there until 1898. That he prospered in his undertakings is indicated by the fact that he added to his original holdings from time to time until he now owns nearly eight hundred acres of land. He also placed upon his farm the most modern and superior improvements, developing a splendid property. In 1901 he purchased one hundred and ten acres, where he now resides and he has since added to and remodeled the house and now has a good residence. He has also built two barns, has fenced and tiled the place and has carried on farming along progressive lines, so that he has a good home property here, lacking in none of the equipments of a model farm. In addition to tilling the fields he is breeding and dealing in pureblooded shorthorns and Scotch top cattle, having a herd of fifty head. He has a Scotch bull, Victor, at the head of his herd, and is well known as a breeder of fine cattle. He makes exhibits at various county fairs and has won numerous premiums. He has gained quite a wide reputation as a breeder and dealer in shorthorn cattle and has done much to improve the grade of stock raised, thereby contributing to the general prosperity of the community. He is also one of the heavy stockholders in the Frankel State Bank at Oskaloosa and through his active business career he has made consecutive advancement, each year seeing an increase in his property.

He is especially deserving of mention because of what he has done in connection with the development of corn. He is the originator of the Willhoit corn and may well be termed the Luther Burbank in the line of improving this cereal. He has been working on this corn

for forty years and has won numerous prizes on it as heavy and light cob. He has averaged for the last forty years fifty bushels of corn to the acre. The crop in 1904 averaged one hundred bushels to the acre and in 1905 sixty bushels, the decrease in the latter year being due to the severe windstorms. He has sold seed corn throughout the corn states. His aim has been to reduce the weight of the cob and in this way he has accomplished a great work. His efforts have been worth thousands of dollars to Mahaska county as well as being a source of much individual profit. It takes from ninety to one hundred and ten days for the Willhoit corn to mature and there is no better corn on the market. All his place is tiled and Mr. Willhoit was a pioneer in this work in his township, being the first to thus drain his farm.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Willhoit have been born seven children: Clytie, born December 10, 1882, who was educated at Penn College and is now a successful teacher; Harry, born July 18, 1884, a student in Christian College; Clara, born April 4, 1886, and Nell, born May 24, 1888, who are students in Penn College and will complete the course there in the class of 1906; Glenn, born June 5, 1891, attending the home school; Charles, born October 5, 1895, and Gale Lucile, born February 9, 1900, also with their parents.

Politically Mr. Willhoit is a democrat where national issues are involved and has served as a delegate to the county, congressional and state conventions of his party. He belongs to Commercial lodge, No. 128, I. O. O. F., of Oskaloosa, in which he has filled all of the chairs and is a past grand. His life has been one of untiring activity and he is one of the prosperous and up-to-date farmers and stockbreeders of Mahaska county. He possesses sound business judgment and carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. He is recognized as a man of genuine worth, reliable in business and in citizenship,

so that those who know him tender him warm and sincere regard. Moreover he is truly a self-made man, who deserves much credit for his success and has every reason to be proud of what he has accomplished. He has worked along practical lines, constantly looking for opportunities for advancement, and has made splendid progress along lines of honorable activity, resulting in success.

E. H. FERGUSON.

E. H. Ferguson, who has spent his entire life in Mahaska county, is living on section 23, Cedar township, and gives his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising. He owns and cultivates three hundred and twenty acres of well improved land and in all of his work is practical and enterprising. He is a son of the Rev. John Ferguson, a native of Indiana, who was born in Union county in 1813. He is well known as "Uncle John," a term indicative of the love and esteem in which he is uniformly held. He was a pioneer minister of the Baptist church of Iowa, and settled in Cedar township, Mahaska county, about 1846 or 1847. Here he opened up a new farm and reared his family, spending his remaining days upon this place, his death occurring on the 7th of November, 1900. He was a most active worker in the Baptist church, devoted to its welfare and upbuilding and he taught both by precept and example the principles of righteous living. He was three times married, first in Indiana to Margaret Mc-Cewen, who died in Mahaska county. There were eight children by that marriage, of whom four are yet living. In Jefferson township, Davis county, Iowa, Rev. Ferguson wedded Miss Rebecca Hughes, a native of Pennsylvania, where she was reared and educated, and E. H. Ferguson of this review is the only child

of that marriage. The mother died here in Cedar township in 1872, and Mr. Ferguson afterward wedded Amanda Knott, who survives her husband. There is one son of that marriage.

E. H. Ferguson was reared upon the old farm homestead and acquired his education in the common schools. He remained with his father and assisted in carrying on the work of the farm until twenty-six years of age, when he went to Cass county, where he followed farming for two or three years. He then returned to the old homestead and his entire life has been devoted to general agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Ferguson was married in Monroe township, this county, on the 3d of April, 1884, to Miss Martha Roberts, who was reared and educated here, her father being H. F. Roberts, one of the early settlers, who came to Iowa from Kentucky, and is now living in Oskaloosa. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson located about two and a half miles west of Fremont, where he owned one hundred and eighteen acres of land. He there engaged in farming and further improving the property, developing a good place, upon which he lived until 1889, when he sold that and bought two hundred and seven acres, where he now resides on section 23, Cedar township. He at once began the further development of this farm, has rebuilt and remodeled the house, has also built outbuildings, has placed two thousand rods of tiling on the farm, has fenced the fields and otherwise carried on the work of development and improvement. He has made a business of raising and feeding stock for the market and fattens hogs, sheep and cattle, making quite extensive annual shipments. He has purchased more land from time to time until he now owns three hundred and twenty acres. He is a stockholder in the Farmers National Bank of Oskaloosa. His farming interests are carefully conducted and his practical efforts in all his business affairs have won for him gratifying measures of success. Unto him and his wife have

been born four children: Earl E., Henry Curtis and John Carl, twins, and Mary R. The daughter is teaching in the country schools.

Politically Mr. Ferguson was always a democrat until 1904, when he cast his presidential ballot for Roosevelt. He has never been an office seeker, preferring to give his attention to his business affairs. He and his wife and daughter are members of the Baptist church, of Fremont, and Mr. Ferguson is a Master Mason, belonging to Fremont lodge, A. F. & A. M. His entire life has been spent in this county, and thus for almost a half century he has witnessed the changes which have occurred, the development that has been achieved and the progress that has been made. He has seen the virgin soil transformed into the very productive farms and has helped to make two of the good farms of the county. He has a wide and favorable acquaintance, the circle of his friends being almost co-extensive with the number of people who knew him.

J. A. RINEHART.

J. A. Rinehart, living on section 12, Lincoln township, is one of the prosperous farmers of the county and owns eighty-eight acres of valuable land within five miles of Oskaloosa. He also has a neat home and five acres of land just north of the corporation limits of the city. He dates his residence in the state and county from April 7, 1877. A native of Ohio, he was born in Tuscarawas county, March 24, 1839. His father, David Rinehart, was a native of Pennsylvania and went to Ohio with his mother. He was reared in Tuscarawas county and was married there to Mary A. Kain, a native of Pennsylvania. Mr. Rinehart was a blacksmith by trade and followed that pursuit for some years. In the fall of 1850 he removed to Indiana, locating in Wells county, where he took up his abode upon a tract of land which he cleared and improved, transforming it into a good farm. There he reared his family and spent his last days, carrying on agricultural pursuits during the greater part of his life. His wife died in Wells county in July, 1882, and he survived her until the 21st of December, 1883, when he, too, passed away. In the family were five sons and a daughter, of whom four sons reached adult age and all are yet living. Of this number John and Daniel are residents of Bluffton, Indiana, and Joe is living in Huntington, Indiana.

J. A. Rinehart was reared to manhood in Wells county, Indiana, his youth being divided between play, work and duties of the schoolroom. He was a young man of about twentythree years when, on the 6th of August, 1862, aroused by a spirit of patriotism, he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting as a member of Company H, Seventy-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He went south, the regiment being attached to the Army of the Cumberland and later to the Army of the Tennessee. He was first under fire at Chickamauga and he afterward participated in numerous other important engagements, including the battles of Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Cassville, Jonesboro, Peach Tree Creek, Chattanooga and Kenesaw Mountain. He was in the Atlanta campaign with the Fourteenth Army Corps, and in addition to those already mentioned, he participated in a number of lesser engagements, his last battle being at Smithville. Becoming ill, he was left at Bowling Green and later sent to the hospital at Louisville, Kentucky, where he suffered from typhoid fever. Subsequently be rejoined the regiment at Murfreesboro and served until the close of the war, when he was mustered out and honorably discharged in June, 1865. Mr. Rinehart was a brave and loyal soldier, never faltering in the performance of any military duty and returned home with a most creditable record.

Following the close of the war Mr. Rinehart resumed farming. He was married in Wells county on the 26th of January, 1868, to Miss Nancy Jane Newhouse, who was born in Rush county, Indiana, and was reared and educated in Wells county. She was a daughter of William Newhouse, a native of Virginia and a granddaughter of John Newhouse, who removed from the Old Dominion to Indiana with his family in pioneer times. In that state the father of Mrs. Rinehart was reared, being a child at the time of his arrival in Indiana. His vouth was passed in Rush county and there he married Sarah Sparks, a native of that state and a daughter of Joshua Sparks. He followed farming in Rush county and afterward in Wells county, Indiana, and it was there that Mrs. Rinehart was reared and educated. She became a teacher, successfully following that profession prior to her marriage. Following that important event in their lives the young couple located upon a new farm in the midst of the forest in Wells county and there Mr. Rinehart cleared about thirty acres of land, on which he built a house. He continued the work of improving the property and lived there for nine years, on the expiration of which period he sold out and removed to Mahaska county, Iowa. This was in the spring of 1877. He located on a farm in Garfield township and has since owned it. Everything about his place is kept in good condition. He has repaired the buildings, and erected a new residence on the place. He continued active farming there for twenty years, and then rented the place, while he removed to a five-acre tract of land near the city, which he bought. He built thereon a neat home and is now enjoying a well earned rest, having retired from active business cares. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers National Bank, at Oskaloosa.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rinehart have been born no children, but they have adopted, reared and educated two boys, Charles V. and George H.

Rinehart, both of whom came to them about six years of age. The latter enlisted in response to President McKinley's call for volunteers for the Spanish-American war, and joined the Fifty-first Regiment of Iowa troops. With that command he went to Manila and served until the close of the war, after which he returned with his regiment, but his health was impaired. He is a plumber by trade and he married Pearl Downs, by whom he has a son, J. Allen Rinehart. He makes his home in Marshalltown, while Charles V. is also married and resides in Oskaloosa.

Mr. and Mrs. Rinehart are members of the Christian church, Mr. Rinehart serving as one of its officials. He takes an active part in church work and contributes generously to its support. He also belongs to the Grand Army post. Politically he is independent, supporting the best men regardless of party. He believes in temperance principles and has strong prohibition tendencies. He is equally favorable to good schools and believes in the employment of competent teachers. As a member of the school board for many years, he has put forth his efforts in that direction with effective results. He is one of the few remaining veterans of the Civil war, and in all duties of citizenship has been as true and loyal to his country as when he followed the old flag on southern battlefields. He has been an active and useful citizen of Mahaska county, has aided in its development, and has lived an upright, honorable life. He and his estimable wife are active church workers and are much esteemed in Oskaloosa and throughout the county.

GEORGE B. APPEL.

George B. Appel, whose farming interests are represented by a fine tract of land of two hundred and forty-five acres well improved with modern equipments, was born in Richland



GEORGE B. APPEL AND FAMILY.



township, Mahaska county, April 24, 1866. His father, Peter Appel, was a native of Germany, born March 5, 1837, and died upon the old homestead farm in Richland township, Jannary 27, 1903. He was only seven years of age when brought to America and he lived near Lewisburg, Ohio, with a sister. He was reared in that locality and attended school and at the age of about twenty years he came to Iowa, where he worked for one season in the employ of Alanson Ridpath, an early settler. He then returned to Ohio, but the following year again came to Mahaska county, where he made a permanent location. He was married in this county to Miss Margaret Bacon, who was born in White county, Indiana, June 6, 1836, and is a daughter of Ira Bacon, who was born in Massachusetts and died in Richland township, Mahaska county, at the age of sixty-six years. His wife, Mrs. Mary Bacon, was a native of Ohio and died in Richland township, at the age of seventy-eight years. They came to Mahaska county in 1852 and secured a claim of government land, ultimately becoming owners of five hundred acres in Richland township. Mr. Bacon at first built a little log cabin, in which the family lived in true pioneer style, but later he erected a more commodious and modern residence upon his farm and there continued to make his home until his death. Peter Appel, carrying on farming pursuits in this county, purchased one hundred and seventy-five acres of land which is now owned by his son, George B. Appel. This was an unimproved farm, but Peter Appel built thereon all of the present buildings, including a fine two-story frame residence, which is well painted and is tastefully furnished. There are good barns and outbuildings upon the place and Mr. Appel was widely recognized as an enterprising and energetic agriculturist. In politics he was a republican and was prominent in local affairs, exercising considerable influence in local councils of his party. He was county supervisor for

one term and held all the minor township offices. He held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, in the work of which he took an active and helpful interest. He was also for vears a prominent Mason, joining Tri Luminar lodge in Oskaloosa. His life was honorable and upright and all who knew him esteemed him for his genuine personal worth. His widow still survives and now makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. John Ashton, of Richland township, the latter being her daughter. In the family were four children: Ira D., who died in infancy; Martha E., the deceased wife of John I. Lundy; George B., of this review; and Mary M., who was born in 1871 and is the wife of John Ashton.

George B. Appel has always made his home in Richland township upon the farm where he now resides. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He was married in 1888 to Miss Lillie L. Rice, a daughter of William Rice, of Richland township. She died in 1889, leaving one son, Merril L., who at the age of sixteen years is attending the public schools. On the 30th of August, 1803, Mr. Appel wedded Miss Mary E. Sheehy, who was born in Richland township, April 23, 1872, and is a daughter of Miles Sheehy, who was born in Ireland, and is now a retired farmer residing in Pella, Iowa. Her mother, who bore the maiden name of Sarah E. Chase, is now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Appel has been born a son, Karl C., now eleven years of age.

Mr. Appel is today the owner of a valuable farm of two hundred and forty-five acres, which he is keeping under a high state of cultivation, utilizing it to the best advantage. He is quite extensively engaged in feeding cattle and hogs and he buys grain to feed. He is a thoroughly up-to-date farmer, active and enterprising in all that he does and his labors are being attended with a gratifying measure of success. In

his political views Mr. Appel is an earnest democrat, supporting the party since William Jennings Bryan was presidential candidate, prior to which time he had been a republican. He has served as assessor for one term, as township clerk for eight years, as school director and as president of the school board. He belongs to Central lodge, No. 388, A. F. & A. M., of Peoria, of which he is now secretary, and he is likewise a member of Peoria lodge, No. 501, 1. O. O. F. He has filled all of the chairs in both lodges and is a valued and worthy representative of the organizations. Mr. Appel has spent his entire life in Mahaska county, and the fact that many of his stanchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood days to the present time is an indication that his life has been an upright and honorable one. He has always followed farming and stands today among the representative agriculturists of this part of the state.

WILLIAM G. McCURDY.

William G. McCurdy owns and occupies a comfortable home on section 17, White Oak township, and is one of the wide awake and enterprising farmers of his locality. His property comprises three hundred and twenty-four acres of rich and productive land, and the farm is well equipped with all modern conveniences. He is a native son of Iowa, having been born on the farm where he now resides, about a mile west of his present residence, on August 10, 1864. He is a son of Jonathan and Sarah McCurdy and a brother of Oscar McCurdy, who is represented elsewhere in this work. He was reared upon the old homestead farm and is indebted to the public-school system of the locality for the educational privileges he enjoyed. From the time of early spring planting until the crops were harvested in the late autumn he assisted in the work of the fields and he remained at home until after his father's death, which occurred in January, 1886. He then built his present residence upon his share of the estate, having inherited ninety acres. He has since bought more land from time to time until he has three hundred acres where he now resides. He has erected here a good dwelling and substantial barn, has put up a windmill and has cleared twenty acres of land of the brush and stumps. Nearly the entire farm is now under a high state of cultivation and he also raises a good grade of stock and buys and ships stock. He raises pure-blooded Buff Orphington poultry, having a large flock of those fine chickens. His place is well fenced and he has three hundred acres under cultivation, annually harvesting therefrom good crops. In all of his work he is systematic and energetic, making his labors count for the most possible and his work is attended with a gratifying measure of success.

Mr. McCurdy was married on the 25th of November, 1885, to Miss Addie Witt, a native of Iowa, and a daughter of Michael Witt who was born in Indiana. Coming to Iowa about 1850, he settled in White Oak township, Mahaska county, and here his remaining days were passed. When called to his final rest his remains were interred in White Oak cemetery. Mrs. Witt still survives her husband and now lives with her sons in White Oak. Mr. and Mrs. McCurdy are the parents of six children, all of whom are yet under the parental roof, namely: Warren O., Clarence E., Alvah R., Lena M. and Earl W. and Pearl F., twins. The parents and children attend the Methodist Episcopal church at White Oak, of which the father and mother are members. Politically Mr. Mc-Curdy is an earnest republican, being in thorough sympathy with the principles and policy of the party and upon its ticket he has been chosen to several local offices. He has served as township trustee for nine years and was justice of the peace for two years. His farm is well fenced and shows the supervision of a master hand in the completeness of its buildings and improvements. While manifesting a spirit of lofty patriotism and devotion to the general good at all times, his chief attention is given to his farm labor, and he is classed with the representative agriculturists of his native county.

RICHARD BARROWMAN.

Richard Barrowman, living on section 4, Spring Creek township, is a substantial farmer and also part owner in a coal mine which is being operated and which is situated on the old Barrowman homestead. Thirty-seven years have passed since he became a resident of this county, being at that time a young lad of six years. He is a native of Wisconsin, his birth having occurred near Sparta on the 3d of September, 1862. His father, William Barrowman, was a native of Scotland and was reared to manhood in his native country, where he married Miss Agnes Kinnon, also born there. Mr. Barrowman was a coal miner of Scotland for a number of years. He then emigrated to the new world, locating first in Pennsylvania, while later he became a resident of Kentucky. He afterward spent a short time in different states and in 1857 settled upon a farm in Wisconsin, where he resided for ten years. 1867 he removed to Iowa, taking up his abode in Mahaska county, and in 1868 he bought a farm in Spring Creek township, upon which coal had been discovered. He opened up the coal bank and with the aid of his sons began to operate it. Later he purchased another farm upon which he continued to make his home until his death, which occurred at the age of seventy-five years, carrying on general agricultural pursuits and also developing the coal resources of the farm. In his family were three sons

and four daughters, of whom one daughter is now deceased. One brother, William, is in Colorado and a sister, Agnes, is the wife of M. J. Ely, a resident of California. Mary is the wife of J. H. Smith, of Spring Creek township, and Elizabeth is the wife of David Oakley, a partner of Richard Barrowman in the coal business,

Under the parental roof Richard Barrowman spent the days of his childhood and youth, acquiring a good public-school education and receiving practical training in business methods under the direction of his father. His present partnership with Mr. Oakley was formed in 1901 and they are now operating the coal bank which is being profitably conducted. Mr. Oakley owns and carries on the farm on which the coal mine is located and Mr. Barrowman owns a neat and well-improved tract of land of fifty-two acres adjoining Mr. Oakley's property.

In Oskaloosa, on the 2d of April, 1903, Mr. Barrowman was married to Miss Emma Stanley, a daughter of Charles Stanley, one of the pioneer settlers of Mahaska county. Mr. and Mrs. Barrowman have three children: Charles W., Mary B. and Nellie M. Politically Mr. Barrowman has been a lifelong republican but has never sought nor desired office, giving his time and attention to his farm and other business interests. He is well known in Oskaloosa as a man of integrity and worth, possessing good business ability and having the confidence of the community.

ALONZO CORNS.

Alonzo Corns, one of the active and industrious farmers of Monroe township, who owns and cultivates a good farm of one hundred acres on section 31, is a native son of Iowa and the spirit of enterprise and progress which has donimated the west and led to its rapid up-

building and development is manifest in him. He was born in Muscatine county, March 31, 1845, and has resided in Mahaska county since 1857. His father, William Corns, was a native of Ohio and became a resident of Muscatine county in 1838, being among the early settlers of the state. He was married in Ohio to Miss Phoebe Adeline Bagley, who was also born in the Buckeye state and was one of the first white women to cross the Mississippi river. They bought land in Muscatine county, securing three hundred and twenty acres from the government and there the father carried on farming until his death, which occurred in 1847. His wife long survived him, passing away March 13, 1893, at an advanced age. After the death of her first husband she married Marcus Kirkpatrick, a native of Ohio, who was then residing in Cedar county, Iowa.

Alonzo Corns was the voungest of a family of five children, four of whom reached mature years. Upon the home farm Mr. Corns spent his boyhood and youth, acquiring his education in the common schools. He was eighteen years of age when his spirit of patriotism was aroused by the continued attempt of the south to overthrow the Union, and he joined the army as a member of Company H, Forty-seventh Regiment of Iowa Volunteers at Sigourney. With his company he went to Davenport and later to Helena, Arkansas, being stationed there most of the time during his service. He took part in no battle and returned to Davenport, November 30, 1864, on which date he was honorably discharged. Following his military experience he rented land and thus engaged in farming for several years, after which he worked out, being engaged in teaming in Oskaloosa for three years.

On the 6th of March, 1873, Mr. Corns was united in marriage to Miss Mary Jane Ellis, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Reuben Ellis, who came to Mahaska county in 1869. In 1884 Mr. Corns purchased his present farm

comprising one hundred acres on section 31, Monroe township. He has since carried on the work of improvement, has built a good barn and other outbuildings, and has entirely enclosed his place with woven wire fencing. He has built good outbuildings and has cleared ten acres from the brush. He raises good grades of stock and has a valuable place, the fields yielding him rich harvests annually.

Mr. and Mrs. Corns became the parents of four children, but lost three, William, Etta and Harry. The surviving daughter is Clara, now the wife of Walter Whitaker, a farmer of Adams township and they have one child, Harold. Mr. and Mrs. Corns attend the Methodist Episcopal church at Rose Hill, of which the latter is a member. Mr. Corns belongs to Rose Hill lodge of Masons, in which he has filled all of the chairs and was master for two years. Both he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star. Politically he is a stalwart republican, having always supported the party since casting his first presidential vote for U. S. Grant. He has served as township trustee for four years, and has been a member of the school board for a number of years.

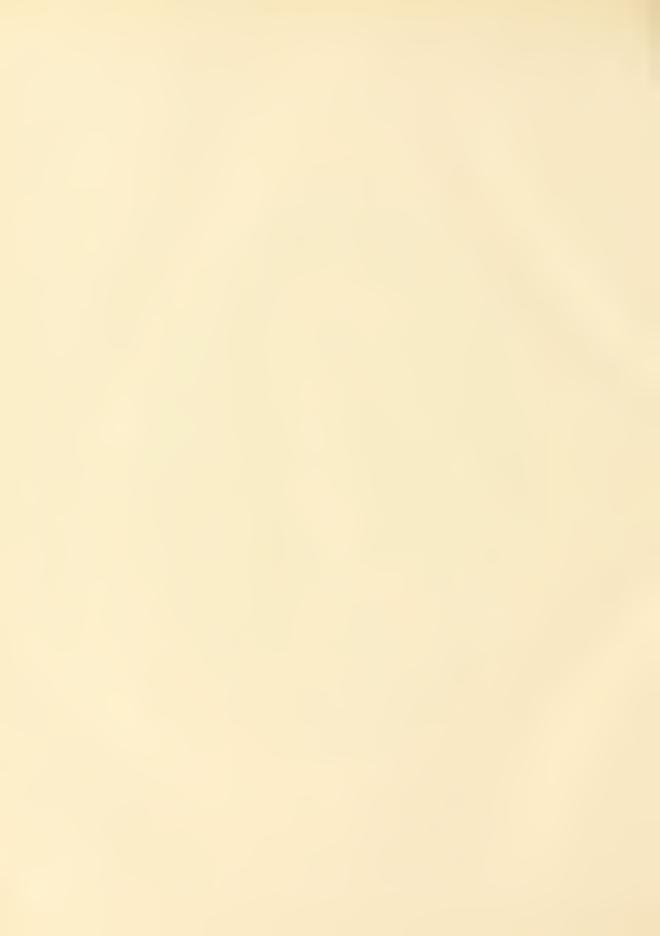
He is respected for his business reliability, and for the creditable record which he made as a soldier and in public office. Whatever success he has achieved is attributable to his own efforts, for he had no special advantages in early life, and started out for himself empty-handed.

ALBERT F. N. HAMBLETON.

Albert F. N. Hambleton is probably equally well known by reason of his success in business and his allegiance to those qualities which work for nobler manhood and higher ideals. He was born in Forest Home, Poweshiek county, Iowa, September 4, 1857. His father, Levi Hambleton, was born near New Lisbon, Columbiana county, Ohio, and married Ann Hanna, an



A. F. N. HAMBLETON.



aunt of Marcus A. Hanna, and of Irish ancestry. Representatives of the family emigrated from the Emerald isle to Virginia and a Hanna was the first white child born in Lynchburg, that state, the mother being the niece of President Madison's wife, who came over with William Penn's second colony. The father of our subject was an own cousin of the Ohio senator. Mr. Hambleton, however, came of English lineage and the family was established in America by ancestors who settled in Chester county, Pennsylvania, whence the grandfather, Benjamin Hambleton, removed to Ohio, settling in Columbiana county. There he erected flouring mills and was closely identified with the industrial development in that part of the state.

When seventeen years of age Levi Hambleton ran a storeboat down the Mississippi river, and at times drove horses over the Alleghany mountains to Philadelphia, and was engaged in mercantile business in Columbiana and Stark counties. In 1854 he came to lowa and entered land in Poweshiek county. There he laid out and platted the town of Forest Home, bringing his mechanics from Ohio. He built brick kilns, cut timbers and built a large residence and store building, and it was in that dwelling that Albert F. N. Hambleton was born. After two years the store was destroyed by fire and the father then turned his attention to general farming and stock-raising, but because the railroad was not built through the district in which he lived and wishing to enjoy the advantages of railroad communication with other parts of the country he came to Oskaloosa in 1871, and here again embarked in merchandising, opening a store at the northwest corner of the square. where he continued until heagain suffered heavy losses by fire in January, 1874. Immediately afterward he re-opened his store on the southeast corner of the square, where he remained for four years, when he sold out. In connection with John W. Woody and W. P. Hellings he then organized the Central Iowa Loan & Trust Company and subsequently, in connection with William R. Cowan, he purchased the business and the firm of Cowan & Hambleton was organized. They also added a set of abstract, books. Just prior to the father's death Albert F. N. Hambleton succeeded him in business, and the firm is now known as the Cowan, Hambleton & Loring Company, doing an abstract, realestate, loan and insurance business with offices in the Nugent block. Levi Hambleton was a very energetic man, of excellent business ability, quick to recognize and utilize an opportunity, knowing that the present and not the future held his chances for advancement. He was one of the founders of Penn College and was a member of the board of directors and also treasurer of the institution. He held membership in the Society of Friends, and politically was an ardent republican. He maintained a high standard of living and entertained high ideals, yet withal, he was intensely practical in everything which he did. His death occurred in Oskaloosa in 1899, in the seventy-ninth year of his age, and it came as a personal blow to many of Oskaloosa's citizens, for he had a very wide circle of friends here, and all who knew aught of his history or his life admired and respected him for what he had accomplished, and for the methods which he had followed.

In early manhood Levi Hambleton wedded Mary Hall, who was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, and died April 27, 1900, in her seventy-ninth year. Her great-grandfather was Judge Edward Warner Heston, of Philadelphia, a colonel of the Revolutionary war and a man likewise prominent in civic life. Her father was Edward H. Hall, who removed from Philadelphia to Ohio at an early day in the development of the latter state and there engaged in farming. He wedded Jane Paxson, who was born near Philadelphia. The Hall family is of English and Welsh lineage, and Mr. Hambleton of this review now has in his possession a

piece of chinaware that was brought from Wales by his ancestors, and has been in the familv for over two hundred years. He also has a book in which is depicted the ancestral castle of one Patrick Hannay, in Galway, Ireland, an ancestor of his father, and the photographs of his great-grandfathers on both sides copied from oil portraits. Mrs. Hambleton, mother of our subject, was also a member of the Society of Friends and pursued her education in Westown Boarding School, one of the schools of the sect near Philadelphia. By her marriage she became the mother of four children: Leonda E., who died at the age of two years; William G., who passed away in Oskaloosa at the age of twenty-two years; John T., who is engaged in the real-estate and abstract business in Des Moines; and Albert F. N.

In taking up the personal history of the last mentioned we present to our readers the record of one who is widely known in this city. He acquired his education in the common schools of Poweshiek county and in the graded and high schools of Oskaloosa. He also reached the sophomore year in Penn College. As a boy he worked on the farm, driving mules and oxen and turning the furrows in many a field at the time of early sowing and planting. After leaving school he kept books and clerked in his father's store for three years, and then engaged in business on his own account as a dealer in merchandise, grain and live stock with his brother, John T. Hambleton, at Springville, Linn county, the firm name being Hambleton Brothers. Albert F. N. Hambleton sold his interest in 1885 and allied himself with the firm with which he is now connected, becoming his father's successor in the abstract, real-estate, loan and insurance business as a member of the Cowan, Hambleton & Loring Company. This firm has a very extensive clientage, each department of the business having become a paying one, the members of the firm being thoroughly informed concerning all departments of work.

In 1879 Mr. Hambleton was married to S. Josepha Roberts, who was born in Morrow county, Ohio, in 1858, a daughter of Dr. Reuben L. and Elvira (Lewis) Roberts, the latter of the "Darlington Clan" of English-Scotch ancestry. They have had two children: Alma R., who was born in 1890; and William Ross, who died in infancy in 1892.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Hambleton are members of the Society of Friends. He has not confined his attention exclusively to business affairs but has extended his sympathies and co-operation to various movements of a public nature resulting beneficially for the city and county. He has been secretary of the board of directors of Penn College since 1889 and is still one of the members of the board and its present treasurer. In politics he is an earnest republican, having been a delegate to state and district conventions for many years, and various local offices have been conferred upon him. He was first chosen clerk of the village of Springville and secretary of its school board. He was a member of the Mahaska county board of supervisors from 1900 to 1903 and was chairman of the board in 1902. In the fall of 1903 he was elected to represent Mahaska county in the thirtieth general assembly and is now a member of the thirty-first assembly of the state. In the law-making body of the commonwealth he is giving earnest attention to the various questions which come up for consideration and is prompted in his course by a devotion to the general good which is above question, being chairman of the Mines and Mining Committee, a member of the judiciary and other very important committees. During his term as supervisor he had supervision of the new county jail and was also instrumental in promoting the jail project.

Mr. Hambleton was the first president of the Young Men's Christian Association in Oskaloosa and has been both secretary and treasurer of the County Sunday-school Association. He was elected president of the Iowa State Sunday-school Association in 1904, and reelected in 1905 and was sent as a delegate to the international convention in Toronto in 1905, and represented Iowa on the nominating committee. He has been a trustee of the Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends and was sent as a delegate to the Five Years Meeting of the Society of Friends held at Indianapolis in 1902, and was there appointed to the legislative committee of the body and was also a member of the finance committee, and one of its original trustees in incorporation. It will thus be seen that his interest in those things which tend to develop man's better nature, to place before him high ideals and emobling rules of conduct have received not only the endorsement but also the co-operation of Mr. Hambleton, whose efforts have been of a most tangible character, resulting beneficially for the cause which he represents. At the same time he is a typical business man of the west, alert and enterprising, watchful of opportunities and vet in no instance has he allowed his legitimate desire for success to overstep the boundaries of the privileges and rights of others. He has prospered because of close application and untiring energy and has won an honored name by reason of his business integrity and his devotion to all that is just, right, true and beautiful in life.

PHILIP GRACE.

Philip Grace, living on section 33. Monroe township, is numbered among the public men of the county and s now serving on the board of supervisors. His worth and progressive citizenship is of value in the community and his efforts in behalf of the general welfare have been effective and far-reaching. He has made his home in the county since 1865, and is now farming a neat, productive tract of land of two

hundred and forty acres. He was born in Kendall county, Illinois, November 13, 1843, a son of James and Cecelia (Hollinshead) Grace, the former a native of Ireland, whence he emigrated to New York and afterward to Illinois, where he engaged in farming. He was married in the latter state to Miss Hollinshead, a native of New York, and in 1864 the family removed to Iowa, settling in Mahaska county. There were eight children, who were reared in this state.

Philip Grace is the eldest of the family and spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon the home farm, attending the common schools and aiding in the labors of the fields. He was eighteen years of age when he enlisted in behalf of the Union cause, becoming a member of Company K, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry. The regiment rendezvoused at Chicago and thence went to Memphis, Tennessee, its first battle being at Chickasaw Bluffs, Mississippi. From there the command proceeded to Arkansas Post, and afterward participated in the siege of Vicksburg and the battle of Champion Hills. Mr. Grace was wounded at Vicksburg on the 19th of May, 1863, and was so seriously injured that for six months he lay in the hospital. He then rejoined his regiment at Big Shanty, Georgia, on the 10th of June, 1864, and two days later he participated in the charge at Little Kenesaw Mountain, where several officers of the brigade were either killed or wounded. Later he took part in the battle of Atlanta on the 22d of July, 1864, and on that date was captured and sent to Andersonville prison, where he remained for ninety-two days, knowing all of the hardships and horrors of that southern prison pen. At length he was exchanged at Jonesboro, Georgia, and with his old company went with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea. Later the regiment went to Washington and was mustered out, after which he returned to Chicago, where he was honorably discharged in June, 1865. He was a brave soldier although but a boy when he enlisted and is familiar with all of the hardships, privations and dangers meted out to those who defended the Union.

After his return to the north Mr. Grace spent a few days in Kendall county, Illinois, at his childhood's home, and then came to Iowa, joining his father's family, who in 1864 had removed to this state. For fourteen years he engaged in the operation of a rented farm and then purchased sixty-two acres on North river, where he built a good home and further improved his farm.

In November, 1870, Mr. Grace was united in marriage to Miss Sarah L. Wymore, a native of Mahaska county and a daughter of William Wymore, who was born in Indiana, and came to this county at an early day, settling upon the farm where Mr. Grace now resides. After a time Mr. Grace sold his sixty-two acres of land and Mrs. Grace inherited a portion of her father's farm, and Mr. Grace purchased the remainder from the other heirs. Since that time he has added eighty acres and now has a splendid property of two hundred and forty acres. He has placed many excellent improvements upon the farm, has cleared and fenced the land and has his fields under a high state of cultivation. He has also dug a deep well, furnishing an abundant supply of water, has erected good buildings and has cleared seventy acres from the brush. Everything about his place in well kept, showing his careful supervision and practical methods and he is regarded as one of the successful farmers of his county.

Mr. Grace has lost his first wife. There were eight children by that marriage, six of whom are now living: James W., a resident of Hastings. Oklahoma; Fred, who resides in Adams township; John, in Madison township; Theresa Aelene, the wife of George Kirk, of Madison township; and Elam and Henry, who are carrying on the home farm. For his second wife Mr. Grace chose Miss Ella McCloud,

a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Albert McCloud, who is still living in this county. Six children have been born of the second marriage, but the eldest, Herbin, died at the age of four years, and Mary passed away a year later. The others are Maggie, Madge and Maud, twins, and Emory.

Mr. and Mrs. Grace attend the Union church and Mr. Grace is a member of the Grand Army post at Rose Hill. He is likewise connected with the Odd Fellows lodge at that place and he and his wife are members of the Rebekah lodge, while his sons Elam and John, are likewise connected with the Odd Fellows lodge. Politically Mr. Grace is a strong republican, having supported the party since attaining his majority. He has served in some township offices, the duties of which he has discharged in a capable manner, and in January, 1906, he was appointed to fill a vacancy on the board of supervisors, so that he is the present incumbent in the office. In all matters of citizenship he is as loyal as when he followed the old flag upon the southern battle-fields and he belongs to that class of citizens who uphold the political, legal and moral status of the community.

H. FRANK HARBOUR.

H. Frank Harbour, a prominent mason and contractor of Beacon, well deserving of representation in this volume by reason of his personal worth and the fact that he is connected with one of the prominent and esteemed families of the county, was born in Oskaloosa, March 25, 1853, which indicates a connection of the family with this part of the state from pioneer times. His father, Richard R. Harbour, was a native of Patrick county, Virginia, and came to Iowa soon after Mahaska county was thrown open for settlement. He was a mason and bricklayer by trade and he manu-



H. F. HARBOUR.



factured the first brick ever made in Oskaloosa and erected the first brick building of the city. He did the masonry work for the Iowa Central Railroad and for the Union Pacific Railroad in this town and was prominent and active in industrial affairs, contributing in large measure to the substantial improvement of this city. He was at one time editor and proprietor of the Oskaloosa Times, and was an active factor in political circles. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability and his fitness for leadership, called him to represent his district in the lower house of the legislature and afterward in the state senate. He went west during the mining excitement in 1860 and while living in Colorado was elected a member of the territorial legislature. At the time of the Civil war he espoused the cause of the Union and joined Company A, Second Colorado Regiment, which was raised in Summit county. He was chosen to the captaincy of the company and his valor and meritorious conduct on the field of battle led to his promotion to the rank of colonel. A splendid painting in water colors in his uniform of colonel is now in possession of his son. H. Frank Harbour, and is a picture of which the son has every reason to be proud. He died in April, 1888, and a life of usefulness and honor was thus terminated—a life that had been of benefit to his fellowmen along many lines of progress and improvement. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary C. Roop and was a native of Ohio. She still survives her husband and is now living in Oskaloosa. The sons of the family are: Benton S., a resident of Oskaloosa; J. L., of Boston, Massachusetts, lecturer and author, who was for seventeen years associate editor of the Youth's Companion, the leading juvenile journal of the country: Benjamin A., who is a mason and contractor living in Los Angeles, California, and who was prominent in labor circles in Colorado and the west. He was elected to the Utah legislature but resigned and volunteered for service in the Philippines. He was wounded in the first engagement with the insurgents and was for four months in the army hospital in the Philippines and for four months in the military hospital at San Francisco. The daughters of the family are: Mrs. Iona Virginia Woodbury, the wife of A. J. Woodbury, of Denver, Colorado; Mary Frances, the wife of A. Whittemore, of Ogden, Utah; Nellie, the wife of A. E. Sciple, a newspaper man of Council Bluffs connected with the Iowa Register.

H. Frank Harbour, the other member of the family, is indebted to the district-school system of Mahaska county for the educational privileges he enjoyed. He continued his studies until twenty years of age, when he began learning the trade of brick-laying and masonry. He has erected many of the buildings of Oskaloosa and in conjunction with his brother, Benjamin, did the masonry work on the Rock Island depot, also the old power house plant and the building occupied by the Huber-Kalbach Company. He built the McMillen block and has also done considerable work in this county, Grinnell, Eddyville and Albia. He had charge of the masonry work on the Central Methodist Episcopal eliureh in Oskaloosa and was in charge of the masonry work on the Carnegie library building erected in the county seat. In 1880 he went to Denver, Colorado, where he remained until 1893.

Mr. Harbour has been married twice. On the 23d of December, 1875, he wedded Mary S. Pugh, and unto them were born two children: Myrtle M., now the wife of Herman Harris, of Garfield township, living about five miles west of Oskaloosa, and who was a successful teacher in the district schools prior to her marriage: and Ralph Frederick, who is associated with his father in contract work and who married Miss Cora Woodward. The first wife of Mr. Harbour passed away November 21, 1893, and on the 15th of March, 1895, he wedded Mrs. Ella Carson, the widow of Isaac Carson, of

Albia. By her former marriage she had three children: Walter, Henrietta and Ethel.

In politics Mr. Harbour is a democrat. was elected assessor for two terms and for one term served as township clerk. He has frequently been sent as a delegate to the county conventions and is one of the stalwart advocates of democracy in this locality. Mrs. Harbour and the family are members of the Presbyterian church. The family residence is pleasantly located about a half mile southwest of the village of Beacon in Garfield township and is an attractive country home, justly celebrated for its warm-hearted and cordial hospitality. Mr. Harbour made by hand all the brick used in the construction of the fine home which he occupies at present, surrounded by fifty-five acres of good land. He has been a prominent factor of business interests in his native county for many years and a large number of substantial structures stand as monuments to his enterprise, skill and ability in the line of his chosen occupation.

ALEXANDER L. SMITH.

Alexander L. Smith owns and operates a good farm on section 12, Union township. was born in Jefferson county, New York, July 2, 1837, and is a son of Alexander L. and Rebecca (Carroll) Smith. The mother died in New York when her son Alexander was only seven or eight years of age. The father was born in New Jersey, and was three times married, his last wife being Sarah A. Raymond, who died at Monmouth, Illinois, at the very advanced age of ninety-seven years. His death occurred at the home of his son, L. M. Smith, in Union township, when he was eighty-five years of age. When only a lad he ran away from home and became a sailor on the Atlantic and during the war of 1812 he was captain on

the United States frigate, Congress. He was on the ocean for fourteen years and made vovages to various ports. On one trip he visited Palestine. He was a man of good education, whose knowledge was greatly broadened by travel and experience and he could speak several different languages. After leaving the east he settled upon a tract of five acres in Jefferson county, New York, and there engaged in gardening. In 1854 he went to Illinois and was a gardener in the town of Burwick, near Monmouth. Later he was employed somewhat in the capacity of a janitor at the college in Abingdon, Illinois. When he became quite old he made his home with his son Lafavette in Union township, and spent his last days in Mahaska county. He had seven children, all born of the first marriage but only three are now living: Lafayette M., of Union township; Eugene E., who is living near Barnes City, this state; and Alexander L.

In his father's home Alexander L. Smith spent the days of his boyhood and youth and attended the district schools. In early life he learned and followed the blacksmith's trade for a time and in May, 1861, he responded to the country's call for volunteers, enlisting at Monmouth, Illinois. The troops were sent to Burlington, Iowa, and he was attached to the First Iowa Battery as a private. He then went to St. Louis, Missouri, and afterward to the front. About the time of the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, he became ill with fever and was sent home on a furlough, and before he was able to rejoin his command, orders were issued by General C. Helleck, granting a discharge to all not able for active service. Thus Mr. Smith was mustered out of service in the latter part of the summer of 1862.

Subsequently he came to Iowa and was employed at farm labor by the month, spending two years in the service of J. J. Klinker. With the capital acquired through his industry and economy he then purchased forty acres of land,

on which he has since made his home. About five acres had been cleared and a little log house had been built. He has since extended the boundaries of his farm by purchase of an additional forty acres and has built two frame houses on the farm, also good barns and other modern equipments.

In 1865 Mr. Smith was married to Miss Mary Jane Klinker, who died a few years later, and in 1872 he wedded Rebecca Barnes, who was born in Illinois, March 11, 1849. They have one son, Clayton Roy, who married Miss Myrtle Jones and to them has been born a son, Herman L. They reside upon the old home farm in one of the houses built by Mr. Smith and the son now operates the land, his father having been totally blind for the past eleven years, the result of the effect of fever contracted while in the army. He now receives a pension of one hundred dollars per month, to which he is justly entitled. In his political affiliation he is a democrat, and both he and his wife are members of the Baptist church. His life has been a busy and useful one, and although his history contains no exciting chapters, it has been characterized by faithfulness in citizenship, honesty in business and reliability in all relations.

HARMON AKERMAN.

Harmon Akerman is one of the active and leading business men of Fremont, where he is engaged in buying and shipping stock, giving his attention to the business here for the past eleven years. He was born upon the old family homestead in Mahaska county, April 4, 1854. His entire life has been passed in Fremont and he is today the only resident of the village who has lived here through fifty-two consecutive years. His father, Philip Akerman, was a na-

tive of Germany, being born in Bayaria in 1829. On coming to the new world he settled first in Ohio and was there married to Johanna Frederica Goehring, also a native of Germany. In the year 1851 he removed westward with his wife and settled in Fremont, Iowa. A blacksmith by trade, he opened and conducted a shop here for several years, after which he traded the shop and business for a general store. He afterward engaged in buying land and gave his attention to farming, stock-raising and dealing in live stock. He owned a farm partly within and partly without the corporation limits of Fremont, and, making judicious investments in property, ultimately became the owner of nearly one thousand acres. He was one of the largest stock feeders and shippers in this part of Iowa and was engaged in the business here for a number of years. The extent and importance of his business interests made him one of the leading and prosperous citizens of the county, where he continued to make his home until his death, which occurred in Fremont, February 27, 1805. His wife passed away February 14, 1892.

Harmon Akerman is the eldest in a family of three sons and three daughters, the others being as follows: Emma, the wife of L. A. Springer, of Fremont; George W., a prominent real-estate dealer of Fremont, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work; Albert, who managed the Hiteman Supply Company store and who married Clara, a daughter of Dr. D. C. Dinsmore, of Kirkville, Iowa, and whose death occurred September 27, 1895; Maggie, the wife of C. N. Neil, of Fremont; and Lettic, the wife of S. E. Heinzman, of Oskaloosa.

Harmon Akerman was reared on the old homestead and pursued his education in the schools of Fremont and of Ottumwa. He afterward resided with his father and assisted in carrying on the home farm until his father's death, after which he conducted business along similar lines on his own account buying and shipping stock and also feeding to some extent. His father built the residence upon the old homestead which is now occupied by the subject of this review. He is an excellent judge of stock, so that he makes judicious purchases and profitable sales and is numbered among the leading representatives of this business in Mahaska county.

Mr. Akerman was married in Fremont May 6, 1886, to Miss Ollie McClain, who was born November 18, 1864, and reared in this county. She is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a regular attendant upon its services. Five children have been born of this union, of whom three sons survive: Earl H., November 29, 1886; John L., August 4, 1888; and Fred C., August 8, 1894. Mrs. Akerman's father, Samuel McClain, was born September 2, 1830, in Harrison county, Ohio, where he grew to manhood and on December 9, 1852, was married to Jane English, who was born in the same county, February 11, 1835. He with his family moved to Mahaska county, Iowa, in 1855, and in 1864 located on a farm near Fremont on which he lived until his death, which occurred January 11, 1901. To them were born nine children, five sons and four daughters, six of whom are still living as follows: Agnes, the wife of H. H. Gearliart, of Ashland, Oregon; Seward J., who married Lilly, daughter of William Dinsmore, of Fremont; Ollie, wife of the subject of this sketch; Nova, wife of Charles Wilson, of Wright, Iowa; Asa W., who married Rhoda, daughter of J. O. White, of Fremont; Nellie, wife of W. C. McDowell, of Fremont. deceased children are: Joseph N., who died October 9, 1855, aged two years; Jennison, who died May 12, 1870, aged three months; and Wade, who died July 1, 1881, aged nineteen years, seven months and twenty days. Mrs. McClain is still living and is past seventy-one years old. 'She and her husband were of Irish descent.

Mr. Akerman is well known in Fremont, Oskaloosa and Ottumwa, and, indeed, throughout Mahaska and Wapello counties, and he has the confidence and esteem of the entire community, being recognized as a public-spirited citizen as well as a prosperous business man. He has been found reliable in all of his dealings, while his co-operation can be counted upon to further progressive public measures, and in his social relations he manifests a kindly and considerate spirit which has gained for him many warm friends.

E. HERBERT OWENS.

E. Herbert Owens, filling the office of county surveyor, was born in Rockwell City, Iowa, in 1870 and now makes his home in Oskaloosa. His parents were James and Nancy (Terrell) Owens, the former a native of Wisconsin and the latter of Iowa. They now reside in Lawrence, Kansas, Mr. Owens having reached the age of sixty-seven years, while his wife is fiftyseven years of age. They are sincere and devoted members of the Christian church and Mr. Owens is a retired farmer, who after many years of active connection with agricultural interests is now enjoying a well earned rest. In the family were four children: Alpha, who is now in the Crerar Library in Chicago; E. Herbert, of this review; Fred, who is professor of mathematics in the Northwestern University in Chicago: and Celia, who is in school.

E. Herbert Owens was a student in the high school at Lake City, Iowa, and in the Kansas University at Lawrence, from which he was graduated in the class of 1901. He taught for a year in Arkansas City, Kansas, being teacher of mathematics in the high school, after which he became professor of mathematics and surveyor in Penn College at Oskaloosa. He then took up civil engineering and in 1903 was ap-



E. H. OWENS.



pointed to fill a vacancy in the office of county surveyor. In the fall of the same year he was elected to the position which he has since honorably and capably filled.

In 1901 Mr. Owens was married to Miss Elizabeth Edmondson, who was born in Covington, Kentucky, in 1879 and is a daughter of James and Mary Edmondson, now living retired. Mr. and Mrs. Owens have two daughters, Pauline and Marian. Mr. Owens belongs to the First Presbyterian church and his wife to the United Presbyterian church and in politics he is a republican. He has erected an attractive cottage on North Tenth street, where he and his wife are now living and the hospitality of their pleasant home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends.

PROFESSOR JAMES P. DODDS.

James P. Dodds, serving for the fourth term as county superintendent of schools of Mahaska county, was born in Crawford county, Ohio. His father, John Dodds, was born in Pennsylvania and comes of Irish ancestry. The paternal grandfather, James Dodds, came from Ireland to the United States at an early day, John Dodds arrived in Iowa about 1861, locating in Oskaloosa, where he spent the winter and in the spring bought a farm in Adams township, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1880. In the meantime, having acquired a handsome competence that made him a man of affluence, he then retired from active business life and once more took up his abode in Oskaloosa, where he is now living in his eighty-sixth year. He attends the Methodist Episcopal church and has membership relations with the Masonic fraternity, while in his political views he is a republican. His worth and ability being recognized by his party and his fellow citizens, he was called to represent cancy. He also held township offices and his influence has been a potent factor for good and progress in the community. He was in early life a teacher, following that profession for a number of years and some of his children were among his pupils at different times. A man of excellent business ability, his agricultural interests were so capably controlled that he accumulated over five hundred acres of land. He married Miss Letta Bobo, who was born in Vinton, Ohio, and died in April, 1896, in her seventieth year. She was of a French and German lineage and a daughter of Ezekiel Bobo, who was a farmer. Both he and his wife died in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. John Dodds became the parents of eight children, as follows: James P.; William E., a practicing physician of Richland, Iowa; Sarah E., the wife of Paul Chanev, a merchant, dealing in electrical goods in Kansas City, Missouri; Esther Virginia, the wife of Joseph Larimer, an engineer of the Iowa Central Railroad, making his home in Oskaloosa; John C., who is employed by the Santa Fe Railroad Company at Omaha, Nebraska; Mary F., living in Oskaloosa: Carrie L., the widow of Herbert Gamble, at one time superintendent of the Oskaloosa Water Works, his father having built the plant; and Lida L., who is head stenographer of a prominent stock broker in New York city.

his district in the general assembly to fill a va-

James P. Dodds was reared upon a farm and attended the district schools, after which he entered the Iowa Wesleyan University in 1875, pursuing the work of a scientific course for one term. Later he spent two years in Oskaloosa College and was graduated from the State Normal School in June, 1888, with the degree of Bachelor of Science. In the meantime he had engaged in teaching and after devoting some time to educational work in the country schools he became a teacher in the graded schools of Richland, Iowa, spending one year as principal there. He next became principal

of the schools at Farmington, Iowa, and in 1885 was made principal of the high school at Sigourney, where he remained for two years. He afterward entered the State Normal School and in 1888-89 was superintendent of schools at Brooklyn, Iowa. There he gave such good satisfaction that he was offered the position for another year, but he received a more advantageous offer from Sigourney, the people desiring that he become superintendent of schools of that place. He accepted and under his guidance the schools made satisfactory and rapid progress during the four years of his incumbency in office. In 1893 he resigned and purchased the Horton Head Light, a newspaper at Horton, Kansas, which he published for a year, when he sold out and returned to Oskaloosa, embarking in the grocery business, in which he continued for a year. He then sold his store and in 1896-7 was superintendent of schools at Grundy Center, Iowa. On the expiration of that period he came again to Oskaloosa and was elected principal of the fifth ward school, acting in that capacity for a little more than a year. In 1900 he was elected county superintendent of schools and is now serving the fourth term in that position. Under his guidance the standard of the schools has been raised and their proficiency augmented.

In 1884, Professor Dodds was married to Miss Clara Simpson, who was born in Sigourney, Iowa, a daughter of Judge and Ezekiel S, and Ellen (McCann) Sampson, the latter of English and Irish ancestry. Judge Sampson was one of the able men of his day. He sat upon the bench in the sixth judicial district for twelve years, being one of the strong and capable members of the bar, who have left the impress of their individuality upon the judicial history of the state. He also represented the sixth district in congress for three terms and was an active working member of the house, being deeply interested in many of its constructive measures. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dodds have

been born two sons: James Harold, who was born December 7, 1890, in Sigourney: and Edwin Clair, born in Sigourney, January 17, 1893.

Mr. and Mrs. Dodds are members of the First Presbyterian church, in which he has served as elder. He is now one of the church trustees and is teacher of the Bible class in the Sunday-school. He is a republican in his political views and has been an earnest student of the great questions affecting the welfare of state and nation. He holds a teacher's state life diploma and is one of the organizers, a director and the secretary of the Oskaloosa Chautauqua Association. He is also the author of a notebook for teachers' institutes. His labors in behalf of public education have been far-reaching and beneficial, making him one of the best known educators in Iowa. He is a gentleman of broad humanitarian principles and high scholarly attainments and moreover is imbued with a spirit of sympathy that has won him the respect and confidence of his fellowmen.

CHARLES MILLER.

Charles Miller is the owner of one of the most beautiful country homes of Poweshiek county and this part of lowa. It is situated on section 32. Sugar Creek township, and here he took up his abode about twelve years ago, up to which time he had resided in Mahaska county, so that he is widely known in the latter county, and in fact, throughout this part of the state. He was born in Logan county, Ohio, February 26, 1841, a son of George and Sarah (Brown) Miller, the former born in Maryland in 1794, and the latter in Virginia in 1804. They were married in Ohio and the father there followed cabinet-making, carpentering and other mechanical pursuits. He came to Iowa in 1857, purchasing one hundred and twenty acres of land in Prairie township, Mahaska county. It was then a wild and unimproved tract, a little log cabin constituting the only building upon it. For a year the family lived in that pioneer home, at the end of which time Mr. Miller added a frame addition, and upon that farm he continued to reside until called to his final rest at the very advanced age of ninety years. His wife also passed away in Mahaska county when sixty years of age. In their family were seven children, five sons and two daughters, of whom Charles is the youngest. One of his brothers, George Miller, is living in Perry, Kansas, while Samuel resides at Rich Hill, Missouri. The others have departed this life.

Charles Miller acquired but a limited education in the schools of his native state, and when sixteen years of age came to Iowa with his parents. From that time on he worked as a farm hand by the month, and after he was eighteen years of age his wages, which had hitherto been given to his father, were retained by him for his own use. When twenty years of age he took charge of his father's farm and afterward cared for his parents throughout the remainder of their days. Mr. Miller's first purchase of land in addition to the old home property was a tract of forty acres. His entire life has been devoted to agricultural pursuits, and he has purchased land from time to time, now owning nearly four thousand acres in Mahaska and Poweshiek counties, being therefore one of the most extensive landowners of the state. His investments have been judiciously made and his property interests are today very valuable. He resided in Mahaska county until about twelve years ago, when he removed to his present farm on section 32, Sugar Creek township, Poweshiek county, just a half mile across the Mahaska county line. Here he erected a palatial home, costing more than five thousand dollars. It is one of the finest country residences in this part of the state, built in pleasing style of architecture, while its furnishings are all that wealth can secure and refined taste suggest. Mr.

Miller has always been an extensive stock feeder and in years past bought as high as one hundred thousand bushels of corn annually to feed his stock. He has shipped at times whole train loads of cattle and hogs, and though he is not carrying on the business quite as extensively as formerly, he still buys corn and feeds cattle on a large scale. He likewise owns two elevators at Taintor, a mile and a quarter from his home, where he has enormous corn cribs for storing corn. He is interested in several other enterprises, being a dealer in lumber and agricultural implements in Taintor and a partner in various firms for the buying and selling of stock. fact the extent and importance of his business enterprises make him one of the leading representatives of commercial and agricultural interests in this part of lowa and his labors have been so well directed as to gain for him a position of prominence among the substantial citizens of the state.

In 1864 Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Martha Beal, a daughter of William Beal, one of the early residents of Mahaska county. She died in 1872, leaving a son and a daughter: Porter R., who is married and lives in the Indian Territory, where he is engaged in stock-raising; and Etta, the wife of A. B. Hull, a farmer and merchant of Taintor. Mr. Miller was again married in 1873, his second union being with Della Moore, a daughter of George Moore, one of the early settlers of lowa. who lived for many years in Mahaska county. By the second marriage there have been five children, and the family circle vet remains unbroken by the hand of death. The record is as follows: Ernest G., who married Grace Stanlev and lives on a farm in Poweshiek county; Loto C., the wife of Charles Linstead, who resides near Taintor on one of her father's farms; C. T., who married Miss Steen and resides upon the old homestead farm in Mahaska county; Fern, who is with her parents; and Adella, who is attending school in Oskaloosa.

Mr. Miller has witnessed great changes in the county and in business conditions in Iowa. He made his first shipments of hogs to Chicago in 1861, sending nine hogs which sold at a dollar and a half per hundred and brought him thirty-seven dollars. In the early days he engaged to drive hogs to Ottumwa, receiving forty cents per day for the work. He went without his dinner and he had no overcoat nor overshoes. Though he has accumulated a vast amount of property he can look back to the days when his possessions were extremely limited and he has met reverses and obstacles in his path, yet has overcome these by determined and earnest purpose. He has never been known to take advantage of the necessities of his fellowmen in any business transaction, but through the legitimate channels of trade and investment has won gratifying and admirable success. His mind goes back to the days when houses were illuminated in the most primitive manner, a rag stuck in a pan of grease serving to light the room. Later candles were in use and then came kerosene lamps, which were thought to be a wonderful improvement upon the former methods of illumination. Today he has a beautiful home of his own designing with hardwood finish throughout and heated with hot water. One of the most attractive features is the large open fireplace in the sitting room, making a most cheery picture in winter days. Mr. Miller has traveled quite extensively and on one occasion went back to the old home in Ohio. There looking over the old farm, he came to the conclusion that his father had done well to raise and support a family there. In politics Mr. Miller has always been a democrat, vet does not consider himself bound by party ties and when he thinks the best interests of community, county or country demand his support of a republican candidate he does not hesitate to scratch his party ticket. vears ago he was a candidate for state representative on the democratic ticket and his per-

sonal popularity and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow townsmen is indicated by the fact that he ran eight hundred votes ahead of the ticket. He has never aspired to office, but has held minor township positions. He is spoken of in terms of good will and friendship by many who know him and he has a very wide and favorable acquaintance in Mahaska county as well as in Poweshiek county, his home being near the division line. His life has indeed been well spent, and he certainly deserves the success which has crowned his undertakings.

WILLIAM H. MINARD.

William H. Minard, living on section 33. Spring Creek township, devotes his time and energies to farming, his place comprising forty acres of good land. He is a native of Ohio, having been born in Erie county on the 11th of August, 1852. His father, Frederick A. Minard, was a native of Connecticut, but settled in Ohio in early life and there followed the occupation of farming. There William was reared upon the homestead farm, assisting his father in the operation of the land and enjoying the advantages of the common schools. In 1872 the father, with his family of four children, removed to Nebraska, then regarded as the Empire state of the west, and settled in Merrick county, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land. His wife bore the maiden name of Sarah N. Cobb, and was a daughter of Ralph Cobb and a native of the Empire state.

Following the removal of the family to Nebraska William H. Minard remained at home for three years, after which he rented land and began farming on his own account. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Jennie Sliter, to whom he was married March 10, 1877. She is a native of Indiana and a daughter of Henry Sliter, who was born



MR. AND MRS. W. H. MINARD.



in New York but later removed to Indiana, and afterward became a resident of Merrick county, Nebraska, in which locality his daughter formed the acquaintance of William Minard, to whom she afterward gave her hand in The young couple lived upon a marriage. rented farm for some years and then with the capital saved from his earnings Mr. Minard purchased eighty acres of his father's place. Subsequently he sold that property and bought a livery stable in Central City, Nebraska, conducting it for two years, on the expiration of which time he sold out. He then moved westward to Perkins county, Nebraska, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land and began to improve a farm. He there built a house and fenced eighty acres of the land, dug a deep well and put in a wind pump. As time passed by his labors resulted in the development of a good farm, upon which the familv lived for four years, when the drought and grasshoppers caused the destruction of crops, and as there was no income, in consequence Mr. Minard was compelled to sacrifice his home there, selling out at a big loss because of the improvements which he had placed on the property. With his family he then started eastward, not knowing where he would settle until he reached the fertile and well watered prairies of Mahaska county. Being so well pleased with the appearance of this locality and its prospects he here determined to start in life anew. He had brought with him what household effects he could carry, also some cattle and young colts. The latter became so footsore that Mr. Minard had to have boots made of old leather to protect their feet. It was in 1800 that, trayeling in emigrant style, Mr. Minard reached Mahaska county. He determined to remain here and rented a farm near Oskaloosa, where he engaged in the dairy business for eleven years. He next spent five seasons on a farm near New Sharon, and at the end of that time removed to his present farm on section 33,

Spring Creek township, buying forty acres of improved land, on which was a good house, barn and outbuildings, the place being pleasantly located within three miles of Oskaloosa. Here he has since carried on general farming and whatever success he has achieved is attributable entirely to his own efforts, his property being the visible evidence of his life of energy and thrift.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Minard have been born seven children, of whom five are yet living, while Edith May died in Nebraska at the age of one year, and one other was killed by a train on the Rock Island Railroad at the age of fourteen months. The eldest living is Jay S., who is married and resides in New Sharon; Mabel, at home; Raymond, who assists in carrying on the farm; William and Nellie, also at home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Minard are members of the Baptist church, of Oskaloosa, and have been identified with the denomination for twenty-five years. Politically he is a good republican, always supporting the men and measures of the party, and he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. Although he has met with reverses and obstacles, he has persevered in his business career and as the years have gone by has worked so earnestly and indefatigably that now he is in possession of a comfortable home and is earning a good living.

REV. JAMES D. GUTHRIE.

Rev. James D. Guthrie, a man of remarkable character and superior mental attainments, who in his life work has displayed great strength of purpose and has won success where many others would have met failure because of a lack of advantages, is today known as one of the strong and able ministers of the Christian church and as a business man of capability, successfully connected with coal mining operations

in this section of Iowa. He was born in Wells county, Indiana, September 10, 1840, a son of James and Nancy (Corn) Guthrie. Of the sons of the family two died in childhood, while Faulkner was drowned in the north fork of the Platte river when on his way to California in 1851, and Lerov was killed in the battle of Shiloh in the Civil war. Harvey, who went to California in an early day, died in the west, leaving Rev. Guthrie the only surviving son of the family. His sisters are as follows: Annie, the wife of John Harvey, who afterward married Solomon Frye, of Jasper county, and is now deceased; Alexia, the wife of J. M. Williams, of Jasper county; Eveline, deceased wife of Francis Hughes, of Jasper county; Clarissa, the deceased wife of Preston Cowman, of Marion county, Iowa; Melissa, the wife of William Blankenship, now of Tipton, California; and Permelia, the wife of George Gilbert, of Jefferson county, Iowa, who is deceased.

Rev. Guthrie came with his parents to Iowa when but three and a half years old, the family settling in Jefferson county, and on the 5th of March, 1845, they took up their abode in Jasper county, near the town of Monroe. James D. Guthrie never saw a school until he was about twelve years of age, when he was permitted to attend for three months, and when eighteen years of age three months more, but otherwise had no educational advantages in his youth. In the school of experience, however, he learned many valuable lessons and his ambition became stimulated for further intellectual development and prowess. Nothwithstanding his early lack of opportunities he has made steady progress in every walk of life with which he has become connected. He remained upon the farm until 1869, when he removed to Oskaloosa, and in the fall of 1870 entered Oskaloosa College at the age of thirty years when, as he declares, he "did not know an adjective from a noun." He attended college until 1876, when he received two diplomas: He won the degree

of Bachelor of Arts and received a diploma from the classical biblical department.

During the first two years which he spent in college he did much evangelical work and his naturally strong mentality, his magnetism and his forcefulness won for him a wide reputation as a pulpit orator. He was enabled to sway his audiences by the power of his logical reasoning and emotion, and he won scores of converts to the church. Much speaking, however, injured his throat and for five years he was obliged to discontinue his work in the ministry.

During this period Dr. Guthrie became interested in coal mining and about 1875 joined his brother-in-law, R. T. C. Lord, in developing coal fields west of Oskaloosa College, but the following year, 1876, sold his interest to his partner. In 1878 he won the degree of Master of Arts at Oskaloosa College. The previous year, 1877, he began business as a coal operator on his own account on the land on which he yet resides south of Third avenue, on the Oskaloosa and Knoxville highway. In this business he has met with splendid success, developing the coal fields along modern lines and finding a ready sale for his product, so that his income became large and gratifying. A man of resourceful business ability, he has the power to group and co-ordinate, which has made him a man of affairs. In 1882 he began the manufacture of brick, building his own kiln and continuing in the business for several years, but he finally abandoned that industrial concern. He is still a coal operator, however, and in this connection has conducted a profitable business.

Never for an instant has Rev. Guthrie ceased to grow intellectually and he has wrested from the hands of fate the opportunities which he was denied in early years. In 1896 he entered Penn College, where he pursued a post-graduate course in chemistry, anatomy and histology, until 1899. He pursued this course preparatory to entering Rush Medical College, of Chicago, and was given a special certificate from his

teacher and the president of Penn College, eulogizing his extraordinary mental powers and the facility with which he mastered the branches of study that claimed his attention. In the following year he entered Rush Medical College, of Chicago, where he engaged in the pursuit of a regular course.

Rev. Guthrie was married October 30, 1859, to Miss Catherine Davis, a daughter of William S. and Nancy (Zumwalt) Davis, and a graduate of the biblical department of Oskaloosa College, winning her degree in 1875, one year before her husband's graduation. Their children are: Alice M., the wife of Solon D. Stuart, now of Springview, Nebraska; and Leonard Guthrie, of Hartline, Washington.

In his political views Mr. Guthrie was formerly an advocate of the greenback party and was nominated on that ticket for the position of state senator. He has served as master of Tri Luminar lodge, A. F. & A. M., in which he was senior deacon for seven years and as lecturer of the lodge, displaying marked oratorical power. He is a most fluent, earnest and entertaining speaker and has conducted evangelistic meetings in several counties in Iowa, always leaving a deep impress upon the minds of his auditors. Although holding no regular charge now, Mr. Guthrie is one of the best known ministers of the Christian church in the state. He is a man of broad mind, liberal views and wide charity, tolerant of the opinions of others and vet holding firmly to those ideas which he believes are the correct interpretation of the Bible. He officiates at more funerals and performs more marriage ceremonies than any other clergyman in Mahaska county. Wherever he preaches or lectures there is sure to be a large audience, including many of the cultured men and prominent citizens of Iowa. He lives at No. 1432 West Third avenue, in Oskaloosa, and is one of its most prominent citizens. It would be almost tautological in this connection to elaborate on his strength of character, his strong determination and landable ambition, for these have been shadowed forth between the lines of this review. Like the pioneer he has toiled and hoped and realized, and like the builder and organizer has broadened the field of his activities with the passing years. Moreover, he has found time to cultivate characteristics subtler than those of adventure or commercialism and while he has won success in his business career he has never been unmindful of the higher and holier duties of life.

ALLEN FAULKNER.

Allen Faulkner, who was a respected and worthy resident of Mahaska county, was horn in Greene county. Ohio, February 20, 1843, and died April 1, 1894. His grandparents were Thomas and Mary (McGuire) Faulkner. The former was born in Virginia, November 8, 1787, and was married August 7, 1834. He died April 16, 1871, and his wife passed away July 5, 1873, at the age of eighty-three years. He was born and reared in the Society of Friends, but was disowned by the church because he married outside of the faith. He then embraced the faith of the Christian church and was one of its main supporters in Ohio.

His parents were Jonathan and Elizabeth (Stephens) Faulkner, the former born in Virginia, March 27, 1812, and the latter in Obio, January 15, 1809. The mother died July 8, 1857, and after her death Mr. Faulkner was married to Elizabeth Hardsock, who also died in Ohio. His third wife was Kate Carter, whom he wedded in Ohio, and who is still living in that state, to which she returned after the death of Mr. Faulkner in New Sharon. He was a well-to-do man and purchased land in Iowa several years before he came to this state to take up his abode. In 1875 he removed to Mahaska county, where he owned three hundred and

twenty acres of land in Union township. His attention was given to the further development and improvement of the property for a few years, after which he retired to New Sharon, where he passed away. In his family were six children: Warren, who was born May 15, 1835, and is now living in Grinnell, Jowa; Thomas, born October 16, 1839; Allen, of this review; Reece, who was born October 22, 1844, and died September 19, 1846; Lucinda Ann, who was born January 12, 1848; and Sallie Mary, born March 11, 1850.

Allen Faulkner was educated in the common schools of Ohio, where he lived with his parents until he had reached man's estate. He then came to Iowa to look after land belonging to his father. On the 30th of May, 1872, he was married to Miss Mary V. Taylor, who was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, November 21, 1853, a daughter of Alexander and Sarah (Burns) Taylor. The father was born in Pennsylvania, December 13, 1824, and the mother in the Keystone state, March 29, 1831. They came to Iowa in 1858, settling in Keokuk county, and later removed to Kansas, but afterward returned to Jasper county, Iowa, where Mr. Taylor made his home until he retired from active business life and went to live in New Sharon. There he died in 1871 and Mrs. Taylor now makes her home with Mrs. Faulkner. In the family were six children: James B., who is living in Wichita, Kansas; Mrs. Faulkner; George E., who is a resident of Linnville, Iowa; John, who resides in York, Nebraska; Elmer E., who makes his home in Grinnell, Iowa; and Della, the wife of Charles Rogers, a resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

After his marriage Mr. Faulkner lived in Poweshiek county, Iowa, for four years, then came with his family to the farm of his father in Union township, Mahaska county. This was an improved tract of land of three hundred and twenty acres of which he eventually became the owner. He built here a large frame

house and barn and was one of the successful and leading agriculturists of that community, carrying on his work in practical manner and with due regard to system.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Faulkner were born five children: Ora V., who was born September 8, 1873, died at the age of nineteen years. Loring H., born October 3, 1875, married Miss Lillian Fisher and is living on a farm adjoining the home place. Elmer L. G., born February 5, 1878, married Miss Grace Sarver, and resides upon the home farm in Union township: Taylor, born December 23, 1887, married Agnes McDowell and lives upon the home farm. Lelia, born April 10, 1893, is with her mother.

Mr. Faulkner was a republican but not an aspirant for office and never held any public position save that of school officer. He belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he was an active and earnest worker and his life was that of a sincere Christian man. He enjoyed the confidence and good will of all who knew him and his death was deeply regretted, when, in 1894, he was called to his final rest. His widow still occupies the home farm and the family is one highly respected in the community.

ROBERT THOMAS.

Robert Thomas, living on a farm near New Sharon, has led a very busy and active life. There is an old Japanese adage that opportunity is hard to find and easy to lose, and, realizing the truth of this, Mr. Thomas has improved every chance that has come to him for the upbuilding of his fortunes and is today one of the substantial residents of the community in which he resides. He was born in Harrison county, Ohio, October 5, 1834, a son of Isaac and Annie (Ladd) Thomas. The paternal grandparents were Peter and Mary (Thomp-



ROBERT THOMAS.



son) Thomas, both of whom were natives of North Carolina, while the maternal grandparents were Robert and Mary (Terrell) Ladd.

Isaac Thomas was born in Ohio, June 1, 1813, and became a farmer by occupation. He was also one of the first sheep-breeders of Harrison county, Ohio, and as the years passed by he prospered in his business undertakings and became the owner of one of the finest farms in his county. He was also a director in three banks and was a prosperous, prominent and influential business man and citizen. His early political support was given to the Freesoil party, and his home was a station on the famous "underground railroad." Following the death of his first wife, he married a Mrs. Gibbons and removed to Mount Pleasant. Ohio, where his last days were passed. Unto Isaac and Annie (Ladd) Thomas were born eleven children. namely: Robert; Joseph, who died at the age of twenty-seven years; Peter L., who died in Oskaloosa, Iowa; Israel, who died in Ohio in the spring of 1905; Mrs. Martha Ann Cope, who resides in Ohio; Mrs. Mary Jones, a widow living in Michigan; Mrs. Edna Bronson, a resident of Ohio; Lucy, the deceased wife of Abraham Branson; Oliver, of Mount Pleasant, Ohio; Mrs. Anna Lupton, of Mount Pleasant, Ohio; and Mrs. Sarah Woodard, of Barnsville, Ohio. The parents were very strict adherents of the Society of Friends, or Quakers.

Robert Thomas, the eldest of the family, began his education in a log schoolhouse and therein mastered the common branches of learning, while later he became a student in a Friends school at Richmond, Indiana, but was obliged to leave school on account of becoming ill with the measles. For three years he and his brother conducted the old home farm. He then started west, driving across the country, and he earned from three to five dollars per day repairing wooden pumps. In 1862 he received a diploma from the Scott County (Iowa) Agricultural Association for the best wooden pump displayed

at the fair held in Davenport. He afterward made his way to Benton county, Iowa, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land from Benjamin Cope. He held that land for eight years, and then sold it for sixteen hundred dollars, which was double the price that he paid for it. For a time he resided in Springdale, Cedar county, Iowa, and there he engaged in selling pumps and also in shearing sheep for about a year. Later he returned to Ohio, being upon the road on the memorable cold New Year's day of 1864. Afterward he drove again across the country to Iowa, bringing some colts with him, and located near Vinton, in Benton county, where he lived for five or six years. He then sold out and in 1870 came to Mahaska county.

Here Mr. Thomas purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 36, Prairie township, where he now resides. One crop had been taken from about one hundred acres of the land. There were, however, no buildings or fences upon the place and not a tree on the farm. Mr. Thomas has since erected a large frameresidence, two big barns and other buildings and there are now beautiful pine trees in front of his house fifty feet high, which Mr. Thomas set out when they were only five feet high. The splendid appearance of the place is due to his earnest and untiring labor and the farm is a monument to his energy and perseverance. He has always been interested in raising and breeding sheep, which he has carried on extensively and is still interested in the sheep industry, although not to as great extent as in former years. Mr. Thomas has been in the dairy business for seven years and delivered butter in Oskaloosa for a long time, and has made and sold five thousand dollars' worth, keeping a thoroughbred Jersev herd for this purpose.

Mr. Thomas was married on the 1st of October, 1867, to Miss Deborah Ladd, who was born in Harrison county, Ohio, and died in 1870, at the age of thirty-seven years. On the

1st of January, 1873. he married Ruth T. Green, who was born in Harrison county. Ohio. and died in 1891. In 1893 he wedded Mrs. Jane Stewart Pickrell, who was born in Carroll, Ohio, February 3, 1853. In his political views Mr. Thomas has always been a republican where national issues are involved, but at local elections is inclined to cast an independent ballot. He has served as pathmaster and for years was county sheep inspector, but has never sought nor desired office. He is a member of the State and County Wool Growers Association, both of which he helped to organize, and has been secretary of the latter. His life has been one of activity crowned with success and his force of character and genuine worth have been manifest in an upright life and in the attainment of prosperity in business interests. He has a wide and favorable acquaintance in this county, where he has long been accounted one of the valued representatives of farming and sheep-raising interests.

OLIVER P. HEDGE.

Oliver P. Hedge is numbered among the prospercus farmers of Spring Creek township. He was born May 1, 1853, in Coshocton county. Ohio, a son of George M. and Belinda Hedge, whose parents were among the pioneers of Guernsey county, that state, having removed from Virginia in the very early settlement of Ohio. Aaron Hedge, the grandfather, was for years a school teacher in the community and a soldier in the war of 1812. Oliver P. Hedge was eight years old when the war of the Rebellion broke out and during its progress he made a daily trip to the postoffice to bring the neighborhood mail. He had three brothers in the Union army, Anderson, Aaron and Porter, all of whom have passed away, their deaths being hastened by severe army service. Eight

children composed the family circle on the old Ohio farm. "They grew in beauty side by side, they filled their home with glee." Five of the number are yet living: Mrs. O. A. Mulvane, of Newman, Illinois: Manoah Hedge, of Oskaloosa: Mrs. Richard Charles, of Prairie City, Iowa: Oliver P. Hedge, our subject: and Mrs. E. H. Calkins, of St. Louis, Missouri. The first break in the home circle came when Lincoln called for troops to put down the rehellion.

After coming to Eddyville, Iowa, with the family in 1865, Oliver P. Hedge attended the schools of that place for seven years. The home of the family since 1872 has been in Oskaloosa. Here Mr. Hedge worked on the farm, taught school and attended Oskaloosa College: later was in the grocery and implement business; and ran a flour and feed store for a number of years. From 1891 until 1899 he was in partnership with his brother Manoah in the book and stationery business under the firm name of Hedge Brothers. In the latter year he purchased a farm two and a half miles northeast of Oskaloosa, which has since been the family home.

On the 2d of April, 1884, Mr. Hedge was united in marriage to Miss S. Annabelle Kisor, a daughter of David and Margaret Kisor, of Union township, who were among the pioneers of Mahaska county. At the time of their marriage Mrs. Hedge was a teacher in the public schools of Oskaloosa, where she taught for four years, having received her education at Oskaloosa College. To them have been born a family of nine children, all of whom are living: Homer H.: Hassel A.: Harrison K.: Helene Belle: Horace P. and Hattie Lucile. twins: Hilda May: Russell H.: and Olivia Prudence. They are all willing workers and have some definite farm work to do. They strike the visitor as being a houseful of intelligent, good natured youngsters, the oldest being now past twenty-one.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Hedge joined the Christain church when they were nineteen years of age. As would be expected from a well ordered home all of their children who are of sufficient age are members of that church, and Mr. Hedge is an elder in the Christian congregation in Oskaloosa.

WILLIAM MICKLE.

William Mickle, who follows farming on section 5. Pleasant Grove township, and is numbered among the honored veterans of the Civil war, was born in Otsego county, New York, December 28, 1834. His parents, Christian and Deborah (Burnside) Mickle, were natives of the Empire state, and died upon a farm in Otsego county many years ago. In the family were nine children, but only three are now living, namely: William, of this review; Ira, a resident of Harrison county, Iowa; and Mrs. Ann Eliza Finch, who is living in Boulder, Colorado.

William Mickle was the youngest in the family and in his youth attended the common schools, but had no educational privileges after he was thirteen years of age. As his elder brothers had married and left home he was obliged to assist in the work of the farm and remained at home until nineteen years of age, when he began work as a farm hand by the mouth. He was thus employed until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted in response to his country's call, being enrolled at Lawrence, Otsego county, New York, on the 6th of September, 1862, as a private of Company H, One Hundred and Fifty-second New York Volunteer Infantry. The regiment went to Washington, D. C., and thence to the seat of war. While in camp at Fort Marcy on the Potomac, William Mickle was helping carry a flat rock to put under a stove when he fell and

sustained a fracture in the hip socket. He was then sent to a hospital and later was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps, being stationed at Chestnut Hill, Pennsylvania. It was while there that the general order was issued that all soldiers not able to join their regiments should be discharged and in consequence Mr. Mickle was mustered out of service and returned home. He was never in any battle but fared worse than he might have done had he taken part in the active fighting.

Mr. Mickle was married on the 30th of June, 1853, in Chenango county to Miss Amanda P. Carr, who was born in that county, May 9, 1835, a daughter of Green H. and Sally (Priest) Carr, both of whom were natives of the Empire state and died there at an advanced age. In their family were eleven children and with one exception all are yet living, but Richard Carr is the only one now residing in Iowa, with the exception of Mrs. Mickle, his home being at Barnes City. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mickle have been born two daughters: Eva Marie, the wife of Andrew M. Wymore, who is living in Virginia; and Mary D., the wife of H. W. Tolles, a resident of Union township.

Mr. Mickle started for Iowa in September, 1865, traveling by rail to Brookton and by hack to Montezuma, and soon afterward he purchased the forty acres of land whereon he has since resided. About five acres had been broken at that time, while a little frame house had been built. There was a fence around what had been plowed but the remainder of the land was unfenced. Mr. Mickle has since erected a comfortable frame residence and has his farm all under cultivation. He has lived here for more than forty years and has continuously carried on the work of improving his land and cultivating the fields. In his political views he has always been a democrat yet does not consider himself bound by party ties, and in fact, voted for William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt. He has served as justice of the peace for two years and has been road supervisor for about twelve years. There were only two houses between his home and Montezuma when he came to his present farm and he has seen the wild prairie converted into highly cultivated tracts of land in the midst of which are beautiful country homes. Both he and his wife are well preserved for people of their age and are an interesting couple who for more than four decades have resided in this county. Mr. Mickle now receives a pension of twenty-four dollars per month from the government because of the injury he sustained while a member of the army. The same loval spirit which promoted his enlistment has always been manifest in his citizenship and he has given his influence to the various movements for the public good which have had an effect upon the welfare and upbuilding of this county. He has been found reliable and trustworthy in business, and he commands the respect of all who know him.

JOHN D. BYERS.

John D. Byers, who throughout the greater period of his business career has been identified with building operations in Oskaloosa, where he now makes his home, was born in Greenville, Mercer county, Pennsylvania, April 1, 1850. His father, James M. Byers, went with his family to Washington, Iowa, in 1852 and there remained for a year, after which he came to Oskaloosa in 1853. He was a mason and contractor, who built some of the largest buildings in Oskaloosa, including the old city hall and the old jail. He also built the old Presbyterian church, now the Baptist church, which was erected in 1854. He had the contract for the erection of the Benjamin Roop residence, now a famous landmark in Oskaloosa, and he did considerable work all over the county for the farmers and also built the distillery at Beacon. His fidelity to the terms of a contract and the excellent workmanship executed under his direction secured him a liberal patronage. He served as county coroner for several years and was a captain of the Home Guards during the Civil war, doing much to suppress local violence in those stormy days. He died July 24, 1898, and thus the county lost one of its valued and representative pioneer residents. His widow, who bore the maiden name of Hannah E. McVicker, is still living in Oskaloosa. The sons and daughters of the family are as follows: S. H. Marshall Byers, who for twenty years was United States consul in Switzerland and is now living in Des Moines, is the author of "Sherman's March to the Sea," "Iowa in War Times," "Twenty Years in Europe," "Happy Isles" and other works. James W. Byers is a veteran of the Civil war. Dr. Henry V. Byers is living in Newton, Iowa. Charles H. is a civil engineer near Seattle, Washington, who for twelve years has been in the emplove of the Gould Railroad system. Frank S. died in infancy. Sarah B. became the wife of J. B. Adlon, of Oskaloosa, and died in the lat-Anna is the wife of Samuel Moreland, of White Rock, Kansas, and died in the fall of 1905. Lydia J. is the wife of John Moore, of Jefferson township, this county. Clara E. is the wife of D. B. Lvon, a real-estate dealer of Los Angeles, California. Arminta B. is the wife of Richard Hull, of Garfield township. Mary E. died in childhood. Alice M. died in infancy. Kate R., who was a professor of scientific cooking, died in Waterbury, Connecticut, in 1904.

John D. Byers, whose name introduces this record, was educated in the district schools and also pursued a course of study in the commercial department of Oskaloosa College under Professor Givens. He left school when twenty-five years of age and began contracting and building on his own account. He has followed building operations since 1869, in which year



JOHN D. BYERS.



he began to learn the trade and he has worked on various public buildings in the county seat. He was a superintendent of the construction of the Central Methodist Episcopal church and also the Carnegie library and many other important buildings are evidences of his skill and ability. His business has reached extensive and profitable proportions and his labors have been an element in the improvement and adormnent of the city.

Mr. Byers was married on Christmas day of 1878 to Miss Margaret S. Robertson, a daughter of David and Fannie Robertson, of Oskaloosa. Their children are Ernest R., Harry, Edwin, John David, Margaret and Francis Mason. The last named died in infancy and the eldest son is now in Los Angeles, California. The mother departed this life October 4, 1905, and the funeral services were held in the Presbyterian church. Byers was formerly an Odd Fellow. In politics he is a republican and for twenty-seven years he has been an elder in the First Presbyterian church, of which he is a most devoted and faithful member. His labors in behalf of the church have been of an effective and beneficial nature and his motives have ever been such as would bear close investigation and scrutiny, for he has based his business principles and actions upon the rules which govern strict and unswerving integrity and industry.

PHINEAS WELLS PHILLIPS.

Phineas Wells Phillips, deceased, was born in Virginia, January 11, 1830, and died in Prairie township, Mahaska county, Iowa, January 25, 1887, a life of usefulness and activity crowned by successful accomplishment being thus ended. He was a son of Holdridge and Sarah (Ryan) Phillips. The father was born in Virginia and the mother in Ohio and Hol-

dridge Phillips removed from the Old Dominion to Ohio, where he spent his remaining days upon a farm. In his family were five children, namely: Phineas W.; Cyrus, now living in Oklahoma; Adam and Eve, twins, the former now deceased, while the latter is living in Ohio; and Mathias.

Phineas W. Phillips was a student in the common schools of Ohio, where he was reared upon a farm, remaining with his parents until his marriage, on the 10th of October, 1850, Miss Ellen Williams becoming his wife. She was born in Ross county, Ohio, September 30, 1830, and yet resides upon the old homestead farm in Prairie township, Mahaska county. Her father, John Williams, was born in Maryland, March 7, 1794, and died in Prairie township, this county, on the 5th of December, 1863. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Christiana McGuire, was born in Ohio, January 30, 1801, and spent her last days in the home of her daughter, Mrs. Phillips, there passing away October 21, 1887. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Williams were seven children, but Mrs. Phillips is the only one now living. The parents came to the west with their family and took up their abode upon a farm in Prairie township. Mahaska county, where they lived for many years. At the time of their removal from Ohio, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips also came, this being in the year 1855. Traveling across Illinois, their wagons became stuck in the mud and they had to employ farmers to pull them out with ox teams. They were almost discouraged, vet they would not turn back. On reaching Mahaska county, Mr. Phillips rented a house near Oskaloosa and began teaming and following any other employment that he could get to do. After spending the summer there he started northward to find a more favorable location where he could make a better living. As he and his wife thus traveled by wagon they would stop on the way and the various settlers, after the hospitable manner of the times, would

allow them to cook meals upon their stoves. They spent the winter of 1855-6 in a log house at Granville, Mahaska county. The structure was so poor, however, that it did little to exclude the storms and they could shovel snow out of their upstairs rooms down to the first floor and then out of the door.

In the spring of 1856 Mr. Phillips purchased forty acres of land where his widow now resides. It was all wild prairie. There were logs upon the place but no house had been built, and Mr. Phillips, after rolling the logs into a small shanty, began the task of clearing and cultivating the fields. The bed was made by poles stuck in holes bored into the logs in the side of the shanty and then covered with clapboards. They had an old drop-leaf table and a little chair which they brought with them from Ohio and this chair Mrs. Phillips still has in her possession. Mr. Phillips did some teaming in Burlington and Keokuk, and made a heroic struggle to get a start in life here, but ill luck seemed to attend him in many directions. At different times he lost his horse, and as he had no shelter for the cow, she died. Mrs. Phillips did work of all kinds for the neighbors. taking meat and flour in payment. They lived in a log house until 1862, when they built a frame addition to their cabin home and later they tore down the log structure and put up a more commodious frame residence. In those early days there were few fences on the prairie and one night the neighbor's cattle came to the Phillips farm and ate up the grease which Mrs. Phillips had prepared to make soft soap. In those early days they made their own tallow candles and Mrs. Phillips also made clothes for herself, husband and children. No expense was incurred that could be avoided. They lived very frugally and economically until the land was paid for and when their financial resources somewhat increased they bought more land, adding to the property from time to time until at his death Mr. Phillips was the owner of a valuable tract of four hundred acres which was divided among the children, Mrs. Phillips having one hundred acres of the old homestead. She is a very well preserved lady, enjoying good health for one of her years and she manages her own affairs, a daughter living with her, while a son, who resides in a separate house, works her land for her,

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Phillips were born seven children, all of whom survive. John C., born October 3, 1851, and now operating his mother's farm, married Cora Sawyer and has three children. Mary A., born November 20, 1853, is now living in Nebraska, where she is engaged in dressmaking. She married Jerome Smith but has obtained a legal separation from him. Cornelius, born June 30, 1855, married Martha Frederick, has six children and owns and occupies forty acres of the old homestead. Jasper H., born September 23, 1858, married Retta Heinsman, lives upon a farm in Prairie township and has two children. born October 31, 1862, is living with her mother. Charles W., born October 23, 1867, married Lou Heinsman and resides upon a farm near New Sharon. William E., born July 14, 1870, married Vira Shroyer and owns and occupies a part of the old home place.

Mr. Phillips was an earnest republican and served as supervisor of his township for eighteen years, while for several years he acted as justice of the peace and was known as Squire Phillips. All of his political duties were faithfully and promptly discharged. He was active in politics and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, called him to a number of positions of local honor and trust. He was a very earnest worker and his indefatigable industry and laudable ambition made him successful. He was a temperate man, who entertained high moral principles, but he never believed that to be good one must be long faced and serious. On the contrary he was jovial and genial and shed around him much of the

sunshine of life. In the year 1868 he kept a diary where he recorded the weather conditions and the doings of each day and it is a noticeable fact that each Sunday he attended church and Sunday-school if the weather would permit. His death occurred very suddenly, being taken by paralysis, from which he suffered at one o'clock in the afternoon, while at seven o'clock in the same evening he had passed away, the attack being brought on by overstudy and hard work. His life was indeed a busy and useful one and is in many respects well worthy of emulation. Mrs. Phillips belongs to the Methodist church. She is a well posted lady and is a good conversationalist. She was to her husband a most faithful companion and helpmate on life's journey and assisted him in acquiring his property. She now has a comfortable home, good barns and sheds and well kept fences upon her place, yet residing upon the old homestead where she and her husband located so many years ago.

C. J. TRIPLETT.

C. J. Triplett, who has prospered in his farming and stock-raising operations owns and controls one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 22, Cedar township. This farm is located about two and a half miles from Fremont and is a well improved property, indicating in its neat and thrifty appearance the careful supervision and painstaking efforts of the owner, who dates his residence in the county from 1862. He was born in Warren county, Illinois, near Monmouth, April 12, 1857, and is a son of Mortimer Triplett, and a brother of M. F. Triplett, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. He came to Iowa with his parents in 1858 and the family home was established in Mahaska county in 1862, so that he was reared in Cedar township, being but five

years of age when brought here by his parents. His education was acquired in the common schools and he remained with his father during the period of his youth. He then began working on a farm and afterward owned a half interest in a threshing machine in connection with his brother. This they operated during the threshing season for about twelve years in Mahaska and adjoining counties.

Mr. Triplett was married in Keokuk county on the 11th of April, 1888, to Miss Jennie Martin, who was born in Iowa, but was reared in Keokuk county and is a daughter of Henry Martin, one of the early settlers of Iowa, who resided for a long period in Keokuk county. Following his marriage Mr. Triplett located upon the farm where he now resides, securing eighty acres of land which had been partially broken and improved. He built upon this place a small house and began to farm the land, transforming the place into well developed and productive fields. He afterward bought eighty acres adjoining the homestead which he fenced and tiled and he erected hereon a good residence and also a tenant house. He has likewise built barns and outbuildings, has planted fruit trees and made the farm what it is today a valuable and productive property. In all his work he has been progressive, following methods that are practical and resultant and as the years have gone by he has made for himself a place among the substantial agriculturists of the community. He has herded sheep and cattle over the prairies that are now rich with fields of grain, with here and there substantial homes and other buildings that show that the work of the farmer is being successfully carried on.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Triplett have been born four children who are yet living, but they lost their first born, Joseph, who died at the age of ten years and also one that died in infancy. The others are: Howard H., Mary Rena, Jessie Reta and James Herbert.

Politically Mr. Triplett has been a lifelong republican, and cast his first ballot for James A. Garfield, since which time he has supported each presidential nominee at the head of the ticket. He has never sought nor desired office for himself, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs. He belongs to the Baptist church, while his wife is a member of the Christian church, both having membership relations in Fremont. He is well known as a pioneer settler of the county and has been an interested witness of its growth and development through many years, bearing his full share in the work that has transformed the county from a wild region into its present advanced state of improvement.

CAPTAIN A. J. COMSTOCK.

In every great crisis that has confronted this republic since that historic day when the rifles of the "embattled farmers" at Concord and Lexington rang the death knell of foreign oppression and ushered into existence a new-born nation, men have been eager and willing to respond to their country's call and sacrifice their blood and treasure in her defense. Of this type displaying loyalty, patriotism and fidelity Captain Andrew Jackson Comstock, of Spring Creek township, is a worthy representative. He was born in Butler county, Ohio, October 31, 1828. His father, James Comstock, was a native of Connecticut, born in 1793. He settled in Butler county, Ohio, when Cincinnati was but a small town of log cabins, and became a well known trader in his section. He also conducted a distillery near Cincinnati. On one occasion he loaded a flatboat with pork and whiskey and floated it down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to New Orleans, where he reloaded it with merchandise and thus with a keelboat returned to Cincinnati, it requiring nine months to make the trip. He was a strong

Jacksonian democrat and on that party ticket was elected to congress from Ohio in 1827. It was in honor of Andrew Jackson, the hero of the battle of New Orleans, that the subject of this review was named. He came with his family to Iowa about 1842, settling in Jefferson county and the following year removed to Mahaska county, locating on the farm which is now owned and occupied by Captain Comstock, about four miles from Oskaloosa.

Captain Comstock was a youth of fourteen years when he came to Mahaska county in the summer of 1842 with his father and brother, Loring S. There were also several others in the party and they camped out by the big spring on the Gibbs farm and gave to the creek which flowed therefrom the name of Spring creek. In that locality they hunted for several days and while hunting farther to the northwest they gave its present name to Panther creek. While engaged in hunting the party killed three deer, fifteen or twenty turkeys and a great quantity of smaller game including prairie chickens, pheasants and squirrels. They also chopped down bee trees and secured thirty-three gallons of strained honey. On the trip they did not see any buffaloes, elk or bears, but the following year a bear was killed on Panther creek. The family, taking up their abode in Mahaska county, experienced the usual hardships and privations of pioneer life in founding a home in a region remote from civilization. The nearest mill was about ninety miles away, at Bonaparte, and it required about four weeks to make the trip to and from the mill. There the settlers had to take their turns in having their grist ground and on one occasion Captain Comstock remembers of waiting his turn for twelve days. He aided in the arduous task of clearing and cultivating new land and throughout his active business life has been identified with financial interests in this county but his agricultural labors have twice been interrupted by military service in behalf of his country.



A. J. COMSTOCK.



He enlisted in early manhood as a soldier of the Mexican war and was one of those who fortunately escaped wounds and death from disease, there being only about a third of the entire company to which he belonged who returned to the north. Captain Comstock afterward gave his attention to agricultural pursuits until the inauguration of the Civil war, when, in response to President Lincoln's second call, he donned the blue uniform of the nation and having recruited a company was mustered in as captain of Company C, Thirty-third Iowa Infantry. In the engagement which occurred at Jenkin's Ferry he sustained a gunshot wound and was left upon the field of battle with a solitary comrade, Reuben Cooms, a private of his company, who was detailed to look after the wants of the wounded captain, whom it was expected could never survive. A few later they fell into the hands of the enemy and were taken to Camden, Arkansas. Captain Comstock was afterward removed to Little Rock and was later parolled and discharged for disabilities, after which he returned to his farm in Mahaska county. His military career was distinguished by many brilliant and daring deeds. On the morning of July 4, 1863, the Union and Confederate armies were lying in close proximity to each other at Helena, Arkansas. Captain Comstock saw what he believed to be a chance to take some prisoners. He called for volunteers and eighteen men responded. Of this number Captain Comstock knows of but one man who is now living, Alonzo Church, of Madison township, who was one of the first men to step forward. They formed a skirmish line and stealing around to the rear of the Confederates, Captain Comstock commanded them to surrender, telling them that they could not escape. In response the Confederates opened fire and again Captain Comstock ordered them to surrender, whereupon one of their officers raised his hands, and ordered his men to lay down their arms. Cap-

tain Comstock captured two hundred and ten Confederates, nine officers' swords and six revolvers. One of the latter, a fine Smith & Wessen, is still in his possession, which he cherishes as a trophy of the exploit. His almost wreckless courage was again demonstrated at Camden, Arkansas. Price's artillery was playing upon the Union advance. General Steel ordered Captain Comstock to form a skirmish line at six hundred yards in advance of the enemy. Seeing his command much exposed to the Confederate fire, Captain Comstock gave a command "double quick," and advanced three hundred vards still farther ahead. The Confederates, mistaking his action for a charge of the whole division, hastily withdrew their guns and retreated. At this moment Major John F. Lacev. now congressman from Iowa, rode up to Captain Comstock and said, "General Steele wants to know if you intend to take General Price's guns with your skirmish line," and ordered him to fall back until dusk and hold the line until morning.

When the Civil war was ended Captain Comstock again took up the work of the farm, in which he continued actively engaged until his seventy-fifth year, when he turned over the work of the farm to others. He is now seventy-seven years of age and is a jovial, genial man, who takes a delight in gardening and the raising of poultry. He is making a specialty of raising Brown Leghorns and has for this purpose a six-hundred-dollar hen house and up-to-date incubators and brooders.

Captain Comstock has been married twice. On the 18th of April, 1850, he wedded Adelaide Binns, a daughter of Thomas and Christina Binns, who was born in Wakefield, England, November 17, 1830. Their children were: James T.: Alfred Byron: Victoria Adelaide, who died September 20, 1857; Andrew Jackson, who died in November, 1903: Victoria Iowa: and Ella May. On the 17th of July, 1879, Captain Comstock was married in Oska-

loosa to Mrs. M. Green, nee Merrill, and to them were born the following children: Nellie M.; Rose A., who died July 23, 1899; Harlen L.; and Annie B.

Captain Comstock has always been very fond of hunting and while on a visit to his sons in California about two years ago he spent much of his time in the enjoyment of the chase, even though he had passed the Psalmist's three score years and ten. On one occasion he brought back with him the skins of a lynx, five wildcats, seven wolves and one badger, which he still preserves as trophies. On another occasion he had the unique distinction of killing eighteen quails with one shot. He has at his home interesting relics and souvenirs, including a gun which is over two hundred vears old and which was used by his greatgrandfather against the Indians and brought by his father from Connecticut to Indiana. Among his most cherished possessions is an old photograph of Chapultepec Castle, where he guarded some prisoners belonging to Santa Anna's army during the Mexican war. Captain Comstock is now in his seventy-eighth year but is still quite a well preserved man and his mind is stored with many interesting incidents and reminiscences of the early days and of his military life. Few have longer resided in this part of Iowa than he, his residence here covering more than sixty-three years, and no man is more justly entitled to representation in this volume. He is respected by all who know him and is among the worthy and honored citizens of the county.

JOSEPH G. OPPENHEIMER.

Joseph G. Oppenheimer, deceased, whose name is largely synonymous with business development, progress and commercial prosperity in Oskaloosa, was born in Cincinnati, Ohio,

December 14, 1851, and was of German lineage, his parents having come to America from Bavaria. The father was a merchant and for vears carried on a mercantile trade on the Ohio river. His son Joseph acquired his education in the public schools of Cincinnati and entered business life as a clerk in a store there. He was employed in different capacities and gradually worked his way upward. At length he became associated with Samuel Stern, of Rockford, Illinois, and it was but a step further to his business connection with Oskaloosa, for he came to this city in 1884 to open the Golden Eagle clothing and men's furnishing goods house and continued to act as its manager until 1895, at which time the partnership of Oppenheimer & Ettinger was formed, the junior partner being Felix Ettinger, then of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, but now of Eau Claire, Wisconsin. They purchased the Golden Eagle, conducting it successfully until 1900, when Mr. Oppenheimer's health failed and the Oppenheimer-Beeson-Morse Company was incorporated, Mr. Ettinger retiring at that time. Perhaps no better account of Mr. Oppenheimer's connection with commercial interests can be given than by quoting from a local paper, which, at the time of his death said: "It was about 1884, or twenty years ago, that the deceased came to Oskaloosa from Rockford, Illinois, and with Sam Stern opened a clothing house on the west side of the park. The time was ripe for just such a business house to enter the field. The mines to the south of Oskaloosa were in their prime and a large and growing trade was centering in Oskaloosa. Golden Eagle revolutionized business methods in this city. Mr. Oppenheimer, who was the resident member of the firm was not long in recognizing the opportunities that lay before him. His start in the business was somewhat sensational. The advertisements of the business were spread far and wide, clothing prices were practically cut in two and the new business house had more than it could handle in the original quarters. The house during the course of its prosperity moved from place to place, seeking large and better quarters until today its home is fine as a palace. Mr. Oppenheimer in moving into a remodeled double room that stood upon the location of the present home of the house gave to Oskaloosa its first 'opening.' He had revolutionized advertising and business methods in the city and he now gave Oskaloosa merchants another new idea that is followed to this day.

"The above is indicative of the man's energy and activity in all lines. The gentleman had been in the city but a few months until he gave evidence of his interest in the welfare of the city as well as in his own business. He was never content with present conditions and circumstances but always looked forward to better things and greater conditions. His ability as a leader and his executive force came to be recognized by the citizens and Mr. Oppenheimer soon occupied a high place in the estimation of all people."

In 1877 occurred the marriage of Joseph G. Oppenheimer and Miss Rebecca Lipman, who was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1859, a daughter of Louis and Sarah Lipman. Her father was a ship chandler and fitted out shipping expeditions, while later he was engaged in theatrical enterprises. Mr. Oppenheimer was a prominent member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and in 1886 he was grand sachem for Iowa of the Order of Red Men. He voted the republican ticket but was without aspiration for office for himself. The cause of education found in him a stalwart friend and from time to time he contributed toward the support of Penn College. He was constantly animated by a public spirit that was manifest in his earnest and helpful work for the upbuilding of a greater city. He believed firmly in the future of Oskaloosa and its bright prospects and was continually working for public improve-

ment. He was one of the organizers of the Oskaloosa Commercial Club and for five years served as its president. He was very charitable and one of his noteworthy benefactions was the placing of an iron star to mark each grave in the Oskaloosa cemetery of a veteran of the Civil war, a custom which he kept up until the time of his death. Whatever tended for Oskaloosa's betterment received his endorsement and his co-operation and he could always be counted upon to further movements for the general good. He might well be termed one of the founders of the city for he was the promoter of many of its leading business interests. His connection with any undertaking insured a prosperous outcome of the same, for it was in his nature to carry forward to successful completion whatever he was associated with. He won for himself an enviable reputation as a careful business man and in his dealings was known for his prompt and honorable methods, which won him the deserved and unbounded confidence of his fellowmen. He died June 19, 1905, at the age of fifty-three years, six months and five days. Illness came to him in the midst of a very busy and successful career and after about a year he passed away, but there remains to him a monument in the improved business conditions and advanced public interests of Oskaloosa as well as in the friendship and regard cherished for him by the many friends whom he made in this city. The outgrowth of his business industry is The Oppenheimer-Beeson-Morse Company, recently incorporated, with Mr. Arthur Oppenheimer, the only son, as president, and the widow, Mrs. Oppenheimer, as secretary, the other officers being: Mr. Joe Beeson, of Kansas City, Missouri, vice president; and Mr. F. L. Morse, of Rochester, New York, treasurer. This concern is one of the best established in southern lowa, owning and operating four large businesses, namely: the Golden Eagle, at Oskaloosa; the Golden Eagle, at Albia; The Circle Shoe Company, at Albia;

and the Garfield Supply Company, at Evans. An institution of this size built up by the most solid and conservative methods in the hands of young men trained along the lines laid down by its founders promises a permanent and growing memorial to his sagacity and business integrity.

WILLIAM T. WEHRLE.

William T. Wehrle, who is carrying on general farming in Richland township, was born in Granville, Mahaska county, March 7, 1860, and is a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Blattner) Wehrle, both of whom were natives of Switzerland, the former born November 4, 1819, and the latter April 21, 1835. The father was a blacksmith by trade and about 1854, leaving the land of the Alps, made his way across the briny deep to the United States and on to Oskaloosa, Iowa. There he worked at his trade for two years, after which he purchased a shop at Granville. It was about that time that Elizabeth Blattner arrived in Mahaska county, having come direct from Switzerland, and they were married in Granville, October 16, 1856. For several years thereafter Mr. Wehrle continued to follow his trade, and when his labors had brought to him sufficient capital he invested in land, becoming owner, in 1862, of one hundred and eleven and a half acres of new and unimproved land near Granville. Two years later he removed to the farm upon which he and his wife spent their remaining days. He built the first house on this farm and cultivated the land, transforming it from a raw tract into one of rich fertility and productiveness. Mr. Wehrle passed away September 23, 1883, when about sixty-four years of age, while his wife died June 11, 1894. In the family were the following children: Mary, the wife of T. J. Clevenger, of Lamore, Missouri; William T., of this

review; John, who is teaching school in Richland township; Arnold W., who married Ida Taylor and is living in Grinnell, Iowa; Lillie, the wife of Frank Byram, of Chariton, Lucas county, Iowa; Warner S., who married Zella Awtry, and is living on the old home farm; Ada, the wife of Walter Jones, who makes his home in Kansas City, Missouri; Ella, the wife of Charles Shroyer, who is living in Rose Hill, Iowa; and one who died in infancy.

William T. Wehrle was educated in the schools of Granville, and remained at home with his parents until twenty-one years of age. He afterward engaged in farming for a year in this county and then went to Spink county, South Dakota, where he took up a claim and followed farming until 1890. He then gave up his claim and returned to Mahaska county. Here on the 12th of November, 1891, he was married to Miss Laura Wassom, who was born August 9, 1863, upon the farm which they now make their She is a daughter of Moses and Elizabeth (Woodside) Wassom, both of whom were natives of Tennessee, the former born May 7, 1817, and the latter March 10, 1821. They were married in Illinois, where they lived for a short time, and in 1843 they came to Mahaska county, being among its first settlers. All the indications of pioneer life then existed here, and they aided in subduing the wild country and extending the frontier. Mr. Wassom first located in Madison township, living on the river for about three years. In 1846 he took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres and built a house, making his home there until his death. As time passed by and his financial resources increased he added to his property until he owned two hundred and forty-five acres of land. He was a prominent character in the early history of Richland township and Mahaska county and did much to shape public policy and also for the direct improvement of the locality. His political allegiance was given to the democracy and he served as justice of



MR. AND MRS. W. T. WEHRLE.



the peace, as school director and as township trustee. He was very active in local political circles and his opinions carried weight in the councils of his party in township and county. He died upon the home farm, June 22, 1801, and his wife passed away on the 22d of June, 1892. In their family were eight children but only two are now living: Monroe, who was the second in order of birth and married Mary Williams, their home being in Blackwell, Oklahoma; and Mrs. Laura A. Wehrle, who was the sixth in order of birth. The others were: Cvrus, who died at the age of nineteen years; William, who married Belle Foster and lived upon a part of the old home place until the time of his death at the age of forty-four years; Mary, who died at the age of seventeen; Sophronia, who died at the age of eighteen; and two who died in infancy.

At the time of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wehrle took up their abode upon the farm which has since been their home. They now have one hundred and twenty-five acres of good land which is rich and productive. There is a substantial residence and good barns upon the place, all of which were built by Mr. Wassom. Mr. Wehrle keeps everything about the farm in good condition of repair and carries forward the work of improvement along progressive lines. His fields are highly cultivated and he annually harvests good crops. He is considered one of the prosperous farmers of Richland township, and in addition to the home place, he has another farm of eighty-three acres in the township, which he rents. He is a stockholder in the recently organized Farmers Bank at Oskaloosa.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wehrle have been born three children: Icie, a daughter, thirteen years of age; Verner and Birch, who, like their sister, are attending school. Mrs. Wehrle is an active and devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church and, although not a member, Mr. Wehrle attends its services and contributes to its support. He votes the democratic ticket on questions of state and national importance but at local elections casts an independent ballot. He displays many of the sterling characteristics of his Swiss ancestry—the undannted purpose, the resolution and industry, together with a courage of conviction which has ever been a salient trait of the Swiss character. His entire life has been passed in Mahaska county and he is known as a representative eitizen here.

GEORGE S. ENGLE.

George S. Engle, who follows farming in Richland township, his farm lying on sections 16, 20 and 21, was born in Champaign county, Ohio, October 17, 1851. His parents were James and Elizabeth (Swisher) Engle, both of whom were natives of Washington county, Pennsylvania, the former born January 12, 1812, and the latter November 16, 1810. The parents died upon the farm which is now oceupied by George S. Engle, both passing away in 1894, the father on the 28th of August and the mother on the 27th of November. They were married in 1833 and the same year removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio, where James Engle purchased three hundred arees of land. There he developed a farm and made his home until 1868, when he came to Mahaska county, lowa. Here he purchased four hundred and forty acres of partially improved land, on which was a fair frame house and good barn, the former having been built at a early period in the development of the county. It was constructed of solid timbers hewed by hand and the weather boarding was of walnut. Mr. Engle added some to the house and to the barn, put up other buildings and also built fences. He purchased more land from time to time as his financial resources increased and eventually beeame the owner of six hundred acres, making

him one of the substantial farmers and property holders of the community. He voted with the democracy, but took no active part in politics other than this. He was a Universalist in religious faith, while his wife was a member of the Presbyterian church. In their family were five children: Ruth Ann, who was born May 15, 1838, and died February 20, 1844; Susan, who was born January 26, 1841, and is the wife of C. B. Shields, a resident of Platte county, Nebraska; Adelia, who was born December 1, 1843, and died July 31, 1850; Jane, who was born August 8, 1847, and died September 2, 1851; and George S., of this review.

Reared and educated in Ohio, George S. Engle was a student in the common schools and in his boyhood days assisted his father in the operation of the home farm. He always lived with his parents, aiding in the farm work, and on his father's death he came into possession of three hundred and ninety-two acres of the old homestead, which constitutes a valuable property. He was married in 1875 to Miss Sabra Koontz, who was born December 13, 1852, a daughter of Israel and Martha (Snyder) Koontz. The father was born in Pennsylvania, March 16, 1817, and died in this county in 1895, at the age of seventy-eight years. The mother's birth occurred in Switzerland, and she passed away in Richland township at the age of seventy-one years. Mr. Koontz was a blacksmith by trade and came to Mahaska county in 1863, locating in Peoria, where he followed blacksmithing for about six years. He then removed to Pella, Iowa, and afterward to Kansas, but subsequently returned to Peoria, where his death occurred. In the family were eight children, of whom four are vet living. Frances is the wife of Byron Tuttle, a resident of Kansas. George Washington, who enlisted at Peoria, Iowa, and became commissary sergeant of his regiment, died of measles while serving in the Union army. Martha Cordelia is the deceased wife of Milton Lundy, who was a resident of Richland township. Mrs. Sarah Isabelle Boston resides in Kansas. Persis died at the age of eight years. Sabra, twin sister of Persis, is the wife of the subject of this review. Eva Josephine and Iva Jane were twins, and the former is now living in Missonri and the latter is deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Engle have been born three children: Martha E., born July 29, 1877, married Wilbur Hart, has three children and lives upon the old home farm. James Israel, born June 25, 1879, and now living upon the home farm but in a separate house from his parents, married Anna Baty, and has two children. Blanche, born March 4, 1884, is the wife of Rodney Jackson, who resides upon a farm in Richland township.

Mr. Engle and his son work the farm together. They have a traction engine and complete threshing outfit, corn shredder and woodsaw, and do considerable work after the harvest season is over on the farm. Mr. Engle owns good horses and has a Clydesdale stallion four years old. Both Mr. and Mrs. Engle are hospitable people, generous with all that they have in the entertainment of their friends. Mrs. Engle belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Engle also attends its services. In politics he is a republican and has served as school director, but would hold no other office.

JOHN H. WARNER.

John H. Warner, living on section 20, Cedar township, is one of the early settlers of Mahaska county, who, since the 5th of October, 1854, has been an interested observer of the events which go to make up its history. He was born in Washington county, Maryland, July 30, 1829. His father, John Warner, was also a native of the same county and a son of John Warner, Sr. The great-grandfather of our subject was a pioneer resident of Maryland and



John H Marner



was of German ancestry. John Warner, Jr., was reared in the state of his nativity and was married there to Miss Mary Cook, also a native of Maryland. By trade he was a stone-cutter and followed that pursuit for a number of years. He reared his family in Maryland and Pennsylvania, and afterward removed to Ohio, where he resided for eight years. Still later he joined his son in Iowa, in 1855, spending his last years in this state. In the family were five children, and two daughters are still living.

John H. Warner, the only son, was reared to manhood in Madison county, Ohio. He is a self-educated man, having few advantages in his youth for the acquirement of an education or for improvement along other lines. While living in Madison county he was married on the 12th of August, 1849, to Miss Mary Alder, a native of that county, where her girlhood and vouth were passed. Her father was Jonathan Alder, who was captured by the Indians when a lad of eight years living in West Virginia, which was then a frontier district. He was taken to Madison county, Ohio, and remained with the red men as a prisoner for twenty-four years. At length he made his escape and became a resident of Ohio.

Following his marriage Mr. Warner purchased land and located in Madison county, Ohio, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1854, when he removed westward to Iowa, settling in Mahaska county. Here he operated a rented farm for two years and during that time he purchased eighty acres where he now resides, locating on this place in April, 1857. There were few improvements upon it. The land was largely raw prairie and Mr. Warner broke the sod, fenced the place and tilled the fields. He used ox-teams in his farm work during the first few years. Later he bought more land from time to time until he had become the owner of two hundred and eighty acres in the home farm. He has since, however, disposed of a portion of this although he vet owns two hundred acres in the home place and twenty acres elsewhere. He built an attractive frame residence, also a large barn and sheds, and set out an orchard of five hundred trees, which has borne good fruit for a number of years. He now has a young orchard, which is coming into bearing. He has made a business of raising stock for a number of years, his specialty being sheep, but he also fattens about one hundred head of hogs each year for the market and two carloads of cattle. When Mr. and Mrs. Warner were married they were in very limited financial circumstances, but through their earnest and indefatigable labor they have become possessed of a comfortable competency and are now numbered among the substantial residents of this county.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Warner have been born eight children, all of whom are yet living, namely: Amanda, at home; Henry, a farmer of the state of Washington living near Spokane; Sarah, the wife of C. W. Moore, a resident farmer of Harrison township; Jasper, a farmer of Cedar township; Ahna, the wife of Arthur E. Brown, of Wapello county, Iowa; Laura, at home; Lincoln, a mechanic at Cedar; and Nellie, the wife of La Vernge Welch, a resident farmer of Cedar township.

When age gave to Mr. Warner the right of franchise he east his first presidential ballot in 1852 for General Scott and in 1856 voted for the first presidential nominee of the new republican party, John C. Fremont. He has since supported each of the standard bearers of that party, being a most earnest and stalwart republican. He served for one term as supervisor of his township and filled the office of trustee for several years. He is a friend of the schools and served for eleven years on the school board, doing effective service in behalf of improvement in the cause of public education here. He and his wife and family are members of the Friends church, although in former years they were identified with the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Warner has been a resident of the county for fifty-two years and his labors have been an element in its substantial improvement along the lines of agricultural development. He was drafted for service in the Civil war but hired a substitute. He has always been a strictly temperate man, never using liquor nor tobacco and has ever stood for high principles and for upright life. His whole career has been characterized by a devotion to the public good and his influence has ever been on the side of progress, reform and improvement. He has helped people to live better lives and has himself been an industrious, frugal and honest man, who, through his own labors, has accumulated a large and valuable property. He is today in possession of a good home, and is one of the substantial agriculturists of Cedar township, where he is well known and highly esteemed for his many virtues and good works.

WILLIAM H. KEATING.

The subject of this sketch, an attorney and abstractor, who is well informed in all branches of the law and with a large clientage in both departments of his business, is a native of Boston, Massachusetts, his parents being William and Mary L. (Crawford) Keating, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Nova Scotia, Canada. In the spring of 1863, he removed with his parents from the city of his nativity and settled near the northeast corner of Poweshiek county, Iowa. Here was spent almost the entire married life of his parents, who are both laid to rest in the cemetery near their home. His parents were among the pioneers of that district, which was uncultivated, except here and there at great distances could be seen the log cabin or small house and prairie stables with thatched roof of the home-seekers of that early day. The family consisted of six children: Mary L., who died in infancy, W. H., of this review, George J. and John E., both deceased, Charles A., who is a practicing osteopath, of Des Moines; and Sarah J., who is the wife of William Nitsch, of Marshalltown, Iowa.

Mr. Keating of this review entered the dis-

trict schools at the usual age, but being the oldest child, he was compelled to assist in the cultivation of the farm, so that after ten years of age he could attend school only during the winter terms. His parents' financial condition was such that they could not give him a course in college and he was forced to procure his education by his individual efforts, he having remained at home until the spring of 1884 and pursued his studies when the day's work was over by the aid of the open fireplace, tallow candle and later by kerosene lamp, until the year 1884, at which time he had mastered all the branches of learning taught in the public schools, a complete course of the English classics, the higher mathematics and literature. He entered the law department of Drake University, at Des Moines, Iowa, in the spring of 1884, graduating in June, 1885, with honors, and was admitted to the practice of his profession with his class in May, 1886. vears later, in 1890, he came to Oskaloosa, where he has since made his home. He is well versed in all branches of the law and his devotion to his clients' interest is proverbial. He has the professional patronage of many of the leading citizens of Oskaloosa and Mahaska county.

On November 30, 1892, Mr. Keating was married to Miss Christine Monteith, a daughter of Thomas and Christine Monteith, of Albany, Oregon. They now have one child, Charlotte. In his home life he is a devoted husband and an indulgent father, and in religion, a Presbyterian. He has a kind word for every one, believing that a true life is the helping of others to pluck out the thorns and plant



W. H. KEATING.



a flower, that its beauty and fragrance may soothe the trials and sweeten life's pathway wherever it can be done.

Mr. Keating is prominent in local affairs, being much interested in city improvement and municipal reform. In politics he is a democrat, and fraternally is connected with the Masons, Eastern Star, Woodmen of the World and Court of Honor.

At the outbreak of the Spanish-American war he was captain of Company F of the Fiftyfirst Regiment of Iowa Infantry and did active dnty with the United States forces for nineteen months, ten of which were in the Philippines, and of the seventeen engagements in which the regiment took part, he participated in sixteen without receiving an injury or wound. On August 9, 1899, during the advance of the American forces on Tarlac, Luzon island, he was ordered by General McArthur to protect the right flank of the army and to hold the Philippine forces in check where the latter were heavily entrenched in front of the town of Mexico. For this purpose, in addition to his own company, there were assigned to him Company K, of the Iowa regiment, and a battery of six guns from the Sixth United States Artillery. The insurgent forces numbered over four hundred, heavily entrenched, while the Americans were compelled to fight in an open field and numbered only eighty men. So successfully was this order performed that General McArthur in person complimented Captain Keating and conferred upon him the command of the town of San Fernando, in which had been established the hospitals for the sick and the base of supplies for the forces in the field north of Malolos.

While returning to America on the steamer "Senator," the vessel encountered a fierce gale off the coast of Japan, which compelled the closing down of all her machinery and hatchways, and being cast adrift for about twenty hours. The storm carried away a part of the

rigging and a lifeboat from the vessel which happened to drift near a passenger steamer which had left Japan a few days subsequent to the departure of the "Senator" and arrived at San Francisco, California, some days prior to the "Senator." So that when the subject of this review arrived at San Francisco, he was astonished to learn that the vessel and all on board had been reported lost.

As a citizen, Mr. Keating is public spirited, as manifested by his active and able service in connection with various movements for the public good. By earnest effort, close application, and the exercise of his native talents, he has won a prominent position at the Oskaloosa bar and has the entire respect and confidence of his professional brethren.

JAMES L. NELSON.

Few citizens are better or more favorably known throughout Mahaska county than James L. Nelson, who was born in Madison county, Indiana, February 13, 1848, his parents heing Arbuckle and Jane (Greenlee) Nelson, natives of West Virginia and the former a farmer by occupation. The sons of the family are Marshall, John M., French L., Clarke G. and James L. Nelson, and the daughters are Mrs. Martha Vallers, of Illinois; Mrs. Mary E. Miskimins, of Centerville, Iowa; Mrs. Mary Jane Chapman, of Humeston, Iowa; Mrs. Elizabeth McCutcheon, of Leon, Iowa; and Mrs. Fanny Sedoris, of De Witt, Iowa.

James L. Nelson in 1854 accompanied his father's family on their removal to Wayne county, Iowa, where he became familiar with farm labor, being trained to the work of the fields. He took up his abode in Mahaska county in 1883, and has since been a resident of Oskaloosa. He was engaged in the real-estate business for a number of years but since

1893 has devoted his time exclusively to the fire insurance business, in which he has a large clientage, representing the American Fire Insurance Company, of Newark, New Jersey; the British Assurance Company, of Toronto, Canada; the Hawkeye Company, of Des Moines; the Capital Company, of Des Moines; and the State Insurance Company, of Des Moines.

Mr. Nelson is a diligentandenterprising business man, and yet finds time for other interests in life, which tend to promote the social and intellectual nature. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp and votes with the republican party. In his home he has always been devoted to the welfare of his family and for many years he and his wife traveled life's journey happily together, but at length were separated in death. On the 21st of January, 1866, he married Harriet Agnes Clark, a native of Cambridge, Guernsey county, Ohio, who was born May 8, 1844, and spent her girlhood days in Newcomerstown, Ohio, About 1862 she and her mother removed to Wavne county, Iowa, and in 1866 she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Nelson. Unto them were born the following named: Mrs. Arizona Williams, who is living in Pasadena, California; Mrs. Fannie Amelia Wisdom, of Escondido, California; and Mrs. Ella Estie Briggs, of Des Moines. The wife and mother was called to her final rest February 24, 1906, after they had traveled life's journey together for over forty years. Upon the removal of the family to Oskaloosa she transferred her membership from the Cambria Baptist church to the Baptist church of this city, of which she remained a most devoted and consistent member until her death. The funeral services were conducted by her pastor, Rev. A. M. Duboc and F. M. Whitcomb. She was a lady of most earnest Christian character in act as well as word, and was beloved and mourned by all who knew her. She had been long a patient sufferer and after being told that she could not recover from her illness she penned the following stanzas on her deathbed:

"The hours and the days must be shortened By the hand of the Master, I know; The time of suffering lightened That we may endure the blow.

It came so heavily on us
With the surgeon's final decree
That they never could relieve us
From the disease that came to stay.

There the Master hastens this way
To have a care for his own;
And now I am hearing him say
'My love to My children is known.'

'Nor will I afflict them more
Than the least are able to bear,
But with the afflictions will show
Unto them My loving care.'

Now He is walking by my side, I can almost see His face, And whatever may betide, Sufficient will be His grace.

He is my shepherd, too,
And beside the still water leads,
And the green pastures through,
Supplying all of my needs.

When the valley of the shadow of death I reach by my trembling feet, He will breathe in my soul a breath That will make the victory complete.

When our tears have been blotted up, Our sufferings are all complete, And we have drained our earthly cup Of all its bitter and its sweet. Our Saviour will say, 'It will do, My child, you are free at last, And the gates are wide open for you; Earth's last milestone is passed.'

Then when we reach our home,
When our sorrows all are passed,
We will wait for our friends to come
And rejoice with us at last.

(TO MY HUSBAND.)

We have journeyed long together,
Dear husband, you and 1;
But soon the bond must sever,
And one of us must die.

And one of us must tarry here,
Perhaps to walk alone,
No wife to love and cheer,
And make a welcome home.

Flowers have not been strewn All the way we come, And many times the thorns Have hushed a joyful song.

Troubles came our way
That were so hard to bear;
Clouds would o'ercast the day,
We had hoped to be so clear.

I will be with you, dear,
When the river you must cross;
My child, keep up your cheer;
For you there is no loss.

Just draw away your hand From your husband's by your side And close to me stand Until the waters do divide.

There, give me your hand, my dear,
And we will enter in.
You see there is no fear
Where I before have been.

Now trust them all to me— Your children, husband, all. I will their Saviour be, And will never let them fall,

Now lift your eyes to me.

Put your arms around me so,
And the waters you will see
Can never you overflow.

There, the sting of death is past,
The waves just touch your feet;
You are homeward bound at last,
Your conquest all complete.

Bereavements, too, were ours,
When friends were called away,
And we could only scatter flowers
O'er the poor returning clay.

Yet step by step we climbed The first hillside of life Or little did we mind The roughness of the strife.

For we were strong and young,
Life's vigor coursing swift:
Our love was wondrous strong,
As a most gracious gift.

Time flew with rapid strides,
Our children grew apace,
Oh! with what loving pride
We watched each budding grace.

When years sped on and on
Through their childhood and maidenhood,
Until they, too, were gone—
And alone again we stood,

On the summit of the hill,

Just ready to descend,

Yet God was with us still,

As He will be to the end.

We've been walking hand in hand A'down the natural grade Until at last we stand Within the valley's shade.

The valley of the shadow
Of death we plainly see,
And perhaps before the morrow
The call will come to me."

W. W. WINDER.

W. W. Winder, a veteran of the Civil war and a retired barber of New Sharon, was born in Ross county, Ohio, December 4, 1836, his parents being James and Elizabeth (Albright) Winder. The father was born in Ross county, Ohio, and the mother's birth occurred in Wyoming county, New York. James Winder devoted his attention to farming in the Buckeye state and in 1852 came with his family to Mahaska county, Iowa, settling on a farm of seventy-one acres of land north of Oskaloosa. This tract had been partially improved and he made his home there until 1857, further cultivating and developing his land. He then sold the farm and removed to New Sharon, purchasing seventy acres adjoining the tract which had just been platted for the city. In the meantime he had worked at the carpenter's trade, while his sons performed the active work of the farm. The second house ever erected in what is now New Sharon was built by James Winder and his sons in the spring of 1857. The town had been surveyed in July, 1856, and the land was owned by the firm of Culbertson & Reno, of Iowa City. The first store was conducted by James Winder in the house which he built and which stood on the southwest corner of Main and Second streets. He opened the store in the summer of 1857. carrying a line of general merchandise. The

building was sixteen by forty feet, one story in height and was used as a dwelling as well as a store. It was afterward enlarged until the dimensions were thirty-six by forty feet and a second story was added. In the year 1857 the postoffice was also established and Mr. Winder was appointed the first postmaster, filling that position for seven years and receiving at the end of that time twenty-one dollars for his services. The mail was carried by W. W. Winder each Saturday from Oskaloosa at thirty-five cents a trip. During the winter he made his way over the broad prairies, sometimes covered with deep snow and by the time he paid his passage on the ferry at South Skunk river he had but a few pennies left and frequently he obtained not more than one letter. The nearest milling point was Union Mills, five miles east of New Sharon. No roads had been laid out at that time and the few farms that had been claimed were unfenced save that occasionally there had been a little pen made for the cow. In every direction there was a wide stretch of wild and uncultivated prairie covered with the native grasses often growing almost to the height of a man's head. Wolves were plentiful in those days and even as late as the time in which Mr. Winder was married they were howling in this district, showing that the work of improvement and development even then lay largely in the future.

James Winder was for many years a valued citizen of Mahaska county and at his death, which occurred when he was seventy years of age, New Sharon lost one of its worthy citizens and honored pioneer men. His wife survived him for some time and passed away in New Sharon at the age of eighty-five years. Both were members of the society of Friends, or Quakers, and in his political views Mr. Winder was an earnest republican but aside from serving as postmaster never held any other office. In his family were eight children, of whom one died when young. The others are:



W. W. WINDER.



W. W., of this review; Francis A., who is now living in New Sharon; Nancy A., the wife of Jared Rockwell, a resident of Los Angeles, California; Hope, deceased; Joseph, who is living in Newberry, Oregon; Charlotte T., the wife of G. G. Strong, a resident of Prairie township; and Abner J., who resides at Fresno, California.

W. W. Winder remained at home until twenty-seven years of age. He attended the common schools of Ohio and also to some extent after coming to Iowa. There are few men who have a more intimate knowledge of pioneer conditions in Mahaska county than he, for he was an active participant in many events which have led to the substantial improvement of the county as it has been reclaimed from a wild district for the uses of the white race. On the 17th of September, 1861, he put aside all personal and business considerations in order to respond to his country's call, enlisting at Oskaloosa as a member of Company H, Eighth Iowa Infantry. He was in no important engagements and was sent home on a furlough just prior to the battle of Pittsburg Landing. When he returned to the front he found that the Eighth regiment had been captured and its members were in southern prisons. Having been ill for several months Mr. Winder was honorably discharged on account of disability at Pittsburg Landing in the spring of 1862. He has always suffered from the effects of exposure and hardships while serving at the front and is now given a pension of seventeen dollars per month.

After returning to New Sharon Mr. Winder conducted his father's farm for one year. In 1864 he made a trip to Ohio on a visit and, deciding to remain there, spent three years in that state, working at painting and also as a barber and photographer. In 1867 he returned to New Sharon and in 1871 opened the first barber shop in this place. As the people were not accustomed to patronizing a barber it required some time for him to work up a trade,

for previously the men of the locality had done their own shaving. He persevered, however, and in the course of time secured a good business, in which he continued for a quarter of a century.

Mr. Winder was married January 6, 1870, to Miss Deborah Sharp, who was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, on the 5th of September, 1839, and is a daughter of Isaac and Lydia (Middleton) Sharp, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Ohio. Isaac Sharp was a farmer and shoemaker, working at the bench in the winter months and on the farm during the summer seasons. After a while he became a resident of Keokuk county, Iowa, where he made his home until the death of his wife, subsequent to which time he came to New Sharon and lived with his children until his demise. In his family were eleven children. of whom six are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Winder became the parents of six children, but five of the number died in infancy. The surviving son, A. C. Winder, born August 28, 1872, resides next door to his father's home. He married Mattie Bradbury and has two children, Mark B. and Pauline. Having learned the barber's trade with his father, he is conducting the business since the retirement of Mr. Winder.

More than thirty years ago Mr. Winder erected the house which he now occupies on land belonging to his father. Later the tract was divided into town lots and he still retains the ownership of three of these. He also gave one lot to his son and assisted him in building his home. He likewise erected a brick store building, which he still owns and in which his son is carrying on business. Mr. Winder was reared in the faith of the society of Friends, or Quakers, but he and his two brothers were disowned by that organization because they joined the Masonic fraternity. He has always been a republican in his political views, casting his first ballot for Abraham Lincoln. Although he has

never consented to hold office he has ever been loyal to the party and at all times he is a man true to his honest convictions. Both he and Mrs. Winder are numbered among the worthy pioneer people of the county and in a history devoted to the lives of those who have taken an active and helpful part in the work of progress and improvement here they certainly deserve prominent mention.

DENNIS E. WHITEHILL.

Dennis E. Whitehill is the owner of a good farm of two hundred and thirty-five acres, four miles from New Sharon. A native of Illinois, he was born in Millersburg, Mercer county, on the 8th of May. 1867, his parents being Thomas and Mary G. (McCollum) Whitehill. The father was born in Guernsev county, Ohio, a son of Thomas Whitehill, who was born and married in Scotland. The father spent his youth in the state of his nativity and taught school for several years in Ohio and later in Illinois. He lived in the latter state until 1875, when he came to Iowa, settling in Harrison township, Mahaska county, where he engaged in farming, cultivating rented land. In 1880 he removed to Union township and with the money which he had acquired through his own industry and economy purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land upon which he resided until 1901, carefully and successfully conducting his farming operations until that year, when he removed to New Sharon, where he is now living a retired life. He has been a supporter of the republican party since age gave to him the right of franchise and he has held the position of supervisor and other township offices. Both he and his wife members of the Presbyterian church and are people of the highest respectability. They have four children and the family circle vet remains unbroken by the hand of death. These are:

Dennis E.: Myrtie, living in Chicago: Everett E., who resides on a farm in Adams township, this county: and Gretta, the wife of G. B. Nash, who resides on a farm in Adams township.

Dennis E. Whitehill was eight years of age when his tather came to this county and was educated in the country schools. He worked upon the home farm until seventeen years of age, after which he engaged in teaching school for five years, being a capable educator, whose ability in the schoolroom was widely acknowladged. In September, 1891, he married Miss Minnie Bell Knowlton, who was born in Oskaloosa, June 27, 1866. and is a daughter of Samuel Knowlton, whose birth occurred in Maine. August 28, 1822, his parents being Samuel and Olive Knowlton, both of whom were natives of England. Samuel Knowlton, Jr., was a soap manufacturer in Cincinnati. Ohio, for many years and in 1864 came to Mahaska county, continuing in the same business in Oskaloosa. A few years later he purchased six hundred and forty acres of land in Union township and made his home thereon until he retired from active business life, taking up his abode in New Sharon in 1891. He was a very successful man, his business interests bringing him a handsome competence. His first wife was Julia A. Hadley, who was born March 4, 1827, and whom he married September 17. 1845. They had twelve children, namely: Olive Ann. who was born October 31, 1846, and is the wife of W. H. Needham; Sherman, who was born May 3, 1848, and died in infancy; Simon, who was born May 16, 1849, and is deceased: Mary Thornton, who was born February 24. 1851; Charles H., born May 18, 1853; Mrs. Emily M. Gritman, who was born May 18, 1855; Edwin S., who was born May 18, 1857, now deceased; Mrs. Anna Christman, born May 17, 1859; Mrs. Martha Webster, who was born June 9, 1861, also deceased: Julia Ellen, who was born January 2, 1864, and is the wife of O. B. Noel; Minnie Bell, now

Mrs. Whitehill; and Mrs. Cora M. Styles, born November 10, 1869. On the 14th of December, 1882, Mr. Knowlton was married to Harriet J. Ellis, now living in New Sharon. In his political views he was an earnest republican until 1885, when the tariff question caused him to give his allegiance to the democracy. He held membership with the Masonic fraternity and the Odd Fellows lodge and in early life he was identified with the Society of Friends or Quakers, but five years prior to his death became a Presbyterian. He passed away in New Sharon, May 10, 1899. He was for many years a prominent and valued citizen of the county, conducting important business interests, so that he contributed to the general prosperity of this part of the state.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Whitehill have been born two sons: Dwight E., born July 7, 1893; and Roy S., May 9, 1896. The home farm comprises two hundred and thirty-five acres of land four miles from New Sharon and is a part of the Knowlton estate. In the house where they now reside Mr. and Mrs. Whitehill were married and he has since carried on farming, having placed the land under a high state of cultivation and added to the place many modern iniprovements. In politics he is an earnest republican and has served as township clerk. He and his wife hold membership in the Presbyterian church, in which he is serving as an elder, and they are prominent and influential people of the community with a circle of friends almost co-extensive with the circle of their acquaintance.

FRANK THURMAN NASH.

Frank Thurman Nash, a member of the Oskaloosa bar and a public-spirited citizen, who is serving on the public library board and is giving tangible support to many other interests which are a matter of civic pride and progress, was born in Adams township, Mahaska county, December 1, 1869. His father, John Nash, is a native of Sussex county, England, and is now living in Oskaloosa at the venerable age of seventy-nine years. He came to the United States in 1842 with his parents, John and Sarah Nash, who settled first in New York and then removed to Wisconsin, while later they resided in Ohio, making their home in Newark, that state, until 1854, when they arrived in Mahaska county, Iowa, in 1880, taking up their abode in what is now Madison township, where John Nash, Jr. purchased a tract of land. He lived there for but a short time, however, and removed to Adams township, where he purchased a farm, residing thereon until he retired from business life and took up his abode in Oskaloosa in 1886. Throughout his entire business career his attention was given to general agricultural pursuits and he prospered in that undertaking, investing more and more largely in real estate as the years went by until at one time he owned a thousand acres of valuable farming land in Iowa. In politics he has long been an earnest democrat and held some township offices. He was one of the organizers of the Mahaska County State Bank and is still one of its stockholders and directors. He married Martha J. McKinney, who was born in Newark, Ohio, and was a daughter of joseph and Elizabeth (Hopper) McKinney. Her father was a farmer and became a pioneer settler of his section of Ohio. Mrs. Nash was an earnest Christian woman, holding membership in the Lutheran church and her death occurred in Oskaloosa in 1890, when she was fifty-two years of age. By her marriage she had become the mother of three children: Ella M., now deceased; Frank T., of this review; and Cora E., the wife of Nenophon H. Hollar, of McGuffey, Ohio, where he is engaged in real-estate dealing. The father has been married three times, his first union having been with Mary J. Colville, by whom he had three children: John J., who has passed away; Sarah J., the wife of Wesley S. Ruby, a resident farmer of Adams township; and George C., a retired farmer living in Oskaloosa. The present wife of John Nash bore the maiden name of Nancy Koontz.

Frank T. Nash was reared as a farm boy until seventeen years of age and attended the district schools of Adams township. When he was a youth of seventeen his parents removed to Oskaloosa in order to give their children better educational advantages and he entered Penn College, where he completed a preparatory course and then pursued a classical course. He is an alumnus of that institution of the class of 1893. Following his graduation he made a visit to the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago and also visited various Canadian and eastern points. Following his return home he entered the office of Judge L. C. Blanchard, with whom he read law for a year, after which he went to Ann Arbor, where he entered a class in the law department of the Michigan University, being graduated therefrom with the degree of Bachelor of Law in 1895. He was at once admitted to the Iowa bar and began the practice of his profession, opening an office in the Evans block where he has since remained. Although one of the younger members of the Mahaska county bar, his years have not seemed to impede his progress, and he stands among the successful few. With a nature that could never be content with mediocrity he has applied himself untiringly to the duties of the profession and has gained success both as counselor and advocate. He owns a farm in Adams township and this adds to his income.

On the 16th of June, 1897, Mr. Nash was married to Miss Lura E. Wright, who was born in Oskaloosa, August 26, 1872, her parents being Alexander and Mary C. Wright. Her father, a carpenter by occupation, came to Oskaloosa in the '70s. Mr. and Mrs. Nash

have two children: John A., born November 9, 1898; and Martha C., born September 8, 1902. Mrs. Nash is a member of the First Presbyterian church, and Mr. Nash belongs to the Masonic lodge and Modern Woodmen camp of Oskaloosa. He votes with the democratic party and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, so that he is able to support his political position by intelligent argument. He belongs to the Mahaska County and the State Bar Associations, and in community affairs his interest is that of a public-spirited citizen. He is now serving on the public library board of Oskaloosa and his cooperation may be counted upon as a sure factor to further progressive movements. As a citizen he is honorable, prompt and true to every engagement, and as a man he has the honor and esteem of all classes.

DANIEL T. ROGERS.

Daniel T. Rogers, who is living on section 29, Union township, is a native of Lenawee county, Michigan, born October 13, 1840, his parents being Ansel and Louisa (Raymond) Rogers, the father born in Massachusetts in 1811 and the mother in New York in the same year. The father became one of the early settlers of Michigan, making his way to that state when it was largely covered with unbroken forests.. His wife died in Lenawee county when thirty-nine years of age. He continued his residence in Michigan until about 1853, when he came to Iowa, settling near Decorah in Winneshiek county. He there bought one hundred and sixty acres of land and for several years lived upon and improved this farm. Later he engaged in the manufacture of lumber, owning and operating a sawmill and at one time his holdings embraced nine hundred acres of land. Subsequently he spent three years in Kansas,



MR. AND MRS. D. T. ROGERS.



where he also conducted a sawmill and on leaving that state he returned to Ohio and afterward went to Michigan and to Indiana. He was not very successful in his farming operations but always made money when he engaged in the sawmill business. He was a good mechanic and was employed as foreman of the construction of the Raisin Valley Railroad in Michigan, subsequent to his return to that state, after living in Iowa and Kansas. His last years were spent in Indiana and he was just getting started in a good mill when his life's labors were ended in death. For his second wife he chose Mrs. Grizell, a widow, whose name in her maidenhood was Benedict and who died in Michigan. His third wife was Priscilla Grizell, a sister-in-law of his second wife. By the first marriage there were five children: Silas, who died in Oskaloosa in 1905; Nathan, who is living in Portland, Oregon; Daniel T.; Alonzo, who died in the state of Washington about three years ago; and Sarah T., the wife of Frank Farnum, of Ohio.

Daniel T. Rogers was educated in the common schools of Michigan, Iowa and Kansas. A teacher by the name of Holloway came with the family to Iowa and held a school in his own home. Schools at that time in this state and in Kansas were held on the subscription plan, for it was the early pioneer period when the work of development along material and intellectual lines had scarcely been begun. Mr. Rogers was married in 1863 to Miss Lucy Jane Cobb, who was born November 26, 1841, and is a daughter of Ausalom and Ann (Copic) Cobb, both of whom were natives of Ohio, the former born in 1799. The mother died in the Buckeye state, at the age of forty years, and the father died in New Sharon, Iowa, at the age of seventy-eight years. He was married four times. Mr. and Mrs. Rogers lived in Crawford county, Iowa, for one year with his father and afterward removed to Columbiana county, Ohio, living with

Mrs. Rogers' parents for six months. In 1864 they came to Mahaska county, Iowa, together with the Cobb family, and Mr. Rogers purchased forty acres of land, where he still resides. Of this farm, about fourteen acres had been broken and upon the place was a little frame dwelling and a prairie stable. The town of New Sharon contained but six frame houses and there was not a single house between the village and Mr. Rogers' farm. The postoffice in New Sharon was in the home of Porter Stanton and the mail was kept in an old shoe box in which pigeon holes had been made. Mr. Rogers began his farm work in an energetic manner and is now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land, having purchased forty acres adjoining the original tract and another forty acres just across the road. He has upon the place a good frame residence and substantial barn and other buildings and all of the trees upon the farm were planted by him.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rogers have been born seven children: Grace Ella, the wife of Robert Walthall, who is now living near Iowa Falls; Dora L., the wife of Addison Ball, who is living in Whittier, California; Mary, the wife of Sever Knudson, whose home is in Waterloo, Iowa: Ansalom C., of Holland, Minnesota; Willie, who died at the age of five years; Milo A., who is living in North Dakota; and Lydia, at home.

Mr. Rogers was a republican and is now a prohibitionist. He and his family are birthright members of the Society of Friends and are active in the work of the church, last year giving twenty per cent of their income to the cause of Christianity. Both Mr. and Mrs. Rogers are yet enjoying good health. They have prospered in their undertakings and have a comfortable competence for their remaining days. Mr. Rogers is assisted in his work by an adopted son, Trager, who is now seventeen years of age and who has been with them for several years. He is a youth of very excellent

habits, never using tobacco nor liquor, and his upright life is undoubtedly largely due to the example of his foster parents.

L. H. SHERMAN.

In every community there are a number of men who stand foremost in business circles, capable of formulating and executing plans and carrying forward to successful completion whatever they undertake. Such a man is L. H. Sherman, whose business ability is recognized and whose capacity for successful management is evidenced by his control of the Citizens Bank of New Sharon, of which he is now the president. He was born in Jasper county, Iowa, April 22, 1863, a son of Thomas and Peninah (Sparks) Sherman. The father was a native of Massachusetts. The mother was a daughter of John R. Sparks, who built the first mill in Jasper county. The parents removed to Jasper county in 1854 and there Thomas Sherman engaged in general farming. Both he and his wife still reside upon a farm in that locality. In their family were eight children, of whom L. H. Sherman is the fourth in order of birth. In the district schools he acquired his early education, while later he spent five terms as a student in Iowa College. Returning to the farm he was engaged in the work of field and meadow until twenty-six years of age, his father having given him a tract of land and he began farming on his own account. Thinking, however, to find other pursuits more congenial he put aside the work of tilling the soil and when a young man of twenty-six years embarked in merchandising at Sully, Jasper county. In 1889 he organized the Bank of Sully, of which he is still president, and there he continued until 1898, when he came to New Sharon and organized the Citizens Bank here, becoming its cashier. He has since built a large brick block, one of the finest business structures in town, known as the Sherman Block. The bank was formerly located in the Reynolds Building, now occupied by S. V. Reynolds, but built by Mr. Sherman, but has been removed to the Sherman Block, where it is now housed in attractive quarters. At the present writing Mr. Sherman is president of the bank, and C. F. Griffey, cashier. They do a general banking business and also have large safety deposit vaults. The institution has become one of the strong financial concerns of this part of the county, for the business reliability of the stockholders is well known and the methods of operation carried on in the bank are such as to commend the institution to the confidence and support of the general public.

In December, 1886, Mr. Sherman was married to Miss Amy J. Smith, a native of Jasper county, Iowa, and unto them have been born three daughters, Edna, Ada and Helen, all at home. Their residence on North Main street is one of the finest in the city. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Sherman votes with the republican party, being in hearty sympathy with its principles yet has never been a candidate for office. In his business life he is very energetic and the consensus of public opinion is not divided concerning his position in commercial and financial circles, for he is accorded a place among the foremost.

JOHN D. YEOMAN.

The spirit of agricultural enterprise and progress is exemplified by John D. Yeoman, who follows farming on section 2, Cedar township, where he owns a valuable tract of land of one hundred and twelve acres, his home having been in this county since 1866. He was born in Lorain county, Ohio, March 30, 1859. His

father, Richard Yeoman, was a native of England and on coming to America settled in Ohio, making his home in Lorain county. He was married in Ohio to Miss Fannie C. Axtel, a native of Ohio, where her father had located at an early day. Mr. Yeoman devoted his time and energies to agricultural pursuits in the Buckeye state until 1866, when he sold his property there and removed with his family to Iowa. Unto him and his wife had been born nine children, of whom seven came with their parents to this state. On arriving here Mr. Yeoman purchased the tract of land upon which his son John now resides and began to cultivate and improve a farm. He built here a good house and substantial barns and outbuildings and made many modern improvements, developing a farm of one hundred and twelve acres.

It was upon the old homestead property here that John D. Yeoman was reared to manhood. He assisted in the work of the fields from the time of early spring planting until crops were harvested in the late autumn and during the winter months he attended the public schools. To his father he gave the benefit of his services until he had attained his majority and at the age of twenty-one years he went to what was then the territory of Washington, where he remained for a year herding cattle. He afterward came back to Iowa and settled upon the old home place purchasing the interest of the other heirs in the property. His father had died in 1884, in his seventy-eighth year, while his mother survives and is now seventy-seven years of age. She is in good health and makes her home with her son John. After coming into possession of the home property through purchase, John D. Yeoman resolutely took up the task of further improvement here and has erected a good residence of a story and a half, together with substantial barns and outbuildings. He had to clear over one hundred acres of the land and his farm in its present advanced condition of improvement and development is the visible evidence of his life of thrift and industry.

Mr. Yeoman was married on the 2d of July, 1882, to Miss Mary J. Jones, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of Rev. J. W. Jones, who was born in that state and came to Iowa at an early day, casting in his lot with the early settlers, who were subjugating the wilderness and extending the frontier. He is still living and now makes his home in Hedrick, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Yeoman had ten children, of whom two died in infancy and one, Elden D., at the age of three years. The others are: Nina Mabel, the wife of L. C. Moore, a business man of Chicago; Jessie, Floyd R., Harold J., Fannie C., Charlie and Rheinold, all living at home and attending school. The parents are members of the United Brethren Baptist church but attend the Methodist Episcopal church at Fremont as there is no Baptist church at that place. Mr. Yeoman is a member of the Odd Fellows Sociey at Fremont. In politics he is a stalwart republican, but without aspiration for office. He has, however, served on the school board for eighteen years and the cause of education finds in him a stalwart friend. His business interests are carefully conducted and in all his dealings he is straightforward and reliable. He not only tills the soil but also raises good stock of various kinds and his business in both its branches is bringing to him a very good living.

FILMORE GARNER.

Filmore Garner, who is engaged in the implement business in New Sharon, where he is also dealing in hardware, windmills, wagons, buggies, mowers, binders and corn planters, possesses a spirit of enterprise and determination that has led to success in his commercial as well as agricultural ventures. He was born near Grafton, West Virginia, on the 16th of

October, 1856, a son of John and Nancy (Fortney) Garner, who were also natives of that place. In 1857 the father removed with his family to Bloomfield, Iowa, where he lived until 1863, when he came to Mahaska county, here purchasing eighty acres of land in Prairie township. He then turned his attention to farming, which, in fact, was his life work, and in which pursuit he won a very gratifying measure of success. He resided upon his farm continuously until his death, which occurred about twenty years ago, when he was sixty-five years of age. His wife survived him and died at Rose Hill, Mahaska county, at the age of seventy-seven years. In their family were six children, of whom Filmore is the voungest, the others being: Priscilla, the deceased wife of John Miller, a resident of Jasper county, Iowa; Isaac, a shipper of live stock in New Sharon; Samuel, who is living in Nebraska; Mollie, now Mrs. Billick, living near Oskaloosa, Iowa; and Eliza, who died at the age of sixteen years.

Filmore Garner made his home with his parents until the time of his marriage and during that period attended the public schools, acquiring a fair English education. He was only a few months old when brought by his father to Iowa and here he was reared to farm life. At the age of twenty-nine years he was married in 1885 to Miss Eliza Higgason, who was born in Illinois, but lived in Mahaska county since 1875. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Garner have been born seven children and the family circle yet remains unbroken. These are Homer, Lena, Harry, Ray, Ernest, Lillie and Gale, all at home with their parents.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Garner began farming on his own account and for seventeen years was a successful stock-feeder, annually feeding a large number of stock, for which he found a ready sale on the market. He was practical in all that he did and his fields were richly cultivated. He carried on farming until about five years ago, when, in 1901,

he came to New Sharon and purchased an interest in an implement business, becoming a partner of his cousin, J. A. Garner, who had been conducting the business for three years. This association was maintained for two years, at the end of which time Filmore Garner purchased his cousin's interest and has since been alone. He now handles farm implements, heavy hardware, windmills, wagons, buggies, mowers, binders and corn planters, and he does a business amounting to about twenty thousand dollars per year, which is double the amount of business that was transacted when he became a partner in the firm four years ago. He is a very energetic man, alert and enterprising, accomplishing all that he undertakes and through his well directed labors he has built up an extensive trade. In his business methods he is strictly reliable and his earnest desire to please his patrons combined with his indefatigable energy constitutes the secret of his success. He has always been a believer in the principles of the republican party and votes with that organization on national questions but at local elections he frequently casts an independent ballot. He affiliates with no fraternal organization although he is not opposed to them but his business interests make heavy demands upon his time and attention and he has put forth every effort in his power to provide a comfortable living for his family and to lay up for them a goodly estate.

ALLEN BROTHERS.

Allen Brothers are proprietors of the Allendale stock farm and well known stock-raisers of this section of Iowa. Their father, Abner Allen, was born in Bethlehem, Litchfield county, Connecticut, February 16, 1819. His parents, James and Clarissa (Way) Allen, had a family



ABNER ALLEN.



of six children, three of whom reached adult age. Abner Allen was the eldest and was reared upon a farm. He had more than the ordinary school privileges and at the age of seventeen years began teaching, which profession he followed for three terms. On attaining his majority he started for the west, and after a brief stay in Cleveland, Ohio, went to Stark county, Ohio, where he was engaged in general merchandising for five years. In 1846 he returned to Connecticut, where he was married to Miss Hannah Haves and in the town of Bethlehem he engaged in general merchandising, remaining there until the death of his wife in 1848. The following year, attracted by the discoveries on the Pacific coast, he made his way to the goldfields of California by the isthmus route and followed mining in this state for two years. He was very successful in a financial way and returned home by way of the Nicaragua route. In 1851 he married Miss Betsey Ann Haves, a sister of his first wife, and in 1854 he came to Mahaska county, Iowa, establishing a mercantile enterprise in Oskaloosa under the firm name of Perkins & Allen. After a year he sold out and turned his attention to the queensware business, in which he continued until 1858. In 1860 he traded city property for a farm near Beacon, in the vicinity of Oskaloosa, and opened a coal mine, which he operated until 1865. In that year he returned to Connecticut and was engaged in farming for six years. He then went to Colorado for his wife's health, and was connected with the harness trade at Canon City for five years. In 1877 he returned to Mahaska county, where he engaged in farming on eight hundred acres of land, which had previously come into his possession. He made his home upon this place until August 22, 1901, when his life's labors were ended in death. His second wife, who was born in Connecticut, on January 3, 1830, is still living and now makes her home with a daughter in New Milford, Connecticut.

Abner Allen was a very successful business man in all his undertakings. Nothing is impossible of accomplishment to him who has the will to dare and to do, and allows no thought of failure to enter his mind; and the word fail had no part in Mr. Allen's vocabulary. He possessed sound judgment and moreover was industrious and energetic. He was richly endowed in those sterling qualities which make an honored citizen, and all who knew him respected him for his genuine worth. In politics he was a democrat, and though often solicited to accept public office he never consented to do so, preferring to concentrate his attention upon his business affairs, in which he met with signal prosperity. He held membership in the Episcopal church and his life was actuated by high and honorable motives. He represented an old New England family and his son is now in possession of genealogy of the Allings (Allens), of New Haven, Connecticut, from 1639 to the present time. In the father's family were three children, all of whom are now living: Minnie C., the wife of Charles B. Botsford, who resides in New Milford, Connecticut; and James H. and George G., of this review.

James H. Allen was born in Oskaloosa, September 14, 1855, was educated in the city schools and in a select school in New Haven, Connecticut, where he spent one winter. He always lived with his parents, and in his youth learned the harness-maker's trade in Canon City, Colorado, where he worked for his father for four years. On the 11th of December, 1889, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Irwin, who was born in Beacon, Iowa, September 22, 1863, and is a daughter of J. W. Irwin, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. James H. Allen returned to the home farm in Mahaska county in 1877 and operated the land and also carried on the farm after his father's death, when, with his brother, George G., he came into possession of this property. Unto him and his wife have been born two children: Irwin A.,

born May 6, 1891; and Walter H., born June 13, 1895. Both are bright young men at home and the elder is attending the New Sharon schools.

George G. Allen has never married and lives on the home farm with his brother. They own four hundred acres of good land with good buildings, and in fact, have a splendidly developed property. They have a registered herd of Aberdeen Angus polled cattle which they raise for breeding purposes, and in this business are meeting with splendid success. They also carry on general farming and annually produce good crops as a reward for the care and labor they bestow on the fields.

In politics James H. Allen is a democrat and has held the office of school treasurer. His fraternal relations are with the Masons. His wife is a member of the Presbyterian church of New Sharon but both attend the Christian church at Union Mills. The firm of Allen Brothers is a very reliable and prominent one in the county, and the Allendale stock farm is widely famed because of the fine Aberdeen Angus cattle here raised.

M. F. TRIPLETT.

On a farm on section 23. Cedar township, lives M. F. Triplett, who is one of the diligent and prosperous agriculturists of this section. He owns and operates a farm of three hundred and twenty-six acres of well improved and valuable land, adjoining the corporation limits of Fremont, and he is classed with the pioneer farmers of Mahaska county, having been brought to Iowa by his father in his childhood days in 1857. He is a native of Ohio, bis birth having occurred in Noble county, that state, February 16, 1852. His father, Mortimer T. Triplett, is now a hale and hearty old man of ninety-four years. He was born in Virginia,

in 1813, and was a son of James Triplett, also a native of the Old Dominion. The grandfather was a teacher, following that profession both in Virginia and Ohio for a period of forty-eight years. He was not out of the schoolroom for six months at any one time. He removed from the Old Dominion to Ohio in 1815, locating in what is now Noble county, where he reared his family and spent the last years of his life. Mortimer Triplett there resided during the period of his boyhood and youth and was married in that state to Miss Nancy Montgomery, a native of Pennsylvania but was reared, however, in Ohio. Mortimer Triplett was a farmer of Noble county for a number of years and afterward removed to Illinois, where he spent two years, coming to Iowa in 1859. Here he cast in his lot with the early settlers and purchased thirteen hundred acres of land. In 1861 he took up his abode in Mahaska county, and bought a farm upon which he engaged in general agricultural pursuits, rearing his family here. His wife passed away December 25, 1899, and Mr. Triplett has since resided with his son, M. F. Triplett of this review. Although he is now ninety-four years of age, he is still an active man and can mount and ride any horse on the farm. He has carried on farming operations on an extensive scale and as a pioneer settler has contributed in substantial degree to the improvement and development of this part of the state.

M. F. Triplett was reared to manhood in Mahaska county and remained with his father, assisting him in carrying on the home farm until twenty-three years of age when he started out in life on his own account, purchasing eighty acres of land in 1875. This tract is still a part of his home place, which he at once began to cultivate and improve. His two sisters kept house for him for a number of years. He worked persistently and earnestly in his efforts to improve his farm and bought more land from time to time until he is now the owner of

a valuable property of three hundred and twenty-six acres. Upon this place he has erected a good substantial residence, also barns and outbuildings and has contributed to the productiveness of the land through tiling the fields. He has likewise fenced the place and has planted fruit and ornamental trees. He has a good tenant house near his residence and in his barns and sheds are the latest improved agricultural implements for carrying on the farm work. In connection with the tilling of the soil he makes a business of raising high grade stock, including horses, cattle and swine, and he also feeds and fattens a large number of hogs for the market each year. He is also a stockholder in the Fremont State Bank.

Mr. Triplett was married in Fremont, October 19, 1884, to Miss Ruth Doolittle, who was born and reared in Mahaska county and was a teacher in Fremont and Wapello. For several years prior, to her marriage she successfully engaged in teaching. Her father was "Squire" B. M. Doolittle, who was one of the pioneers of Mahaska county and owned and operated a farm adjoining that upon which Mr. Triplett resides. There are two sons by this marriage: C. C. Triplett, who is now a junior in Wapello College, Marion county; and Harold A.

In his political views Mr. Triplett has been a lifelong republican. His father was originally an old-line whig and later became identified with the republican party upon its organization. Mr. Triplett of this review was elected and served for two years as township assessor and has been interested in many movements, political and otherwise for the good of the community. He believes in good schools and during a service on the school board covering a number of years he put forth effective effort for the improvement of the educational facilities of his district. He has also served as a delegate to numerous county conventions of his party and is well known in local republican

ranks. Both he and his wife are members of the Fremont Baptist church. Mr. Triplett holds office in the church, being one of the trustees and also a deacon. He has been a resident of this part of Mahaska county throughout almost his entire life and the story of its growth and development is not a matter of history to him but of actual experience. In the early days he drove five and seven yoke of oxen to a breaking plow in order to turn the virgin sod. He has helped to make and improve the county and has rejoiced in its advancement as the district has been reclaimed for the uses of the white race and has been made to bloom and blossom as the rose. He started out in life on his own account a poor man with very limited capital, but through his own labor and diligence combined with good business ability and the assistance of his estimable wife who has indeed been a helpmate to him he has accumulated a large and valuable property. He is well known in Oskaloosa and Mahaska county as a man of broad integrity and has the confidence and good will of the community.

WILLIAM G. HILLIS, M. D.

Dr. William G. Hillis, engaged in the practice of medicine at Union Mills, was born in Jackson county, Indiana. December 27, 1851. a son of Dr. David B. Hillis, who was a son of Governor David Hillis, of that state, born in Indiana and who died in Keokuk at the age of sixty-four years. The father was a graduate of the Missouri Medical College at St. Louis, and practiced his profession for a number of years in Indiana. In 1859 he came to Iowa and engaged in the dry goods business at Bloomfield. Removing to Keokuk, Iowa, in 1860, at which place he enlisted for service in the Civil war, being appointed by Governor Kirkwood lieutenant-colonel of the Seventeenth

Iowa Volunteer Infantry. During the service he was promoted to the rank of colonel of the regiment and later was brevetted brigadier general. Following the war he returned to Keokuk, Iowa, where he resumed the practice of medicine, gaining distinction as an able representative of the profession. For several years he was professor of theory and practice in the College of Physicians and Surgeons and thus became well known as an educator. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, with which he was prominently identified. He was recognized as one of its leaders in this state and was, at one time, spoken of for the position of lieutenant governor. He frequently made campaign addresses in various parts of the state and was a stanch and stalwart advocate of the party principles. A gentleman of strong intellectuality and of marked natural and acquired ability, he occupied an enviable position in his profession and in political circles as well. His religious faith was that of the old school Presbyterian church. His first wife, who bore the maiden name of Laura Kisor, was born in Indiana and died in Keokuk at the age of forty-seven years. They were the parents of four children, of whom Dr. Hillis of this review is the only one now living. His younger brother, Oscar B. Hillis, studied law and was admitted to the bar but never practiced. At the time of his death he was serving as clerk of the United States circuit and district courts at Omaha, Nebraska, having been appointed by Judge George W. Mc-Crarv. For his second wife Dr. David B. Hillis married Mrs. Charles Phelps, a widow, who is now living in Keokuk, Iowa.

Dr. Hillis of this review acquired his early education in the schools of Keokuk and determining upon the practice of medicine as a life work he completed a course and was graduated from the Keokuk College of Physicians and Surgeons with the class of 1875. After receiving his diploma he located at Beacon, Ma-

haska county, where he practiced for two years. He then returned to Keokuk, where he was associated in practice with his father for several vears, subsequent to which time he removed to Mount Hamill, Iowa, where he continued in practice for four years. Later he spent one winter with a surveying party in northern Minnesota, having acquired considerable knowledge serving in the United States engineer's office at Keokuk at the time the canal was built there. In 1897 he located at Union Mills, where he has since remained, devoting his time and energies to medical and surgical practice with good success, having comprehensive knowledge of the principles of the science of medicine, while at all times he is correct in the adaptation of his knowledge. In politics he is a republican and although he has been solicited to accept public office he has always declined.

REV. WILLIAM PEARSON SOPHER.

Rev. William Pearson Sopher, living on section 28, Spring Creek township, is one of the substantial farmers and stock-raisers, his property embracing one hundred and eighteen acres of rich and productive land. He is one of Mahaska county's native sons, his birth having occurred in Spring Creek township, March 24, The Sopher family is of Scotch-Irish lineage and was established in Virginia at an early period in the colonization of the new world. The paternal great-grandfather, Joseph Sopher, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. The grandfather, who also bore the name of Joseph, was born in Loudoun county, Virginia. His son, William Kenworthy Sopher, father of our subject, was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, April 8, 1817, and was reared in that state. In 1834 he removed westward, locating in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, where he was married in 1837 to Miss Agnes





MR. AND MRS. W. P. SOPHER.



Hockett. He followed farming in Tippecanoe and lefferson counties for a few years, and in 1844 he removed to Iowa, making a permanent location in Spring Creek township, Mahaska county, in 1847. Here he opened up a new farm of one hundred and forty-seven acres of timber land, which he cleared of trees, brush and stumps, placing the soil under a high state of cultivation and making a good home in the midst of what was then the wilderness of Iowa. He eventually sold his first farm and located in 1882 upon the farm where Rev. Sopher now resides. There he built a good residence and spent his last years, his death occurring in December, 1892. His wife had passed away two vears previous. In their family were five children: Abijah, a resident farmer of Spring Creek township; Phebe, who died at the age of twenty-six years; Moses H., who was married and reared a large family but is now deceased; Rev. William Pearson Sopher, of this review; and Rev. Joseph Sopher, of Oskaloosa.

Born in Spring Creek township, Rev. William P. Sopher was educated in the common schools and in the old Penn Academy. Through the summer months he worked at farm labor, remaining with his father until after he had attained his majority. He was married in this township October 10, 1870, to Miss Anna M. Coulson, a daughter of Dr. David Coulson, a dentist of Oskaloosa, where he practiced for ten or twelve years, after which he removed to Oregon, where he died in December, 1897. Mrs. Sopher was born in Salem, Henry county, lowa, but was reared and educated in Mahaska county. Following their marriage the young couple began their domestic life upon the farm which he yet owns, but at first he had but sixty acres of land. He possesses natural mechanical ability and erected a residence there. He helped to break the sod with three yoke of oxen and later he built a barn and other modern improvements. After the death of his mother he bought his father's place and located

upon the tract adjoining, his present home. He has since fenced the place, has made many repairs and improvements and has set out a large orchard containing fifteen hundred trees which are just coming into hearing and include a great variety of fruit.

For some years his son has carried on the active work of the farm although Mr. Sopher gives to it his personal supervision.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sopher have been born six children: Mamie, now the wife of Charles Hoover, a farmer of Spring Creek township; Jesse L., a farmer who is married and resides in Audrain county, Missouri; Elma Emma, a student in the home schools; and Hattie, Bertha and Nettie Pearl, all of whom are deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Sopher were reared in the Friends church, and Rev. Sopher was ordained a minister of that denomination about 1878 and for fifteen years has devoted his time to the ministry in and to the various departments of church work. He has three times visited Kansas, has also visited various churches of Iowa and has held regular services at Bloomfield Friends church for the past fifteen years. He has been a supporter of the prohibition party since 1888, and has served as a delegate to the state and national conventions, taking a very active and interested part in its work. He and his daughter were both delegates to the last convention at Indianapolis, Indiana. In 1894, with his wife and daughter, he went to Oregon, visiting a number of the churches of the Society of Friends of that state, and Mrs. Sopher and the daughter visited the Lewis and Clark Exposition, at Portland, in 1905, also places of scenic interest in the Rocky Mountains and along the Pacific coast. Mr. Sopher and his family have traveled extensively both east and west, visiting a number of the leading cities of the country. He is well known in Oskaloosa and throughout the state of Iowa because of his active, influential and effective work in behalf of the church of his choice. He is likewise

recognized as one of its strong ministers in other states and he and his family are much esteemed in the community where they reside.

S. S. COOK.

S. S. Cook, living on section 11, Cedar township, is engaged in general farming and stockraising upon what is known as the old homestead farm adjoining Fremont. He is a native son of Iowa, his birth having occurred in Keokuk county, on the 7th of December, 1862. His father was Dr. S. S. Cook, a pioneer physician of this state, who located in Keokuk county and practiced there for several years. In 1863, however, in response to the country's call he joined the army as surgeon and thus served until his death, which occurred on the 15th of January, 1864. His widow, Mrs. Sarah Cook, is one of the estimable pioneer women of the county and is mentioned elsewhere in this work.

S. S. Cook came with his mother to Mahaska county at the time of the father's enlistment in the army and soon afterward they located on a farm where they now reside, he and his elder brother, Albert N. Cook, working the place for their mother. Here the subject of this review was reared to manhood and his education was acquired in the schools of Fremont. early became familiar with all the duties and labors incident to the cultivation, development and improvement of the fields and that he is a practical and enterprising farmer is shown by the splendid appearance of the place at the present time. In 1883 he was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Bryan, a native of Iowa, who was born in Madison township. Unto this union have been born five children: Alfred, who assists in carrying on the home farm; Clara, Lucy, Harry and Ronald S.

Mr. Cook has had charge of and carried on the home farm for seventeen years and in connection with the tilling of the soil he has made a specialty of raising, feeding and fattening hogs for the market. He is now a breeder of pure Chester White hogs and has some fine specimens of this breed. For the past three years he has also acted as rural mail carrier. In his political views he is a stanch and earnest republican, but has never cared nor sought for office, giving his time and attention to his farming and business interests, save that he is now acting as mail carrier. He is also a member of the school board, the cause of education receiving his hearty endorsement, while his co-operation is given to any movement for the benefit of the schools. He belongs to Fremont lodge, I. O. O. F., in which he has filled all of the chairs and is now a past grand. He is also a member and one of the officers of Fremont lodge of the Knights of Pythias, and is now serving as vice chancellor. He likewise belongs to the Woodmen of the World, in which he is council commander. A gentleman of exemplary habits and upright character and worth, he commands the trust and good will of his fellowmen and has many warm friends in the circle of a wide acquaintance.

WILLIAM G. JONES.

William G. Jones, a prominent member of the Oskaloosa bar and state senator from this district entered upon the practice of law in February, 1885. His rise has been rapid since he entered upon his novitiate, for his position today is that of a recognized leader in the ranks of the legal fraternity in this part of the state. He was born in what is now Garfield township, Mahaska county, on the 22d of October, 1861.

His father, John G. Jones, was born in Wales and came to the United States about 1850, at which time he settled in Pennsylvania. He was a poor boy and eagerly embraced ev-

ery opportunity to earn an honest living. In 1852 he went to California and for a short time was employed in gold mines. He then came to Mahaska county and with the money he had saved in the west he made a partial payment on a tract of land of one hundred acres in Garfield township, which he cultivated and improved. He retained the ownership of this farm for about forty years but spent fifteen years of that time in a mercantile business in Beacon. Eventually he sold his store in 1875, and removed to Colorado, where he superintended a coal mine for about eight years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Beacon, where he lived for a time, and also resided for a while in Oskaloosa, making his home in the latter city from 1887 until 1894, during a part of which period he was president of the old Farmers & Traders Bank. His activity and ability made him a prominent factor in commercial and financial circles and he also became recognized as a local leader in the ranks of the republican party. He served at one time as a member of the board of supervisors. Fraternally he was connected with the Masons and the Odd Fellows, and he held membership in the Welsh Congregational church. He occupied a prominent position in the regard of neighbors and friends and his life was at all times characterized by fidelity to duty and to high principles. In his business affairs he prospered and in connection with a syndicate became the owner of several thousand acres of land in Colorado. He married Margaret G. Jones, a native of Wales, who came to the United States in her maidenhood and located in Pennsylvania. She is a member of the Baptist church and is now living in San Jose, California, at the age of seventy-two years, but Mr. Jones passed away in 1897, at the age of sixtynine years. In their family were the following children: Sarah A., who is the wife of Thomas Ingels, a ranchman of California; Elizabeth, the wife of Dr. Joseph Bevan, a physician, who was prominent in his profession and died in Oskaloosa several years ago; William G., of this review; Emma, the wife of John Parry. fire commissioner of San Francisco; Winifred, the wife of Frank Perry, a grocer of Spokane, Washington; John T., a clothier of Kansas City, Missouri; and one who died in infancy.

William G. Jones was reared upon his father's farm. His birth occurred in a double log cabin upon the old homestead, which had been purchased by his father when he located in Garfield township. The son attended the district schools and continued his studies in the school of Beacon, being graduated from the high school there and also from Oskaloosa College in the class of 1882. Determining upon the practice of law as a life work, he entered the law department of the Iowa State University in 1883 and completed the course by graduation in 1884. He entered upon the practice of his profession in February, 1885, and has since been an able member of the Oskaloosa bar. His equipment was unsually good and his success therefore came soon. He possesses those qualities, natural and acquired, which are indispensable to the lawyer. His mind is analytical, logical and inductive, and he has, moreover, a ready capacity for hard work. He brought to the starting point of his career an excellent presence, an earnest, dignified manner and marked strength of character, combined with a thorough grasp of the law and ability to apply its principles accurately.

In December, 1890, Mr. Jones was married to Miss Jennie L. Wood, who was born in Delaware county, Iowa, in 1863, and is a daughter of Hiram D. Wood. Her father was a pioneer farmer of Delaware county and is now engaged in merchandising. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have one child, Byril M., born in 1895. Mr. Jones is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and of the Order of Foresters. In politics he is a republican and for one term served as city

solicitor of Oskaloosa. He has made a close and earnest study of the political issues and questions of the day and his fitness for leadership has led to his selection to positions of honor and responsibility. He represented the county in the twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth general assemblies, and in the fall of 1903 was elected state senator, in which capacity he is now serving. He has been interested in much constructive legislation and has furthered many measures introduced into the house and senate for the welfare of his constituents and of the state at large. His practice has not been restricted to any one branch of the profession and his experience in the trial of difficult law cases and the brilliant record of results attained leave no room for questions of his ability. He actively interests himself in public affairs and participates earnestly in any effort to propagate a spirit of patriotism and of loyalty to American institutions and wherever there is a public-spirited attempt to drive corruption or other unworthiness out of public office he is to be found working with the leaders of the movement.

H. J. VAIL.

H. J. Vail, postmaster of New Sharon and editor of the New Sharon Star, was born in Belmont county, Ohio, November 22, 1845, a son of John and Abigail (Edgerton) Vail, both of whom were natives of Belmont county, Ohio. The father was always a farmer and lived upon a farm in Ohio until 1864, when he removed to Keokuk county, Iowa, where he purchased a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres, devoting a number of years to its care and cultivation. He made his home thereon until his death, which occurred in 1891, when he was seventy-eight years of age. He was a Friend, or Quaker, in his religious faith, and in ante-

bellum days was a strong abolitionist, his home being a station on the famous "underground railroad." In his family were fourteen children, of whom three died in infancy, while eleven reached years of maturity and lived to attend the golden wedding of their parents in 1887. Eight of the number are now living.

H. J. Vail of this review is the only one who resides in Mahaska county. His parents were in limited financial circumstances and because of the large number of children dependent upon them for support H. J. Vail left home and at the age of twelve years began earning his own living by working as a farm hand. He never attended school for more than three months after that time but in the school of experience has learned many valuable lessons and in the printing office, which has been termed the "poor man's college," he has greatly broadened his knowledge. In 1862 he went to Philadelphia, where for two years he operated a stationary engine. In 1864 he came to Iowa and purchased seventy acres of land in Keokuk county on which some improvements had been made. He further improved this property and eventually he improved and sold four farms, making his first real start in business life in this way. In September, 1891, he went to Wilton Junction, Iowa, and purchased the Wilton Chronicle. He had always wanted to engage in newspaper business but had never seen any type or been in a newspaper office, but he purchased the paper and conducted it for two years. In January, 1873, he sold out for double what he paid for the plant and paper and at that time came to New Sharon, where he established the New Sharon Star, the first issue appearing on the 22d of January, 1873. He continued this until April 22, 1885, when he sold out to his brother David and went to live in California for the benefit of his daughter's health. In 1886 he established the Pasadena Star and the following year began the publication of the Pasadena Daily Star, which he



H. J. VAIL.



conducted until 1890, when he sold both papers and afterward gave his attention to the publication of the Daily Press at Santa Anna for one year. In 1896 he returned to New Sharon and in 1901 he purchased the New Sharon Star from R. A. Nicholson, who had owned the office about two years, and has since conducted the paper.

Mr. Vail served as postmaster under Presidents Grant and Hayes, and in 1903 was appointed to the same office by President Roosevelt and is now acting in that capacity. He filled the office of mayor in 1874, but did not like the irksome duties and retired from the office on the expiration of his term. He was nominated for representative from this district but declined the honor, and has been prominently spoken of as a senatorial candidate, and yet he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, practically aspiring to no office save that of postmaster. In 1880 he purchased the first imported horses brought to this section, buying Percheron, Norman and Clydesdale horses, and conducted breeding stables for three or four years. Mr. Vail is prominent and well known in fraternal circles. He became a Mason in Keokuk county in 1868 and organized the Masonic lodge here in 1874, serving as master for several terms of what is now known as Mahaska lodge, No. 376, A. F. & A. M. He is again filling the position of master, having been elected in December, 1905. He is also a Royal Arch Mason and Knight Templar, becoming a member of the lodge and chapter in Oskaloosa, but now holding membership with the order in Los Angeles, California. He became a member of the Odd Fellows lodge in 1874 and holds membership relations with the Iowa Legion of Honor and the American Brotherhood.

In 1866 Mr. Vail wedded Miss Sarah T. Oblinger, a native of Ohio, and unto them have been born two children, W. L. and Lillian, but the latter died in California at the age of eleven

years. The former, now a resident of the American Colony in the city of Mexico, was for twelve years in the newspaper business there, but is now engaged in the land and mining business. He married a wealthy Mexican lady and they have one daughter, Lucretia. In 1897 Mr. Vail of this review was again married, his second union being with Miss Estella E. Younkin, a native of Washington county, Lowa

In 1879 Mr. Vail gathered material and published a history of Prairie township, Mahaska county, a pamphlet of over one hundred pages, which does credit to the author. He has made the New Sharon Star an interesting journal, typical of the best newspaper work of the present day and as a public officer he has likewise made a creditable record.

LUKE JAMES.

Luke James, who carries on general farming on section 25, Union township, was born near Richmond, Kentucky, January 29, 1842. He is a son of John James, a native of the Keystone state, who died during the early child-hood of his son Luke. The mother, who bore the maiden name of Martha West, was also a native of Kentucky and died in that state before the removal of the family to Iowa. After losing his first wife the father married again and in 1853 brought his family to Iowa, settling near Montezuma in Poweshick county. He purchased a farm in that portion of the state but died before taking possession of it.

Luke James is now the only surviving member of a family of five children. At his father's death the family was broken up and he was bound out to a farmer, with whom he remained until twenty-one years of age. Thus he was reared to agricultural pursuits. In 1861 he came to Mahaska county and through the fol-

lowing year was employed on a farm by Dr. Fry. He afterward went to live near Fremont in this county, where he rented a farm, continuing to cultivate rented land in that neighborhood and elsewhere in the county for about fifteen years. Thirty years ago he purchased eighty acres of land, where he now resides in Union township. The land was partially broken with few fences and few improvements upon the place save a small frame house. Mr. James has resided continuously since. The farm is now well fenced and divided into fields of convenient size. He has enlarged and remodeled the house, and built a good barn and has added other modern equipments. He has also purchased eighty acres more in the township a half mile east of his present home, upon which was a good residence and he has also built a large barn. He now rents this eightyacre tract.

In November, 1862, Mr. James was married to Miss Sarah Cummins, a native of Illinois, who died upon the old homestead farm in Union township, August 12, 1904, at the age of sixty-five years. She had been to her husband a faithful companion and helpmate on life's journey but for several years prior to her demise was in poor health. Four children had been born of this marriage: Frank, who died at the age of twelve years; Florence, now the . wife of John Marion, a resident of Pleasant Grove township, Mahaska county; William, who is employed in Nebraska; and Leona, who became the wife of Ed Rhine and died in New Sharon at the age of twenty-eight years. Mrs. James was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which Mr. James also belongs. He is independent in politics with tendencies toward the republican party. He has served as school director for two terms and is interested in the welfare and progress of the county but does not care for political office. He recalls many interesting experiences of the early days. He started out in life empty-handed and for many years he and his wife ate from a home made table and kept their food supplies in a home made cupboard. In 1861 he took coal in a wheelbarrow from the mines. Many men of family did the same thing in order to get fuel and keep their family from freezing, for times were hard and the winter was a severe one. In those days wild game was plentiful and it was about that period that a gray wolf was killed in the neighborhood that had given much trouble to the settlers by inroads upon their farmyards. The animal was a large timber wolf but was so old that the fur had become grav. Wolves frequently killed the sheep and calves and on a few occasions were known to take two-year-old cattle. Mr. James well remembers the old-time grease lamps that were in use and the steel and flint and piece of punk that were used to make the fire. His educational privileges were limited, for he attended school in an old log building with puncheon floor and slab seats, where the teaching was primitive, instruction being given in only a few of the minor branches of study. He never had a ready made suit of clothes until he was eighteen years of age, all being home made up to this time. As the years have passed by, however, he has worked earnestly and persistently and is now in possession of a valuable farm property and a comfortable competence. He now rents his farm, having a family on the place where he lives and occupies a part of the house.

FREDERICK BLATTNER.

Frederick Blattner, who for many years has been identified with manufacturing interests in Oskaloosa, was born in this city June 22, 1861. His father, Charles F. Blattner, was a native of Germany, born in Biron on the River Rhine, March 6, 1829. He came to the United States

about 1849, locating in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he was engaged in the butchering business. After some time there spent he removed to Xenia, Ohio, where he conducted a meat market for about three years. In March, 1855, he came to Oskaloosa, Iowa, where he engaged in the butchering and pork-packing business, his packing house being the old building afterward known as Johnson's foundry and machine shop on South First street. He conducted the enterprise alone until 1856, when he added a stock of groceries and admitted Mr. Rodgers to a partnership. They carried on business in an old building that stood on Market street on the west side of the square, where the Smith jewelry store is now located. In 1857 Mr. Blattner formed a partnership with Lewis Greutz and David Newbrand and built a brewery on the corner of C avenue and L street, calling the new enterprise the Oskaloosa Brewery. It was successful from the start and was probably the first brewing plant in the state. The meat and pork-packing business was also continued until 1859. In 1860 Lewis Grentz died and Mr. Blattner purchased his interest in the brewery, at which time the firm name of Blattner & Newbrand was then assumed, the senior partner continued actively in business up to the time of his death. The brewery was then continued under the management of a nephew, Charles Blattner, Mr. Newbrand retaining his interest in the business until his death in June, 1877. Charles Blattner remained as manager until the passage of the prohibition law, after which, in the fall of 1888, the concern had to close its doors. In the meantime, in 1881, the firm of Blattner & Newbrand embarked in the wholesale and retail ice business, continuing under the same management until the death of Charles Blattner on the 21st of April, 1891. In that year the management was placed in the hands of Frederick Blattner of this review by the purchase of the original proprietors, and he continued the business from the spring of 1801 until the fall of 1893, when he purchased the

interest of Mrs. David Newbrand. The business was then conducted under the style of the Blattner Ice Company until August, 1894, when Frederick Blattner purchased the interest of his mother and also the undivided interest of his sisters and brothers, which made him sole proprietor of the ice business. In the meantime the firm had been acting as agents for the Annheuser-Busch Brewing Company of St. Louis, which agency Mr. Blattner continued under the mulct law of the state. On the 1st of December, 1903, he discontinued the ice business, turning it over for a consideration in stock to the Oskaloosa Artificial Ice & Cold Storage Company.

Charles F. Blattner, father of our subject, was a public-spirited and enterprising citizen, who enjoyed the thorough respect of his neighbors and many friends and the confidence of the business community, for in all of his dealings he was thoroughly reliable and straightforward. He held membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, becoming a charter member of Mahaska lodge. His political allegiance was given to the democracy. He was married in Cincinnati to Elizabeth Miller, who was born in Biron, Germany, and came to the United States with her parents when ten years of age, the family home being established in Cincinnati. She has a brother yet living in Ohio and one in Kentucky but the death of Mrs. Blattner occurred on the 23d of August, 1805, when she was sixty-nine years of age. By her marriage she had become the mother of six children: Louisa, now the wife of Charles Blattner, and a resident of Oskaloosa: Caroline. the wife of Edward Parks, who is living retired in this city; Laura, the widow of Thomas W. Dougherty, who was a blacksmith; Mary, who died in infancy; Frederick; and Charles H., who was a railroad man and died in July, 1905, at the age of forty-two years.

Frederick Blattner attended the common schools and Oskaloosa College and after putting aside his text-books became connected with his present business, receiving practical training under the direction of his cousin, Charles Blattner. As the above record indicates he became thoroughly acquainted with the trade both in the line of manufacture and sales and eventually was chosen manager of the business and gradually became sole possessor of the stock of the Blattner Ice Company, which, however, he sold, becoming a stockholder in the Oskaloosa Artificial Ice & Cold Storage Company.

In 1888 Mr. Blattner was married to Miss Margaret J. Cavanaugh, who was born in Ottumwa, Iowa, in 1866, a daughter of Martin and Anna Cavanaugh. Her father was a stonemason by trade and operated a quarry. Mr. and Mrs. Blattner now have one child, Anna Helene, born December 31, 1897. The mother is a member of the Catholic church. Mr. Blattner is an Odd Fellow, having been identified with the lodge from the age of twenty-one years, and he has filled nearly all of the chairs of the uniformed rank. He likewise is connected with the Elks and the Order of Eagles. In politics he is a democrat and has represented the fifth ward in the city council. The family name has long been closely and intimately associated with business enterprises and manufacturing interests in Oskaloosa and success has attended untiring efforts, so that the family have become substantial citizens of Mahaska county.

JOHN R. HOOVER.

John R. Hoover, living on section 27, Spring Creek township, is the owner of one of the neat and valuable farms of the county, comprising two hundred and fifteen acres of good land. He is classed with the prominent agriculturists and stock-raisers of his community and is numbered among the native sons of this county, his birth having occurred in Spring Creek town-

ship on the 24th of May, 1859. He is a son of Samuel Hoover, a native of Indiana, and a grandson of Jonas Hoover, who was born in North Carolina, June 13, 1802, and died at the age of ninety-three years. He came to Mahaska county in pioneer days, arriving here in 1840, and assisted in building the first log cabin erected in Oskaloosa. He wedded Mary Newby, of North Carolina.

Samuel Hoover came from Indiana to Iowa with his parents when a youth of eight years and was practically reared in Mahaska county amid the wild scenes and environments of pioneer life. He spent his youth upon the home farm and attended the common schools of the neighborhood. He was married here to Miss Sarah Howard, a native of Vermilion county, Illinois, and a daughter of John Howard, who was born in Kentucky and removed to Illinois when seventeen years of age. He had studied for the ministry and engaged in preaching the gospel in both Illinois and Iowa, advocating the doctrine of the Society of Friends. some years he made his home in Mahaska county and his influence was a potent factor in the moral development of his community. Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Hoover settled in Spring Creek township, where at one time he owned nine hundred acres of valuable land, making extensive and judicious investments in real estate as his financial resources increased. His death occurred in the year 1900, and his widow is still living on the old home farm with her son Ernest at the age of sixty-nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Hoover became the parents of eleven children, of whom five died in infancy, while Edward died at the age of thirty years. Five of the number are still living.

John R. Hoover, the eldest, remained at home until twenty-one years of age but was married when twenty years of age, the wedding ceremony being performed on the 3d of





May, 1879, when Miss Ella Chew became his wife. She was born in this county and is a daughter of Elijah and Sarah (Myler) Chew. Her father was born at Carpenter's Landing, New York, March 22, 1812, a son of Elisha Chew, while her mother's birth occurred in Terre Haute, Indiana, on the 1st of February, 1820. The father was reared in his native state and from there removed to Indiana, later becoming a resident of Illinois. In the '40s he came to Iowa, arriving here when Oskaloosa contained but two log houses, and he located two miles north of the city in Lincoln township, where he owned and operated a farm of one hundred acres. He died July 13, 1890, having survived his wife for only one week as her death occurred on the 6th of July, 1890. the nine children born to them five died in infancy. The others are: Mrs. Mattie Hedden and Mrs. Anna Elliott, both residents of Oskaloosa; Mrs. Flora Parks, of Des Moines; and Mrs. Ella Hoover, wife of our subject. By a former marriage Mr. Chew had one son, who is still living, Frank, a resident of Oskaloosa.

Following his marriage Mr. Hoover engaged in farming on his own account, having received from his father eighty acres of land as had the other members of the family. Upon that tract he built a house and resided for a number of years but his residence was destroyed by fire and he then sold that property and purchased his present farm on section 27, Spring Creek township. Here he has since built a good two story residence, also a substantial barn and other outbuildings necessary for the shelter of grain and stock. He has today a comfortable home and valuable property, and in connection with the tilling of the soil he raises some fine stock, making a specialty of Poland China hogs and keeping good registered animals. He is also engaged in the raising of fancy poultry and has four different varieties which are also registered. In all his work he has been practical, has carefully watched results and has adopted those methods which lead to success.

On the 3d of May, 1904, Mr. and Mrs. Hoover celebrated their silver wedding. Unto them have been born nine children, of whom one died in infancy. Lennie, now living on the old homestead, married Eva Greenway, a native of Mahaska county and a daughter of William Greenway. They have one child, Myron. Earl, the second member of the family, lives upon a farm adjoining the home property. He married Iva Reed, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Bert Reed, and they have one child, Helen. Lura is the wife of James Evans, of Oskaloosa. Harold and Erma are at home. Paul and Pauline, twins, and John Samuel are yet under the parental roof.

The parents are members of the Society of Friends and its teachings find exemplification in their honorable, upright lives. Politically Mr. Hoover is an ardent republican and is deeply interested in all that pertains to the county's progress and improvement. He has made a creditable record in business circles by reason of his integrity and his success, and he well deserves mention among the representative men of his native county.

FRANK BROWN.

Frank Brown, living on section 21, Cedar township, where he carries on general farming and stock-raising, was born in this township, October 23, 1862, and is a son of George W. Brown, whose birth occurred in Knox county, Ohio, February 22, 1820. The father was reared in the state of his nativity and there learned and followed the shoemaker's trade. He was married in Ohio to Miss Mary J. Dunmire, also a native of Knox county, and in 1854 they removed from the Buckeye state to Iowa, settling in Fremont, where Mr. Brown

opened a shoe shop and carried on his trade. He continued in business there up to the time of his demise, which occurred in 1883. He also bought and owned a farm at Fremont and became one of the substantial residents of the community, his success resulting entirely from his own well directed efforts and enterprise. His wife survives him and now resides in Fremont.

Frank Brown was reared in Fremont and assisted in carrying on the old home farm until eighteen years of age. He learned the carpenter's trade in early life under the direction of Captain Newell, and afterward carried on business along that line for several years. He also farmed and broke prairie and herded sheep on the prairies, driving his flock across the land that he now owns when it was entirely unimproved, not a furrow having been turned thereon. As the years have gone by, however, he has prospered in his undertakings and he now owns and cultivates a valuable farm of two hundred acres, which is equipped with modern conveniences.

Mr. Brown was married in Fremont, November 10, 1886, to Miss Morna C. Shaw, a native of this county, who was reared and educated in Oskaloosa and is a daughter of America Shaw, one of the early settlers of Maryland. Following his marriage Mr. Brown located at Beacon, where he rented a farm for a year, after which he removed to Putnam county, Missouri, where he raised one crop upon a rented farm. He then returned to Cedar township, Mahaska county, and purchased a place of eighty acres, going in debt for this. There he followed farming for ten years, within which time he cleared the place of all indebtedness and extended its boundaries until he had one hundred and twenty acres. In 1899 he sold that property and bought one hundred and sixty acres, where he now resides. He located upon this place, has fenced it, tiled it and made improvements. He has also bought forty acres more and now has an extensive and well developed farm. He has here a good house, barns and outbuildings, the latest improved farm machinery and in connection with the tilling of the soil he raises and feeds stock, fattening for the market. He makes a specialty of raising hogs.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been born eight children, Ollie, Bernice, Forest L., Effie. Flovd D., Georgia, Doris and Howard. In his political views Mr. Brown has been a lifelong democrat, casting his first presidential ballot for Grover Cleveland. He has served on the the school board and the cause of education finds in him a warm and helpful friend but otherwise he has held no public office. wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Fremont. Mr. Brown has always lived in this county save for the brief period spent in Missouri, and his creditable position in agricultural circles is due to his close application and persistency of purpose. He is well known in Fremont and Oskaloosa and throughout Mahaska county as a thrifty, diligent and prosperous farmer and a man of genuine public spirit. Both he and his wife have many friends and have displayed many sterling traits of character which insure them a continuance of the warm regard that is given them.

JOHN SIEBEL.

John Siebel, deceased, was classed among the citizens of worth of Oskaloosa, for his activity in business life promoted its industrial and commercial interests, while his co-operation in many public movements was of direct benefit in the line of good citizenship and in upholding the political and legal status of the community. Moreover, in his social relations he manifested various pleasing traits of character that won him warm friendships and kindly regard. His life record began in Reg Berz Duesseldorf, Germany, in 1822, and in his youth he worked

upon his father's farm and attended the public schools until sixteen years of age, after which he served an apprenticeship with a cabinetmaker. He spent three years in an architect's office in Cologne and then passed an examination in Duesseldorf, gaining him a master builder's diploma. In accordance with the laws of the land he served for two years in the Prussian army, but "the land of the free" attracted him, and that he might benefit by its broader opportunities he came to America in 1849, making his way at once to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he spent one year. He afterward passed three years in an architect's office in St. Louis, Missouri, and in 1851 went to Bentonsport, Iowa, where he was identified with milling interests for a number of years.

The year 1868 witnessed the arrival of Mr. Siebel in Oskaloosa, where he continued to make his home until his death. Here he became connected with flouring and woolen mills under the firm style of Siebel & Esgen. The business gradually developed along safe and substantial lines, and in 1892 Mr. Siebel became sole proprietor and continued the enterprise under the firm style of Siebel & Company up to time of his demise. His milling interests constantly grew in volume and importance and not only returned him an excellent income but also furnished employment to many workmen and thus added to the general prosperity of the city. His worth as a business man became widely recognized and he was chosen president of the Farmers & Traders Bank. In business affairs his judgment was sound and reliable and his enterprise was of that character which brooks no obstacles that can be overcome by determined and honorable effort.

Mr. Siebel passed away in 1900, at the age of seventy-seven years. His widow and two daughters, Mrs. F. C. Lofland and Mrs. E. C. Smith, still reside in Oskaloosa. Mr. Siebel held various positions of honor and trust during his residence in the city and served on the

school board and as a member of the city council, and was a tangible factor in public progress, giving hearty co-operation to every movement which he deemed would prove of public benefit. He based his business principles and actions upon the rules which govern strict and unswerving integrity and unfaltering industry. He became a representative of a high type of American manhood and chivalry, and was truly sincere in his love for the stars and stripes and for the great principles which proved the foundation stone of our American government.

W. W. WRIGHT.

W. W. Wright, living on section 6, Cedar township, who is familiarly called "Squire" by his numerous friends, is one of the old settlers of Mahaska county, having located in Cedar township in 1864. For years he has been classed with the prosperous farmers of the locality and owns a well improved tract of land adjoining the village of Wright. A native of Ohio, he was born in Highland county on the 20th of March, 1838. His father, Joseph P. Wright, was born in Kentucky in 1804 and the grandfather, Alexander Wright, was a native of Ireland. Coming to the new world he settled in Virginia at an early day and afterward removed to Kentucky, whence in 1806 he went with his family to Ohio, so that Joseph P. Wright was reared in the Buckeye state. There he married Catherine Barrett, a native of Ohio, and they began their domestic life upon a farm in Highland county, where they lived for several years. In 1864 Mr. Wright removed with his family to Iowa, locating in Cedar township. Mahaska county, his farm being on section 6. There he lived continuously until 1892, when he sold that property and removed to Russell, he and his wife spending their last days with a daughter, Mrs. Johnson. The father died in

1894 and had he lived twenty days longer he would have been ninety years of age. His wife survived him for about a year and a half, passing away in 1895, at which time her remains were laid to rest by the side of her husband in Russell cemetery. In the family of this worthy couple were five sons and five daughters, all of whom reached mature years and three sons and four daughters are yet living.

W. W. Wrightt was reared to manhood in Highland county, Ohio, and pursued a common-school education, after which he attended the Lebanon (Ohio) Normal School. Subsequently he engaged in teaching in Highland county, following that profession for a number of years. He was married there December 12, 1862, to Miss Lizzie Higgins, a native of Highland county, in which locality she was reared and educated. In 1864 W. W. Wright joined his father and the family in Mahaska county and he purchased the land which he still owns. After a residence here of only six weeks he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife. Concentrating his energies upon his business affairs, he broke the virgin soil with oxteams, erected buildings and carried on the work of the farm for a number of years. In connection with the tilling of the soil Mr. Wright has engaged in raising good stock. In his farm work he has been thoroughly progressive and the admirable results he has achieved are due entirely to his close application, earnest purpose and capable management.

By his first marriage Mr. Wright had one son, George M. Wright, who is a farmer of Cedar township. On the 14th of August, 1866, Mr. Wright was married in Knoxville, Iowa, to Miss Sadie M. McKown, who was born, reared and educated in Pennsylvania, a daughter of James McKown, of Elizabeth, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Wright is a lady of good education and was a teacher in Knoxville prior to her marriage. Five children have been born of this union: Minnie V., the wife of D. I. Allsup, who

is carrying on the Wright farm; Mattie J., the wife of A. L. Rice, a resident farmer of Spring Creek township; W. Howard, also a farmer of Spring Creek township; Grace, the wife of Walter Gray, a resident agriculturist of the same township; and Gail, who is a well educated young lady and is engaged in teaching.

Politically Mr. Wright has been a lifelong republican, casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. He has taken an active interest in local politics and for twenty years has served as justice of the peace of Cedar township, his service being continuous in that office save for a brief interval of one year. cause of education finds in him a warm and stalwart friend and for thirty years he has been a member of the school board, serving as its secretary. He has been a delegate to state and county conventions of his party and does all in his power to further the welfare of the county along political, material, intellectual and moral lines. Both he and his wife are devoted members of the United Presbyterian church in Wright, in which he is serving as an elder and Mrs. Wright is an active worker in both church and Sunday-school. For years Mr. Wright has been recognized as one of the prominent men of the county because of the active and helpful aid which he has given in measures relating to the general welfare and progress. He is a man of tried integrity and worth and has the confidence of the entire community, while he and his estimable wife are greatly respected by all who know them.

WILLIAM E. EVANS.

William E. Evans, deceased, was a successful business man of Mahaska county, who, starting out in life empty-handed, worked his way steadily upward and for many years was identified with coal-mining operations and also



WILLIAM E. EVANS.



became one of the large landowners of the county. Moreover, he was strictly reliable in all of his dealings and his life record served as an example well worthy of emulation. He was born in North Wales in 1827 and died in New Sharon, November 10, 1901, when about seventy-four years of age. His parents were Evan and Elizabeth Evans, both natives of Wales, in which country the father died, but the mother afterward came to the United States and her last days were passed in Union township, her son having returned to Wales, bringing her to Mahaska county.

Mr. Evans received little or no educational privileges and in his early youth he worked in the mines in Wales. In 1849 he came to America and worked in the coal mines in Pennsylvania. While employed in that way in Favette county, Pennsylvania, he met and married Miss Mary Jones, the wedding being celebrated in Brownsville. She was born in South Wales, October 31, 1824, a daughter of William and Mary (Harris) Jones, the former a native of Wales and the latter of England. When their daughter Mary was but two years old they crossed the Atlantic to the new world and Mr. Jones was employed in the mines in Pennsylvania and Maryland. About the time that Mrs. Evans was married her mother died and her father then went to California, where he spent six years but afterward returned and, settling in Iowa, was married again there. Later he engaged in mining in Mahaska county and his death occurred in New Sharon. Mrs. Evans was an only child, but her husband was one of a family of twelve children and had a sister, Mary, the wife of Thomas Davis, who was drowned in the Johnstown flood.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Evans was celebrated in 1857 and immediately afterward they came to Iowa, settling first at Fairfield, where they resided for about a year. They then came to Mahaska county and he engaged in mining in Union township. For several years he leased and operated the Pilgrim mine

and later he purchased land and conducted what is known as the Evans coal bank for many years. At one time he owned eleven hundred acres of land in this county, for as his financial resources increased he made judicious investment in real estate until he owned eleven hundred acres of fine land in this county and derived therefrom a splendid income. He possessed excellent business judgment and unfaltering enterprise and, moreover, he was thoroughly honest and straightforward in all of his business transactions, making a record which any man might be proud to possess. About twenty years ago he retired and purchased a home in New Sharon, where he lived until called to his final rest. His widow still makes her home upon the farm just outside the city limits, having here ninety-seven acres of land, which is operated by her son.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Evans were born ten children, nine of whom are now living, the second, Mary Ann, who was born April 14, 1858, having died at the age of three years. The others are: William, who was born April 15, 1857. and is now married and resides upon a farm near New Sharon; Elizabeth E., who was born April 1, 1861, and is the wife of William F. Williams, a resident of Union township; Mary Ann, who was born July 19, 1862, and is the wife of E. F. Williams, also of Union township; Delilah, who was born February 10, 1865, and is the wife of J. H. Kemp, of the state of Washington; Ellen Jane, who was born May 7. 1867, and is the wife of Andrew Hardesty, of Union township; Grace Belle, who was born October 10, 1870, and is the wife of Allen Wheeler, of Union township; Harry P., who was born February 9, 1872; Evan D., who was born September 21, 1874, and is married and lives with his mother; and Parena Marie, who was born March 17, 1877, and is the wife of Charles Woodward.

Mr. Evans was a member of the church of England but after coming to America never joined any church. He was, however, an hon-

est and upright man, who exemplified in his life straightforward principles. Although denied all educational privileges he possessed keen business discernment and no one could fool him on a load of coal nor what it amounted to. He was very quick to figure anything in his head. He did much to educate people to use coal and save their timber, which they afterward learned was to their advantage. In politics he was a republican but took no active part in the work of the party. All that he enjoyed in life was obtained through his own efforts and his success was indeed creditable, showing what can be accomplished through indefatigable energy when guided by sound judgment and strong determination.

RUFUS K. DAVIS.

Rufus K. Davis, cashier of the Farmers National Bank of Oskaloosa, was born in Monroe township, near Indianapolis, in Mahaska county, March 24, 1870, a son of Rufus K. and Jennie (Simmers) Davis. The father, living on section 15. Spring Creek township, is a pioneer settler of the county, having lived here since 1867. He was born in Belmont county, Ohio, February 28, 1831, a son of Ichabod Davis, who was born in Maryland but went to Ohio in early manhood. In Maryland he was married to Mary Ann Pool, a daughter of John Pool, of the same state. Ichabod Davis, removing to Ohio, made his home in Belmont county and there reared a family of five children. He died there in comparatively early manhood, while his wife, long surviving him, reached the age of sixty-four years.

Rufus K. Davis, Sr., was the third in the father's family and aided in the support of the mother and children after the father's death. He worked by the month on a farm and later cul-

tivated land in Ohio. He was married there in November, 1866, to Miss Jennie Simmers, a native of that state and a daughter of Daniel Simmers. Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Davis removed to Iowa, settling in Monroe township, Mahaska county, where for several years Mr. Davis operated rented land and then with the money which he had saved from his earnings purchased fifty-six acres which he began to clear and improve. He built a good house and barn, making his home there for fifteen years. He later bought eighty acres more and had a valuable farm. Subsequently he sold that property and purchased one hundred and seventy-three acres, five miles south of the old home. There he lived for six years, when he again disposed of his farm and bought a small tract of land in Keokuk county, where he lived for five years. He next bought eighty acres which he now operates on section 15, Spring Creek township. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Oskaloosa and Mr. Davis is a stanch republican, having always supported the party since its organization. His first presidential ballot was cast for General Winfield Scott.

Rufus K. Davis, Jr., spent his early life on the home farm and was educated in the public schools of his native town and of Oskaloosa, where he also pursued a business course. He aided in the farm work until twenty-five years of age, when he left home and has since resided in the county seat. During the winter of 1895 he was appointed deputy clerk under L. M. Hadley, clerk of the district court. This position he filled until 1899, when without being a candidate, he was nominated and elected clerk of the district court on the republican ticket, a position which he filled for six years, retiring from the office on the 1st of January, 1905.

Becoming an active factor in business life, Mr. Davis has figured prominently in industrial and commercial circles in Oskaloosa. He was

one of the organizers of the Hawkeye Overall Company, captalized at thirty thousand dollars and at the present time is secretary and treasurer of the company. In the fall and winter of 1905-6 he assisted in the organization of the Farmers National Bank of Oskaloosa, capitalized at one hundred thousand dollars, and composed of one hundred and fifty of the best men in the county, whose landed holdings represent more than three million dollars. The officers are: W. I. Beans, president; W. H. Pike, vice-president; R. K. Davis, cashier; while the directors in addition to the officers are: W. H. Springer, R. W. Moore, George S. Prine, Charles Victor, A. L. Fox, Paul Synhorst, J. S. Whitmore and T. J. Wilson.

On the 23d of November, 1899, Mr. Davis was married to Sara Crookham, a daughter of the late Judge J. A. L. Crookham, of Oskaloosa, and they have one daughter, Euclid Clarissa. Mr. Davis belongs to the Masonic fraternity, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a selfmade man, active in business and in the progress and development of Oskaloosa, who has made a creditable record in office and has become equally well known as a factor in business circles in the city.

ROBERT H. DICKSON.

Robert H. Dickson, living on section 30, Monroe township, is one of the few remaining veterans of the Civil war who, when the Union became imperiled, put aside all business and personal considerations in order to respond to the country's call and aid in defending the old flag. He has for many years been identified with agricultural interests in Mahaska county and is now the owner of an excellent farm of

one hundred and thirty acres. Few have longer resided in this county than he, for he dates his residence here from 1843. His birth occurred in Sangamon county, Illinois, July 12, 1843, and he was only three months old at the time of his parents' removal to lowa. His father, Nathan C. Dickson, was born in Sangamon county, Illinois, where he was reared and followed farming. He was married there to Nancy A. Crowder, a native of Kentucky and a daughter of Matthew T. Crowder, who was born in Virginia. For six years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Dickson resided in Illinois and thence came to Iowa in 1843. He secured a claim from the government, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of land in Monroe township, which he improved but one hundred and twenty acres were afterward taken from him, so that he retained only forty acres of the original tract. He later bought more land and eventually sold out and went to California, where he remained for three years, after which he returned to Iowa and purchased the farm upon which Robert H. Dickson now resides. Here he built a good residence and developed a good farm. He had to clear much of the land, but in course of years he placed it under cultivation and his farm became a valuable property. Unto him and his wife were born six children, all of whom reached adult age. The father at the time of the Civil war enlisted for service in Company J. of the Thirty-third Iowa Infantry, and died of fever at Brownville, Arkansas, while serving with the Union army.

Robert H. Dickson spent his boyhood and youth upon the old homestead, acquiring a common-school education and through the periods of vacation working in the fields. He, too, became a soldier, enlisting in his eighteenth year as a member of the Iowa Volunteer Infantry, at Oskaloosa. The regiment rendezvonsed at Keokuk and joined General Grant's forces at Shiloh. Mr. Dickson participated in the battle at that place and also in the engage-

ments at Hollow Springs, Vicksburg, Champion Ridge and the march to the sea under General Sherman. He likewise took part in the engagement at Peach Tree Creek under Mc-Pherson. He was in the hospital at Quincy, İllinois, with fever for three months, but he was never captured and at the close of the war was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, and honorably discharged at Burlington, Iowa.

When his military service was over Mr. Dickson took up his abode upon his mother's farm and was married September 28, 1865, to Miss Ella Bolton, a native of this county and a daughter of Abraham Bolton, who was born in England, whence he emigrated to New York. He afterward lived in Illinois and subsequently in Iowa, but both he and his wife are now deceased. After his marriage Mr. Dickson rented land for two years and then purchased a tract of forty acres, which he afterward sold. He then again rented for two years, on the expiration of which period he bought eighty acres in White Oak township. After disposing of that property he returned and purchased the interest of the other heirs in the old homestead, whereon he has since resided. He had to clear much of the land and has fenced and improved the place, building here two good barns and a tenant house. Also there are buildings for the shelter of grain and stock. He has altogether a model farm, its fields being highly cultivated, while the latest improved machinery aids him in his work.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dickson have been born five children but Joseph T. died at the age of thirty-seven years and Bruce A. when three years old. The oldest surviving member of the family is Dora, the wife of Charles Bass, a farmer of Monroe township living upon the the place adjoining her father's. Frankie is the wife of Charles Mateer, of Oskaloosa, and Rella is at home. Mr. and Mrs. Dickson attend the Methodist Episcopal church at Rose Hill, of which Mrs. Dickson is a member. He

belongs to the Grand Army post and to the Odd Fellows lodge at Rose Hill. His political views accord with republican principles, and he has voted for each presidential nominee of the party since casting his first ballot for Abraham Lincoln. He has served as a member of the township board and as school director and is a gentleman who at all times is worthy of the trust and confidence reposed in him. An active, business career has made him one of the substantial citizens of his community and investigation into the methods that he has followed and the policy which has guided his actions serves to add to the lustre of his good name.

ABSALOM RYAN.

Absalom Ryan, a representative of farming interests in Richland township, his home being on section 9, was born in West Virginia, December 11, 1830. His paternal grandfather was a native of Ireland and on crossing the Atlantic to the new world settled in West Virginia before the United States had any control over the land there. He became the owner of a tract of land of about four hundred acres and lived upon the frontier, sharing in all of the experiences, dangers and hardships of pioneer life. In those early days the trees were blazed with a tomahawk by the settlers in order to indicate the boundaries of their land. The grandmother of our subject was a native of Germany.

Felix Ryan, the father of Absalom Ryan, was born in West Virginia, and after attaining his majority wedded Lea Frush, who was also born in that state. Coming to Iowa in 1853, they made their home in Mahaska county, where Felix Ryan died in 1854, at the age of forty-nine years. His wife long survived him and died October 13, 1892, at the age of eighty-six years.



MR. AND MRS. ABSALOM RYAN.



The old homestead property of the father was the birthplace of our subject, who resided thereon until he reached the age of twenty-one years. He well remembers the old log schoolhouse of the neighborhood with its slab benches, puncheon floor and large fireplace. It was in that primitive structure that he pursued his education. School was conducted on the subscription plan, the parents having to pay a certain sum for the privilege of sending their children to the school. Mr. Ryan's educational privileges, however, were very limited. father was a great horse fancier and when Absalom Ryan was twenty-one years of age his father gave him a stallion and for about a year and a half he took care of this horse. While he made his home upon his father's farm he often went as far as thirty miles with this horse. On the 12th of July, 1853, in company with two brothers, John and James, he started westward with five head of horses. They rode horseback all the way from their old home in West Virginia to Mahaska county, Iowa, and on the way visited relatives in Ohio, Indiana and in Van Buren county, this state. It was a long trip but there were many pleasant incidents connected therewith. Today, although seventyfive years of age, Mr. Ryan can mount and ride a horse as well as many men of half his years. They arrived in Mahaska county on the 18th of September. Mr. Ryan had an uncle in Ohio who possessed a land warrant for eighty acres which had been given him in recognition of his services in the war of 1812. Mr. Ryan purchased this warrant and on reaching Mahaska county secured with it a claim of eighty acres on section 9, Richland township. He afterward purchased forty acres of government land on section 16, of the same township, at a dollar and a quarter per acre. There was a log house and a frame house on the claim when he entered it, but not knowing where the road was to be-for at that time no highway had been laid out—they lived in the frame house where

it stood until the road had been made and then removed it to a more favorable location on the farm. The tract of land upon which Mr. Ryan took up his abode was in the midst of the forest, for he was accustomed to timber land and wanted to get that kind. The grove was five miles long and three miles wide. With characteristic energy he began the development and improvement of his farm and as the years have gone by he has added to his possessions until he now owns three hundred acres of valuable farming land, about one hundred acres of which he has cleared from the timber. He never missed having good crops and has always raised plenty of grain for bread stuffs. He never had to endure the hardships that fall to the lot of many pioneers, for he was always in good circumstances. A lover of horses, he has owned and sold many fine animals. In connection with general farming he makes a specialty of raising and feeding hogs, which he finds to be more profitable than cattle. The year following his arrival his parents joined him in Mahaska county and continued to make their home with him until they were called to their final rest. In their family were eleven children: Washington S., now living in Nebraska; Absalom, of this review; Christian, who resides in Oregon; James, who died in Richland township; John, living in Newton, Iowa; Samuel, of Nebraska; Jehu, also of Nebraska; Elizabeth. the wife of Samuel Stalnaker, of Nebraska; Sarah, the deceased wife of Abel Proutty, of Nebraska; Elsie, the wife of John Baker, also of Nebraska; and Maria, the wife of Len Her, of the same state.

On the 30th of September, 1860, Absalom Ryan was united in marriage to Miss Comfort Allen, who was born in Ohio, October 11, 1834, a daughter of Jonathan Allen, who was a native of New York and removed to Ohio with his parents when two years of age. He came to Iowa in 1847 and for a number of years engaged in farming in Richland township, after

which he began the operation of a sawmill in Jasper county, where his death occurred in 1856. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Roanna Tolburt, was born in West Virginia, and died in Richland township, January 7, 1853. Mrs. Ryan was the third in order of birth in a family of seven children and she has two brothers vet living: Daniel, who resides in Custer county, Nebraska; and Wilson, living in Decatur county, Iowa, Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rvan have been born nine children: Elam, who owns a good farm in Richland township and makes his home with his parents; Frank, who married Miss Martha Sheesley and is living on a farm in Richland township; Thomas and Absalom, at home; John, who is preparing for the practice of medicine as a student in Penn College in Oskaloosa; Flora, the wife of Ed Sheesley, of Richland township; Ida, deceased, who was the first wife of Ed Sheesley; Rachel at home; and Celia Ann. deceased.

In 1894 Mr. Ryan built a large, two-story frame residence which he and his family now occupy. He has also built large barns and numerous outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. He has a good orchard upon the place and well kept fences, together with the latest improved machinery and altogether he has a model farm. For several years, however, he has done little actual work upon the farm himself but gives his supervision to its cultivation and management. He owns in addition to this property one hundred and sixty acres of land in Nebraska, where he and his wife often visit, a number of their children living in that state. Mr. Rvan enjoys good health for one of his years, but his wife recently has been in poor health, having suffered a stroke of paralysis. Both are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Rvan is a democrat in his political views and has served as road supervisor and school director but would accept no other offices. He has done much to make good roads in this part of the county, helped lay out the first roads, and deserves much credit for his work in this connection. He has never used tobacco nor liquor in any form, living an upright, honorable life, and is spoken of as a "fine man." He is well liked by everybody and his home is a hospitable one. He is fond of reading and his table is covered with papers and books, showing that he keeps in touch with the current events and the trend of modern thought.

A. J. HARTER.

A. J. Harter is numbered among the early settlers of Mahaska county, dating his residence in the county from 1848 and in the state from 1847. Great have been the changes which have occurred during this time and since attaining his majority Mr. Harter has borne his part in the task of transforming wild and unbroken prairie land into productive farms. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of well improved and valuable land on the south line of Mahaska county on sections 33 and 34, Cedar township, and his attention is given to the tilling of the soil and to the raising and feeding of stock. He was born in Licking county, Ohio, July 20, 1843. His father, James Harter, was a native of Pennsylvania, and is of German lineage. The grandfather, Jonathan Harter, removed from the Keystone state to Ohio with his family, becoming one of the early settlers of Licking county, and there James Harter was reared and educated. In the same county he was married to Polly Ann Abrams, who was born in Ohio and following their marriage he devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits in Licking county for several years. In 1847, however, he sought a home in Iowa, spending the first year in Jefferson county and in 1848, came to Mahaska county, where he entered from the government a tract of land of one

hundred and sixty acres of land in Cedar township. It was entirely wild and uncultivated, but his labors were soon manifest in the plowed lands and the good harvests, for he broke the sod and course of time planted and cultivated his fields, which brought forth rich crops. Upon this farm he reared his family and spent his last years, passing away on the old homestead, after surviving his wife for several years.

A. J. Harter is one of a family of seven children, all of whom reached adult age, while five are yet living. His youth was spent upon the old homestead, to which he was taken by his father when only four years old. As his age and strength permitted he assisted in carrying on the work of the farm, following the plow and aiding in planting and harvesting through the spring and summer months, while in the winter seasons he mastered the branches of learning taught in the district schools. In 1869 he left home and went to Colorado, spending three years on a ranch in that state, but in 1872 returned to Mahaska county.

On the 26th of December, of the same year, Mr. Harter was married to Catherine Dixon, who was born in Keokuk county, Iowa, and is a daughter of John Harrison and Catherine (Wall) Dixon. The former died while serving his country in the Civil war and Mrs. Dixon passed away during the early girlhood of her daughter, Mrs. Harter, who was largely reared in Decatur county, Iowa, and in Missouri. Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Harter located on a farm in Cedar township, commencing with forty acres of land which he developed and cultivated. Prospering in his undertakings he added to the place and lived thereon for seven years, when he sold that property and purchased where he now resides, or rather buying at first sixty acres. Here he bought sixty acres more and subsequently forty acres, and he now has one hundred and sixty acres all in one body. He has built a good house and barn and other outbuildings and has the place all fenced

and tiled and with his farming he raises and feeds stock, devoting his attention mostly to horses and mules.

Mr. and Mrs. Harter have become the parents of four children: E. Elsworth, who is carrying on the home farm; Evalena Dell and Leslie A., both at home; and Minnie May, who died October 2, 1899, at the age of twenty-three years.

Mr. Harter exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the democracy, voting with the party since casting his first presidential ballot for George B. Mc-Clellan in 1864. He has since voted for each standard-bearer of the party since that time. He has served as school trustee, school director and road supervisor. He is a Master Mason, having been a member of Fremont lodge since 1874, and his son Elsworth is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge and Modern Woodmen at Kirkville. Mr. Harter has spent almost his entire life in this county. In the early days he drove seven yoke of oxen to a breaking plow in order to turn the sod on the prairies. He has helped to develop and improve four farms, has led a useful life and is an esteemed citizen, who has displayed many sterling qualities and deserves the confidence and esteem of the community.

GEORGE H. BARBOUR.

George H. Barbour, who for twenty years has been engaged in the lumber business in New Sharon, was born in Reinersville, Morgan county, Ohio, August 18, 1853, a son of John Wilson and Jane (Macklem) Barbour, the former born in Pennsylvania in 1814 and the latter in Delaware in 1818. The father was a farmer by occupation and spent a number of years in Ohio, where he owned and operated a tract of land until 1854. That year witnessed his ar-

rival in Washington county, Iowa, where he purchased one hundred and seventy acres of land. It had been entered from the government some years before but was still unimproved when it came into possession of Mr. Barbour, who began its cultivation and improvement and later added to it a tract of forty acres, which was improved. He made his home thereon until his death, which occurred in 1877, while his wife passed away in Washington, Iowa, in 1890. In their family were three children, of whom George H. is the second in order of birth and the only one now living. His elder brother, John William, a carpenter by trade, died in Washington county, Iowa, in 1886, leaving a wife and children. Ann Elizabeth died in Washington county, in 1883.

Following the father's death the mother and her daughter removed to the city of Washington, while George H. Barbour remained upon the home farm, which he conducted until 1880. He then engaged in the lumber business at Ainsworth, Jowa, where he remained for a year and in June, 1882, he established a lumber business at Sully and also conducted a lumbervard at Lynnville and Killduff, in Jasper county, being connected with those interests for three years. In 1884 and 1885 he was engaged in the lumber business at Oskaloosa, and in March, 1886, he removed to New Sharon, where for twenty years he has conducted his vard. Until a year ago he also conducted an elevator and purchased and shipped grain, but gives his attention now only to the lumber trade, being the senior partner of the firm of Barbour & Younkin, the latter being his brother-in-law. They handle a large line of lumber of all kinds together with building materials and they are also interested in a lumber business at Gilman and at Barnes City. Their trade in all three places is extensive and their annual sales return to them a gratifying income. The yard is located near the railroad thus furnishing excellent shipping facilities and the business has been carried on here since its establishment more than twenty years ago.

In 1880 Mr. Barbour was united in marriage to Miss Ida Younkin, and unto them have been born five daughters, Laura, Florence, Edna, Edith and Gladys. The family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of death, and all are yet under the parental roof.

In his political views Mr. Barbour has been a stalwart republican since age gave to him the right of franchise. He has served as a member of the city council and on the school board, and is the advocate of all measures which have their rise in the demands for public improvement and progress. He and his family hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and he is a Mason, having taken the degrees of the blue lodge of New Sharon, the chapter and commandery at Oskaloosa and the Mystic Shrine at Davenport. Both he and his wife are connected with the Order of the Eastern Star and in social relations have occupied an enviable position, enjoying the warm regard of many friends. Since starting out in life on his own account after the death of his father, Mr. Barbour has made continuous progress, carefully considering each step and then advancing in the path that leads to substantial prosperity.

SAMUEL BARTLEY SINCLAIR.

The industrial life of Oskaloosa finds a worthy representative in Samuel Bartley Sinclair, who is conducting a general contracting business and also owns and operates a planing mill. To his position of prominence in business circles he has attained through strong determination, capability and laudable ambition and he belongs to that class of representative American citizens who while promoting individual success also contribute to the general welfare. He was born in Washington county, Pennsyl-



S. B. SINCLAIR.



vania, in 1862. His father, Samuel Sinclair, was born in Loudoun county, Virginia, and was a wheelwright by trade. Prior to the Civil war he removed to Washington county, Pennsylvania, and at the outbreak of strife between the north and south he enlisted for service with the Twenty-third Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry, with which he continued for two years. He was then mustered out at Cumberland, West Virginia, with the rank of first sergeant. Returning to his home in Pennsylvania he resumed the pursuits of civil life and became a coal operator. On leaving the Keystone state, he went to Mansfield, Ohio, in 1866, and there conducted a mill for five years, or until 1871, when he came to Mahaska county, Iowa, settling in Spring Creek township, on a farm, where he resided until 1876, when he removed to Oskaloosa, where his death occurred. He passed away in 1890, at the ripe old age of eighty-three years. Many good qualities had won for him the esteem and respect of his fellow townsmen and he left behind him an untarnished name. He held membership with the Grand Army of the Republic and was a republican in his political views. His interest in his country and her welfare was deep and sincere and was manifest not only by his active service on southern battle-fields but also by generous co-operation in many movements for local progress. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Bartley, was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, and is now living in Oskaloosa at the advanced age of eighty-two years. She is a member of the United Presbyterian church and is living an earnest Christian life. In the family were four children: Florence, deceased; Samuel B.; Adeline, the wife of Martin Vittun, foreman of the Oskaloosa Wood-Working Company; and William, who operates a sawmill and owns a timber claim in Montana.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Samuel B.

Sinclair in his boyhood days. In the summer months various tasks of field and meadow were assigned to him and in the fall he entered the district school, while later he became a highschool student in Oskaloosa. His education completed, he began learning the carpenter's trade and also that of wood-turning and gradually advancing in proficiency he won promotions that eventually made him manager of the Oskaloosa planing mill, which position he capably occupied for several years or until he began business on his own account in 1889. He has since engaged in general contracting, in which he has been very successful and in addition he has a large planing mill equipped with modern machinery, wherein he manufactures showcases, modern store fronts, store fixtures, etc. He makes plans and estimates for all kinds of buildings and receives offers for the construction of these. The planing mill and offices are situated on South C street between First and Second avenues, and his residence is at No. 316 First avenue West. In his keen business discernment and unflagging industry are found the secret of his success, which has gradually advanced him far on the high road to prosperity.

In the fall of 1886 Mr. Sinclair was married to Miss Cora May Hait, who was born in Oskaloosa, Iowa, in 1867, and is a daughter of William and Eliza Jane Hait, the former one of the pioneer blacksmiths of Oskaloosa. Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair have one child, Virgil O., who was born in 1889 and is attending the high school. Mrs. Sinclair is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Sinclair belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being a trustee of the local lodge, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. In politics he is a stanch republican and has served for two terms in the city council from the second ward, which is a democratic section of the city. His election therefore is a testimonial of his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him by those among whom he lives and who are best qualified to judge of his ability and trustworthiness. He has made a creditable record as a business man, faithfully meeting every obligation and dealing honorably with all, and as the years have gone by he has won both an honored name and a comfortable competence.

CHARLES J. BURTON, Ph. B.

Charles J. Burton, who has won a position of prominence in educational circles and was the founder and is the president of the Iowa Christian College and Oskaloosa Normal & Business College, was born May 8, 1856, in Murray, Kentucky. He was a student successively in the common schools of his native town, in Murray Institute and Hiram College, at Hiram. Ohio, being graduated from the last named in 1889. Since leaving college his life has been devoted to teaching and he has won prestige as a representative of the profession and has inaugurated a new work in the line of Christian instruction as well as in preparation for the practical and responsible duties of a business career. Oskaloosa College was incorporated in 1856 and has since graduated a large number of students, many of whom are filling important positions in life. In 1902 Professor Burton opened up a new work here with a new management, while new articles of incorporation were secured in July of that year. The institution was called the Iowa Christian College and Oskaloosa Normal & Business College and has three distinct departments: The College of the Bible, the Oskaloosa Normal College and the Oskaloosa Business College. It is not under the auspices of any denomination, but is rather evangelical in character and was organized to meet the great and growing

demands of the masses of young men and women for special training. It is intended to meet the needs of strong minds that desire a more literary and practical education. While the college does not impart denominational instruction it is strictly Christian in character. The methods of work are practical, being founded upon the conditions of the business world and the requirements thereof. To meet the demands of thousands of ambitious men and women unable to attend college in person the management have arranged various nonresident courses and have a large enrollment in every state, also in Canada, England, Scotland, Holland, India, Japan, Australia, Porto Rico and South Africa. The institution has a corps of eleven instructors and Professor Burton fills the chair of sacred literature, Hebrew and the Bible. The school is meeting the want in conditions of life today and already has had almost phenomenal success.

ORVILLE R. SHAW.

Orville R. Shaw, who is conducting a general store in Taintor, was born in Butler county, Iowa, January 7, 1861, and is a son of Robert W. and Olive D. (Morrison) Shaw. The father was born in New York, and in 1846 removed with his family to Butler county, Iowa, where he followed the occupation of farming. In 1869 he went to Minnesota and subsequently to Wisconsin. Later he became a resident of Illinois, and his last days were spent in Kansas, his death occurring near Topeka, that state, about twenty years ago. His wife died in Butler county, Iowa, when their son Orville was only two years of age.

The little boy was then taken to his grandparents' home. At the age of sixteen years he went to work on a farm for Gardner Lunt at

ten dollars per month and afterward supported his grandparents. The grandfather died a year later, but he continued to care for his grandmother until she, too, passed away. His edueation was acquired in the district schools and in the village school of Linnville, Iowa, and a liberal education, largely acquired through his own efforts, enabled him to secure a teacher's certificate, and he engaged in teaching for nine winter terms, while in the summer months he was employed in a store in Peoria, Iowa. He also engaged in driving a grocery wagon through the country for four years in the employ of a grocery merchant at Peoria, and thus he eagerly availed himself of every opportunity for gaining a start in business life.

On the 18th of November, 1885, Mr. Shaw was married to Miss Cynthia H. Lindsley, who was born in Marion county, Iowa, July 24, 1859, and is a daughter of Theodore and Matilda (Knowles) Lindsley. The father is now deceased, but the mother makes her home with her son in Peoria, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw have one son, Cyril J., born April 11, 1888.

It was seventeen years ago that Mr. Shaw became a merchant of Taintor, opening a stock of groceries, dry goods, clothing and hardware under the firm name of Shaw & Rhine. After eighteen months he purchased his partner's interest. For six and a half years he had no partner, then eight years was a partner of Grant Garner, but since March, 1905, has conducted the business alone, having again purchased his partner's interest. He is now proprietor of a well equipped general store, carrying a large line of groceries, dry goods, clothing and hardware. He enjoys a good trade, which is constantly increasing. Only a few weeks ago, however, he had his store entered by burglars, the safe was blown open and forty-five dollars in cash was taken. This was the third burglarly of the place in three years. Nothwithstanding such obstacles and disadvantages, however, he has persevered in his work and is now conducting a prosperous business. He owns both his store building and his residence.

In his political views Mr. Shaw is a republican, and since the 11th of May, 1895, has been postmaster of Taintor. Both he and his wife are valued and esteemed members of the Christian church. He started out in life a poor boy and was in debt thirty dollars when twenty-one years of age. He supported his grandparents, but by earnest labor and close attention to business he has made a success as the years have gone by and is now carefully directing his business interests with the result that he is winning a gratifying measure of prosperity in the conduct of his store in Taintor.

REV. JOHN WILLIAM JONES.

Rev. John William Jones, pastor of St. James' Protestant Episcopal church of Oskaloosa, was born in Texas, July 25, 1876. His father, the Rev. F. W. Jones, was a native of Prince Edward county, Virginia, where the old ancestral homestead still stands. He has given his life to the work of the ministry and is now pastor of Grace church at Lyons, North Clinton, Iowa, He married Rosabelle Deason, a native of Texas, and in addition to John W. the members of the family are: Monroe Gordon, Lloyd Deason, Thomas Walker and Robert Stafford Jones, and the daughter, Claremont Richie Jones.

Rev. John W. Jones completed his more specifically literary education by graduation from Roanoke College in Virginia in the class of 1897. For one year he taught school in Nashville, Tennessee, after which he pursued a two years' divinity course at the University of the South, at Chewalla, Tennessee. He traveled for one year in Great Britain and on the continent in 1904, returning to the United States by way of Canada,

Rev. Jones was ordained a deacon of the Episcopal church by Bishop Kinsoling, of Texas, in All Saints' chapel at Austin, of that state, in October, 1900. He has been rector of All Saints' chapel and afterward went to San Antonio, Texas, as assistant rector of St. Mark's church. Later he removed to California to accept a position on the San Francisco Cathedral staff of missions, being located at Point Richmond, and in September, 1905, accepted the call from St. James' Protestant Episcopal church in Oskaloosa, where he has since been located.

Rev. Jones was married on the 4th of August, 1903, to Miss Mary Tupper, of Wawona, in the Yosemite in California, a daughter of Judge W. D. and Isabel (Carnahan) Tupper. They have two children, Rosa Isabel and John Star. Rev. Jones is a man of liberal views, of unaffected personality and is popular with all who know him.

ANDREW J. BARTLETT.

After many years of active and honorable connection with agricultural interests in Mahaska county Andrew J. Bartlett is now living retired in New Sharon. He was born in Mc-Arthurtown, Ohio, August 11, 1837, a son of Amos and Mary E. (Girard) Bartlett, the former born in Virginia in 1811 and the latter in Ohio in 1818. They were married in the Buckeye state and in 1844 came to Mahaska county, first locating in Oskaloosa, at which time there were but seven log shanties in the place, one little store and not a room larger than twelve by fourteen feet in the town. It was the days of primitive, pioneer development and Mr. Bartlett became a factor in the early growth and progress of the county. In the spring of 1845 he removed to Richland township, where he took up a government claim of which was covered with timber. built a log house and for many years made his home upon that farm. In 1848 he was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife and later he married Susan Rupe, who was born in Ohio. He reared his children upon the old home place in Richland township and for many years devoted his time and energies to agricultural pursuits but later retired and removed to Pella, Marion county, where he died, passing away at the age of sixty-three years, while his second wife survived him for about ten years. In politics he was a stanch advocate of democratic principles but he had no aspiration for office and the only position of a political nature which he ever filled was that of justice of the peace. In 1847 he cast the only democratic vote in Richland township, while six votes were cast for the candidates of the whig party. This indicates the limited population of the township at that time and also the state of development and improvement to which the county had attained at that early day. By the father's first marriage there were seven children: Mary E, the deceased wife of Allen Godbey, who lived in Prairie township; Augusta, who died at the age of six years; Andrew J., of this review; Amos, who is living in Poweshiek county; George, a resident of Adams county, this state; Marion, who died in Mount Pleasant, Iowa; and Jasper, who died at the age of twenty years. By the second marriage there were two children: William, who is now living in Nebraska; and Jerry, deceased.

one hundred and sixty acres, about half of

Andrew J. Bartlett remained at home until twenty years of age. There were few schools in the county in those days and the methods of instruction were very primitive as compared with the excellent school facilities now offered in the county. Mr. Bartlett had not more than three months' schooling in all his life, but in the school of experience has learned many valuable lessons and by reading and observation



MR. AND MRS. A. J. BARTLETT.



has greatly broadened his knowledge. He has many vivid recollections of the early days before modern civilization had wrought a transformation in pioneer conditions and environments. For many years the family used oxteams, breaking the prairie, and oxen were also hitched to the wagon in which the family rode to church. Mr. Bartlett has had many a race with a team of oxen. Boards would be thrown across the wagon to serve as seats and as the team would bound along the children would bounce off the seat to the bottom of the wagon. Mr. Bartlett hauled goods from Keokuk to Oskaloosa before any railroad had been built. His mother used to card wool by hand and they did all of their own weaving and spinning, Mrs. Andrew J. Bartlett now having blankets in her house which she wove herself in early womanhood. Cotton cloth at that time brought very high prices but the family raised their own sheep and could use woolen cloth which they spun and wove themselves when there was no money to purchase cotton cloth. There were many happy years in which the people enjoyed the hospitality of each other's homes. Bartlett says it seems they were more social in those days for they all depended upon each other for help and for entertainment. mother never saw a sewing machine nor a cook stove, for all of her cooking was done over the open fireplace, great iron kettles hanging from the crane. To handle their hay they used a wooden fork, cut in the woods, and there was little farm machinery, most of the work being done by hand. All this has long since changed, and in his farm work Mr. Bartlett kept abreast with modern improvement and progress.

Mr. Bartlett started out in life on his own account by renting land and in 1857 he took up a claim in Kansas but not liking the country there he returned in 1859 and has since resided continuously in Mahaska county. He had been married on the 11th of November, 1855, to Miss Jane Mitchell, who was born in Indiana

October 9, 1832, a daughter of Jacob and Mary (Scott) Mitchell, both of whom were natives of Ohio, whence they came to Mahaska county in 1851 and here engaged in farming. The father at one time owned five hundred and ninety acres of valuable land. Both he and his wife continued to make their home in Madison township until called to their final rest.

In 1860, following his return from Kansas, Mr. Bartlett purchased sixty-five acres of land from his father-in-law. There was a log house upon the place but only seven acres of the land had been broken and the remainder was covered with timber. After a short time he sold this property and removed to Jasper county and purchased a farm, remaining thereon until 1882, when he bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Prairie township. This was all new land, which Mr. Bartlett broke, turning the first furrows in the fields and eventually planting the seed that in due course of time brought bounteous harvests. He also built a good frame house, planted evergreen trees and made a nice home. He added forty acres to the original purchase, making in all two hundred acres. He has since given each of his children a tract of land but he retains in his own name a farm of one hundred and twenty acres. On account of failing health he and his wife removed to New Sharon about 1903 and the farm is now rented. They own a nice home in the village together with four acres of land.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett have been born a daughter and son: Ella, now the wife of William Young, who resides in New Sharon but owns a good farm in Prairie township; and Clarence, who married a cousin, Jerusha Mitchell, and owns and occupies a farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Madison township. He has three children, Grace, Walter and Alta. In politics Mr. Bartlett has always been a democrat but has never held any office. He and his wife celebrated their golden wedding in November, 1905, having for a half

century traveled life's journey together, sharing with each other its joys and sorrows, its adversity and prosperity, and now they are enjoying the comforts of life in a pleasant home amid many friends. They are numbered among the early settlers of the county and as such certainly deserve mention in this volume.

ORIN FLEMING.

Orin Fleming is one of the pioneer residents of Mahaska county and now lives on section 15, Prairie township. Few citizens are more familiar with the history of this county when it was a frontier district and he relates many interesting incidents of those early days and the methods of living at that time. He was born in Wood county, West Virginia, December 17, 1843, and is a son of Robert Fleming, who is mentioned on another page of this work. The father was born in Harrison county, West Virginia, September 3, 1811, and died upon the home farm in Richland township, June 28, 1894. In early manhood he started for Indiana, but on reaching Wood county, West Virginia, about one hundred miles from his home, remained there to teach school. While there he married Amy Maddox and after farming for a time in West Virginia started, in March, 1852, for Iowa, traveling by way of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to Keokuk, where they were met by Amos Bartlett, with whom Mr. Fleming had arranged to move their effects. They stopped first at Primrose, Iowa, and after several months came on to Mahaska county, reaching Oskaloosa on the second day of their travel and just before dark crossed South Skunk river. It was two o'clock at night when they reached the cabin of Amos Bartlett. The prairie was on fire that night, making it as light as day. With their family and the men who had hauled their goods from Primrose there was a

company of twenty-five persons to breakfast at the Bartlett home the next morning. Robert Fleming had a sack of flour and some pork, which they had brought with them. They set up a cook stove out of doors and did their cooking on it. For a number of years the family shared in the usual hardships and privations of pioneer life.

Orin Fleming had but little education except what he gathered from reading and observation. In West Virginia he attended school for only three terms, his father being the teacher during two terms. After coming to Iowa he went to school but little for he was soon old enough to split rails, chop wood, build fences and work upon the home farm and aid in the support of the family. He made his home with his parents until twenty-one years of age, when in company with two other men he made a trip to the west, where he drove a team through Missouri and then went into Colorado as far as Cavote, which was then the terminus of the Union Pacific Railroad. They started in 1866 and were gone for nearly two years. Mr. Fleming left with two hundred dollars and returned with four hundred dollars. They lost over one thousand dollars, however, by selling some buffalo hides to a man in Colorado, who took them to St. Louis and never came back with the money. They had often sold to him before and in all business transactions he had seemed honest and reliable, so they did not hesitate to trust him on this occasion. On the trip they killed between three and four hundred buffaloes, also a large number of wolves and geese and ducks without number, so that their table was frequently supplied with fresh game. Mr. Fleming kept a diary or expense account while on the trip and some of the items are interesting, showing the condition of prices at that time: "One hundred and fifty bushels of corn at two dollars and a half per bushel; boots twelve dollars per pair; one sack flour ten dollars." The Union Pacific was under course of

construction while Mr. Fleming was in the west and the workmen were guarded by soldiers from Hayes City to protect them from the Indians.

On his return from the frontier Mr. Fleming went to work on a farm by the month. His father had given him forty acres of land and he purchased another forty acres, on which he built a frame house, there making his home for two years after his marriage. His was a strenuons life, for he worked untiringly in his efforts to get a start and develop his farm. He bought trees at one dollar per hundred feet of lumber in the tree and paid one dollar per hundred to have it sawed into ten and twelve foot lumber. He cut the trees, hauled them to the mill and got out the posts, and he built a fiveboard fence and thus enclosed his forty-acre farm. In 1874, however, he sold that property lving in Richland township and purchased eighty acres on section 15, Prairie township, where he now resides. This had been broken and was enclosed with a pole fence. There was a plank house, sixteen by twenty-two feet, upon the place and a prairie stable with thatched roof. Mr. Fleming remodeled the house and lived in it until about twelve years ago, when he built a large square frame residence which is one of the commodious and pleasant homes of the township. He also built a frame barn, sheds and other buildings, has good fences and the house is well painted. He also owns eighty acres a half mile west of where he now resides together with forty acres in Richland township and five acres of woodland in Poweshiek county. His land is all under a good state of cultivation, but there are no buildings upon any of the tracts save that upon which he resides, as the remainder of his land is used simply for the production of crops.

On the 31st of March, 1869, Mr. Fleming was married to Miss Elizabeth Anna Evans, who was born in West Virginia, April 19, 1847, and died February 1, 1906. The par-

ents were Hugh and Sarah Ann Evans and the family was an early one in the county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fleming were born eight children, of whom six are living: Ackley R., who was born January 15, 1870, married Emma Johnson and is living in Portland, Oregon: Oris Clark, born March 3, 1872, married Mattie Watland, and resides in Barton county, Missouri; Anna, born in 1875, became the wife of William F. Kindig and died in New Sharon, December 4,1903; Irena, born October 18, 1880, died at the age of three years, eleven months and two days; Jessie M., born May 10, 1881, is the wife of Thomas Edgar Lewis, a resident of New Sharon; Grover C., born May 21, 1884, is at home; Laura E., born March 3, 1888, is also at home; Inez M., born May 3, 1892, completes the family.

Mr. Fleming has always been a democrat and has served as school director and road supervisor but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He is a good citizen, honorable in all his dealings and is a well informed man. He represents one of the old and prominent pioneer families of the county, having for more than a half century resided within its borders and from actual experience can relate incidents of pioneer life which show the rapid and marvelous changes that have occurred as the county has been reclaimed for the purpose of civilization and improvement.

RICHARD H. TODD, M. D.

Dr. Richard H. Todd, engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in New Sharon, was born in Carroll county, Missouri, August 7, 1860. His father, John Todd, was a native of Kentucky and died in Denver, Colorado, in February, 1905, at the venerable age of eighty years. He had served as a soldier of the Civil war, enlisting from Missouri and soon after

the close of hostilities he removed to Illinois. He followed farming and stock-raising, carrying on business along those lines throughout his entire life. He wedded Miss Mary Elder, also a native of Kentucky, who is now living at Carthage, Illinois, at the age of eighty-three years. In their family were eight children, six of whom yet survive.

Dr. Todd, the only representative of the family in Iowa, lived upon the old homestead farm until nineteen years of age, after which he pursued a literary course in the college at Abingdon, Illinois. He afterward took up the study of medicine in the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville and was graduated there in 1887. He also has a diploma from the Medical Laboratory of Chemistry and Microscopy at Louisville and one from the Surgical Laboratory of Operations and Bandaging of the same city. He entered upon the practice of his chosen profession in Donnellson, Iowa, in 1887, there remaining until seven years ago, when he came to New Sharon, where he purchased a stock of drugs. He conducted the business for two years and then sold out, since which time he has given undivided attention to his practice. He has a liberal patronage and in the faithful performance of each day's duty he finds encouragement and inspiration for the work of the succeeding day. He maintains a high standard of professional ethics so that he enjoys the unqualified regard of his brethren of the medical fraternity, while the consensus of opinion regarding his capability is most favorable.

On the 10th of December, 1885, Dr. Todd was married to Miss Laura A. Powel, who was born in Ohio, July 3, 1860. They now have two sons, Ray H. and Fred E. The former, eighteen years of age, is a graduate of the New Sharon high school and is now pursing a course in electrical engineering under the direction of a correspondence school. He is also working at the electric light plant in New Sharon for practical experience and is thus earning money

to pay his tuition in school. The younger son, Fred, sixteen years of age, will complete the high-school course at New Sharon in 1906. In his political views Dr. Todd is a republican but without aspiration for office. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity at Donnellson and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Oskaloosa. With a conscientious understanding of the obligations that devolve upon him in connection with his life work he has so directed his efforts as to win success and his social and professional prominence are equally creditable.

HENRY OLIVER CONAWAY, M. D.

Dr. Henry Oliver Conaway, devoting his attention to office practice, chronic diseases, deformities and diseases of the eye and ear, has come into public recognition as one of the able and distinguished members of the medical fraternity of Iowa. He was born in Harrison county, near Scio, Ohio, on the 27th of January, 1848, a son of Aaron and Dorcas (Busby) Conaway, who were also natives of Ohio.

A memorial written by Dr. Conaway of his father contains the following: "Aaron Conaway, born in Harrison county. Ohio, in 1807, was the son of Michael Conaway, a United States soldier of the war of 1812 fame and one of the pioneer settlers of eastern Ohio. He was a brother of Charles, the first Methodist Episcopal minister to ever ride a circuit and preach a Methodist sermon in the state of Ohio. They were born in Maryland of Scotch-Irish parentage.

"Aaron Conaway's birth was in that memorable year when Robert Fulton built and successfully sailed the 'Clermont' up the Hudson river—the first steamboat—in the year 1807, a date far more memorable than any battle



DR. H. O. CONAWAY.



ever fought on earth. In 1812 Aaron Conaway's first notable act was performed when he accompanied his father one day's journey through the wilderness, the father and son riding an old white mare on the journey to the war of 1812 with Great Britain. The next morning Michael placed little Aaron on the mare, kissing him good-bye, enjoining upon him to be a good boy and mind his mother till he would return, and telling the little son not to fear that the faithful mare would take him home safe from the wildcats of the woods.

"His early life was spent on a farm and teaching school until his marriage to Dorcas Busby in 1832. The result of their union was fourteen children, six of whom are still living: Michael, a farmer, who lived near the old homestead and is deceased; Dr. John B., of York, Nebraska, ex-member of the Nebraska house of representatives; Mrs. R. M. Welch, wife of J. W. Welch, of Archer, Ohio; Dr. H. Oliver; Dr. A. B., of Marshalltown, ex-state senator of Iowa; Mrs. C. B. Burrier, of the old homestead, a loving daughter and sister, the example of purity, vigilance, fidelity and constancy, following almost constantly the trembling footsteps of her aged father for almost fifty years, her loving kindness being a continual balm until the last hour. If to honor one's father and mother would in fact make our days long on earth, she should live long and prosper in the peaceful tranquility of a life well spent, and titles of nobility well earned, for it has been written 'Once I was young, now I am old, vet have I never seen the righteous forsaken nor their seed begging for bread.'

"Moses Conaway, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, was killed at the battle of Fisher's Hill, Virginia, September 22, 1863, aged twenty-two years. George Alexander was killed at Dennison, Ohio, December 17, 1873. Mrs. Agnes B., wife of W. B. Welch, of Cadiz, Ohio, deceased. Susan, deceased. Martha, deceased. Mary Jane, de-

ceased. Enoch, deceased. Aaron Marion, deceased. All of whom died in sickness.

"During the great American rebellion Aaron gave four of his sons, besides raising all the men and means in his power, to prosecute the war on the part of the government. He held different offices of trust in the county in which he resided, was land appraiser, county commissioner, justice of the peace for over forty years and in all that time never had one of his decisions reversed by a higher court. He lived and died within two miles of where he was born, a patient, consistent and conscientious Christian gentleman, whose whole life was sunshine and shadow; a contented disposition being to him a continuous feast. He was admired, revered and respected by his family and all who knew him. His last days were full of peace and pleasantness to him and a hallelujah to his family. He was the last one of a noble family of consistent Christian people. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and at the head of every temperance movement. He died March 11, 1896, at the age of eighty-nine years."

At the time of his mother's death, which occurred January 20, 1901. Dr. Conaway wrote to the sister who had long cared for them, "I remember her as the ever faithful mother who never slept until every little back was tucked in. Then if a neighbor knocked on the door with a message for help she was ready to light the candle in the old tin lantern and with staff in hand, travel as a messenger of mercy to the relief of suffering humanity or to the scene of distress, through the dark alone. I remember her in the shadow of her first real grief, when the tocsin of war sounded and her boys of whom she was so proud volunteered and went to the Army of Freedom. I can see her knitting by the old 'fat lamp' and the 'shell-bark' fire mingling her tears with the stitches, making mittens and socks for the soldiers in rags in the Blue Ridge mountains in Virginia and

Kentucky, while her noble husband drove his team from house to house, asking for clothes and blankets to cover and protect from the bleak winter those noble lads who had gone at their country's call to do and to die for the eternal right. Yes, God bless her noble womanhood, she gave her boys and her husband to die on the field of battle; and then when General Morgan came through Ohio on his memorable raid she planted me (a little boy that soon went to sleep—with the old squirrel rifle) to guard one door, while she stood through the midnight hours and until the day yawned, at the other door, with her eves on the children who were asleep and with the ax from the wood-pile firmly grasped, ready if need be, to sell her life for her home, her children and her country. But the silver cord is loosened and the golden bowl is broken.

'There is no velvet so soft as a mother's lap, There is no rose so sweet as a mother's cheek, No music as sweet as a mother's voice.

And while the soul retains the power To think upon each faded year. In every bright or shadowed hour The heart shall hold the mother dear.'"

Dr. Conaway, whose name introduces this record, acquired his preliminary education in the public schools of Scio, Ohio, and was graduated from the Oakdale Normal School in the class of 1872. He is an alumnus of the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, Ohio, of the class of 1875, and following his graduation he located for practice at Deep River, Iowa, where he remained until 1882, when he accepted a chair of professor in Drake University at Des Moines, Iowa, becoming professor of human anatomy, in which position he continued until 1886, proving a capable educator who elucidated the complex subjects and imparted clearly and readily the knowledge that he

had acquired. He was at the same time engaged in the private practice of medicine. In 1886 he located in Columbus, Ohio, and after the death of his father and mother returned to Mahaska county, Iowa, settling in New Sharon, where he remained until 1892. In that year he went to Hot Springs, Arkansas, where he spent two years, and following his return to Iowa he practiced for a few months in Iowa City. In the fall of 1904 he came to Oskaloosa, where, opening an office, he has since devoted his attention to chronic diseases, deformities, diseases of the eye and ear and to general office practice. In 1905 he was elected county physician and is still filling the office.

On the 16th of May, 1873, Dr. Conaway was married to Frances Sarah Hoover, of Parkersburg, West Virginia. Their children are: Josie, the wife of Jesse Rodgers, of Montezuma, Iowa; Clement A., of Deep River, Iowa; and George, at home. Mrs. Conaway is also a graduate in medicine, having completed her course in the medical department of Drake University, and she practices in conjunction with her husband. Both Dr. Conaway and his wife are deep and earnest students of the profession, practicing along scientific lines and keeping in touch with the trend of modern thought in scientific development.

J. C. ALBERTSON.

J. C. Albertson has won the success which follows earnest application and honorable effort and is now living on section 26, Cedar township, where he owns three hundred and twenty acres of land, constituting a valuable farm. Here in addition to tilling the soil he raises stock and his business is carefully conducted, resulting in success. He is a native son of Iowa, his birth having occurred in Jones county, May 19, 1859. His father, John Al-

bertson, was a native of Ohio, whence he removed to Illinois in early manhood, living in Peoria county. He was afterward married there to Martha Young. He followed farming in Illinois for a number of years and in 1857 came to Iowa, settling in Jones county, where he resided for a few years, when he returned with his family to Illinois, again taking up his abode in Peoria county. About 1862 he enlisted for service in the Union army, and for two years was in the south. He died at Memphis, Tennessee, during the period of the war and was buried there. His wife survived him for a number of years.

In 1870 J. C. Albertson, with his mother and other members of the family, returned to Iowa, settling in Wapello county near the farm on which he vet resides. He remained with his mother until he had attained his majority and the common schools afforded him his educational privileges. He was married in Cedar township, Mahaska county, February 17, 1886. to Miss Etta Van Buskirk, who was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, and was reared in Iowa. Her father was Linford Van Buskirk, who came to Iowa from Ohio and opened up a farm in Cedar township, upon which he lived with his family, his attention being given to the development and improvement of his land.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Albertson located on the farm where they now reside. He owns here one hundred and sixty acres of land. He had secured this property in 1882 and kept "bachelor's hall" upon the farm for four years. He has since cultivated and improved the fields and has erected a good, neat residence, also built two good barns and outbuildings. He has bought more land from time to time and now owns three hundred and twenty acres of land in two tracts with two hundred and forty acres in the home place. He has surrounded this with a well kept fence and has drained it with tiling. He has also

planted fruit trees and made the farm what it is today, a splendidly improved property. He feeds and fattens for the market a carload of cattle and a large number of hogs each year, and both branches of his business are bringing to him a good, financial return.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Albertson have been born three children, Linford C., Harlan and Ethel M. J. In his political allegiance Mr. Albertson is a democrat and has served on the school board for several years but otherwise has held no office. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp. Living in this county from his youth to the present time he assisted in tilling the virgin soil and developed from properties. His business integrity is above question and his genuine, personal worth stands as an unquestioned fact in his life.

ORAN F. SCHEE.

Oran F. Schee, secretary and treasurer of the Vehicle & Improvement Company of Oskaloosa, is a native of Ohio, having been born in Warren county on the 11th of October, 1875, a son of Nathan and Sarah J. (Alexander) Schee, natives of Ohio and Wisconsin respectively. The father was a pioneer settler of Marion county, Iowa, removing from Ohio to the vicinity of Tracey in 1855. He first engaged in the nursery business, which he followed for fifteen years and then turned his attention to the banking business, which he carried on in Milo. Warren county, and also at Bussey, Marion county, Iowa. He was likewise identified with banking interests in Indianola and at Diagonal, Iowa, organizing private banks in each of these towns. He thus became closely associated with financial interests in the state and is regarded as one of the representatives and progressive business men of Iowa, now making his home in Des Moines. He also has

lumber interests in the south and has dealt to a considerable extent in Iowa lands, at the same time actively carrying on agricultural pursuits. At least one-half of the hedge fences of Mahaska, Marion and Warren counties have been planted by the father of Mr. Schee, and he has contributed in substantial measure to the development and progress of Iowa's farming interests. In his family were four children: Velettie, the widow of J. W. Goode and a resident of Colorado Springs; Hester, the wife of I. E. Ireland, of Chattanooga, Tennessee; Oran F., of this review; and Eleanor, at home.

Oran F. Schee acquired his preliminary education in the public schools of Milo, Iowa, and later attended Simpson College, the Northwestern University, at Evanston, Illinois, and Drake University, at Des Moines, from which he was graduated in the class of 1898, on completing the scientific course. After completing his studies he engaged in the hardware and lumber business at Decatur, Iowa, and a year later became cashier in the Decatur City Bank. When another year had passed he came to Oskaloosa as secretary and treasurer of the Oskaloosa Vehicle & Improvement Company, and the business has more than doubled since he took charge thereof. He has extended the scope of the enterprise by establishing a branch house at Albia, Iowa, and the annual sales of both wholesale and retail now amount to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The products of the house are shipped to all the middle and southwestern states and to the Indian Territory and the lumber is all secured from the mills which the company owns in Arkansas and in Indian Territory, and is converted from the raw material into a finished lumber product in the mills and wood-working plants and in the lumber camps. The company owns splendid oak hickory and cottonwood forests and the lumber is shipped in car lots. They manufacture wagonboxes, shovel boards, wheelbarrows, standard farm wagons and farm trucks and have three plants, one in Oskaloosa, one in Omaha and one in the Indian Territory. Mr. Schee is the secretary and treasurer of the Oskaloosa Vehicle & Improvement Company, and is president of the Mitchell Carriage Company at Albia, Iowa.

On the 19th of March, 1900, Mr. Schee was married to Miss Elgin Huston, a daughter of John Huston, of Blandinsville, Illinois. Their children are: John H. and O. F. Schee, Jr. Mr. Schee is a member of the board of directors of the Young Men's Christian Association and in the midst of a busy life finds time and opportunity to aid in measures for the uplifting of his fellowmen and also co-operates in those interests which are a matter of civic pride and improvement. In his business career he is quick to note fidelity and loyalty on the part of employes and to reward such by promotion as opportunity, offers. Honored and respected by all, there is no young man in Oskaloosa who occupies a more enviable position in industrial and financial circles than Mr. Schee, not alone by reason of the success which he has achieved but also because of the straightforward business policy that he has ever followed. It is true that he entered upon a business already established but in controlling and enlarging this many a man of less resolute spirit would have failed. but he has embraced the opportunities which are ever to be found in business life and has wrought along lines of success and in accordance with business methods that neither seek nor require disguise.

MATTHEW W. CROZIER.

Matthew W. Crozier is the owner of an attractive home and fine farm, located on sections 34 and 35, Spring Creek township, and is classed with the active and progressive agriculturists of this locality. He is also a veteran





MR. AND MRS. M. W. CROZIER.



of the Civil war. Throughout the greater part of his life his time and energies have been devoted to farming interests and he now owns and operates valuable property of four hundred acres, of which one hundred and sixty acres is in the homestead. More than a half century has passed since he came to Mahaska county and during the period which has elapsed he has borne his full share in the work of public improvement and progress. He was born in Shelby county, Ohio, November 7, 1836, and is a son of Robert S. Crozier, a native of Pennsylvania, who was reared, however, in the Buckeye state. There he married Margaret Williams, a native of Ireland and a daughter of Matthew Williams, also of that country. The maternal grandfather on coming to America settled in Ohio. The ancestry of the family, however, can be traced back for ten generations to John Williams (1620) and the record is preserved in book form.

Robert S. Crozier, father of our subject, came to Iowa in 1855, settling in Mahaska county. He first purchased one hundred and eighty acres of land which he began to improve and as the years passed he transformed it into a productive tract. Upon that place he reared his family of six children four of whom are yet living, namely: Matthew W., of this review; Thomas S., who is living in Lucas county, Iowa; Charles E., of Oskaloosa; and Anna, the wife of William Harrison, a retired farmer and stock-shipper.

Matthew W. Crozier, reared upon the old home farm, assisted in carrying on the work of the fields. His father died on Christmas day of 1862, and the mother survived for a number of years, passing away in 1896, at the age of eighty-five years. When twenty-six years of age Mr. Crozier enlisted in 1862 as a member of Company K, Thirty-third Regiment of Iowa Infantry, formed in Oskaloosa. The troop enlisted in the county seat and went to St. Louis, Missouri, where they were engaged in guard-

ing prisoners in Myrtle and Gratiot street prisons for a month, this being their introduction into active service. They then went to Columbus, Kentucky, and on to Union City, Tennessee, proceeding afterward to Helena, Arkansas. The regiment participated in the engagement at Yazoo Pass. Later this command aided in the battle of Helena on the 4th of July, and it was on the same day that Vicksburg fell, and that the battle of Gettysburg was won. The Thirtythird Iowa proceeded to Little Rock, Arkansas, about September 1, 1863, remaining there for some time and participated in Banks' campaign under General Steele. Returning to Little Rock, they remained at that point until 1864. the city being headquarters for the regiment for a year and a half. On the expiration of that period they went to New Orleans and to Mobile Point, Alabama, being engaged in the siege of Mobile. On one occasion Mr. Crozier was slightly wounded by a bullet grazing his hip. From Mobile the regiment went to Texas, doing duty at the mouth of the Rio Grande river, but was afterward sent to New Orleans, thence returned northward. The troops were mustered out at Davenport, Iowa, where Mr. Crozier was honorably discharged in August, 1865, having served exactly three years.

Following his return home he immediately resumed farming upon the old home property. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Mary E. Martin, to whom he was married October 26, 1865. She was born in Iowa and was brought to Mahaska county when only four months old, her parents being H. P. and Amanda L. (Jack) Martin, the former a native of Fulton county, Illinois, and the latter of Greene county, Tennessee. Her father came to Iowa with his family and settled in Mahaska county when it was still a frontier district. He died in the year 1890, at the age of seventy years, and is still survived by his widow, who is in her eighty-fourth year. She came to Mahaska county in 1842 and she now resides with her son Byron upon the old homestead farm in Spring Creek township.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Crozier have been born eight children, of whom one died in infancy, while Mrs. Nellie Mchityre passed away at the age of thirty-three years, leaving three children, Lucile, Edith and John McIntyre. The oldest living member of the family of Mr. and Mrs. Crozier is William H., who is married and resides upon a farm adjoining the old home place. He married Lillie B. Zaring and they have one child, Ralph W. Catherine is now in Des Moines, Iowa. Lester S. was in the Spanish-American war, enlisting at Blue Earth, Minnesota, July 1, 1898, under Captain I. C. Chase and Colonel Joseph Bobleter in Company M. Twelfth Minnesota Infantry. He was mustered out September 3, 1898, by order of the secretary of war, and discharged at Chickamauga, November 5. For twenty-eight days he was ill in the hospital at Lexington. For fifteen years he has spent much time in travel. visiting twenty-three states of the Union. Harry P. assists in managing the farm. Elsie Iowa is attending school in Des Moines.

Mr. and Mrs. Crozier attend the Union church at Wright, but are members of the Union Presbyterian church at White Oak. The nearness of the former, however, causes them to join the Sunday worship there. Politically Mr. Crozier is a stalwart republican, having given his support to the party continuously since casting his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln. He has been a school treasurer for thirty-three years, but has never sought nor cared for political office, finding incentive for his best effort in his business interests. His son Harry P., has attended the State Agricultural College at Ames and is a believer in scientific farming. They devote considerable attention to stock and their land is all valuable and productive. Mr. Crozier has a beautiful home, supplied with all modern equipments and conveniences, and surrounded by a well kept lawn

and ornamental shade trees. Few of the Civil war veterans are so well preserved as he. He and his wife are both in excellent health and happy in the environments of a comfortable home and the companionship of their children. His business interests have been carefully conducted and he is now one of the prosperous agriculturists of the community.

SILVESTER WIMER.

Silvester Wimer is the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of land in Prairie township constituting one of the best improved farms in his portion of the county. It is equipped with all modern conveniences and accessories and the owner is justly accounted a progressive agriculturist, deserving much credit for the success he has achieved. He was born in Licking county, Ohio, January 26, 1845, a son of Adam and Jemima (Godfrey) Wimer. The father was born in Pennsylvania, July 12, 1813, and died in Ohio, July 16, 1848. The mother was born in Ohio and died in Keokuk county, Iowa, when Silvester Wimer was a vouth of thirteen years. Mr. Wimer does not remember ever seeing his father, but has learned that he was a carpenter, working at his trade throughout his business life. Following his death the mother removed to Indiana, where she lived until 1856, when she came to Iowa, settling in Keokuk county. She had married J. O. C. Wimer, a cousin of her first husband, and her death occurred in Keokuk county, September 4, 1858. There were two sons of the first marriage, the brother of our subject being Amos Wimer, who was born June 1, 1838. He enlisted as a member of Company E, Second Iowa Volunteer Infantry, at the time of the Civil war, became orderly sergeant and was killed at the battle of Shiloh. There were two children born of the mother's second marriage, but one died at the age of six years, and the other when but three years old.

Silvester Wimer was a lad of only thirteen years at the time of his mother's death, and he then went to work to provide for his own living, receiving for the first year only his board and clothes, while the second year he was paid a wage of thirty dollars in addition to his board and clothing. He afterward worked as a farm hand by the month until he enlisted for service in defense of the Union, when but eighteen years of age, joining the Thirty-third Iowa Infantry, but was rejected on account of age and size, afterward became a member of the Seventh lowa Cavalry. He participated in a number of battles and skirmishes and had some narrow escapes. Once his horse was shot from under him and on another occasion he had just dismounted from his horse when it was shot. The regiment operated in the west and upon the expiration of his term of service Mr. Wimer was discharged at Omaha, Nebraska, December 25, 1865, having made a creditable military record and displayed valor and lovalty equal to that of many a veteran of twice his years.

When the war was over Mr. Wimer returned to Keokuk county, Iowa, where he worked as a farm hand until January, 1868, when with the money that he had saved from his own earnings he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of wild prairie land in Linngrove township, Jasper county, Iowa. On the 1st of September, 1869, he was married to Barbara Moon, who was born in Lee county, Iowa, May 7, 1847, a daughter of Jeremiah and Rachel (Nixon) Moon. She was, however, left an orphan when but twelve years of age and was teaching school in Linngrove township when she met Mr. Wimer. When they were married they had two trunks and a box of goods, but not a lamp nor stove nor other household furnishings. They boarded while a house was being built on their new farm and

when it was completed they slept on the floor and ate off a dry goods boxuntil furniture could be secured. Mr. Wimer worked for others for the use of an ox-team with which to break his ground. He later bought a team and tools, built a better house and added eighty acres to his farm, upon which he reared his family and made his home until 1893, when he sold that property and came to Prairie township, Mahaska county, where he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of good land, all improved with fair buildings. He has remodeled the house and now has a large residence of eleven rooms, well painted and tastefully furnished. He has built granaries, barns, sheds and fences and indeed has one of the best farms in the township. He has since added to the property until he now has four hundred and eighty acres of valuable and productive land in this county. Mr. Wimer now buys considerable corn and is extensively engaged in feeding cattle and hogs. He also has a nice peach and plum orchard upon his place, and in fact, all of the modern equipments and accessories of a model farm are found here. He has added two hundred and forty acres in Monroe township, also owns one hundred and sixty acres in Oklahoma.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wimer have been born eight children, of whom six are living: A. Roberta, who is practicing osteopathy at Seattle, Washington, taught school for a number of years. She attended school at Shenandoah, at Chicago and at Des Moines, Iowa, and is a graduate of the College of Osteopathy at Des Moines. Avis F. is married and resides in Hastings, Nebraska. Perry C., who married Jessie Holton and lives upon one of his father's farms, is a graduate of two undertaking schools, but prefers to give his attention to agricultural pursuits rather than to the undertaking business. B. J. married Jennie Roovart and lives upon a part of his father's farm. Louva M. was married January 31, 1906, to Leonard Roovart and they reside upon a farm near Lacey, Iowa. Hoyt S, is attending school in New Sharon. The last named is his father's main standby in the farm work. He has a bank account of his own, does business on his own accord and also for his father. He attends sales and his bid is recognized the same as that of a grown man, although he is only sixteen years of age. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wimer were born two children, who died in infancy.

Mr. Wimer and his family were formerly identified with the Society of Friends but now attend the Methodist Episcopal church. He has always been a republican but has never held office. He and his wife have worked very earnestly and indefatigably in order to attain the success which they now enjoy. Mrs. Wimer has raised chickens and through their sale and that of the eggs she has secured a goodly sum of money, her books showing that she has taken in more than thirty-nine hundred dollars in this way. During all of their married life they have never contracted but one store debt and that to the amount of only ten dollars. This is certainly a creditable record. They are pleasant, genial people, who have given their children good educational advantages and provided them also with musical training. Mr. Wimer is a strictly temperate man, who has never used tobacco nor liquor in any form and his life record displays many sterling traits of character, including honesty and industry-qualities that in every land and clime command respect and good will.

A. BROWNELLER.

The farming interests of Mahaska county find a worthy representative in A. Browneller, who, living on section 6, Spring Creek township, is actively and successfully carrying on general agricultural pursuits. He owns and op-

erates a neat and well improved farm of one hundred and ten acres situated only two and a half miles from Oskaloosa, so that the advantages of city life are easily attainable, while those of country life are constantly enjoyed by the family. His residence in the state covers the period from 1882 to the present time.

Mr. Browneller was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, on the 24th of October, 1847. His father, Samuel Browneller, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in 1815, while the grandfather, Frederick Browneller, was a native of Germany and became an early resident of the Keystone state. Samuel Browneller was reared to manhood in Lancaster and Fayette counties, Pennsylvania, and in the latter was married to Sarah Slaughterbach, whose birth occurred in Lancaster county. Mr. Browneller followed farming in Fayette county and there reared his family, continuing his residence there up to the time of his death, which occurred about 1896. His wife passed away in 1895.

A. Browneller of this review was the youngest of the family of five sons and three daughters, all of whom reached adult age with the exception of the eldest son, who died at the age of five years. The others are all yet living. Mr. Browneller of this review remained a resident of Pennsylvania through the period of his boyhood and youth, spending his days upon his father's farm and attending the public schools. When a young man he went to Ohio, where he worked at the carpenter's trade. Subsequently he made his way westward to Kansas, settling in Topeka, where he worked for six years for the Santa Fe Railroad Company, being employed in the shops for two years and upon the road for four years, making his home throughout that entire time in Topeka.

Mr. Browneller was married in that city in November, 1880, to Miss Emma Arthur, who was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, and there spent her girlhood, while in the public schools she was educated. She is the only child of



A. BROWNELLER.



Frederick and Edith (Murphy) Arthur, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Kentucky, but were married in Indiana. The father, who was a stock dealer, died at the age of forty-five years, and the mother passed away at the age of thirty-five. For two years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Browneller resided in Topeka, and came to Iowa, settling in Mahaska county, where Mr. Browneller purchased a farm. Taking up his abode thereon he began to cultivate and improve the place and the evidences of his earnest and indefatigable labor are seen in the various improvements that he has placed upon his property. He has erected a good residence, supplied with all modern equipments, including furnace heat and telephone. He has also built a basement barn, has fenced the land, drained it by tiling and altogether has developed a valuable farm which is well equipped in every department and presents a neat and attractive appearance. In addition to the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he also raises high grades of cattle, hogs and horses, and both branches of his business are returning to him a good income.

Mr. Browneller cast his first presidential ballot in 1868 for U. S. Grant and has supported each nominee at the head of the republican ticket since that time, but has been without aspiration for office for himself, preferring to give his time and energies to his business affairs. In addition to his farming interests he is a stockholder in the Farmers National Bank of Oskaloosa, and he has prospered in his work as the years have gone by, owing to his judicious management, practical methods and untiring enterprise.

Mr. and Mrs. Browneller have become the parents of four children: Harry Arthur, who is a business man of Oskaloosa, being a partner in one of the leading shoe stores of the city; Clyde O., Wilbur Earl and Eva May, all at home. The members of the household are highly

esteemed in the community and enjoy the hospitality of many of the best homes in this part of the county. Mr. Browneller is widely recognized as one of the most active and progressive farmers of Spring Creek township and a good business man, well known in Oskaloosa and respected wherever known.

JAMES FISHER.

James Fisher, who has a good farm on section 32, Prairie township, was born in Henry county, Iowa, near Salem, on the 17th of November, 1844. His father, Thomas Fisher, was born in Ohio, July 15, 1819, and when a young man came to Iowa, settling in Henry county. There he was married on the 19th of October. 1843, to Miss Mary Jones, who was born in Ohio, June 10, 1817, and was a daughter of Isaac Jones, who removed with ox teams from Ohio to Iowa about 1840 and took up government land in Henry county, after which he spent his remaining days upon a farm, which he there developed and improved. Thomas Fisher had purchased eighty acres of land in Henry county and made his home thereon until 1854, when he became one of the pioneer residents of Mahaska county, purchasing eighty acres of land near Oskaloosa. He built the first house upon the farm and otherwise improved the property. In 1859 he came to Prairie township and purchased eighty acres which adjoins on the north the farm upon which his son James now resides. Upon that place he built a log cabin and later a second house and there he lived until called to his final rest, his widow continuing to make her home there until her death. He passed away January 17, 1863, while Mrs. Fisher survived until March 12, 1899. They were the parents of six children, of whom James is the eldest. The others are: Rachel who was born July 1, 1847, and

became the wife of J. N. Gaston, now living in Boone county, Iowa; Thomas, who was born March 16, 1854, and married Viola Godby, their home being now in Oklahoma; Elizabeth, who was born February 22, 1857, and is the wife of Milton Mitchell, both living in Burlington, Iowa; Phoebe Jane, the wife of Carmon Godbey, of Oklahoma; and Abigail, who died at the age of six years.

James Fisher remained with his parents until twenty-two years of age and pursued his education in an old log schoolhouse seated with slab seats and benches. His first purchase of land comprised forty acres, whereon he now resides. The place was fenced and the land broken, but there were no buildings upon it. He paid twelve and a half dollars per acre for the property and with characteristic energy he began its improvement. Before his marriage he built thereon a house, hauling the lumber from Eddyville. On the 15th of September, 1867, in Granville, Iowa, he wedded Naomi Beal, who was born December 23, 1844, and is a daughter of Hiram Beal, a sketch of whom is given in connection with the history of H. A. Beal on another page of this work. The young couple drove across the prairie in a two-horse wagon to the place where the wedding ceremony was performed and then came to the new home which Mr. Fisher had prepared. Here he courageously began work. He enjoyed good health and is fortunate in that he has never had to pay a doctor's bill. His earnest and persistent labor enabled him to add to his possessions from time to time. He purchased two different tracts of land of forty acres at thirty dollars per acre and thirty-two acres at twenty-nine dollars per acre, also eighty acres at twenty dollars. He has likewise helped his son pay for forty acres. Mr. Fisher's landed possessions now comprise one hundred and fifty-six acres, upon which there is no indebtedness. His nearest cash market in the early days was Ottumwa, Iowa, and he drove hogs to Burlington, which he sold for a dollar and a half per hundred. In those days he never wore an overcoat and overshoes were unknown. A lamp was made by placing a rag in a saucer of grease and later tallow candles were used. The pioneers raised flax and spun their own yarn. Mr. Fisher's mother would weave cloth and make all the clothes and also knit the socks for the family. As the years have passed Mr. Fisher has kept in touch with the general progress along lines of agricultural development and has his farm now all tiled and in good shape. The house, though small, is well built and well painted. There is a good barn, windmill, sheds and outbuildings, a bearing orchard and fine shade trees. The place is divided into fields of convenient size by well kept fences and everything upon the place is indicative of the skill and labor of the owner. In connection with the production of cereals Mr. Fisher is extensively engaged in the raising of hogs and his sales have annually amounted to one thousand dollars for a number of years. He also raises good Norman horses and his stock commands the highest market prices.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fisher have been born five children, of whom four are living. Alice is the wife of Milton Spain, of this county, and unto them have been born four children. Albert married Bertha Shoemaker and with their three children they reside upon a farm of their own south of New Sharon. Effic is the wife of Frank Pippin, now living upon her father's farm. Lillie is the wife of L. H. Faulkner, a resident of Union township. Lucy Ann died at the age of twenty-two months.

In his political views Mr. Fisher has always been an earnest republican, casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1864. He has held some school offices, but has never sought nor desired positions of political preferment. At the time of the mother's death the heirs chose James Fisher to settle up the estate, and he had the farm appraised and sold and

the proceeds were divided to the satisfaction of all without the help or cost of an attorney. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fisher are faithful and devoted members of the Society of Friends. There was formerly a church in the neigborhood, but it has ceased to exist and they now occasionally attend services at New Sharon. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fisher are social, genial people, whose home is attractive by reason of its cordial and warm-hearted hospitality. His worth is widely asknowledged and his work has been the strong element in his success, for he has placed his dependence upon untiring labor and unfaltering industry and thereby he has become one of the substantial agriculturists of the community.

JOHN P. WILKINSON.

John P. Wilkinson, who has brought his farm on section I, Union township, up to a high state of cultivation, was born in Greene county, Ohio, December 3, 1833, his parents being Abel and Sarah (Sharff) Wilkinson, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Virginia. The father was a farmer by occupation and owned and improved a farm in Ohio. In 1856 he came with his family to Iowa, settling in Union township, Mahaska county, where he secured three hundred and forty acres of land, which was nearly all wild and uncultivated. There was a little log house on the place in which the family lived for a few years in true pioneer style, after which Mr. Wilkinson erected a more modern and commodious frame residence. He continued to make his home upon this form until his death, which occurred when he was seventy-four years of age, while his wife passed away at the age of seventy. He was a busy, energetic man, whose labors resulted in the acquirement of a comfortable property. Both he and his wife were faithful members of the Christian church and his political support was given to the whig party until its dissolution, when he joined the ranks of the republican party but he never aspired to nor held any office. He belonged to that class of men who are well fitted for pioneer life, having the courage and determination to face its dangers, privations and hardships and to bring the new country under subjection for the purposes of civilization. In the family were seven children but only three are now living, the sisters being Sarah, the wife of Ezekiel Wheeler, who is residing in Oklahoma, and Elizabeth, who became the wife of William Fagan and is now a widow living in Oklahoma.

John P. Wilkinson was reared under the parental roof, remaining at home until twenty-four years of age. He was married on the 17th of September, 1857, to Miss Cynthia Watkins, who was born in Greene county, Ohio, July 15, 1840, a daughter of Reece and June (Elliott) Watkins, both of whom were natives of Virginia. They came to Iowa in 1850 and lived upon a farm near Oskaloosa for many years, their last days being spent in Mahaska county. In their family were nine children but Mrs. Wilkinson is the only one now living.

After his marriage Mr. Wilkinson operated his father's farm for three years and then purchased seventy acres where he now resides. It was raw and uncultivated, being covered with brush and timber. He built the first dwelling-a frame house, which is still standing and is now used for a granary. Later he erected his present residence, which is a neat home. The buildings are all well painted and everything about the place indicates his careful supervision and progressive methods. He now owns one hundred acres of land, all of which is under cultivation and his property is valuable, owing to the care and labor which he has bestowed upon it. For many years he harvested good crops and thus gathered the reward of his earnest labor but he is now no longer able

to do any work and rents his land. His ill health was occasioned largely by his army service. In 1862 he enlisted as a member of Company B, Fortieth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, with which he served as a private for three years. He took part in the siege of Vicksburg and on the expiration of his term of enlistment was mustered out at Fort Gibson in the Indian Territory. His wife was left at home with two little children. The hard time she had taking care of her children and managing the farm, together with the anxiety over her husband, will never be forgotten.

Three children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson, of whom two are living, Clinton Luther and Blanche. The former is married, has six children and resides on a farm in Keokuk county, Iowa. Blanche is the wife of John Gorsuch, a resident of Poweshiek county, Iowa. William A., who was the second of the family, was born in 1860 and died at the age of thirty-three years. Mr. Wilkinson has always been a republican but has had no aspiration for office. For many years his time and attention were given in undivided manner to his general farming interests but his health has become so impaired that he leaves the active work of the farm to others. He now receives a pension of thirty dollars per month, which he justly merits, for he made a great sacrifice for his country.

JACOB T. TIMBREL.

Jacob T. Timbrel owns and occupies a valuable farm in Richland township, his landed possessions comprising four hundred and ninety-seven acres and he is a representative of the class of self-made men who owe their success entirely to their own well directed efforts. He was born in Mercer county, Ohio, March 16, 1844, his parents being Lot and Amy (Grant)

Timbrel, both of whom were natives of Butler county, Ohio, the father born September 25, 1815, and the mother in 1821. They were married in that county and removed to Mercer county, where they lived upon a farm until 1853, when Mr. Timbrel sold his property there and removed to Mahaska county, Iowa. Here he purchased eighty acres of government land in Richland township and built thereon a log cabin, while subsequently he erected a frame residence which he occupied until 1886. then removed to Adams county and purchased a little place which he occupied until his death. In 1863 he was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife, who died in Richland township on the 5th of February, of that year. He afterward wedded her sister, Mrs. Rebecca Ellis, and when she, too, had passed away he married Sarah Lyons, also now deceased. His death occurred in Adams county, Iowa, June 4, 1891.

Jacob T. Timbrel was the second in order of birth in the family of ten children: C. A., who married Margaret Evans and is living in Prairie township; Jacob T.; Jasper N., who wedded Margaret Shelly and resides at Blackwell, Oklahoma; Margaret, who become the wife of Amos Evans, who purchased her father's old homestead in Richland township, upon which the wife died a few years ago; J. W., who married Laura Boyd and is living in Knowlton, Ringgold county, Iowa; Jonathan, who married Sadie Graham and made his home in Richland township until his death; Melinda, the wife of Lewis Shrover, living in California; Melissa, who died at the age of five years; and twins, who died in infancy.

Jacob T. Timbrel was a youth of uine years when he accompanied his parents to Iowa and his education was acquired in the district schools of this state and of Ohio. He lived at home, working upon his father's farm until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted on the 18th of October, 1861, at Oskaloosa as a member of Company C, Fifteenth



MR. AND MRS. J. T. TIMBREL.



lowa Infantry. The regiment rendezvoused at Keokuk, and four months later went south. Mr. Timbrel participated in some of the most hetly contested engagements of the war, ineluding the sanguinary battles of Pittsburg Landing, Shiloh and Corinth, the siege of Vicksburg, Kenesaw Mountain and the siege of Atlanta. He was shot in the thigh at Shiloh and for some time was in the hospital and at Atlanta he was again wounded, this time in the arm. He was then sent home on a furlough and while at home his regiment was mustered out January 11, 1865, by reason of the expiration of the term of service. Mr. Timbrel was not vet eighteen years of age at that time, vet there was no more brave or loval soldier than this boy, who, true at all times to his duty, was often found in the thickest of the fight. He now receives a pension of twelve dollars per month in recognition of the aid which he rendered his country.

After his return from the army Mr. Timbrel began farming, working some of his father's land and also renting some which he operated for himself. The first land which he ever owned was a tract of forty acres given him by his father. It was wild and unimproved but he fenced and broke it and erected a dwelling thereon. In 1868 he bought eighty acres of land in Prairie township, upon which he built a house and barns, making his home there continuously until 1800 and bringing the fields under a high state of cultivation. In 1880 he was elected sheriff of Mahaska county on the democratic ticket, and during his two years' service in that office resided in Oskaloosa. Upon his retirement from the position in 1802 he purchased the farm upon which he now resides, at that time comprising two hundred and ninety acres and known as the Baldwin farm. There was a good house and barn and other buildings upon the place, but the fences were in a state of dilapidation. These Mr. Timbrel rebuilt and has continued the work of improvement until he

has a splendid property. He has also extended the boundaries of his place until he now owns four hundred and ninety-seven acres of good land and he has also assisted his sons in purchasing property.

On the 23d of February, 1865, Mr. Timbrel was married to Miss Jemima Spain, who was born in Union county, Ohio, March 15, 1845. Her father, Isaiah Spain, was born in Ohio, May 7, 1821, and died in Prairie township, Mahaska county, December 24, 1866. Her mother was Mary Ann Miller, who was born April 25, 1827, and died in Prairie township, this county, August 18, 1892. After the death of Mr. Spain she became the wife of Lyman Johnson and following his demise married Calvin Sexton. It was in 1854 that Mr. and Mrs. Spain came to Mahaska county, making their home on a farm in Prairie township. They had five children, namely: Mrs. Timbrel; Emily C., who is the wife of Charles Fleming and is living in this township; one who died in infancy; Pearl J., of Prairie township, who married Emma Burkett and afterward wedded Eva Littleman; and Milton N., who is living in Adams township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Timbrel have been born three children, but they lost their first born, Alma Rillis, who died at the age of two years. J. N. Timbrel, who was educated in Penn University, at Oskaloosa, married Cora Scott. He served for two years as sheriff of the county as the successor of his father, owns a good farm in Riehland township and is a member of the Lost Creek Coal Company, of which he has been superintendent for the past eight years. The younger son, A. P. Timbrel, wedded Louise Stanley and owns and operates a good farm in Richland township. They have one child, Floyd.

Jacob T. Timbrel has followed in his father's political footsteps and has always been a stanch democrat. In addition to the office of sheriff he has filled several minor positions. He was assessor of Prairie township for six years, has

been township trustee and school director and has frequently been a delegate to party conventions. Although his party is in the minority he has always received good support when a candidate for office. He is a good neighbor, a social, hospitable man and well informed. The home which he occupies was built many years ago and is a large old-fashioned roomy residence. There are fair buildings upon his place and in connection with the tilling of the soil he feeds two or three carloads of cattle each year. The farm work is largely done by a hired man, who with his family lives in a tenant house upon the farm. Mr. Timbrel is familiar with the history of the county from pioneer times down to the present and can relate many interesting incidents of the early days.

ISAAC KALBACH.

Among the names which are most familiar in Mahaska county and in this part of Iowa, is that of Isaac Kalbach. It is a name that is always kindly and respectfully spoken because of what it has always stood for.

Mr. Kalbach was born in Womelsdorff. Berks county, Pennsylvania, November 13. 1822, eighty-five miles west of the city of Philadelphia. The ancestors of both his father and mother came to America before the Revolutionary war and all who were then living participated actively in that heroic struggle. was the fifth child born into the family of nine children, five brothers and four sisters. When Mr. Kalbach was eleven years of age his father died and left the care of the young family to the mother. With great singleness of purpose she quietly assumed the double responsibility that came to her by the death of her husband, and raised all of her children to usefulness and respectability, living to the good old age of eighty-four years. A widowed mother with supreme devotion to the welfare of her family will carve deep channels in the life of her children. Some of the best men this nation has ever produced were sons of widowed mothers. Mr. Kalbach contributed by his labor to the support of the family until he was twenty-one years of age, having in the meantime served an apprenticeship of three years in learning the cabinet-maker's trade.

On November 3, 1843, Mr. Kalbach was united in marriage to Miss Christine Kock, who was his faithful companion for fifty-three years. Unto them were born nine children, all of whom reached manhood and womanhood. Of the children John A., Sarah and Z. Taylor were born at Port Carbon, Pennsylvania, and accompanied their parents to Iowa. Emma R., Clara F., M. Alice, William H., George and Nellie M. were born at Oskaloosa.

On April 1, 1849, Mr. and Mrs. Kalbach bade adieu to the home of their childhood to join the great caravan that was moving westward that year. The discovery of gold in California the previous year had aroused the entire nation and a sweeping tide of emigration set in for the Pacific coast and the west. Mr. Kalbach and his company had only in mind locating somewhere in the western states to engage in its growing enterprises. They left their home at Port Carbon, Schuylkill county. Pennsylvania, and went to Reading by rail, thence by stage fourteen miles to Womelsdorf, the place of his birth, then to Harrisburg, Johnstown and on to Pittsburg by canal. The reader will notice that this route leads over the Alleghany mountains. Mr. Kalbach states the strange fact that he crossed this rugged range of mountains on a canal boat. The boat carrying the emigrants and their effects was built in five sections, and when they came to the foot of the mountains at Holidaysburg, each of the five sections of the boat was placed on car trucks and coupled together, making a train of cars. Stationary engines along the mountain railway

furnished the power, and by following slopes and inclines to the summit of the mountains, then along the level ridge for eight or ten miles, the descent on the western slope was cautiously made to Johnstown, where the improvised train was transformed from a mountain climber into a modest canal boat, cheerfully submitting to the tow-path gait.

At Pittsburg the party re-shipped their goods and were towed down the Ohio river to Beaver, Pennsylvania, then across the state of Ohio to where the city of Cleveland is now located. It was then a mere lake port with a few stores and a modest population. From Cleveland the company boarded a steamer and made the circuit of the lakes by way of Mackinac strait to Chicago.

Mr. Kalbach has a distinct memory of many interesting experiences and occurences in that earlier day. He was offered a house and two lots in what is now almost the heart of the city of Chicago for eight hundred dollars, on ten years' time at ten per cent interest. Ducks were hunted in the marshes near where the splendid Rock Island depot now stands.

At the crossing of Lake and Clark streets a fence rail was stuck deep into the mud with a board tacked across the top with this ominous warning: "No Bottom Here." In that year the longest stretch of railroad track leaving the city was eighteen miles. After a week's sojourn in Chicago the party of thirteen persons secured a four-horse team to make a tour of several hundred miles down through Illinois as far as Carlisle, Indiana. Camping as they went and living on provisions that could be purchased along the way and whatever wild game they were able to secure, they passed through Kankakee and on southward. At Danville, Illinois, they practically ran out of provisions and sought to replenish their supply. The generous village store-keeper sold them all he had-one and one-half pounds of crackers and two mackerel. This scanty fare for fourteen persons, including the driver, began to be no joke, especially when there was before them for many miles nothing but broad, unsettled prairies. There was, however, a mill near the village and the road miller shared with them his entire stock, a scanty supply of "shorts." There was no need of anti-breakfast clubs in that party. Mr. Kalbach says it was delegated to him from the beginning of the journey to purchase the supply of eatables for the company. So, early the next morning, he took his rifle and, breakfastless and afoot, preceded the home-seekers, determined in some way to secure something to appease the appetites of the hungry party.

Pressing every trail and listening to every sound for wild game, he kept on his course throughout the day, without a lucky shot. About four o'clock in the afternoon he came to a cabin on the prairie, the only habitation he had met with all day. The household consisted of husband, wife and daughter. He called at the cabin door and asked if he could purchase something for himself and his companions. The lady of the house told him she had nothing to eat in the house at that time, but confidently expected the return of her husband from the mill with a supply of corn meal in an hour or two and when he came she could supply their present wants. After resting a short time Mr. Kalbach noticed a strip of brush a quarter of a mile or so distant and determined to go over, in the hope of finding something to satisfy his hunger, while his company should have time to come up. He was fortunate enough to shoot a blackbird, which he dressed and roasted and had a feast all to himself. Returning to the cabin, he found his companions had arrived as well as the expected husband with the sack of meal, and the good housewife was vigorously stirring the mush pot for a bounteous supper. She was a Scotch lady, social, pleasant and kind, but fearless and positive in character, and her heart went out for the eight small children in the company of travelers who had not tasted food for so many hours. To the chagrin of her older guests, the decisive lady would not allow a single one of them to have a morsel to eat until the children had eaten all they wanted. She was not selfish in her wilderness home, but humble as it was, her home must be ruled by her own ideas of fitness and propriety.

The next morning the good lady fitted out the party with corn bread for the day, and they went on their journey southwest as far as Carlisle, Indiana. A short stay convinced the entire party that Carlisle was not the place they wanted to stop and they retraced their steps to Terre Haute, Indiana, where they dismissed their conveyance and driver and spent the winter. Mr. Kalbach found his services in ready demand as an undertaker. He says it seemed to him that the community was kept quite busy caring for the sick and burving their dead. Before the swamps and marshes of Indiana were drained there was dreadful suffering from fever, ague, milk sickness and kindred diseases. Sometimes an entire village would be depopulated by the scourge. Mr. Kalbach relates that on their tour of inspection through Indiana they traveled one day late into the night in order to reach a quite well known town by the name of Caledonia. When they reached the place they found it utterly forsaken. Not a person was to be found. The party chanced to be out of matches and had to go some distance to a farm house to secure fire for a camp.

While at Terre Haute a wealthy Frenchman, who was traveling through the country, fell a victim to cholera and the case fell into Mr. Kalbach's hands for handling. The body was buried and late in the fall disinterred and prepared in proper casements for shipment to the east. A stage coach carried it to Cincinnati, and thence by river and canal to its destination.

In the spring of 1850 Mr. and Mrs. Kalbach and their company visited a number of cities and towns in Illinois, working westward until

they came to Nauvoo, Illinois. It was that year that the last detachment of Mormons left Nauvoo for their far western home and the town was almost depopulated. The landlady of the principal hotel of the place was the former widow of Joe Smith, who had been killed some vears before but who in his lifetime was the head of the Mormon church. A deep shadow had fallen over the party of home-seekers. One of their number had died of cholera down the river and Mr. Kalbach had preceded the company some days to Nauvoo to arrange for the burial. Death from cholera was quite frequent in many places in the west and if the cause of this death should become known they were liable to be quarantined for days.

For a time Mr. Kalbach was somewhat perplexed to know just what course to pursue. He finally concluded to follow the principle that has governed all his life, namely: To go to the parties most interested and represent things just as they were. This he did to the landlady of the hotel where he was stopping. She was the owner of most of the vacant property in the town, and she quietly handed him a key to one of these comfortable homes, saying, "Go to that house and take full possession and make ready for your company when it shall arrive Go about the burial quietly and in that way no one will become excited or be exposed." Fifteen years afterward Mr. Kalbach ate dinner at that hotel and was pleased to be recognized by the same landlady who was yet in charge.

From Nauvoo the company went to Muscatine, Iowa, and stopped for the winter. Mr. Kalbach worked at his trade until December, 1850, when he went on foot in company with others to Fort Dodge, Iowa, to work on the government fort, then in process of construction at that place. On his way he passed through Oskaloosa. Hundreds of the early settlers availed themselves of a good winter's job at good pay. Each workman got two and a half dollars per day and one and one-half

rations from the time he left home. Twenty miles per day was counted a day's travel. The government spent one or more hundred thousand dollars on the proposed fort, all of which was afterward abandoned as unnecessary for the protection of the rapidly growing young state. In the spring of 1851 Mr. Kalbach took a boat down the Des Moines river to where it empties into the Mississippi, thence up that stream to his home at Muscatine. Here he at once made preparations to move to Oskaloosa, arriving here May 13, 1851. That year has been known in Mahaska county history as the "flood year." It was a trying time for the early settlers. There were no bridges across the streams and but little hauling could be done. The Des Moines river was about the only means of transportation and crops were short everywhere. Mr. and Mrs. Kalbach had come to the end of their journeying and settled down to a hand to hand struggle for an independent living and a competency for advanced years. They did for the time being whatever their hands found to be done. Mr. Kalbach was Oskaloosa's first city marshal for three successive years, acted for a time as street commissioner, was secretary of the city school board when Oskaloosa built its first schoolhouse-the old Gospel Ridge schoolhouse. He has always contributed generously of his time and means for the building up of the life of the city and the county. On June 13, 1864, he went into the lumber business, continuing in that business until advancing years compelled him to retire to a more quiet life. On October 30, 1897, Mrs. Kalbach passed to the scenes of another world. The chief delight of her life was in her home and her family, and her absence has been deeply felt. Her life was one of unceasing toil, from necessity, during early life, and, in later years, when the family had acquired a competency, the habit of constant activity had become too firmly fixed to be broken, and to the close of her life her greatest pleasure was found in providing comforts for her children. The raising of a family during the early days in Oskaloosa, when the necessities of life and the means of acquiring them were equally hard to obtain, required a thorough knowledge of all the branches of housewifery.

Among the Pennsylvania Dutch the women were, and are to this day, skilled in all domestic duties, and this knowledge, acquired in the Pennsylvania village where she was raised, probably made Mrs. Kalbach's burden lighter, but did not lessen the toil of providing for the large family of growing children. Home markets could not be depended on for many of the necessities and money was scarce, but the resourceful mother was skilled in many lines of housework which are now almost among the lost arts. In addition to the daily tasks of cooking and baking, came, each in its turn, the work of caring for the pork from the three or four hogs which were butchered each fall, the smoking of the hams and side-meat, the making of the tubs of sausage, the preparing of the "hogshead cheese," the cleaning and pickling of the pigs-feet, the rendering of the lard, the making of the soft soap from cracklings and ash lve, the molding or dipping of the candles. the canning of tomatoes, the preserving of the small variety of wild and tame fruit, the drying of corn and apples, the preparing of "sauer kraut." the cutting up and sewing of carpetrags, the dveing of the carpet chain, the darning, patching, mending and altering of the children's clothing (often remodeled to fit the vounger children, after the older members of the family had outgrown them), in order that her boys and girls might appear respectably dressed-and all this was a part only of the never ending task of the pioneer mother.

Though assisted by her young family, who were all taught to work in some capacity, yet on her devolved the planning and the saving, that every cent of the small earnings of the husband might be used to the greatest advan-

tage. She willingly assumed every duty that she might raise her family respectably and respected in the community, and no mother ever gave her whole life and energy to this work with more devotion.

Mr. Kalbach is much confined to his home, but is enjoying a cheerful old age with a clear mind and an unbroken interest in passing events.

JOHN A. KALBACH.

John A. Kalbach, born in Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, September 1, 1844, came to Oskaloosa with his father in May, 1851, and has resided here continuously since. His father started a lumber-yard in Oskaloosa, in June, 1864. This was the first lumber-yard in Oskaloosa. John A. Kalbach became a partner with his father, January 1, 1866, has been connected with the business then established ever since and in that respect is the oldest merchant in Oskaloosa.

John A. Kalbach was a member of the city council in 1872 and 1873 and later a member of the board of county supervisors. He has in many ways identified himself with that which was intended to add to the growth and prosperity of Oskaloosa.

Mr. Kalbach was married at Chicago, Illinois, in June, 1873, to Louise Patterson. Their children are Warren; Helen; Annette, now Mrs. Valentine, of Centerville; and Taylor P.

GEORGE KALBACH.

George Kalbach was born in Oskaloosa, June, 30, 1860, and is a brother of John A. Kalbach, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work, and is associated with him in the lumber business. His entire life has been passed in

this city, and he is a graduate of the Oskaloosa high school, of the class of 1880. Throughout his business career he has been connected with the lumber trade in Oskaloosa. In 1890 he purchased the interest of his father, Isaac Kalbach, and has since then been connected with the Kalbach lumber firm.

ROBERT L. FLEMING.

Robert L. Fleming, who for many years was a respected and leading agriculturist of Mahaska county, was born in Harrison county, West Virginia, September 3, 1811, and died upon the home farm in Richland township, June 28, 1894. He started out in life on his own account when only thirteen years of age. being employed as a farm hand by various farmers in the neighborhood in which his parents lived. He later served a three years' apprenticeship at the blacksmith's trade and in compensation for his services was given a suit of clothes and a sum of money. He then started west, intending to go to Indiana, which was regarded as the "far west" in those days. On reaching Wood county, West Virginia, about eighty or one hundred miles from his home, he found a chance to teach school and, abandoning his idea of going to the Hoosier state, he there engaged in teaching and at the same time devoted all of his leisure time to study, so that he greatly improved his own education. He became a well informed man and throughout his entire life added to his knowledge through reading and investigation.

While in Wood county, Mr. Fleming met and married Miss Amy Maddox, the wedding being celebrated June 6, 1833. She was born in West Virginia, January 1, 1814, and died in Richland township, September 13, 1880. After his marriage Mr. Fleming sold his shop and bought a little farm in the hills of West Virginia.

where he resided until March, 1852, when he packed up his household goods, which he loaded on a boat at Parkersburg, West Virginia, together with a horse and cow, and thus started for Iowa. After ten days spent upon the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, his effects were unloaded at Keokuk, Iowa. He was accompaned by his wife and seven children. He had little ready money, but he possessed strong determination, willing hands and a stout heart and thus he began life in the west. He had written to Amos Bartlett, who had settled in Mahaska county, to meet them at Keokuk, and move them to Mahaska county, and Mr. Bartlett with three teams, together with a man by the name of Raulles, who also possessed a team, went to Keokuk and in two days they traveled twelve miles over the old plank road as far as Primrose, Iowa. There they halted and Mr. Fleming and his family moved into a log shanty, which had previously been used for a stable. They cleared it out and resided there for three weeks until they could secure a better house. The following May Mr. Fleming came on to Mahaska county to see Mr. Bartlett and try to get him to help move them again. Bartlett was busy putting in crops, so Mr. Fleming returned to Primrose, where he rented fifteen acres of land and planted corn. In October of that year he gave his crop to a man to move him to Mahaska county. They reached Oskaloosa on the second day and just before dark crossed South Skunk river. That night they found the cabin of Jacob Bartlett, whom they had known in Virginia, and stayed with him for two weeks while looking over the country. Mr. Fleming found a place which had been claimed by a man named Johnson and purchased this property, comprising two hundred and forty acres, for four hundred dollars. He went to Iowa City to have it entered and until Johnson moved Mr. Fleming and his familv lived in an old log schoolhouse. The land was partially broken. There were few fences and a log cabin, in which the family lived until 1857, when Mr. Fleming built a rock house which is still standing, Mr. Fleming making his home therein until his death. As he prospered in his undertakings he added more land to his original purchase and afterward divided this among his children. He was a self-made man in the truest and best sense of the term. He taught school for three terms after coming to this county, and as he possessed considerable knowledge of surveying he followed that profession to some extent and did much toward bringing about changes in his township along lines of general improvement and progress.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fleming were born thirteen children, but the first three died in West Virginia. Seven were brought by the parents to Iowa, and the remaining three were born in Mahaska county. The family record is as follows: Leander J., born March 15, 1834, died October 9, 1840; Edward Randolph, born October 27, 1835, died October 24, 1840; Robert Luther, born December 26, 1837, died in Virginia; Martha V., born January 8, 1840, is the wife of J. R. Ryan, a minister residing in Nebraska; Charles, born January 18, 1842, is living in this county; Orin, born December 17. 1843, and now residing in Prairie township, married Elizabeth Evans, now deceased: Justin, born March 13, 1846, wedded Mary E. Murdock and resides in Greenfield, Iowa; Austin, born September 23, 1847, married Janette McCutcheon and is living near Grinnell, Iowa: George, born August 6, 1849, is married and resides upon a part of the old home farm in Richland township; Fletcher, born May 8, 1851. died October 17, 1852; Naney, born August 4. 1853, died February 27, 1881; R. C., born November 2, 1857, is mentioned elsewhere in this work; Amy Cornelia, born November 2, 1857. is the wife of D. W. Richards, of Greenfield,

For twenty-five years Robert L. Fleming was a preacher of the Methodist Episcopal faith, after which he became a believer in

Christian Union. He never had a regular charge, but promoted the interests of the gospel as a local preacher and until nearly eighty years of age conducted funeral services when called upon. In politics he was a democrat of the old school, and he often made political speeches. For twenty-eight years he acted as secretary of the district school board but advanced age finally compelled him to abandon that task. He was a man of sound judgment, whose opinions were largely considered authoritative on matters which he discussed. He was an extensive reader and his books and records, many of which are very old, are now in the home of his son, R. C. Fleming. Two volumes of history of the Revolutionary war, published in 1779 and written in Quaker style, are very interesting mementoes of those early days. He also owned a pair of scales or old-fashioned balances which are still in possession of the family and which was presented to Captain Prunty, a grandfather of our subject, by General George Washington at the close of the Revolutionary war. Mr. Fleming stood as the supporter of all that is just, right and honorable in man's relations with his fellowmen. He lived to the advanced age of more than eighty-two years, enjoying the full confidence and respect of all who knew him and when he was called away the county mourned the loss of a worthy pioneer and valued citizen.

THOMAS MONROE RIDPATH.

Thomas Mouroe Ridpath, now living in Prairie township, is numbered among the native sons of Mahaska county, his birth having occurred in Richland township, October 8, 1856. His father, Joseph Ridpath, a native of Indiana, is now living in Audubon county, Iowa, and will be seventy-eight years of age on the 1st of September, 1906. His wife, who in

maidenhood was Elizabeth Betsey Jarard, was born in Ohio and died in Prairie township, Mahaska county, when her son Thomas was but nine years of age. She was a daughter of John Jarard, one of the early settlers of the county. Joseph Ridpath came to Iowa when a young man and was preceded by an elder brother, who had taken up one hundred and sixty acres of government land. After his marriage Joseph Ridpath purchased a half of his brother's farm and built thereon a log cabin, in which his son Thomas was born. He made that place his home until after Thomas M. Ridpath had reached mature years and was married. After losing his first wife the father wedded Mrs. Petty and removed to Audubon county, Iowa, where he is now living.

Thomas Monroe Ridpath was the third in a family of four children, the others being: Henrietta, the wife of Gilford Petty, of Audubon county; Ollis, who died in childhood; and Albert, who married Emma Moore, of Barnes City, and is living in Whatcheer, Iowa.

In the district schools of Prairie township Thomas M. Ridpath pursued his education and when about twenty years of age began working as a farm hand by the month, receiving twenty dollars per month, which was considered excellent wages for those days. After two years he rented a farm belonging to his cousin, Mrs. Reynolds, and cultivated that place for two vears. He then married and came to the farm where he now lives, first purchasing forty acres of unimproved land. There were no buildings upon it, so he rented the farm adjoining, upon which buildings had been erected. For his first forty he paid twenty-nine dollars per acre and he afterward bought the eighty acres which he had been renting for thirty dollars per acre. He then moved the house to its present location from the other side of the farm and has a comfortable home. There is also a good barn and other buildings upon the place and he has extended the boundaries of the farm



T. M. RIDPATH.



until it now comprises two hundred acres of rich and productive land, in addition to which he owns one hundred and thirty acres in Poweshiek county. He started out with a team and a few tools and has made all that he possesses through hard and unremitting labor. He has always been a stout, robust man, enjoying good health, as has his wife, and they have labored earnestly in order to gain their present desirable property. Their sons are now large enough to do the work of the farm, so that Mr. Ridpath is to a considerable extent relieved from the strenuous work which claimed his attention in earlier years. In 1904 and again in 1905 the sons raised five thousand bushels of corn. But little stock is raised on the place, the grain being sold on the market. Mr. Ridpath built up his farm by putting it to clover and he sold two hundred bushels of clover seed in a single year.

It was in 1879 that Mr. Ridpath was married to Miss Sarah M. Burkes, who was born in St. Clair county, Missouri, October 22, 1861, a daughter of William Burkes, who was born in Ohio, May 23, 1828, and was married March 6, 1855, to Nancy M. Eblen, whose birth occurred in Ohio and who is still living at Linnville, Iowa. Mr. Burkes removed to Missouri in 1858, and in 1862 came to Mahaska county, living on a farm near Garden Hall in Prairie township for thirty-eight years. In 1900 he sold that property and took up his abode in Linnville, Iowa, where he died February 17, 1904. He was spoken of by his neighbors as a "fine man," was kind and generous and earned and enjoyed the esteem of all who knew him. Although not a member of any church he was a firm believer in the Deity. In his family were eight children. John C., the eldest, now deceased, was educated at Keokuk and taught school for thirty terms in Mahaska county. He married Miss Mary Sheesley, of Richland township, and removed to Arizona, where he engaged in the practice of law and in the realestate business and was also interested in silver mines in that part of the country. James M. Burkes married Ida Smith and is living in Linnville, Iowa. Fremont died in childhood. Mrs. Ridpath is the next of the family. Cynthia J. and Jacob both died in childhood. Oliver P. is living in New Mexico. Mary A. is living with her mother in Linnville. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ridpath have been born nine children, of whom seven are living, as follows: Joseph F., who died at the age of four months and five days; Clara B., an invalid now in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, for treatment; Lucy K., at home; William A., who died at the age of four months; James W., Mary R., John C., Rena Belle and Monroe Bryan, all of whom are attending school.

In politics Mr. Ridpath always has been a stanch democrat and is a warm admirer of William Jennings Bryan. He has never sought office, preferring to devote his attention to his business interests and his indefatigable energy, frugality and earnest purpose have led to his success, making him the owner of a valuable farm property. He is thoroughly temperate, never using intoxicants in any form and his sons have followed in his footsteps in this regard. Such a record is certainly one of which he has every reason to be proud.

ERNEST H. GIBBS.

Ernest H. Gibbs, deceased, capitalist of Oskaloosa, was one of the prominent and representative men of Mahaska county. He was a native of Massachusetts, born in Blandford, February 10, 1848, and was the son of Israel M. and Cleotha V. (Fitch) Gibbs, the former also a native of Blandford, Massachusetts, but of English descent, tracing his connections to an old family in Yorkshire, England. His

grandfather Gibbs was a wealthy farmer, possessing an estate of nearly one thousand acres adjacent to the city of Blandford. He was a buyer and shipper of stock, in which he was very successful, realizing a handsome fortune.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native town, where he attended the common schools until he was seventeen years old, and then entered upon a course of study at Weslevan Academy, Wilbraham, Massachusetts. From there he was sent by his father to Fairfield Seminary, at Little Falls, New York, but instead of remaining there he continued on his way west, practically running away, and going to Amboy, Illinois, where he had relatives. He prospected around for some time and then purchased at auction a piece of property near the city limits, which he sold at sufficient profit to give him a good start without any investment. He then entered the Exchange Bank of Amboy, with George Ryan, where he remained for two vears, until August, 1868. From Amboy he went to Parkersburg, Iowa, and in company with his brother, I. M. Gibbs, opened an Exchange Bank and did a large collection business over a wide extent of territory. Thirteen months later he disposed of his interests there, came to Oskaloosa, and established the Union Savings Bank, in company with a cousin, Dr. H. L. Gibbs, and the brother with whom he had formerly been associated. They operated until 1874, when the Doctor withdrew, the business being conducted under the firm name of Gibbs Brothers, in the building now occupied by Mr. Gibbs and the Farmers & Traders National Bank, which they erected that year for banking purposes.

Three years later Mr. Gibbs organized the Farmers & Traders Bank but soon afterward withdrew that he might give his attention solely to his private business. In 1882 Mr. Gibbs, in company with Judge Crookham and others, was instrumental in the organization of the Mahaska County Bank, and the Oskaloosa In-

surance Company, the latter subsequently being transferred to Des Moines.

Shortly after becoming a citizen of Oskaloosa, Mr. Gibbs was united in marriage, April 1, 1871, with Miss Martha J. White, a daughter of John and Martha J. White. (See sketch of John White.) Of this union there was one son, who was born February 12, 1874, and died August 11, 1876, and one daughter, Nellie (now Mrs. Guy Woodin), born September 21, 1877.

After coming to Oskaloosa Mr. Gibbs led a very active life, and in every enterprise calculated to build up or advance the interest of the place he was the leading spirit. Without disparagement to others, it can truthfully be said that in the matter of public and private buildings, he has done more for Oskaloosa than any other citizen. The fine brick block now occupied by H. L. Spencer & Company, wholesale grocers, was erected by him; also the Times Block, which was destroyed by fire December 22, 1886. At the time of its destruction Mr. Gibbs was in Chicago. On receiving a telegram giving an account of the fire, he hastened home and within two hours after his arrival had twenty men working at the ruins, and within sixty days had the building re-erected and ready for occupancy. Such enterprise is indeed commendable. In erecting this building in the dead of winter, with the thermometer half the time below zero, he showed what could be done when there was a will back of it. In building at that season of the year, Mr. Gibbs gave employment to many to whom the work was a Godsend, enabling them to provide more comforts for their families than were usually enjoved during the inclement season.

In the building of the Rock Island and other railroads now entering Oskaloosa, Mr. Gibbs took an active part, devoting much of his time and more of his money to secure their construction to this place. In the various banking and manufacturing enterprises he has invested liberally of his means and was a stockholder in the greater number.

After the death of his father-in-law, John White, Mr. Gibbs carried out the plan of the latter in issuing scholarships in Oskaloosa College, which were made eligible for such gifts under the college law. In this way he did great good.

Politically Mr. Gibbs was a democrat, one who believed strongly in the principles of that party and who was ever ready to give a reason for the faith that was in him. As a democrat, his council was sought by the leaders of the party in both county and state. He was mainly instrumental in establishing the Oskaloosa Times, the only democratic paper in the county, and for a short time was its editor. That he designed the paper should be a permanent fixture in Mahaska county politics, is evidenced from the naming of the block in which it was printed, the "Times Block."

Though defeated in the state convention as a delegate to the national convention in 1880, it was on account of his well known adherence to Mr. Tilden. He was, however, elected an alternate. In 1884 he was chosen a delegate to the national democratic convention on account of his devotion to Tilden, he being his claim until he retired from the field, when he was for Cleveland, recognizing that without New York his party could not succeed, and believing that Cleveland could carry that state. Mr. Gibbs at one time served as a member of state central committees and chairman of congressional and county committees.

Mr. Gibbs was quite extensively interested in real estate and mining, being prominent during the time of Mahaska's greatest days in coal mining. He was, with W. A. Seevers, one of the organizers of the Oskaloosa Coal & Mining Company, which for years operated on an extensive scale at Beacon, and for fifteen years had an exceptionally valuable plant in that vicinity. Later he was one of the company to

develop the valuable Hocking mines which he sold for more than one-half million dollars. In real estate Mr. Gibbs was perhaps more largely interested than any other Oskaloosan, having large interests both in the business and residence sections of the town.

As a gentleman who materially aided in the worthy business projects of this community, Mr. Gibbs was highly valued. As a neighbor and citizen, he fulfilled all his obligations in a highly creditable and faithful manner.

Through the death of Ernest H. Gibbs, which occurred at his home north of town, April 7, 1906, Oskaloosa realized the loss of one of its most valuable and highly respected citizens. His death was due to heart trouble in the form of neuralgia, which lasted but a few minutes. The remaining family, consisting of Mrs. Gibbs and Mr. and Mrs. Guy Woodin, still occupy the handsome "Gibbs residence" just north of town.

JACOB HARPER.

Jacob Harper has, since 1857, been a resident of Mahaska county. Almost a half century has passed since he came and great changes have occurred. His mind bears many pictures of early pioneer days and experiences and he is well informed concerning the events which have shaped the history of this part of the state. He was born in Licking county, Ohio, September 23, 1824, and has therefore passed the eightyfirst milestone on life's journey. His father, Abraham Harper, was born in Virginia and married Catherine Criger, a native of Pennsylvania. Both died when about seventy years of age, passing away in Muchakinock, this county. In the family were thirteen children, of whom seven are now living: Mrs. Betsey Titcomb, who is now living in Montezuma, Iowa: Sally, the widow of Benjamin Gibbons, of Eddyville, Iowa; William, of Muchakinock; Mary, the wife of Arthur Masters, a resident of Albia, Iowa; Archibald, living in Muchakinock; George, of Monroe county, Iowa; and Jacob.

When quite young Jacob Harper began working as a farm hand for ten dollars per month. He was seventeen years of age at the time of his parents' removal from Ohio to Indiana and later he drove a team, hauling pork to the Wabash river. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey, he chose Rebecca Harper, who, though of the same name, was not a relative. They were married May 6, 1849, Mrs. Harper being at that time only sixteen years of age. Her birth occurred in Ohio, April 14, 1833, her parents being Joseph and Mary Harper, both of whom died in Ohio, when their daughter was a small girl. She had one brother, John, who was killed in the battle of Vicksburg.

In the fall of 1857 Mr. and Mrs. Harper drove from Indiana to Iowa, being four weeks on the road. He purchased forty acres of wild land at a dollar and a quarter per acre, near Muchakinock and split rails at fifty cents per hundred in order to pay for the property. Upon the little claim he built a log cabin, in which he lived for several years and the children were all born in that pioneer home. He broke his land with five or six ox-teams and a twenty-two-inch plow. The hazelbrush was as high as the backs of his cattle, and there was no evidence of improvement at that time, but soon his earnest and persistent labors wrought a marked change in the appearance of his place, which within a few years brought forth bounteous harvests. He lived in the log cabin until war times, and later he added eighty acres to his farm, which he cleared and improved with the aid of his eldest son. In 1883 he sold this property for one hundred dollars per acre to a coal company and came to Prairie township, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres, upon which he now resides. This was improved with a good house and barn, while the fields had been cultivated,

the farm giving every evidence of modern progress. He also purchased two hundred acres farther north for his son William and bought one hundred and sixty acres for his son Sidney adjoining his own place. Afterward he and his son Sidney purchased one hundred and sixty acres more, so that there is now three-fourths of a section in one body owned by the father and son.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Harper were born four children, of whom three are vet living, namely: William, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work; Mary, the wife of J. H. Williams, living elsewhere in this township, Mr. Harper having assisted them in purchasing a farm; and Sidney T., who married Ora Stevenson and resides upon the farm adjoining his father's. daughter, Clara B., died when only three years old. Mr. Harper is in many respects a model man, for he never uses tobacco nor liquor in any form, and is a good neighbor-honest and upright. With meager advantages in his youth, he has been a hard worker and his labors have been attended with success. At all times he has received the able assistance of his estimable wife and they have labored together earnestly as the years have gone by until they now have a comfortable home and a valuable property. Mrs. Harper belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Harper exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and their standing in public regard is indicated by the fact that it has been said of them, "They have not an enemy in the world."

WILLIAM F. HARPER.

William F. Harper is one of Iowa's native sons, who has made a creditable record both for success and an honorable life. He was born in Mahaska county, August 9, 1851, and is a son of Jacob Harper, who is mentioned

above. His education was acquired in the district schools and in Oskaloosa College, where he pursued a business course that well qualified him for life's practical and responsible duties. He lived with his parents until four years after his marriage, and during that time assisted in the labor of the home farm. On the 1st of July, 1874, he wedded Miss Elizabeth McGlasson, who was born in Mahaska county, November 14, 1858, a daughter of Toseph and Sarah (Redinan) McGlasson. The father was born in Kentucky in 1807, and became one of the early settlers of Mahaska county, locating a short distance south of Oskaloosa near the old Harper home. Later he sold his land to coal operators and retired from active business life. He died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Harper, when eighty-nine years of age, while his wife, who was born in Illinois in 1819, passed away September 14, 1903, at the age of eighty-four years.

Four years after his marriage, William Harper removed to an eighty-acre farm belonging to his father south of the Excelsior Coal Works. For eighteen months he engaged in clerking in the store owned by the coal company About twenty-four years ago his father, having sold his home in that locality, removed to Prairie township, and William Harper in connection with his father purchased two hundred acres of improved land, upon which the son now resides. He has added one hundred and twenty acres to this farm and has remodeled the house, expending twelve hundred and fifty dollars in repairing it, until he now has a very attractive and comfortable home. He also built a large barn on the opposite side of the road. He was formerly a cattle-feeder, but in later years has given his attention to the raising of horses and mules and he ownes a good stallion of the imported Englishshire breed, which he purchased from the firm of Burgess & Son, of Wewona, Illinois. He has fifty-four head of horses and inules on his farm and finds this branch of business very profitable, for he breeds only high grade stock. He is a very prosperous farmer, whose business methods are practical, and are attended with gratifying results.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Harper have been born two children: Estella G., born October 4, 1876, is now the wife of Aaron S. Jarrard, of Prairie township, and has four children. Ada Grace, born April 13, 1887, is the wife of Jesse Rice, who resides upon a part of her father's farm, and they have one child.

Mr. Harper has always been a republican, casting his first vote for Rutherford B. Hayes, and supporting each presidential candidate of the party since that time. He has served as trustee of his township, also as township assessor for nine years and is now, and has been for fifteen years, treasurer of his school district. He and his wife are faithful members and active workers in the Methodist Episcopal church at Taintor, and are also connected with the Holiness Band in New Sharon. They are held in highest esteem by neighbors and friends, and Mr. Harper is recognized as a man of genuine worth, of conscientious motives and upright principles, thoroughly reliable at all times.

JOHN ANDERSON.

John Anderson, now eighty-five years of age, is living retired in New Sharon. For a long period he was closely identified with agricultural interests in this county. He is very prominent among the Norwegian settlers in this part of the state, being held in the highest regard by them and recognized among them as a leader. He was born in Norway, February 17, 1821, his parents being Andrew and Lena (Erickson) Anderson, both of whom were natives of Norway, where they resided upon a farm until called to their final rest, the father passing away at the age of fifty years, while his wife died at the age of eighty years. They

were in limited circumstances, owning only a small farm and securing little more than a living, so that their children had but few advantages in youth. There were seven children, but John and one sister are the only surviving members of the family.

The educational advantages afforded John Anderson were very meager. He lived at home until old enough to work, after which he learned the carpenter's trade, following that pursuit in his native country and also to some extent after coming to America. He was married at the age of twenty-eight years to Christina Knudson and purchased a little farm in Norway, upon which he resided for about eight vears, but, seeing that the task of acquiring a competency would be a very long and tedious one in their native land, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson resolved to come to America and in 1858 sailed for the new world. They traveled with a party of thirty colonists, who started out to find a new home.

Mr. Anderson had a cousin living in Henry county, Iowa, who had been in the United States for about eighteen years and on visiting Norway had persuaded our subject and his wife and some friends to return with They embarked on a sailing vessel and were eight weeks and two days in making the voyage from England to Ouebec. They encountered a severe storm which drove them one hundred miles out of their course. From Quebec they came directly to Henry county, Iowa, and Mr. Anderson possessed only sixty dollars when he reached his destination. bought two cows, one for sixteen dollars and the other for twenty dollars. It was at that time warm weather and they had only the heavy clothing which they had brought with them from Norway, so Mr. Anderson spent the rest of his money in purchasing lighter weight elothing. His cousin was a widower and John Anderson and his wife began to work upon his farm, where they remained for about eight team of horses and a few sheep. Two years before leaving his cousin's employ Mr. Anderson had purchased forty acres of land on section 11, Prairie township, and about 1865 he removed to his little farm. There were no building or fences upon the place when it came into his possession and he paid three hundred dollars for the tract of uncultivated land. Purchasing a small frame house west of his farm, his neighbors assisted him with ox teams in removing this house to his land and later he built an addition thereto, hauling the lumber from Grinnell and Ottumwa. A few years later he bought twenty acres and in 1872 purchased another forty acres, so that he now owns altogether one hundred acres, which is valuable property, there being not one foot of waste land upon his farm. He has erected very fair buildings and has a good orchard and a number of years ago he replaced the old house with a more modern residence. In the early days neighbors were few and widely scattered. Only here and there would be seen a little home to show that the seeds of civilization were being planted on the western prairies. Mr. Anderson turned his sheep out to graze on the prairies and many of them were lost, straving far from home. He had no fences at first and the stock had an open range. New Sharon was but a small village and Des Moines was an inconsequential town containing only a few frame buildings and small stores. While living in Henry county Mr. Anderson engaged in raising flax and also made a machine for dressing it by hand. His wife spun yarn and wove cloth for the clothing and in the early days their cabin home was lighted by tallow candles, but kerosene lamps soon came into use.

years, during which time they were enabled to

save a little money in addition to purchasing a

In 1878 Mr. Anderson was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 21st of September of that year. She was born April 8, 1825, and was therefore fifty-three

years of age. After living alone for fifteen years Mr. Anderson wedded Mrs. Osmond Watland, a widow, who bore the maiden name of Bertha Olson. She was born in Norway and came to America with her first husband, by whom she had one child, a daughter, Lena, now the wife of Ole Ferris, who is section boss on the Iowa Central Railroad and lives in New Sharon. Mr. Anderson has never had any children of his own but has reared a niece, Christine Anderson, who went to live with him when two years old and who is now the wife of Nels Thompson, of Prairie township.

About fourteen vears ago Mr. Anderson bought three acres of land in the southwestern part of New Sharon, built thereon a residence and removed to the town. He has led a very busy and useful life and indolence and idleness are utterly foreign to his nature. Though now eighty-five years of age he vet performs the chores around his place and takes great delight in this work. He and his wife keep two cows and a flock of chickens and their care furnishes him employment. In his farm work he was quite successful, acquiring a competence that now enables him to live retired. He found conditions in America very different from those in his native country and he never realized this more than when in 1872 he paid a visit to Norway. He saw that the land was stony and was so rocky in some places that nothing can be raised. In the early days he would cut grass all day long with a sickle and then could tie up the entire amount with a rope and carry it on his back. The land was all dug over with a spade, for it was so rocky that a plow could not be used. Great numbers of people lived by fishing and those who farmed made a living and nothing more. Mr. Anderson brought back with him to this country two of his sisters. In politics he has always been a republican, becoming an advocate of the party when it was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery. He was reared in the Lutheran faith,

but after coming to America became a member of the Society of Friends and has for a number of years been identified with the congregation of Friends at New Sharon. Though receiving but limited education in his youth he has ever made the most of his opportunities in this direction and although he could not write his name when he came to America he is now quite a well informed man. learned much by attending Sunday-school. He was determined to learn and therefore great pains were taken with him to assist him. He has always kept in touch with the progress of the country along many lines and he possesses sound judgment and keen discrimination which have made him a leader among the Norwegian citizens of this community. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in the new world, for he has prospered in this country and is now the owner of valuable property interests in Mahaska county.

R. W. BAXTER.

R. W. Baxter, living on section 16, Spring Creek township, devotes his time and energies to the tilling of the soil and the raising of stock, He owns two good farms in this township and his practical methods and enterprise contain the secret of his success. He has lived in the county since 1872. His birth occurred in county Antrim, Ireland, in 1846, and he is of Scotch ancestry. He spent the first nineteen years of his life in his native land, where he served an apprenticeship in a rolling mill and was thus employed for several years. grating to the new world he landed in New York on the 7th of June, 1866, and thence made his way to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he was employed in a rolling mill, working there until February, 1875. In 1872, however, he had come to Jowa and purchased land in Mahaska county, and three years later he took up his abode upon this farm, comprising eighty acres, of which only a small part had been broken. There was upon the place a small frame house and log stable.

Mr. Baxter was married in Pittsburg, July 2, 1872, to Mrs. Jane Ross (nee Cruth), the widow of William Ross, and a native of Ireland, in which place she was reared. The eldest daughter of this marriage is now Mrs. W. F. Knott, a widow residing in Cedar, Iowa. She has six children: Irvin Ross, Laura Myrtle, Lottie May, Gracie Mabel, Mary Josephine and Carrie C. Knott. Mary Josephine is with her grandparents, and is a little maiden of seven years. She is now attending the home school and resides with her Grandmother Baxter. Mr. and Mrs. Baxter experienced many hardships and privations for many years, as he attempted to make a start in life. He began at the lowest round of the ladder of success, but has gradually climbed upward. As his financial resources increased he bought more land from time to time and now owns one hundred and sixty acres of cultivable land and forty acres of timber. Upon this place he built a new cottage and good barn. He has also planted an orchard and has fenced the place. There is a good well and windmill, and altogether he has made a valuable farm, equipped with modern improvements, together with good machinery that facilitates the work of the fields. Upon the farm he continued to reside until 1899, when he bought a residence in Oskaloosa and retired to the city. During this time he has bought fiftyseven acres, including an improved place where he resides of twenty acres on the north side and thirty-seven acres on the south side. Upon the north side property there is a large, commodious and substantial residence, and a young orchard just coming into bearing.

Mr. and Mrs. Baxter have three children: Ida May, now the wife of Arthur Delly, a farmer of Madison township; Carrie C., the wife of Frank Water, of Oskaloosa; and Fannie A., who is a graduate of the high school of Oskaloosa, and is now a teacher in Mahaska county. They lost their first born, Jennie Baxter, who died when a year old.

Politically Mr. Baxter is independent, supporting men and measures rather than party. He has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking but is desirous for the welfare of his community and is a believer in good schools and good teachers. He served for a number of years on the school board and put forth effective and earnest service in behalf of the cause of education. Both he and his wife are members of the United Presbyterian church of Oskaloosa. He has lived and labored in Mahaska county for many years, and is well known as a prosperous farmer and good business man, whose genuine worth and ability have resulted in winning for him an honorable name and also a gratifying measure of success.

MOSES E. VOTAW.

Moses E. Votaw, who devotes his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits, including both the cultivation of the soil and the raising and feeding of stock, is living on section 15, Cedar township, and owns a valuable and well improved farm of nearly five hundred acres, which is conveniently located within a mile of Fremont. He has been a resident of the county since 1870, and in the years which have since passed he has been an active representative of agricultural interests. His birth occurred in Indiana, near the town of Wabash, on the 14th of February, 1852. His father, Isaac Votaw, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1805, but was married in Ohio, Miss Rebecca Pierce, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1809, becoming his wife. For some years they resided in the Buckeye state and afterward

removed to Wabash county, Indiana, whence they went a few years later to Cass county, Michigan, residing there for twelve years. In 1870 they came to Iowa, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres, constituting a part of the farm upon which Moses E. Votaw now resides. After spending four years upon this property the father took up his abode in Oskaloosa, where for some time he lived retired and later removed to Wright, where he died June 2, 1802. His wife survived him four years, passing away in 1896. In the family were eight children, five sons and three daughters, but the daughters are all now deceased.

Moses E. Votaw was a young man of eighteen years when he came with his parents to Iowa, having in the meantime accompanied them on their removal to Michigan. Here he assisted in carrying on the home farm and later he purchased the property which he further cultivated and improved. He rebuilt the barn, has erected a large two-story residence, and in 1900 he built a large new barn. He has tiled and fenced the place and has six fine wells with water flowing to tanks. He also has a windpump attached to another well. There is an abundance of water for the stock and house and everything upon the place is in keeping with ideas of modern farming, the latest improved machinery being used in the cultivation of the fields. Mr. Votaw has purchased more land from time to time and now owns a farm of four hundred acres in one body which is splendidly improved. He has fifty acres of pasture land north of Fremont. He harvests good crops and in connection with the tilling of the soil he is raising, fattening and shipping stock, annually selling from three to four carloads of cattle, sheep and hogs. In addition to his farming interests he aided in organizing the Fremont State Bank, of which he is a stockholder and director.

Mr. Votaw was married in White Oak township, Mahaska county, on Thanksgiving day of 1876, to Miss Sarah E. Caldwell, a native of Tennessee, who was reared in Mahaska county and is a daughter of Thomas Caldwell, one of the pioneers of Iowa, who came to this state from Tennessee. In 1892 Mr. Votaw was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 17th of March, of that year, and was laid to rest in White Oak cemetery. There were two sons and two daughters of that marriage: Elva Etta, who is now in California; Thomas W., also in Los Angeles, California; Nellie Grace, a student in Fremont; and Fred C.

Politically Mr. Votaw is a stanch republican, but without aspiration for office, although he served on one occasion as commissioner of highways. He is a believer in good schools and in the employment of good teachers, and as a member of the school board has done effective service for the cause of education. He is a member of the Society of Friends, at Bloomfield, and has lived an upright, honorable life, winning the confidence and respect of his fellowmen. For thirty-six years he has lived in Mahaska county, an interested witness of its growth and development, and has been one of the most active and prosperous farmers of this portion of the state. He certainly deserves much credit for what he has accomplished, his prosperity being attributable to his own earnest labor, well directed efforts and capable management. He is today in possession of a valuable property and his life record should serve to encourage and inspire others, showing what may be accomplished by determination and energy.

W. H. SARBAUGH, M. D.

Dr. Wilbur Holland Sarbaugh, engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Oskaloosa, was born near Zanesville, in Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1870. His father, John W. Sarbaugh, also a native of Ohio, is a farmer by occupation and yet resides in Muskingum county, Ohio. He served as a soldier of Company F, Seventy-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, for thirteen months and was honorably discharged on account of disability. He is now chaplain of the Grand Army post at New Concord, Ohio. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Nancy B. Holland, was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, and she too is a Methodist in religious faith. In their family were four children. Ida, the eldest, is the wife of A. M. Osler, a distant relative of the celebrated Dr. Osler, a collegebred man, who at one time was principal of schools. He is still teaching and farming in Muskingum county. Jennie Sarbaugh is now the wife of Charles Roberts, of Birmingham, Alabama. Dora is the wife of W. H. Dunkle, a jeweler of Centerville, Indiana. Dr. Sarbaugh, the third of the family, was reared to farm life and attended the district schools near his father's home, after which he became a student in Scio (Ohio) College. He engaged in teaching school between the ages of sixteen and twenty-three years but regarded this professional service merely as an initial step to a different professional career. He read medicine in the office of Dr. G. W. Lane, at Sago, Ohio, and in 1897 was graduated from the Ohio Medical College at Columbus. He began practice in his home town and afterward came to Iowa, settling first at Wright, Mahaska county, where he practiced with success until, seeking a broader field of labor, he came to Oskaloosa in January, 1906.

In October, 1898, Dr. Sarbaugh was married to Miss Nellie Gertrude Landfear, who was born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, in 1880, and is a daughter of H. W. and Susan M. Landfear, the former agent for the Iowa Central Railroad at Wright. The Doctor and his wife

have three interesting children, Paul H., Rex L. and Wanda E. The Doctor is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, while his wife belongs to the Society of Friends. He also has membership relations with the Masons and the Odd Fellows and is a republican in his political views. In his professional career he has made steady advancement and has already won a creditable name and place in Oskaloosa, having previously become quite widely known during the period of his residence in Wright.

NICHOLAS BEAL.

Nicholas Beal, a veteran of the Civil war, now engaged in general farming on section 20, Prairie township, was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, June 8, 1837. His father, Hiram Beal, was a native of Fayette county, Pennsylvania, born July 3, 1813, and his parents were Nicholas and Mary (Pearsall) Beal. The grandfather died January 23, 1843, at the age of fiftyfour years and nineteen days, while the grandmother passed away April 25, 1860, at the age of sixty-eight years, eight months and four days. Hiram Beal was united in marriage to Jerusha McDonald, who was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, October 27, 1813. They came to Mahaska county in 1854, when there was not a railroad in the state. They drove to Iowa from Illinois, where they had settled after leaving Ohio. They had one team of horses and two yoke of oxen and Nicholas Beal of this review drove the oxen. He had driven two voke of oxen through to Mahaska county the year before for his uncle, William Beal. The family began life in this county in true pioneer style and for many years Hiram Beal was identified with general agricultural pursuits here. He died upon the home farm in Prairie township, this county, January 31, 1899, while his wife passed away August 18, 1884. Further mention is made of them on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of their son, 11. A. Beal.

Nicholas Beal remained with his parents until twenty-seven years of age and assisted in the development, cultivation and improvement of the old home farm. On the 3d of May, 1868, he was united in marriage to Miss Virginia Totten, who was born in Indiana, November 30, 1843, and was a daughter of John and Ruth (Debord) Totten, who came to Mahaska county about the same time as the Beal When they were married Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Beal removed to Hardin county, Iowa, where he had previously purchased a farm, and there they spent two years, after which they returned to Mahaska county, where Mr. Beal purchased a farm in Madison township, making his home thereon for a short period. At different times he owned and sold various farms, always disposing of his property at an advance of the purchase price and thus adding somewhat to his income. Twenty-nine years ago he purchased the farm upon which he now resides. It was then improved with good buildings which he has, however, since replaced with more modern structures until he now has a well equipped farm property. He owns a nice farm of one hundred and twenty acres upon which is an attractive residence, substantial barn and other outbuildings. All are well painted, there are good fences and the places gives indication in its attractive appearance of neatness and prosperity. Mr. Beal now rents much of his land on shares, while he is practically living retired from the more arduous duties of farm labor.

During the period of the Civil war Mr. Beal put aside personal considerations and enlisted at Montezuma, Iowa, on the 29th of February, 1864, as a member of Company E, of the Thirty-third Iowa Reserves under Captain Pronty, now residing in Des Moines. They rendezvoused at Davenport and afterward went to Little Rock,

Arkansas. Mr. Beal was in an engagement at Jenkins Ferry on the Saline river when Steel was making a retreat to Little Rock. He was also at the battle of Spanish Fort across the bay from Mobile, the siege of that place lasting for thirteen days and nights. He was subsequently at Little Rock, Arkansas, and becoming ill was in the hospital for a short time. He was mustered out at Houston, Texas, August 15, 1865, and now receives a small pension in recognition of his service.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beal were born three children, of whom two are living: Elma, the wife of Louis A. Burden, who is residing upon a farm in Prairie township; and Emma, at home. The second child died in infancy. Mr. Beal has given to each of his surviving children a tract of land. He well remembers the early days when pioneer conditions existed, when a grease lamp was used and when cooking was done over an open fireplace. His parents, however, were in comfortable circumstances and did not suffer many of the privations and hardships incident to pioneer life. In politics Mr. Beal has always been an earnest democrat, but has never been an aspirant for office preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs. He is a good neighbor, an honest and upright man and a faithful friend and in citizenship is as true and loyal to his country as when he followed the stars and stripes upon southern battle-fields.

FRANCIS A. JONES.

Francis A. Jones, who owns and operates a good farm of two hundred and four acres on section 18, Pleasant Gröve töwnship, was born in Hendricks county, Indiana, February 19, 1845, his parents being James and Elizabeth (Gibbons) Jones, of whom mention is made in connection with the sketch of Robert M.

Iones on another page of this work. He was eleven years of age when with his parents he came to Iowa and in the district schools he acquired his education. He continued to assist in the operation of the home farm until twentyseven years of age, when he went to Missouri, where he purchased a farm, residing thereon for two years. He met with reverses, however, and lost his farm, after which he returned to Iowa. In 1883 he purchased the property upon which he now resides, becoming owner of two hundred and forty-four acres on section 18, pleasant Grove township. The place was but little improved. There was a small house, sixteen by twenty-four feet, which Mr. Jones has since enlarged and remodeled, making it into a comfortable residence. He has also built a barn and other out buildings for the shelter of grain and stock. He has since sold forty acres of land but still retains possession of two hundred and four acres, constituting one of the valuable and productive farms of the county, the land responding readily to the care and cultivation which he bestows upon it. He carries on general agricultural pursuits, raising both stock and grain. He has always been a hard worker and in fact his close application and unfaltering industry have somewhat impaired his health. All that he possesses is due to his own efforts and his example should serve as a source of emulation and encouragement to others, showing what may be accomplished through diligence and perseverance.

On the 22d of June, 1875, Mr. Jones was united in marriage to Miss Maria Belle Foster, who was born in Davis county, Iowa, a daughter of Joseph and Nancy (Jones) Foster, the former a resident of Texas. The mother, however, died in Idaho. They came to Iowa in 1854, settling in Davis county, where they lived for many years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jones have been born thirteen children, of whom three are now living: Mary Susan, the wife of Lafayette Tolles, a resident of this township; Jennie May,

the wife of John S. Small, of Pleasant Grove township; and Mary Melissa, at home. Ten died in infancy.

In his political views Mr. Jones has always been a democrat but has never had a desire for office. He has served as school director and he and his family are members of the Baptist church. In manner he is unassuming but possesses sound judgment and is considered one of the substantial farmers of Pleasant Grove township.

DANIEL HULL.

Daniel Hull, numbered among the successful and energetic farmers and stock-raisers of Spring Creek township has a good property of two hundred and sixty acres on section 5, and the place is within three miles of Oskaloosa. A native son of this township, he was born on March 26, 1858. His father, Hull, was born in New York in 1819, and, removing westward to Indiana, was there married in Randolph county to Miss Levina Bond, whose birth occurred in that county, while her girlhood days were also passed there. Mr. Hull was a carpenter by trade and also a shoemaker. He followed both pursuits in early life and about 1840 removed to Iowa, settling in Spring Creek township, where he opened up a number of farms. He would purchase land, improve the property and then sell, so that from time to time he owned a number of different farms. He also owned and operated a sawmill. His father, Solomon Hull, was one of the first to settle in this locality and was also engaged in manufacturing lumber. The family has thus been closely associated with the material progress and substantial upbuilding of Mahaska county. After living here for some vears, John Hull removed to Nebraska, settling upon a farm, and his death occurred in Tobias,



DANIEL HULL.



Fillmore county. He was greatly interested in bee culture, made a close study of the habits of bees, hunted out their hives and made a specialty of raising honey for the market. He was considered authority upon the subject of bee culture and his apiary was a fine one. He died in 1901 and his wife, still surviving him, is now residing in Tobias at the age of eighty-two years.

Daniel Hull is one of a family of seven sons and five daughters, all of whom reached adult age. Of this number six sons and three daughters are yet living. Daniel Hull was reared to manhood in Spring Creek township and remained with his father until twenty-two years of age, during which time he assisted in developing and carrying on the home farm. He had good common-school advantages and afterward attended Penn College, so that he was well equipped by a liberal education for the practical and responsible duties of life. After attaining his majority he rented land for a few years, resolving to make farming his life work.

Mr. Hull was married in Madison township, December 22, 1881, to Miss Effie Glasscock, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of Joseph A. Glasscock and a sister of H. H. Glasscock, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. She lived successively in Ohio, Missouri and Iowa and acquired a high-school education. After his marriage Mr. Hull rented land and thus engaged in farming for a few years, during which time he carefully saved his earnings until he had a sum sufficient to enable him to purchase land. In 1898 he bought his present farm on section 5, Spring Creek township, and, locating thereon, began its further development and improvement. It already had fair buildings upon it, but he has built fences, not only to enclose the farm but also to divide it into fields of convenient size. He has also grubbed out the stumps and cleared away the brush and raises good crops, in addition to which he devotes his time to the raising of pure-blooded and high grade stock, including cattle, sheep and hogs. He feeds and fattens quite a large number of hogs annually and finds a ready sale for them on the market. In all of his business dealings he is reliable and in his work is thoroughly practical and systematic.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hull have been born six children: Ethel, now the wife of Charles Allard, a farmer, of Spring Creek township, by whom she has a son, Howard Allard; Clifford L, a student in the high school of Oskaloosa; Grace, who is attending Penn College; Raymond D., Mary L. and Enid I. The parents are members of the Friends church of Oskaloosa. Mr. Hull casts his ballot for the candidates of the republican party, but has never been a politician in the sense of seeking office for himself. His entire life has been passed in Mahaska county, during which time he has aided in clearing and developing several farms. He has also driven an ox-team to the breaking plow, thus turning the virgin sod, has cleared land and has improved the county along agricultural lines. He is a man of upright character and worth, and he and his estimable wife are highly respected in the community where they reside.

CHARLES E. LOFLAND.

Charles E. Lofland, cashier of the Oskaloosa National Bank, is a leading representative of financial interests in Mahaska county, for he has made a close and discriminating study of the banking business and his labors have contributed in substantial degree to the success of the institution which he represents. He was born January 15, 1859, in Oskaloosa, a son of Colonel John and Sarah J. (Bartlett) Lofland, natives of Ohio. Following their marriage they came to Oskaloosa in 1854, finding here a small

village, with the interests of which they became closely and helpfully identified.

Charles E. Lofland pursued a public-school education and also attended the Oskaloosa College. He afterward joined a surveying corps in southern lowa and Missouri, continuing in that work for two years, when he came to the Oskaloosa National Bank as bookkeeper. acted in that capacity from 1880 until 1885, was then made assistant cashier and in 1886 was chosen cashier, since which time he has served in this capacity and has been instrumental in building up a strong banking institution in the county. He is also interested in coal mining to some extent, but the bank claims the greater part of his time and attention, and he has made a close study of each department of the business and believes in and practices a safe, conservative system which awakens uniform confidence.

On the 28th of December, 1881, Mr. Lofland was married to Miss Mary E. Little, a daughter of Henry I. Little, of Oskaloosa. Their children are John H., Helen and Charles E. The elder son has been a member of the United States navy since 1899.

Colonel John Lofland, deceased, was among the early citizens of Mahaska county and was a prominent and valued factor during the formative period of its growth and development. The extent of his labors and influence cannot be measured, but all who know aught of the history of the county recognize the worth of his labors in behalf of public progress. A native of Belmont county, Ohio, Colonel Lofland was born on the 10th of January, 1830. His father, Joseph Lofland, was a native of Maryland, while the mother, Mrs. Elizabeth (Lippincott) Lofland, was a native of Pennsylvania. Both became residents of Ohio in pioneer times when the wilderness had been brought under the influence of civilization to hardly any extent. In that state they were married and reared a family of three sons and one daughter. The

father passed away n 1857, at the age of sixty-eight years, while his wife died in 1878, at the age of eighty-eight years.

Colonel Lofland was reared upon a farm, where he remained until sixteen years of age, assisting his father in the cultivation of the fields and in other ardnous tasks incident to the development of a new tract of land. As opportunity offered he attended the common schools of the neighborhood and at the age of sixteen he entered upon a four years' apprenticeship to learn the trade of a watchmaker and jeweler in Cambridge, Ohio. When the term of his indenture was ended he went to Cadiz, Ohio, where he purchased a jewelry store and began his mercantile career, being then twenty-one years of age.

About a year afterward, on the 4th of December, 1851, Colonel Lofland was united in marriage to Miss Sarah J. Bartlett, a native of Harrison county, Ohio, born in April, 1830, and a daughter of George and Ursula (Wycoff) Barlett, both now deceased Four children were born of this marriage, of whom a daughter died in infancy. Of the others, George, born January 28, 1854, died January 28, 1874, on the twentieth anniversary of his birth. Frank C., born in 1856, of the Siebel Company. Charles E. is cashier of the Oskaloosa National Bank.

In 1854 Colonel Lofland sold his interests in Ohio and came to Oskaloosa, where for three years he was engaged in the marble business. He then purchased a watchmaking and jewelry establishment from S. H. Chapman, who removed to Newton, Jasper county, Iowa, and subsequently entered the army. Early in 1861 John W. Irwin, another jeweler of Oskaloosa, also desirous of joining the army, sold his business to Colonel Lofland, who united the two stores. The war now being in active progress and call after call being made for troops, Colonel Lofland could no longer resist the appeal, and as the service had proved too hard for Mr. Chapman, he was discharged and in the sum-

den, Jenkin's Ferry, Spanish Fort, Fort Blakely lowed the battles of Helena, Little Rock, Cam-Colonel Lofland, the former becoming owner was soon effected between Mr. Chapman and and Mobile, together with numerous smaller mer of 1862 returned to Oskaloosa. The trade of the latter's stock of goods.

Thus being freed from all business engagement, Colonel Lofland proceeded to raise a company for the service and in August, 1862, this was mustered in as Company D, Thirty-third Iowa Volunteer Infantry, with Mr. Lofland as captain. The regiment was soon ordered to the field and its record is well known to those at all familiar with Iowa's part in the great Civil war. The history of its movements is certainly a commendable one and no regiment of Iowa was more often in active duty. The first important service in which the Thirty-third Iowa participated was Yazoo Pass expedition in the rear of Vicksburg, during which time the attack on Fort Sumter was made. Then folengagements and raids. In August, 1863, Captain Lofland was promoted over the major and three captains, who were his seniors in rank, to the position of lieutenant colonel of the regiment and from the time of his promotion until the final muster out at Davenport, Iowa, in August, 1865, he was almost continually in command of the Thirty-third. As an officer he displayed unflinching courage, though he was never foolhardy nor sacrificed his men when he could save them, yet he never faltered in the performance of any duty and his own valor often inspired his men to deeds of heroism. He had the entire confidence of his regiment and none refused to follow his lead. Though a strict disciplinarian his men all respected and loved him. On retiring from the service he removed to a farm, whereon he remained for three years and in August, 1869, he entered the international revenue service as assistant assessor with headquarters at Oskaloosa, where he continued until 1873, when he was appointed deputy collector of internal revenue, discharging the duties of the office until August, 1882, when, having been duly approved, he was appointed internal revenue agent, which position he held for several years, making an enviable record therein. He was sent on difficult missions to almost every section of the country and his multitudinous delicate duties were always faithfully and capably performed. All liquor interests came under his inspection and to Colonel Lofland is given the credit of discovering frauds practiced by Cincinnati manufacturers by the use of false staves in the barrel, by which the government was defrauded out of large sums of money. He was for years continuously in the revenue department of the general government, and on his retirement from the office was one of the oldest in that branch of the service. He had been most faithful to the public trust, working without fear or favor, and he won the high encomiums of all in the government service who had occasion to know of his effective and earnest work.

Colonel Lofland in early life gave his political allegiance to the whig party, and later became a stanch republican, never swerving in his allegiance to the latter organization. He was what is known as "an intense republican, though not offensively partisan." As an officer in the government service he knew no politics, never letting personal preference or prejudice swerve him from the faithful discharge of his duties, but as a citizen he did not hestitate to advocate upon all proper occasions the views in which he believed, and supported the principles that he thought contained the best elements of good government. He was a member of the Presbyterian church and socially he had the respect and good will of all by whom he was known. and his acquaintance was a wide one. In his death Mahaska county mourned the loss of a valued citizen, for during the period of his residence here he was a prominent factor in its early growth and development. Unfaltering honor was one of his salient characteristics, and he also drew many to him in strong ties of friendship.

CHARLES FLEMING

Charles Fleming, a representative of one of the old and prominent pioneer families of Mahaska county now living on section 10, Richland township, where he carries on general agricultural pursuits, was born in West Virginia, January 18, 1842. He was ten years of age when the parents came to Iowa. His father, Robert L. Fleming, is now deceased, but for many years was closely associated with agricultural interests in this part of the state. The family came here in pioneer times when Charles was only about ten years of age. His childhood and youth were passed under the parental roof, and he worked upon the home farm until he reached the age of twenty-six years, his education having been acquired in the common schools.

On the 6th of October, 1867, Charles Fleming was married to Miss Emily Samantha Spain, who was born in Union county, Ohio, March 28, 1851. Mention is made of her parents in connection with the sketch of T. J. Timbrel on another page of this work, Mrs. Timbrel being a sister of Mrs. Fleming. From his father Mr. Fleming received forty acres of land, a part of which he purchased in 1853. The forty acres was all wild, not a fence having been built nor an improvement made upon the property. He erected a good frame residence, also built barns and fences and has since made his home upon the farm, which under his careful direction has been transformed into a rich and productive property. He bought forty acres adjoining the original purchase on the west and still later bought sixty acres, all of which is improved with good buildings lying north of the second forty acres. Mr. Fleming has met the usual experiences of pioneer settlers. There has been much arduous labor in connection with the development of his land, but his work has triumphed over the pioneer conditions and he has made a good home and farm from the wild prairie. He now owns one hundred and forty acres of good land which is clear of all indebtedness. His memory goes back to the early days when in his father's home grease lamps were used and afterward candles. They cooked over an open fireplace and the women of the household in those times spun their varn and wove their own cloth. On one occasion when they first came to Iowa they were stopping at the home of an early settler named Petty. The supply of flour gave out and they thought none was to be had. Mr. Fleming rode all day in search of flour or meal, and returned with a peck of sour corn meal, from which they made bread, eating it with a relish because of their hunger. Long since, however, the hardships and difficulties of pioneer life have given way before an advancing civilization and the prosperity which has been won by Mr. Fleming and other settlers.

Unto our subject and his wife have been born two children: Dosha Drusilla and Almarillis. Dosha was married to Benjamin Warbleton, August 31, 1894, and to them have been born two children: Icy, who died in infancy; and Lelia. The younger daughter, Almarillis, was a teacher in the public schools for several years, but at the present time is at home.

In politics Mr. Fleming was a democrat until about twenty years ago, since which time he has voted the republican ticket. He has served as school director, but has held no other office nor has he desired political preferment. Both he and his wife are believers in the Christian religion as taught by the Methodist Episcopal church, but are not members of any congregation. Mr. Fleming is a well posted man and is a good farmer. It has not been the aim of

his life to become wealthy, but he has been successful in what he has accomplished and now has a good farm property. He is spoken of in creditable terms by all who know him and is one of the respected and worthy citizens of Mahaska county, where for more than a half century he has made his home.

WILLIAM H. BROWN.

William H. Brown, living on section 16, Monroe township, one of the successful farmers and all-around business men of Mahaska county, is numbered with the veterans of the Civil war and the old settlers of this part of the state, where he owns and operates a neat and valuable farm of three hundred and twenty acres. He has lived in the county since 1852, coming here with his parents when a lad of twelve years. He was born in Morrow county, Ohio, April 6, 1840, and his father, William Brown, was a native of Virginia, who in his boyhood days accompanied his parents on their removal to Ohio, where he was reared and educated, attending the common schools. He afterward followed farming there and subsequent to the attainment of his majority he was married in Ohio to Miss Matilda McMillan, a daughter of John McMillan, a native of Ireland, who came to America and settled in the state of New York, whence he afterward removed to Ohio. Mr. Brown continued to farm in Ohio after his marriage but becoming imbied with a desire to settle on the frontier he sold his interest in that state and with his family, then numbering a wife and seven children, came to Mahaska county, Iowa, in 1852. Here he entered from the government the land upon which his son William now resides, but the previous hard work incident to making a home in a new country undermined his health, and in 1852 he passed away, leaving Mrs. Brown with an unimproved farm and seven children to support. She heroically took up the task, however, and kept her children about her, giving them a good education. She managed her farm and later all of her sons engaged in teaching school, showing the training of the mother as a preceptor. After attaining his majority William H. Brown purchased the interest of the other heirs in the home property and took his mother to live with him, her death occurring in 1871, when she was sixty-nine years of age.

On the 1st of November, 1863, William H. Brown was married to Miss Margaret C. Ayers, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of William C. Avers, who was also born in Ohio and came to Mahaska county in the early '50s, remaining here until his demise. Prior to his marriage Mr. Brown, when in his twenty-first year, had enlisted at Oskaloosa for service as a member of Company C. Fifteenth Iowa Infantry, and with his company rendezvoused at Keokuk, joining the regular army at St. Louis, where he went into camp. Later the troops were at Pittsburg Landing and at Corinth, and he served in the war for fifteen months, being disabled at Shiloh by a bullet which pierced his hand. Because of his disability he was honorably discharged in November, 1862.

After regaining his health Mr. Brown began farming and improved and developed a good farm. He has since erected a good substantial two-story residence, also commodious barns and outbuildings and as the years have passed he has bought more land from time to time. The farm is now well fenced and tiled and is an attractive property. In addition to raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he also raises full-blooded Merino sheep, shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs, and the farm is well watered and equipped for stock-raising, in which business he is very successful, placing a large amount of stock on the market annually. In 1890 Mr. Brown was chosen secretary of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Mahaska county, which position he has since filled in an efficient manner. He is a man of resourceful business ability, having the power to co-ordinate plans, forces and possibilities, so that success results. In 1900 he was one of the organizers of the Bank of Rose Hill, and was chosen its vice-president and also one of its This institution was capitalized at fifteen thousand dollars with J. R. Busby as cashier. Mr. Brown was for six years treasurer of the township board and was township clerk for fifteen years and thus his community has benefited by his labors, for he proved a most capable and efficient officer. His political allegiance has long been given to the republican party although he cast his first presidential ballot for Stephen A. Douglas, but has never ceased to regret it.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been born eight children: Winfield, who died at the age of twenty-four years; Anne, who died at the age of nineteen years; Cora, the wife of Dr. E. M. Haggard, of Indianapolis, Indiana; Lena, the wife of Charles Kent, superintendent of city schools at Charles City, Iowa; Ethel, the wife of Frank Garrett, both being missionaries of the Christian church in China since 1896; William H., who married Lucy Fisher and lives upon a farm adjoining his father's property; Justin, who has been a missionary in China since 1903; and Wirt, who married Lucy Lord and lives in a separate house upon the home farm, which he assists his father in carrying on. Mr. and Mrs. Brown and their family are members of the Christian church, of Monroe township, and take a most active and helpful part in its work. He has witnessed much of the development of the county and is one of the most public-spirited and energetic citizens here. He has always manifested the same loyalty in citizenship that he displayed when he joined the "boys in blue" and fought for the defense of the Union upon the battle-fields of the south. In business affairs he has been found thoroughly reliable, being straightforward in all of his dealings yet he has never concentrated his energies upon his business interests to the exclusion of those duties which should claim a part of a man's attention—the duties relating to his citizenship and to his relations to his fellowmen. He is spoken of in most favorable terms by all who know him and he well deserves mention in this volume as a representative citizen of the county.

WILLIAM RICE.

William Rice, a well known representative of farming interests in Richland township, living on section 23, was born in Union county, Oliio, October 29, 1841, and is a son of Squire and Mary Ann (Holbrook) Rice. The former was a native of New York and became a resident of Ohio, where he died when his son William was only four or five years old. mother afterward removed to Lee county, Illinois, where her death occurred when William was fourteen years of age. On account of being early left an orphan Mr. Rice of this review knows little about his parents. He was the eldest of three children, the others being Ebenezer, who died in Tama county, Iowa; and Fannie, who was the wife of John Ramsey, a resident of Grinnell, Iowa, and who died January 28, 1903.

William Rice acquired his education in the common schools of Ohio and Illinois and when sixteen years of age was left to shift for himself, since which time he has depended entirely upon his own resources for a living. He went to work on a farm at five dollars per month and continued to be employed in that way until the first call to arms, following the firing on of Fort Sumter. He joined a company, but the regiment was not called into action until after the call was issued for three hundred thousand men. He enlisted at Dixon, Illinois, in Sep-

tember, 1861, becoming a member of Company C. Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under command of Captain A. P. Dysart. He served for a year and a half and was discharged in 1863. The company and regiment then veteranized and Mr. Rice remained with his command until the close of hostilities. The first battle in which he participated was at Shiloh and he afterward took part in many sanguinary engagements, including the battles of Chattanooga, Missionary Ridge, Atlanta, Rome, Peach Tree Creek and Kenesaw Mountain. He was also with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea and was mustered out at Chicago on the 12th of July, 1865. He was never wounded save that he received a slight scratch on the shoulder by a ball which tore away the coat and shirt, leaving the skin exposed. He was then ill in the hospital at Nashville, Tennessee, and was there given his discharge, but he waited ten days in Chicago for his regiment and all were discharged there. Mr. Rice was mustered out as second sergeant. He had proved a brave and loyal soldier, unfaltering in his support of the Union cause.

On the 25th of December, 1867, Mr. Rice was united in marriage to Miss Helen Nichols, who was born in New York, February 14, 1848, and is a daughter of Lafavette Nichols, whose birth occurred in the Empire state and who spent his last days in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rice, where he died at the age of seventyfour years. He married Almira Sheldon, who was born in Niagara county, New York, and died at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Rice. when seventy-four years of age, passing away in February, 1900, her husband having died in December previous. They removed from New York to Lee county, Illinois, and later to Tama county, Iowa, where they resided for many years, but their last days were spent in the home of their daughter. There were but two children in their family, the son being Henry Nichols, who now lives in Marshalltown, Iowa.

In the year of his marriage Mr. Rice removed to Tama county, Iowa, where he purchased eighty acres of land which was all wild prairie. He built the first house upon that tract, broke the sod, tilled the fields and there lived for fourteen years. Twenty-three years ago, in February, 1883, he came to Mahaska county and purchased what was known as the Gardner Lunt farm of two hundred acres. was improved and had a good house and barn upon it. Mr. Rice has since made some repairs and improvements on the house, which is a large, square, two-story dwelling. It is kept well painted, is tastefully furnished and shows every evidence of comfort and good taste. It is situated on a knoll commanding a splendid view of the surrounding country. Not far away stands a good basement barn and there are other buildings upon the place for the shelter of grain and stock. The house stands somewhat back from the highway with a lovely lane leading up to it. The fences are kept in good repair and an air of neatness and thrift pervades the place in all departments. Mr. Rice has also purchased thirty acres of timber and pasture land along the Skunk river. He devotes his attention to general farming and his labors are now being attended with a gratifying measure of success.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rice have been born eight children, of whom six are living: Lillie L., the deceased wife of George B. Appel, by whom she had one son; Mary Almira, the wife of Ed Sharp, of Kansas, by whom she has three children; Wilbur H., who is living on a farm in Prairie township and who married Hattie Shumake, by whom he has four children; Alma, the wife of Charles Streagle, of Richland township, and the mother of three children; Jesse L., who married Grace Harper, has one child, and is living in Prairie township; Vernon, at home; Grace, also at home; and Elmer, who died March 22, 1875, at the age of four months. William Rice is a stal-

wart republican, inflexible in his support of the party and its principles, though he has never been an office seeker and the only position that he has ever held has been that of school director. He and his wife are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he belongs to Shiloh post, No. 126, G. A. R., at Peoria, Iowa, in which he is now officer of the day. He certainly deserves much credit for what he has accomplished in life, because he started out empty-handed and has worked his way steadily upward. Beginning to earn his own living when a young lad of sixteen years without family or friends to aid him, he is today one of the substantial residents of the county. Moreover, he has made a creditable military record and has a family of which he has every reason to be proud. He keeps well informed on the questions of the day, is an interesting conversationalist and a jovial, genial gentleman—qualities which have won him many friends.

CARY M. KISOR.

Cary M. Kisor, who is successfully and extensively engaged in general farming on section 14, Union township, was born in Knox county, Ohio, March 2, 1842. His paternal grandparents were John and Elizabeth (Bolton) Kisor, who were natives of Rockingham county, Virginia. There were ten children in the family: Mrs. Anna Hayes, deceased; Mrs. Sena Dawson, who died in Texas; Mrs. Christiana Litzenburg, living in Hancock county, Ohio; Emma, who died in Knox county, Ohio; James, who passed away in New Sharon, Iowa; Mrs. Ellen Litzenburg, who died in Knox county, Ohio; Reuben, deceased, the father of Cary M. Kisor; John, who died in Texas two years ago, having gone there when it was an independent republic; David, who died in

Union township; and Robert, who died in Iowa City, Iowa.

Reuben Kisor, born in Knox county, Ohio,

April 29, 1819, died in Union township, Mahaska county, in November, 1897. He married Miss Mary Buckingham, who was born in Greene county, Pennsylvania, and died in April, 1861, in Union township, at the age of fortytwo years. She was a daughter of William and Nancy (McClellan) Buckingham, natives of Pennsylvania. The McClellans were of Irish descent and the great-grandfather of our subject, Carv McClellan, was one of Washington's body-guard during the Revolutionary war. The Buckinghams were of English lineage and came from the family who occupied Buckingham palace. The Kisor family, however, is of German lineage and three brothers of the family came from the fatherland to America in 1700, one settling in Maryland, another in Pennsylvania and a third in Virginia, and from the last named Cary M. Kisor is descended. Reuben Kisor and Mary Buckingham were married in Knox county, Ohio, in 1841, and came by rail to Iowa in 1856, traveling in that manner to Iowa City, whence they drove in a wagon to Union township, Mahaska county. Here Mr. Kisor purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 14, the greater part of which was covered with timber although two little log houses had been built. The family lived in one of the log cabins until 1850, when the father erected a frame residence and upon this farm he spent his remaining days, being one of the pioneer agriculturists of the county who contributed largely to the work of early development and improvement. He and all of his family were members of the Christian church.

When Cary M. Kisor was twenty-one years of age he went to Colorado, crossing the plains with a freight train, and one winter he drove the overland-mail stage coach. With pony and pack he went to Oregon and worked in the



MR. AND MRS. CARY M. KISOR.



mines on Powder river. In company with others he also whipsawed lumber near Yellowstone Park, built a skiff and in that manuer made his way down the Yellowstone and Missouri rivers to Omaha, Nebraska. They lost one of the men on the way and were often pursued and shot at by Indians. From Omaha Mr. Kisor returned to Mahaska county and worked for his father until he was married. It was on the 22d of December, 1870, that he wedded Miss Mary Jane Fisher, who was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, April 24, 1845, a daughter of Dr. Amasa and Judith Fisher, who came to Iowa with their family in 1854, settling in Pleasant Grove township. For a number of years Mrs. Kisor engaged successfully in teaching prior to her marriage. In 1858 she united with the Christian church and was always one of its devoted and faithful members. For six or seven years she was in poor health, caused by cancer of the stomach, and on the 22d of December, 1904, passed from this life. She had been a hopeful and patient sufferer and she was loved by all who knew her, her neighbors saving "a better woman never lived."

Mr. Kisor's first purchase of land was made in 1868, when he became owner of one hundred acres, nearly all of which was timber. Upon this farm he still resides and he now owns one hundred and sixty acres. The place is improved with a good frame residence with basement, also a substantial barn and other outbuildings. He carries on general farming and his fields return golden harvests in reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon them. He had but limited educational privileges as it was necessary that he aid his father in the work of cultivating and improving the new Iowa farm but throughout his life he has always been a great reader, being especially interested in ancient history. He is today well posted on all subjects, being perhaps the best informed man in the township upon its early history and the events which shape its annals.

The editor of this volume acknowledges his indebtedness to Mr. Kisor for considerable information upon this subject.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kisor were born four children: Cassie C., the wife of Elmer Gorsuch. a resident of Colorado; Rubie Amazette, the wife of Fred Kirk, living upon her father's farm; one who died in infancy unnamed; and C. Earl, at home. In politics Mr. Kisor is an independent democrat. He is now serving as school director, has been president of the school board and has also been road supervisor. He holds membership in the Christian church and is interested in all that pertains to the material, educational and moral progress of his community. He is a prominent and honored representative of agricultural interests and he says that greater improvements have been made in implements for farming and cultivating the soil than along any other line of business. Mr. Kisor himself brought the first vibrator threshing machine into Mahaska county and operated the outfit for several years. He has a hand sickle that was in common use when he first came into Iowa and this was but little better than such as were used in ancient times. He says that if Methuselah had lived to the time of Mr. Kisor's birth he would not have seen as much improvement in farm implements up to the middle of the nineteenth century as Mr. Kisor has seen in the last fifty years. His first plow was a double shovel, the shovels being of wood and not a nail in the whole plow. The trip to Oskaloosa or Iowa City for marketing or milling were made with ox-teams. Today the country is crossed and re-crossed with railroads and many interurban lines and towns and villages have sprung up, affording excellent opportunities for the farmer to secure his supplies and market his products. Invention has wrought a marked change and the harvester, binder, thresher, the cultivator and the riding plow have replaced the old-time implement. The farmer of today has not the lot

of hard manual labor to perform which he once had to do and although his life is a busy one much of his work is now performed by machinery, requiring only his careful direction and close attention to keep his farm implements in good working order. Mr. Kisor has kept pace with the changes that have been made and is one of the progressive agriculturists of the county.

JAMES NOEL.

James Noel is one of the pioneer residents of Mahaska county, who has intimate knowledge of the events which have marked the advance of its history and indicated its progress toward an advancing civilization. He was born in Union township, Perry county, Ohio, March 30, 1830, a son of Joseph and Mary (Cooper) Noel, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania and spent their last days in Indiana, the father's death occuring in White county, that state. He was a shoemaker in early life but later became a farmer and settled in White county.

James Noel of this review is the only living son in a family of sixteen children, three brothers having died in the Civil war. He was eighteen years of age when his father died. He then went to work on a farm in the neighborhood, having previously acquired a good commonschool education in the district schools of White county. In 1852 he came to Mahaska county with his wife's parents and on the 12th of December, the same year, he was married in a little log cabin in Richland township, this county, to Miss Mary M. Bacon, who was born in White county, Indiana, April 16, 1834, a daughter of Ira and Mary Bacon, the former born n Massachusetts and the latter in Ohio. Mr. Bacon and his family came to this county in July, 1852, and he took up government land in Richland township, whereon he built a log cabin, in which the family lived for several years. As time passed and he prospered in his undertakings he added to his farm until he owned five hundred acres of land and he continued his residence in Richland township until his death, which occurred when he had reached the age of sixty-six years. His widow survived him to the age of seventy-eight years. In their family were twelve children.

Following his marriage James Noel purchased one hundred and sixty acres of government land in Richland township, which he improved and made his home for several years. He then traded that property for another farm partially improved and lived thereon fourteen years, when he sold out and removed to New Sharon, where he is now living a retired life. He was an active and energetic agriculturist, carefully directed his business affairs and his industry and perseverance constituted the salient elements in his success.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Noel have been born six children, of whom four are living: Rubie, who died at the age of one year; Alfred, who married Miss Clara Tice, and is living at Leighton, this county; Almeda, who died at the age of fifteen years; Otis B., who married Miss Julia E. Knowlton and resides upon a farm in Union township; Olive, living in Illinois; Lillian, the wife of Henry C. Hull, a resident of Prairie township. In politics Mr. Noel is independent. He and his wife are members of the Christian church and they occupy a comfortable home on West Main street. Mr. Noel relates many interesting incidents of the early days when his Indiana home was upon the frontier. They used grease lamps and burned coon oil, which gave a steadier light than any other grease. After coming to Iowa they burned lard and tallow in the same kind of lamp. first bed was made by placing poles in holes made in the logs in the side of the cabin and then covering these with clapboards. shared in the hardships and privations of pioneer times but as the years have gone by have been enabled to secure the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

OTIS B. NOEL.

Otis B. Noel, living on section 21, Union township, was born in Black Oak township, this county, May 1, 1859, a son of James and Mary (Bacon) Noel, whose sketch is given above. In his youth he remained upon his father's farm and attended the district school. At the age of seventeen years he rented his father's farm, which he operated on the shares for three years. He afterward spent three years in Oskaloosa College to further perfect his education and then engaged in teaching for two years. He was afterward connected with the dry-goods and grocery trade in New Sharon for a year and for three years was a hardware merchant of that place, but in 1894 resumed farming, which he has since followed, in that year taking up his abode on the farm where he now resides. He is a wide-awake and progressive agriculturist, thoroughly familiar with all the duties connected with the farm and his capable management and careful work have resulted in making his property very valuable and productive.

Mr. Noel was married September 15, 1892, to Miss Julia Ellen Knowlton, who was born in Clinton county. Ohio, January 3, 1864, and is a daughter of Samuel Knowlton, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work in connection with the sketch of Dennis E. Whitehill. Mr. and Mrs. Noel have a son, Homer Otis, born February 20, 1896. Their home is a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of productive land, on which are good buildings and many modern improvements and it is a part of the Samuel Knowlton estate. In his political views Mr. Noel is an carnest republican, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day

as every true American citizen should do. He has served as township assessor for two years and as school director. He belongs to the Christian church, while his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. They are both interested in all good work and their pleasant home is justly celebrated for its hospitality, which is greatly enjoyed by their many friends.

CORNELIUS FLEMING.

Cornelius Fleming, whose fellow townsmen speak of him in terms of respect and good will, is now devoting his time and energies to farming on section 10, Richland township. He was born November 2, 1857, in the house which is yet his place of residence and here he has always lived. He is the son of R. L. Fleming and a twin brother of Amy Cordelia Fleming. In his youth he attended the district schools and was trained to farm work, remaining in the employ of his father until his marriage, which was celebrated on the 4th of December, 1887, Miss Annettie Willock becoming his wife. Her birth occurred in Logan county, Illinois, July 22, 1867. After the marriage of the son the father lived with him for seven years, or until his death, which occurred upon the old family homestead. At that time Cornelius Fleming inherited ninety acres of the land. This is a good farm, well situated. It is rolling prairie and very productive. There are fair buildings upon the place, which were erected by the father and the residence is a story and a half structure, being built of rock and cement. Mr. Fleming gives his attention to general agricultural pursuits and has his fields under a high state of cultivation. He is a good worker, honest and industrious. In his home he has an old bureau which his father brought from Virginia. It is filled with old books and papers

which were kept by R. L. Fleming, many of which are valuable, while all are very interesting.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Fleming have been born eight children: Robert Glenn, born October 11, 1888; Lemuel Guy, February 23, 1891; Hulda Maud, September 19, 1893; Perry Weldon, February 8, 1896; Chanley Lee, August 15, 1898; Carl Sanford, December 11, 1900; John Lloyd, May 31, 1903; and Paul Ernest, January 15, 1906.

Mr. Fleming exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the democracy. He has never sought office, however, and has served only as constable. His time and attention are devoted to his farming interests, which he has followed throughout his entire life.

F. W. FERRALL.

F. W. Ferrall, a retired farmer now living in New Sharon, came to Mahaska county when there was but one house in the village in which he makes his home. Born in Columbiana county, Ohio, January 17, 1817, he comes of German and Irish lineage. His paternal grandparents were William and Mary Ferrall, both natives of Virginia but born of Irish parentage. Their son, John Ferrall, was but two years of age when they removed from the Old Dominion to Ohio, locating in the midst of the forest in Columbiana county, where they lived in a bark shanty until a log cabin could be built. John Ferrall was therefore reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life in Ohio and after reaching years of maturity was married in that state to Miss Elizabeth Zepernick, who was born in Pennsylvania and was a daughter of Fred-erick and Elizabeth Zepernick, who were natives of Pennsylvania and were of German descent. They, too, removed to Ohio at an early period in its settlement and Mrs. Ferrall spent her girlhood days there. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Ferrall lived upon a farm in Columbiana county, where they resided until they planned to establish a home in Iowa. Then selling their property in Ohio they came to Oskaloosa about thirty-five years ago and both remained residents of the county seat until their death, Mr. Ferrall passing away at the age of eighty-six years, while his wife died at the very advanced age of ninety-one years.

F. W. Ferrall of this review remained with his parents until twenty-two years of age. He was the eldest of ten children, eight of whom are now living. He pursued his education in a little log schoolhouse with puncheon floor, stick chimney and slab seats, and the branches of learning therein taught were few in number, while the methods of instruction had not reached the present degree of efficiency known · today. At the age of twenty-two years Mr. Ferrall was married to Miss Addis Hopv, a native of Pennsylvania, and for long years they traveled life's journey together but Mrs. Ferrall died about twelve years ago, when eighty-six years of age. Before their marriage Mr. Ferrall's father had visited Iowa and had purchased several different tracts of land, including one piece of one hundred and sixty acres in Union township, Mahaska county. F. W. Ferrall owned a good farm in Ohio but after the failure of crops for two successive years he resolved to seek a home in Iowa, having heard flattering reports of this state from a brother who lived here and was at that time visiting in Ohio. Mr. Ferrall therefore traded his farm to his father for the one hundred and sixty acres of land in Mahaska county and with his brother he started to the new home, accompanied by his wife and three children. They traveled by rail as far as Iowa City, while a team and wagon loaded with their household goods were sent overland from Iowa City, thus



F. W. FERRALL.



hauling their goods to their new home. A small brick house had been built and a prairie stable. The little dwelling contained but one room and the ceiling was very low. It was in the spring of 1856 and Mr. Ferrall at once began the task of putting in wheat and corn. He continuously made his home upon that farm until about ten years ago and he erected there all modern buildings and made a beautiful home, while the wild prairie land was transformed into rich and productive fields. In all of his work he was practical and progressive and his labors were attended with a gratifying measure of prosperity. Following the death of his wife he removed to New Sharon and is now making his home with his daughter, Mrs. McMain.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ferrall were born five children, all of whom are living, namely: Irene, the wife of Barney James, who resides on a farm in Union township; Elizabeth, the wife of William Groves, of Union township; Anna E., the wife of Elwood Hatcher, of New Sharon; John M., who is residing near Oskaloosa; and Mrs. Cora McMain, of New Sharon.

Mr. Ferrall has been a republican since the organization of the party and his first presidential vote was cast for William Henry Harrison, after which he supported the whig party until its dissolution. He has never sought office and though often urged by his friends and neighbors to accept public positions lie would never serve save as township trustee, as school assessor and overseer of roads. He has been a member of the Christian church for sixty years and his life has ever been an honorable and upright one. His memory goes back to an early period in the development of Mahaska county. There were many wolves and other wild animals when he came but the deer were scarce, having been driven out by the cold winter of the previous year. Although he had but limited educational privileges Mr. Ferrall has always been a great reader and likes to keep in touch with the progress of the day. He is still enjoying quite good health at the age of eightyaine years and he finds pleasure in going down town in good weather to meet friends and neighbors there and spend the hours in social converse.

ROBERT M. JONES.

Robert M. Jones owns a farm of eight hundred and fifty-three and three-fourths acres, his home being on section 6, Pleasant Grove township. He has always resided in the middle west, his birth place being Hendricks county, Indiana, and his natal day May 12, 1843. His paternal grandfather was Allen Jones, his father, James G. Jones. The latter was born in Kentucky, February 11, 1810, and after arriving at years of maturity wedded Elizabeth Gibbons, who was born in South Carolina, February 7, 1809, her parents being Francis and Susannah (Cox) Gibbons, both of whom were born in 1780, while their marriage was celebrated in 1800. When a young man of about twenty-one years James G. Jones removed to Indiana and it was in that state that he was married. He followed farming in Hendricks county until 1857, when he came to Iowa, settling upon a farm of four hundred acres in Poweshiek county. The land was all new and he built the first dwelling upon the place, making his home there until his death, which occurred in 1876, at which time his land was divided among his children. His widow resided in Poweshiek county for a few years after her husband's death and then came to Pleasant Grove township, Mahaska county, to make her home with her son, R. M. Jones, with whom she lived until called to her final rest in January, 1803. In their family were ten children: Nancy S., who became the wife of Hamilton Foster and died in Nevada, while on the way to California. Wiley N., living in Poweshiek county; David A., who makes his home in the state of Washington; C. E., of Arkansas; Elizabeth C., the wife of James Worman, living in Kansas; Robert M.; F. A., who resides in this township; Alexander A., who died in Oklahoma; Sarah A., who became the wife of Jesse Darland and died in Kansas; and Mary E., who married David Rice and died in Pleasant Grove township.

Robert M. Jones pursued a common districtschool education and lived with his parents until twenty-four years of age, when he began operating a ditching machine. He afterward returned to Indiana for the benefit of his health and spent about four years visiting among friends and relatives there. He then returned to Iowa and engaged in farming on forty acres of land given him by his father. In 1879 he came to Mahaska county and purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he soon sold, however, and about 1880 bought two hundred acres where he now resides. This land had never been improved. Nearly all of it was timber and with characteristic energy he began clearing and cultivating it. He built the frame house which he now occupies and he has since bought land from time to time until his possessions aggregate eight hundred and fifty acres, making him one of the large and prosperous landowners of the county. his land is in pasture and he raises cattle on an extensive scale formerly feeding as high as three hundred head in a year, but not raising so many now. He also carries on general farming, owns a steam threshing outfit and does his own threshing and sometimes threshes for others.

Mr. Jones was married November 22, 1886, to Miss Sarah Ann Hart, who was born in Kansas, June 9, 1871, a daughter of Absalom and Amanda (Shion) Hart, who were natives of Ohio and are now living in Union township, Mahaska county. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have become the parents of nine children. of whom

Mary died at the age of five years, and Robert at the age of one year and three months. Palmer, Annie, Lizzie, Wesley, James, George and William are still at home.

Mr. Jones is a man of strong determination and energy, who carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. He has encountered difficulties and obstacles in his path but has overcome these by his resolute will and unfaltering energy, and has worked his way steadily upward to success. In politics he is a democrat but has filled no office save that of school director, preferring to concentrate his attention upon his business affairs. His example should serve as a source of emulation and encouragement to others, showing what may be accomplished if one has the will to dare and to do.

JOSHUA R. GORSUCH.

The farming interests of Union township have a worthy representative in Joshua R. Gorsuch, who is living on section 22 and has been one of the extensive landowners of the county but has divided his property among his children, retaining possession, however, of one hundred acres of land. He has passed the Psalmist's span of three score years and ten, his birth having occurred in Harrison county, Ohio, September 1, 1831. His parents were Charles and Matilda (Roberts) Gorsuch. The father was born in Maryland, about twenty-five miles from Paltimore, in 1797, and the mother's birth occurred in Ohio. The paternal grandparents were also natives of Maryland and the family is of Irish origin. Charles Gorsuch devoted his entire life to general agricultural pursuits, becoming the owner of a valuable farm of two hundred and fifty acres in Delaware county, Ohio, where he successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits for some years.



MR. AND MRS. J. R. GORSUCH.



In 1854 his son Joshua came to Iowa on a prospecting tour, knowing that he had no chance to get land in Ohio. Noting how cheap land was in Iowa he returned to the Buckeye state and advised his father to sell and come west, so that in the spring of 1855 Charles Gorsuch, having disposed of his property in the east, drove with his family across the country and took up his abode in Union township, Mahaska county. He purchased a farm near where his son Joshua now lives and made his home here until his death, which occurred in 1873. He was a man of very limited education, having had no school privileges in his youth but he was a very successful farmer. His wife survived him for only about a year.

Joshua R. Gorsuch was the second in order of birth in a family of nine children, all of whom came to Iowa in 1855, and one brother, William Gorsuch, is now living in Union township, while a sister, Mrs. Latcham, resides in southern Kansas. These, with the exception of our subject, are all that are now living.

Joshua R. Gorsuch from early boyhood was imbued with a desire to obtain a good education and told his father that if he would help him to attend school he would not ask for any property. The father, however, thought a common-school education was sufficient and Mr. Gorsuch of this review was permitted to attend only the district schools of the neighborhood. He remained with his parents until after they came to Iowa, when he began farming on his own account, purchasing eighty acres of land where he now resides. It was mostly timber and the remainder was covered with brush. His first dwelling was a small frame house in which he lived until he erected his present large frame residence in 1866. He thought at first if he ever succeeded in clearing up that eighty acres it was all the land that he wanted, but as the years passed by and his financial resources increased he added to his property from time to time until eventually he became the owner of about seven hundred acres of valuable land. He has since divided this among his children although he still retains the title to the different farms and he has one hundred acres which will be inherited by the daughter who remains with him and is acting as his house-keeper.

Mr. Gorsuch was married in May, 1857, to Miss Eleanor McMasters, born October 22, 1820, a daughter of Samuel and Eleanor Mc-Masters. Her death occurred May 28, 1884. In their family were nine children: Charles Q., who was born June 7, 1858, and died October 23, of the same year; S. L., who was born August 31, 1859, and married Lizzie Gilbert, their home being on a farm adjoining his father's property; Martha, who was born February 11, 1861, and is the wife of Ben Latchman, of this township; Robert E., who was born December 30, 1862, and is in California; Alfred N., who was born October 14, 1864, and died at the age of fourteen months; Matilda, who was born June 5, 1866, and is acting as her father's housekeeper; Irene, who was born October 19, 1868, and is the wife of Charles Curry, of this township; James, who was born June 6, 1871, and is living in California; and Mary, who was born February 23, 1873, and is the wife of Miles Bashaw, of this township.

Mr. Gorsuch has been a very successful farmer and his success is attributable to his good management and his close attention to business. For many years he bought and fed cattle, making most of his money in that way. He has done much hard work but is still a robust man, enjoying good health. In politics he was formerly a democrat but is now a republican, nor has he ever sought office as a reward for party fealty. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and although he never joined any fraternal orders or societies he has advised his sons to join the Masons. He is a man thoroughly reliable and straightforward at all times and in his business has

manifested not only justice but consideration and it is safe to say that he has not an enemy in the world.

THOMAS W. CALDWELL.

In taking up the personal history of Thomas W. Caldwell we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in Mahaska county, especially in White Oak township. He lives on section 20, where he owns a valuable farm of one hundred and eighty-seven acres, and to the further development and improvement of this place he is giving his attention with the result that he now has a valuable farm equipped with all modern conveniences. He was born in Tennessee, November 2, 1848, and came with his parents to Iowa when a child of only three years, thus dating his residence in the county since 1851. His father, Franklyn Caldwell, was a native of Tennessee and was reared and married there, Miss Sarah White becoming his wife. too, was born in Tennessee, as was her father. Franklyn Caldwell was a farmer by occupation and soon after his marriage removed to Iowa, where he entered land from the government. He began with eighty acres in White Oak township, on which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made. In 1853 he began to cultivate and develop the property, on which he built a log house. As the years passed by he placed the land under the plow, and in the course of time gathered rich harvests. He afterward bought more land and at the time of his death owned one hundred and twenty acres, which had been placed under a high state of cultivation and therefore brought to him a good financial return. He passed away in 1855, after which his widow, with the assistance of her children, carried on the home farm. They had a family of seven children, of whom four are yet living.

Thomas W. Caldwell was reared on the old homestead and received but common-school advantages. As his age and strength permitted, he engaged more and more largely in the work of the fields, remaining with his mother throughout the period of his minority. The home property was afterward sold, and Thomas W. Caldwell purchased the tract of land upon which he now resides, his mother coming to live with him. In 1876 he bought one hundred and seventy-six acres of land, on which was a good house and he has since erected a good barn and substantial outbuildings. He has also planted an orchard of three acres and has added various modern equipments which go to make up a model farm property of the twentieth century. His mother continued to reside with him until her death, which occurred in 1882, when she was seventy-three years of age.

On the 23d of December, 1860, Thomas W. Caldwell had been married to Miss Mary J. Gordon, a native of Ohio and a daughter of Jasper Gordon, who was also a native of that state, but at an early age removed to Iowa. Mr. Caldwell lost his first wife March 10, 1872. On the 3d of December, 1876, he married Mary A. Carpenter, a native of Indiana and a daughter of Asahel and Ann Carpenter, who were natives of Massachusetts and removed from New England to Indiana, where they spent their remaining days. Their daughter Mary came with a brother to Iowa. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell have been born seven children, of whom Frank died at the age of twelve years. Effa Pearl, the oldest surviving member of the family, is a school teacher, who, having taught for several years, is now assistant principal at Biwabik, Minnesota. Terry A. is at home and conducts a general mercantile store at White Oak, where he has a good business. Shirley A. is living at home and assists in car-



T. W. CALDWELL.



rying on the farm. Elsie, Vida and Opal are with their parents.

In connection with the tilling of the soil Mr. Caldwell is engaged in raising good graded stock and feeds all of his grain. He has his farm under a good state of cultivation and has done some tiling. Both he and his wife attend the White Oak church. Politically he is an earnest republican, voting for the men and measures of the party because he has firm faith in its principles. He has held the office of township assessor for two terms, but prefers to give his time to his farm and business interests rather than to politics. His home is a model one and everything about the place indicates his careful supervision and progressive methods. Almost his entire life has been spent in Iowa and he is a typical citizen of this state, imbued with the spirit of progress and enterprise which have been the dominant factors in the upbuilding of the middle west. His aid can be counted upon to further progressive measures for the general good, and while advancing his individual interests he has also promoted the public welfare.

JACOB WATLAND.

Jacob Watland, the senior partner of the firm of Watland & Son, proprietors of a large and well conducted hardware store, is numbered among the representative and enterprising citizens of New Sharon and moreover is entitled to distinctive mention in this volume as a veteran of the Civil war. He was born in the town of Stavanger, Norway, on the 21st of January, 1844, and is a son of Jacob and Elsie (Thompson) Watland, both of whom were natives of the land of the midnight sun. The father was a farmer by occupation and hoping to improve his financial condition in the new world he came to America in 1856, settling first in

La Salle county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming. In 1864 he came to Mahaska county, Iowa, where he purchased eighty acres of improved land, making his home thereon up to the time of his death, which occurred when he was sixty-three years of age. His wife long survived him and died at the age of eighty-eight years. In their family were eight children, of whom Jacob was the fourth in order of birth and is the second of the three surviving, the others being Mrs. Martha Knudson, of New Sharon, and Osmund Watland, who is an implement dealer of Sioux City, Iowa.

Jacob Watland was a youth of twelve and a half years when he accompanied his parents to America. He well remembers the trip across the ocean, which consumed seven weeks, the voyage being made in a sailing vessel which eventually dropped anchor in the harbor of Ouebec. The parents were in limited financial circumstances, so that the children were early obliged to earn their own livelihood, and at the age of thirteen years Jacob Watland went to work by the month as a farm hand, being employed in that way until he became a soldier. On the 18th of January, 1862, responding to his country's call for troops, he enlisted at Ottawa, Illinois, and joined the boys in blue of Company C, Fifty-third Illinois Infantry, for three years' service. On the expiration of that term he reenlisted to serve until the end of the war and was mustered out at Chicago in August, 1865. He participated in several sanguinary but important engagements, including the battle of Shiloh, where he first saw the dead Confederates upon the field. He was also in the battles of Corinth, Memphis, Hatchie's Run, the siege of Atlanta, and was with Sherman on the march to the sea. He afterward took part in the Carolina campaign and proceeded northward to Washington. He was never wounded nor taken prisoner, being very fortunate in those respects but he became ill with typhoid fever and through a mistake was numbered

among the dead. The man who was supposed to be Mr. Watland was buried and his parents, who received the report of his death, were making preparation to go after his remains, when he returned home, much to their surprise and joy. He was a faithful soldier, never faltering in the performance of any military duty and loyally followed the stars and stripes, even where the rebel hail fell thickest.

When the war was over Mr. Watland worked for three years at the carpenter's trade in Chicago and then came to Iowa, where he operated his father's farm for a year. About that time he was married on the 24th of December, 1870, to Miss Bertha Munson, who was born in Norway in March, 1850. The young couple removed to Shelby county, Iowa, where Mr. Watland purchased one hundred and twenty acres of wild land, which he improved and cultivated, making his home thereon for thirteen years. During that time he developed an excellent farm and was classed with the representative agriculturists of his community, but desiring to give his attention to commercial rather than agricultural pursuits, he closed out his business interests there and came to New Sharon, where he embarked in the hardware trade under the firm name of Radliff, Watland & Company. That firm continued in business until 1890, when a change in the partnership occurred and the name of Watland & Freligh was assumed. Six years later the firm became Watland & Son and under this style the business has since been carried on with gratifying success. They carry a complete line of shelf and heavy hardware, and also tools and likewise sell farm implements. There is only one other hardware store in the town, and they

have a very good trade, their business methods commending them to the support and confidence of all. In recognition of his services in the Civil war Mr. Watland drew a soldier's claim to one hundred and sixty acres of land in Oklahoma, and went there to prove it up. He also bought another tract of one hundred and sixty acres, making a half section of land which some day will be very valuable. He owns his store building in New Sharon and also has a nice home here.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Watland have been born seven children, but Elsie E., the eldest, died at the age of two years. The others are: J. A., who is engaged in business with his father, and he married Mollie Whiteman; Elsie E., the wife of Henry Stuck, cashier of the Traders Bank, at Vail, Iowa; Anna, the wife of Charles Vail, also residing at Vail, Iowa; Maynard F., who wedded Fay Williams; Elmer G., at home; and William P., who is employed in the store of Marshall Field & Company, at Chicago.

Mr. Watland has always been a republican since becoming an American citizen. He served as treasurer of his school district for six years, and as a member of the village council for three years, and his co-operation in community interests has been of a beneficial and practical nature. He belongs to Henry C. Leighton post, No. 199, G. A. R., in which he is now serving as quartermaster, and he and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. All that tends to promote material, intellectual and moral progress receives his endorsement and support, and he is today an honored veteran of the Civil war and one of the leading representatives of the Norwegian-American element in our citizenship.

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